

Dear Members,

I want to bring you up-to-date on recent happenings.

On December 14th, the members in attendance at the Special Meeting unanimously approved the name change. Going forward, we will use “The British Society” at events, in the newsletter and for fundraising purposes. Our goal is to appeal to a wider audience in the New England area. By broadening our membership and increasing attendance at a steadily growing number of special events of interest to a wide range of Anglophiles, we will be able to increase the scope of our charitable mission. Look for notices in the New Year of the events which we are planning for 2011.

On December 16th, Consul General Phil Budden and his wife, Deborah, hosted another wonderful Christmas party at the Residence. They have been steadfast supporters of the Society and we are very grateful to them for their hospitality. Guests enjoyed traditional Christmas fare, good company, a Saints and Sinners game and bid enthusiastically on a wide variety of silent auction items. The hot ticket of the night was a pair of round trip, Club Class tickets to London, generously donated by British Airways. The donation was made even more generous on the night by a (literally priceless) upgrade to First Class. A big “thank you” to BA for their continued support -- this is the second year they have done this for us. Thanks in no small part to that item, the evening’s total exceeded last year’s sum, adding over \$13,000 to the Society’s coffers – funds which will immediately be used for our relief efforts.

The evening was made even more special when the Society was also presented with a very generous \$5,000 check from the British American Business Council of New England. At its Christmas lunch earlier in December, BABCNE decided to make the Society their charity of the year. We are very grateful to BABCNE and all its members for their generosity.

Lastly, I would urge you all to remember the Society in your year-end charitable giving. As an all-volunteer organization, about 95 cents of every dollar raised goes directly to helping individuals and families. In many cases, our help means the difference between a family having heat and food or going cold and hungry or, worse, homeless. Thank you for your past support and for your continued generosity. Checks may be sent to the Treasurer, Kathy Tunsley, at 12 Rhodes Avenue, Sharon MA 02067.

Best wishes to you all for the Christmas season.

Charles Platt
President