



Martin Shaw
RGBB Chairman
& Events Director

The Social Whirl

NEW YEAR BALL
Thursday 8th January 2004.

There are many different ways to commence the New Year, but none can be much better than a Black Tie dinner dance at Venue 1. One hundred and fifty members and their guests were quite literally crammed into 'The Hall' and provided with some superb food and musical entertainment and I hope that I can speak for everyone when I say that it was a truly fabulous evening.

After some work with the airbrush the pictures that we are allowed to publish have been reproduced overleaf and I hope that the memories come flooding back when you see yourself in such good spirits! (No pun intended)

Many thanks must also go to our guest of honour, HMA Sherard Cowper-Coles who with his after dinner speech, had the audience in stitches with his tales from inside and outside the FCO. As mentioned in his speech the Greendale Oak is a bit special for some of us and if anyone else does know the location of the Greendale Oak, then answers on a postcard to The Secretary please. Having been to a few of these events over the years it was extraordinary to witness a standing ovation when HMA sat down, and thoroughly deserved it was too.

The Riyadh Intercontinental Hotel provided the catering and once again, from temporary cooking stations outside, they treated us to some great tucker.

Thanks of course to the Table Boys as well. We managed to start off the charity pot for the year with just under SR5000 raised from the evening.

A special word of appreciation for the lads named here whose help ensured the evening was an overwhelming success.

Martin Shaw	Gareth O'Brien
Luke Bowen	Andrew Mead
Ian Crawford	Kevin Millington

Thanks to the generosity of some of our sponsors the raffle was a huge success and with MC Luke Bowen offering a slight variation on the draw theme it kept most of us on the edge of our seats until the very last ticket had been drawn.

The Lucky winners were.

Air France return ticket to Europe
Winner Vanessa Christian

British Airways return ticket to London
Winner Tracy McNulty

Saudi British Bank Nokia mobile phone
Winner Karl Pacey

Saudi British Bank Siemens mobile phone
Winner Barry Lowen

Saudi British Bank Siemens mobile phone
Winner Susan Tedd

Rehlat Travel & Emirates Airlines weekend in Dubai
Winner Liz Vertigans

Binzaid Travel trip for 5 to Maden Saleh
Winner John Leifer

Riffa GC Bahrian Green fees & Buggies for 4 players
Winner Corrina Clayton

Rolls Royce Crystal decanter & glasses
Winner Ivan Hopkins

British Petroleum Marks & Spencer retail vouchers
Winner Brenda Smith

An impromptu ticket donated Group 4 British Airways return to London
Winner Katy O'Rourke-Grimsdell

A very warm & sincere "Thank You" to all our most generous sponsors for donating the lovely prizes

Irish Night
Thursday 25th March 2004
Dress: Smart Casual.
8.00 pm for 8.30 pm start.

SAR 70 per person
with music and dancing afterwards

Tickets available on a first come first served basis, emails only please to Martin Shaw; mshaw@arabian-homes.com.sa

LEEK & THYME SOUP
Served with crusty bread & butter

CHICKEN AND BACON CASSEROLE

IRISH STEW

STUFFED LEG of IRISH LAMB with MINT GRAVY

CHAMP, COLCANNON
BUTTERED PEAS & CARROTS
STEAMED CABBAGE

Assorted Mousse Cakes, Fresh Fruits, Yoghurt Cake

Hot Steaming Tea or Freshly Brewed Coffee