



# BritClub News

November, 2006

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

Vol. 6, Issue 9

## Coming Events

### Board Meeting

**Nov 2** – 6:30 p.m. at the home of Sandra Cherry, 2930 Williamsburg St., Sarasota. **MEMBERS ARE WELCOME, BUT PLEASE PHONE AHEAD AS SPACE IS LIMITED!**

### Annual Six-a-Side Cricket Festival

The Sarasota International Cricket Club will host its thirteenth Festival November 23 to November 26 at their attractive grounds in Lakewood Ranch. If you think of cricket as longwinded, then think again. Six-A-Side is fast moving, hard hitting and very exciting.

Fifteen teams from all over participate. Last year teams came from Texas, Tennessee, North Carolina, Bermuda, U.K., Cayman Islands and even one from the Queen's Hussars, stationed in Germany, not forgetting the host club, Sarasota.

In 2005 there was a good attendance with many people drawn by the articles which appeared in local newspapers.

This year we'd like to see strong support from our Club, so mark your calendar now – Sunday, November 26, starting at 10.30 a.m.

Questions? Phone Terry Sweeney at 918-0550.

**NEWSFLASH:** At the latest count we have 2 teams each from, Bermuda, Cayman Islands and Houston. Other teams being represented include 2 from the U K, Surrey Vagrants and Esher as well as teams from Nashville, Raleigh (NC), Toronto and Sarasota.

On Finals day the 26<sup>th</sup> Nov (Sun), the first Semi Final will commence at 11.00am followed at 12.30 pm with the second Semi Final. The Final will commence at 3.00pm.

There will be refreshments and drinks available but we also encourage members to bring their own picnics as well as lots of friends. As usual, there is no Entrance charge.

The Festival Gala Dinner will be held on the Saturday evening (25<sup>th</sup> Nov). Once again it will be at the Hyatt Hotel, it is a lot of fun and Great camaraderie. The price for the Dinner tickets is \$40.00 per person. Tables for 8 or 10 persons and they would be delighted to welcome members from the Brit Club.

### Kirkin' o' the Tartan

**Nov. 26** – Join your fellow Brits and Scots at the annual St. Andrew's Day Kirkin' at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 1900 Meadowood St., Sarasota. The service begins at 10:00 a.m., and there will be a light luncheon afterwards in the Parish Hall. The Church is one-half mile north of Stickney Point Rd., off U. S. 41. Please call Nairn' Gillet at 321-9631 for reservations (for lunch) or if you have any questions.

### Christmas Party

**Dec. 15** – The Brit Club Annual Christmas Party will be held at the Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club. We plan to have live music, door prizes, a 50-50 raffle, and other events. Tickets must be purchased in advance. The cost for members is \$40 each or \$75 per couple. The cost for non-members is \$45 each. The form to sign up for this event is enclosed in this newsletter. Space will be limited, and on a first-come-first-served basis, so sign up as soon as possible to avoid being disappointed.

**Directions from Sarasota/Bradenton:** (1) Take Route 41 (Tamiami Trail) south to Sarasota Central Parkway (a few blocks south of Sarasota Square Mall). Turn left onto Sarasota Central Parkway, cross McIntosh Road and Stoneybrook is about a 2-3 block distance further down on the right-hand side. ..or.... (2) Take Interstate 75 south to Clark Road. Go right (west) on Clark to McIntosh (4<sup>th</sup> light). Turn left onto McIntosh until you reach Sarasota Central Parkway (about 3 miles). Turn left and Stoneybrook is about a 2-3 block distance further down on the right-hand side.

### The Nutcracker Ballet

**Dec. 23** – That old Christmas favorite, The Nutcracker, is back at the Van Wezel this year. It has been three years since it was last performed in Sarasota, and may be some years before we see it again. We are getting a group together to attend on Saturday, December 23, at 7 pm. The cost of tickets is \$59 and \$39, which includes a box office ticket fee. If we have 10 or more, that cost will be somewhat less. We will plan to get together for an optional early dinner prior to the performance. If you are interested, please call Glenys Oldham at 941-966-1240 or e-mail her at [travelgal90@comcast.net](mailto:travelgal90@comcast.net).

**Our website is [www.SarasotaBritishClub.com](http://www.SarasotaBritishClub.com)**

# From Our President

The Halloween party/AGM was a very successful evening, with approximately 50 ghosts, ghouls, etc. attending. We saw some interesting costumes ranging from Rhett and Scarlett to a garage sale junkie. Winners of the best costumes were Dan Noonan for his Dracula, Audrey Sweeney as The Topsy Queen and the Mellish children who shared the prize for best children's costume. People showed up with some very tasty food and a good time was had by all. The AGM was conducted, and the proposed new by-laws revised by the board earlier this year were voted upon and accepted by the membership.

Because everyone is usually so busy in November preparing for Thanksgiving and Christmas shopping, plus many leave Florida to visit family, we will not be having an event during November.

Arrangements for the December Christmas Party are in full swing. Details can be found on the front page of this newsletter. It should be a great evening with live entertainment and lots of good prizes. Reservations are already coming in. Be sure to book early or you may be disappointed – we have limited space.

I have had a few calls from members who were asking why they had not received a membership renewal for October. The board made a decision a few months back to have renewals once per year. All renewals will now due in April each year.

At the end of 2005 we took a poll to see what social events club members would like to see offered this year. The social events offered in 2006 were based on the results of that poll. The most popular selection was the Christmas party, and I think we can safely assume that as long as there is a British Club there will be an annual Christmas party. Please put your thinking caps on for event ideas and we'll be contacting you.

Glenys Oldham, President

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## 2006 Brit Club Board of Directors

President.....	Glenys Oldham.....	966-1240.....	travelgal90@comcast.net
1st Vice Pres/Pub. Relations .....	Nairn Gillet .....	366-9984.....	ngillet@yahoo.com
2nd Vice Pres .....	Mick Gypps .....	315-0932.....	tastebritish@aol.com
Treasurer .....	Shona Burtner .....	925-0462.....	shonaburtner@hotmail.com
Secretary .....	Sandra Cherry .....	921-3162.....	yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com
Past President .....	Peter Gold.....	486-1677.....	sport1gold@comcast.net
Membership Secretary .....	Kathy Curtin .....	379-9861.....	kathrmcurt@msn.com
Directors .....	Terry Sweeney .....	918-0550.....	tsweeneyau@aol.com
	Amy Croshaw.....	751-6194.....	acrowshaw@verizon.net
	Ann Doran.....	486-0922.....	padccd@verizon.com
Website Design .....	James Croshaw.....	928-2769.....	jcrowshaw@standoutsolutions.com
Newsletter Editor.....	Rose Gillet .....	366-9984.....	rosegillet@yahoo.com

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## October 2nd Minutes Précis

Membership is now at 133. Treasurer's report \$ 2,470.94. MacAllisters brunch went well. Oct 28th Halloween and AGM scheduled and board discussed events. Slate of officers made up for 2007, and slate presented to members by newsletter, was approved to include editor of newsletter as a board member. No activities planned for November. December 15th Holiday party arrangements going well. May cancel chin wag meetings as so few turning up. Deposit made on Southside Community Center for pantomime skit for January 26<sup>th</sup>. Website report shows several hits, plan to add an RSVP function to it for events, also will check services to see if we can accept credit card payments. Next board meeting November 6th, 6:30 pm at Sandra Cherry's house, all welcome but need to know how many plan to attend.

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## Do You Own Your Own Business?

For advertising, our rates are reasonable and such 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 are as follows:

Business Card size.....	\$10.00	Half Page.....	\$25.00
Quarter Page.....	\$15.00	Full Page.....	\$40.00

There is a 20% discount if you purchase your advertisements annually. All ads must be paid for in advance. Please send your camera-ready advertisements by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to the newsletter editor, Rose Gillet, at 3219 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34235 or email them to her at rosegillet@yahoo.com.

# Bubble & Squeak

There recently was incorrect information given in the Herald Tribune for Bubble & Squeak, so I contacted the food editor to give her proper information. She referred to it being served with 'WowWow' sauce –has anyone else heard of this?? It was originally made with some meat in it years ago, but has evolved to just mean potatoes and vegetables as a fry up, to serve alongside meat. In the meantime here is my version, ready for Boxing Day etc.!! This will also be in the December column for the Union Jack.

## Bubble and Squeak

3-4 Tbsp. drippings (or shortening)	1 lb. cooked Brussels sprouts or cabbage
2 large chopped onions	1/2 cup cooked peas
1-2 lb cooked potatoes (I mix left over roast and mashed)	Salt and pepper

Melt the fat in a large frying pan, add onions, and cook until softened. Add all the remaining ingredients, mix well and fry about 5-10 minutes over medium heat, pressing down with a spatula to make a crust on the bottom, then turn mixture over and continue cooking (may need to add more fat). Luvly served with piccalilli (next month's recipe).

*Recipe from Sandra Cherry, Your Cup of Tea, 'Union Jack' food columnist, yourcupoftea1@yahoo.com or www.yourcupoftea.info*

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## British Christmas Traditions

Christmas is Britain's most popular holiday and features traditions that date back hundreds of years. Many Christmas customs that originated in Britain have been adopted in the United States.

The first-ever Christmas card was posted in England in the 1840s, and the practice soon became an established part of the build-up to Christmas. Over a billion Christmas cards are now sent every year in the United Kingdom alone.

Christmas decorations have even earlier origins. Holly, ivy and mistletoe are associated with rituals going back beyond the Dark Ages. The Christmas tree was introduced into the royal household by Queen Charlotte, wife of King George III, and popularized by Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria, in the 1840s.

Pantomimes are popular among British children at Christmas time. These are song and dance dramatizations of well-known fairy tales that encourage audience participation.

Carols are often sung on Christmas Eve by groups of singers to their neighbors, and children hang a stocking on the fireplace or at the foot of their bed for Santa Claus (also called Father Christmas) to fill. Presents for the family are placed beneath the Christmas tree.

Christmas Day sees the opening of presents and many families attend Christmas services at church. Christmas dinner consists traditionally of a roast turkey, goose or chicken with stuffing and roast potatoes. This is followed by mince pies and Christmas pudding flaming with brandy, which might contain coins or lucky charms for children. (The pudding is usually prepared weeks beforehand and is customarily stirred by each member of the family as a wish is made.) Later in the day, a Christmas cake may be served - a rich baked fruit cake with marzipan, icing and sugar frosting.

The pulling of Christmas crackers often accompanies food on Christmas Day. Invented by a London baker in 1846, a cracker is a brightly coloured paper tube, twisted at both ends, which contains a party hat, riddle and toy or other trinket.

Another traditional feature of Christmas afternoon is the Queen's Christmas Message to the nation, broadcast on radio, television and the internet.

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## Sarasota British 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.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE CLUB?** 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 \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type (please check one):       Single \$25       Family \$35 (includes children up to age 18).



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## Rose's Corner

So sorry the newsletter is late again this month. I had to hold it up for the President's letter following the AGM.

Nairn' and I didn't win any prizes at the Halloween Party/Annual General Meeting – possibly because we didn't wear costumes??

We will, however get all dressed up for the annual Christmas party in December. The party is always the highlight of our year as Brit Club members.

Here's hoping we see many of you there. Let's dance the night away and have fun!!

As always, please mail articles to me at Rose Gillet, 3219 24th Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34235, fax at 366-9248, call at 366-9984 or email me at [rosegillet@yahoo.com](mailto:rosegillet@yahoo.com). Closing date for the newsletter is the 15th of each month.



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