



BritClub News

VOL 19, ISSUE 11

COMING EVENTS

SBC BOARD MEETING

Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 13th 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.

November 3rd

Guy Fawkes BBQ at Siesta Key Beach at 5:00 pm

November 16th

Alzheimer's Walk at 8:00 am

November 16th

Annual General Meeting at 6:30 pm (*Note venue change!*)

Dec 14th

Christmas Party at 6:00 pm **Hold the date!**

Eventbrite

A gentle reminder please to use the Eventbrite system to let us know that you are coming to our events. Many events require us to notify the venue of numbers attending. At several recent events members have arrived without advance notice, and this causes confusion and seating difficulties.

In future members who have not signed up will be asked to wait until registered members are seated and we hope you will understand that it is only fair that we should give priority to members who have used the system.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER, NOVEMBER 2019



Another month, another adventure! With my leg fully healed we were excited to take a trip to California to see our son, Mark, who is a police officer in the San Francisco Bay area. We flew Southwest using points that we get from our Costco purchases!

Mark lives in an RV similar to ours, on top of a hill outside San Rafael. He takes the RV into town once a week to refill/empty the tanks, but otherwise lives “off the grid” with his 3-legged Eskimo dog, Sawyer.

We took Sawyer with us on a lovely trip to Yosemite and Lake Tahoe, staying in pet-friendly Airbnb's. The weather was gorgeous, and we loved the mountains and clear air. We hiked the Valley floor at Yosemite, and although the Yosemite Falls was completely dried up, the views were spectacular. The Ahwahnee Hotel was spectacular, and we have added a stay there to our bucket list. Lake Tahoe was every bit as gorgeous as promised, and the water was crystal clear.

On Saturday we drove back to SF, and after a picnic dinner with Mark on his mountain retreat, we checked into our hotel and settled in to watch a movie in bed around 9 pm. Just as we did so, the lights went out. IN THE ENTIRE COUNTY! The utility company had turned off the power to all consumers in 3 counties – 2 million people! It is VERY dark in a hotel when there is no power. We were lucky, however, as over 150,000 people had to evacuate their homes with only a few minutes notice.



Next day was apocalyptic. With no power the traffic lights are out, there is no gas at power stations, all businesses are closed – no Starbucks for coffee! It was also SMOKY! So, we checked out of the hotel and spent the next 3 days shuttling back and forth. Our plans to visit wine



country were, of course, canceled, and since all state parks were closed many outdoor activities were also off limits. But we did the tourist things in San Francisco and enjoyed Mark's company.

We celebrated our last night together with a lovely meal at the Cliff Side restaurant, watching the sun set into the Pacific. Excellent.

Our pleasure was short-lived, as when we returned to Mark's car, we found two windows smashed by thieves. Mark says this is very common everywhere in California and is made worse by recent changes in the law which treat such offences as misdemeanors and allow the offenders back on the streets the same day. He frequently arrests people with a dozen or more convictions for such offences. Needless to say, he has strong views about the law!

So, it was an excellent trip with ups and downs. California is a beautiful state and Mark loves it there, but I must say there are plenty of issues that would need to be addressed before we would move there.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Précis of the September Board Meeting

The Treasurer reported that there was \$5,399.43 in the bank as of September 30, 2019. There are 138 family members and 22 single members for a total membership of 160.

Preparations were made for the Guy Fawkes event on November 3rd. The club's annual general meeting will be held at the Village des Pins clubhouse and plans for the Christmas party were reviewed. The next meeting will be held on November 13th at the VDP clubhouse, starting at 6:15 pm.

Annual General Meeting

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

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.



COMING EVENTS

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: [Donate to Paul's Walk](#)

November 16th, 6:30 pm:

Annual General Meeting,

Village des Pins Clubhouse

7964 Timberwood Circle; Sarasota FL, 34238

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

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

Please don't forget that we need a Santa Claus!



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

RECENT EVENTS

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 shared his passion with us. The event was well attended with about 34 members present and afterwards a group headed to Beckham's for an evening meal.



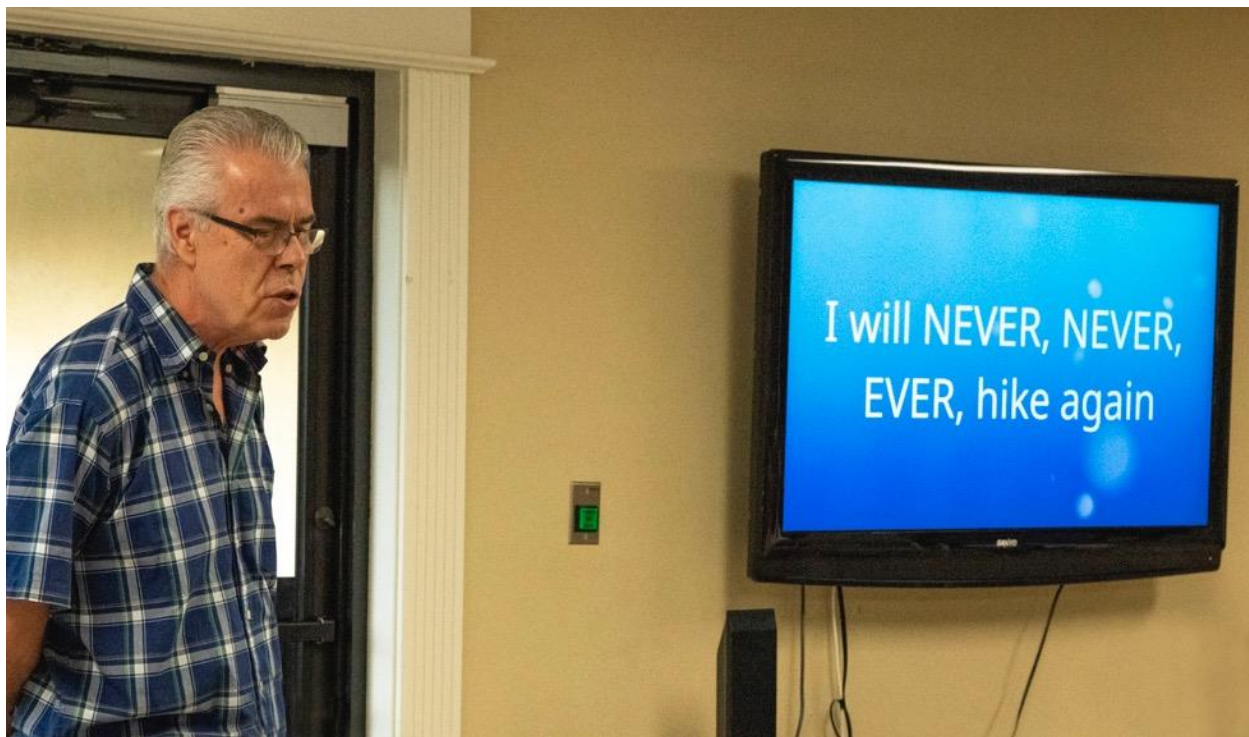


Hiking the Appalachian Trail - twice!

On October 19th, Steve Adams shared with us his experiences on the Appalachian Trail. 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 and now he has done it for a second time! With a following of thousands on the podcasts describing his journey, he finally arrived at Mt Katahdin in Maine on August 23rd.

Many members attended this presentation and were amazed to hear his adventures!

We concluded the evening with more conversations and laughter at the Curry Station.









October lunch

Members enjoyed an excellent lunch at Dockside restaurant in Venice on October 25th. This was our last monthly luncheon until the new year.



MEDIA MATTERS

There is a lot of Oscar 'buzz' at this time of year, and two of our members have a connection. **Andrew Buckland** is the son of **Linda and Mike Buckland**. We first knew Drew as a movie crazed teen back in the 1980's. Drew has worked hard to create a career in the movies, and it has finally paid off with an Award for best editing for his work on '**Ford vs Ferrari**' at the Hollywood Film Awards. Congrats to Drew, and to Mike and Linda for supporting him in his dream. The movie goes on general release later this month.

Fall has arrived and new shows galore. Highlights are the new series of **Peaky Blinders** (**Netflix**) which was excellent, and **Goliath** (**Amazon**) which we found disappointing.

We enjoyed the 3 episodes of **Criminal** on **Netflix**. Each has the same detectives in an interview room in an undisclosed city. Clever dialog and acting made this enjoyable.

Of course, 40 of us went to see the **Downton Abbey** movie at the AMC cinema. It checked all the boxes for us, and we found it most satisfying. Some critics called it predictable, and yes, it was. But that was what we expected! Costumes were fantastic and dialog witty. If you have not seen it, please go and enjoy!

Now that I no longer have a commute, listening to podcasts is a challenge. But I have enjoyed listening to these three while I ride my bike to the gym:

- **Mighty Blue on the AT** is Steve Adams' story of hiking the Trail. I listened as he walked the 2,200 miles over the past six months and found it great listening.
- **Science Friday** is often illuminating and this weekly one-hour show is worth a listen if you are interested in science (I am a biologist at heart).
- **No such thing as a fish** is an entertaining ramble amongst four young Brits on a wide variety of subjects. I love it!

Paul Wilkinson

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

THE COLORS OF THE SEASON

Some colors of Autumn in North Carolina...





Some colors of Autumn in Florida...





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.