

# An extra Member Benefit

Following a visit by Sir Alan Munro earlier in the year, the RGBB has obtained a 'Block' Membership of the Saudi British Society.

As a result, members of the RGBB will be able to attend Society events when they are visiting the UK and be invited to join the society independently when they return.

The Society was formed in 1986 to help promote closer friendship and understanding between the people of Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom. The Society is a social, cultural, non-political and non-commercial organisation. It aims to bring together British citizens who have an interest in Saudi Arabia (whether professional, commercial, cultural or otherwise) and Saudi Arabian citizens who are resident in, visitors to or interested in the UK. It aims also to provide a medium through which hospitality may be offered to Saudi Arabians visiting or living in the UK.



HRH Prince Mohammed bin Nawaf Al-Saud the current Saudi Ambassador in London

The Society has a President who is always the Saudi Arabian Ambassador in London and an elected Committee. There are ordinary, associate, corporate, student and honorary members. The Society is self-financing through subscriptions from members and donations.

Since 1986 the Society's activities have included receptions for important visitors, dinners, exhibitions, lectures and a book launch. The Society has, since its inception, taken an active interest in the activities of the King Fahad Academy in Ealing and, with the generous support of British Aerospace, presents a silver cup and a medal each year to the boy and girl nominated as best student by the Headmaster and Headmistress.

From 2006 the Society has organized the annual award of prizes to 2 individuals who have made significant contributions towards Saudi-British relations. These generous prizes are donated by Mr. Abdulaziz al Turki of the al Rawabi Holdings Group and presented at a reception held every January in the presence of the donor and, when possible, the Saudi Ambassador.

Below and Right: Sir Alan Munro with guests at the Saudi British Joint Business Council reception in Riyadh in April



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Membership is open to all Saudi Arabian and British citizens with an interest in Saudi Arabia. The subscription rate for Ordinary Members remains £10 a year and for Corporate members £100 per year. The applicable time frame for all fees is the calendar year from 1 January through to 31 December. The Saudi-British Society does not accept membership fees for any period of less than 1 year.

RGBB Members wishing to become full members in their own right can download an application form and Bankers Draft from the website at [www.saudibritishsociety.org.uk](http://www.saudibritishsociety.org.uk) or by email from: [secretary@saudibritishsociety.org.uk](mailto:secretary@saudibritishsociety.org.uk)



## Forthcoming Events

11<sup>th</sup> September 2007: Talk by Mr. James Barr, author of *"Setting the Desert on Fire: T.E. Lawrence and Britain's Secret War in Arabia, 1916-18"* at the Middle East Association, 33 Bury Street, London SW1, at 5.30pm for 6.00pm.

Since reading modern history at Oxford, James Barr has worked in politics, for the Daily Telegraph and latterly in the City. He spent 4 years researching his book, using British and French archives and travelling to Jordan, Syria and Saudi Arabia to see the places involved in the Arabs' revolt for himself.

Please let the Secretary, Miss Lisa Bowcock, know if you are able to come to this event, by email on: [L.bowcock@clara.co.uk](mailto:L.bowcock@clara.co.uk) or by post to: Green Gables, Clee Hill Road, Tenbury, Worcs. WR15 8HJ. Members come free but guests are asked to pay £5, apart from members of the Society for Arabian Studies, with whom we have a reciprocal arrangement for attending each others' lectures.