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BritClub News



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

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(& Club Founder)	,		,
Past President	.Terry Sweeney	.918-0550	tsweenevau@aol.com



BritClub News

October, 2009

Sarasota British Club, P. O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276 Vol. 9, Issue 10

Coming Events

Board Meeting October 1 – 6:30 p.m. at the home of Ken Jukes, 4047 Wilshire Circle East, Sarasota, at 6:30 p.m. MEMBERS WELCOME, BUT PHONE AHEAD AS SPACE IS LIMITED!

Annual General Meeting October 10 Changing of the Guard, Brit Club Style

Beginning at 6:30 p.m., the AGM will be followed by Casino Royale – gaming tables with a 24" wheel, roulette table and horse racing. Obviously there will be no monetary gambling, but we will have a few surprises for the winners at evening's end. We need volunteers to be "croupiers" for the evening. <u>Please</u> RSVP Terry Sweeney, Sue Ford or Ken Jukes by email or phone (see back page) to let them know you can offer your services or are planning to attend. We MUST know numbers for catering purposes.

Members are invited free of charge and guests will be asked to pay a mere \$10 to attend. The club will provide heavy hors d'oeuvres, cake and soft drinks. Please bring your own beer or wine.

The Slate of Officers for which you will be asked to vote is: President, Ken Jukes; Vice President, Doreen Wilson; Treasurer, Gary Lee; Secretary, Joan Forsberg; Membership Chair, Derek Curran; Public Relations Chair, Amy Croshaw; Newsletter Editors, Brian Thompson and Sue Bridgman; Website, James Croshaw. Sue Ford will, by default, become immediate Past President. Directors at Large will be appointed by the Board. So, if you are interested please let a Board member know. Please note our bylaws do not permit nominations from the floor.

LOCATION/DIRECTIONS to Lakeshore Village Club House: enter Lakeshore Village from Clark Road opposite Mr. Big's Cocktail Bar, some 200 yards east of the intersection of Clark and Beneva Roads.

Coffee Morning October 13 – 10:30 a.m. at the home of Sue Ford, 6706 Oak Hammock Dr., Bradenton, Contact Sue at sueford47@vahoo.com or 941-751-3811.



Autumn Theatre Outings October 23 & November 21 – There is a change in the date of the comedy "Run for your Wife," to Friday, October 23 when we are going to see Cliff Roles in the role of Stanley Gardner. A month later, on November 21, we shall see the sequel which takes place 15 years later and is equally as funny, also featuring Cliff Roles. In order to get group rates we need a head count by October 8th and the cost is \$38.50 per person for dinner and the show including tax and tip. Both shows are at the Golden Apple Dinner Theatre. You can choose to see either one or both plays and to reserve your seat, send a check by October 8 to Doreen Wilson, 1104 Mallard Marsh Drive, Osprey, FL 34229.

Our website is www.SarasotaBritishClub.com

Mark Your Calendar

<u>CAR BOOT SALE – NOV. 21</u> – Plans are in process for the club to have a Car Boot Sale, Saturday, November 21, 8:30 to 1:00. This has always been a successful venture when we had them before, so this will give you time to start sorting out your stuff and treasures, and have some fun and income in the process (although I usually end up coming home with more stuff I buy than I sell!!).

The sale will be held at Holy Trinity Anglican Church which is located at 5333 North Tamiami Trail just south of Ringling Museum and across from the Knight's Inn. Since this will be before Thanksgiving and the season will have started, this location should be super and garner a lot of interest. A snack bar will be available. We are limited to 20 cars. To reserve your space or to obtain further information, call Sandra Cherry at 374-9760 or email Yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com.

SARASOTA CRICKET CLUB TO HOST INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT – NOV. 25 - 29 – This coming Thanksgiving weekend the Club will host its annual International Six-a-Side Tournament at their Lakewood Ranch ground. This is an event we have always supported for obvious reasons. To date teams confirmed include HOUSTON, NASHVILLE, ESHER (ENGLAND), FAIRFIELD (CT), MAQ SPORTS, CAYMAN ISLANDS, MEXICO CITY, SOUTH AFRICA REDBACKS, ANZACS (N.C.) and, of course, SARASOTA.

Six-a-Side cricket is of good quality and fast paced with lots of hitting. Sunday, 25th, will feature semi finals and the final and we urge you to mark your calendar now. We can promise you an enjoyable day out (and there is no charge). Food and beverages are available, although some of the spectators bring their own goodies. Sarasota Cricket Club's attractive ground and pavilion is on University Parkway, east of Lorraine Road in Lakewood Ranch. Let Terry Sweeney know that you plan to attend or if you have questions. Tel: 941-918-0550

EVENT OF THE YEAR! SARASOTA BRITISH CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY - DEC. 5 — It's difficult to believe but in a little over two months it will be Party Time! Yes, on Saturday, December 5th we shall hold our ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY at Heritage Oaks Golf & Country Club. The one hundred plus Brit Club members who attended last December will recall what a fun-filled and enjoyable evening we had. Full details in the November issue, but in the meantime mark your calendars.

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 (3), Champions Pub, Tastefully British, 4 & 20 Pasty Shop, the British Open Pub, The Irish Rovers, The Coach & Horses Pub, The Open, McAllister's, Scot's 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.

Do You Own Your Own Business?

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: ¼ page \$15, ½ page \$25, full page \$40 per month. There is a 20% discount if you purchase your advertisements annually. Sale ads for unwanted items is \$10 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 the newsletter editor, Rose Gillet, at 3219 24th Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34235 or email them to her at rosegillet@yahoo.com.

Membership News

EMAIL ADDRESSES: PLEASE email Ken Jukes at kena.jukes@yahoo.com or call him at 941-927-6499 if you have changed your email in the last 6 months.

New members, Joy and Ken Mainstone, live in Osprey. From Romford, Essex, they met at the Ilford Palais de Dance and married in 1955. Joy was a legal secretary in the City and Ken was in engineering, first with the Wiggins Teape Company in the paper industry, and then with the Black-Clawson Company, moving from engineering into sales and marketing of industrial machinery in the paper and plastics industry. They were transferred to Oswego, NY, in 1956 and stayed there for thirty years, raising two girls and two boys, now all married with four grandchildren from coast-to-coast. They moved to Cincinnati, OH in 1988 for six years, and then to Sarasota in 1994. Joy is a keen gardener; Ken digs a hole where he is told. Friday night has always been their "date night" and they enjoy sampling Sarasota's wonderful variety of restaurants. Ken likes to golf and, in fact, is seeking a golf partner to play once a week at public or semi-private courses. Shoots about 105 (yeah, right, on a good day!). He would be glad to get a call at 966-9151.

We also welcome Norman and Mary Shelley. Norman, who is descended from Percy Bysshe Shelley, was born in Buxton, Derbyshire. Before coming to Florida, he was living in Exeter working for various church organizations and then ran a pub restaurant in Cornwall. Mary was born and raised in California and was a dental nurse prior to coming to Sarasota. They first stumbled into one another via the internet in 2002, meeting up for the first time in 2006, and marrying on Siesta Key Beach in February of this year.

Badminton Club of Sarasota

We've been invited to join the Badminton Club of Sarasota, located at 2650 Waldemere St, east of US 41 (Tamiami Trail) and west of Tuttle Ave., in Sarasota. They play every Wednesday 6 - 9 pm at the Arlington Park Gym. Cost is \$7 per session and is open to the public for all ages and skill levels. Rackets are available to borrow. Just show up and play, mostly doubles but many play singles. The facility has 4 courts, and showers are available. For more information, contact Roger Long at (941) 468-6969 long2eat@gmail.com

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	
Home Phone	Alt. Phone
Email Address	
Membership Type: ☐ Single \$25	☐ Family \$35 (includes all children under age 18)

Welsh Cakes

These are very easy to make, and delicious in their simplicity. I remember one year when we had a tent at the area Highland Games, we sold out of them in a short time, much to the chagrin of a vendor there only featuring Welsh Cakes. We noticed a lot of their packages were in the bins from dissatisfied customers, a shame, but good for us! I did feature this a few years ago, but had a request for it, hope you enjoy my version, adapted from my own original recipe and additions from former tea room customers originally from Wales.

2 cups all purpose flour
1-1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 cup sugar
1/4 tsp nutmeg
1/8 tsp salt

3/4 cup butter
1 cup currants
2 eggs, beaten
1/4 cup milk

Lightly grease electric griddle/frying pan and set at 350 degrees. Mix well dry ingredients. Cut in butter until resembles coarse breadcrumbs, add currants. Add eggs and milk and mix into soft dough. Turn out onto lightly floured board, (dough will be soft) and gently roll or pat to about half an inch. Cut with 2" round cutter and place onto griddle. Allow to cook until lightly browned and then flip the cake over for the other side to cook. Can add a sprinkle of sugar at this point

Yield 2-3 dozen

(Recipe from Sandra Cherry, Union Jack Food Columnist. Queries, comments and recipes are welcome, and I can be reached at Yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com.)

Rose's Corner

You may miss the President's letter and the Minutes Precis this month – the board didn't have a meeting in September (so no minutes), and Sue Ford was off vacationing in England and Spain. We'll see both columns back in next month's newsletter.

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, email me at rosegillet@yahoo.com or call 366-9984. Closing date for items is the 15th of each month.

Rose Gillet, Newsletter Editor



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my newsletter & my Facebook page! So join me every Sunday at 12 pm, LIVE on 1280 AM!

Florida Gardening by Nicholas Davis



Every kitchen should have its own supply of fresh vegetables and herbs so why not grow your own? Vegetables you can start growing now from seeds or plants include Brussels sprouts, Broccoli, cauliflower, carrots and cabbage. Basil, thyme, sage, rosemary and mint are a few that you could think about starting to grow now, again from either seed or plants. Whether you decide on seed or plants, just follow the instructions on the packet and you will be eating fresh grown vegetables with your Sunday roasts by early next year!! Strawberries are another favorite and easy to grow, but you will need about 80 plants to get enough fruits for a family, plant 8-12 inches apart and keep moist, feed monthly and by January you should see some fruit and peak production will be in the spring.

What about adding some planters or hanging baskets filled with chrysanthemums? They grow well in full sun or light shade, keep moist and remove the flowers from the plants when they fade, cut the stems back to near the foliage.

Some other plants to think about are Salvias, Pentas, Goldenrod, and Firespike. If you do use old containers wash thoroughly and allow to dry before using.

Use a good potting soil and plant taller plants at the back and the smaller growers at the front. Keep moist and feed every other week. If you have any questions please email me lawnjockey@live.com Happy gardening. Happy gardening!!



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Adventures in Nyasaland - Terry Sweeney

THE CASE OF THE NOISY PEUGEOT

"I feel sorry for you, all dressed up like a Christmas tree", said the Government Printer, as he greeted me in his office in Zomba, Nyasaland (now Malawi). He looked comfortably cool in his colonial civil servant's uniform of khaki open-necked shirt, shorts and knee-length socks. By contrast, I was wearing the usual attire of a 1960s era Alex Pirie sales representative: jacket, long trousers, shirt, tie and highly polished black shoes.

It all seemed, and was, a long way from London where I had started what was to become a life-long career in the paper industry. In 1957 my new wife Audrey and I emigrated to Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia (now Harare, Zimbabwe). There I joined Alex Pirie (Rhodesia) Pvt. Ltd. Part of a worldwide company.

At that time, mid-1957, Salisbury was the fastest growing city in Southern Africa. The staff consisted of twelve "Europeans" and twelve Africans. Our market was extensive, covering not only S. Rhodesia but also Mozambique, Angola and what was then known as the Belgian Congo. A branch had just been opened in Ndola. Northern Rhodesia.

In 1957, Salisbury, which was settled in 1890, had a population of 70,000 "Europeans" and 175,000 Africans. Interestingly, in 1945, the white population numbered about 11,000. However, from that point on, population growth was fuelled by R.A.F. men who had trained in Rhodesia during World War II and had returned with families and friends to seek a better life and climate.

When the branch manager asked me to take over Nyasaland, little did I know that every trip would involve some sort of minor adventure. Nyasaland is just a little larger than Scotland with nearly a third of its area occupied by Lake Nyasa. In 1957, the population totaled two and a half million, including 5,600 whites and 6,000 Asians (mostly Indians).

After a ninety minute flight to Blantyre, I would rent a car, usually a Peugeot, but on one occasion a tiny Hillman, possibly a Husky. Our customers included printers, stationers, (mostly Indian owned), missions and one or two tea plantations. As we couldn't live on the sale of paper alone, we offered, among other products, envelopes, Sheaffer pens, Eastlight files, printer's metal and printing presses, offset printing plates, rubber bands and finger stalls. One customer complained that his recent order didn't have the requisite number of "pimples" on some of the stalls!!

During one trip I was on my way back to Blantyre in my rented Peugeot after a day of calling on out-of-town accounts. The two-lane road was quite busy with cars, cyclists and women walking while balancing various objects (including a table) on their heads.

As I came up behind a slow-moving truck, I gave him a quick toot on the horn to let him know that I was about to overtake. Trouble was the horn didn't just toot, it continued to emit a deafening French two-tone blast. Despite my increasingly frantic efforts, the darned thing refused to silence itself.

The remedy seemed simple. Stop the car, open the bonnet and disconnect the horn. Easier said than done! After frenzied searching, I located the bonnet release in the glove box but there was no way I could budge the wretched thing, even with both feet on the dashboard for extra leverage. By this time the racket had attracted a crowd of thirty to forty Africans, all looking on with no doubt appropriate comments, at this very hot and flustered white man who was growing increasingly desperate

Eventually I gave up and faced the prospect of driving some forty miles into Blantyre to seek help and, if fortune should smile, a couple of stiff drinks. This I did, at an ever increasing speed. In so doing I left in my wake a trail of bemused and possibly terrified African cyclists and pedestrians, no doubt voicing what they thought of this maniac driver. Once in Blantyre I pulled into the forecourt of a garage. Immediately I was surrounded by a huge crowd of excited Africans. I ran into the office and pleaded for help. This arrived in the form of a very large and muscular African mechanic, who with one massive tug released the bonnet and snapped the wires.

Never has silence been so golden !!

THE WINDS OF CHANGE

Imagine, if you will, a tiny Hillman Husky lurching and jolting through the African bush with Terry Sweeney behind the wheel.

I was on my way to a remote mission, miles from the nearest town. You may ask "why bother?" Actually, missions consumed quite a lot of paper which they used for printing translations from the Bible into the several local languages. They also printed teaching materials to help their educational activities.

This trip must have been in 1960 when the Malawi National Congress leaders were agitating for independence from Britain. Dr. Hastings Banda, the leader of the M.N.C., had been released from prison and the political situation was very tense and negotiations between the M.N.C., the Nyasaland governor and the British government dragged on.

You will appreciate then, my consternation when I saw coming towards me several hundred villagers bearing banners and chanting slogans as they headed towards a political rally.

As the crowd drew level with my little car (which somehow seemed smaller than ever) and saw a white man inside, angry shouts arose and a number of them thumped the roof and the sides of the Husky. My fear, of course, was that they would overturn the car, which would have required very little effort. Eventually they disappeared down the track and I continued on to make my sales call.

Fortunately, my return journey was uneventful, although somewhat nerve-racking.

The following year the Malawi National Congress gained control of the country and declared independence with Hastings Banda as President.

BEE ATTACK!

As I drove into the mission compound on the outskirts of Blantyre I was astonished to see one of the brothers with his brown habit flapping around his legs, his sandals slapping on the dry mud and his arms flailing wildly about his head as he sprinted across the path in front of me. My first suspicion was that he had had too much native beer for lunch, but I quickly dismissed that unworthy thought.

I climbed out of the car and heard a buzz followed by a sharp jab to my forehead, quickly followed by more painful jabs on my neck and hands. The penny quickly dropped – African killer bees which attack without provocation. Grabbing my attaché case I raced to the nearest door, picking up another couple of stings en route, and without bothering to knock, barged into an office.

I apologized profusely for my unceremonious entry to the brother seated behind a desk.

He waved away my apologies, explaining that the mission had been terrorized by the bees for more than a week and that they had been unable to get rid of them. After receiving sympathy as well as a couple of orders, I ran the gauntlet back to the car and headed towards the sanctuary of Ryall's Hotel.

You can say what you like about the life of a sales rep. but it is never boring, especially in Africa.

