



BritClub News

VOL 19, ISSUE 9

COMING EVENTS

SBC BOARD MEETING

Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 18th 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.

September 21st

Appalachian Trail Presentation

September 25th

Downton Abbey the movie, screening at AMC Sarasota Square Mall

September 27th

Club's September lunch

October 4th

Thomas Miller: A History of British Medicine

November 3rd

Guy Fawkes BBQ at Siesta Key Beach

November 16th

Alzheimer's Walk at 8:00 am

November 16th

Annual General Meeting at 6:30 pm

Dec 14th

Christmas Party **Hold the date!**

PRESIDENT'S LETTER, SEPTEMBER 2019

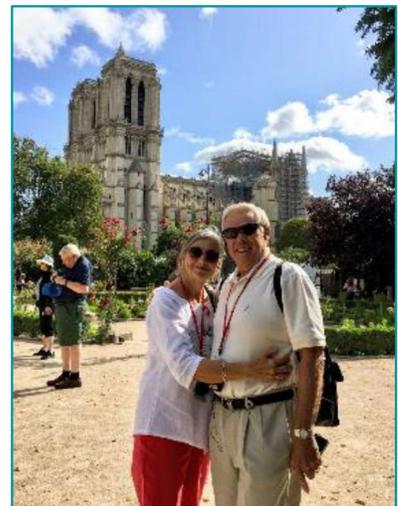
I spoke last month about our 45th wedding anniversary and to celebrate we treated ourselves to a 13 night Viking River Cruise on the Rhine.

After two nights in Zurich, Switzerland, we were bussed to Basel, where we boarded a lovely ship, the 'Hild'. With 190 passengers and 46 crew, we knew everybody by the end of our 7 nights on board. Facilities were excellent, and the food was great. Wine and beer included with meals helped everyone feel welcome!

With escorted tours in Strasbourg, Mainz, Koblenz, and several tours along the scenic Moselle river, we saw WAY too many old churches, and were well informed about the origin of Protestantism (Martin Luther) and the revolution created by the invention of the printing press by Gothenburg. As you can see from the pictures, we wrapped up with 3 days in Paris, where we saw the obligatory sights thanks to our Rick Steves guidebook. We were lucky that the heat wave (105-degree record in Paris) was over by the time we arrived. We found Paris packed with tourists, and although we were able to find places to ourselves it could not be described as romantic!

All in all a very special trip, and Viking excelled in making the trip memorable.

Now we are looking forward to some RV trips when the cooler weather arrives. Our first trip is on Labor Day weekend, to Atlanta and Georgia to see Mark Knopfler (Dire Straits) in concert, then a circular trip to the GA mountains and coast.



I have been given notice by some board members that they do not intend to stand again next year, and if any members wish to join the board, I encourage you to reach out to me.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Précis of the August Board Meeting

Treasurer reported that the account balance is \$5,572.87.

Membership reported at 157 members total: 138 Family and 21 Single members.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Saturday November 16, 6:30pm, at the Lakeshore Village Clubhouse. Members will be asked to ratify the selection of Board Members at this meeting.

Any member who wishes to be considered for the Board in 2020 should make him or herself known to the President, Paul Wilkinson before September 20, in accordance with our by-laws.

Refreshments will be provided at the meeting, and an Eventbrite invitation will be sent prior to the event.

Christmas Party Plans

Volunteers to the Christmas Party Committee so far: Tessa Cooper; Glenys Oldham; Maggie Cassidy; Diana Wilkinson; Beryl Perry; Olga Stokes; Hazel & Steve Pankhurst (table placement)

We are looking for donations for the popular gift baskets.

If any members have items that would make good gifts, please contact Diana Wilkinson: dwilkinson18@comcast.net

We need a Santa Claus! with your own costume please.

We also need BASKETS! Now is a good time to recycle last year's baskets!



COMING EVENTS

September 21st, 6:00-7:30pm:

Hiking the Appalachian Trail -twice!

Steve Adams is a Past President of the SBC. In 2014 he became a member of a select group of 60+ year-olds to hike the length of the 2,200 mile Appalachian Trail.

This past 6 months he has done it for a second time! With a following of thousands on the podcasts describing his adventures, he finally arrived at Mt Katahdin in Maine on August 23. Now is your chance to share his adventures in our regular venue at Village des Pins.

See you at the Village des Pins Clubhouse, 7964 Timberwood Circle, Sarasota

The club will provide snacks, BRING YOUR OWN ADULT BEVERAGE.



September 25th

Downton Abbey the movie, screening at AMC Sarasota Square Mall

Time of event will be announced on September 20th.

Thinking of going to Beckham's for fish & chips afterwards?

September 27th, 11:30am:

September lunch

It will be held at 'Connors Steak & Seafood', located at 3501 S. Tamiami Trail, Suite 1165. We'll be having an earlier start due to this restaurant's popularity.

October 4th, 6:30pm:

A History of British Medicine

Our presenter, Dr. Thomas Miller, is a physician, Board Certified in Internal Medicine. He has a particular interest in the history of British Medicine and has offered to share his passion with us.

Dr. Miller resides in Virginia and will be visiting Sarasota in late September/early October. His talk will cover interesting and humorous anecdotes, to highlight some of the trials and successes of developing surgical treatment and to tell a bit of the history behind them.

Join us at the Village des Pins Clubhouse 7964 Timberwood Circle Sarasota

The club will provide snacks, BRING YOUR OWN ADULT BEVERAGE!

November 3rd, 5:pm:

Guy Fawkes BBQ at Siesta Key Beach

November 16th, 8:00 am:

Walk to End Alzheimer's: an invitation from our president

“As a participant in the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®, I am leading the way to Alzheimer's first survivor — but I can't take on this disease alone. Will you join me on this important day by walking beside me? With you on my team, together we can make a real difference in the fight against the nation's sixth-leading cause of death”.

Registration is easy; simply visit my Walk to End Alzheimer's participant page and join my team. If you're unable to participate, please consider making a donation to my fundraising campaign. I have kicked this off with a personal donation of \$100. Every dollar advances the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association®.

Thank you!

My page: http://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=12146&pg=personal&px=11091044

November 16th, 6:30 pm:

Annual General Meeting,

Lakeshore Village Association's Clubhouse,
3865 Wilshire Dr. Sarasota FL, 34238

Members will be asked to ratify the selection of Board Members at this meeting.

Any member who wishes to be considered for the Board in 2020 should make him or herself known to the President, Paul Wilkinson before September 20th, in accordance with our by-laws.

Refreshments will be provided at the meeting, and an Eventbrite invitation will be sent prior to the event.

December 14th, 6:00pm:

Annual Christmas Party

Heritage Oaks Golf & Country Club,
4800 Chase Oaks Dr. Sarasota, FL. 34241

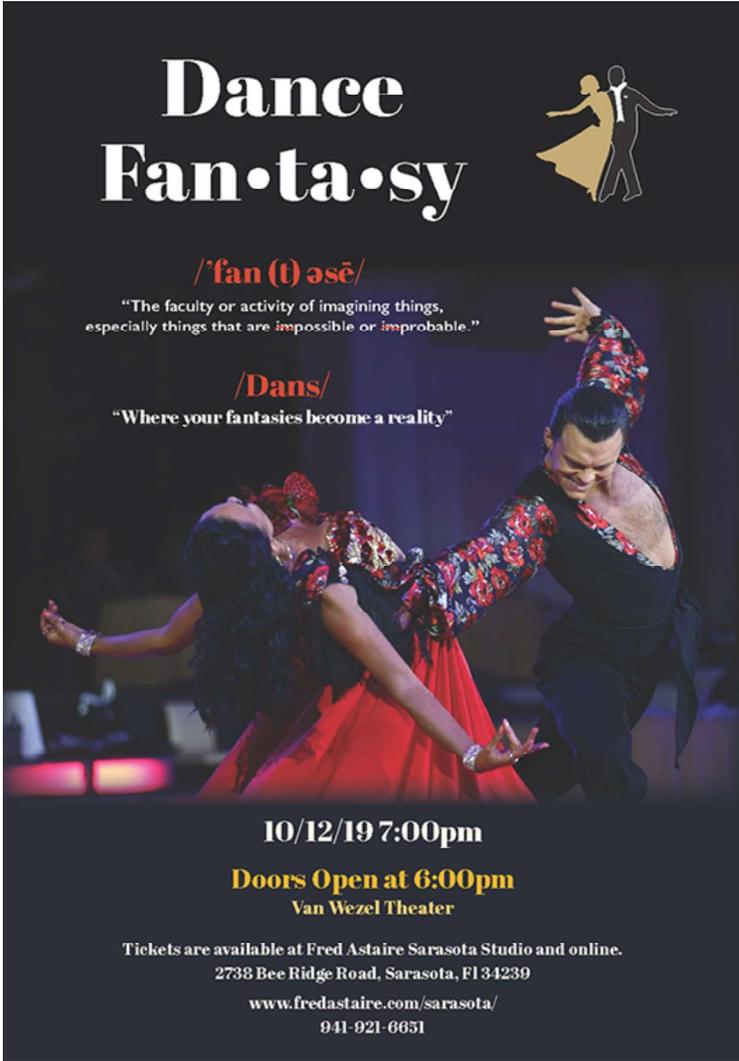
We are busy planning our annual Christmas Party, and we are looking for donations for the popular gift baskets. If any members have items that would make good gifts, please contact Diana Wilkinson: dwilkinson18@comcast.net .

We also need a Santa Claus (with own costume) and BASKETS! Now is a good time to recycle last year's baskets.

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

Special Invitation to our members:



**Dance
Fan-ta-sy**

/ˈfæn (t) əseɪ/
“The faculty or activity of imagining things,
especially things that are impossible or improbable.”

/ˈdɑːns/
“Where your fantasies become a reality”

10/12/19 7:00pm
Doors Open at 6:00pm
Van Wezel Theater

Tickets are available at Fred Astaire Sarasota Studio and online.
2738 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota, FL 34239
www.fredastaire.com/sarasota/
941-921-6651

Come and see two of your Board Members on stage at the Van Wezel in October. The evening promises to be a great event, with over 25 show dances taking place. All of the dances are either Pro Am or Amateur Couple. Indeed Sharon and Ivan will take part in no less than four routines - a Viennese Waltz to Perfect by Ed Sheeran; a Theater Arts to Shallows of A Star Is Born fame; a mash up to The Greatest Showman and Sharon performs with Tiana in one of the last scenes from Chicago!

Tickets are \$50 for General Admission or, for a special dinner and "meet the Dancers and Professionals" VIP passes are available at \$75. PLEASE NOTE there are only 75 VIP passes available so get in quickly!

Tickets can be purchased from the Fred Astaire studio on Bee Ridge or on line at <https://www.fredastaire.com/sarasota/> using the "Buy Tickets" button on the home page.



We look forward to seeing you there!

RECENT EVENTS

August Lunch

The August lunch was held at the Boatyard Waterfront Bar & Grill. We had a great turnout of over 40 people and everybody had a very enjoyable time.





Social gathering

Took place at Village des Pins clubhouse on the evening of August 9th. Everybody enjoyed meeting their friends and catching up together.





MEDIA MATTERS

If you liked **Scott and Bailey**, you will love **'No Offence'** (Amazon – Acorn) a police procedural also set in Manchester. Cleverly written by Paul Abbott (Cracker, Coronation Street, State of Play), it moves quickly over several episodes, with cracking dialog and witty moments. Worth the subscription to Acorn!

We are still grinding through the second season of **Outlander**, and still enjoying the ripping bodices and intrigue in France.

Looking for a filler, I came across **"Grand Designs"** on Netflix. It is a series which has been running on Channel 4 in the UK for 10 years. Diana and I both agree that Herefordshire is our favorite English county and we tried an episode in which a craftsman built a unique house by hand, over a 10 year period! We are hooked! And we can see why the show has lasted, the host is clever and experienced, and the projects are WAY beyond the traditional 'fixer upper' shows. Highly recommended.

The third series of **Stranger Things** is, to us, more of the same, and gives truth to the old saying "quit while you're ahead". Disappointing to see essentially the same rehash as the first two series.

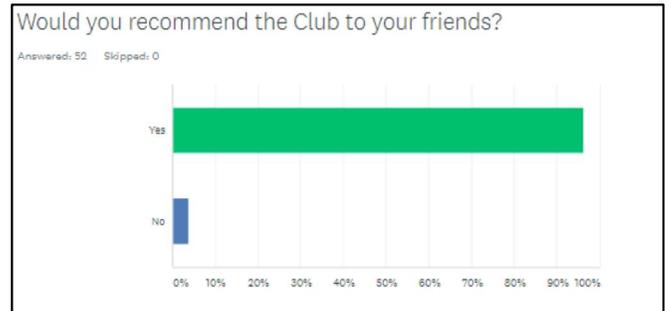
I confess I binged on **"The Boys"** on Amazon. A different (satirical) take on the superhero craze. I loved it, but the STRONG language and gory violence is not for everyone - be warned! It is very clever, with lots of "I can't believe he did that" moments. **Paul Wilkinson**

Survey Results- August 2019

We surveyed members in August with a view to improving attendance to events sponsored by the Club. We sent out 102 surveys and received 53 responses (52%).

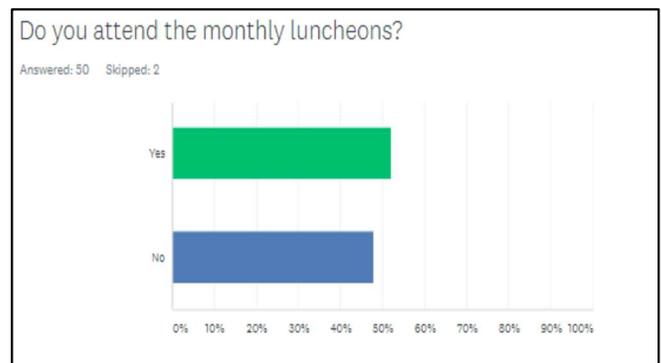
Would you recommend the Club to your friends?

Only two responses were negative to this question.



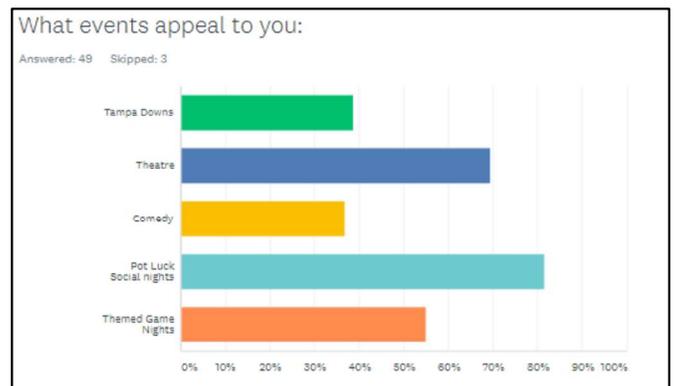
Do you attend the monthly lunches?

- Half of the replies were positive.
- Those who do not attend gave a variety of responses, the predominant ones:
 - Working, no time for social lunches
 - Do not eat lunch
 - Out of town (snowbirds)



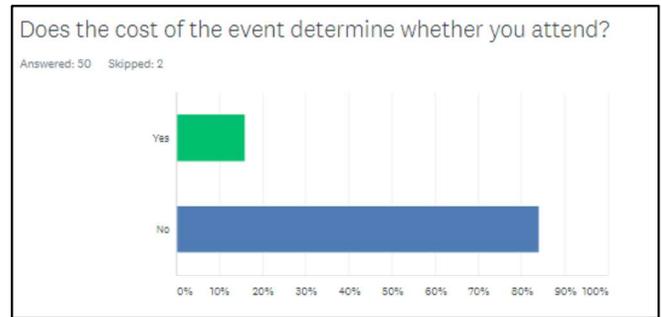
What events appeal to you?

- The most popular events are the pot luck social nights
- Theater and comedy were mentioned frequently and we will look into how to incorporate them.
- Themed game nights were also popular and we will try to offer them more frequently
- Speaker events were mentioned in the individual responses; we have two events lined up for the Fall.



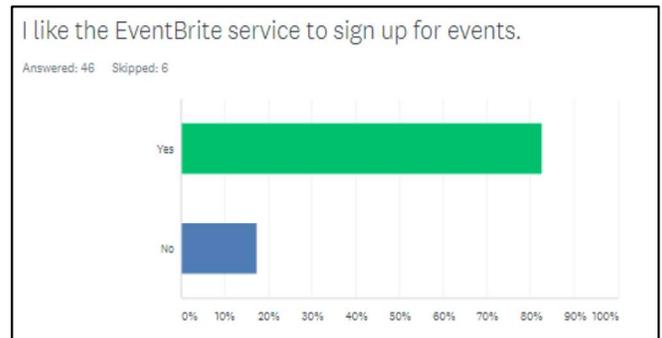
Does the cost of the event determine whether you attend?

- Overwhelmingly this is not a concern. We will continue to offer events as inexpensively as possible.



I like Eventbrite to sign up for events.

- Very few members responded negatively to this mechanism.
- Those who did not like Eventbrite did not offer realistic alternatives (email, phone calls etc.)



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: peter13454@gmail.com

Letters to the editor

Dear Sir

Can the member directory be made available to all members so that we can make contact with each other?

While we agree with you that this would be a “nice to have” feature, in these days of privacy concerns we are reluctant to release this information. You may have noticed that we no longer show the directors' email addresses on the web page or newsletter, as we were getting spammed weekly by folks who accessed them.

Members who would like specific contact information may ask any of the board members, and we will be happy to provide phone numbers or emails when appropriate.

Turtle Season

It is turtle season from April thru October and 2019 has been a record year for turtle nests. There have been over 4,000 nests this year in Sarasota and Manatee counties, each nest having up to 100 eggs. Reports coming in from Mote Marine and the various turtle-watch groups indicate that most of those baby turtles made it back safely to the sea. However, the light pollution from the neighboring communities and cities continues to be a major problem, disorienting the hatchlings.

Approximately 1 in 1,000 of these baby turtles will reach maturity, many of them will return to our shores in 25 years from now to nest again.



Thank you!

The editors wish to thank all the club members who have contributed to this edition.

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 2019

President	Paul Wilkinson	240-432-2851
Vice President	Ivan Gould	941-323-9655
Treasurer	Peter Stokes	941-536-4408
Secretary	Kevin Clayton	941-744-7863
Membership	David Welch	941-210-4455
Newsletter Editor	Steve Pankhurst	941-210-7417
Website Liaison	Mark Malkasian	941-445-2890
Director at Large 1	Sharon Gould	941-323-9357
Director at Large 2	Christine Green	941-914-2463
Director at Large 3	Karen Clayton	941-592-8691
Director Emeritus	Sandra Cherry	941-921-3162

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.