

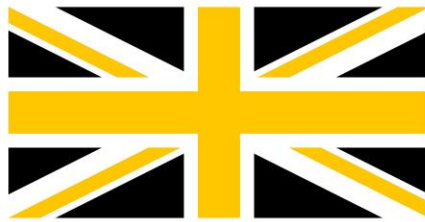
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Press Release

Fourth Annual Britsburgh Festival | September 4-9, 2018
1 CITY. 6 DAYS. 15+ EVENTS N'at. | britsburgh.com

BRITSBURGH



A FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN
IN PITTSBURGH

Pittsburgh, PA, August 20, 2018: Nonprofit British-American Connections Pittsburgh (Britsburgh), today is delighted to announce the lineup for the **Fourth Annual Britsburgh Festival**.

“As we approach the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I on November 11th this year, we thought it entirely appropriate to incorporate commemorative activities into our festival events as a reminder to us all of the great sacrifice our forefathers made for world freedom that we enjoy today.” said Robert Charlesworth, Chair of Britsburgh. “We have included events that align with our Britsburgh Societies – Arts, Beer, History, Literary and Tea; thought of innovative ways to incorporate WWI themes, such as Women in WWI talks over afternoon tea and working with the Leaning Cask Brewing Company to transform their pub into a WWI theme and to brew a beer from the Edwardian era; and concurrently raise money for Veterans’ charities.” All WWI events will collect donations towards our [“**Britsburgh WWI Centennial Appeal for Veterans**”](#)

Britsburgh Society Members receive discounted or free registration on most events available during the Festival and are able to register their friends at the same price (only available during the Festival). We welcome new members to join and participate in our growing Britsburgh Societies. Information on membership can be found on our website britsburgh.com.

The main event this year is an [“**Exclusive World War I Centennial Charity Dinner**”](#) at Hartwood Acres on September 6th. This event will feature a sumptuous meal in an Edwardian style – a meal fit for King George V! Hartwood’s Great Hall will be decorated appropriately with the Flanders Field poppy being the centerpiece. Richard Turner, Regional Director – UK Department for International Trade, from the British Embassy in DC will give an address on the origins of the special relationship

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between the UK and US which started in WWI. Tickets cost \$250 and 100% of the profits from the event will go to the Britsburgh WWI Centennial Appeal for Veterans. In addition to other speakers referencing Pittsburgh's role in WWI, the evening will also feature song from the period. An intimate affair for 48 people.

The festival also includes 2 high end afternoon teas - the opener at [Mansions on Fifth](#) on September 4th and the 2nd at the [Omni William Penn](#) on September 5th. The theme here is Women in WWI. A donation of \$1 per ticket will go to the Appeal.

Lastly on the WWI front, the Leaning Cask Brewing Company have agreed to turn their pub into a [WWI themed pub](#) for Saturday, September 8th. Owner Josh Lipke is brewing a Burton Ale that has not been around since the end of WWI. On their big screen we will also be showing non-stop British comedy e.g. *Blackadder Goes Forth* (set in WWI) and *Dad's Army* (while set in WWII it's about the Home Guard (senior citizens protecting England who would have fought in WWI)). Should be a great night.

Our **opening night event at East End Brewery** (Tues, Sept 4th), will tap the specially brewed [Britsburgh Ale "Tony Knipling Cask"](#). This year's Britsburgh Ale is a honey heather ale. Think Scottish ale with heather tips added. We will raise our glasses to our friend Tony Knipling, who helped us start the Britsburgh Beer Society and how he had the idea for a Britsburgh Ale for our festival.

We are also introducing netball to the mix with a demo / 'come try a new sport' event, a couple of Shakespeare events, a talk on the life and music of Ralph Vaughn Williams, a British connections historic walking tour of Pittsburgh and lastly a preview event lunch with Quantum theatre founder, Karla Boos, a talk about process of adapting Sir Peter Ackroyd's *Chatterton* and bringing the project to life, ahead of their performances starting September 14.

Please see the following pages for Britsburgh Festival Event details. Full detail can be found at Britsburgh.com

About Britsburgh (www.britsburgh.com)

Britsburgh is a brand of BACP, a nonprofit 501c6 focused on "Building bridges across communities by driving growth in British-American culture, education, history, tradition and trade in Pittsburgh".

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Noon — 1 PM

Exploring Hartwood Acres Stable Complex
Hartwood Acres Park

Did you know that Hartwood was built as an equestrian estate? The Stable Complex was designed by Alfred Hopkins to resemble an English Cotswold village. Take this opportunity to learn more about this beautiful part of Hartwood Acres Park. (There are no horses at the Stable Complex.)

2:30 PM — 4:30 PM

Women in WWI Afternoon Tea (Wear Your Hat!)
Mansions on Fifth

It's the first day of the Britsburgh Festival and why not start with an afternoon tea in one of the City of Pittsburgh's finest, top notch establishments? The splendour of the Mansions on Fifth Hotel will provide the backdrop for an authentic, English afternoon tea. **ONLY 40 PLACES!**

This is a chance to dress up in style. Hats and fascinators are most welcome and encouraged.

We will toast Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

In the centennial year Britsburgh commemorates the end of World War I.

While you savour tea sandwiches, scones, pastries and your selection of tea, historian and author, Elizabeth Williams will discuss women and their contributions to winning WWI. \$1 of your ticket price will be donated to the Britsburgh WWI Centennial Appeal in aid of war veterans.

Britsburgh and its partners seek to honour those who gave their lives in defense of freedom, the veterans of all wars that remain and increase awareness such that the youth of today will remember and learn from the great sacrifice made on their behalf.



6:00 PM — 9:00 PM

Britsburgh Ale “Tony Knipling Cask” tapping

East End Brewery

Join us at the Britsburgh Festival opening beer event at East End Brewery. This year's Britsburgh Ale is a honey heather ale. Think Scottish ale with heather tips added. Made with 90% British malts and burtonized water. Can't get more authentic than that around here!

The cask tapping will kick off our event at around 6.15pm.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

11:00 PM — 3:00 PM

Special Hartwood Acres Mansion and Garden Tour

Join us for an extended tour of Hartwood Acres Mansion - the house interior, exterior, and the lovely formal garden. Emphasis will be placed on the English antiques, and the family's British antecedents.

12:10 PM — 1:30 PM

England Arise: The Hymns of Ralph Vaughan Williams

Trinity Cathedral

Ralph Vaughan Williams was one of the most influential composers of hymns of the 20th century. He edited *The English Hymnal and Songs of Praise*, and gave English church music in general, and English congregational singing in particular, a strength and character that it retains to this day. Dr. Philip Wainwright, retired and a Brit, will lead us as we explore why and how.

Add your voice to the singing of several of his best-known hymns, as well as a couple of undiscovered treasures.

The presentation will be followed by a tour of Trinity Cathedral led by historian William Kaiser.

1:00 PM — 2:30 PM

British walking tour with Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

Trinity Cathedral

Tour guides from the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation will lead an entertaining walk through downtown Pittsburgh highlighting British connections in architecture, art, literature, and even street names. You will hear what Charles Dickens and Anthony Trollope had to say about Pittsburgh, and tour civic, religious, and commercial buildings associated with the Penn family, William Pitt, James Grant, and John Forbes, among others.

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2:30 PM — 4:30 PM

Women in WWI Afternoon Tea Series

Omni William Penn Hotel

The Britsburgh festival moves to one of the finest establishments in Pittsburgh with a huge connection to the UK. What's in a name? The Omni William Penn is renowned for their afternoon teas and we have arranged a sumptuous one for our first event here. **ONLY 35 PLACES!**

The Edwardian splendour of the Omni William Penn hotel will provide the backdrop for an authentic, English afternoon tea. While you savour tea sandwiches, scones, pastries (including Victoria Sponge Cake!), fruit, and your selection of tea. And since this is afternoon tea, ladies, please feel free to wear your hats!

In the centennial year Britsburgh commemorates the end of World War I.

Britsburgh History Society leader and board member, Kim Szczypinski, will talk about women in The Great War and in particular Mrs. C. S. (Dorothy) Peel who did a lot for managing British food in WWI, teaching women alternative ways to manage with food shortages, etc. She wrote cooking and household management books before the war, rationing cookbooks during it, ran her own hat shop, wrote several novels, also several volumes of social history, including about British WWI home front life during the war and an autobiography.

\$1 of your ticket price will be donated to the Britsburgh WWI Centennial Appeal in aid of war veterans.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

6:30 PM — 10:00 PM

Exclusive World War I centennial charity dinner

Hartwood Acres Mansion

Britsburgh remembers - Join us as we commemorate World War One 100 years on with a wonderful dinner with connections to the Edwardian era. Hartwood Acres Mansion is the perfect setting with connections to WWI. John Lawrence, who lived at Harwood was a pilot in WWI.

All profits from this event will be donated to the Britsburgh WWI Centennial Appeal in aid of Veterans (est. \$100 per ticket).

Guest Speakers:

We welcome Richard Turner, Regional Director – UK Department for International Trade, from the British Embassy in Washington, DC, who will talk about the special relationship that started in WWI between the UK and the USA and what that relationship means today.

Local WWI historian and author, Elizabeth Williams and Duquesne University WWI historian Kimberly Szczypinski will talk about Women in WWI as well as Pittsburgh's important role in WWI.

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Programme:

6.30pm - 7.00pm: Reception

7.00pm - 8.30/9.00pm Dinner

8.30/9.00pm - 9.30/10.00pm Speeches

Edwardian WWI menu

Appetizers:

Devil's on Horseback

Scotch Eggs

1st Course:

Potage St. Germain soup

2nd course:

Roasted Butternut Squash & Beet Salad

Entree:

Beef Wellington

Carrots vichy

Duchess potatoes

Vegetarian/ Gluten free option: Stuffed zucchini (cheese & mushrooms)

Dessert:

Pavlova, fruit, whipped cream

Coffee and tea

WWI memorabilia: A display of Mr. Laurence's WWI memorability will be on display. If you have family memorabilia from WWI please bring it along and share your stories.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

11:00 AM — 2:00 PM

Downton Abbey Themed Tea

Hartwood Acres Mansion

Step back into a time of elegant refinement at Hartwood's Downton Abbey Themed Tea. Converse with friends old and new over a delicious tea before enjoying a tour of the mansion. Come dressed in period attire if you choose to do so, prizes will be given for the best costumes!

3:00 PM — 5:00 PM

Shakespeare Workshop with New Renaissance Theatre Company

Hartwood Acres Mansion

You have seen our Britsburgh partner, The New Renaissance Theatre Company perform with cue scripts, or maybe you haven't, but either way, now is your chance to experience the Unrehearsed Cue Script Technique (UCST) first hand. As part of Britsburgh's annual festival, NRTC's Artistic Director Andy Kirtland will lead this two-hour workshop focusing on two of the most fundamental rules of UCST.

Participants will be on their feet, working through scenes the same way that our casts for The Unrehearsed Shakespeare Project prepare for a performance.

Join us at the pavilion behind Hartwood Acres Mansion for this Pay-What-You-Will workshop and truly unique look at Shakespeare's plays. Space is limited to 15, so please register ASAP

Andy Kirtland has over 15 years' experience working from, teaching from, performing and producing from cue scripts. NRTC's Unrehearsed Shakespeare Project has toured the Pittsburgh area since 2014, and is unique in the area for its use of this historically informed practice.

Ages: 12 and up

5:00 PM — 10:00 PM

Step back 100 years into a WWI pub

The Leaning Cask Pub

We've turned back the clock 100 years and transformed the Leaning Cask Brewing Company pub in Springdale, PA (just 26 mins from downtown) into a British Pub during World War I. Enjoy a pint styled on a beer typically drunk in the UK during the Great War. Take in non-stop British TV comedy shown on the breweries big screen, while sampling some great British style beers.

The Leaning cask will tap a new beer for the Britsburgh Festival - a Burton ale, a classic style of beer which actually died out just after WWI but is now back for the Britsburgh Festival! All beers are available to sample. Just ask!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Noon — 2:30 PM

Lunch with Karla Boos on adapting Sir Peter Ackroyd's Chatterton
Allegheny HYP Club

As we draw this year's Britsburgh Festival to a close we end with an amazing opportunity to attend a light lunch at the Allegheny HYP club with a talk given by Karla Boos, Artistic Director of Quantum Theatre. Karla and one of her designers will talk about the process of adapting Sir Peter Ackroyd's Chatterton and bringing the project to life.

After the talk, there is the possibility of a trip to Trinity Cathedral so the attendees can see the space.

2:00 PM — 4:00 PM

The Two Gentlemen of Verona – Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Park
Highland Park

All in love is fair. Or so Proteus thinks after he meets his best friend's new girlfriend.

Shakespeare's delightful comedy. Directed by Charles Beikert, Production design by Lisa Leiberling. Featuring Stoney Richards and Jennifer Tober.

The event is FREE. Donations are very welcome and help both non-profit organizations. Picnics, dogs, and children are welcome at this 90-minute family-friendly performance.

3:30 PM — 5:30 PM

Watch and play netball: "Bringing it home"
Davis Playground, Shadyside

USA Netball player Greta Spitzer from England leads demonstrating the sport played by 20 million people in 80 countries. Derived in Britain from American women's basketball 120 years ago, Britsburgh and Pittsburgh Netball are "Bringing It Home."

Watch a demonstration of the game and learn the rules. Come dressed for sport on a tarmac court and practice skills and join a scrimmage!

What to expect?

3:30 Arrive to find parking on Squirrel Hill streets, make your way to the small park just off Murray Avenue, and sign in to participate in play or learn.

4:00 Greta Spitzer demonstrates the game, players, rules and scoring.

4:30 Practice your netball passing, footwork and shooting skills.

5:00. Game on! Try your hand at a 7-on-7 fifteen-minute match.

Come learn a new sport!

Age: 12+ female and male.