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# BritClub News



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# BritClub News

May, 2011 Sarasota British Club, P. O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276 Vol. 11, Issue 5

## Coming Events

**Board Meeting** - Thursday May 12th, @6:30 p.m. at the home of .Gary & Jane Lee. Members welcome but please call ahead as space is limited.

**Coffee Morning** - 10:30-12 noon on Tuesday May 10th , at the home of Sue Ford, contact info see page 12. Mark your calendars for the 2nd Tuesday of each month. See also Sue's Corner on Page 11.



**Narrated Myakka River Tour from Snook Haven** - **STOP PRESS** : date revised from Sat May 14th to Sun May 15th More details see page 4.



**Memorial Day at Arcadia** —May 30th More details see Page 11

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



**Silent Auction** —Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. Details in June newsletter.

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

**Cruise: - November 6<sup>th</sup>**  
The cruise ship, "Norwegian Star," leaves from Tampa on November 6<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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

On Saturday, March 26, thirty-eight SBC members and guests spent an enjoyable day at the Tampa Downs horse races, including a tasty lunch. Round trip transportation was by motor coach. By all accounts, this was a very successful occasion and there are requests for a repeat of this social event next season. Many thanks to Sue Ford, Event Chair for this outing, and to member Margaret Brading for arranging the transportation.

Shortly thereafter, on March 29, group of forty including members and several international guests gathered at the Peppermill Eatery in Bradenton for a festive meal of particularly-good fish and chips. This find was brought to the Club's attention by relatively new member Julie Tomlinson, who liaised with the Peppermill Eatery for the Club. Nicely done, Julie!

Two other social events have occurred since the last ***BritClub News***: on Wednesday, April 13, there was a one-day shopping trip to Festival Market in Pompano Beach organised by Margaret Brading to which Club members were invited. All who went enjoyed the day. The other event was the New Members' Tea, held on Saturday afternoon, April 16 at the home of Membership Chair, Derek Curran and his wife, Lyn. Board Secretary Sandra Cherry helped coordinate this successful and enjoyable afternoon that included delicious scones, of course, along with tea sandwiches and other very tasty treats. A total of some thirty persons attended, including Board members. It is noteworthy that several non-member guests decided at the Tea to join the Club.

The principal Club event this month will occur on Friday, 29 April after this edition of the newsletter is printed. This is, of course, the Club Tea at The Ritz-Carlton to celebrate the Royal Wedding of Prince William and Kate. Attendance at the Tea was limited to 50 persons by The Ritz-Carlton and places went very quickly. The Board regrets that not all who wanted to attend could be accommodated. There will be a full report on the Tea in the June issue of the newsletter.

I close with the "Limerick of the Month"

There was a young lady from Rye  
With a shape like a capital I  
When they said, "It's too bad,"  
She learned how to pad,  
Which shows you that figures can lie.

### April Board Meeting Precis

Treasurer's report shows balance of \$8, 180.17 (*includes deposits made for upcoming events*)

Discussed reducing the amount of advertising in the newsletter: Website issues to be evaluated.

Ball Game, Tampa Downs, Dinner out and shopping trip were all successful March and April events. New members tea to be April 16th. Upcoming Royal Wedding tea at the Ritz Carlton fully booked, with a reserve list. Upcoming months' events discussed. Looking for more central venue to hold Board Meetings.

Discussed giving Sue more help for the coffee mornings, and suggested putting them on hold for the summer months.

### Sue's Corner—Coffee morning

With the weather heating up we can look forward to a bright coffee morning in or outside which ever you prefer. We look forward to seeing you and meeting more new members. Thank you in anticipation for the dish you bring along to share for the table, and please remember to take your dish home with you when you leave. Anyone wishing to donate an item for the silent auction evening planned for July is welcome to bring it along to a coffee morning..

**Sue Ford**

### MAY 30<sup>th</sup> – MEMORIAL DAY

#### ARCADIA AND THE ROYAL AIR FORCE CONNECTION

Each year on Memorial Day a service coordinated by the Arcadia Rotary Club and the local American Legion is held to honor 23 RAF trainee pilots and their American instructor who were killed at nearby Carlstrom and Riddle flight schools during WWII.

Well over one hundred people, many of whom bring floral tributes, congregate at the beautifully maintained British Plot in the Oak Ridge Cemetery.

The one hour service, **starting at 10:00 a.m.** at which the Sarasota British Club is always represented, is dignified and moving. The Union Jack and RAF flags fluttering overhead add a further touch of Britain to the proceedings.

We do hope that many of our members, especially those of us who remember the dark days of World War II, will attend the ceremony this Memorial Day, 30<sup>th</sup> May to honor our countrymen who gave their lives for us. On the way home we plan to stop off for a light lunch.

*Directions: Go east on SR 70 (from Bradenton) or SR 72 (from Sarasota) for about 35 miles. Follow signs to Arcadia. As you enter the town on SR 70 the road forks ... take the left fork (Oak Street) to Lee and turn left (there's a bit of a right/left jog in the road at Whidden Street) till the road stops. Turn left and follow that road into Oak Ridge Cemetery. Drive straight on and look for the Union Jack flying over the plot. Bring lawn chairs as seating is limited.*

For further information call Terry Sweeney at 941-918-0550



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 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 club house, please contact [glee01@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto: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, or e-mail to [lakewood2@gmail.com](mailto:lakewood2@gmail.com).

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## Movie review The Lincoln Lawyer [R]

Mathew McConaughey as a lawyer who is driven around in an old Lincoln while he wheels and deals his way through cases, until he gets drawn in to a nasty abuse/assault case where the accused has serious money and even more serious family. The more it unravels the more complex it becomes. Starts slow but by halfway you are involved and want the goodies to win, more twists and turns to follow, so who does win? Great photography and music to add to the atmosphere, unconvincing accent from Mathew, great support from Marisa Tomei as his ex, Ryan Phillippe as the accused, not enough of William Macy. Good quality psychological thriller, go see.

**OZKER**

Web info: [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com) has an extensive movie database. with links so that you can find out where your choice is being screened.



## **Narrated Myakka River Tour from Snook Haven: May 15th**

**Please note** the switch of date from Sat May 14th to Sun May 15th

It transpires that there would no longer be live music at Snook Haven at the end of the circa 1 hour boat trip on Saturday May 14th. This was raised at our Board and they agreed we should move the date to Sunday May 15th at the same time (gather at the Snook Haven jetty at 1:15, Terry's boat leaving at 1:30pm). The boat company are happy with the switch, the price being the same ie \$15 inc tip). When the boat trip ends, there will be live outdoor music and you can purchase food/drinks at the Snook Haven restaurant . Only a few seats are left so please call Ken Jukes 941-927-6499 to reserve a place.

Join us for this fantastic narrated river tour of old Florida, leaving from Snook Haven at 1.15 pm on Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>.

This part of the river has featured in an old Tarzan film (apparently starring Johnny Weissmuller). The river tour lasts for about an hour and we then plan to eat at the restaurant (you choose and pay for your own food of course!). Seating is mainly outside.

Directions: **from the North and South**, take I75 to Exit 191, take exit east on River Road and at the first traffic light turn left into Snook Haven. The dirt road runs through the woods for about 0.6 miles and leads directly into the restaurant area and free car parking. **From Venice:** take Venice Avenue East and keep going straight into Snook Haven, the last traffic lights being those at River Road.

For more, including location photos and menus, see [www.snookhaven.com](http://www.snookhaven.com)

## **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 AUG.15<sup>th</sup>

This event is usually a sellout. Don't miss out!

RSVP Terry Sweeney at 918-0550 or [tsweeneyau@aol.com](mailto: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.

## **ANIMAL TRIVIA**

The first bird domesticated by man was the goose.

There are more chickens in the world than people.

Chickens absorb vitamin-D through their combs from sunshine.

The average hen will lay 227 eggs a year

Roosters can't crow if they can't fully extend their necks.

A group of geese on the ground is a gaggle, a group of geese in the air is a skein.

A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.

Chickens that lay brown eggs have red ear lobes. There is a genetic link between the two.

The female pig is the fastest barnyard mama. Miss Piggy gestates in three months, three weeks, and three days.

The underside of a horse's hoof is called a frog. The frog peels off several times a year with new growth.

The placement of a donkey's eyes in its' head enables it to see all four feet at all times.

It is possible to lead a cow upstairs but not downstairs, because a cow's knees can't bend properly to walk back down.

When a female horse and male donkey mate, the offspring is called a mule, but when a male horse and female donkey mate, the offspring is called a hinny.

Goat's eyes have rectangular pupils.

A quarter of the horses in the US died of a vast virus epidemic in 1872



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### JOKE

Two guys were walking in the woods one day, and they all of a sudden came across a bear. The bear noticed them, and started growling and generally getting really mean. The bear started to chase one of the guys, who, as it turns out, was from Czechoslovakia. The bear soon caught up with him, and ate him alive. The other guy turned around and ran for his life.

A little while later, the second guy found a park ranger station and told his story. The ranger took his gun, and they both went out in search of the bear, in order to destroy it.

Soon, they came across two bears, one male, and one female. The ranger turned to the other guy and said: "Quick... tell me which bear ate your friend!" The ranger levelled his gun and got ready to shoot.

"I'm not really sure," said the other guy, "they both look similar." "QUICK! Make up your mind!" said the ranger. "O.K.," said the other, "it was the male."

The ranger promptly aimed and shot the female bear. The male ran off. Using his knife, the ranger cut open the belly of the female and found the body of the other man.

"But why didn't you shoot the male when I thought it was the male who ate my friend?" the other man asked.

"Well," said the ranger... "I never trust anyone who says that the Czech's in the male!"

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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**

"One of the very nicest things about life is the way we must regularly stop whatever it is we are doing and devote our attention to eating" **Luciano Pavarotti**

**JOKES**

What is the difference between a good lawyer and a great lawyer?  
 Answer: A good lawyer knows the law and a great lawyer knows the Judge!!!

+++

An airplane pilot got engaged to two very pretty women at the same time. One was named Edith; the other named Kate.

They met, discovered they had the same fiancée, and told him: "Get out of our lives you rascal. We'll teach you that you can't have your Kate and Edith, too."

**Come and Join the Club**

The Sarasota British Club (SBC) serves the needs of its membership in the spirit of friendship 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.

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**CADDIE COMEBACKS**

Golfer: "Think I'm going to drown myself in the lake."  
 Caddy: "Think you can keep your head down that long?"

Golfer: "I'd move heaven and earth to break 100 on this course."  
 Caddy: "Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth."

Golfer: "Do you think my game is improving?"  
 Caddy: "Yes sir, you miss the ball much closer now."

Golfer: "Do you think I can get there with a 5 iron?"  
 Caddy: "Eventually."

Golfer: "You've got to be the worst caddy in the world."  
 Caddy: "I don't think so, sir. That would be too much of a coincidence."

Golfer: "Please stop checking your watch all the time. It's too much of a distraction."  
 Caddy: "It's not a watch - it's a compass."

