

The UK CONNEXION

Latest News

www.ukconnexion.net

Tuesday January 15th 2019

the BRITISH canadian

www.thebritishcanadian.com

Since March of 2012 we have been providing articles and details of UKC events for publication in the free monthly BRITISH CANADIAN newspaper - under the banner heading UK CONNEXION. It is great publicity for UKC and many new members are joining from this source. However, **we need your help to continue meeting the monthly deadline.** Please snap photos at UKC vents and/or offer to write a review. You may be rewarded by your creations being published in the next month's BCN. Please volunteer; we are a self-help group!

Please email your reviews and photos to Vanessa at van.jones@yahoo.ca

EXPIRING MEMBERSHIPS: Membership in the UK CONNEXION is FREE. **But, it is contingent on being involved.** So early each year, we delete the names of those who joined more than 2 years ago and are not attending events, or otherwise participating in the UKC. ***If you joined before 2017 and have not been active, you are urged to come to a UKC event in January to revalidate your membership.***

Alternatively, you can subscribe to the UK QUARTERLY - only \$16 for four issues. Click here: <http://www.ukconnexion.net/newsletter.html>. Subscribers automatically remain members.

CALLING ALL BRITISH STATE PENSIONERS: The chairman of the Canadian Alliance of British Pensioners requests our help to end the British government's immoral practice of freezing pensions for Brits residing in Canada and other commonwealth counties. We are asked to personalise the sample letter at the end of this email and mail it to the Secretary of Pensions. I've done it, hope you will too! The mailing cost is a pittance compared to the value of future benefits when parity is achieved.

If you worked in the UK, you may be eligible for a pension. Why not contact the CABP to find out?



**CANADIAN
ALLIANCE OF
BRITISH PENSIONERS**

info@britishpensions.com
www.britishpensions.com
416-253-6402
1-888-591-3964

FOUR UKC EVENTS IN FOUR DAYS - thanks to our wonderful volunteers

- Thu MID-WEEK FUN AT THE BEDFORD ACADEMY, Bloor/Bedford – courtesy of BRUCE**
- Sat The National Theatre's ANTONY & CLEOPATRA, Yonge/Eglinton – courtesy of MAUREEN C**
- Sat POST CHRISTMAS FUN AND GAMES, Near Scarborough Town Centre – courtesy of IRENE D**
- Sun DINNER/MINGLING – SQUIRE PUB RESTAURANT, Bloor/Islington – courtesy of CHRIS**

There is a \$5 levy per person per event to be paid on arrival

YOUR GUESTS and FIRST-TIMERS INCLUDED

(Please have a \$5 banknote ready if possible.)

When reserving for UKC events, **please give your first and LAST NAME & HOME PHONE NUMBER**

The latter is important, even if you reserve by email, in case there is a last minute change.

Jan 17 Thu 6:30 pm MID-WEEK FUN AT THE BEDFORD ACADEMY, Bloor/Bedford



Join Bruce for mingling and dinner in a reserved private cozy bar, with elevator access and washrooms on the same floor, at the Bedford Academy Pub, 36 Prince Arthur. Food choices are excellent, with a wide range of wines, domestic and imported beer at this interesting establishment. To reserve, please contact Bruce at buttimore@rogers.com (preferred) or 416-594-1293.

Jan 19 Sat 12:30 pm The National Theatre's production of ANTONY & CLEOPATRA, Yonge/Eglinton



Join Maureen at the Yonge & Eglinton Cineplex Theatre to watch the play. It stars Ralph Fiennes and Sophie Okonedo as Shakespeare's famous fated couple in his great tragedy of politics, passion and power. This will be a popular production, so it will be a good idea to purchase tickets ahead of time.

Please call Maureen C at 416-482-0386 to register. **Please note updated phone number.**

Jan 19 Sat 2 – 5 pm POST CHRISTMAS FUN AND GAMES, Near Scarborough Town Centre



Irene D invites you to her co-op for a game of Monopoly and afternoon tea (sandwiches, cookies, tea and coffee). No alcohol will be served or expected. There is no charge except the \$5 UKC levy. The game is open to seven people but up to 20 if you want to come along for tea and a chat (levy applies). Please let Irene know by Thu Jan 17 at iredjano@gmail.com or 416-282-7820 at which time she will supply you

with her address and directions.

Jan 20 Sun 6 pm DINNER/MINGLING – SQUIRE PUB RESTAURANT, Bloor/Islington



Join Chris for mingling and drinks, followed by dinner. Enjoy a beer, wine or cocktail and complimentary snack platters provided by the pub before we sit down to dinner about 7:15 pm. This is a great event for new members so please invite your single friends, but remind them of the \$5 UKC levy. Location: 3335 Bloor St W, just 2 blocks east of Islington subway station. Street parking available, as well as free street parking one block south on Lothian Ave, the street beside the pub. Reservations are not needed, please just drop in. If you have questions contact Chris at 647-205-1936.

Jan 26 Sat 3:45 pm CLIMAX JAZZ BAND - THE LEASIDE PUB, Laird south of Eglinton

Join Marilyn at the Leaside Pub, 190 Laird Drive. This is three blocks south of Eglinton at the north west corner of McCrae. (Bus stop right outside the Pub.) The Climax Jazz Band plays tradition New Orleans style jazz and is a legend in Toronto. There is great pub food plus a \$10 steak special on Saturday afternoons. No cover charge to hear this great band, only the \$5 UKC levy. There is only a small parking lot, but street parking is available. Please register no later than Thursday evening so we can reserve our table. This is a very busy club and reservations are essential. marilyn.goodman45@yahoo.com (preferred). 647-210-5110.

Jan 27 Sun 11 am HIKE IN PALGRAVE CONSERVATION AREA

Join Mary and Arnold for a winter's hike at the Palgrave Wild Life Conservation Area. We will do a short one and half hour hike through the forest on suitable trails. Depending on conditions, we may hike the Perimeter Trail, which is the most challenging of the walks. Hikers should bring their icers, suitable clothing for the temperature, water, a snack and boots, sun glasses. Afterwards we will head back to Bolton to relax and enjoy some refreshments at The Toby Jug Pub.

We will meet at Tim Hortons at the intersection of Hwy 50 and King Street in Bolton. Please note that there are several Tim Hortons on Hwy 50 - but the one we need is in a small plaza with a TD bank and Tim's ONLY- just north of King Street on the west side. Call Arnold at 416 222 3551 no later than Sat Jan 26 to register. [To carpool (\$5 return) from Kipling subway leaving at 10:15 contact John at jpett@bell.net or 416-259-1541]

Jan 27 Sun 6 pm DINNER AT THE BIER MARKT, 58 The Esplanade

Join Chris at the Bier Markt for a fabulous dinner of chicken, beef, pork Schnitzel, along with various types of beer. There are also many varieties of pizza and other foods. The restaurant is a few doors down from the Old Spaghetti Factory. Prices from \$17. The \$5 levy will apply but no need to pay if you attended the earlier event. Please call Chris up to the Fri prior at 647-205-1936.

Feb 1 Fri 7 pm TRADITIONAL ENGLISH PANTOMIME, Tranzac Club - 292 Brunswick Ave

Join Chris for a fabulous traditional English pantomime, Dick Whittington and his Cat, written by Ben Crocker and performed by The Nag's Players. A barrel of laughs with great characters, lovely costumes, chase scenes and convoluted story. Perfect for a pantomime. Tickets are \$20; seniors \$17, plus \$5 UKC levy. To reserve a seat at the UKC table, register by Wed Jan 30 by calling Chris at 647-205-1936.

Feb 2 Sat 8 pm SPN DINNER/DANCE, Famee Furlane, Islington/Steeles

Join new host Gayle at reserved UKC tables for the Singles Professionals Network dinner/dance with the live band Tony Paglia & the Nomads at The Famee Furlane, 7065 Islington Ave. – just north of Steeles. www.singlesparties.com. No running shoes or jeans please. Cash bar. Cost \$20 includes UKC levy and pasta dinner with salad and cake from 8 to 9 pm. When you arrive at the dance, please mention at the front desk that you are with the UK Connexion. Please reserve by 6 pm the day before by contacting Gayle at g3gayle@gmail.com or 416-661-7535 and leaving your full name and phone number slowly and clearly.

Feb 3 Sun 6:30 pm DINNER/MINGLING ELEPHANT & CASTLE, King/ Simcoe

Join Christine at the ELEPHANT & CASTLE, 212 King St W. Free snack platters provided. We meet and mingle near the back in a reserved area before sitting down for excellent pub food like Shepherd's Pie, Fish & Chips, Steak, etc. Entrées: \$11 - \$20. Located directly across from Roy Thomson Hall - just steps from St. Andrew subway. For GO train users it is a relaxing 10 minute walk from Union Station and parking is free at GO stations. New members are very welcome. BRING YOUR SINGLE FRIENDS but please tell them about the \$5 levy. (No need to pay levy if you attended the earlier event.) If more details are needed, contact Christine at kcquinn@rogers.com or 416-25 6-5851. No need to reserve, just drop in.

Feb 9 Sat 4 pm NEW ORLEANS JAZZ GROSSMAN'S TAVERN 379 Spadina

Join Rosemary for great New Orleans jazz played by The Happy Pals, a top Toronto Dixieland jazz band. The band doesn't start until 4 .30 but it's more likely we can sit together if we're there by 4. There's no cover charge, just the UKC levy. At 7 pm we plan to walk across the street to The Red Lounge, 444 Spadina, which serves good, reasonably priced, western and Asian food. To register, call Rosemary at 416-4231753 or rosemary2k14@gmail.com by the day before. Either way, please provide your full name and contact telephone number.

Feb 10 Sun 6 pm DINNER AT THE BIER MARKT, 58 The Esplanade

Join Chris at the Bier Markt for a fabulous dinner of chicken, beef, pork Schnitzel, along with various types of beer. There are also many varieties of pizza and other foods. The restaurant is a few doors down from the Old Spaghetti Factory. Prices from \$17. The \$5 levy will apply. Please call Chris up to the Fri prior at 647-205-1936.

Feb 13 Wed 6 pm DINNER/EUCHRE AT THE MONK'S KETTLE , Bloor/Royal York

Join Dorothy and Joan at the Monk's Kettle at 3073 Bloor St W, just west of Royal York Rd & Royal York subway station. For experienced euchre players. Cost is \$5 UKC levy. MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE. There is a limit to the number of participants for this event. Please sign up early, as last day to reserve your spot is the Sunday before this event. Contact JOAN at rsvpjoan@yahoo.com or call DOROTHY at 416-245-4345. Please remember to support the restaurant and their staff by ordering food and/or drinks, so that we are welcomed back again. There are no stairs when entering the restaurant, but there are stairs to the washrooms. Metered parking on and near Bloor St. W and by subway station. Some free street parking on side streets, especially starting at 6 pm.

Feb 14 Thu 6:30 pm, MID-WEEK FUN AT THE BEDFORD ACADEMY, Bloor/Bedford

Join Bruce for mingling and dinner in a reserved private cozy bar, with elevator access and washrooms on the same floor, at the Bedford Academy Pub, 36 Prince Arthur. Food choices are excellent, with a wide range of wines, domestic and imported beer at this interesting establishment. To reserve, please contact Bruce at buttimore@rogers.com (preferred) or 416-594-1293.

Feb 15 Fri 6:30, SUPPER AT THE QUARRY RESTAURANT, Gerrard E & Clonmore Ave

Join Rosemary at this family-run restaurant that offers Greek and Canadian cuisine. Prices are reasonable. Meet at 6:30 pm for chit-chat and eat when we are hungry. (Rosemary is limiting the event to 10 people so register soon but certainly by Wed Feb 13 .) Take TTC #135 bus from Main station to Clonmore. The Quarry is on the opposite side of the street in the strip mall. Adequate parking available. Contact Rosemary at 416-423-1753 or rosemary2k14@gmail.com.

Feb 16 Sat 1 pm, LUNCH AT THE PICKLE BARREL, Yonge/ Eglinton

Join Irene D for lunch and enjoy a hearty array of delicious items from their menu. Prices are reasonable and they stock a wide selection of beer and wine. Please let Irene know by Thu Feb 14 at iredjano@gmail.com or 416-282-7820.

Feb 17 Sun 6 pm, DINNER/MINGLING – SQUIRE PUB RESTAURANT, Bloor/Islington

Join Chris for mingling and drinks, followed by dinner. Enjoy a beer, wine or cocktail and complimentary snack platters provided by the pub before we sit down to dinner about 7:15 pm. This is a great event for new members so please invite your single friends, but remind them of the \$5 UKC levy. Location: 3335 Bloor St W, just 2 blocks east of Islington subway station. Street parking available, as well as free street parking one block south on Lothian Ave, the street beside the pub. Reservations are not needed, please just drop in. If you have questions contact Chris at 647-205-1936.

DON'T FORGET TO CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE HOSTS, APPROPRIATELY, FOR:

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HAVE FUN!

John Pettitt, UKC Membership
contact@ukconnexion.net



Dear John Pettitt Membership expiry date 2019-Dec

Our London PR firm have an excellent contact in the office of the new Secretary for Pensions at the DWP (Amber Rudd). They have asked us to engage all our members in writing to her office in the hope that a large number will allow the contact to use influence with Ms.Rudd and hopefully get some reaction.

The letter below is simply a suggestion and you can alter/change as you see fit, but it will require your own personal information in the highlighted 'x' places.

We have to continue with a concentrated push at all levels of the UK government so please, email, write letters and lets swamp her office.

Thank you.

Ian Andexser, Chairman
Canadian Alliance of British Pensioners

Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions
House of Commons,
London,
SW1A 0AA
Email: amber.rudd.mp@parliament.uk

Dear Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP,

I am a British pensioner who moved to Canada and paid into the system for X years. Despite this, I have been denied my annual UK state pension increases solely because I moved to Canada. As a result my pension stopped increasing in line with inflation and was 'frozen' at the value of X per week. If I had remained in the UK I would be receiving X a week. I am writing to you to ask you to end the 'frozen pension' policy that has forced many Britons into poverty in their old age.

4% of the recipients of state British pensions suffer this injustice and while this is a small percentage of pension recipients for the Government, it affects hundreds of thousands of lives. There are 132,000 British pensioners living in Canada in the same situation as me and over half a million British pensioners

worldwide living in countries where the UK Government continues to follow a policy that has existed for over 70 years. Many of my fellow 'frozen pensioners' are trapped in poverty because of this unjust discrimination, unable to move back to the UK or support themselves.

In October, World War Two veteran Anne Puckridge flew to the UK from Canada to fight for our right to our full UK state pension. She was met with huge support from MPs, the media and the British public. Now 94, she has been bravely fighting for our rights for 17 years.

This arbitrary policy hurts those who have given so much to the UK, including many veterans and former public servants. As the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions I beg you to rethink this cruel policy and propose a change in domestic legislation to uprate our pensions, which is well within the power of the UK Government.