

BDC Notes



Graham Turner
BDC Chairman
RGBB

One of the major objectives of our current Board has been to use the collective strength of our membership to provide all RGBB members with up to date information on the local market, business opportunities, increase our interaction with the local authorities and generally to increase our services to members in carrying out their day to day jobs.

Our second objective is to provide feedback and assistance to UK Companies looking to introduce their products and services into the Kingdom.

A number of initiatives have taken place over the 6 months to meet these objectives including:-

New Healthcare and Oil, Gas and Petroleum Special Interest Groups have been formed and both will be holding their inaugural meetings in October. These meetings will be open to all members. The Healthcare meeting will be on the specific subject of Compulsory Health Insurance, a subject which will affect us all.

Following on from our successful meetings with SAGIA and the discussion forums this has led to with various departments within the labour Office, we intend to build on this with other Government bodies.

The first such informal meeting is provisionally planned for 20th October and is being organised with the invaluable help of David Burton. As part of this initiative we have also collectively provided feedback to the appropriate bodies from the British Business Community on such issues as the Investment climate and the sensitive subject of individual taxation.

During the course of the year we have received a number of enquiries from UK Companies looking for opportunities in Saudi Arabia. These come in from a variety of sources, directly to the Embassy Commercial Section, via our web site, through Trade Missions and even direct e mail, These are all reviewed at the BDC and assigned for follow up to the relevant SIG or section at the Embassy.

Gentlemen, as with all voluntary organisations we are only as good as the people who are prepared to offer their talents and time for the benefit of all. Details are shown elsewhere in the magazine of the Special Interest Groups we currently have together with contact details of the organisers of these Groups.

They would be delighted to hear from any one who is prepared to help in running them, sharing their ideas (formally or informally), or just in attending their meetings.

British Community Charity Golf Cheque presentation



DHL, Luke Bowen from Arcom/Crane, Philip Parham from the British Embassy and Mal Brown from the British Ladies Group spent some time in the Disabled Association's Centre seeing first hand the excellent facilities.

Special note should be made of the support given to the families of the children to allow them to live as normal a life as possible within the family unit, including going to local schools.

During the meeting with the Prince he was very appreciative with the efforts of the British Community and he looked forward to the day when science and technology would permit a cure for these unfortunate children rather than treating the symptoms.

A cheque for SAR 125,000 was presented to His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud on 5th June 2002 by Mick Brown the Chairman of the Organisation Committee.

Prior to the handing over ceremony a number of sponsors, Khaled Abuynayyen from Saudi British Bank, Paul Dhami from British Airways, Simon Tarrant from

The Prince also said that if he was free he would attempt to officially open this year's tournament by teeing off the first ball. The tournament will take place again at the Dirab Golf and Recreation Centre on the 10th October. There will be a shot-gun start at 0715 and again at 1215. The prize giving dinner will be held at the Residence Garden starting at 1930. Those wanting to play, need to sign up by sending their request to the following email address britcommgolf@hotmail.com