



BritClub News

February, 2013

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

Vol. 13, Issue 2

Coming Events

The February SBC Board Meeting will be held at the home of Sue Ford on Thursday February 7th, 2013 @ 6:30pm. Members welcome but please call ahead, see Page 3, as space is limited.



Tour of the Historic Spanish Point Museum Park in Osprey. - On Wednesday, February 20, 2013 starting PROMPTLY at 10AM. Numbers are limited. Full details on Page 5.

Movie Night—Saturday, March 16th at 5pm. The Club has booked one of the auditoriums at the Lakewood Ranch cinema for the showing of the classic “Brief Encounter” directed by David Lean and starring Trevor Howard and Celia Johnson.



Location Rodeo Drive (continuation of Main Street, Lakewood Ranch.)

Contact Steve Adams at sha@adamsiac.com to book your seat. The price is likely to be \$10 but will be influenced by the number of seats sold. A minimum of 40 is needed for this to be viable. The cinema is also offering us a medium soda / medium popcorn combo special at 50c saving.

It is intended that we could follow this by a meal at one of the local restaurants.



Horse Racing Trip — Sunday April 21st . We are running another bus trip to Tampa Bay Downs, the cost we are keeping the same as last year. The cost is \$50 per person, which covers the price of the bus, driver’s tip, entrance and buffet. There are two pick ups, as last year, one in Sarasota and one in Bradenton, starting from 9am and getting back around 7pm.

If you are interested in joining us, I would like to hear from you ASAP. If you do not want the brunch and are only interested in the return bus ride, the cost is \$20 per person and you pay your own entrance which I think is \$3.00 per person. (Tampa Downs only include the entrance price, if you eat in their restaurant)

I am looking forward to hearing back from you. Non-members are welcome as your guests at the same prices I have quoted above. Contact Sue Ford, at sueford@janbury.com .



President's Letter

Well, the year has started and the Fiscal Cliff has come and, hopefully, gone away for another day. I'm not entirely sure why kicking the can down the road is taken as a political strategy, but I seem to recall that when I used to kick the can down the road outside my house as a kid, I ended up with a thick ear from my Dad. Perhaps Congress could do with my dear old Dad standing by



events. It's great that the Brits can still beat the world in some areas.

We've now had our first Board meeting and, hopefully, come up with some fun events to tickle your collective fancy. However, remember to call or email me, or any of the other Board members, if you have an idea that we all might enjoy.

Cheers,

Steve Adams

The President's Party (mine, by the way, not the Inauguration) will have come and gone by the time you read this, so I'm writing in something of a vacuum. I decided to do this letter on the morning of the party, not only because I'm past my deadline, but also because I wanted to bask in the expectation of a great event, rather than sulk in the knowledge of a turkey. I know that the agenda for the party looks great on paper but you never know how these things are going to go, do you? All I hope is that everybody who supported the event had a great time and, at the very least, got in touch with their inner-Latino!! Don't worry, if it's great, I'll talk it up next month, but if it sucks, I'll just let it fade away.

Recently, my brother sent me a BBC DVD of the Summer Olympics. All of us here in the States had to endure NBC's dreadful faux-live coverage and, frankly, it was a little embarrassing. You were able to watch live, streaming events on the computer, so I would wake at about 4am, charge up my laptop and watch our heroic rowers doing their bit for Queen and country. The most extraordinary thing was that NBC didn't bother to provide a commentator for the rowing events without Americans, so I watched pretty much all of the finals in complete silence! Bizarre doesn't cover it.

The DVD restored the glory of the games in ways I hadn't expected. After all, who knew that there were athletes from countries other than America competing? I even noticed a bunch of Brits, so that was nice. Watching the Opening Ceremony was an utter treat, without the blathering of Meredith and Matt, the constant commercials and the Michael Phelps interview, disrespectfully aired at a poignant moment. It really seemed to be an entirely different, even parallel, universe.

I hope that nobody reads this as a knock on America, for I am now proud to call this my home and I am, indeed, a proud US citizen. It is just a case of pointing out that the BBC still offers a range of coverage that is unmatched in the world, while NBC monumentally screwed up one of the world's greatest

SANDRA'S RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Rice Pudding

I grew up using an Aga, which was wonderful for baking anything, Mum would make it up and bake it in the slow oven, wonderful! However over here my usual recipes just didn't work out the same baked, and after experimentation came up with this version, that reminded me of Mum's puds. Hope you enjoy it:

3/4 cup regular white rice
2 cups water
dash of salt
1 large can evaporated milk
1 1/2 cups water
1/3 cup sugar
1 large egg
1/2 tsp vanilla.

Put the rice in top of double boiler, add 2 cups water and salt, and cook over a low heat until water is almost gone. Then add the evaporated milk and 1 1/2 cup water, continue to cook until thickens slightly, stir frequently. Add the sugar, egg and vanilla, and cook until desired thickness. Takes about 1-2- hours. Sprinkle nutmeg on top of each serving .
Yield 4-6 servings

(Recipe from Sandra Cherry, Union Jack food columnist, who can be reached at Yourcuppateal@yahoo.com)



JOKES

In a dark and hazy room, peering into a crystal ball, the Mystic delivered grave news:

"There's no easy way to tell you this, so I'll just be blunt. Prepare yourself to be a widow. Your husband will die a violent and horrible death this year."

Visibly shaken, Laura stared at the woman's lined face, then at the single flickering candle, then down at her hands.

She took a few deep breaths to compose herself and to stop her mind racing. She simply had to know.

She met the Fortune Teller's gaze, steadied her voice and asked, "Will I be acquitted?"

For some reason, wives tend to like this joke.....

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My wife asked me what I was doing on the computer last night. I told her I was looking for cheap flights. "I love you!" she said, and then she got all excited, quickly undressed and we had the most amazing sex ever.

Which is odd because she's never shown the slightest interest in darts before.

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On your computer– local info.

Some local information at <http://zipskinny.com>. Entering the zip code for any of the states gives a breakdown of that area for subjects such as education/age/education/ marital status/ demographics and employment. There is an option to compare adjacent zip codes.

On your computer– Some free software.

The software company Serif offers free versions of various software. Generally they are earlier versions of existing programs so they hope that you will later upgrade to the latest version..

Check out <http://www.serif.com/FreeDownloads/> for photo editing/movie editing/website creation.

I have used their photo panorama program. It is easy to use with good results and compares well with the panorama software that came 'bundled' with my camera.

Brian Thompson

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2013 Board of Directors

President:	Steve Adams	580-6458	sha@adamsiac.com
Vice President:	Gary Lee	706-1172	glee01@verizon.net
Treasurer:	Linda Polsin	378-7821	mrsbrit52@aol.com
Secretary:	Tracy Corporan	407-862-9761	tcorporan1@verizon.net ,
Membership Chair:	Sioux Hurley	484-0728	teatreeinc@me.com
Newsletter/Website:	B. Thompson	388-8018	lakewood2@gmail.com
Director at Large1:	Jane Hersee-Lee	706-1172	janeherseelee3@verizon.net
Director at Large2:	Mark Malkasian	918-8360	mark@armeng.com
Director at Large3:	Glen Stillwell	201-6324	sstil10289@aol.com
Past President:	Sue Ford	751-3811	sueford@janbury.com

Introducing a new member

Hi, my name is Helen Carlsen, born in Leeds, grew up in Hastings, lived in Germany, Virginia & Tennessee and then northern Illinois for the past 17 years, near the Wisconsin border, but just had to escape the cold finally, now that my children are grown! Natasha is 24 and a Chicago Public School, special education teacher and Daniel 20, is studying Pharmacy at the University of Iowa. I have been a Realtor for over 16 years and just recently joined RE/MAX Alliance Group, on University Parkway. I am looking forward to exploring all the new areas and activities, making new friends and meeting fellow Brits and of course enjoying the glorious weather!



Feel free to contact me Helen@Helencarlsen.com or 847-651-4476.

Cheers!



LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE

Did you know?

The Club has a "Sunshine Club" which will send a greeting to a member when we hear of a special happy, sad or momentous event in their lives. Please let us know of such events. Contact Tracy Corporan, her details are below.

BUSINESS GLIMPSES: We would like to hear from our members who have found their business niche in and around Sarasota. If you would like to write to us, we'd enjoy catching a glimpse of your business enterprise in our local economy. Your article can be sent to lakewood2@gmail.com, and we will select one 'Business Glimpse' each month.



Precised Minutes of the January Sarasota British Club Board Meeting

Meeting held at home of Jane Hersee-Lee and Gary Lee. Treasurer's report shows temporary balance of \$ 8,675.55, which does not reflect the \$1,500 charitable contribution to "Paws for Patriots" of the Southeastern Guild Dogs. The Club's cheque for that contribution will be personally presented to the Director of the charity by a group of Board members later this month at a lunch. Club members currently number 236. The Christmas Party at Heritage Oaks on December 15 very nearly broke even with a net loss of just \$151.72. Members' comments on the evening have been overwhelmingly positive. The Heritage Oaks Country Club has been booked for the 2013 Christmas Party. Intervening events discussed are a horse racing day at Tampa Bay Downs in April; a new members' tea in the spring; a summer cocktail party; and a trivia night and dinner out as a group. Too, as there has been a group cruise event in November for the last several years, members will be asked if they would like a similar venture for 2013. Also discussed is the suggestion that the Club provide members with new magnetic name badges with the Club's logo. A few members have already ordered these badges on their own. Cost estimates will be explored. Finally, Club President Steve Adams has procured an acceptable quote from a firm called Web Pro Solutions to update and host the SBC website. The Board voted to proceed with this project. February Board meeting will be held at the home of Sue Ford on February 7, 2013. Members welcome, but please call ahead @ 941-751-3811.

Minutes taken by Sioux Hurley.

On your computer—HTTPS

What is the difference between http and https?
The main difference between http:// and https:// is that it's all about keeping you secure. HTTP stands for Hyper Text Transfer Protocol.
The S stands for "Secure." If you visit a website or web page, and look at the address in the web browser, it will likely begin with the following: http://.
This means that the website is talking to your browser using the regular "unsecured" language. In other words, it is possible for someone to "eavesdrop" on your computer's conversation with the website. If you fill out a form on the website, someone might see the information you send to that site.

This is why you never ever enter your credit card number in an http website! But if the web address begins with https://, that basically means your computer is talking to the website in a secure code that no one can eavesdrop on.

On your computer—SurveyMonkey

There was a suggestion by Tracy Corporan at the last Board meeting that the Club could use www.surveymonkey.com to poll the membership on various matters.
What is it? It is a free to use website that can be used to create email questionnaires. You may have already been sent one of these surveys by a store that you have used, I have answered several.
Suggested uses could be to assess members views on future or

past events. Future surveys could be created with a link from the Club's website.

So, we hope that this will be used for the membership's benefit, we do not intend to swamp you with surveys!

On your computer—TEAMVIEWER

There is a easy option to have your computer (including Macs) checked by a friend— by remote control!

Both computers must have 'Teamviewer' installed.

See <http://www.teamviewer.com>. It is free for private use.

I am among the 100 million people that have used it. For more details see the website. (link above) or ask me at

lakewood2@gmail.com

Brian Thompson

Don't forget that the Sarasota British Club is on Facebook. The Club's logo is the profile picture.

Check out the numerous photos from recent events. Why not 'friend' us for another way of keeping in touch with the Club and its members. Why not add your event photos to the 'wall'.

Recent additions this month have been photos from the President's Party in January

According to the demographics produced by Facebook :

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The people that 'like' the Club's page have 81% English US registered as their language, 12% English UK, 2% French, the rest Indonesian, Hungarian and Turkish.

Their cities are 50% Sarasota, 6% Bradenton, 6% Venice, 5% Osprey, 5% Tampa, 2% Naples, 2% Englewood, 2% North Port and then some US locations, then far flung places such as a few UK cities , Budapest and Mataram, Nusa Tenggara Barat in Indonesia (really!)

There are 57% females, 40% males. I suppose the others have not declared their status! Age-wise 27% are over 65, 27% are 55-64, 17% are 45-54, 17% are 35-44, 7% are 25-34 and the rest are younger.

The big surprise is the far flung places, St. Albans excepted! How did someone in Indonesia come across our page?.



**TOUR THE HISTORIC SPANISH POINT
MUSEUM PARK ON THE BAY
IN OSPREY
On Wednesday, February 20, 2013 starting
PROMPTLY at 10AM**

grounds and structures. Alternately, a seven-passenger tram can be provided for those more comfortable with that mode of movement. The Point is located at 337 N. Tamiami Trail in Osprey on the west side of Rt. 41. Look for the orange arch in front of the Visitors Center. Drive up to the small, white Entrance Cottage where the attendant will direct you straight ahead to the Gazebo Parking Lot. Please be parked and ready to go by 10am.

Guest fee is \$ 8 per person if on foot or \$ 10 if by tram. For more info visit historicspanishpoint.org

For lunch following (at your own expense), a room has been



Come join us for a peek through “A Window to the Past” in a quiet oasis on the shores of Little Sarasota Bay in Osprey. Historic Spanish Point is a 30-acre archaeological treasure where docents will guide us through a local story spanning over 5000 years and countless transformations into a splendid, Nationally recognized museum. Among the many features of the site are pre-historic shell middens or domestic waste mounds providing insights into an early Native American presence. The more recent Pioneer and Palmer Family imprints on the property are on display via a variety of fern, water, sunken, butterfly and jungle gardens, the reconstructed Mary’s Chapel dating from 1894 and adjoining Pioneer Cemetery, the restored, 1901 Guptill House, the Pioneer Boat Yard and a citrus packinghouse.

reserved at the Casey Key Fish House, a waterside eatery just over the Intra-Coastal Waterway at 801 Blackburn Point Rd in Osprey. Travel south on Tamiami/Rt. 41 1.6 miles from the museum, to the third traffic signal (and Shell gas station), and turn right or west off of Rt. 41. The Fish House is just over the ICW bridge on the left. Visit caseykeyfishhouse.com



Space limitations at both venues dictate a cap on participants of 35 people. Please send your checks payable to the Sarasota British Club to our Event Coordinator, Mark Malkasian, at 678 Crane Prairie Way, Osprey, FL 34229. Mark’s email is mark@armeng.com and phone 918-8360. **Be sure** to indicate ‘by foot’ or ‘by tram’ and if you will be joining us for lunch. Commitments must be received not later than Monday, February 11th. As usual, early sign-ups are winners!

Come, learn and enjoy a special spot in our historical backyard!

The tour calls for good walking shoes to cover a two-hour, approximately one and a quarter mile, leisurely stroll through the

It's snow joke for the Pound...

January 21st saw Barack Obama sworn in to office for a second term. While his speech to address the nation following his inauguration was bold, it won't shift the political dynamics in Washington too much. Some commentators will suggest that what Obama promised in his speech will be hard to deliver and even 'fraught with risk', the same could be said of the Dollar in the early months of this year.

Typically, threats to the global financial markets favor the safe haven US Dollar. However, the foreign exchange market is currently at its lowest level of volatility since the start of the financial crisis. Continued market trends could suggest a weakened Dollar in the first quarter of 2013. Record-low US interest rates make it expensive to hold the Greenback, this would suggest that it would be likely to push the USD to further lows.

Having said all of this there have been positives from the US. The Dollar touched a 2 1/2 year high against the Japanese Yen midway through January and unemployment figures came in at a five year low.

Across the pond the whole of the UK has been covered by a deluge of snow this week to cap a miserable start to the new year. Poor economic data and a list of well known High Street stores getting into difficulty has only coupled the pain. The host of poor data coming from the UK at the start of this year points to a disappointing GDP (Gross Domestic Product) release for Q4.

In other news Prime Minister David Cameron has said the British people must "have their say" on Britain's European Union Membership as he pledged an in/out referendum if the Conservatives win the election. He feels that the time has come for the UK to re-negotiate its relationship with the EU and wanted to give the people a 'simple choice'.

The news has alerted officials in Washington. The President's press secretary, Jay Carney, has said that he welcomed the Prime Minister's call for Britain to remain in the European Union, adding that the US believed the UK was stronger for being in the EU, and the EU was stronger for having the UK as a member. Some in Washington think Cameron's speech threatens a valued role within the EU and introduce more unnecessary uncertainty to an already uncertain world.

Meanwhile the clear winner of 2013 so far is the Euro. It has gained 5 cents against the Pound and 3 cents against the Dollar since the beginning of the year. European Central bank Mario Dragi recently spoke strongly on how early indicators suggest that the European economy will gradually recover by the end of 2013. In turn the markets reacted positively to this news.

As a member of Sarasota British Club – you get free transfers using Moneycorp, a saving of £15 per payment.

There was a young lady of Dee
Went to bed with each man she would see.
When it came to a test
She wished to be best,
And practice makes perfect, you see.

There was a young lady of Eton,
Whose figure had plenty of meat on.
She said "Marry me, dear,
And you'll find that my rear
Is a nice place to warm your feet on".

A God-fearing maiden from Goshen
Took a September-morn swim in the ocean;
When a whirlpool appeared
She rose up and cheered
And developed a rotary motion.

There once was a maid with such graces
That her curves cried aloud for embraces.
"You look," cried each he,
"Like a million to me-
Invested in *all* the right places!"

Extracted from 'The Lure of the Limerick'
ISBN 0-517-538563 by William S. Baring-Gould 1979
Thanks to Pat Mercier.

SUDOKU PUZZLES

In four levels from very easy to hard. Enter numbers into the blank spaces so that each row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

The puzzle was popularized in 1986 by the Japanese puzzle company Nikoli, under the name Sudoku, meaning single number. It became an international hit in 2005.

1

		9		1	6			2
5	2					3		6
4			9		5	1		
	1	2	7					
3		4	2	5	9		1	8
		7	1	8				4
		8			1	6		9
			6				7	
	9		8			5		

2

				4		2		3
			8					
	9	8		1				
7		2			5			
			7					
	4							1
					4	7		
8			3			5		
	7		2			3	9	8

3

	7	6	2				4	
			3					
4			9			3		2
	6			8			9	1
			7	3				
5	9							
				2				
	1							8
7		4	5					6

4

		4						
				1			7	9
7			3		9		8	
				7	8			
	3	9			2			
1	6							
			4	3			9	
		5		9				
				5	7	2	3	

7	8	9	3	1	6	4	5	2
5	2	1	4	7	8	3	9	6
4	3	6	9	2	5	1	8	7
8	1	2	7	6	4	9	3	5
3	6	4	2	5	9	7	1	8
9	5	7	1	8	3	2	6	4
2	7	8	5	3	1	6	4	9
1	4	5	6	9	2	8	7	3
6	9	3	8	4	7	5	2	1

1

2

Solutions to Sudoku Puzzles
from Page 7

5	6	1	9	4	7	2	8	3
4	3	7	8	6	2	1	5	9
2	9	8	5	1	3	6	7	4
7	1	2	4	9	5	8	3	6
6	8	9	7	3	1	4	2	5
3	4	5	6	2	8	9	1	7
9	5	3	1	8	4	7	6	2
8	2	6	3	7	9	5	4	1
1	7	4	2	5	6	3	9	8

3	7	6	2	5	8	1	4	9
1	2	9	3	4	6	8	5	7
4	5	8	9	1	7	3	6	2
2	6	3	4	8	5	7	9	1
8	4	1	7	3	9	6	2	5
5	9	7	1	6	2	4	8	3
6	3	5	8	2	1	9	7	4
9	1	2	6	7	4	5	3	8
7	8	4	5	9	3	2	1	6

3

4

9	1	4	7	8	5	3	6	2
2	8	3	6	1	4	5	7	9
7	5	6	3	2	9	1	8	4
5	4	2	9	7	8	6	1	3
8	3	9	1	6	2	4	5	7
1	6	7	5	4	3	9	2	8
6	2	8	4	3	1	7	9	5
3	7	5	2	9	6	8	4	1
4	9	1	8	5	7	2	3	6

Locations to Hold Our Events

We put out a call to all members who could offer their clubhouse as a location for Sarasota British Club (SBC) events, and members have generously responded. So... A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE INDIVIDUALS. The Board will be busily organizing and coordinating events for those locations at our monthly meetings—we'll keep you posted. This keeps our events affordable to all members, and adds diversity for our get-togethers. The SBC will cover overhead charges, and our members generously volunteer to help with the set-up and clean-up. If other members can offer their clubhouse, please contact Steve Adams (with suitable dates and locations. Thank you for your support.



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