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BritClub News



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

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Programs Director.. Amy Croshaw 751-6194 acrowshaw@verizon.net
P.R. Dir./Website ... James Croshaw... 928-2769 jcroshaw@standoutsolutions.com
Newsletter Editor ... Rose Gillet 366-9984 rosegillet@yahoo.com
Director at Large... Ken Jukes 922-9529 kena.jukes@yahoo.com
Business Network.. Valerie Woodger .. 922-1070 valeriewoodger@yahoo.com
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BritClub News

January, 2008

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

Vol. 8, Issue 1

Coming Events

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Board Meeting Jan. 8 – 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!

The Ins and Outs of Immigration January 12 – Sarasota immigration attorney, Tony Olson, will speak at the Red Lobster Restaurant on Tamiami Trail, south of Stickney Point Road at 12 noon. He will give a short history of current immigration, discuss types and kinds of immigration and visas and how to qualify. He will discuss some common pitfalls, misconceptions and other problems, and will go over the approximate costs and a typical timeframe. The only cost to you for this luncheon is your own meal. Seating is limited to 50, so call Terry Sweeney at 918-0550 with your reservation.

BBC January 15 – Tony Olson will also be the speaker at the January BBC meeting, specifically to handle questions and answers arising from Saturday's session. This meeting is limited to general questions; should you have specific, individual questions, you will need to schedule a personal appointment with Tony. This BBC meeting will be at a new venue and attendance is strictly limited to 24 people. We will meet (thank you, Andy Reeves) at the BankUnited office at 6511 S. Tamiami Trail, in the Sarasota Pavillion Shopping Center, next door to Hooter's Restaurant. There is a charge of \$10 to cover wine and cheese, and you should email James Croshaw at jcroshaw@standoutsolutions.com if you plan to attend.

Our website is www.SarasotaBritishClub.com

Mark Your Calendar

Valentine's Potluck Dinner February 15 – Join us at 7:00 pm at the South Bay Yacht Club for a special Valentine's Dinner event. In addition to a delectable meal, we will be treated to a hilarious performance by the award-winning, internationally known comedic magician, Dan Tong.

Dan started his career as a magician in the 50's in Rhode Island, performing and touring for two years with the Fu Ling Show. Afterwards, Dan was stationed in Japan where he started performing at bases and clubs which launched a tour around Asia. Upon returning to the US in the 60's, Dan started his popular "Lecture Run," training his mastered craft to budding magicians. In the 70's he enjoyed the success of becoming one of the country's top restaurant magicians. Dan also had a stint as being a clown in the 70's, one of which was for MacDonald's Corporation, as Mr. Ronald MacDonald himself! (Which is also where he met his wife!) Before coming to Florida in the 80's, Dan and his wife, Pauline, also had a successful act together touring the Caribbean on cruise ships, and in the US and Canada. During this busy time, they established a highly regarded magic manufacturing business. Needless to say, we are in for a fabulous night of fun, we're just glad that we were able to book him!

The cost of this event will be \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members. The club will provide the meat, plates, cutlery, glasses, etc. We ask that you bring one dish of your choice to share. This event is also BYOB.

Space is limited, so please book early. Upon booking, please send your check in to the PO Box address, listed on the front of the newsletter. To RSVP, please phone Amy Croshaw at 928-2580 or e-mail at acrosshaw@verizon.net. Directions to the Southbay Yacht Club will be posted in February's newsletter, as well as on our website (www.SarasotaBritishClub.com).

"Best Seller" March 1 – Join us at the Manatee Players to see the world premiere of an exciting new musical, "Best Seller" written and composed by one of Sarasota British Club's newest members, Don Crabb. "BEST SELLER" was selected as a winner from 491 entries in a world wide contest for new musicals under the patronage of Andrew Lloyd Webber. To quote the Manatee Players, "it is a sparkling comedy with joyous music and an affectionate celebration of New York City."

Manatee Players has organized a special matinee performance at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 1st for Sarasota British Club members. Tickets to this event are \$22 and will include complimentary hors d'oeuvres and wine, coffee and iced tea served an hour before the show begins and also at intermission.

Please note that we will not be taking RSVPs for this event until January 1st. If you are interested in attending, please contact Fay Murphy (President of the Bradenton AAUW, who is arranging this special performance) at 758-5140. You will be able to choose seating preference (and to check availability) with Fay. Upon reserving your tickets, please promptly send payment directly to Fay at the following address: Fay Murphy, 5932 Java Plum Lane, Bradenton, FL 34203. Tickets are selling fast, so please contact Fay soon if interested in attending.

Pub Crawl March 15 – Due to popular demand, one of our most popular events is returning. That's right, the trolley is booked, the flags are out, and we're going on a pub crawl once again! We will be meeting at 5:30PM in the parking lot of The Open (formerly The British Open) on Central Sarasota Pkwy for a prompt 6:00pm departure. The crawl will last around 2 hours, after which we will return to the Open, where those wishing to stay may have dinner.

The cost of this event is \$16 for members, \$20 for non-members: **price does not include dinner or libations**. Due to the popularity of this event, please book ASAP if you wish to attend. This event is guaranteed to be a sellout.

To RSVP, please contact Amy Croshaw at 928-2580 or e-mail at acrosshaw@verizon.net. Please also let me know if you will be staying for dinner at The Open, so I can secure a place. The itinerary for this event will be posted in February's newsletter, as well as on our website (www.SarasotaBritishClub.com).

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.

A warm welcome new members, Ali & Jane McGowan, Mark and Deepa Toomey and Mark & Corina Manning.

We also would like to welcome Nigel and Nathalie Mould, who sent me the following info about themselves. English boy, American girl, met in Munich, married in Sarasota (coincidence!).

We have both lived and worked in numerous countries from Western Europe to Latin America to Asia to Eastern Europe. Nathalie had a successful career in the fragrance industry rising to General Manager before giving it up to take care of our daughter Cecilia. Nigel has a background in Sales Marketing and General Management, led teams through 2 leveraged management buy-outs and finished his career as CEO of an organisation with 700 employees and sales force of 250,000 people spread across 27 countries. We "retired" to Sarasota this summer to our house on Lido Key and whilst making the most of the Florida lifestyle, are now focusing on giving back to the community at large.

Also new to the club are Derek and Maureen Morris. Derek hails originally from Bristol and Maureen from Aldershot, but they have lived for many years in Maidenhead, Berkshire. They have for several years spent from October to May each year in Sarasota in their downtown home. Derek is a retired Solicitor spending the last years of his career as Company Secretary and Solicitor at Southern Electric; Maureen was a Human Resources Manager with Unilever. They have two sons and a grandson in California and four other children plus eight more grand children in the UK (yes,ok, it is a second marriage). Maureen's 96 years old father lives in his own house north of Tampa. They are members of the Sarasota Yacht Club, and in the UK, Winter Hill Golf Club in Cookham and Phyllis Court Club in Henley on Thames. Maureen plays golf and bowls and is an avid soduko solver, while Derek plays tennis and golf. Both enjoy wining, dining, travelling, opera, ballet, and cinema.

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)

Prawn Cocktail

One choice of menu that never changes in the UK is a starter of prawn cocktail, also referred to as Prawns with Marie Rose sauce. I love it, and serve it traditionally for our Christmas meal. I devised my own recipe for it that I feel is close to what you can expect in England. Hope you enjoy it!

Prawn Cocktail

1 lb shrimp/prawns	1 lemon
1 crisp lettuce heart (I use Cobb lettuce)	A few drops of Tabasco sauce
¾ cup mayonnaise (or Heinz salad cream)	Thin slices of cucumber
¼ cup tomato sauce (or ketchup)	

If shrimp/prawns are raw, cover with water in a saucepan, bring to a boil, and shut off heat, leave covered 2-3 minutes, then rinse in cold water. Peel and set aside. Line serving dishes with the lettuce and cucumber slices. Mix mayonnaise, tomato sauce, lemon juice and Tabasco (can also add a dollop of horseradish) mix with the shrimp anyplace on the lettuce in the dishes. Cut lemon slices and cut a slit in the slice, suspend on the rim of the glass. A shrimp hanging on the side also looks good. Yield 6 servings

Recipe from Sandra Cherry, Your Cup of Tea, Inc. and Union Jack Food columnist. She can be reached at yourcupatea1@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, Champions Pub, Tastefully British, Four & Twenty Pasty Shop, the British Open Pub, The Irish Rovers, The Coach & Horses Pub, The Open, Shakespeare's, McAllister's, Scots Corner and Beckham's Osprey Grill. Please thank them by patronizing them whenever you can, and let them know you appreciate their support.

Rose's Corner

It was lovely to see so many friends at the Christmas Party. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very peaceful, prosperous and Happy New Year.

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, call at 366-9984 or email me at rosegillet@yahoo.com. Closing date for the newsletter is the 15th of each month.

Rose Gillet, Newsletter Editor

From Our President

Dear Friends,

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU! Your Club's final event of 2007 was our annual Christmas Party at Misty Creek Country Club. One hundred and three members and guests enjoyed a fun evening, good food, including Sandra Cherry's marvelous mince pies, lively conversation, a visit from Father Christmas, games, dancing and a tremendous selection of raffle prizes. An unexpected treat were Christmas carols sung by a large group of Misty Creek children. Congratulations to Sue Ford and Pauline Delaney on being declared winners of the Charleston Contest. My special thanks to our entire Board and volunteers who gave so unstintingly of their time to ensure the evening's success.

Last year was a good year for your Club due to Nairn' Gillet's leadership and an enthusiastic and hard-working Board. We are most fortunate that in 2008 all the '07 members plus newcomers Jim Sheehy and Ken Jukes will be working on your behalf.

Our program for '08 is taking shape with Immigration seminars in January and a fun, social evening with a magician-comedian in February. March will see us setting off on a Pub Crawl and dinner by trolley. Also, in March we will again support the annual Scottish Games, while in April we will hold a dinner to celebrate the Queen's Birthday and St. George's Day.

We encourage you to let us know how we can make our Club better and we urge you to please volunteer a little of your time to assist in our various activities. Our Board members are listed on the back page. We thank you all for your support – we will work hard to make your membership a worthwhile and rewarding experience.

Sincerely,
Terry Sweeney

December Board Meeting Précis:

Outgoing president, Nairn' Gillet, expressed his thanks for the teamwork of the whole board for 2007. Treasurer's balance showed \$ 6,128.61, however, this included deposits for the Christmas party. Membership count is 151. A newcomers tea planned for January 19th. November meeting of the BBC had 3 new attendees. Christmas party plans in full swing, 100 tickets sold so far, and a fun evening is guaranteed! A box for our sponsored family through Mothers Helping Mothers will be available at party for donations. Immigration lawyer, Tony Olson, has been booked for January 12th and 15th. Sarasota Ballet will be January 27th. February meeting scheduled for a Magic evening on the 15th at South Bay Yacht Club. Plan to have a booth again in March for the Scottish Highland Games. A British comedy will be featured at Venice Little Theatre Jan/Feb. We will plan to have another St Georges/Queens birthday in April. Next board meeting in January at Sandra Cherry's home; members welcome, but please call ahead, as space is limited.

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A Big Christmas Thank You

A big thank you to all of you for your donations for our adopted family from Mother's Helping Mothers. Apart from actual items on their list, we received several gift certificates, and some money. Amy and I went shopping to purchase some of the remaining requested items from the money. Your generosity is gratefully appreciated. Thank you again from Sandra and Amy, and of course Mum Raina, and her boys Roberto and Anthony.

Christmas Party Pics by Cliff Roles



**Merry
Christmas until next year!!**