

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.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Alt. _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

MEMBERSHIP: Single \$25 Family \$35 (includes all children under 18)

How did you hear about us? _____

BritClub News



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

Board of Directors

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BritClub News

May, 2012

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

Vol. 12, Issue 5

Coming Events

Board Meeting —Thursday May 10th @6:30 p.m. at the home of Kath Curtin .. Members welcome but please call ahead, see Page 8, as space is limited.

Games Evening and Pot Luck Dinner — Saturday, May 12 Details see Page 4



Queens Diamond Jubilee

—Saturday June 2nd; Calling all Brits for this great occasion ...60 years on the throne and still doing duties and looking wonderful. It is our duty as Her Majesty's subjects to come out in force to show our patriotic love to our Queen and Country. On Saturday June 2nd between 4.30pm to 7pm, The Polo Grill Lakewood Ranch is offering us a chance to gather together...bring your friends, family and pass the word to anyone that is British that would like to be with other Brits on this very special day. All drinks will be 'Happy Hour' prices wine \$3.50, lager \$2.50; martinis or cocktails \$4.50. Bar meal at \$5 plus 6 different



choices of pizza for \$10 are also at the Happy Hour prices. Come fly the flag for our Sovereign's Diamond Jubilee

Club Tour of Two Asolo Repertory

Theatres at the Ringling — Thursday, 7 June.

See Page 3 for details.

Art Gallery Visit— Tuesday 10th July at

10.30am, A trip for members to the Raymond James art collection in St.Petersburg . There is **no charge** to see a wonderful collection of paintings and sculptures, generally by living American artists.. Some of the featured works include Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, and Salvador Dali. This is a personal narrated 1 hour tour. Contact me, Brian Thompson at lakewood2@gmail.com or phone (941)388-8018. I will try to arrange 'car share' from the list of names.

RAYMOND JAMES®

Note to our Advertisers

THIS EDITION'S ADVERTS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED. YOUR ENTRIES WILL CONTINUE NEXT MONTH.

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 Sue Ford



The year is rolling by... May already! I can't believe it. As we crank-up to the heat and humidity... I, for one, am already complaining about, Oh, it's so hot'. For those members who have returned home they, too, will be complaining about the weather back in the UK for one reason or another. It seems to be something we Brits just can't help doing--we are always either too hot, too cold or too wet. I suppose it's part of our British culture having the weather as our main topic of conversation. Whenever most of us come into contact with friends, family, people on the street we are acquainted with... often the first thing out of our mouths is "the weather"; and then might we go into deeper inquiries on how life is treating them. To my mind, a strong characteristic of the British culture is how we listen to the replies and are genuinely interested in what people have to say.

All of us living here have our own reasons for leaving Britain and coming to America. Some came through work, others choose to find work or a business opportunity here; others through marriage or family associations. Needless to say, there are a myriad of reasons, including—of course—the weather. I encourage members to share their own stories with us through our newsletters. Brian, our editor, is always eager to hear from you. On that note... our thanks to both Norman Shelley and Steve Adams for the write-ups on our Tampa Downs outing...both were very amusing and a treat to read.

Our Charity Jumble Sale held Easter week-end to benefit "Hope in a Backpack" garnered a total of over \$1,200. See also Page 5. This included members' donations by check of \$115.00. Thank you to all that helped in either donating, pricing, baking, renting and/or staffing the tables on the day. I worked 'Sue's Cafe' selling baked items contributed members... I have to say, everything sold like hot cakes and it was

wonderful hearing the "oohs and ahs" exclaimed on how good everything was.

I look forward to seeing you for our Games Night on May 12th. This is a pot luck occasion: last names, A-L=savory; M-Z= dessert... \$5 members/\$7.50 non-members; checks payable to . Checks to Sarasota British Club, P.O. Box 21063, Sarasota 34276. Numbers are limited to 80 people...so be sure to get your names in now.

The Cruise

A meeting was held at Panera Bread on April 20th for those members who have booked to go on the November 10th cruise; and arrangements have been made for our transport to and from Miami.



On Your PC

The website showmystreet.com will VERY quickly locate an address in Google Streetview and a satellite view. Type SLOWLY to see it working. For example I only needed to type the house number, street and first 4 letters of the town to find my mum's home and the house number and street to find my old UK home. Who needs zip codes or even the county or even the country in the address?

Free software

The company Serif offers free downloads of software. See serif.com, and click on 'Free Downloads' for PagePlus (Desktop publishing), PhotoPlus (photo editing) MoviePlus (movie editing), PanoramaPlus (create panoramas from your digital camera), DrawPlus, (graphic design) WebPlus (web design) These are generally earlier versions of current software to act as a 'taster'.

Brian Thompson

Joke.

Guy goes to a psychiatrist. "Doc, I keep having these alternating recurring dreams. First, I'm a teepee; then I'm a wigwam. It's driving me crazy. What's wrong with me?"

The doctor replies: "It's very simple. You're two tents."

Submitted by Gary Lee

Useless Trivia

Did you know.... A turtle can breathe through its butt.

More useless info listed below:

Walt Disney was scared of mice.

Charlie Brown's father was a barber.

In cards, the only king without a moustache is the king of hearts.

You cannot lead a cow downstairs, but you can lead one upstairs.

A starfish has no brain.

Not only the fur of a tiger is striped, the skin is striped too.

No two lions have the same whisker pattern.

A gold fish can remember something for about 3 seconds.

Wayne's World was filmed in two weeks.

90% of all New York City's cab drivers are immigrants who just arrived.

The only animal that cannot jump with all legs off the ground is the elephant.

It was a dentist who invented the electric chair.

Mickey Mouse was the first animated figure to win an Oscar.

Crocodiles cannot stick their tongues out.

A butterfly tastes things with it's feet or tarsi.

Folding a piece of paper in half more than seven times is impossible.

The wingspan of a 747 jet is longer than the Wright brothers first flight.

The plastic pieces on the tips of shoe laces are called aglets.

Most folks take only 7 minutes to fall asleep

Around 7% of the communications we have with other people are formed by words. 38% of the communica-

tion is formed by the tone of the voice. Another 55% of the communications are formed by body language.

You use up 150 calories in one hour of banging the head against a wall

The pressure created by a heart is sufficient to squirt the blood to a distance of up to 9 meters.

The soldiers of Alexander the Great were obligated to be clean shaven, so that their enemies were not able to grab their beards, because they would stab them with swords after that.

In a year, the regular person makes over 1100 phone calls

The rule of thumb phrase comes from the English law, which in the past said that a man could not beat his wife with something that was wider than a thumb.

If China's population would walk past someone in a single line, the rate of reproduction is high enough to keep the line going forever

If a woman's name is Mary it is against the law to be a prostitute in the city of Siena, in Italy

Over 50% of all women would rather get a gift in the form of a trip instead of lingerie or jewelry

The hearing of women is better than those of men, but men are capable of reading smaller print.

Submitted by Sue Ford

Puns for the day.

When chemists die, they barium.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop any time.

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Type-O.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH.

I really love to make Chicken casserole dishes, and this is one of my favourites. Usually Cumberland in a recipe refers to the sauce which is a citrus, redcurrants and port sauce and goes well with game; but this does not use the sauce just the names, so I assume it is a popular dish up in Cumberland! Hope you enjoy my versions.

Cumberland Chicken

2 1/2 lbs cut up chicken
2 Tbsp flour
6 slices of bacon fried until very crisp (save the dripping fat)
2 finely chopped onions
1 clove crushed garlic
1/2 lb sliced mushrooms
3 Tbsp flour
2 cups chicken broth
2 Tbsp tomato paste
2 tomatoes, peeled and chopped
salt and pepper

Brown the chicken pieces in the bacon fat, and transfer to a casserole dish. Sauté onions and garlic in the same fat until softened. Drain and add to the chicken pieces, with the crumbled bacon. Cook mushrooms in same fat and cook for five minutes. Lower heat, stir in the second flour and gradually add the chicken stock stirring all the time until is slightly thickened to make a sauce, Add the tomato paste and tomatoes. Mix altogether in the casserole dish, and season. Cover and bake in a 350 degrees oven for one hour. Serve with boiled potatoes and vegetable
Serves 6

(Recipe from Sandra Cherry, Union Jack Food Columnist, who can be reached by Yourcuppteal@yahoo.com)

In the UK for the Queen's 60th Jubilee

On the River Thames on 3rd June.

Up to 1,000 private boats from the UK and the Commonwealth countries will escort the Queen on a specially designed royal barge down the River Thames.

One of the largest flotillas ever assembled on the river, the pageant aims to reflect the UK's maritime heritage and will travel from Putney to Tower Bridge.

All kinds of boats will take part - rowing boats, historic, sailing and motorised boats, kayaks and canoes. About a million people are expected to line the river route.

Buckingham Palace on 4th June

The musical programme is still being planned but is expected to feature British and Commonwealth musicians.

Nationally on 4th June

More than 2,000 beacons will be lit in the UK and around the world to mark 60 years of the Queen's reign.

All over the UK people are being encouraged to share lunch with neighbours and friends in street parties or picnics to bring communities together to celebrate the Jubilee.

Some Royal facts

Queen Elizabeth II's full name is Elizabeth Alexandra Mary. She was born 21 April 1926

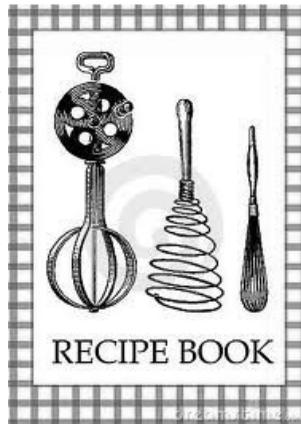
Queen Elizabeth II's coronation was 2nd June 1953

Edward VII (born 1841, died 1910) is the only monarch to have born and died at Buckingham Palace.

The Queen is a fluent French speaker.

During the reign of Elizabeth I, there was a tax put on men's beards

King George III was declared violently insane in 1811, 9 years before he died.



Precised Minutes Sarasota British Club Board Meeting, April 12th, 2012

Meeting held at the home of Gary and Jane Lee. Currently 273 members. It was proposed that a new member's tea be organised for June 16th, 2012. The recent 'Jumble Sale' was a big success raising over \$1200.00 for the 'Hope in a Backpack' charity. The 'Full Monty' theater evening is going well with twenty one persons signed up for the show. The Royal Tea on April 28th at Tastefully British in Gulf Gate has 19 persons attending so far. Games and a Pot Luck dinner night is planned for Saturday, May 12th from 6-9pm at Lakeshore Village Clubhouse. The November cruise currently has five cabins booked for the trip. It was proposed that an invitation be extended to Welsh and Scottish clubs in the area to join us in celebration of The Queen's Jubilee at the Polo Grill in Lakewood Ranch on June 2nd. A backstage tour at the Asolo Theater scheduled for June is being planned. A Raymond James art gallery tour in St. Petersburg will take place in July. Further events are being planned for the summer months including a possible Sunday brunch and a 'Fish and Chips' night.

Submitted by Mary L. Shelley, recording secretary



Tour of The Mertz and Cook Theatres at the Ringling—Thursday, 7 June—11 a.m. Note: No charge for tour; but a donation to of \$5 pp to go to the Asolo Rep would be greatly appreciated. Optional Lunch--Treviso inside the Ringling Visitors' Center

Make plans now to join the Club's tour of the Mertz and Cook Theatres at the Florida State University Center of the Cultural Arts at the Ringling Museum complex.

The Mertz is Florida's premier repertory theatre and among the top professional theatres in the Southeastern U.S. If you have never seen The Mertz, you're in for a treat as it's a jewel of a theatre. This elegant 500 seat venue was originally built as the Dunfermline Opera House in Scotland at the turn of the 20th century. When demolished in the 1980's, the interior thankfully was rescued; shipped to Sarasota; and restored to its original façade and renamed The Mertz Theatre in honor of a very generous donor. The Cook is a smaller theatre and used primarily to produce plays that showcase actors in training at the prestigious FSU Drama School. The tour of both onstage and backstage facilities takes approximately 45 minutes. Plan to arrive by 10:45 a.m. at the inside lobby of the FSU Center of the Cultural Arts to assemble and meet your tour leader(s). For those interested, join other Club members for lunch at your own cost at the Treviso inside the Ringling Visitors Center. For information and reservations : Gary Lee (941-706-1172 or glee01@verizon.net).



The Club thanks John and Hillary Drinkell at the **UPS Store** at 5020 Clark Road, Sarasota. for printing this Newsletter. Please thank them by patronizing them whenever you can, and let them know you appreciate their support.

Phone (941) 927-8828
Fax (941)-927-8838



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. Most of our events are posted on the page. Why not add your event photos to the 'wall'.



LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE

Shelley, her details are on Page 8

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 Mary



**Games Evening—Pot Luck Dinner
6:00-9:00 pm, Saturday 12 May, 2012**

Try your luck and join in the fun and merriment of the Club's Games Evening. Will you win in Bingo, horse racing or Black Jack, perhaps-- or will your luck lie with another of the games offered on at this evening? Find out by attending this event at Lakeshore Village Clubhouse. There will be no monetary gambling, of course; nevertheless there will be a surprise or two for winners. Note: Volunteers are needed to be "croupiers" and helpers in running the games for the evening. If you can offer your services, please contact Gary Lee at the phone number/email given below.

For this evening, attendees are asked to bring a savory or dessert to share according to initial letter of last name: A-L—Savory; M-Z—Dessert.

The Club will provide sodas and water; and attendees may bring their own wine/beer.

Cost for the evening is \$5.00 for members; \$7.50 for non-members.

Do 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.

Jumble Sale follow-up

Recently featured on the program, '60 Minutes' was a segment entitled 'The Hungry Children of Sarasota'. Members of the Sarasota British Club voiced their opinion that it would be right and proper to help these children via the charity 'Hope in a Backpack'.

This endeavor aims to help provide food and aid to

the disadvantaged children of Sarasota in this difficult economic climate. The Sarasota Center of Light Church provided an appropriate setting for the Sarasota British Club's organized Jumble/Rummage Sale.

Raising in excess of \$1200.00 for 'Hope in a Backpack', it was also an opportunity for local people to purchase quality items at bargain prices.



Susan Ford, President of Sarasota British Club, presents check to Sharon Leber, Founder of 'Hope in a Backpack'.

'E—Blasts'

Occasionally the Club sends out emails to the membership. The most recent was sent on 23rd April. Please let the Board know if your email did not arrive.