



# Brit Club News

October, 2016

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

Vol. 16, Issue 10

## Coming Events

**The SBC Board Meeting will be held on Thursday October 13th** at the Village des Pins clubhouse, 7964 Timberwood Circle, Sarasota @ 6:30pm. Members welcome.

### Le Barge Scenic Cruise of Sarasota Bay on October 5th.

“Come join us aboard Le Barge, a Sarasota landmark for 30 years. Our casual laid-back atmosphere is enhanced by our tropical décor and yes, the palm trees are real. Let the mermaids lead the way through the tranquil waters of Sarasota Bay”.

Details will be announced by email and the Club’s Facebook page.



### October’s Friday Lunch

By special request, we have made arrangements for our monthly lunch to be held at Miguel’s restaurant on Siesta Key. The manager is opening the restaurant especially for us, and will offer a prix-fixe 3 course lunch for us. Menu details to follow!

**When:** Friday October 28. Noon – 2 pm

**Where:** Miguels Restaurant, 6631 Midnight Pass Road, Siesta Key [www.miguelsrestaurant.net](http://www.miguelsrestaurant.net)

**RSVP to Diana Wilkinson**  
[dwilkinson18@comcast.net](mailto:dwilkinson18@comcast.net)

**AGM on Saturday October 22nd at 4pm** at Lakeshore Villas. Ivan and Sharon have agreed to host an abbreviated Quiz Night to liven things up! Location/directions to Lakeshore Village Club House: Lake Shore Village, Wilshire Blvd. Enter Lakeshore Village from Clark Road opposite



Paddywagon Irish Pub, some 300 yards east of the intersection of Clark and Beneva Roads. The Clubhouse is 100 yards on the left.

### Guy Fawkes Annual Celebration

Sunday November 6th, and we will reprise our annual celebration of the dastardly event with hot dogs and baked potatoes at sunset on Siesta Beach.

More information nearer the date.

### Walk to end Alzheimer’s

We will be fielding a team to raise donations in a walk to cure Alzheimer’s Disease on the morning of November 12 at Benderson Park.

If you wish to join us, please let Paul Wilkinson know – [pwilkinson18@comcast.net](mailto:pwilkinson18@comcast.net)



### Christmas Party on December 10th. Details on Pages 6 and 7.

Also locally

### Coming Events

- Friday Lunch Oct 28th at Miguels, Siesta Key
- Le Barge trip October 5th
- Guy Fawkes Party on November 6th
- Sponsored Walk November 12th to end Alzheimer's Disease.
- AGM - Saturday October 22nd at 4PM.
- Christmas Party December 10th

## President's letter – October 2016

It is hard to believe that it is Fall when the daily temperature here is 90 degrees. I was in New Hampshire last week, and the leaves had the first tweaks of colour – so the Snowbirds will be migrating back for the Season soon.

For the British Club it is the start of our Season events, and a reminder that our AGM and Christmas Party should be in your calendars. The AGM is early this year – Saturday October 22. We will be recognizing the efforts of your Board, and acclaiming the new President, Jane Jacobs. I will be taking over the Treasurer position as Maggie Hughes has an action-packed year of travel plans in 2017. This leaves the Secretary position open. This is not an onerous job – the primary responsibility is to record the minutes of our monthly Board meetings, so I do hope that someone will step up to help us.

As you may recall, Alan Perry is active in the Sarasota chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, and last year a number of us participated in their annual 'Walk to End Alzheimer's'. This year's event is at Benderson Park on Saturday November 12, and we are fielding a team to raise funds for this worthy cause. Please let me know if you can join us for this 3 mile walk.

We had some personal scheduling difficulties for November 5, and our annual Guy Fawkes event is now booked at the Sea Turtle Pavilion on Siesta Key Beach for the early evening of Sunday November 6.

*Paul Wilkinson*



ordering the chai tea as it was a rather strange colour.

Some of the ladies appreciated the proximity to the UTC shops and wandered away for some retail therapy after finishing lunch.

Thank you to everyone who attended – after all

there is almost nothing more British than curry on a Friday now!



## International Lawn Bowls.



Sarasota is hosting the US Open bowls tournament.. The 2016 US Open runs November 12-19, 2016 and Pre-Tournament events November 5-11, 2016. Sarasota Lawn Bowling Club  
809 North Tamiami Trail (Hwy 41, across from the Players Theatre). 941-316-1123

Contact Daniel Jittu, Chairman, US Open Committee  
[danieljittu@gmail.com](mailto:danieljittu@gmail.com), Mobile: 407.529.9886



## Curry Lunch at the Tandoor Restaurant

A truly pukka time was had by all at the Tandoor Restaurant when we gathered for our August lunch.

A plentiful buffet was presented for our delectation, with plenty to choose from. Whether you like a mild curry, or a spicier dish, you were not disappointed.

24 of us joined the buffet line – some of us more than once, mentioning no names or waistlines – and had time to catch up on what had been happening over the summer.

The service was speedy – although Ross maybe regretted

## Precis of September Board Meeting

The bank balance (\$5254.50) and membership count 167 (142 family and 25 single) remain the same as in the August report. The date of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the August report was corrected for the record to be October 22.

Old Business: The Tandoor luncheon on August 9 was well attended and feedback was positive. The Restaurant Checklist form to be used by Event Coordinators in future planning for meal events was discussed and approved. An email will be sent to the membership with an appeal for candidates for the secretarial position to complete the nomination slate of '17 officers.

New Business: The Afternoon Tea at the British Tea Shop remains on schedule for September 23. A third Friday luncheon was proposed at the new Beckham's restaurant location for October 28. Discussion of the Christmas party was deferred to next month's meeting. Details about the LeBarge Sunset Cruise on October 5 will be emailed to the membership. Guy Fawkes Night is still scheduled on November 8 and an email will be forthcoming with details. The AGM is to be booked for the Lakeshore Village clubhouse and attendees will be asked to bring a plate to share; a Mini-Quiz will be conducted after the business portion of the meeting.

The Sarasota Ballet has offered an invitation to a Backstage Tour and a January 2017 timeframe was approved.

The Caledonian Club has made contact with a proposal to participate in the creation of a brochure alerting the Sarasota community to the existence of all the Celtic clubs in the area; the board supported the idea and a budget of \$250 was approved to cover any incidental costs.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2016.

Submitted by **Mark Malkasian**



## The ZIKA Virus

A member of our Lakewood Ranch HOA attended a seminar on the Zika Virus last week. The highlights are as follows

1. There are 48 different types of mosquitoes in Sarasota County
2. Of these 48 only 15 of them bite humans
3. Of these 15 only eight of them are capable of carrying disease and only two of them are capable of transmitting the Zika Virus. They are both of the Aedes

family and Aedes aegypti is the primary carrier. They have a two week life span.

4. These two mosquitoes bite during the day, so the regular aerial spraying at night has little effects on these populations. The reason that the spaying is done at night is because all the "good" bugs are in bed.

5. These 2 varieties breed in water holding containers. These are the most common environments for these mosquitoes;

- a. Bird Baths
- b. Boats
- c. Bromeliads
- d. Buckets
- e. Pet Dishes
- f. Rain Barrels
- g. Tools, Tarps, etc
- h. Toys
- i. Tires

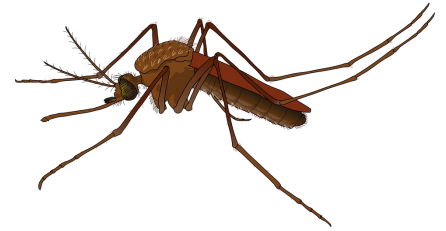
6. It is important to dump out any standing water or use a product called "Mosquito Bits", which is sold at Farm & Garden Stores. This product can be sprinkled in the standing water and will not harm birds or animals. It will prevent the mosquito eggs from becoming larvae.

7. A tablespoon of water can hold up to a hundred mosquito larvae

8. Mosquitoes are attracted to carbon dioxide emissions, not light. Bug Zappers have no effect on mosquito populations. In fact, just the opposite because they kill beneficial bugs that eat mosquitoes.

9. Dumping out containers around your house will Zika-proof your property because the Aedes Egypti has a range of only 60 meters or so.

**Brian Thompson**



**Reminder** The Club's website [www.sarasotabritishclub.com](http://www.sarasotabritishclub.com) is our primary means of attracting potential new members. We look to current members to be our ambassadors familiar with our message and sharing it with those who might be interested in joining. Thank you.

Under 'Events' on the menu you can find the current newsletter and the newsletter archive.

## Club Photos

In BritNews I provided links to on-line albums of photos from Club events. Most of these were my Picasa albums. On May 1st we were informed that Google has migrated to Google Photos. This means that those original links will no longer work. I'm gradually adding more links to this list. Note that apart from downloading individual photos at (hopefully) a good resolution, you can download the whole album. Click on the 3 vertical dots in the top right corner and select 'Download all'. To select one or more photos, click on the top left corner of each photo so you see a check mark, then when you click on the 3 vertical dots, the option to 'Download' will be just for those choices.



LATEST - Afternoon Tea 2016 (above)

<https://goo.gl/photos/zvEwjDkqZJhp5XD17>

Ladies' Evening March 2011

<https://goo.gl/photos/hc7gM8675VHYH9Uw8>

February 2016 mini-golf

<http://tinyurl.com/jkzhxpz>

Guy Fawkes 2012

<https://goo.gl/photos/C2NDPEZ9fUzeJSoq7>

2012 Xmas Party

<https://goo.gl/photos/qFgBMgw7iCJLUgTV7>

2013 Xmas Party

<http://tinyurl.com/jsuyk6d>

2014 Xmas Party

<http://tinyurl.com/jsuyk6d>

2015 Xmas Party

<http://tinyurl.com/jjq33xf>

Historic Spanish Point 2013

<http://tinyurl.com/zanc42g>

Please let me know if any of the links fail and if you can

add more albums to the list.

If you have taken Club event photos in the past, are they in an online account that you can share?

**Brian Thompson** [lakewood2@gmail.com](mailto:lakewood2@gmail.com)



## Local British business.

Katie's Café on SR70, 3130 53rd Avenue East

The owners introduce themselves—"We moved to Florida from England 3 years ago from the seaside town of Lowestoft, which is on the east coast of Suffolk just south of Great Yarmouth. We have 3 little girls Polly age 6, Phoebe age 5 and Paige age 2. We love raising our children in the Sunshine State.

We are the proud owners of "Katie's Cafe" in Bradenton just east of SAM's club. We are a breakfast/lunch restaurant serving typical American breakfasts, sandwiches, burgers and salads. During season Nov-April we also serve all-you-can-eat fish and chips every Friday night 4.30 - 8pm.

We love having other Brits stopping by to say 'Hi.'

**Ricky and Kelly Jessop**



**D**on'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'.



## Sarasota and Manatee Real Estate

How old do I feel – time seems to be going quicker and quicker! We find ourselves already gearing up for the return of our snowbirds, and another busy season. In my personal experience the real estate market just kept going over the summer ‘off’ season. Committed buyers were still flying in for a week to view properties, and open houses have remained busy – but that is not necessarily reflected in the statistics for Sarasota and Manatee.

According to a recent report from Jonathon Smoke, realtor.com®’s chief economist, 40 percent of buyers surveyed by realtor.com® said the main obstacle in purchasing a home was finding one that met their needs. If there were more inventory available to buyers, sales would be higher. Many buyers are only willing to risk the sale of their home if they are confident they will be able to find and purchase a new one that they really want.

So if inventory is tight, as sellers are hesitant about putting their properties on the market, it leaves buyers with fewer choices. However, buyers seem to be more informed and less willing to buy something that meets some, but not all, of their criteria. So properties in popular locations that are priced correctly are still selling quickly and sometimes attract multiple offers but those that are over-priced or have an issue, for example, with floorplan or location are sitting on the market.

Fortunately, inventory is on a steady rise. Single family homes in Manatee and Sarasota each showed a 19.5 percent increase from July 2015, with a 4.2 months’ supply of inventory in Sarasota and a 4.4 months’ supply in Manatee. Condo inventory is also on the rise in both counties, with Sarasota County up 44.5 percent and Manatee County up 12.2 percent from last year. Sarasota has a 5.1 months’ supply of inventory and Manatee has a 4.1 months’ supply. The months’ supply in both counties remains under the six-month benchmark, indicating a seller’s market.

So, median sale prices for condos and single family homes continued to increase in both Sarasota and Manatee County. Sarasota County single family homes are up 10.5 percent from 2015 to \$242,500, while Manatee County experienced an 11.7 percent jump from 2015 to \$279,250.

Year over year, condo median sales prices rose 7.9 percent from 2015 to \$205,000 in Sarasota and 21.9 percent to \$185,250 in Manatee.

Over the past year, Manatee County increased in sales from 2015, with a 0.7 percent increase in single family

homes and an 11.5 percent increase in condos.

Sarasota County single family home sales decreased by 21.7 percent and condos sales are down by 24.6 percent. Pending sales can be an indicator of potential future closed sales.

In 2015, pending sales were strong through August, whereas this year, pending sales started to decline in May. New pending sales for both condos and single family homes in Sarasota and Manatee County are 18.5 percent lower than last July. This is also the sixth month where listing inventory has been higher than the same period last year. Prices may adjust to the slowing demand.



My personal opinion – some people saw prices going up and got a bit greedy. Overpriced properties are being reduced daily, or are sitting on the market. Buyers are informed and more willing to wait for the right property at the right price. Being informed and pricing right are essential in this market, and Realtors are going to have to start working harder on preparing and marketing the properties to assist sellers in achieving the best price possible. For example, in one condo association, six properties are listed for sale. Only one Realtor has been advertising and holding open houses on a regular basis. Making sure as many people as possible are aware that the home is for sale is becoming more important as the market starts to adjust.

**Sharon Gould**

**Newcomer of the Year - Realtor Association of Sarasota and Manatee**  
[sharon.gould@floridamoves.com](mailto:sharon.gould@floridamoves.com)

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

**Exchange Rates from Moneycorp.com, 28th Sept.**

From	To	Rate
 <b>GBP</b>	 <b>USD</b>	1.3014
 <b>EUR</b>	 <b>USD</b>	1.1229

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> at Heritage Oaks  
(flyer on Page 7)

**H**ard to think of Christmas when we are sweltering in 90 degree temps, apparently we are now officially in Fall. Still, none of us moved to Florida for the cold weather! We are looking forward to another great event this year but we cannot do it without your help. Last year we were fortunate to have a wonderful array of gift baskets and we are hoping for the same (or better) this year.



We have changed the menu a little for 2016, we hope members find turkey a nice Christmassy option. The desert sounds a little odd but we are assured by Greg Hurst the Catering Manager (and an Irishman) that this new creation by Chef Matt is absolutely outstanding.

Unfortunately, we were recently informed Heritage Oaks has instituted a Room Rental Fee (we have not paid a fee in the past) therefore we have to increase the ticket price slightly this year.

The good news is the new fee is \$7.00 per head but since we are 'regulars' we have been able to negotiate that down to \$3.00 per head.

If you would to donate to our raffle, please contact:

Jane Jacobs [jane60010@yahoo.com](mailto:jane60010@yahoo.com) or 847-370-2811

Maggie Hughes [mvhughes50@gmail.com](mailto:mvhughes50@gmail.com) or 941-264-6803

Email is always the preferred method of communication.



### Volunteer Opportunity ...

**T**hrough our Club website a local individual has made contact regarding a non-profit, educational high school youth exchange organization called Youth For Understanding (YFU). The YFU global network advances intercultural understanding, mutual respect, and social responsibility through educational exchanges for youth, families and communities in 50 countries.

Visit [www.yfu.org](http://www.yfu.org) for insights on how to go about mentoring an exchange student in Sarasota. The mentor will make at least a once a month contact with the exchange student and offer support and advice when needed. Training will be provided. Applicants must be able to pass a background check and provide references.

The local contact is Courtney Knapp via email: [cknapp@yfu.org](mailto:cknapp@yfu.org)

**Mark Malkasian**, Website Liaison



### Quote

"Blessed are the hearts that can bend; they shall never be broken."

— Albert Camus

"Never let yesterday use up too much of today."

- Will Rogers

We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress.

- Will Rogers



Sarasota British Club  
2016 Christmas Party



Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup>. 6-10 PM at  
Heritage Oaks Country Club  
4800 Chase Oaks Drive, Sarasota FL 34241

**MENU**

**Salad:**

Poached Pear and Gorgonzola Salad with Candied Pecans  
Baby mixed greens and port wine and pear vinaigrette

**Entrée Choices—Please select One:**

Slow Roasted Turkey Breast  
Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Country Style Green Beans and Turkey Gravy

**OR**

Slow Roasted Prime Rib of Beef  
Dauphinoise Potatoes, Fresh Asparagus and Horseradish Sauce

**Dessert**

Warm Carrot Cake, Orange-Goat Cheese Ice Cream,  
Ginger Shortbread and Carrot Caramel (new chef creation)

Rolls and butter. Tea and Coffee

\*\*Vegetarian option available upon request

**MEMBERS: \$45.00    GUESTS: \$55.00**

Reservation Form

Please mail with payment to Sarasota British Club, PO Box 21063, Sarasota FL 34276  
Deadline for Booking is December 1<sup>st</sup>. (all payments must be received by that date)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Member or guest</u>	<u>Entrée Choice (beef, Turkey, Veg**)</u>

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those you would like to sit with (if possible)  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Sarasota British Club name badges

Please obtain Club badges directly from:  
Sarasota Trophy 6601 Superior Ave, Sarasota  
FL 34231. 921-4339.

\$8 + tax for badge with magnet = \$8.56

\$6 + tax for badge with pin (without magnet) = \$6.42.

Badges can be collected in person

(M - F 8.30 - 5 or Sat 9 - 12) or shipped to home for  
\$3.75.



## JOKE

Dave Smith is on his death bed and knows the end is near. His nurse, his wife, his daughter and 2 sons are with him at his home in London. He asks for 2 independent witnesses to be present and a camcorder be in place to record his last wishes.

When all is ready he begins to speak: "My son, Bernie, I want you to take the Mayfair houses."

"My daughter, Sybil, you take the apartments over in the East end. My son, Jamie, I want you to take the offices over in the City."

"Sarah, my dear wife, please take all the residential buildings on the banks of the Thames ."

The nurse and witnesses are blown away.

They did not realise the extent of his holdings.

As Dave slips away, the nurse says to his wife, "Mrs. Smith, my deepest condolences. Your husband must have been such a hard-working and wonderful man to have accumulated all this property.....

"Property?," she replies. "The \*\*\*\* had a window cleaning round."

### Board of Directors (6/9/'16)

President	Paul Wilkinson	410-990-4698	<a href="mailto:pwilkinson18@comcast.net">pwilkinson18@comcast.net</a>
Vice-President	Sandra Cherry	921-3162	<a href="mailto:yourcupatea1@yahoo.com">yourcupatea1@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer	Maggie Hughes	487-7216	<a href="mailto:mvhughes50@gmail.com">mvhughes50@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Jane Jacobs	847-370-2811	<a href="mailto:jane60010@yahoo.com">jane60010@yahoo.com</a>
Membership Chair	Ivan Gould	941 323 9655	<a href="mailto:ivangould@hotmail.com">ivangould@hotmail.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Brian Thompson	388-8018	<a href="mailto:lakewood2@gmail.com">lakewood2@gmail.com</a>
Website Liaison	Mark Malkasian	445-2890	<a href="mailto:mark@armeng.com">mark@armeng.com</a>
Director at Large 1	Sharon Gould	941 323 9357	<a href="mailto:sharon.gould@floridamoves.com">sharon.gould@floridamoves.com</a>
Director at Large 2	Diana Wilkinson	410-990-4698	<a href="mailto:dwilkinson18@comcast.net">dwilkinson18@comcast.net</a>
Past President	Gary Lee	706-1172	<a href="mailto:glee01@verizon.net">glee01@verizon.net</a>

## Brit Club News



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