



BritClub News

VOL 18, ISSUE 12

COMING EVENTS

SBC BOARD MEETING

Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 12th at Village Des Pins Clubhouse: 7964 Timberwood Circle, Sarasota @ 6:15 pm. Guests welcome (*please let us know you are coming!*)

All members will receive emailed invitations to the events shown below. Please look out for them in your inbox, and be sure to add "Sarasota British Club" to your safe senders list.

December 8th
Christmas Party

See Page 4 inside

February 17th 2019
Valentines Dance

See Page 4 inside

March 24th 2019
Tampa Bay Downs

Keep the date! Details in January

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, DECEMBER 2018

The run up to the Holidays is a busy time, your Board has worked hard to make sure that the AGM and the Christmas Party are a success. I should like to thank Sandra Cherry in particular for organizing the myriad of details for the Party, to which I am very much looking forward.

Name	Gift Amount
Anonymous	Unavailable by Donor Request
Anonymous	Unavailable by Donor Request
Anonymous	Unavailable by Donor Request
Beryl and Alan Perry	\$100.00
Beryl Perry	\$35.00
Derek Brashier	\$120.00
ELAINE KAY	\$35.00
Gary Lee	\$100.00
Ivan & Sharon	\$25.00
John and Vivienne Jefferies	\$50.00
Lynn Billi	\$50.00
Mark and Jean Malkasian	\$100.00
Mike and Linda Buckland	\$25.00
Paul Wilkinson	\$100.00
Sally Scott	\$100.00
The Pankhurst Family	Unavailable by Donor Request

The annual **Walk to End Alzheimers** was a chilly event, but very well attended. Many thanks to the folks who walked and/or donated. We raised over \$1,000 for this well deserving cause.

Our charitable donation process has been complicated by IRS regulations that prohibit us from directly supporting other not-for-profit organizations. As a result, we will make the raffle at the Christmas Party a Charity event. We have some spectacular gift baskets and our sponsors this year have been particularly generous. We expect that the raffle will generate around \$1,000 for our two chosen causes:

FELT -Feeding Empty Little Tum mies is dedicated to feeding our most needy – homeless students – one backpack at a time! F.E.L.T. foundress, Jane L. Evers realized Manatee County had a dark secret. We are home to thousands of homeless students who go hungry every weekend.

In 2010 Jane introduced Feeding Empty Little Tum mies to 3 Manatee County public schools. We now service 32 schools and our numbers are increasing. Jane's vision to provide nutritious meals to homeless students is still being fulfilled by our dedicated board, volunteers and community leaders.

The Florida Cancer Specialists Foundation helps individuals with their essential living expenses while they undergo treatment for cancer. Cancer patients are able to receive assistance from the Foundation for their non-medical bills, such as overdue rent, mortgage, utility bills and car payments. This financial assistance immediately impacts cancer patients and their families in communities throughout Florida, allowing them to focus on their recovery.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Precis of the minutes from the Board Meeting on WEDNESDAY November 14TH, 2018 6:15 P.M.

PRESENT:

Gary Lee, Vice President
Paul Wilkinson, President
Steve Pankhurst, Newsletter
Mark Malkasian, Website
Kevin Clayton, Secretary
Sharon Gould, Director at Large
Peter Stokes, Treasurer
Sandra Cherry, Director at Large
Karen Clayton, Director at Large
Absent: David Welch and Ivan Gould

Treasurer's Report: The bank balance stands at \$6372.58 as of October 31, 2018.
Membership stands at 171, consisting of 146 Family and 25 Single.
The Director's listing will be updated on the Club website.
Thirty nine people attended the lunch at Miguels.
Approximately fifteen people attended the lunch at Linger Lodge.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Board agreed a price of \$37.50 for members and \$57.50 for non-members. The Christmas committee has decided to upgrade the wine selection to a better quality this year with 2 bottles per table. The board agreed.

Sandra C., Olga and Christine will assemble the raffle gift baskets and have asked for donations/gifts. The Christmas committee will meet on Friday Nov 16 & 30 to assemble and wrap baskets.

January: Ivan and Sharon will set a date to hold a dance lesson with Fred Astaire Dance School.

The Valentines Dance will be held at the Meadows Pub with Toni and Tasha as entertainment.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 12th** at 6:15 p.m. at the Village Des Pins Clubhouse.

Respectfully submitted:
Kevin Clayton, Secretary

IN MEMORIAM

New member **Sylvia Jean Dahler** has passed away on 11/11/2018. Sylvia was a sprightly 90-something who we first met at the June Miguel's lunch. She had moved here from California with her daughter Sheree. Sylvia was a war bride who was very proud of having relocated to the US from England in 1947, and made the crossing on the original Queen Mary. We offer Sheree our condolences.

COMING EVENTS

Annual Christmas Party

Saturday, December 8th, 6-10 pm, at Heritage Oaks Country Club

We will have fabulous Raffle Baskets, Father Christmas, Dancing, Silliness, and great food and libations etc etc Be prepared for a right knees up evening!!!!

Valentines Dance – Sunday 17th February

Last year's Valentines Dinner Dance will be repeated at the Meadows Pub. Tony and Tasha will provide entertainment, and we have secured private use of the back room. We will have a limited menu, including the ever popular Fish and Chips supper.

Bok Tower Gardens – February 2019

The proposed trip to Bok Tower Gardens has been cancelled.

Tampa Bay Downs – Sunday 24th March

One of our most popular annual events returns again with Sunday Brunch in the Skyline Terrace while we watch the races. Coach transportation will be available from Sarasota to the event.

(please note the change in date from previous announcement)

Downton Abbey Comes to Florida

The Downton Abbey Exhibition that has been on world-tour since June 2017 is now coming to West Palm Beach on Florida's east coast on November 10. The exhibition is described as follows:

“Based on the beloved television show, be transported to post-Edwardian England, where the characters and the iconic house come to life. You'll be immersed in the fascinating social history, culture, and some of the most memorable moments and sets from the show's six season run like Mrs. Patmore's kitchen and the servants quarters. Don't miss Downton Abbey: The Exhibition! <https://downtonexhibition.com>”

The Club is not arranging a trip for this event. The exhibit runs until April 22, 2019.

Mark Malkasian

We are always looking for ideas for new events. Please contact Steve Pankhurst (stevepankhurst55@gmail.com) with your suggestions.

RECENT EVENTS

Annual General Meeting

56 members met at the Lakeshore clubhouse (thank you, Shona Burtner!) to welcome the new Board for 2019 and thank the outgoing board members for their service. Paul Wilkinson hosted the event, and Sharon and Ivan conducted an entertaining quiz. Minutes of the meeting will be available on the website.





COMMUNITY BOARD

This section of the Newsletter is available to members who wish to connect with our community to announce events and seek connections within the community. It is not available for commercial purposes or to advertise events outside the interests of our members. The rules for inclusion are simple: the Newsletter editor has the final call as to whether something is acceptable for inclusion! Please forward your items to stevepankhurst55@gmail.com.

HELP – Storage Space Needed!

The Club needs a place to store the materials that we use for our events, mostly disposable dinnerware, and decorations. Currently we are using a storage facility that has raised its cost to \$40 per month, which means that we use the membership of 12 members to pay for storage! We will provide two free tickets to our annual Christmas Party in return for allowing us to store our stuff in your garage! We have a cart and half a dozen tote boxes.

Contact Paul Wilkinson if you can help. (410) 990 4698 or pwilkinson18@comcast.net

The Best Rum Cake Ever!

Before you start, sample the rum to check for quality. Good isn't it? Now go ahead and select a large mixing bowl, measuring cup, etc. Check the rum again. It must be just right. To be sure the rum is of the highest quality, pour one level cup into a glass and drink it as fast as you can. Repeat. With an electric mixer beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add one teaspoon of thugar and beat again. Meanwhile, make sure that the rum is of the highest quality. Try another cup. Open second quart if necessary. Add two large eggs, two cups fried druit and beat until high. If druit gets stuck in the beaters just pry it loose with a drewscriver. Sample the rum again, checking for tonscisticity. Next sift three cups of pepper or salt (it doesn't really matter) Sample the rum again. Sift ½ pint lemon juice. Fold in the chopped butter and strained nuts. Add one babbelspoon of brown thugar or whatever colour you can fine. Wix mell. Grease oven and turn pan to 350gres. Now pour the whole mess into the coven and bake. Check the rum again, and bo to ged.

(Many of you might not know, but I was the food columnist for the Union Jack for 21 years, and I wrote a monthly column, making British foods, converted into American measures and ingredients. I cannot claim the above to be my own work, it is something I found years ago. However, if any of you would like me to feature any (real this time!) recipes in our newsletter, please contact me at Yourcuppateal@yahoo.com. I wish you all very Happy Christmas and Holiday season, and look forward to seeing you at the Christmas party). Sandra Cherry

THE GULF COAST ST. DAVID'S WELSH SOCIETY Invites you to our "Wrap up the Holidays" Party

Saturday, December 29th at 12:30 p.m.

Red Lobster private room at the rear of the dining room.

We can hear about holiday traditions from those who grew up in Wales or in Welsh communities or families. We'll sing, of course, both Christmas music and Welsh favorites.

You are welcome to bring a musical instrument to play.

If you are able, bring a non-perishable food item to help restock All Faiths Food Bank.

ALL ARE WELCOME!







Please RSVP to Maureen and Phil Jones: 941-918-2318

or by email: moejo660@aol.com by December 27

RESIDENTIAL REALTY UPDATE

October like your Guy Fawkes night bonfires was shining bright. Compared to last year the closed sales average of all the combined properties in both counties are up a bright 8%. The condo market fired up 10.3% in Sarasota and continuing this years sky rocketing rise we had a 27.3% increase in Manatee condo sales, that is a sky rocket high achievement! Single Family Homes in Manatee continue to flare upwards, but in Sarasota it is more like smoldering embers, as they drop just below last years sales.

Although our local realty market is doing well, Greg Owens, the 2018 President of the REALTOR® Association of Sarasota and Manatee recently stated *"Our market continues to remain solid as we go into season, which differs from other parts of the country where there has been a dramatic shift downward in price and sales."* So with great local Realty sales I am cautiously optimistic as all real estate is local, but it is wise to keep an eye on national trends – there is a possibility the national market could slow down our local market, I would suggest to anyone thinking of selling, now is probably going to be better than later.

CONDO'S		Sales compared to this month last year.	Median Sale Price
		10.3% Sarasota	\$233,745
		27.3% Manatee	\$191,250
SINGLE FAMILY HOMES 		2.1% Sarasota	\$270,000
		14% Manatee	\$298,000

Overall it is still a sellers market, but along with the spent fireworks in the air, there is perhaps a whiff of a reversal.... if you have a single family home in Sarasota, you will notice they are not selling as well as last year, and with inventory up a significant 12.5% then you have more competition, median sales are \$270k, which is down 3.2% - I would suggest time to lower the list price to sell while you still can, there will be a rush of house listings when season starts, leading to even more competition and that traditionally means a price drop. Conversely this looks like a good time to buy a Single Family Home, perhaps you can get that Siesta Key Beach view house you always wanted! As always, if you have any questions give me a call 941 914 2463. Brought to you by Christine Green, Licensed REALTOR® with Coldwell Banker Siesta Key. Data compiled from My Florida Regional Multiple Listing Service.

MEDIA MATTERS – VIEWING SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR MEMBERS

The last episode of *Poldark* (PBS) promised that this excellent period drama will be back. I note that all seasons of this show are available on *Amazon*, and highly recommend it.

Fans of *David Tennant* might enjoy ‘*Mad Samaritan*’ on *Amazon*. Reviews were pretty awful but we enjoyed the suspense, and Tennant was an excellent crazy bad guy.

Bodyguard (Netflix) lived up to the hype, and was a thoroughly enjoyable 6 part BBC co-production. Lots of twists and turns, and a surprise ending.

We are looking forward to *Mama Mia* (Here we go again) on *Netflix* next weekend. I wrote recently about the benefits of subscribing to the DVD mailing service, and if you want to watch current releases, this is the way to go. In addition, the Blu-Ray discs have spectacular sound!

If you are still looking for a Christmas present, consider an *Amazon Echo* or *Google Home*. For around \$25 you can stream your favorite radio station from around the world. We listen to *Radio 2* all day, love Jeremy Vine and his current events in the morning.

Paul Wilkinson

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

President	Paul Wilkinson	240-432-2851	pwilkinson18@comcast.net
Vice President	Gary Lee	941-706-1172	glee01@verizon.net
Treasurer	Peter Stokes	941-536-4408	peterandolga@comcast.net
Secretary	Kevin Clayton	941-744-7863	kevin.clayton@edwardjones.com
Membership	Ivan Gould	941-323-9655	ivangould@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Steve Pankhurst	941-210-7417	stevepankhurst55@gmail.com
Website Liaison	Mark Malkasian	941-445-2890	mdmalk@icloud.com
Director at Large 1	Sharon Gould	941-323-9357	sharon.gould@floridamoves.com
Director at Large 2	David Welch	941-210-4455	welchdw@gmail.com
Director Emeritus	Sandra Cherry	941-921-3162	yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com

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.