

Well, lets us start with the good news! The State of the Nation Dinner is almost upon us, indeed by the time this edition of the RGBB News reaches you it will have been done and dusted! This is a time for hairdressing visits and formal clothes to be ironed and laid out. And that is only for us men! Seriously, this really is an event worth waiting for and tremendously enjoyed by those lucky enough to have got their tickets. The food will be good, the entertainment even better, but best of all as always, will be the excellent company that makes this event such a success year after year.

I trust as well, that you will have enjoyed the Family Fun Day in December and perhaps even taken part in the Tug-of-War event organised by Brain Hawley.

In November of course the BBG enjoyed another wonderful Iftar cruise along the Obhur coastline. The food, the company, the views of the magnificent villas and the superb weather from the top deck of the cruise ship made the evening a memorable one.

The evening was made all the better by the presence of Sir Sherard, our ambassador in Riyadh who made a special visit to Jeddah to attend this BBG function. Our thanks go to Sir Sherard for this very kind gesture. As well as enjoying ourselves I was also very pleased to announce on the evening that we had collected SR4327 for the Earthquake appeal and that the BBG had contributed an equal amount which has now been transferred to the Earthquake appeal fund. My thanks go to all of you and your very kind generosity on the evening.

Also in November, Jeddah witnessed another ORP performance that aspired to the standards of professional theatre. The group, already noted for its ongoing versatility and diversity, turned its attention to the legendary comedy of manners that is Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest". This is a brave choice for any group, professional or amateur. Some would cite period drama as an anachronism of sorts. However, this production was carried off with style, aplomb and utter panache.

The BBG/ABJ Sports Challenge is also pretty much organized with Nigel Clarkson leading from the front as the BBG committee representative, ably supported by Graham Birkett. Details are available from the secretary on the sports we will be playing. Remember, participate and you will have priority on the limited tickets for the Survivors Ball in early spring 2006, hosted by the ABJ.

The first business event for the BBG in 2006 will be a meeting on Sunday 22nd January. Edward Lynch, a BBG Member and a Lawyer working in a Jeddah Practice will address the meeting. Details are being finalised with Edward but the content most surely will be topical and reflect hot issues of the day.

In February, we are hoping that The Lord Mayor of the City of London will be attending the Jeddah Economic Forum. We hope that he will accept the invitation from the BBG to attend a luncheon in his honour on the 11th February. Of course, further information will become available as we move into 2006.

Another important date to put in your diaries is for the BBG AGM which will be held on Monday 13th February 2006 at 7pm. We are anticipating that the venue will be the Entertainment Suite at the British Consulate-General. Other information will be issued in due course.

I should also mention some sad news for the BBG in that we have "lost" Shirley Sedge our superb BBG office administrator. But the good news is that she has been lost to Carma Elliot as her new P.A. Even better news is that Shirley will stay on working part time for three evenings a week for the BBG. New BBG office opening details are detailed below. Our congratulations go to Shirley for this "promotion"

As this will be the last newsletter before the New Year may I also take this opportunity, on behalf of the BBG committee, to wish all our members and their families Seasons Greetings and a very prosperous 2006

Lastly, may I also, on behalf of all members of the BBG, wish our Consul General, Carma Elliot, a speedy recovery from a minor illness resulting in a short hospital stay? Carma is now back home at the consulate taking a well deserved rest and she has asked me to pass on her very sincere thanks for all of the phone calls, visits and gifts she has received over the last few days and does intend to follow up individually as she recovers. A speedy recovery Carma. We need you back in action ASAP!

Notes from the BBG Jeddah



Dawood Taylor
Chairman, British
Business Group
Western Province

BBG Secretary & Office Location

Working hours and contact numbers of the
BBG office / secretary as follows:

Location:

Arabian Homes, Sierra Village,
Central Reception/Recreation centre

The office will be open at the following times:

Saturday 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Sunday 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Tuesday 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

The contact numbers are as:

tel: (02) 662 4000 ext 2366
fax: (02) 6620090
e-mail: secretary@bbj-jed.org