



Paul Dugan
Chairman RGBB

FROM THE CHAIR

As we go to press, the board will have been in office for more than three hectic, but rewarding months. March 24th saw the AGM and agreement of major constitutional changes. Under the leadership of John Freel and the guidance and ratification by Peter Lyall we were able to debate and finalise changes for inclusion into the current constitution.

On behalf of the new Board and RGBB members, I would like to recognise and thank John Freel for the leadership and support he gave to the RGBB group during his active and successful four-year term as Chairman, his vision and strategy are the foundation for our current activities. It is gratifying that despite a very hectic business schedule John can find the time and commitment to still retain a position on the current board offering advice and taking on the Internal Relations activities.

Having agreed and advised the RGBB member's roles for the new Board, Peter Lyall advised he is moving on to new pastures and tendered his resignation. Peter's departure so early in our tenure is a great loss to the board; Peter you will recall was instrumental in the successful rewrite and approval of the constitution. On behalf of the members and the Board, I wish both Peter and Bridget all the very best and good luck in their future ventures wherever that may be!

Jenny Hall, our secretary advised she was also resigning to join her husband in Dubai. Jenny has been instrumental in setting up the RGBB office at the Embassy. On behalf of the Board and the members I would like to thank Jenny for her hard work in developing the secretarial role, ensuring information passed efficiently and quickly from the Board to members.

As we go to press I have placed on the agenda for the next board meeting several options on how we provide similar cost efficient service to the members. I will keep you informed of the progress.

So, after almost going back to day one! We have now completed the constitutional voting process for Peter Lyalls replacement. Effective 1st June 2001 Gordon Bennie is appointed Deputy Chairman; this position voted by the current Board Directors and officiated by Philip Parham. Welcome to Gordon, I feel confident with your previous role as treasurer you bring experience, stability, and fulfil one of the

board's current objectives, succession planning for the group. I look forward to working with you and taking on new challenges during our remaining tenure.

By the time we go to publication your Board will have fulfilled all constitutional requirements in filling the last remaining Board vacancy, and will be well positioned to take the RGBB forward during the next year. I feel extremely confident current members of the Board have the necessary skills and motivation to accept the challenges, and will endeavour to provide RGBB with the necessary support and leadership. Thanks to the Business Development Committee and Special Interest Groups we have already seen a marked increase in activities and planning. The members diary issued monthly clearly demonstrates the Board's intent to provide for all the members needs business or otherwise. Whilst I support the initiative to grow the members, we must ensure we do not loose sight of the RGBB mission. As a group we can achieve this by allowing membership growth through the Membership Director, Business Development Committee and Special Interest Groups whilst the Boards focus remains on business and commerce activities between the United Kingdom and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

I hope you will have noticed the current newsletter you are reading has now been expanded increasing the number of pages available for articles and adverts. The newsletter cannot survive without long-term advertising sponsorship. I have already managed to achieve enough advertising revenue to produce the next three issues. This is your newsletter, your platform. I would appreciate any support you can give. I know there's a wealth of material and stories out there, so let us all enjoy your business, your travels, and lifestyles.

Closure date, for the autumn issue is 10th October 2001. The spring issue closure date is 1st February 2002. I have included these dates in the RGBB member's diary.

We are here because "you" the members have spoken. As the new Chairman I believe the RGBB can provide the links and partnering for you as businessmen between your business, the UK Government and the Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia. Only with your support can we achieve the group's objectives so I do encourage all of you as members to actively participate in giving feedback to let us know how we are doing.

RGBB News is compiled by Andrew Mead.

If you would like to contribute an article to or advertise in the next issue please contact him at:

Mead Management Services Ltd.
Chandler House, Fox Croft Walk
Chippenham, Wilts. SN15 3YB
Tel: 0044 7940 559 925
Fax: 0044 1249 460 602

or

JUMANA HOUSE
P.O.Box 8389
Riyadh 11482
Tel: 01 402 4785
Fax: 01 405 9861

E-mail: AMead@compuserve.com

