



# BritClub News

VOL 18, ISSUE 9

## COMING EVENTS

### SBC BOARD MEETING

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

**September 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Beckhams's Fish and Chips night

**See Page 4 Inside**

**September 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Calusa Brewery Game night

**See Page 4 Inside**

**November 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Guy Fawkes at Siesta Key

**See Page 4 inside**

**17<sup>th</sup> November**  
Annual General Meeting

**See Page 3 inside**

**December 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Christmas Party

**Hold the date!**

## 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](http://www.sarasotabritishclub.com)

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER, SEPTEMBER 2018

Well we have made it to September and, at the risk of jinxing things, no major storms yet (fingers crossed!). We are nearly through the hottest part of the year and storm season will soon have finished. I don't think anyone is enjoying the Red Tide outbreak so let's hope it doesn't stay much longer.

Sarasota seems busy this summer. It is usually very quiet at this time of year but a lot of people now appear to be making Sarasota their year round home. I'm not sure how I feel about this – I used to enjoy the peace and tranquility and getting the best tables in popular restaurants without a wait!



My sister, Linda, has arrived from Australia and will stay for a while. It is great to have her here. Ross and I have been giving her lessons on how to drive on the correct side of the road – it's all a bit nerve wracking! All I can say is “look out for the Blue Toyota Camry” (you have been warned!).

I didn't make it to St. Pete's for the lunch at Spinners and the Dali museum visit but I hear it was a very successful outing and everyone enjoyed themselves.

I am hoping to see you all at Beckham's for fish and chips in a couple of weeks time.

Jane

## BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board meeting will be at **6:15 p.m.** on **September 12, 2018** at the Village des Pins Clubhouse. Please let one of the Board Members know if you would like to attend.

### **Precis of minutes of August Board meeting**

Paul Wilkinson took the chair and Peter Stokes kept the minutes. Minutes of the July 11, 2018 meeting were approved.

There was very little activity during the month and the bank balance stands at \$6,400 at July 31, 2018. We continue to search for alternative storage facilities.

A donation of \$500 to “Feed Empty Little Tummies” was approved by the Board; this is subject to confirmation that charitable donations are permitted by the IRS for non-profit organizations such the British Club.

Current membership stands at 165, consisting of 142 family and 23 single members.

Bylaws Review: Jane Jacobs will be replaced on the committee by Hilary Welch. Ivan Gould will request suggestions from the committee by August 31<sup>st</sup> and will hold the first committee meeting in the first week of September. The bylaws can be viewed at the bottom of the website’s home page.

**New Member Welcome Protocol** –David Welch agreed to draft a New Member Protocol. It was suggested there should be a New Member Ambassador at each event. A welcome announcement for new members will be placed in the newsletter.

Peter Stokes  
Acting Secretary

## 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2018 AGM will be held at 6pm on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November at Lakeshore Village Clubhouse, 6051 Wilshire Blvd, Sarasota. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Board is accepting applications for positions for the coming year. Members who wish to be considered should reach out to any Board member, who will answer questions and present nominations to the board. Nominations should be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> September.

## NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to the club:

Scott Smallwood  
Millie & Trevor Kelsey-Smith  
Mary Ellen McMahon & Frank MacIntyre  
Wendy & Paul Martin-Wyles

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## COMING EVENTS

### **Fish & Chip supper**

On Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm please join us for a dinner Fit for a Brit! Traditional fish (cod) & chips including a choice of garden or mushy peas at Beckhams on the Trail, 8579 S Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. \$11.99 per person.

Rated by some as the best fish & chips in Sarasota; Beckhams has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence by TripAdvisor. Numbers limited so please reserve your place early to avoid disappointment!

### **Calusa Brewery Games night**

Back by popular demand - another Games Night at Calusa Brewery!

This great local brewery, located at 5701 Derek Ave, Sarasota, FL 34231, offers numerous beers made at the site. It also offers wine and soft drinks for those that don't like excellent beer!

The event will start at 6.30pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September and I'm sure we will get a warm welcome from Ed and Molly.

There are games available including pool, dominoes, jenga and other board games - But PLEASE bring your own favorites!

There will also be a food truck available for those that want to eat there.

For those of us that know the place a growler is something a little nicer than an angry lion.....

See you on September 27!

### **Guy Fawkes**

Remember, Remember Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November.....

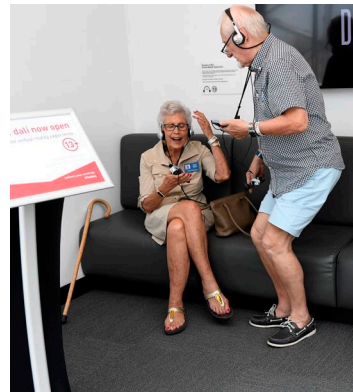
OK, we will be a day early but Sunday evenings work better than Monday for most of our members. We will meet on Siesta Key (assuming the Red Tide has departed) and eat, drink and enjoy the sunset. Further details in next month's edition.

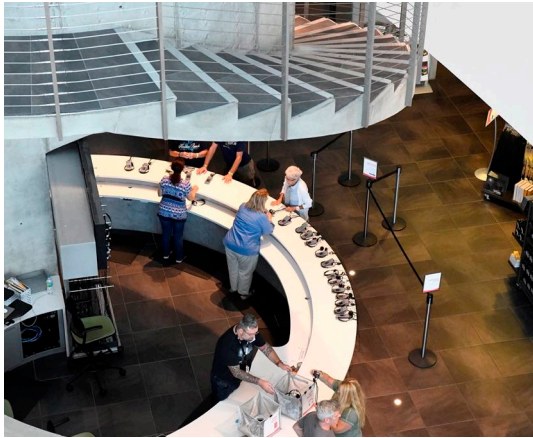
We are always looking for ideas for new events. Please contact Steve Pankhurst ([stevepankhurst55@gmail.com](mailto:stevepankhurst55@gmail.com)) with your suggestions.

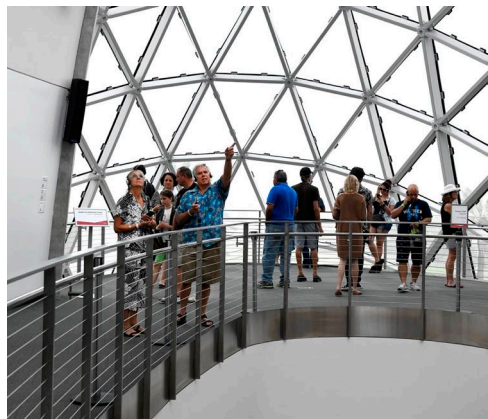
## RECENT EVENTS

### August Lunch at Spinners, followed by a Dali Museum visit

Many of our members are away this time of year so we had a smaller group than usual. We had 3 tables looking out at the amazing view as the whole restaurant slowly rotated, we completed 2 1/2 rotations during our lunch. The food was very good and reasonably priced. After lunch we made our way to the Dali Museum and spent about an hour browsing the exhibits. The artwork is amazing in its intricacy and several paintings are life size and multidimensional. A fascinating experience for everyone.







## 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](mailto:stevepankhurst55@gmail.com).



For the 4<sup>th</sup> year Paul Wilkinson is leading a team to raise funds for the way to Alzheimer's first survivor by participating in the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®. Currently, more than 5 million Americans have Alzheimer's and that number is expected to grow to as many as 16 million by 2050. Our future is at risk unless we can find a way to change the course of this disease.

**The Walk will take place on Saturday, November 17**, please join us or make a donation to help us meet our goal of \$1,000

Contact Paul Wilkinson with questions – [pwilkinson18@comcast.net](mailto:pwilkinson18@comcast.net)

Thank you for joining the fight against Alzheimer's!

[To join the Team - CLICK HERE](#)

[Donate to the Team - CLICK HERE](#)

## 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](mailto:pwilkinson18@comcast.net)

## RESIDENTIAL REALTY UPDATE

Hello my Fellow Brits, what can I tell you about July for realty here in Sarasota and Manatee? Well its really more of the same to be honest, we have steadily increasing sales, though the whole of market was up by 10.3% compared to last year. While the inventory of available properties to buy is dwindling down an average of 4%, I like actually like this market. Although it's is not exciting, it is still growing at a manageable steady pace. It will be interesting to see if our current horrible red tide problems reflect any downturn in the coming months? I was worried they might, but the current 'pending sales' forecasts are currently still forecasting increases! Fingers crossed.

The actual figures for Sarasota are that compared to last year Condo sales increased by 11.4% and Single Family Homes (SFH) increased by 3.1% while Manatee again is the top seller, Condo sales increased 10.1% and SFH sales up a stonking 19.2%

As for actual \$\$ prices, as to be expected with fewer properties on the market and sales increasing, our sale prices are still rising. Median sales of Sarasota single-family homes increased by 8 percent to \$280,750, while Manatee increased by 3.2 percent to \$309,500. Condo prices in Sarasota increased by 8.3 percent to \$232,000 and Manatee because it is selling so well, it had the largest increase by an impressive 20.8 percent to \$199,250. Remember the new build developments are fueling this increase

So in summary, it is still a seller market, and this is going to continue while we have a shortage of properties, and this is supposed to be the slow months! I think the new normal is not seasonal sales and a quiet 'off season', we now have all year round sales with an extra boost 'in-season', even if the beaches are closed!

Any Realty questions or queries? remember to call Christine, I will be glad to help.

### **Christine Green**

*Realtor*

**Top Producer and International Award Winner 2014-2017**

*Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate*

*USA direct: 941 444 9402/UK phone: 0208 144 9402*

*Cell: 941 914 2463 Office: 941 349 4411*

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## MEDIA MATTERS – VIEWING SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Here are some viewing suggestions for members;



Several members have commented on difficulty in finding content on Netflix. Here are some suggestions:

1. Consider upgrading to DVD rental. For \$7.99 per month you can have one disc at a time, unlimited rentals. For \$11.99 you can have two discs at a time. We get through 8 or 9 discs a month, new releases, and others not available on demand.
2. Rate your viewing. We score all of our dvd views, and give thumbs up or down to streaming views. Netflix uses these scores to recommend titles to you – it works!
3. Search for other titles by directors you like, or featuring your favorite actors. We have found some excellent ‘sleepers’ this way!
4. Netflix no longer posts viewer reviews, which is disappointing, as I would pay attention to how many reviewers give 4 or 5 stars to their reviews.
5. I look at new releases in the Herald-Tribune “Ticket” on Thursday. I add movies with a review score higher than 60 to my “Saved” queue. Then, when they release on DVD, I am all set!



Amazon still has viewer reviews, and allegedly recommends content based on your star score. But giving a score to something you have watched is not simple (go to Settings; Watch History).

I have recommended the BritBox Channel inside Amazon, and at \$6.99 per month I think it is good value.

**Fearless** Emma Banville sets out to prove the innocence of Kevin Russell, a man who was convicted for the murder of schoolgirl Linda Simms 14 years earlier. Firmly believing there has been a miscarriage of justice, Emma is prepared to go to extreme lengths to discover the truth and free Kevin.

**Porridge** is a vehicle for Ronnie Barker to demonstrate his mastery of comedic timing. Although it is 40 years old, the setting in the fictitious HMP Slade means that it is barely dated at all. Great fun in easy to watch 25-minute slices!

**Ordeal by Innocence** – a modern production of a classic Agatha Christie who-dun-it. Characters are more like caricatures, the plot is tenuous, and the ending has a wry (Hollywood?) twist. Great cast, costumes and super production setting. Worth a shot for the 3 one-hour episodes.

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

<b>President</b>	Jane Jacobs	847-370-2811	<a href="mailto:jane60010@yahoo.com">jane60010@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Gary Lee	941-706-1172	<a href="mailto:glee01@verizon.net">glee01@verizon.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Paul Wilkinson	410-990-4698	<a href="mailto:pwilkinson18@comcast.net">pwilkinson18@comcast.net</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Sally Scott	941-379-3757	<a href="mailto:scottsally369@gmail.com">scottsally369@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Director at Large</b>	Sharon Gould	941-323-9357	<a href="mailto:sharon.gould@floridamoves.com">sharon.gould@floridamoves.com</a>
<b>Director at Large</b>	David Welch	941 210 4455	<a href="mailto:welchdw@gmail.com">welchdw@gmail.com</a>
<b>Director Emeritus</b>	Sandra Cherry	941-921-3162	<a href="mailto:yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com">yourcuppatea1@yahoo.com</a>

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.