



Mick Brown
Chairman
RGBB

FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Members,

This is the second version that I have written for the News letter.... We had been waiting to have a photograph of the cheque being presented to His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz for the Disabled Children Association, unfortunately the Prince has had an accident and we have delayed the presentation.

Secondly the events in Iraq have occupied all our thoughts. On the question of security please make sure you take note of the warden notices and the advice that is being given. It is your own responsibility to ensure your own safety and should you need some one to share your concerns then I will be happy to listen. Keeping the amount of travelling to a minimum until the impact and duration of the events in Iraq are better understood is the best advice that I can give for the moment.

The nominations for the new board due to take office as per the 29th March have been received and there are 7 nominations for the 7 positions up for re-election; these were as follows:

Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Mick Brown	David Burton	Paul Brown
Martin Shaw	Andrew Mead	David Howarth
Luke Bowen	John Freel	Charlie Sullivan
David Hodgkinson	Stephen Wagstaff	Mick Brown
Stephan Wagstaff	Andrew Greenwood	John Davies
Gordon Bennie	Jim Milne	Keir Mackenzie
Andrew Barton	Martin Hutchison	Paul Ratcliffe

The position of Chairman of the BDC will be resolved by election by 13th April and together with Philip Parham, the Embassy Representative, they will make up the Board for the coming year. Since there is no need for an election I have already spoken to the New Board and the following individual responsibilities have been agreed. Mick Brown, Chairman; Martin Shaw, Vice Chairman and Events; Luke Bowen, SME's; David Hodgkinson, External Affairs; Stephan Wagstaff, Membership; Gordon Bennie, Treasurer and Andrew Barton, Communications. For the most part the Board members who have been re-elected will continue working with their existing portfolios and I welcome Gordon and Andrew to their new positions.

This year we have created a new position on the Board to help SME's. Luke Bowen has started this work and he is concentrating on helping existing members that fall under this category. We are feeling our way a little bit and need to hear from those members working in this environment to let Luke know what they consider as a priority.

Lastly I would like to remind you to support the Special Interest Groups. Graham Turner is continually encouraging the various groups to sponsor at least one or two presentations that will have some general relevance for the group as a whole. I also encourage you to come to the meetings and become involved in your area of expertise.

To finish off, I would like to say it has been a privilege to be Chairman this year and to thank each and every one of you for the support you have given me and the Board and I look forward to the same level of support in the coming year.

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 EXi telecoms Saudi Arabia Ltd page 41
 Veranda Restaurant page 43
 DHL page 46
 Multinational School page 49
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Special Features

- In this Issue:

Honours & Awards

by Owain Raw-Rees - p12

Our Home Town

by Graham Turner - p32

Wadi Ghiran Expedition

by Peter Lenthall - p40

Riding the Chrome Horse

by Pat Folliard - p47

Ironman

by Charlie Dryden - p52