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Brit*Club* News

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

Board of Directors

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

UK 2 US Wealth UK financial/wealth advice for US Brits

Moving between countries is often exciting but full of challenges. One of which can be making your UK pensions and investments work across both the US and UK tax systems.

The US tax system can be particularly hard on foreign investments like UK ISAs/PEPs & Bonds. Pension funds too are affected and your UK lump sum might be taxable.

I can help you: from reviewing your short and long term Pension options, managing your investments through to tax & estate issues in the UK and US. I can also refer you to US contacts with cross-border experience.

A 30 min call-back or initial email exchange is free for SBC members. Call IAN MANWARING on +44 (0)1952 850359 or you can email me at: <u>uk2us.wealth@btinternet.com</u> UK2US Wealth: a tradingstyle of CFMLtd authorised & regulatedby the Financial Services Authority no. 500121



BritClub News

September, 2011 Sarasota British Club, P. O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276 Vol. 11, Issue 9

Coming Events

Board Meeting - Thursday September 8 @6:30 p.m. at the home of Eileen & Doug Schuler. Members welcome but please call ahead, see Page 12, as space is limited.

Coffee Morning – Sue Ford is taking a well-deserved break from hosting the Coffee Morning socials on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Watch this space for the re-start date of this very popular SBC social.



Bingo .-.. Thursday, September 15, 5:30pm More details on Page 11

<u>Cocktail party</u> – <u>Saturday</u>, <u>September 17</u>, <u>from 6 – 8pm</u> at Brian & Jane Thompson's home in Lakewood Ranch</u>. More details on Page 11.

Annual General Meeting – **Saturday, October 15**-6:00 pm in private room at Oriental Buffet, 4458 Bee Ridge Road. Members will vote for the new Board. Following the AGM, which is free, members and guests may stay for the dinner buffet, which the restaurant will offer at a special price for 50 or more people, including all non-alcoholic beverages.



Guy Fawkes Night "Remember, Remember the Fifth of November". Twin Lakes Park, Outdoor Pavilion (Clark Rd, SR.72, about 1 mile east of 1-75), 5:30 pm-9 pm. Food and fun. Put on your schedule now. Details in October Newsletter.

<u>Cruise</u>: - November 6 The cruise ship, "Norwegian Star," leaves from Tampa on November 6 for 7

nights with port calls in Honduras, Belize, Costa Maya & Cozumel Mexico. There are 29 members already signed up. If you 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.



2011 Christmas Party, Saturday, December 17--Heritage Oaks

Golf & Country Club, 4800 Chase Oaks Drive, Sarasota. Mark your calendars now for this always splendid event. Details on Page 5.

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 Gary Lee

Saturday evening, August 20th, found a happy group of nearly 90 members and guests gathered in the Royce Room at Bentley's in Osprey for a meal and general socializing. This was indeed an impressive turnout. We found the food pleasant and Bentley's staff courteous and efficient. Although the evening had been planned for some time at an old Club favorite, Beckham's, it was necessary to change the venue rather late in the game when Beckham's advised that due to lease issues, the



restaurant was closing its doors with plans to re-open in the near future—but not near enough for our present needs.

Terry Sweeney, with steadfast assistance by Audrey, responded admirably in dealing with the finding another venue and making all the new arrangements in a short span of time including site visits to several nearby establishments. What would otherwise have been a rather easily-arranged evening turned into a very demanding one with a myriad of phone calls and emails and the sorting out of last minute details both with Bentley's and attendees. Happily, we ended up with a separate room of our own, complete with bar. Well done team Sweeney! Hats off to Ken Jukes as well for another of his sparkling quizzes to challenge those little grey cells.

This brings us to Limerick of the Month, which appropriately concerns dining:

A diner while dining at Crewe Found a rather large mouse in his stew. Said the waiter, "Don't shout And wave it about, Or the rest will be wanting one, too".

August Board Meeting Precis

Meeting held at the home of Gary and Jane Lee. Current Treasurer's balance \$7,754, an increase of \$302 over June and overwhelmingly due to net income from Club's Silent Auction event on July 16th. Final figures show gross receipts from event were \$895, of which winning bids accounted for nearly \$560. Gross expenses for the evening came to \$550. There were small offsetting expenses in other accounts. An analysis by Brian Thompson, Newsletter Editor, shows that in recent years, the ratio of editorial content to ads has averaged about 75%. This conforms with the policy adopted formally by last year's Board to limit ad content to no more than 25%. More editorial contributions from the membership are welcomed and encouraged as there is some latitude for expanding the number of newsletter pages, as necessary. Ken Jukes, assisted by Sue Ford, has been continuing to contact members to encourage their standing for next year's Board. To that end, Ken addressed a gathering of some 18-20 members at "Tastefully British" the afternoon of July 13th. Due to lease issues, the venue for Club's dinner and guiz event on August 20th has been shifted from Beckham's to nearby Bentley's. The bookings for the November 6th cruise now stand at 29. The Club has been invited to form a table for 10 for the Sarasota International Cricket Club Gala Banquet on November 26th. Cost is \$50 pp. Those interested to contact Ken Jukes. Discussion of whether the Club needs to purchase a portable PA system for its events. Prevailing view: not at this time.

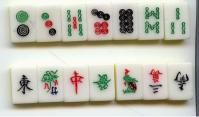
Next meeting to be held September 8th at home of Eileen and Doug Schuler; members welcome, but please notify ahead of meeting. **Submitted by Gary Lee, President** BINGO ... Thursday, September 15, 5:30pm for the buffet and Bingo starts at 7:00pm. Location: Stoneybrook Golf and Country Club on Central Sarasota Parkway on Palmer Ranch. The buffet is extensive and costs \$15.99 plus they add onto that the tax and gratuity of 18%. Bingo card for the evening is \$5.00. If you do not have your own dauber, they sell them for \$1.00. They do not allow you to play bingo without the buffet. Everyone will get individual checks. It's a fun evening and a chance to win lots of money. Please advise no later than Monday, August 29th. Call or email Margaret Brading 941/923-0934 or marbra16@hotmail.com

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COCKTAIL PARTY September 17, Come to Brian & Jane's home in Lakewood Ranch for an evening of fun & friendship. Please bring food to share & BYOB, plus \$1 each for paper goods. The Club will provide sodas. Space will be limited & reservations will be taken by Brian & Jane on 941-388-8018 or lakewood2@gmail.com. Directions will be given at confirmation of booking.

Recently the Newsletter asked members if they had an interest in games such as Bridge, Mah Jongg etc. There was not a great response, but we have not given up!!

For those interested in Mah Jongg there is a local resource. At the Asian Arts Teahouse, 5437 Fruitville Road you can buy the game and its accessories, play the game at several tables **AND** also take lessons at all levels. They also do lunch, many items on the menu have an Asian twist.



Check out www.asianartsteahouse.com for times, prices, menus. We had a 2 hour lesson followed by lunch and we'll be going again. *Brian & Jane Thompson*

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. Add your event photos to the 'wall'.



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 King George Pub, The White Horse Pub, McAllister's, Scot's Corner, British Open Pub & Restaurant of Venice, Bentley's Resort Hotel, Scrambles,

Ezpiez 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 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, 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..

JOKE

Q: Why did Adam and Eve have a perfect marriage?

A: He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married, and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked



The 'Coach and Horses English Pub' on Lockwood Ridge/University Parkway has closed and has been replaced, after refurbishment, by the 'The White Horse Pub' under the ownership of Fay Pellew. The Grand opening was 30th July.

Among the events that Fay has put together is a Curry Night every Thursday with food cooked by their 'famous Indian chef'. Food also includes English favorites such as a traditional Roast. The website (www.the-white-horse-pub.com) is still under development. Tel#941-704-2299



Figures released from the Sarasota Association of Realtors report property sales down slightly in July from June, with inventory reducing to the lowest level in more than a decade.

The median price for a single family home in July was \$169,900, just slightly lower than the June figure of \$175,000. In July 2010 the median price was \$155,000, so the median price was up almost 10 percent from last year at this

time. The condo median price slipped to \$145,000 from \$185,000 in June, but was 14 percent higher than last July's median of \$127,000.

With inventory being at its lowest levels, another bright sign in July 2011 was the increase in homes under contract from 754 in June to 799 last month.

The overall percentage of distressed sales (short sales and foreclosure sales) remained at 38 percent of the July 2011 sales. That compares to 47 percent as recently as February 2011 and a high of 51 percent in November 2010.

The recent events in the financial markets may cause some uncertainty but the Sarasota area is traditionally a market that emerges from tough times with strength and leads the new wave of prosperity.

If you would like to find out more information regarding your local area activity, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can also find out local information by visiting our blog at www.rsvprealestate.wordpress.com. or search for properties at www.relocatesarasota.com.

I would like to thank my customers for the referrals, there is nothing better than having a customer refer you to a friend. Thank You!

Jane Ebury Real Estate Professional RSVP Real Estate Inc jane@relocatesarasota.com

www.rsvprealestate.com

Thanks to all you members who have written, emails or phoned me wishing me a speedy recovery. I'm pleased to say, I am now better and back to normal "whatever normal is". Can I take this opportunity to encourage you to let one of the board members know if a member is unwell. Having been on the receiving side of this kindness, I know how important and appreciated receiving a card is when you are unwell. I have missed out on many events, so I now have to make up for this.

I am looking forward to our coming month with Bowling & a Cocktail Party organized, I hope you have already booked.

Next month we will start having our members returning from the UK, Canada and other parts of the cold world, If you are retuning, please let us know you have arrived safely so that we can welcome you home.

Hope we see you for our 'Bowling' & for the 'Cocktail party'...don't forget to bring along a photo of yourself taken in your prime, there will be a small prize for the person who gets all the names right. Hugs

Sue Ford

Two or three months ago only a crazy person would have referred to the pound as a safe-haven currency. It still sounds mad enough but, of the countries with an uncontested triple-A credit rating and their own currency, Britain is today top of the league. Congress has torpedoed the dollar with its budget lunacy. EU leaders have weakened the euro with their failure to address the southern debt crisis.

Nobody is suggesting the pound is invulnerable. Its chequered history still makes investors wary. But in the land of blind political leadership the one-eyed pound has at least some claim to the currency throne. With the Swiss and Japanese central banks threatening intervention it is the Commonwealth currencies, led by sterling, that currently offer the most accessible safe havens. Even if investors do not flock to buy the pound at least they will think twice about selling it. **FX update 8/24/2011 from Moneycorp**

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Business Glimpse - and introducing Club members Lynda and Gordon Hall.

As Brit Club members and owners of Green Ginger Hair Design they are convinced there is no place in the world like St. Armand's Circle. Says Gordon, "It's an absolute jewel", which is why they moved to Sarasota in November of 2009 (even after living in beautiful France for five years.) With concerns regarding the economy, they chose to act on a shared optimism in the "American System." After a complete remodel (which has doubled the salon in size) they have been rewarded with an increased flow of new and returning clients. Green Ginger was recently recognized as a finalist in the Chamber of Commerce, "Small Business of the Year."

Gordon comes from a sales and marketing background, and with Lynda being a career stylist since leaving school, it was an ideal mix for the new business venture in Sarasota.

Originally from Northumberland in the North East of England, they made the move to the beautiful Dordogne Region of France, living there for over 5 years.

Gordon and Lynda owned four rental properties in France, one of them operated as a B and B. This became the start of their business there. It soon became apparent that owners in France, often from Great Britain, needed someone they could trust to market, rent and maintain their holiday homes while back in the UK. A complete service was offered, from key holding and rental, to gardening and pool care. "People need someone on the ground there to look after all the daily things holiday homes need, we provided that peace of mind" said Gordon.

Only a chance meeting with a business owner at Siesta Key planted the seed of buying a business and moving full time to Sarasota. Eventually finding Green Ginger Hair Design, "sometimes you need a little luck in life, we certainly got it in finding Sarasota and a salon with fantastic staff" said Gordon.

The full service salon which caters for all ages and styles, has been on St Armand's Circle for 25 years and offers, along with cutting, coloring and highlighting, full manicure and pedicure services, facials, hair removal, permanent make up, hair extensions, and the latest hair fashion - feather strands.

Their success comes partly from their business savvy and talent as a career stylist...Not to overlook the skilled staff, some of whom have been together for 25 years. With constant training and education, the staff is able to offer new and improved services. The staff's love of the salon and their clients makes for a warm, friendly environment for people of all ages.

You can check out the salon and competitive pricing at www.greengingerhair.com. Brit Club members will receive a 25% discount on their first visit. Just mention the Club !! Green Ginger is located at 10 South Adams Drive, St. Armand's Circle which has an adjacent free parking lot, 941.388.5500 Mock Clotted Cream 1 (3-ounce) package cream cheese, softened ¼ cup confectioners' sugar ¼ cup sour cream ½ cup heavy cream ¼ teaspoon vanilla extract

In a medium mixing bowl, combine the cream cheese, confectioners' sugar, and sour cream. Using an electric mixer at medium speed, beat until smooth. Add cream and vanilla extract, beating until light and fluffy. Refrigerate until needed.



From the teatimemagazine.com website. Thanks to member Jean Taylor for pointing out this recipe & site.

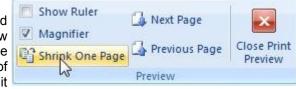
Lost and Found

Did you leave a white 10 inch diameter china bowl with raised surface decoration at the Silent Auction?

If so please contact Gary Lee.

On your PC

If you use Word, there is a useful option called "Shrink to fit". It appears in the Print Preview part of the Office 2007 ribbon, see right. The button is available in some earlier versions of Word. If not immediately visible you can add it to an existing toolbar via the customize toolbar



feature. Give it a try—you might reduce the amount of blank space at the end of your documents. If it does not work how you expect, your first check should be that you don't have superfluous 'returns' and 'tabs'. To display these special characters, click either the Show/Hide

button in the 'Paragraph' part of the ribbon or [Ctrl][Shift] together with the asterisk (*)

Further to 'customizing toolbars', the standard toolbars in Word, Excel, Publisher, Outlook and some other software often have buttons which might you feel that you never use. Often neglected as it is probably the last option in the toolbar sub-menu, you can create your own toolbar in 5 minutes so that you display the buttons that are of most use to you. You can contact me at *lakewood2@gmail.com* for additional help.

Going Green

So far only a small number of members have requested that the Club newsletter is sent to them by email. Please consider this option as it saves postage and some effort by your editor!

Perfect Pool Service of Florida Phone (941) 488-9442

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WEEKLY POOL MAINTENANCE	Includes, chemicals/ testing, brushing and vacuuming, filter cleaning, skimmer basket/ pump basket monitoring.		
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Visit our website to learn more about us - www.perfectpoolservicesarasota.com National Swimming Pool Foundation Certified Pool-Spa Opera NSPF CPO Perfect Pool Specials for Brit Club members: Sign up for 6 months pool service and get the sixth month free. Sign up for 12 months pool service and get two months free po		free.	BOL FOUNDATIO

A Ringside Seat to History: from Col D. G. Swinford, USMC, Ret and history buff

- 1. The first German serviceman killed in WW II was killed by the Japanese (China, 1937), the first American serviceman killed was killed by the Russians (Finland 1940); highest ranking American killed was Lt Gen Lesley McNair, killed by the US Army Air Corps. So much for allies.
- 2. The youngest US serviceman was 12 year old Calvin Graham, USN. He was wounded and given a Dishonorable Discharge for lying about his age. His benefits were later restored by act of Congress.
- At the time of Pearl Harbor, the top US Navy command was called CINCUS (pronounced 'sink us'), the shoulder patch of the US Army's 45th Infantry division was the Swastika, and Hitler's private train was named 'Amerika.' All three were soon changed for PR purposes.
- 4. More US servicemen died in the Air Corps than the Marine Corps. While completing the required 30 missions, your chance of being killed was 71%.
- 5. Generally speaking, there was no such thing as an average fighter pilot. You were either an ace or a target. For instance, Japanese Ace Hiroyoshi Nishizawa shot down over 80 planes. He died while a passenger on a cargo plane.

Come and Join the Club The Sarasota British Club (SBC) serves the needs of its membership in the spirit of friend- ship 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 newcom- ers in settling into the community, and provides British businesses with valuable network- ing 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)						
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	he Sarasota British Club (SBC) se hip and mutual support. This inclu etting where members can meet a rs in settling into the community, ng and support. To join, please fil arasota British Club, P.O. Box 210 fame(s)	he Sarasota British Club (SBC) serves the needs of its mem hip and mutual support. This includes the planning, develop etting where members can meet and exchange interests. The rs in settling into the community, and provides British busin and support. To join, please fill in the information below a arasota British Club, P.O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276. Tame(s)				

2011 Brit Club Christmas Party

December 17 @ Heritage Oaks. Golf & Country Club, . 6.30 start, Dinner @7.15pm

This event will again be subsidized for all members of the Brit Club keeping the price as low as possible. Non members will be asked to pay the full amount. Once I have spoken to Heritage Oaks on menu we will publish the cost in next month's Brit*Club* News. As this has



always been such a fun night, please ask your friends to join you and make up your own table. The member selling the most tickets gets a bottle of Bubbly.

Put the date in your diary, you won't want to miss this one.

Thanks

Sue Ford

Quotation from www.everycards.net website that features Christmas information:-

"So this Christmastide recall to woof astir a bundle of white Dec 25 lights as it will not lonesome clear your family just also enliven the true spirit of the season."

Someone has been hitting the sherry a bit early!