

Coming Events

The SBC Board Meeting will be held on Thursday July 14th at the Village des Pins clubhouse, 7964 Timberwood Circle, Sarasota @ 6:30pm. Members welcome.

Comedy Night at McCurdy's on July 9th. See Page 4 for details which includes an update for a meal before the show.



Sunday Brunch at Turtles on Siesta Key
Our monthly lunch will be a reprise at Turtles on Siesta Key. This time we will have a section of the ground floor dining room which is much quieter and has no stairs! However, space is limited, so first come, first served!



The Turtles Sunday Brunch has a wide variety of items, including Eggs Benedict (our favorite), omelets, and other items. The \$9.99 price INCLUDES A FREE MIMOSA OR BLOODY MARY!

Sunday JULY 24 at 11 am

Turtles, 8875 Midnight Pass Rd, Sarasota, FL 34242, 941 346 2207, www.turtlesrestaurant.com

Reply please to Diana Wilkinson – dwilkinson18@comcast.net

Elsewhere

The Gulf Coast St. David's Welsh Society has invited members to their events which include:-

Brunches on June 26th, July 24th, August 28th, September 18th and a beach picnic on October 23rd. Contact Ronnie Crain 941-922-4801 or email sarasotawelsh@yahoo.com



Exchange Rates from Moneycorp.com. 27th June

From	To	Rate
 GBP	 USD	1.3192
 EUR	 USD	1.0910

Coming Events

- McCurdy's Comedy Club July 9th
- Sunday Brunch at Turtles July 24th

President's letter – July 2016

What astonishing times we live in these days. Seems that in the past, decisions about our future were easy - we followed our parents' lead, voted conservative or labor, and let the politicians decide our futures. By the time you read this, our friends and relatives back home will have made their decision about Britain's future in Europe, and I have no doubt that whatever the decision, the turmoil will not have ended with the Referendum.

Next it will be our turn to choose a President! Diana and I have lived in the US for 32 years, and we have been citizens since 1995. Never has an election campaign challenged us as this one has. The process that is at once energizing and frustrating. I know for me this election is by far more difficult than any previous election choice that I have had to make.

I am quite sure that most of my readers will share my alarm about the prevalence of guns in this society. For me, this is more about the fractured thinking that our politicians possess about gun ownership. A staggering statistic I read the other day, is that so far this year more toddlers have accidentally shot people in the US than have been shot by all sources in the UK. I leave you, my good readers, to make your own conclusions about this. For me, the recent events in Orlando, San Bernardino, and Sandy Hook have made it time to make my decision based on my candidate's position on common sense gun control. I hope that you will join me.

On a lighter note, several members asked me about Turtles Sunday Brunch, and I have arranged for brunch on Sunday July 24. See elsewhere in this newsletter for more details. I have arranged for us to have a section of the ground floor dining room which I believe will be quieter and more accessible to members. Also, I encourage you to join us for the Comedy Club night out on July 9. We did this two years ago and it was a great evening.

Walk to end Alzheimer's

An early announcement that the Club will be sponsoring a team to walk round Benderson Park on the morning of November 12. Last year we made a \$500 donation to the local chapter of Alzheimer research, and this year we will walk in aid of this worthy cause. Please contact Paul



Wilkinson at pwilkinson18@comcast.net if you wish to join our team this year.

Congratulations



Founder of the Club and Board member Sandra Cherry had her 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 25th.

With her husband Jack and below with their family.

Precis of June 9th Board Meeting

Current membership stands at 160, 140 families and 20 single. No Treasurers report available. Website has received 709 hits. New visitor statistics up. 10 members attending the Memorial Day event in Arcadia. 20 people attended the picnic lunch on Nokomis Beach but bad weather caused an early end. Board approved Sharon Gould to replace Barry Evans as Member at Large. No other members applied. Quiz night set for June 11th 44 people signed up. Dinner at Cosimo's set for June 23rd. Discussed brunch at Turtles in July. Raymond James Art Tour set for June 17th, 8 signed up. McCurdy's set for July 9th. Discussed another Le Barge trip when weather is a bit cooler - Sept/Oct.

Submitted by Jane Jacobs



St. George's Day Party in Englewood.

The Englewood British Club invited members to join them at their party at the Paraiso Mexican Grill & Bar.



May 3rd Friday Lunch

A group of 20 members gathered at the Nokomis Beach pavilion on May 20 for our monthly lunch. The Pot Luck event treated members to a gourmet spread, including sausage rolls, ham, and a British trifle!

The lunch was brought to an abrupt end by a squall, but a good time was had by all!



Memorial Day service – Arcadia

A dozen members of the Club attended a memorial service at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Arcadia. Sponsored by the Arcadia Rotary Club. This annual event marked the 60th anniversary of the ceremony honoring the 23 RAF trainee pilots and their American instructor who were killed training at nearby Carlstrom and Riddle flight schools during WWII. Paul Wilkinson laid a wreath on behalf of the Club, and several members adjourned to Mary Margaret's tea shoppe for lunch afterwards.

Reminder The Club's website 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.



Join us for the World Series of Comedy

on
Saturday July 9th
7:00 pm
at

McCurdy's Comedy Club
1923 Ringling Blvd, Sarasota

If you plan to join us please let Jane know. Chef has asked us to select our menu choices ahead to ensure we can get in, eat comfortably and get over to McCurdy's for the 7:00 pm show. **MEET AT 5:00 PM AT LE BORDEAUX.**

Jane Jacobs

We had such a great time last year we have decided to do it again!

The search is on for the best comedian in the United States. There are different comics every night in every show. 40 Comics in one week. The World Series of Comedy travels all around North America, holding comedy contests. Forty different professional comics from all over the United States and Canada will travel to McCurdy's Comedy Club to perform for a chance to win a trip to Las Vegas. You get to vote during the shows, helping to pick the winners!

CUSTOMERS MUST BE AT LEAST 18YRS WITH A VALID ID.

THERE IS A 2 ITEM MINIMUM PURCHASE PER PERSON FROM THE FOOD/DRINKS MENU.

There are still some tickets available for McCurdy's World Series of Comedy on July 9th. \$20.00 each.

Please send your check made payable to Sarasota British Club to:

P.O. Box 21063, Sarasota, FL 34276

Please email me with your reservations (or questions)

- Menu selections by July 5th

jane60010@yahoo.com. or 847-370-2811 if necessary.



We have made reservations for an early dinner at Le Bordeaux, a new French restaurant at 1900 Main Street (across from the Hollywood 20 movie theaters). It has been checked out and passed the taste test!. Chef Fabien has designed a special Prix Fixe menu for our group and is offering bargain pricing on their new selection of wines as well. (see bottom of next column)



Prix Fixe Menu for the Brit Club on July 9th

Choice of 2 or 3 courses:

Appetizers:

French Onion Soup

Pate

Salad

Entrées:

Boeuf Bourginon (beef in red wine)

Chicken Cassoulet

Flounder

Dessert:

Tarte Tatin (apple)

Chocolate Mousse

2 Courses: \$27.00

3 Courses \$31.00

Chef Fabien is also offering special pricing on their new selection of *French* wines

White: Chardonnay or Sauvignon Blanc

Red: Merlot or Cabernet Sauvignon.

All \$6:00 per glass.

Club Photos

In recent copies of 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 links will no longer work. I will re-post the links to Google Photos in a future edition.

For example the recent mini-golf photos are now at

<http://tinyurl.com/jkzhxpz>

Meanwhile I'm pleased to say that the Picasa photo editor still works. If you have not tried it, it is a free download that is available at www.picasa.en.softonic.com. It is not being developed any more by Google.

It is very easy to use and photos can be quickly uploaded to on-line albums with enough free storage to suit many people.



A small group visited the art collection at Raymond James, owned by Tom and Mary James. They own 3,000 pieces of which we saw a small collection. The art collection was very good; we had a knowledgeable guide who made the tour interesting. Some of the things we saw as well as an art collection by different painters were Indian bronze sculptures by John Coleman, Gib Singleton and Vic Payne and glass-ware by Duncan McClellan whose studio is in St Pete. I highly recommend a visit to Robert James. We ended up with a meal in The Moon under Water, again highly recommended.

Sheila Lane Richardson.



Colette Penn, Brian Thompson, Sheila and Keith Lane-Richardson in the garden of the Raymond James' building with one of the many exhibits.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR EX-PATS.

The British Pro-Consul of the British Consulate General Miami has contacted the Club to let us know about the services they offer. Space is limited in this issue but it is intended to put the information on the Club's website.

These include:-

- Hospitalisations or cases involving Serious Illness/ Communicable diseases;
- Deaths;
- Victim of Major Crime (i.e. Violent Assault, Robbery, Rape, car and villa break-in);
- Cases involving Juveniles at risk, such as a parent's arrest or a child taken in to State care;
- Customers sectioned under the Baker (mental health) or Marchman (substance abuse) Acts;
- Child Abductions;
- Arrests (adults and juveniles).



JOKE

A guy goes into a bar at 2 in the afternoon. No one is there but him and the bartender. The guy orders a beer. After serving him, the bartender walks into the backroom. The guy at the bar hears someone say "nice shoes". He looks around,...hmmm, no one there. He shrugs it off, and continues drinking his beer. Next he hears the same voice say.."Beautiful tie",...the guy looks around again,...no one there. He starts thinking that he's going nuts. He takes a big gulp of his beer and hears the same voice again saying.." You have really nice eyes".

NOW he's spooked. The bartender comes back to the bar and the guy says "Wow,...I've been hearing someone saying things to me but no one seems to be around". He tells the bartender everything he heard and the bartender says,.."Oh, that must have been the bar peanuts,...they are COMPLIMENTARY".



British Binge-watching

With the hot humid summer approaching, it's time to stay inside and do some binge-watching. I recommend three British detective series on Netflix.



Hinterland is a detective series set in rural Wales. They're calling it a 'Celtic noir' with its beautiful timeless landscapes that have not been photographed before on TV contrasting with the dark and sinister intricate relationships of the country folk who live there where history and myths play a big role in their daily lives. The show is also bilingual for those who speak Welsh. They actually filmed it twice, once in English and then in Welsh and had a lot of problems with the Welsh version as apparently scenes ended a lot quicker in the Welsh language.



Another series worthy of binge watching is 'George Gently'. Set in the swinging 60's in the North East of England, the show takes us through the social and political issues of the time along with great cinematography and authentic 60's music, fashion and fabulous vintage cars. The show is a memorable nostalgic trip.

Last but not least is 'Broadchurch' set in Dorset in a seaside town. It is well-written and beautifully shot. What makes this better than most detective series is the character development. Everybody in the community is infected by the emotional and physical violence of the crime and keeps you guessing until the very end.

Submitted by *Tracey Corporan*

JOKE

A Catholic Priest, a Baptist Preacher and a Rabbi all served as Chaplains to the students of Northern Michigan University at Marquette in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

They would get together two or three times a week for coffee and to talk shop. One day, someone made the comment that preaching to people isn't really all that hard, a real challenge would be to preach to a bear.

One thing led to another, and they decided to do an experiment. They would all go out into the woods, find a bear, preach to it, and attempt to convert it to their religion.

Seven days later, they all came together to discuss their experiences.

Father Flannery, who had his arm in a sling, was on crutches, and had various bandages on his body and limbs, went first. 'Well,' he said, 'I went into the woods to find me a bear. And when I found him, I began to read to him from the Catechism.

Well, that bear wanted nothing to do with me and began to slap me around. So I quickly grabbed my holy water, sprinkled him and he became as gentle as a lamb.

The Bishop is coming out next week to give him first communion and confirmation.

Reverend Billy Bob spoke next. He was in a wheelchair, had one arm and both legs in casts, and had an IV drip. In his best fire-and-brimstone oratory, he exclaimed, WELL, brothers, you KNOW that we Baptists don't sprinkle! I went out and I FOUND me a bear. And then I began to read to my bear from God's HOLY WORD! But that bear wanted nothing to do with me.

So I took HOLD of him and we began to wrestle. We wrestled down one hill, UP another and DOWN another until we came to a creek. So I quickly DUNKED him and BAPTIZED his hairy soul. And just like you said, he became as gentle as a lamb. We spent the rest of the day praising Jesus. Hallelujah!

The Priest and the Reverend both looked down at the Rabbi, who was lying in a hospital bed. He was in a body cast and traction with IVs and monitors running in and out of him. He was in really bad shape.

The Rabbi looked up and said: Looking back on it,circumcision may not have been the best way to start!!!!



BREXIT

Probably, if we were in the UK, I think that by now we would have had enough of the newspaper and TV coverage of the subject. The Club was contacted by Billy Cox from the Herald Tribune asking for members' perspective on the June 23rd vote. A few members were able to speak to Billy on Friday 17th and also Tuesday 21st; and he wrote a long article including those opinions in the Herald Tribune of 23rd June.

See <http://tinyurl.com/j379qzy>



Ron Platt, Brian Thompson and Colin Harris after the lunchtime discussion with Billy Cox.

Photo by Staff Photographer Dan Wagner from the Herald Tribune.

Some members' choices were collected in a survey by 'Survey Monkey' through an email request before the vote. There were 33 responses. This might not seem many from the size of the Club but some members might have been non-British, also there is evidence that the original message may have gone to spam on some member's computers. A small number replied outside of the survey.

The questions, and responses were:-

- Are you British by birth
Yes 32, No 1
- Do you agree that the general public should be voting on this issue rather than the Government?
Yes 26, No 6, skipped 1
- Do you have the option to vote in this referendum?
Yes 7, No 20, Don't know 6
- If you have the option to vote, will you be voting?
Yes 7, 5, skipped 21*
- Whether you vote or not, what would be your choice?

Leave EU 11, Remain 19, Abstain 2 (**59.38% to Remain**)

- How long have you lived outside the UK?
0-5 years 2, 6-10 years 3; 11-15 years 23; skipped 2

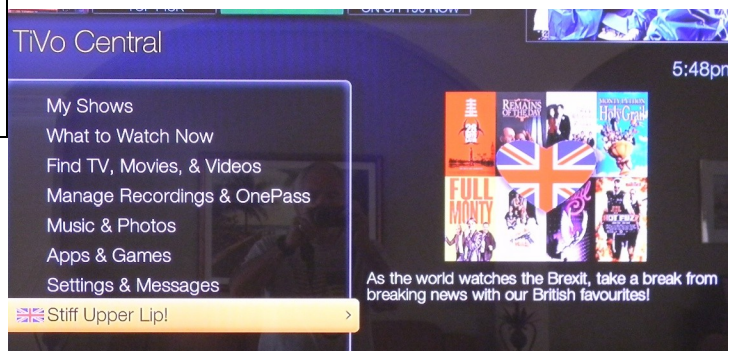
S.B.C. Survey



Thanks to those who replied.

PS Even the Tivo is coming up with suggestions to distract Anglophiles.

Brian Thompson



Quotes

"There are basically two types of people. People who accomplish things, and people who claim to have accomplished things. The first group is less crowded."

— Mark Twain

"If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men."

— St. Francis of Assisi

Sarasota British Club name badges

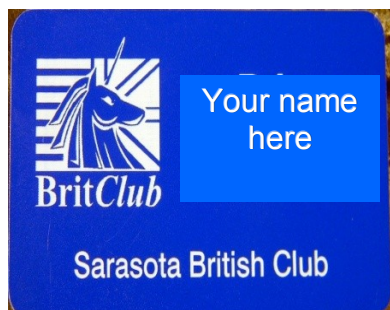
Please obtain Club badges directly from:
Sarasota Trophy 6601 Superior Ave, Sarasota
FL 34231. 921-4339.

\$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

A Scotsman walks into a pub, usually there's an Englishman, an Irishman & a Welshman with him but they're all in France for the Euros.



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. Why not add your event photos to the 'wall'.



Board of Directors (1/1/'16)

President	Paul Wilkinson	410-990-4698	pwilkinson18@comcast.net
Vice-President	Sandra Cherry	921-3162	yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com
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Brit Club News



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