

First let me wish everyone a happy and successful 2006. As we move into the New Year, "change" continues to be the key word in Eastern Province. Sadly, we have said our goodbyes to Mike and Carole Hurley from the British Trade Office who have departed after over four years in Al-Khobar. Mike and Carole made significant contributions to both the activities of the BBA and to the community at large and will be greatly missed. We wish them both every success in their next assignment. Ms. Terry Evans replaced Mike and arrived in Al-Khobar with husband John during March and we look forward to welcoming them into the community.

A ceremony was held on 5 February 06 at the British International School, Al-Khobar (BISAK) to dedicate a school / community art gallery to the memory of Michael Hamilton who was so tragically killed in the terrorist attack in May 04. HM Ambassador, Sir Sherard Cowper-Cowles, dedicated the gallery with additional tributes by Chris Spedding (Headmaster) and George Saadeh (Chairman, School Board). The ceremony was a fitting tribute to a man who gave so much, not only to BISAK, as a Board Member, but also to the expatriate community and Saudi Arabia, in general.

On the business front, Eastern Province was pleased to recently welcome the Lord Mayor of London and a senior financial delegation, the UK Minister for Lifelong Learning, Further and Higher Education, Bill Rammell and his group of leading British universities and colleges, and a follow up educational mission led by the British Education Supplies Association. On the down side, several planned missions to EP were recently postponed/cancelled suggesting that work still has to be done to convince UK plc of the real business opportunities that exist here, and address any lingering security concerns.

Events like the well-attended Saudi "roadshows" held in Edinburgh and Manchester in January play an important role in this. Certainly, there seems to be an opportunity to heighten the interest in KSA and particularly Eastern Province, to take advantage of the anticipated economic growth.

As a Committee, we have begun to look critically at how we operate as an Association and have made progress on re-branding EP BBA by developing a new more modern logo. Other changes / improvements are also being considered with the most significant being how the business side of the Association can be made more visible and active. As a result, a series of Business Dinners are planned with the first occurring in April. It looks like 2006 is going to be a very busy year.



The British Business Association (BBA) – Eastern Province  
 P.O.Box 1868, Al Bustan Compound, AlKhobar 31952  
 Telephone: 03 882 5300 Ext 2010 Fax: 03 882 5384  
 E-mail: [bbakhobar@atheer.net.sa](mailto:bbakhobar@atheer.net.sa)

**Committee**

Geoff Fennah - Chairman  
 Saudi Chevron  
 Tel: 03-357 4912 Fax: 03-358 9801  
 E-mail: [geoff.fennah@saudichevron.com](mailto:geoff.fennah@saudichevron.com)

Mike Tunstall - General Secretary  
 Al Mutlaq Group  
 Tel: 882 2211 Fax: 882 6668  
 E-mail: [mike@shabakah.net.sa](mailto:mike@shabakah.net.sa)

Russell Brooke - Treasurer  
 MEDCO  
 Tel: 882 6991 Ext 241 Fax: 882 7196  
 E-mail: [russell@medco1.com](mailto:russell@medco1.com)

Norman Sheppard - Bulletin Editor  
 Saudi Aramco  
 Tel: 873 4124 Fax: 873 0294  
 E-mail: [norman.sheppard@aramco.com](mailto:norman.sheppard@aramco.com)

Mike Gorrie - Membership Secretary  
 Rezayat Catering & Support Services  
 Tel: 882 5700 Fax: 882 6611  
 E-mail: [mgorrie@rezayat.com.sa](mailto:mgorrie@rezayat.com.sa)

John Chapman - Education & Training  
 Dhahran British Grammar School  
 Tel: 330 0555 Fax: 330 0555 ext 2037  
 E-mail: [jchapman@isgdh.org](mailto:jchapman@isgdh.org)

Steve Adams - Board Member  
 British Council  
 Tel: 03 887 7851 Ext. 110  
 Fax: 03 887 7831  
 email: [steve.adams@sa.britishcouncil.org](mailto:steve.adams@sa.britishcouncil.org)

Garry Marshall - Board Member  
 Algosaibi Services  
 Tel: 03 847 2444  
 Fax: 03 847 3755  
 email: [garrymarshall@hotmail.com](mailto:garrymarshall@hotmail.com)

Gavin Ames - Board Member  
 ATCO  
 Tel: 03 834 3343  
 Fax: 03 834 2937  
 email: [gavin@atco.com.sa](mailto:gavin@atco.com.sa)

Terry Evans - Member Ex Officio  
 Head of the British Trade Office  
 Tel: 882 5300 x 2003 Fax: 882 5384  
 E-mail: [mike.hurley@fco.gov.uk](mailto:mike.hurley@fco.gov.uk)

Richard Wood - British Trade Office Liaison  
 2nd Secretary Commercial BTO  
 Tel: 882 5300 x 2006 Fax: 882 5384  
 E-mail: [richard.wood@fco.gov.uk](mailto:richard.wood@fco.gov.uk)

# Notes from the Eastern Chair



Geoff Fennah MBE  
 Chairman, British Business Association  
 Eastern Province