



BritClub News

VOL 18, ISSUE 4

COMING EVENTS

SBC BOARD MEETING

Next meeting will be **WEDNESDAY**, April 11th at Village Des Pins Clubhouse: 7964 Timberwood Circle, Sarasota @ 6:15 pm. Guests welcome (*please let us know you are coming!*)

April 15th
Tampa Bay Downs

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April 27th
April Luncheon

Our April lunch will be at Carmel Kitchen Wine Bar, located at 8433 Cooper Creek Blvd, Sarasota.

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April 27th (following lunch)
Florida Native Plant Nursery

Information to follow soon

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May 6th
Toad Rally

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May 19th
Royal Wedding party
Information to follow soon

June 9th
Murder Mystery Evening
Information to follow soon

STAY UP TO DATE

To keep up to date on other activities and events throughout the local British community please visit the Links Page of our website www.sarasotabritishclub.com

PRESIDENT'S LETTER, MARCH 2018

Greetings from New Zealand or as they say here Kia Ora but by the time you read this we will be back in Sarasota hopefully enjoying some warmth after a pretty chilly stay in N.Z. Two weeks is nowhere near enough time to see all of this beautiful country but we are getting a good overview. I finally got to see a Maori Haka performed live, one more item off the bucket list.

We are currently on the South Island, very different from the North Island, we are surrounded by mountain ranges and there is still some snow on the peaks, This is the home of extreme sports but we elected wine tasting rather than bungee jumping or white water rafting! Today we visited some artisans in their home and I felt like I was sitting in an English garden, there were huge hydrangeas, primroses, privet hedges and even dock leaves for treating sand fly bites (no stinging nettles) and all around are gorse bushes bracken. They even have sparrows.

They say for Kiwi's rugby is not a sport, it's a religion! Most of our American traveling companions had no idea about the game so our tour guides decided to teach us how to play rugby. What a laugh, all us old people trying to remember what end of the field we had to go for let alone trying to hang on to the ball! Unfortunately, one woman fell and sustained quite a serious injury but when the hospital staff learned a 75 year old woman's injury was as a result of playing rugby she was elevated to hero status! Sadly, the accident has finished the holiday for her but she is very glad she bought good trip insurance as she will likely need medical assistance on the flight home and of course a lie flat seat.

Time to move on to our last stop, Wellington so we are just going to *peck* our bags, go to the *earport* and *chickin* for our flight! I love the Kiwi accent but it does take a bit of getting used to. Ross is still wondering why we would need chicken at the airport!

Update: we absolutely loved Wellington, the people were so friendly and helpful but we certainly learned why it is called 'windy Welly'.

Jane

PRÉCIS OF FEBRUARY 7, 2018 BOARD MEETING

PRÉCIS OF MARCH 14, 2018 BOARD MEETING

The bank balance at February 28th, 2018 was \$3,847.46.... **Membership** stands at 160 family, 28 singles for a total of 188 members. It is time for renewal of annual dues; an email is being sent out... **Newsletter** now has an Announcements page for general use; no advertising please.....Transition of maintenance of the **Website** has been accomplished with no problems.

Arcadia Rodeo on March 8th was a resounding success...**Road Rally** is rescheduled for May 6th...**Murder Mystery** evening is still awaiting a venue; suggested date is June 9th...**Tampa Bay Downs**, on April 15th is fully subscribed. **Kayak Outing** on March 27th still has six boats available... More information to come about **Royal Wedding** function on May 19th at the Village de Pins Clubhouse. **Florida Native Plant Nursery** outing on April 27th. More information to follow.

The next meeting will be at **6:15 p.m.** on **April 11th, 2018** at the Village des Pins Clubhouse. Please let one of the Board Members know if you would like to attend.

Sally Scott

Secretary

COMING EVENTS

A Day at the Races!

Our 4th annual outing to Tampa Bay Downs will take place on ***Sunday April 15.***

This event is now closed.



April Lunch

Our April lunch is at Carmel Kitchen Wine Bar. The restaurant is located at 8433 Cooper Creek Blvd. Sarasota. The date and time of the event is Friday April 27, at 12 noon.

Carmel's menu has a variety of European and American dishes and is a favorite of many foodies in the area.

You will be receiving an electronic invitation to this event. We look forward to seeing you all.

Following lunch we are planning a visit to the Florida Native Plant Nursery for those who are interested. More information coming soon.

Toad Rally – May 6th

This event is now closed.

RECENT EVENTS

ARCADIA RODEO

We gathered at the meeting place for our coach at 11:15 a.m. on a cold, windy but gloriously sunny day and had a very pleasant drive through the countryside to Arcadia. We arrived an hour before a couple of events took place, which gave us plenty of time to examine some fascinating wares at the Trade Show and to have lunch.

The brand new \$7 million Mosaic Arena is absolutely fabulous and quite state of the art. Our seats turned out to be just about the best in the house. We were almost on top of the spunky little Mutton Busters in their helmets (almost as large as they were) who were put on their sheep and then let loose into the arena. It was truly entertaining and it was generally agreed we could have done with seeing a lot more of these 5-7 year olds. We were also perfectly placed for the bucking broncs who more than once aimed straight for our corner.

At 2:00 p.m. sharp the main events began: saddle bronco riding, bare-back bronco riding, calf roping, bareback bull riding, a Quadrille and barrel racing. It was a wonderful show which didn't let up for two and a half hours. This Arcadia rodeo, in its 95th year is a main qualifier for the Nationals in Las Vegas a few weeks later.

On the coach on the way home a poll was taken to see how many would go back next year. There was a resounding "yes" so the Club contacted the organizers and has managed to secure the same seats again for next year. It was a terrific day out and we hope many of you will join us next year.



Kayak Trip - Washed Out by Wind

Unfortunately, our Caspersen Beach-Lemon Bay kayak trip had to be cancelled due to windy conditions. Other welcomed aspects of the day e.g lots of sun, warm temperature and a favorable tide were cancelled out by a temperamental Wind God. March and April are traditionally windy months but this was the first occasion in recent years that participants were denied a silent water adventure. As of this writing, March 27 the day of the scheduled event, the Club's Event Coordinator is hoping the winds will moderate in the next few days. This is a worry because of the need to promptly but safely retrieve the three mechanical manatees put in place along the planned water route to challenge paddlers on their observation powers. The rental period expires by the end of the week with a heavy fine for delayed return to Mote Marine.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fruitville Friends of the Library Bookstore (FFLB) is badly in need of additional volunteers. The Bookstore depends on selling donated books, magazines, DVDs and CDs to finance projects for children, and all community members, not budgeted by the County. A perfect occupation for retirees, helping out is not only very valuable to the Bookstore, but enables volunteers to interact with a variety of smart and interesting people. For further information contact the FFLB manager, Karen Crawford on 941-928-2494

Sarasota British Club name badges

Please obtain Club badges directly from ***Sarasota Trophy, 6601 Superior Ave, Sarasota, FL 34321. Phone 941 921 4339.***

- \$8 plus 56c tax for badge with magnet
- \$6 plus 42c tax for badge with pin (no magnet)

Badges can be collected in person (M – F 8.30 – 5pm, Sat 9am – noon) or shipped to your home for \$3.75.

SARASOTA BRITISH CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2018

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Don't forget that Sarasota British Club is on Facebook. The Club's logo is the profile picture. Check out 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.