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BritClub News



Board of Directors

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BritClub News

June, 2011

Sarasota British Club, P. O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276 Vol. 11, Issue 6

Coming Events

Board Meeting - Thursday June 9th, @6:30 p.m. at the home of .Sue Ford. Members welcome but please call ahead, see Page 12, as space is limited.

Coffee Morning – 10:30-12 noon on Tuesday June 14th , at the home of Sue Ford, contact info see page 12. Mark your calendars for the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

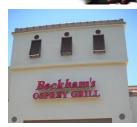


<u>Miguel's Restaurant</u>—Saturday, June 11th, 6631 Midnight Pass Road, Siesta Key More details see Page 8



<u>Dinner and Silent Auction</u>—Saturday, July 16^{th,} Lakeshore Villas Clubhouse. More details see Page 6

Beckham's Osprey Grill – Saturday August 20th More details see Page 4



Cruise: - November 6th

The cruise ship, "Norwegian Star," leaves from Tampa on November 6th for 7 nights with port calls in Honduras, Belize, Costa Maya & Cozumel Mexico. There are 18 members already signed up. We have a gentleman who is looking for someone to share a cabin with...if you are interested, or otherwise wish to book the cruise, please phone Sioux Hurley; our travel agent, on 941-484-0728. Prices start at \$399. Hope to see you on board.



Our website is www.SarasotaBritishClub.com

From here you will find local information, Club news, coming events, photos from past events and many past newsletters.

Letter from President Gary Lee

The Royal Wedding Tea at the Ritz-Carlton on April 29 was a festive occasion that seemed to capture the exuberant air that surrounded the Royal Wedding earlier that day and which had been viewed on television in the wee hours by many of the fifty-two members and guests in attendance. Just to be sure that everyone present had seen or had yet to see the wedding ceremony, it had been recorded on a DVD (thanks to Brian Thompson) for replay at the tea. As expected, the tea and accompanying savories and sweets were exquisitely served and in lovely surroundings. Unexpectedly, but readily relished, complimentary champagne and sparkling rose were offered. How could anyone refuse? More recently on May 16, a happy band of thirty-five members took to the Myakka at Snook Haven

More recently on May 16, a happy band of thirty-five members took to the Myakka at Snook Haven for a narrated boat tour up and down the river. On the return leg, it was wholly appropriate that, following Sandra Cherry's lead, the group broke into a rousing chorus of that old favorite, "Cruising Down the River on a Sunday Afternoon."

Do cast your eye carefully on the list of upcoming events and socials in the next several months. There should be an event or two that you'll find appealing. As always, the Board is very interested in ideas for socials/events from the SBC membership at large. Please let us hear from you. Finally, here's the "Limerick of the Month"

There once was a young maid of Ostend, Who swore she'd hold out to the end; But alas! half-way over, Twixt Calais and Dover, She'd done what she didn't intend.

May Board Meeting Precis

Meeting held at home of Gary and Jane Lee: Treasurer's report shows balance of \$6,625.55. Membership renewals still coming in, decision to cut off June 1st, still getting several new members. April events included new member's tea, and Royal Wedding tea at the Ritz-Carlton, both were successful.

Myakka Boat trip at Snook Haven fully booked. Arcadia Memorial service for deceased WW2 RAF pilots will be May 30th. Members will plan to meet the son of one of the pilots coming over from the UK, whose family only recently found out he had a grave at Arcadia.

June 11th will be an evening at Miguel's Restaurant on Siesta key. A Silent Auction and party is planned for July 16th, members will be asked to donate items before the event. An evening at Beckham's restaurant is planned for August 20th. The British Club in Port Charlotte would like to have us share an event with them: AGM will be during Halloween/Guy Fawkes evening in October. Has been a problem with a Facebook contact called "Tubely" sent from Sue Ford's and Ken Jukes' addresses, there have been a couple of members who were affected as this was not a recognized site, and may be a virus.

Next Board meeting to be held at Sue & Roy Ford's home, Thursday June 9th.

Submitted by Sandra Cherry, Secretary

Business Glimpse—Sioux Hurley

I became involved in the corporate side of the travel industry when I lived in the Bahamas. In those days, we used an OAG (Official Airline Guide), which was like a thick telephone directory and listed every single airline and every single flight, anywhere in the world.

This was the 60's, the age of commercial airline success and since the arrival of the 'jumbo jet' it was no longer fashionable, practical or economical to travel by boat. Copying the grand styling of past steamships, oceangoing vessels



were primarily used to get from point A to point B, especially for second or third-class passengers, whose accommodations were in stark contrast to those in first-class staterooms. The most common voyages were transatlantic crossings of cargo/passenger boats that sailed from Southampton to exotic ports of call in the Caribbean, such as the one I sailed to Jamaica on in the early 60's. Cunard boosted the declining market in '74 when facilities and amenities were made available to all passengers but credit must also be given to the Love Boat series because the show's gorgeous scenery and exotic ports of call had an undeniable impact on viewers. With a fleet of giant passenger liners being launched in the 80's, having every amenity on board, the cruise became an all inclusive, affordable holiday for every budget. Now, ports of call are not the main selling point for some travelers, as some lines market the shipboard experience rather than the destination. There are now well over 19 million passengers carried worldwide, with the Caribbean holding 40% of the market

I am often asked why consumers would even bother to use a travel consultant in this age of computerized booking systems. While it is true that it is easier sometimes to 'do it yourself', there are lots of reasons why people still use a consultant. In fact, a recent survey listed 62% preferred the expertise; 51% liked the convenience, 45% went for the personal touch and 39% found the price to be the same or better in a lot of cases. With 16,440 cruises, 364 ships and 90 cruise lines plus hundreds of tour companies who can provide specialized point to point travel, it is often wise to consult someone who has access to all of this information at their fingertips. There are many wholesale tour operators who provide exciting travel destinations but don't sell to the public.

Cruising is the most popular holiday and even with this economy, people are filling up the ships and a new branch of eco-tours and cruises are entering the market. Cruising of any kind is without a doubt, tremendous value for money but there are also lots of other wonderful options that are available for those who want to try something different and a good consultant knows how and where to find them. Contact me at 941-484-0728 or teatreeinc@comcast.net



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 premises: Word of Mouth (3), Champions Pub, Tastefully British, 4 & 20 Pasty Company, The Open Pub & Restaurant , The Irish Rovers, The Coach & Horses Pub, McAllister's, Scot's Corner, British Open Pub & Restaurant of Venice, Cafe Continental-Patisserie, Bentley's Resort Hotel,

Scrambles, Beckham's Osprey Grill, Ezpiez and Simon's Coffee House. Please thank them by patronizing them whenever you can, and let them know you appreciate their support.

Locations to Hold Our Events We put out a call to all members who could offer their clubhouse as a location for a 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 glee01@verizon. net with suitable dates and locations. Thank you for your support.

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.



Would you like to advertise with us?

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 per quarter-year: 1/4 page \$15, 1/2 page \$25, full page \$40. There is a 20% discount if you purchase your advertisements for a full year. Sale ads for unwanted items are \$5 per month 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 Brian Thompson, 11710 Strandhill Ct, Lakewood Ranch. 34202. e-mail lakewood2@gmail.com..

MOVIE REVIEW - Water for Elephants [PG-13]

The story of a "raging bull" of a Circus entrepreneur as he battles the depression era (and Ringling Bros!), the young unqualified Vet who jumps the train to join he circus trying to hide from an awful family tragedy. A love story with a happy ending but only after a bumpy road, some animal cruelty. The story is cleverly presented as being told by the now aged Jacob to a current era Circus owner.

Reece Witherspoon does an awesome job as the elephant riding orphaned star attraction and wife of the evil Ringmaster/owner, expertly played by Christoph Waltz. The big disappointment is Robert (Vampire) Pattinson who never gets in to the character to get anything out of it. Sorry ladies, he may have the looks but is totally lacking in acting skills !! The star for me is Rosie the elephant, a good movie, go see it.

OzKer



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A Day at The Races

Eileen Schuler, Sue Ford, Derek Curran and Terry Sweeney with the rider of 'Rose Medallion', winner of the Sarasota British Club Trophy Race at Tampa Downs



Sue Ford and Gary Lee



Pauline Dulany, Sandra Cherry, Sue Ford, Jane Hersee-Lee, Penny Mulak

The Royal Wedding Tea at the Ritz-Carlton.

Photos by Hester Mulak.





Margaret Brading's hat.

Beckham's Osprey Grill - AUGUST 20th

BECKHAM'S BECKONS!!!! Always a fun and convivial evening with lively conversation, good food and drink in pleasant surroundings. Annie, one of the co-owners has again offered to add her terrific Steak and Ale Pie and Cottage Pie to their varied menu. Prices are reasonable and their fish and chips and hamburgers are truly excellent.

We will meet and mingle in the bar area at 6:00 p.m. with dinner to follow around 6:45 to 7:00 p.m. This will be a "Quiz Night" - always fun.

Beckham's is in the Southbay Shopping Plaza, corner of U.S. 41 and Blackburn Point Road in Osprey.

We have promised to give our head count to our friends at Beckham's by <u>AUG.15th</u> This event is usually a sellout. Don't miss out!

RSVP Terry Sweeney at 918-0550 or tsweeneyau@aol.com

And....if you want Annie to cook her famous Steak and Ale Pie or Cottage Pie for you, please let Terry know as these items are not always on the menu.

-4-



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Dinner—Music—Silent Auction

6:00-9:00 pm, July 16, 2011

Join us for an pleasant mid-summer evening that includes dinner, music and a silent auction for a number of desirable items and services, including dining certificates at popular restaurants around town. Our musician for the evening is keyboard artiste, Kevin James. This fun evening will unfold in the Lakeshore Village Clubhouse, just off Clark Road, near Beneva on Saturday evening, July 16 beginning at 6:00 p.m. The main dish will be provided. Attendees are asked to bring an appetizer, salad or dessert to share and their own wine/beer.

To assure a mixture of appetizers, salads and desserts, please plan your food contribution according to the beginning letter of your last name as follows: letters A - F--appetizer; letters G - M—salad; letters L - Z—dessert.

Cost of the evening is \$5.00 for members; \$7.50 for non-members. Please let Gary Lee know if you plan to attend (email: glee01@verizon.net; tel: 941-706-1172). Please send checks to Sarasota British Club, P.O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276.

Location/Directions to Lakeshore Village Clubhouse; Lake Shore Village, Wilshire Blvd. just off Clark Road, about 300 yards east of Beneva Road. The Clubhouse is 100 yards on left.

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After our day at the races in March, our Royal Tea at the Ritz in April and the upcoming river cruise in May, the Sarasota British Club is going continental for our June event.

We have arranged an evening of good food in a lovely atmosphere at Miguel's Restaurant, 6631 Midnight Pass Road,

Siesta Key. Although *Miguel's* has a very Spanish sounding name, the restaurant actually specializes in French and continental cuisine and, for those of you who have never been, this is an evening not to be missed. We have reserved one of their two dining rooms for our group on *Saturday, June 11*, and, providing we are all seated and have our food ordered by 6:30 p.m. we can take advantage of their wonderful summer Early Bird dinners! Our plan is for everyone to meet at the restaurant *no later than 6:00 p.m.*

For the price of what the entree would normally cost, we get to enjoy an appetizer, salad, fresh garlic bread, main course, dessert and coffee or tea. When we were there last week, the daily choices were wonderful; appetizers included shrimp cocktail, carrot and dill soup, or garlic soup (which is the house specialty.) There was a huge variety of main courses, ranging from roast duck, veal marsala, petite filet mignon, lamb chops, assorted chicken, fish and seafood dishes. Is your mouth watering yet?? The cost of the main courses ranged from \$17 - \$20 (and, as mentioned above, this includes appetizer, salad, dessert, tea or coffee). What a bargain, especially for such a nice restaurant!

Reservations are a MUST, as we need to let the restaurant know in advance how many people to expect, and the numbers will dictate which dining room we use. There will be no assigned seating. Why not make a special evening of it, invite some friends, enjoy a nice meal and then nip over to the beach and watch a spectacular sunset? Who could ask for more?

Please RSVP to Shona Burtner (925-0462 or skburtner@hotmail.com) no later than Monday, June 6. "Merci et au revoir."

Shona

JOKE

A woman's husband had been slipping in and out of a coma for several months, yet she had stayed by his bedside every single day.

One day, when he came to, he motioned for her to come nearer.

As she sat by him, he whispered, eyes full of tears, 'You know what? 'You have been with me all through the bad times. When I got fired, you were there to support me. When my business failed, you were there. When I got shot, you were by my side. When we lost the house, you stayed right here. When my health started failing, you were still by my side...

You know what Martha?'

'What dear?' she gently asked, smiling as her heart began to fill with warmth.

'I'm beginning to think you're bad luck... '

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	Come and Join the Club				
•	The Sarasota British Club (SBC) serves the needs of its membership in the spirit of friend ship and mutual support. This includes the planning, developing and overseeing of a social setting where members can meet and exchange interests. The SBC assists British newcomers in settling into the community, and provides British businesses with valuable networking and support. 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)				
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On the Web

Do you have a query about Microsoft Word that isn't covered by pressing Help [F1]? Try **www.allexperts.com** for a personal touch. My question was answered by email within an hour. This site covers many subjects including sports, culture, science, parenting, food, travel. Just in case it has also bothered you - My question was "What are those small circles that sometimes show between words when I show paragraph markings?"

The answer— If you see a small circle looking like this a small o in superscript, that is a forced space. If it resembles a period (centered vertically) that represents a spacebar space. The difference is a forced space allows words to be kept together. For example if you always want John Smith on the same line you would type John[Ctrl+Shift+spacebar]Smith vs John[spacebar]Smith. Word recognizes the forced space as a character and would view John Smith as 1 word and therefore would not break it up (that is wrap to next line if too long).

ANIMAL TRIVIA

The fingerprints of koala bears are virtually indistinguishable from those of humans, so much so that they could be confused at a crime scene.

Cat's urine glows under a blacklight.

Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.

A group of larks is called an exaltation.

A group of owls is called a parliament.