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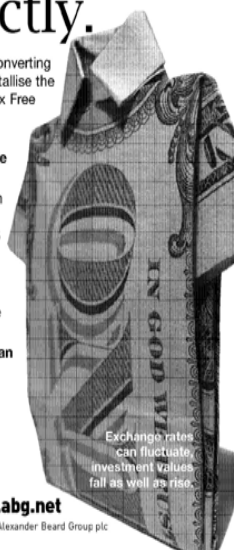
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BritClub News



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

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BritClub News

December, 2008 **Sarasota British Club, P. O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276** Vol. 8, Issue 12

Coming Events

Board Meeting December 4 – 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!

Adopt-a-Family: Mothers Helping Mothers

Christmas is quickly approaching us once again. This is the second year that the Sarasota British Club will be sponsoring a local family, and we need your help. Please check your e-mail for the particulars on the family, or go to our website. Whether you want to buy something off the list, or make a cash donation, anything – no matter how big or small – it will be greatly appreciated. We will have a drop box at the Annual Christmas Dinner Dance on December 13. If you would like to make a cash donation, you can send a check to the club's PO Box – made out to Sandra Cherry or Amy Croshaw, or give it to either of the ladies at the Christmas Party. We are in a position to give a family with children a Christmas to remember, please help in any way to make this happen.

Christmas Dinner Dance December 13 – Time is running out to get your reservations in for our Annual Christmas Dinner Dance on Saturday, December 13th, starting at 6:30 p.m. at Heritage Oaks Golf and Country Club, Bee Ridge Road Extension, Sarasota. (Phone: 926-7601)

You will be treated to a superb venue, a great meal, dancing to "Natural Vibes" three piece band, dance competition, door prizes and, of course, a visit from Father Christmas.

We must let Heritage Oaks have our final count on December 3rd so please complete the enclosed flyer NOW and mail it together with your check to:

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

Our website is www.SarasotaBritishClub.com

From Our President

To meet our newsletter deadline for this Brit Club News I am writing this in mid-November.

Let me start by hoping you had a very pleasant Thanksgiving. As my term of office ends on December 31st, I take this opportunity to thank the current Board for their hard work during the year. Jim, Sandra, Shona, Kathy, Amy, James, Rose, Ken and Nairn' – you have been a delight to work with and I, and the membership, I know, thank you all.

During the past year our membership has shown substantial growth – it has been wonderful to meet and greet so many new members at our various functions. To everyone, a big thank you for your enthusiastic support of your club.

Do remember this is your club and if you have ever wondered “why don't we.....?” then please let your Board have your ideas.

In January Sue Ford will be your new president. She and the new Board, several of whom continue from this year, will work hard to bring you imaginative and enjoyable monthly events. Welcome Sue. My best wishes to you and the new Board for a fun 2009.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. See you at our Christmas Party on December 13th at Heritage Oaks.

Terry Sweeney

Do You Own Your Own Business?

For advertising, our rates are reasonable and 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 per month. There is a 20% discount if you purchase your advertisements annually. Sale ads for unwanted items is \$10 for up to 3 lines of copy. All ads must be paid for in advance. Please send your camera-ready advertisements (jpg file preferred) by the 15th of the month to the newsletter editor, Rose Gillet, at 3219 24th Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34235 or email them to her at 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.

October Board Meeting Précis:

Meeting held November 6th. Treasurer's balance of \$4,684.96 (includes Christmas party reservations). Membership 182 paid up members/103 households. Collecting articles for the website 'Life in America' section. Distribution of newsletters will increase to 20 per location in January. New members tea had 20 members. Christmas Party reservations coming in, members need to be reminded limit on numbers, plans in full effect, board assignments arranged. January meeting 2009 President Sue Ford is planning a Garden fete/picnic to be held at her home. Need to remind members for donations for the Club's adopted family with Mothers Helping Mothers – a collection box will be at the December party, but Amy or Sandra can collect any time. Next Board meeting planned for December 4th, at Sandra Cherry's home; members welcome but please call ahead due to space limitation.

Rose's Corner

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 or call 366-9984. Closing date for the newsletter is the 15th of each month.

Rose Gillet, Newsletter Editor

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)

Hot Wine Punch (Mulled Wine)

This is a popular holiday punch I make. I also serve it at my annual Christmas Tea – easy and luvly. At the time of writing we are going through a cool spell, just the thing to warm the cockles of your heart!!! You can use a tea ball to put the spices in, and I recommend nibbling on the orange slices after they have soaked in the punch!

1 ½ cup boiling water	12 whole cloves
1 small can concentrated lemonade mix	4 sticks cinnamon
1 slice orange	3 cups burgundy wine
½ cup sugar	(Optional 1 cup brandy)
6 whole spice	

Bring first seven ingredients to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer five minutes. Add burgundy wine and optional brandy; slowly simmer up to an hour. (*Makes the house smell lovely.*) Serves 8-10.

I wish you all a wonderful holiday season, for a while maybe we can forget all the gloom. To quote Mary Englebreit: "Blessed is the Season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of Love."

(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)



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From President-Elect, Susan Ford

My thanks to all our members who attended the AGM on November 1st and gave me their support to be President of the Sarasota British Club for 2009. I just hope I can fill your shoes Terry. What size feet have you got??? Only joking!

Members please mark your calendars for a "**Garden Picnic**" on **Saturday, January 24th, 2009 from 1:30-5:30 p.m at 6706 Oak Hammock Drive, Bradenton, FL 34202.** Bring your family, tables, chairs, BYOB and picnic, find a place to sit under the trees and enjoy a social day of meeting and making friends. If you don't want to bring your own food, we will be providing hotdogs, burgers, and pizza for a nominal charge of \$2 each; we will also have a cash bar with wine and beer at \$2 a glass. Any profit made on the day will go into Club funds to subsidize social events during the year. In case of bad weather, the event will take place inside. We look forward to seeing you

I know we are all feeling the financial pinch right now, but we do have expenses that have to be met to keep the club running and our way of doing this is by fundraisers and raffles.

If you are able to donate a raffle prize or come along to an event prepared to spend a couple of dollars on raffle tickets, we can all enjoy the benefits.

My thanks too, go to Joyce Albertis and June Fluegel for volunteering to arrange golf and tennis matches for members. Also Geoffrey and Ruby Ryan who have a tour operating business offered to arrange trips for the club. A weekend by boat to the Keys was suggested at the AGM. I also asked if anyone would like to do a 7-day Cruise. Lots of hands went up; if you are interested in this for Oct 2009, please let me know (email: SueFord47@yahoo.com).

On **December 8th 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.** I would like to have an open discussion on events you as a member would like to see in 2009. This will be held at my house in Bradenton (address as above). An example of events and activities being talked about are: art class, sculptor class, needlework class, gourmet group, coffee mornings, card group, chess group; book club, football, tennis, golf, fishing and dart team.


Concerning children's events, we have a number of members with young children and we need you to give us ideas as to what we can do to include the children in our events. Anyone willing to arrange and organize activities, please come forward.

We have an abundance of talent within the club, so let's use that talent and put together groups that have common interests. This is your club; help us make it an exciting one. **WE NEED YOU** to give the Board your input. If you are interested in coming along to my house on December 8th, please email me at sueford47@yahoo.com, or phone me at 941-571-3811.

If you cannot make the daytime meeting, let's meet at The Coach and Horses on University at 7.30 on the same day, 8th December. Please email sueford47@yahoo.com to let me know you will be going along for the decision.

Direction to my house: Head north on I-75; at the first turn off after 'Linger Lodge bridge,' take turn-off (217 A). At the emergency lights, get into right lane; Braden Woods is the next turn on your right. Enter Braden Woods; at the 1st stop light turn right, follow the road round to 5th street on the right - Oak Hammock Drive. On the left side you will see the flag flying. Look forward to seeing you.

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Membership News

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

This month we welcome Ruby and Geoffrey Ryan, Jennifer and John Taylor, Tom Lodge and June Fluegel.

June Fluegel was born in Worthing, Sussex and went to school in Limsfield, Surrey. She also spent some time in the South of France. June came to Sarasota in 2004 after meeting her American husband on the internet. In the 90s lived in Connecticut and was very involved in tennis. Worked with some of the greats like Jimmy Connors, Rod Laver, Roy Emerson as well as on tournaments with Andre Agassi, Boris Becker, and Martina Navratilova. June has a small jewelry business, importing from South Africa and from Provence. Her husband works for VectorVest, a company that develops software for the stock markets, working on research and analysis. He gives presentations nationwide.

Tom Lodge was born in Southport, Lancs. He worked for a London bank making frequent trips on the old Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth (crossing the Atlantic 83 times). He emigrated, married and has two daughters who live in Sarasota. Tom moved to be near them when his wife died this past July. His hobbies are golf and crossword puzzles.

THIS SPACE FOR RENT

Sell your unwanted items here for just \$10 – up to three lines of copy and we'll put in a free photo if you can email it to Rose as a jpg file!

What is Happening in the Universe?

Pluto on the 26th November 2008 will reign supreme in Capricorn until 2024. Before we understand what that can mean, we have to look back through history to see its past effects on mankind. Looking back into the past when Pluto was in Capricorn, we find there were major upheavals in government. Pluto in Capricorn can indicate complete order and harmony or chaos and discord. In 1763, the Treaty of Paris brought about tension between England and the American colonies. England established the Treaty with Paris, hoping to control westward expansion of the American colonies. In looking at the U.S chart (July 4, 1776, 2:13 A.M, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), we find natal Pluto in Capricorn. The escalation of differences led to the Declaration of Independence.

During the Pluto transit of Capricorn, November 8, 1762, to December 1, 1778, the American Revolutionary War took place. In 1762 to 1778 when Pluto was in Capricorn, there was a classical period of music where music reached its peak with Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, Mozart was touring the stages of Europe by the age of six years.

With Pluto in Capricorn during the 1100s, Saint Paul of Tarsus converted to Christianity, helping to establish it as the main religion of Rome.

Pluto in Capricorn will have an enormous impact on our government, as the U.S chart has Pluto in Capricorn, America will be experiencing its Pluto return, an extremely rare phenomenon.

Since Pluto travels through the zodiac every 247 years, you can see its influence affecting historical events past and PRESENT.

A short break down of the signs and their affects with Pluto in Capricorn for 2009

Aries: An ambitious fire sign, you will have Pluto in Capricorn in your tenth house of career, social status, and reputation. This will empower your career position

Taurus: The earth sign that you are will get along quite well with Pluto in Capricorn in your ninth house of higher-mind pursuits.

Gemini: Your mercurial abilities will know how to capitalize on Pluto in Capricorn in your eighth house of joint financial ventures.

Cancer: Your innate sensitivity and keen awareness will definitely feel the impact of Pluto in Capricorn in your seventh house of personal relationships.

Leo: Your intense involvement with your job will naturally play out well with Pluto in Capricorn in your sixth house of work.

Virgo: Your analytical side will become more pronounced toward romance and creative pursuits

Libra: Your living situation will be changing for the better, and your social interaction with those around you will be more focused on family scenarios, as Pluto in Capricorn influences your fourth house of home and emotions

Scorpio: Your strong relationship with Pluto, your ruling planet, will benefit you in making wise decisions when it is Capricorn in your third house of communication and travel.

Sagittarius: You will establish a new system of values, both personal and financial, with Pluto in Capricorn in your second house of earned income and possessions.

Capricorn: Pluto in Capricorn will have a tremendous impact on you throughout its reign in your first house of self, as it seeks to transform your life; there are many changes on the agenda.

Aquarius: The restless explorer in you will have an opportunity to unravel the unknown, as Pluto in Capricorn moves through your twelfth house of behind-the-scenes projects.

Pisces: The many goals that Pisceans dream of can now be realized with Pluto in Capricorn in your eleventh house of future hopes and dreams.