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# BritClub News



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

### Board of Directors

President:	Gary Lee	706-1172	<a href="mailto:glee01@verizon.net">glee01@verizon.net</a>
Vice President:	Sue Ford	751-3811	<a href="mailto:sueford47@yahoo.com">sueford47@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer:	Eileen Schuler	753-4589	<a href="mailto:emkbentley@gmail.com">emkbentley@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Sandra Cherry	921-3162	<a href="mailto:yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com">yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com</a>
Membership Chair:	Derek Curran	966-3983	<a href="mailto:derekmcurran@msn.com">derekmcurran@msn.com</a>
Newsletter	B. Thompson	388-8018	<a href="mailto:lakewood2@gmail.com">lakewood2@gmail.com</a>
Director at Large1:	Terry Sweeney	918-0550	<a href="mailto:tsweeneyau@aol.com">tsweeneyau@aol.com</a>
Director at Large2:	Shona Burtner	925-0462	<a href="mailto:skburtner@hotmail.com">skburtner@hotmail.com</a>
Director at Large3:	Nairn' Gillet	366-9984	<a href="mailto:ngillet@yahoo.com">ngillet@yahoo.com</a>
Past President:	Ken Jukes	927-6499	<a href="mailto:kena.jukes@yahoo.com">kena.jukes@yahoo.com</a>



# BritClub News

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

## Coming Events

**Board Meeting** - Thursday November 3rd @6:30 p.m. at the home of .Derek and Lynn Curran  
Members welcome but please call ahead, see Page 12, as space is limited.

**Guy Fawkes Night 5th November** at 5.45pm at the outdoor Pavilion on Twin Lakes, see Page 11. \$10 members and \$12 non-members. Note: no charge for children. See 'Sue's Corner' on Page 11 for additional details.

**Cricket in Sarasota...SIX-A-SIDE INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT - Nov. 24-27**

This coming Thanksgiving weekend the **Sarasota International Cricket Club** hosts the annual Six-a-Side Tournament with the Semi-Finals and Final played on **Sunday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>**. More information on Page 5

**Christmas Coffee Morning** - December 13th at 10:30am at the home of Sue Ford, see Page 11 for details

**2011 Christmas Party, Saturday, December 17--**Heritage Oaks Golf & Country Club, 4800 Chase Oaks Drive, Sarasota. Members \$40, non-members \$50. See enclosed flyer for menu choices and reservation form.

Note: reservations are due no later than 13th December.

No flyer? Email [lakewood2@gmail.com](mailto:lakewood2@gmail.com).

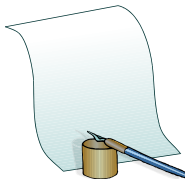


**Our website is [www.SarasotaBritishClub.com](http://www.SarasotaBritishClub.com)**

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

### Letter from President Gary Lee

I was pleased to see that The Annual General Meeting held on October 15 was well attended. A total of fifty-five members—old and new—gathered in a private room at the Oriental Buffet restaurant on Bee Ridge Road to elect the SBC Board for 2012. Next year's Board will be comprised of seven members of the current Board and five replacements for those leaving the Board at end-2011. The full new Board by name and position is included on page 5 of this newsletter.



The five members stepping down from the Board at year-end are Sandra Cherry, Secretary; Derek Curran, Membership; Nairn' Gillet, Director-at-Large; Ken Jukes, immediate Past President; and Terry Sweeney, Director-at-Large. On behalf of the Club, I extend my heartiest thanks to each for their work and dedication to our group this year. Also on the Club's behalf, I welcome our new Board members Kathy Curtin, Edith Edmonds, Douglas Schuler, Mary Shelley and Glenn Stillwell. I look forward to working with them and the holdover Board members next year.

Don't forget to make plans to join other Club members on Guy Fawkes Night, November 5 at Twin Lakes Park. I hope to see a good turnout there. And, of course, do get your reservations in for our Annual Christmas Party event on December 17 at Heritage Oaks Country Club. A special flyer and reservation form for that event is included with this newsletter. Don't get caught out--note that the cutoff date for reservations is 11 December. Also, here's a fond "bon voyage" to the group of twenty-nine members off on the cruise ship, "Norwegian Star," for a week beginning 6 November.

Speaking of trips, I close with the Limerick of the Month—

There once was a spaceman named Wright,  
Whose speed was much faster than light.  
He set out one day,  
In a relative way,  
And returned the previous night.

### October Board Meeting Precipis

Meeting held at home of Ken and Ildiko Jukes. Treasurer's report shows balance of \$7,731.03, which includes upcoming events reservation deposits. Currently 238 members. Discussion on some of the members in name only to qualify for placing advertisements. Newsletters being distributed to area British businesses, suggested increasing number of issues given. Nairn' Gillet is checking on costs of Polo shirts with the Brit Club logo. Bingo evening, Cocktail party and Singles Coffee morning events went well. AGM at the Oriental Buffet October 15th, 2012 board will be presented and voted on. Guy Fawkes event to be November 5th at Twin Lakes Park, plans in effect. The Club will participate in Sarasota County Legacy Trail celebration at opening of last part of the trail, on November 5th. Club will also participate in Second Annual Osprey Community Outreach on November 19th. Christmas Party on December 17th, members of the Sarasota Welsh Club are planning to join us, also Port Charlotte British Club members. Bentley's in Osprey are interested in hosting events for the Club, suggested the upcoming Queen's Diamond Jubilee could be a good venue. Sarasota Cricket Club has invited members to their Gala evening at the Sarasota Yacht Club, on November 26th. Suggested having speakers for some meetings. Sue Ford will host a Christmas Coffee morning on December 13th. White Horse pub has suggested having a Curry night for the Club. Next meeting to be held at home of Derek and Lynn Curran on November 3rd, 6:30 pm

**Submitted by Sandra F Cherry, Secretary**

### Sue's Corner

Guy Fawkes Night 5th November is a traditional British event, let's make sure we keep our traditions alive by making this a well supported event. Reservations to Sueford47@yahoo.com or 751-3811. We start at 5.45pm at the outdoor Pavilion on Twin Lakes. Bring the family - lets be kids again - and enjoy the open air...we are planning to have a few surprises in store for you. Too, there will be a 'Guy' competition—any size of Guy, from doll size upwards is acceptable in the contest.

\$10 members and \$12 non-members. Note: **no** charge for children. The price includes food which consists of fried chicken, baked potatoes, beans with rolls & butter, dessert and sodas. You are welcome to bring along your preference of beverage. **Note: No bottles or glasses in the pavilion please.**



6th November...While you are reading this edition of the *BritClub News*, many of us will be on the Caribbean Cruise organized within the Club, we really wish you had decided to come with us...because, if it is anything like last year, I am sure there are going to be very some funny and maybe not so funny stories to report. But, I have given my word what happens on board, has to stay on board.

Mark your Calendars...Tuesday, December 13th: 'Santa' has sent a note confirming his return to my home for a special Christmas Coffee Morning at 10.30am. Let's make it a real British get together by filling the table with British goodies. Coffee & Tea will be provided by the Club: members please bring along a plate to share for the table.

RSVP Sueford47@yahoo.com or 941-751-3811.

**Sue Ford**



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 King George Pub, The White Horse Pub, McAllister's, Scot's Corner, British Open Pub & Restaurant of Venice, Bentley's Resort Hotel, Scrambles, Ezpiez, Yellow Strawberry Salon (LWR) and Simon's Coffee House.** Please thank them by patronizing them whenever you can,

and let them know you appreciate their support.

Thanks to Postnet at Lakewood Ranch for printing the Newsletter and helping to spread the word about SBC.

## 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](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. All advertisements are subject to Board discretion. 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).

## SAILING

Are you interested in sailing?  
If you'd like a few hours sailing from Venice or Punta Gorda, contact Brian Thompson at [lakewood2@gmail.com](mailto:lakewood2@gmail.com), 941-388-8018



*Navigare necesse est,  
vivere non necesse.*



## Sarasota sales in September continue to improve from last year



September 2011 property sales in the Sarasota real estate market were ahead of last September. This month showed a small drop in transactions compared to August 2011, but historically, the early fall is one of the slower sales seasons.

A recent article in Realtor® Magazine Daily News noted that of the top 15 U.S. cities showing signs of year-over-year increases in list prices, ten are in Florida, and the Sarasota-Bradenton area came in 6th, with list prices up 15.9 percent. Listing price increases generally reflect optimism among sellers that a market is ready to head upwards.

The latest monthly figures in September showed a median price of \$165,000 for single family homes, the same as August, and \$140,000 for condos a slight dip from last month. "In 2011, we've seen an acceleration of the market recovery, but we still have a distressed market that is weighing down on the median sales prices," said SAR President Michael Bruno. "Overall, we had distressed sales at 43 percent of the total, which was a little higher than in August, but is still far below the 51 percent total in November 2010, almost a year ago. So we're hopeful that the worst is over for foreclosures and short sales."

The months of inventory rose slightly to 6.7 months for single family homes, from last month's figure of 6.3 months. For condos, the months of inventory also rose to 11.1 months from 10.2 months in August. Both figures again remained far below the highs of 25.3 months for single family (in early 2009) and 41.7 months for condos (in late 2008). This statistic represents the time it would take to sell the existing inventory at the current month's rate of sales. The 6 month level is traditionally a point which represents equilibrium in the market between buyers and sellers.

"The September market is normally a slower time of the year, so there were no real surprises this year," said Bruno. "The word of mouth among agents and brokers has been very positive, and I'm expecting a good season surge as we welcome back our winter residents and visitors. When it cools off up north, the market usually heats up in Sarasota."

### Jane Ebury

Real Estate Professional

RSVP Real Estate Inc [jane@relocatesarasota.com](mailto:jane@relocatesarasota.com)

[www.rsvprealestate.com](http://www.rsvprealestate.com)



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. Why not add your event photos to the 'wall'.

## GBP/USD October update

It's still all about Europe...

With Fall well and truly here, the weather is starting to get a definite autumnal feel, however as the rest of the world cools down, it looks like the EU is heating up. The markets continue to be dominated by the ongoing crisis in Europe and any buying or selling comes on the back of good or bad news from the Euro zone.

The US Dollar is benefiting across the board; good news in Europe leads to investors purchasing riskier currencies and selling the US Dollar with bad news pushing investors straight back to the safer US Dollar. With limited good news, the Dollar rallies ahead.

This risk on/risk off appetite is also the sentiment driving the Canadian Dollar. The Canadian economy is so closely linked to the prospects of their neighbor, any improvements in economic conditions stateside will typically filter through to Canada's statistics.

This week all eyes are on Sundays up and coming EU proposal being driven by German Chancellor Merkel and French President Sarkozy. A strong proposal will help the Euro and Sterling, a weak proposal will only add to the woes in the Euro zone and investors will look to reduce risk, hence stay with the US Dollar.

**FX update 10/21/2011 from Moneycorp**

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M - F 9 - 6 Sat 9 - 2

### **Introducing new Members David & Lee Counter**

David and Lee Counter joined the British club in August 2011. The American half of the couple, Lee was born in Richmond, Virginia -where her mother, father and brother still reside. She has one sister, who lives in California. Lee moved to Sarasota via Clearwater in 2010. David was born in Exeter, Devon, and moved to the US in 2000. His father lives in Biggar, Scotland, and his two sisters live in Ilminster, Somerset. He moved to Sarasota in 2008, having lived in Crystal River and Bradenton prior to that. He is a keen follower of Exeter City ("once a major player in the 3<sup>rd</sup> division, and FA Cup quarter-finalists many years ago". As he points out, "Sarasota is closer to civilization than Crystal River. All it's missing is a football (not soccer!) team".

Lee is a full-time student at the University of South Florida's Bradenton/Sarasota campus, and is currently studying for her Bachelors in Information Technology, specializing in project management. She is a director on the boards of PMI (the Project Management Institute) and STF (The Suncoast Technical Forum), and is a member of the local branch of Toastmasters. David has a background in IT/graphic design, sales and marketing. He is, as we speak, about to start work as a financial planner, having spent many sleepless nights wondering where his career path lay! Both are notaries public.

Living just north of the Sarasota city limits, the couple was married in November 2010, and is keen to play an active role in the Sarasota British Club.

### ***To the citizens of the United States of America from Her Sovereign Majesty Queen Elizabeth II:***

In light of your immediate failure to financially manage yourselves and also in recent years your tendency to elect incompetent Presidents of the USA and therefore not able to govern yourselves, we hereby give notice of the revocation of your independence, effective immediately. (You should look up 'revocation' in the Oxford English Dictionary.)

Her Sovereign Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will resume monarchical duties over all states, commonwealths, and territories (except Kansas, which she does not fancy).

Your new Prime Minister, David Cameron, will appoint a Governor for America without the need for further elections.

Congress and the Senate will be disbanded. A questionnaire may be circulated sometime next year to determine whether any of you noticed.

To aid in the transition to a British Crown dependency, the following rules are introduced with immediate effect:

1. The letter 'U' will be reinstated in words such as 'colour,' 'favour,' 'labour' and 'neighbour.' Likewise, you will learn to spell 'doughnut' without skipping half the letters, and the suffix '-ize' will be replaced by the suffix '-ise.' Generally, you will be expected to raise your vocabulary to acceptable levels. (look up 'vocabulary').
2. Using the same twenty-seven words interspersed with filler noises such as "like" and "you know" is an unacceptable and inefficient form of communication. There is no such thing as U.S. English. We will let Microsoft know on your behalf. The Microsoft spell-checker will be adjusted to take into account the reinstated letter "u" and the elimination of "-ize."
3. July 4th will no longer be celebrated as a holiday.
4. You will learn to resolve personal issues without using guns, lawyers, or therapists. The fact that you need so many lawyers and therapists shows that you're not quite ready to be independent.

Continued from Page 6

5. Guns should only be used for shooting grouse. If you can't sort things out without suing someone or speaking to a therapist, then you're not ready to shoot grouse.
6. Therefore, you will no longer be allowed to own or carry anything more dangerous than a vegetable peeler. Although a permit will be required if you wish to carry a vegetable peeler in public.
7. All intersections will be replaced with roundabouts, and you will start driving on the left side with immediate effect. At the same time, you will go metric with immediate effect and without the benefit of conversion tables. Both roundabouts and metrication will help you understand the British sense of humour.
8. The former USA will adopt UK prices on petrol (which you have been calling gasoline) of roughly \$10/US gallon. Get used to it.)
9. You will learn to make real chips. Those things you call French fries are not real chips, and those things you insist on calling potato chips are properly called crisps. Real chips are thick cut, fried in animal fat, and dressed not with catsup but with vinegar.
10. The cold, tasteless stuff you insist on calling beer is not actually beer at all. Henceforth, only proper British Bitter will be referred to as beer, and European brews of known and accepted provenance will be referred to as Lager. New Zealand beer is also acceptable, as New Zealand is pound for pound the greatest sporting nation on earth and it can only be due to the beer. They are also part of the British Commonwealth - see what it did for them. American brands will be referred to as Near-Frozen Gnat's Urine, so that all can be sold without risk of further confusion.
11. Hollywood will be required occasionally to cast English actors as good guys. Hollywood will also be required to cast English actors to play English characters. Watching Andie Macdowell attempt English dialogue in Four Weddings and a Funeral was an experience akin to having one's ears removed with a cheese grater.
12. You will cease playing American football. There are only two kinds of proper football; one you call soccer, and rugby (dominated by the New Zealanders). Those of you brave enough will, in time, be allowed to play rugby (which has some similarities to American football, but does not involve stopping for a rest every twenty seconds or wearing full kevlar body armour like a bunch of nancies).
13. Further, you will stop playing baseball. It is not reasonable to host an event called the World Series for a game which is not played outside of America. Since only 2.1% of you are aware there is a world beyond your borders, your error is understandable. You will learn cricket, and we will let you face the Australians (World dominators) first to take the sting out of their deliveries.
14. You must tell us who killed JFK. It's been driving us mad.
15. An internal revenue agent (i.e. tax collector) from Her Majesty's Government will be with you shortly to ensure the acquisition of all monies due (backdated to 1776).
16. Daily Tea Time begins promptly at 4 p.m. with proper cups, with saucers, and never mugs, with high quality biscuits (cookies) and cakes; plus strawberries (with cream) when in season.

### **God Save the Queen!**

Thanks to Derek Curran for sharing this privileged communication.



**Medicaid:** A joint federal and state program that helps families pay for the costs associated with long-term medical and custodial care - provided they qualify.

A recent matter that I faced in the office concerned an elderly Romanian couple who came to Florida back in 1997 for a holiday to see their daughter, but both took ill with the onset of dementia, as well as physical disabilities. With the immobile elderly couple now having lived with their daughter for over a decade their exasperated daughter sought the advice of this office in connection with possible placement in a facility that could look after her parents with their care being funded by governmental benefits: Medicaid.

After trawling through pages of fine print for the technical requirements of the Florida State Medicaid Manual concerning Noncitizens and Medicaid, and despite having finally become holders of US Green Cards on December 11, 2007, the parents were not eligible for nursing home Medicaid coverage (technically known as 'ICP Medicaid').

The rule, as things stand, is that from 1996, a *non citizen* can claim Medicaid benefits for stay at a nursing home provided they have been Green Card holders for 5 full years. The Romanian parents will therefore become *qualified noncitizens* for ICP Medicaid on December 11, 2012, almost 14 years (!! ) since they entered the United States to visit their daughter. Until that time, their daughter will continue to look after her parents as best she can.

The purpose of this article is to make you aware that although Medicaid is there as possible coverage if you are unable to afford but require care within an assisted living facility or skilled nursing, the issue presented in the case of the Romanian parents could quite easily apply to a UK citizen who is living in Florida under a Green Card.

If long term care planning could be a potential issue with you and/or your spouse and you are keen to investigate further with professional help, then start thinking about aligning your stars first by considering your US immigration status (i.e., can you become a citizen?) before being concerned with your assets and income, or lack of, to meet Medicaid eligibility.

*Antony Eminowicz is the Benefits Coordinator at Boyer & Jackson P.A. and a non-practising elder law solicitor of England/Wales. He works alongside attorney Teresa K. Bowman, an elder law attorney, at Boyer & Jackson P.A.*

*This is for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing legal advice. You should contact your attorney to obtain advice with respect to any particular issue or problem.*

## NEW BOARD ELECTED AT AGM

The following candidates were elected at the Club's Annual General Meeting on October 15:

<b>President:</b>	Sue Ford
<b>*Vice-President:</b>	Douglas Schuler
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Eileen Schuler
<b>*Secretary:</b>	Mary Shelley
<b>*Membership Director:</b>	Kathy Curtin
<b>Newsletter Editor &amp; Website:</b>	Brian Thompson
<b>Immediate Past President:</b>	Gary Lee
<b>*Director-at-Large:</b>	Edith Edmonds
<b>Director-at-Large:</b>	Shona Burtner
<b>*Director-at-Large:</b>	Glenn Stillwell

\*Denotes new to Board for 2012

Congratulations all.



Most of the 2012 Board at the AGM.

## Sarasota Cricket.

The Cricket Club was founded in 1952 and owns its attractive ground and clubhouse in Lakewood Ranch. In 1993 Australian legend Richie Benaud honored the club with his patronage, while Shiv Chanderpaul, the West Indies captain, is an honorary member and visits and plays with the Sarasota team whenever his schedule allows.

Teams competing this year are: **Memorial, from Houston, Texas; Village Greenies from Cayman Islands; Anzacs from N.Carolina; Kirby Royals from U.K; Alum Chine from U.K; Old Cranleighans from U.K; Titans from Palm Beach, Fla; and a local South African team.**

Six-a-Side cricket is of excellent quality and fast paced with lots of hitting and running between wickets.

We can promise you an enjoyable day on **Sunday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>. Play starts at 10:00 a.m.**

There is no admission charge. Food and beverages are available, although some spectators bring their own goodies. Why not bring some friends?

The ground is on University Parkway, east of Lorraine Road in Lakewood Ranch.

**QUESTIONS/ Phone Terry Sweeney at 941-918-0550** Look forward to seeing you there.