

# BDC Notes

The Business Development Committee has seen many changes in 2001. Details of the changes in Chairman, Deputy Chairman and contacts are shown on page 2 of this magazine. We have a new BDG Chairman and Secretary (Martin Shaw) as well and we would like to record our thanks to the outgoing Chairman, Luke Bowen, for all his hard work on behalf of the SIG's during the last three years and for helping achieve what I hope has been a smooth transition.

The SIGs are very much the working arm of the RGBB. Each SIG exists to serve its members and the diverse activities recorded by the SIG Chairman on the following pages reinforce this. The combination of business and social activities organised for each group provide an opportunity for members to share their experiences and keep abreast of the latest developments and opportunities in the Kingdom.

Whilst all members are 'categorised' when joining the RGBB according to their specific function, there is no limit to the number of SIGs a member can join. I am sure there are many who have an interest in Finance and Human Resources for example, even though they may be specifically members of the Construction or Manufacturing Groups. Please let the relevant Chairman and Membership Secretary know if you would like to join an additional group or be kept advised on forthcoming events in another group.

A regular schedule of BDG Committee meetings has been established and will take place 6 days before the main RGBB Board meetings in order to ensure that the full resources of the RGBB and the Embassy are available to support our members. The regular circulation of 'forthcoming' events from the secretary to all members of future SIG meetings should ensure a lively participation for the remainder of 2001.

Graham Turner

# COMMIT SIG

The only constant in Saudi Arabia is change. Aldo Stawberries has had to resign his position as Chairman and we wish him all the best in his new role back in Blighty. Mick Brown temporarily stepped in to hold fort and we are pleased to say that Peter Thompson has now taken the role permanently. Peter will be picking Mick's brains over the next few weeks and will be setting up a full programme of activities for the rest of the year.

The Group has not been inactive while these changes have been taking place. In addition to an excellent breakfast meeting on the subject of "e-Govt" the group also got together with the Manufacturing SIG to hold a highly over subscribed "Fish & Chip" supper as you will see from the pictures. This traditional event was greatly enjoyed by over 80 members, as you will see from the pictures. Eating from a "green" newspaper was a novel experience.

Regular information on IT developments will continue to be circulated to members and the early advice of viruses and other IT related events, the recent problems with Primenet being a good example, is an important part of our service to the RGBB.



Peter Thompson

