



BritClub News

VOL 19, ISSUE 12

COMING EVENTS

SBC BOARD MEETING

Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11TH 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.

Dec 14th

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

January 2020:

Breakfast: Salty Dog Long Boat Key on January 10th at 10:00 hrs. Join us for a Full English Breakfast.

Presentation: "Talking about Sea Turtles"

Venue: VDP Clubhouse

Tentative date: January 22nd.

Luncheon: January 31st, noon at the Riverhouse Waterfront Restaurant, Palmetto

Eventbrite

A gentle reminder: please 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, DECEMBER 2019

This month we got our RV out of storage now that the weather has cooled down. We have a personalized plate, TTFN, which is for Brits in the know – and we refer to her as Tata! I know that many of you are anxious to hear of our latest escapades, and I am sorry to report that this latest trip was uneventful!

We originally planned to spend Thanksgiving in the RV, but I had not realized how many other people had the same idea! I could not find a single campsite in any of the Florida State Parks for Thanksgiving Day, so we made a 4-night booking at a State Park near Jupiter. We have stayed here before and find it peaceful and convenient for some lovely dog-friendly beaches. Yukon and Xian had a great time running off-leash on the sand. We are lucky that neither of them like the water, so we do not have the problem of wet dogs in the RV.



We bought the RV in January of 2018, and we have covered 17,000 miles since then. We have worked out how to live pretty comfortably in it although Yukon (at 75 lbs) tends to take up a lot of space!. At 25 feet long, it is compact enough for us to take it anywhere, and it parks easily on city streets when we are traveling. It has a full bathroom, compact kitchen, and 2 televisions! We are self contained, and can easily overnight without hooking up to the utilities that are found in designated campsites.

We usually stay in State Parks, as they are quieter and more private than the big RV campsites that you see on the highway. We have found that most of them have some kind of interesting reason for their presence, which make it more fun to explore. An added bonus in Florida is that senior residents pay half price, which works out at less than

\$15 per night! We have several trips planned for the New Year, as it is too cold to venture north until April.

We are looking forward to the annual Christmas Party, and our Holiday Elves have been working hard on the Raffle Baskets – which are currently filling our guest bedroom. I should like to thank all of our readers for your support and encouragement this past year, and wish you all a very Merry Chistmas!

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Précis of the November Board Meeting

The Treasurer's Report showed a Closing Balance for October 2019 of \$5604.72. This year we had 24 new members joining the club and our total membership has increased to 162.

A Website Review Committee was formed to address the scope and viability of the website now over five years since its last creation.

The Board approved the sending out of a Survey Monkey to solicit suggestions from Club members for future guest speakers.

The next Board meeting will be held on December 11th at the VDP clubhouse, starting at 6:15 pm.

The President gives his heartfelt thanks to the outgoing Board Members: Steve Pankhurst and Sharon & Ivan Gould for their priceless work and continued support of the club!



COMING EVENTS

December 14th, 6:00pm:

Annual Christmas Party

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

Our annual Christmas party is pretty much organized and we are counting the days to wine, dine and celebrate together this beautiful time of the year!

Please remember to bring cash to purchase the raffle tickets; they will be sold at \$1.00 (one) dollar each.

The proceeds will be donated to:

- ***Parenting matters***

Their mission: to strengthen all families and prevent child abuse in at-risk families through comprehensive parenting education and support.

Their vision: Ensure all families in our community have access to the skills and support needed to effectively parent their children.

- **All Faiths Food Bank**

Their mission: to provide healthy solutions to end hunger in our community.

2020: (Look for Eventbrite invitations in your email!)

January 10th: Breakfast at Salty Dog Long Boat Key at 10:00 hrs. Join us for a Full English Breakfast.

Presentation: *'Talking about Sea Turtles'*

Presented by Olga Stokes and a representative of the Long Boat Key Turtle Watch.

Tentative date: **January 22nd** at Village des Pins Clubhouse.

Luncheon: January 31st, noon at The RiverHouse Waterfront Restaurant in Palmetto

RECENT EVENTS

Guy Fawkes BBQ

What a pleasant afternoon we all had! Fifty-one members gathered once again to remember the 5th of November, (although eleven of us did not remember to sign up via the Eventbrite invitation). Several members were true stars in helping to prepare and clean the tables; our brightest (if I may), was Chef Roger, who stood firmly at the foot of the grill and delivered the most delicious, perfectly grilled sausages and hot dogs. Thank you everyone!









...and the Guy burned!



The Walk to End Alzheimer's

The morning of November 16th was chilly and overcast with a few drops of rain here and there; that did not stop more than a thousand people who gathered at Benderson Park to support the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's. Our president was able to raise \$1,200.00 in donations towards this worthy cause and several friends joined him in the walk.



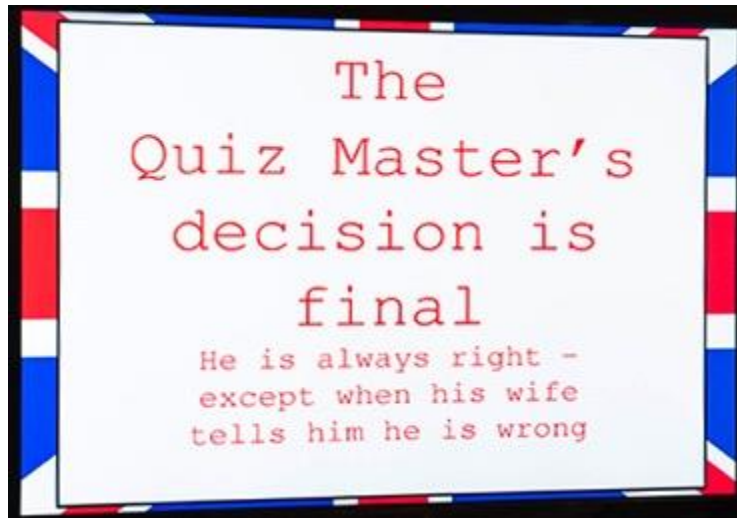
Many thanks to our donors:

Mark Malkasian
Vivienne Jefferies
Ronald Platt
Mary L Shelley
Tessa Cooper
Derek Brashier
Beryl Perry
Lynn Billi
Eileen Schuler
Steve Pankhurst
Jeff Jones
Paul Cassidy
Brian Gunn
Mike and Linda Buckland
Peter & Olga Stokes
Barbara Anderson
Vivian Michel
Haydon and Glenis Thomas
David Welch



Annual General Meeting

The AGM was a successful and jolly event; as soon as the new Board of Directors was elected we quickly proceeded to continue having a good time and pulling our hair out, trying to guess the answers to the quiz that Sharon and Ivan so gracefully prepared for us. There was no evidence of cheating this time.







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

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

REQUEST TO ALL MEMBERS

Dear members:

Facebook: the club needs a Social Media person to take responsibility of our Facebook account and keep it up to date. Volunteers are most welcome!

Christmas party photos: kindly share your photos with us so we can publish them in the newsletter. You don't need to reduce them, just send a few at a time.

You can send them to the editor at: peter13454@gmail.com

Your contributions will be very much appreciated!

THE COLORS OF THE SEASON IN SARASOTA:





Thank you!

The editor wishes 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	Paul Cassidy	248-756-0010
Treasurer	Peter Stokes	941-536-4408
Secretary	Kevin Clayton	941-744-7863
Membership	David Welch	941-210-4455
Newsletter Editor	Olga Stokes	941-536-4408
Website Liaison	Mark Malkasian	941-445-2890
Director at Large 1	Christine Green	941-914-2463
Director at Large 2	Karen Clayton	941-592-8691
Director at Large 3	Vivienne Sivak	703-626-3562
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.