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BritClub News



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

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Treasurer Shona Burtner 925-0462 skburtner@hotmail.com
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Membership Sec'y. Kathy Curtin 379-9861 kathrmcurt@msn.com
Programs Director.. Amy Croshaw 751-6194 acrowshaw@verizon.net
Website Design Standout Solutions 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
PR Director Naim Gillet 321-9631 ngillet@yahoo.com



BritClub News

March, 2008

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

Vol. 8, Issue 3

Coming Events

Board Meeting March 6 – 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!

“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 our newest members, Don Crabb. “BEST SELLER” was selected as a winner from 491 entries in a worldwide 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.

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 acrowshaw@verizon.net. Please also let her know if you will be staying for dinner at The Open, so she can secure a place.

Our website is www.SarasotaBritishClub.com

Mark Your Calendar

March 29 – Those of you who have a wee drop or two of Scottish blood in your veins will be pleased to know that the Brit Club will be participating in the annual Highland Games at the Venice airport, hosted by the Scottish Heritage Society.

If you want a fun day out with lots of activities and entertainment, then sign up for the Highland Games. The tickets cost \$10 in advance and \$12 at the gate on the day of the games. It is money well spent. You will enjoy hearing wonderful Scottish singers and musicians all the way from Scotland and Canada, massed pipe bands, bagpipe competitions, watching highland dancing and traditional Scottish athletics (tossing the caber etc.), eating and tasting Scottish delicacies and much, much more. You can even enter the prestigious shortbread competition!!

The British Club will proudly be manning our own tent on “Clan Row” during the games. Our tent will offer free nibbles and a libation or two for *members only!* This is a great opportunity for the club to attract new members and increase our visibility in the community. If you’re interested in helping at the booth, please contact Terry Sweeney at 918-0550. Please stop by and visit.

April BBC (British Business Club) – During this busy season we are postponing our next meeting until April. We plan to continue the third Tuesdays monthly but at different venues. So please mark your calendar for the next meeting on April 15th, venue to be advised. Any questions please contact Andy Reeves at e-mail andy.sunkey@comcast.net or Tel. 941 350 7272.

April 19 St. George's Day/Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday Gala – Saturday 19 April will find us gathering at the Coach and Horses Pub at Lockwood Ridge and University Parkway to honour both our Patron Saint and her Majesty the Queen with a gala dinner and pub quiz night from 6-10pm. You will be able to order anything off the menu you desire and pub master Alan just might make both of his fabled Sunday roasts (beef and pork) available to us. There will be a quiz, a raffle and other fun and games. You pay only for what you eat and drink. Reservations ARE absolutely required and seating is limited. Please ring Amy Croshaw at 928-2580 or Terry Sweeney at 918.0550 if you plan on attending.

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.

February brings us more new members: Michael and Jackie Gant, Paul Hathaway and Dee Openshaw, David and Lyn Sawyer, and Peter Seats. We extend a warm welcome and look forward to meeting you all soon.

Peter Seats – Born in Gillingham, Kent. Went to school in Hong Kong. Moved to US from Hayes Middlesex in '50s to join a technology company in New Jersey. Moved to Sarasota from Williamsburg VA in '04 to join family, after wife became ill.

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)

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, 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.

Rose's Corner

Lots to look forward to this month! We have the Pub Crawl, “Best Seller,” the Highland Games and The Other Boleyn Girl – truly something for everyone.

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

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Rice Pudding

I remember my Mum's milk puddings; rice, tapioca, semolina, macaroni etc, all baked in the Aga. I loved them and still consider them comfort food. My favourite version here is made in a double boiler, and I feel the taste is how I remember Mum's. When hers came out of the oven it would have a browned 'skin' on the top which I loved. Weird, huh? (My brothers would call macaroni puddings "blow and suck", which they would do by holding a piece in their teeth and blowing through it!!! Also tapioca was irreverently referred to as 'frog spawn'!!!)

Rice Pudding

¾ cup rice	Water
Pinch of salt	1 large can evaporated milk
½ tsp vanilla	1 large egg
1/3 cup sugar	Nutmeg

Put rice in top of double boiler, add two cups of water and salt, and cook over low heat until the water is almost gone. Add the evaporated milk and 1 ½ cups water. Continue to cook until thickened slightly, stirring frequently, and checking the water level in bottom pan. Add sugar, beaten egg and vanilla. Serve sprinkled with nutmeg. (Takes about 1-2 hours). Yield 4-6 servings

Recipe from Sandra Cherry, *Your Cup of Tea, Inc.* and Union Jack Food columnist. She can be reached at yourcupatea1@yahoo.com.

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- We have a proven track record in financial services to UK expatriates globally, and we are pleased to extend our services to you through club member IAN MANWARING, our US Marketing Manager for our new Florida franchise.
- As a Bradenton homeowner, Ian makes trips throughout the year and can advise you on our services including UK Pensions advice (& transfers) and investments. Ian can also refer you to Florida CPAs and Attorneys who can advise you in related US/UK tax, estate planning and immigration matters.
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If you need advice or just a review, call Ian on **+44(0)1952-850359** (UK) or **(941) 201-4296** (US) or E-Mail: ian.manwaring@abg.net Web: www.abg.net

Do You Own Your Own Business?

For advertising, our rates are reasonable and such 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. There is a 20% discount if you purchase your advertisements annually. 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.

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From Our President

Dear Friends:

Last month I reported that we had over one hundred and fifty members in the club. Well, our ranks have now swelled to nearly one hundred and seventy-five. We wish a very warm welcome to all our new members.

Our February event proved to be a real fun evening with magic, laughter, good food, drink and companionship. It was especially good to see so many of our new members present. Magician-comedian Dan Tong entertained an appreciative audience of 92 members and guests with his sleight of hand and kept us laughing with his jokes and anecdotes.

Our business networking venture, the British Business Connection, has been struggling lately despite many hours of hard work by Valerie Woodger and Mike Bentley. Former Brit.Club president, Andy Reeves, has offered to take over the Connection and see what he can do to breathe new life into it. As my Aussie friends would say "Good on yer, Andy!" In the meantime, we thank Valerie and Mike most sincerely for all their efforts.

Upcoming events include our always popular Pub Crawl, the Scottish Games and Ceilidh, the Queen's Birthday and St. George's Day Dinner, Sarasota Bay Cruise, Mini Golf followed by dinner at Barnacle Bill's. As always the Brit Club News will contain full details.

Royalty...Triumphs and Tragedies. This exciting new exhibit recently opened at the St. Petersburg Museum of History and runs through September. This event will display artifacts from the British Royal Family, Princess Diana (including some of her dresses), The Duke and Duchess of Windsor and Princess Grace of Monaco. As many Brit Club members have expressed interest in seeing this event, we are looking into hiring a bus. Be sure to read your Brit Club News and e-mails. Speaking of e-mails, please let Kathy Curtin (Tel: 379-9861) know when you change your e-mail address so that we can keep you fully aware of forthcoming events.

My sincere thanks for all your support.

Best regards,
Terry Sweeney

May 17th for a trip on LaBarge, Mini golf for June. December 13th has been booked for our Christmas party, this year at Heritage Oaks. March 6th will be the next board meeting, 6:30pm at home of Sandra Cherry. Members welcome but due to space limitation, please call ahead.

February 7th Board Meeting Précis:

Board meeting held February 7th at home of President Terry Sweeney. Currently membership has 171 paid up members. Will be scheduling the newcomers tea probably for April will need a larger venue. Jim Sheehy has been checking new addresses of members and Kathy and James updating their records. Domain names renewed by James for the website. Rose could use some help with the folding and stamping of the newsletter. Valerie Woodger has resigned as Chair of the British Business Connection; at this time the group will be put on hold. James will continue to feature British affiliated businesses, but in a new format, suggested a disclaimer be added for the club, that we only list, not necessarily recommend said businesses. January presentation by Immigration lawyer, Tony Olson, was very well received, despite low turn out. February 15th will be the Valentine's Pot Luck evening with comedian/magician Dan Tong. Upcoming events include March 15th Pub Crawl, March 29th Highland Games booth, April 19th St. George's/Queens birthday evening at the Coach and Horses,