



# Daughters of The British Empire State of Texas

DECEMBER 30, 2011

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 4

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## Chapters:

### Austin:

**Ascot**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – 7:15pm

**Sherwood Forest**  
Saturdays – 11:30 am

*"Not Ourselves, But The Cause"*

## Piccadilly Chapter -

Piccadilly Chapter was the second chapter started in the State of Texas, first meeting on October 27th 1949. Many people know that Pam Valentine Murphy was a Charter member of the first Chapter - Edith Cavell. But how many know that she was also a Charter member of Piccadilly? You see, Edith Cavell decided to meet in the daytime and Pam needed an evening chapter. She is still a member 64 years later! Wow!! Several other of the early members are also still with the chapter like Mary Hastings and Norah Pledger. Many of the ladies in this chapter were war brides and came to Texas in the late '40's early '50's with their GI husbands.



The Chapter has always been very active and enthusiastic in supporting all DBE social events in the interests of friendship and Public Relations, and has always taken part in any DBE fund-raisers in support of the Southern District Home, and local charities; including participation in all the early Garden Parties and Fetes, and then in all the Houston DBE Bazaars.

At the Bazaar, the Chapter ran the Pub for many years. Many of the Piccadilly Chapter husbands were founding members of the Sons of Britain (SOB's) in the 1980's and provided invaluable support in the set up and take down of the Bazaar

stalls and cooking the Fish and Chips.

Piccadilly has also been well represented on the State Boards with Marjorie Evans serving as State President of Texas 1972 - 1974, and Ann Garness, Maud Norris, Lilla LeVine, Mary Hastings, Doris Wegener, Norah Pledger and Alma Naff Harrison serving on various State Boards. Winifred Goy was awarded the MBE by Her Majesty the Queen in 1960, and the Honorary MBE was awarded to Doris Wegener in 1965. In 1995 Terri McGee was given a Life Membership in the DBE.

Piccadilly Chapter made up the majority of the "Welcoming Committee" for the 2009 National Meeting/ 100th Anniversary Celebration in Houston at the Omni Hotel and greeted the delegates with cowboy hats, big smiles, and lovely accents!!!



## Dallas/Fort Worth:

### Hampton Court

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – 7:30 pm

### Lady Godiva

Sunday – 2:30 pm

### Lindisfarne

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 3:00 pm

### Trinity College Cambridge

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – (am)

### United Kingdom

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – 10:30 am

## El Paso:

### MacGregor-Chester

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – 10:00 am

## Houston:

### Beatrix Potter

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – 7:30 pm

### Brigadoon

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – 12:00 noon

### Coldstream Guards

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – 10:30 am

### Cornwall

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 7:30 pm

### Douglas Bader

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday – 7:00 pm

### Edith Cavell

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday – 11:00 am

### Flora MacDonald

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – 7:30 pm

### Piccadilly

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 11:00 am

### Pickwick

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – 11:00 am

### Sir Malcolm Sargent

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – 7:15 pm

### St. Thomas a Becket

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday – 10:30 am

### William Shakespeare

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 7:30 pm

## San Angelo:

### Drury Lane

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday – 7:30 pm

## San Antonio:

### Cardiff

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – 7:30 pm

## Member in Profile -- Linda Jessert

Linda Jessett first joined the DBE in 1976 as a member of Edith Cavell Chapter when Lydia Englesmith was the Regent. She soon became involved as an officer, taking on Recording Secretary. In 1984 she became a founding member of Beatrix Potter Chapter which met on the west side of Houston, closer to her home, and in the evening, as Linda had gone back to work once her boys were older. She and her husband Kenneth have two boys, Nicholas & Alexander, and four grandchildren ranging in age from 5 to 21 yrs. She and Kenneth originally emigrated from England in 1967 when an engineering company in Hartford, Conn recruited him. From there they moved to Denver, Colorado where their two sons were born. Taking a break, the family set out for England in 1974 on the QE2 and spent a year traveling in Europe (hippie style in a camper) before returning to the States and Houston, Texas.



Linda has held every office at Chapter level and has served on the State Board as Recording Secretary for four years. She became involved with the Mountbatten House Board in 1990 and has served the Home ever since in various capacities, most recently as President. During her service at the Home she has witnessed the visit of Prince Charles and Countess Mountbatten, dealt with Hurricane Ike, Tropical Storm Allison, and their aftermath, seen the Home grow from 16 rooms to 24 rooms and attended countless National Council Meetings, State Council Meetings and Southern District Organizing meetings to bring news of the Home to other DBE members. It is not "all work and no play" for Linda. Her chapter, Beatrix Potter, goes out every year to shop for the residents with the money donated to the Mountbatten House Birthday & Christmas Fund. They take resident 'wish lists' and hit the stores for the Thanksgiving weekend sales and prove that women are born to shop, buying the gifts the residents need or ask for at discounted prices everywhere. In recognition of her years of service to the DBE and the Home, the members of Beatrix Potter Chapter and of other Chapters in the Southern District presented Linda with a Life Membership in the DBE at the National Meeting in Sarasota Florida in 2010.

Linda's introduction to DBE was through Marguerite Yannone who visited her in hospital. Marguerite, a volunteer with Mended Hearts, was asked to visit an English woman in Texas Children's Hospital, where her oldest son was scheduled for heart surgery. The rest is history.

During her 15 years employed in the oil industry Linda enjoyed working with the company Community Relations committee, tutoring under privileged children at Fairchild Elementary School, organizing school supply drives, food drives, and purchasing school uniforms. She was named Volunteer of the Year in 2003 for her work with Mountbatten House and other charities, receiving a grant for Mountbatten House of \$1,000. Linda was also honored by the Houston ISD for representing her company in their Business Partners in Education program.

Linda was born in Stoke Holy Cross, a small village outside Norwich, during a bombing raid, where her mother went into labour sheltering in a ditch. Mother did make it back to the house in time for her delivery.

**Jane Austen**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 2:00 pm**King's Lynn**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday – 11:00 am**MBH Birthday List****September**Maxine Hammrick – 1<sup>st</sup>Edith Comstock 6<sup>th</sup>Frank Shields – 27<sup>th</sup>**October**Anita Hill – 12<sup>th</sup>**November**LaRue Ellis – 19<sup>th</sup>Elaine Kroeger – 27<sup>th</sup>Terry Pynes – 27<sup>th</sup>**December**Catherine Mashal – 22<sup>nd</sup>Jim Selkirk – 31<sup>st</sup>**Editors:**

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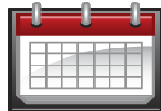
[texasdbe@wildblue.net](mailto:texasdbe@wildblue.net)**Recipe Corner – Dorothy Norlund – Coldstream Guards****Bakewell Tart Recipe**

Raspberry Jam  
 2oz Butter  
 2oz Sugar  
 1 egg  
 2oz ground almonds  
 2oz cake crumbs  
 Almond essence, icing sugar

Line a 7 in. ring or pie plate with pastry. Place a good layer of raspberry jam on the bottom. Cream together the butter and sugar till thick and white. Beat in the egg and add the ground almonds and cake-crumbs and a few drops of almond essence. Spread the mixture on top of the jam sprinkle the top with flaked almonds and bake in a fairly hot oven (400 f. Gas 6) for about half an hour. Mix a small amount of icing sugar with water and brush over cake when cooked.

**Useful hints:** I use Pillsbury just roll pie crusts  
 Ground almonds you can buy at Central Market they call it almond meal.  
 I use a lower oven temperature around 350f.

This recipe was taken from Mrs. Beeton's All about Cooking. My sister gave me the book as a Wedding present over forty years ago



**Calendar of Events – State ACM** March 9-10, 2012 in Fredericksburg; **National Convention** May 10-12, 2012 in Annapolis.

**Royal Calendar and Home Front News**

**2012** will be Her Majesty Queen Diamond Jubilee year. Visits are planned, beginning in March to all county areas' in Great Britain and to Commonwealth Countries by the Queen and members of the Royal Family.

**Special Days.** – St. David's Day - March 1<sup>st</sup>,  
 St. Patrick's Day - March 17<sup>th</sup>, British Mothering  
 Sunday - March 18<sup>th</sup>, British Summer Time starts March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Houston Area Bazaar a Success**

By all accounts the 38th Annual Bazaar was a rousing success!! The final numbers aren't in yet, but the preliminary count shows that more money was raised this year than last year. Well done, ladies!!!! The day started with crowds of people waiting to get in, and a procession led by the pipers.



The skirl of the pipes filled the room as the new Consul General in Houston, Andrew Millar (a Scotsman!) and his wife and two young boys came in with the Bazaar Co-Chairmen Sharon Pruitt & Joan Gol

MBE and State President Julie Westcott. The pipers played several pieces and then

the Consul officially opened the bazaar. All of the Houston chapters outdid themselves with all the goodies they had prepared, from Christmas trees, crackers, cakes, decorations and puddings, to the abundance of food in the Tea Room (mmm... love those sausage rolls). The Dallas area chapters had been busy all year making items also, and members drove down with them and manned the stall as well.

The crowds were steady all day, with people still paying the entry fee at 3pm - an hour before closing!!! DBE members, including the round-trip tickets on Southwest Airlines, won several of the raffle prizes. They ended up with 2 sets of tickets, won by Mary Hastings of Piccadilly Chapter and Sylvia Parker of St. Thomas a Becket. The weather was gorgeous, and though everyone was exhausted, they all went home with the satisfaction of knowing that it was another job well done!!



***Merry Christmas***



***Happy New Year for 2012***

#### **Web Links**



DBE in the State of Texas web site [www.dbetexas.org](http://www.dbetexas.org).  
Coming soon a new format for the Texas DBE web site.  
Please forward all enquiries about the DBE to [organizer@dbetexas.org](mailto:organizer@dbetexas.org).