



ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10am
Tuesday
6th March
2012

at the
Waldorf Astoria
on the Bund
Shanghai

www.BritsAbroadShanghai.com
BritsAbroad57@hotmail.com

BRITS ABROAD SHANGHAI is all about meeting new friends, exploring our adopted home city, having fun, and feeling 'at home'. We hope that we have helped you to achieve some, if not all of these things. Our hard working team of highly creative, imaginative and enthusiastic volunteers strive to bring you new experiences and this year we have added some *firsts* to our programme as well as *old favourites*.

WELL DONE BRITS ABROAD SHANGHAI MEMBERS... you've done it again... another great year, having fun and raising money for good causes. Our total charity distribution reached 181,936 rmb – a superb effort, and you can see who the beneficiary charities are below.

A BIG THANK YOU... is extended to all our Sponsors for their raffle prizes, auction items, discounts and cash donations throughout the year, and a particular mention to **Costa Coffee** for their 'matched funding' contribution. Also, to those who have offered event space: **O'Malley's** for our coffee mornings; the **Waldorf Astoria on the Bund** for *Elevenses with Brits at the Waldorf*; **Paulaner Bräuhaus Pudong** for *Breakfast with Brits*; **The Fairmont Peace Hotel** for our *Red White & Blue Ball*; **The Irishman's Pub** for our *Annual Quiz Night*; **Malones** and **The Park Tavern** for our weekly *MahJong Group*; **The Longemont Hotel** for our *Christmas Lunch*; **The JW Marriott at Tomorrow Square** for *Breakfast with Santa*. Thanks too to all our Vendors and Advertisers for their continued support.

One of the highlights this year was, of course, William and Kate's *Royal Wedding* and Brits Abroad managed to arrange two events around this – *The Red White & Blue Ball* and a *Drop-in-Drinks* session to view the whole event on the big screen. It was a very happy affair with those attending entering into the spirit of the occasion – lots of red, white and blue, and flag waving.

In conclusion, we have brought you a whole host of events and you can read about these later in this report. Our nerves have been tested and our problem solving skills honed, but mostly we have made some super friends along the way and had a good laugh too. I know that you would want me to thank everyone on the Committee and those who have helped to bring you all of these activities. So... THANK YOU to all BRITS ABROAD VOLUNTEERS... you are a terrific team.

Katy Gow
President, Brits Abroad Shanghai

TREASURY FIGURES: as at 1st March 2012

Cash in hand	23,454.80
Bank Account	83,940.38
Total	107,395.18

**2011-2012
TOTAL CHARITY DISTRIBUTION
181,936 RMB**

COMMUNITY OUTREACH INCOME as at 1st March 2012

Coffee Mornings	6,300
Raffles	13,860
Mahjong Group	6,750
Charity Jar	1,141
Others	26,139
Total	54,190

**CHARITY: as at 1st March 2012**

Ongoing Fundraising		One-off Projects		
Charity	Donation	Charity	Donation	
Josephine Charles Foundation	4,000	Wheelchair Foundation (Red White & Blue Ball)*	75,000	
Shanghai Sunrise (2 students)	9,000	Breast Cancer Charity	13,420	
Mifan Mamas	870	Heart 2 Heart (Nov Quiz Night)	24,750	
LifeLine*	3,000	Baobei Baby's Home (Christmas Raffle)	15,400	
Eden Ministry (purchase of Jewellery)	5,496			
Red Envelopes for 3 students	3,000			
Operation Smile 4 x 3,000	12,000			
The Renewal Centre	5,900			
Morning Tears	5,100			
Lifeline Shanghai	5,000			
Total	53,366	Total	128,570	181,936

* Included Donation of 1,200

* Costa Coffee matched funds 14,645

* Studio 188 Band donated 10,000

MEMBERSHIP FIGURES as at 21st February 2012

Total Members: includes non renewals	282
Geographical split : Puxi	159
Geographical split : Pudong	123
Renewals and New Members	126
Full Membership	68%
Associate Membership	32%





MEETERS and GREETERS: Making sure our new members feel welcome is important to us and our Meeters and Greeters team have aimed to do this. We have organised some orientation tours and written articles for our *Newsletter* to introduce different aspects of Shanghai, e.g. where to buy glasses or photography equipment, and where to have a ball gown made. Members are always on hand to offer advice or suggestions on how to get the most out of living in Shanghai.



SOCIAL: *Eleveneses with Brits*, *Breakfast with Brits*, and *Newcomers Coffee Mornings* are regular fixtures in the Brits Abroad Calendar, but once again, we enjoyed many other social events helping to make lives happier for all in Shanghai. We have used our handicraft skills doing pottery, necklace making, to name a couple. We have wine tasted, chocolate tasted and met over many wonderful lunches. Italian, Thai and Chinese cookery skills have been added to our repertoire. Our brains were put to full use at the sell-out *Annual Quiz Night* and a *Summer BBQ* whetted our appetite for a year of hugely enjoyable *Drop in Drinks* - a firm favourite with members - including the *Royal Wedding Drop in Drinks* giving us a good excuse to put up the bunting. Our Christmas celebrations were a great success, dancing the afternoon away at the *Brits Abroad Christmas Lunch* and squeals of delight were heard at *Breakfast with Santa*. Squeals too were heard from the Ladies 'Musical Chairs' game at their Christmas Lunch. The highlight of our



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LUNCHES : The Social Committee Lunch Team endeavoured to find new venues for our special themed lunches which offered members a delicious meal at a reduced rate. This year we hosted the first ever **Ascot Ladies Lunch** in June where everyone wore a beautiful hat or fascinator. Not a horse in sight, but it was a great excuse to get dressed up in Shanghai, have a delicious meal and then enjoy drinks on the balcony overlooking the Shanghai Pudong skyline. In October, our Ladies were also **Pretty in Pink** and raised funds for Breast Cancer Awareness. This lunch was held at the prestigious Waldorf Astoria, where once again, we managed to enjoy after-lunch drinks in the famous Shanghai Club Long Bar. Our February **Valentine's Lunch** at the Westin had everyone dusting down their red outfits and enjoying a romantic themed menu.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY LUNCH was a special joint initiative with the Australian Women's Social Group and the American Women's Club in Shanghai – the three Presidents getting together to organize a “getting-to-know-you” occasion, to celebrate the coming together of 100 women from around the world, all currently living in Shanghai. It was a sell-out affair.

WALKS: This year we had eleven walks with groups of up to thirty members and we were joined by some family visitors. The walks team changed and grew to four volunteers over the year. We explored a wide range of Shanghai regions, continuing through the two hottest months. Our walks took in beautiful and surprisingly quiet parks and covered different periods of history, linking the West and China, as well as highlighting some differences. The walks are always friendly and a great way for you to discover parts of the city you might not find on your own. We usually start in a café and end in a restaurant, so there are plenty of opportunities to meet others and chat while we are walking. Our routes are also listed on the website for you to use again.



MAHJONG GROUP continues to be a popular weekly event, with lots of new members joining and learning to play this interesting game. Many of our regulars learned to play with this friendly group and are now happy to help instruct the newcomers.

BOOK CLUB and **ENGLISH-FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP** continue to run and are enjoyed by members.



THE NEWSLETTER changed format during the year, from a monthly issue to a quarterly issue. Our new publication *The Wire*, filled in the months between, thus ensuring that our members are kept up-to-date with our activities. It was decided to distribute our publications as electronic copies, but our quarterly *Newsletter* would also be published as a hard copy for members to collect at our coffee morning. We continue to seek advertising so that printing costs are covered.

THE WIRE is our online newsletter, which was launched in October 2011. The aim being to improve communications to all members during the months that the quarterly newsletter is not printed/distributed. *The Wire* includes information such as: What's On and Forthcoming Events, Snapshot of

Last Month's Events and interesting articles that other members have written and would like to share, about their experiences and time in Shanghai. There is no advertising in *The Wire* as it is a short, concise document with no costs attached. *The Wire* is uploaded at the beginning of the month and members can print it out or download to read.



Brits Abroad
For Members Community Outreach Interested in Joining? Contact Us

Red, White & Blue Ball
in the spirit of London 2012 Olympics
Saturday, 28th April 2012

Red, White & Blue Ball
Saturday, 28th April 2012
The Fairmont Peace Hotel
Details
Brits' Monthly Newsletter

Quick Links

- Home
- 27 Friday
- 28 Saturday
- 29 Sunday
- What's On
- Discounts
- TRAVEL ADVICE
- TRAVEL ADVICE
- Chicago Downtown Music
- Afternoon Chinese High Tea

Our non-profit, friendly and supportive group aims to provide assistance and expertise to our members; to promote friendship throughout both British and the wider expat community in Shanghai through social, cultural and charitable activities. Membership is open to all foreign passport holders.

WEBSITE, BULLETINS and EMAIL: improvements continue to be made to our website and emailing facilities. Weekly Bulletins are sent to members with up-to-the-minute details of Brits Abroad events and other information which we think our members will be interested to know about.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Once again, we attended the Shanghai Expat Show in September. Several members assisted in setting up our stall and helping to promote our organisation. Contacts were made with other organisations, charities, schools and businesses.

COMMITTEE: An organisation such as ours, could not function without good administration, organisation and a determination to succeed. Those who do agendas, minutes, proofreading, envelope sticking, daily checking of emails, and so much more, are often overlooked in an Annual Report, they too are vital to our success, so thank you so much to everyone who has contributed behind the scenes too. Best wishes to those moving on to pastures new and welcome on board to our new volunteers.





COMMUNITY OUTREACH: As a non-profit making organization, all our surpluses are given to good causes. We maintain links with the charities we support and also research new worthy projects. This year has been an outstanding year for our contributions and donations to a range of charitable causes. As ever, we could not have achieved this without the generosity of all our members and friends. We continue our sponsorship of our three students Amber, Gong BeiPei and Li Yingyan through **Josephine Charles Foundation** and **Shanghai Sunrise**. The biggest fundraiser for the year was our inaugural **Red, White & Blue Ball 2011** which raised a whopping 75,000 rmb for the **Wheelchair Foundation**. The cost and delivery of one wheelchair being 500 rmb meant that this resulted in a donation of 150 Wheelchairs, providing mobility and freedom to those with special needs. We were delighted to be able to attend the Wheelchair Donation Ceremony at PengPu New Community Sunshine Home in

Zhabei District and meet some of the beneficiaries of our donation (cheque presentation above). To celebrate Breast Cancer awareness month in October our Pink Lunch, was enormously popular and raised much needed funds for **Breast Cancer Support**. Our quiz night in November was a sell-out, resulting in us meeting our target to fund a library at an impoverished rural school and to provide equipment for the school too. The project will be facilitated by **Heart to Heart** (cheque presentation below). For our Christmas lunch we purchased jewellery as gifts for our members from **Eden Ministry** – a charity which sells hand crafted jewellery made by women who have been rescued from sexual abuse and trafficking – as well as raising funds for **Bao Bei Orphanage** through our raffle. Our members have played a vital role in ensuring these charitable causes are well-funded. The Cycling Divas raised funds that were donated to **MiFan MaMa**, and together with a kind donation from a

member we were able to help **Lifeline Shanghai** continue their invaluable work. Finally, through our various items collected during the year, we have been able to donate gifts to migrant children via **Roots & Shoots**, and provide blankets and clothing to children at **BaoBei Baby's Home**. Our end of year beneficiaries are: **Operation Smile**, **The Renewal Centre**, **Morning Tears** and **Lifeline**.



GOOD CAUSES SUPPORTED DURING 2011-2012



Sponsored students
GONG BeiPei
LI Yingyan



JOSEPHINE CHARLES FOUNDATION
童周斯基金会



Amber



BREAST CANCER SUPPORT



morning tears



BRITS ABROAD COMMITTEE 2011-2012

President: Katy Gow
Vice Presidents: Terry Vibert and Bernie Thompson
Treasurer: Bernie Thompson Deputy Treasurer: Amelia Krause/Marilyn Dixon
Secretary: Emma Dilliway, Noreen O'Leary, Deputy Secretary: Ann Dickinson
Membership: Angela Allott, Noreen O'Leary
Newsletter: Angela Marwood, Julie Moelker,
The Wire: Caroline Other
Website: Philip Crispin, Chris Sage
Public Relations:
Community Outreach: Ying Ko Liu, Hannah Mulryan, Jan Dallison
Social: Suzanne Bloor, Amelia Krause, Jane Riley, Kerry Reese, Lucy Hawkridge,
Sue Adams, Julia Ravenscroft, Lesley Stirling, Ann Cudmore, Delyth Jenkins,
Marilyn Dixon, Noreen O'Leary, Shelly McLanders,
Lunches: Caroline Other, Lisa Barker, Catarina Johnson, Caz Johnstone
Meeters/Greeters: Gina Joyce, Vicky Jamieson, Lynn Curran, Julia Ravenscroft,
Lorraine Backhouse,
Walks: Helen Beales, Jane Sutton, Kate Short, Laura Limer
Book Club: Kate Short, Ruth Million
English-French Conversation Group: Florence Trees



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS and SUPPORTERS of various events

Abber Road



Michelle Collection

Kodak

Downstairs
with David Laris

david laris creates *dlo*

Fairmont
PEACE HOTEL
和平饭店



the purple onion
by David Laris



Fifth Avenue Jewellery

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR NEWSLETTER ADVERTISERS

- Sino British College
- Allied Pickfords
- Shanghai Boat & Yacht Club
- Parkway Health
- Australia Expat Travel
- Sino United Health
- Diva Life
- HRG Travel
- Vedic Life
- Vedas Indian Cuisine and Lounge
- Shanghai East International Medical Centre
- United Family Healthcare
- DTL Furniture
- Flight Centre

Many thanks too to all those Brits
Abroad Members who have
donated raffle prizes.

Christmas Lunch Raffle 2011
Major Sponsor
Virgin Atlantic



Matched Funding - Major Sponsor - Costa Coffee
for *Red White & Blue Ball* Raffle 2011.

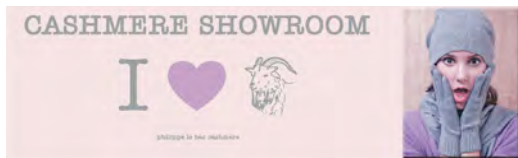
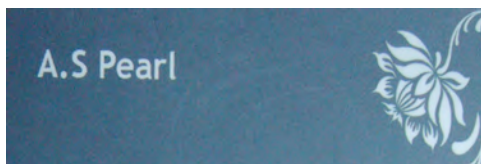
Red White & Blue Ball - Sponsors 2011

GLADSTONE MORGAN

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上海威斯汀大饭店



MIKE FIT PERSONAL TRAINING



THREE ON THE BUND
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sweet ever after.



And Thanks to:

