Putting ‘Mumbai First’ into focus

The time to come to India and do business is right now when the world is grappling with the recession,” said the Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt, MP, the new Chair of the UKIBC. She was addressing a breakfast meeting of BBG and UKIBC members on July 29 at the Taj Mahal Hotel. The meeting was very well attended with people from the British and Indian business communities among those present.

Coincidentally, her association with India had also begun with a breakfast meeting, when she was Secretary of State for Trade and Industry in the Tony Blair government. “There will be a shift in the centre of the world’s economic gravity from the West to the East because of the downturn,” she felt.

“It is impossible to be a top global priority for Britain” added Hewitt, emphasizing that this is exactly the time to get to know the country better and benefit from the enormous potential its mass market represents. The UK and India have great opportunities for collaboration, she pointed out, not just in traditional sectors like IT, but also in advanced engineering and high-value manufacturing.

Newer sectors like environment technology and life sciences are other areas where the two countries have a mutual interest. And, of course, as an MP from Leicester, she saw exciting business opportunities in the creative world, with Bollywood coming to Britain. The UK is a favourite country for locations for Bollywood movies, as well as for its post-production facilities, she said.

Patricia Hewitt (second from right) with British Deputy High Commissioner Vicki Treadell; Sharon Bamford, CEO of UKIBC; Taj Hotel’s Jehangir Press and BBG committee member Renu Basu.

There is already a focus on the Indian metros, but Hewitt urged the assembled business group to look at emerging Indian cities which hold tremendous promise. The elements that make the big cities successful can be replicated in smaller towns which have a huge business agenda. “We can hold their hands as they develop and build long-term relationships,” she said.

Born in Australia, Patricia Hewitt studied at the Australian National University before going on to Oxford and Cambridge, where she was awarded two master’s degrees.

Something of a linguist, she speaks French and is learning Hindi as well.

Roger Pereira, who was recently appointed Global Executive Vice-Chairman of Edelman.

Roger gave an evocative introduction to the city he has grown up in. Then Nayar took over with his plans and priorities for the future of this vibrant city. Bombay First is modelled on London First, Nayar said, and a study by McKinsey & Company on the city and its problems triggered a unique public-private partnership to rejuvenate the city.

With its art and architecture, its fashion and entertainment industry, even its snarling traffic and spirited politics, Mumbai is truly the city of our dreams, said Nayar, adding that together we can make the dream happen.

An animated audience came up with suggestions on how to get citizens more closely involved in the city’s fortunes and future – as well as on making the powers-that-be more accountable.

This is part of Nayar’s effort at putting Mumbai back on the priority list of the country and he has been doing some path breaking work in this regard.

Nayar is also the president of The Indo-Italian Chamber and is a member of BBG, EBG, and a founder member of the Indo-Canadian Chamber of Commerce.
CHAIRMAN SPEAK

I started my last column with a fare-
well to Alan Rosling and I start this one with another farewell. This time to Alex de Graaf, he was a deputy director as Honorary
President of the Sandemans. After
over six years in India Alex is retiring to France, he will be greatly missed by all of us and our BBG Mumbai will lose one of its most loyal support-
ers. Farewell parties have become a very common feature of the social calendar of late, a few weekends ago I attended four in three days. A sign of the times perhaps, but also a facet of life in a dynamic world city like Mumbai.

At the beginning of the year a number of commentators talked about a series of crises that would see the economy back on track the start of the new financial year, the general election, the new government’s first budget and the start of the monsoon. But it all well and truly here all four markers have now been passed, and although the stock market didn’t seem to like the budget much, I get the impres-
sion that by and large we are getting back on track. There is a long way to go, but I think we have thought that by the time monsoon breaks well be on a way to a full recovery, and maybe by year end there will even be something to celebrate.

This issue also marks the start of the fourth volume of the newsletter and I do want to take this oppor-
tunity to again thank our sponsors without whose support this newsletter just would not be possible. So to our founding sponsors TCS, HSBC, Roger Pereira Communications, British Airways and Hypermart, to the Pune BBG and Mumbai’s leading advertising and
supporters, Awanata and UCBK, thank you from us all.

BBG Joining BITC Global CSR Network

T he International Financial Services
Forum, Mumbai, held its latest panel discussion at the Trident on June 18. The event, ‘Working with Indian Regulators’, was very well
tended reflecting the quality of the panel Mr Damodaran, a former SEBI chairman was joined by Mr U K Sinha, chairman of UTI and Ms Udeshi, a former BBG deputy
governor. The discussion was ably moderated by Ashwin Parekh, National Leader of Financial
Services at Ernst & Young. The event was opened by Vicki Treadell, the British Deputy High Commissioner, neatly summing
up her role, and that of the govern-
ment as ‘not to do business, but to act as a catalyst’. The level of interest also
reflected the great interest in this thesis topic – how to make the industry-regulator relation-
ship more effective? Thoughtful insight was shared on this topic by the panel – Mr Sinha urged firms to really understand the focus of the RBI, namely its goal of protecting depositors, as well as its angle on social justice. For instance, she noted that the RBI implements policies that benefit those who provide deposits to a wide range of depositors and disadvantage those who don’t. Mr Damodaran remedied listeners that regulators and industry are actually on the
same side and lamented the fact that industry did not participate fully in the consultative process. Mr Sinha urged the audience to go back to first principles and understand that regulation in India comes from the constitu-
tion downwards.

Tell us about BITC

Business in the Community was set up by key business leaders in 1982 to help businesses in the UK that year. Busi-
nesses such as Marks and Spencer saw that the altruistic
ness needed a stable society and healthy high streets relied upon healthy back streets. So from the very beginning mutual benefits, self interest and collaboration were key components.

BBG News

UKTI supports new ventures across India

B usiness in the Community (BITC) is a charitable organisation set up by the Prince of Wales to encourage UK businesses to adopt socially responsible practices across the world.

BBG Goa has been a strong partner in this initiative, helping businesses across the region to engage the interest of compa-

ies, to start new communities and to promote sustainable development at a global level.

Today we are the biggest and most successful business led organisations covering the broad CSR agenda, including commu-
nity investment, environmental sustainability, promoting safe and healthy workplaces, marketplace development, reporting, rewarding and recognition. We work with over 700 companies and over 65 of them are FTSE 100 companies. Is it focussed only on the UK? Increasingly business was ask-
ing for help to take our UK based learning and approach to other UKTI News

Update

aties. The BBG Committee has been reinforced by the addition of BBG’s new Country Head, Sashi
Mukundan, so we are all set to maintain our momentum in the new post-electoral landscape.

We are busy spending some months getting to know the new government better and wait to see if it feels
mandated to do more for business, both domestic and international. The budget was probably not
the best indicator of its intentions – or at least, I hope not. The next few months will give us a better feel for those intentions.

After a summer of extensive travel in the UK and India, I find business interest in India is strong, and there are now very few places in the UK where we are not looking interesting – and India is clearly next. We plan to continue to
help our friends from Mumbai, Goa and Pune be at the forefront of their visits to Delhi with BBG events here and join in.

Winners from seven categories of awards – Investor of the Year, Best Business Leadership Team – and an Investment Special Recognition Award, will be announced at a televised awards and dinner ceremony in Mumbai on September 17, 2009.

For more information please contact UKTI Deputy Director, UCBK at London. westminster@ukti.gov.uk
From page 4.

**Embracing communities with T**

T he Internet is arguably the greatest invention of the last century thanks to the vast amount of information it provides. Recent studies have revealed a strong positive correlation between a country’s social and economic development and investments in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). Unfortunately, the impact of ICT over the last 10 years has been restricted to the developed world and the middle and upper echelons of society in the developing countries. Many communities remain marginalised as a result of this information gap, unable to engage with the services and activities of informed people in the formal economy. I started the Solar Cinema in April 2009 with the aim of reducing this information gap, and providing better information to communities though schools, community centres, and community cinemas. At Solar Cinema we ask: what can we expect to happen in economies suffering from an information gap if we provide relevant information to people in an accessible manner? As we present films, what happens when every Indian man and woman, in each village, town and city is able to attend school with better facilities and more resources? They can attain higher grades and are encouraged to stay enrolled in school for longer. Understands government employment guar- antee schemes? They can ensure they receive the employment they are eligible for and that they know the terms and wages they are employed under. Has access to a complete resumé of each political candidate standing in the next election? They will learn that 23 percent of the lower House of Parliament are people with criminal records, and make an informed decision about whom to vote for. Knowing that the next polio immunisation clinic will be held in their village? They will protect their children against a lifelong disability. Watch their favourite Indian movie with subtitles? They have a chance to improve their reading skills. Gathers with neighbours to enjoy the latest Bollywood flick? They will build a stronger community. The opportunities for community development are boundless, and we hope to develop our approach to offering research across Pune and Pune and why on earth are you here? Nothing – there are still some to seek to emulate.

**UK-india partnership at work**

O NCE EXAMPLE of the success that Indo-UK partnerships can achieve in the long term is RCG Instruments. This Pune-based firm has marketed British made equipment for engineering education and industrial research in India since 1975. The company has, together with its five principals, handled a variety of international projects for the British Council, UNDP, EDC, World Bank, and ADB, besides others funded by the Government of India.

It frequently delegates members to conferences and expos in the UK, and has been involved with the BBG in Pune since its inception.

**Colonial Heritage**

D uring the talk he focused on this ancient city’s colonial architectural heritage. The can- tonment area with its military barrack, and the Mandharin’s house are all legacies of the British. But their military contributions were bridges, barracks, churches, synagogues, and the Bungalow’s with its English garden landscape which transformed town planning from the congested, inward looking ‘walled formations of the old city, to this new type of house. It was built in a way that gave space for the garden and easy access and extensive gardens, and also contributed significantly to the expansion and growth of the cantonments. It is necessary to know that during that period Pune didn’t have any public gardens, and those houses were built with private gardens. Under British rule, the city got its first public garden, the Bund Garden, in 1861. The Bund Garden is another such garden in the cantonment area, today commonly frequented during exhibitions, parties and marriages which are held there.

The session was an interesting preview into the city’s heritage scene, in which all buildings and landscape correspond to a particular design. INTACH is India’s largest NGO committed to the conservation of India’s heritage.

**The Ten Commandments of good Corporate Governance**

B BG Pune was honoured to have Sir J I Jiri address its members on the differences in corporate governance between the UK and India. The session commenced with a formal wel- come and brief introduction by co-chair Vandana Poria. Sir J I Jiri touched on the elements of good corporate governance and pointed out the specific differences in standards and practices between the two countries.

One stark difference is the nexus between industry and govern- ment that is present in India but not dominant or encouraged in the United Kingdom. Indian business had the Indian codes of corporate governance, though highly regarded internationall- y, needed a case like Satyam to throw light on its flaws. The episode presents India Inc with an opportunity to learn from the mistakes and recognise symptoms of improper behaviour. He also discussed what he called the “Ten Commandments” for good corporate governance and spoke about the plight of independent directors, saying it was important to define the role of these directors to protect them from harassment in case of scandals.

A good corporate practice he recommended was that the inde- pendent directors meet regularly and communicate their concerns and observations to the CEO and the Audit Committee.

His conclusion was that the leaders of today must walk the talk, and lead by example. He con- cluded that along with following the law there is also a requirement to function by virtue. Hence ethics and good corporate practices must co-exist.

**What are Limited Liability Partnerships?**

Pune University.

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Tell us something about your work in India?
I represent Scottish Development Internation- al, the Scottish government agency that helps Indian companies interested in setting up business or expanding operations in Scotland as well as supporting Scottish companies who want to do business here in India.

I lead executive teams based in New Delhi and Mumbai which are responsible for promoting trade and investment in our target sectors of life sciences, energy, finance & busi- ness services and education. Today there are around 10 Indian companies with operations in Scotland including United Spirits, Reid & Taylor, HOC, and Piramal Healthcare, and these companies have invested over Rs. 500 crores (£700m) in recent years in Scotland. Furthermore, there are a significant number of Scottish companies active in India in the fields of Standard Life, Aggreko, Cairn Energy and Clyde Chimneys. My aim is to double the level of trade and investment between Scotland and India in the next two to three years.

What is a typical work day for you?
It generally starts with a quick review of the business press to catch up on news and developments relating to our target Indian companies. Then after dealing with emails I’m typically at the business end of the tasks, meeting with Indian leaders to explain how Scotland can support their international and domestic growth plans.

We’re fortunate in that Scotland’s reputation in India as a leading centre for life sciences, financial, oil & gas exploration and education is well known, so Indian companies are typically receptive to our initial approach. Most days will also see me attending business networking events. Networking is a way of life in India and there are plenty of opportunities to spread SDI’s messages and make useful contacts. Typically, late afternoon runs into early evening as this is when I schedule calls with colleagues back in Scotland. Working in a field offices, some 5,000 miles from our HQ, it can be challenging to keep current with the fast changing business environment in Scotland and also the new products and services which we are developing to support our customers. So it is critical for me to invest the time to speak regularly with the folks back in Scotland for updates.

How do you view the growth prospects of the Indian market, in light of the global economic slowdown?
India’s economy has been one of the stars of the global economy in recent years with a growth of around 9 percent for the last three years in the face of the financial crisis which began in 2007. Impacting most emerging market economies, the 7.1 percent rate of GDP growth in 2008-09 makes India the second-fastest growing economy in the world. As India’s peak spending phase deflates, it is the worst of the global meltdown. The fallout of the global slowdown on India’s economy was countered with the fiscal stimu- lus packages.

What are the challenges you face when working in India? The scale of the country and not having enough hours in the day are the ones that come to mind immediately.
What are the key changes that the govern- ment of India needs to implement? They need to continue to simplify procedures and relax entry barriers for business activi- ties. Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) would also help in identifying and dealing with issues of deeper integration in areas like government procurement, services, investment, trade fa- cilitation, defense, and PR. India needs to con- tinue to allow foreign investment and expand it. At the same time the country needs to invest in building world-class infrastructure.

It was a story of adventure and discovery - eliminating recently in a highly successful Initial Public Offering. Oil and gas exploration company Cairn India’s dynamic young managing director and chief executive officer, Rahul Dhir, mapped the company’s 20-year journey in India for BBG members.

The process of growth saw Cairn cross- the spectrum and breadth of the country with forays in upstream and downstream ventures. After plenty of effort Cairn struck the largest inland gas field in the country back in 2004 in Rajasthan and has been on the growth track ever since.

It entered the Indian market in the early 1990s, at the time of Liberalisation and privatisation, and met the competitive challenge with a strong technology and value proposition. It faced the long list of uncertainties surrounding its business with persistence - never taking ‘no’ for an answer.

What has underscored the company’s strong growth has been a continuing commitment to creating value for all its stakeholders, asserted Dhir. ‘That is surely a philosophy worth exploring by other companies as well, as they seek to grow in the country.

It was truly a story of man vs. man and the island village of Malabar Chet Karrey on the outskirts of the hardest hit by the devastating cyclone Sidr which ripped through Bangladesh on November 13, 2007.

But as Keith Cunladee of BBG Bangladesh, who had flown in from Doha to speak to BBG members, recounted the disaster, we heard inspiring stories of hope and encountered profiles in courage.

In discussion with the Government of Bangladesh and working with the NGO Friendship, BBG Bangladesh embarked on an ambitious project to restore homes, rebuild lives and futures at this village. The BBG Bangladesh project that rather than simply donating money it was more productive and useful in the long term to actually help in the restoration of a particular village.

Malabar Chet Karrey came through the tragedy to become a treasured island, and has now become the envy of surrounding villages. The transformation happened not just through the aid and support of dedicated agencies including the BBG Bangladesh but mainly through the spirit of the locals, which could not be usurped or swept away in the cyclone.

BBG expands online presence
ASIDE from our popular website (www.bbg.org.mg), the BBG has recently expanded its online visibility. We have just launched our official Facebook group and Twitter page. Members who have Facebook can join us at ‘British Business Group Mumbai’ to keep updated on events. With regards to Twitter, simply follow ‘the BBG at the MumbaiBBG profile for updates on upcoming BBG happenings.

It’s time to get sporty!
AMONG the exciting sporting events planned in the coming months are a six-a-side football tournament at the Bombay Gym in September, a Rugby 7s tournament at the Willingdon Club in November and a golf tournament at the Willingdon Club in December. Next year we plan to have an event after the Mumbai Marathon on January 17. Our an- nual Bombay Bails cricket match that with ANZI is planned for Febru- ary 2010. We also plan to hold a ‘Sports Night’ in the next few months and will be contacting you for other ideas, or if you would like to sponsor any of these events.

Greg Hughes
greg@sdigram.com

Your favourite restaurant
Gary: Salt Water Cafe in Bandra.
Elisa: Trisha - for their butter pepper crab.

Gary: Trisha.
Elisa: Salt Water.

Gary: I’ve never tried one yet.
Elisa: Blue Frog.

Your favourite bar
Gary: Don’t know.
Elisa: The Rusty Nail.

Your favourite film
Gary: 3 Idiots.
Elisa: Slumdog Millionaire. I am a big fan of the actor Aamir Khan.

Your favourite hobby/food? Yes/No. If yes, which dish
Gary: Definitely, most dishes, am more consumer flooded with choices.
Elisa: Yes – chicken tandoori.

Your favourite sport
Gary: Cricket. I’ll support any team from the sub-continent.
Elisa: Football.

Your favourite game
Gary: Cricket. I’ll support any team from the sub-continent.
Elisa: Football.

What sport do you play?
Gary: Mostly golf and golf.
Elisa: Yeti on the blackberry, am learning tennis at the moment.

Favourite Bollywood film?
Gary: Taare Zameen Par, very touching.
Elisa: The same. I am a big fan of the actor Aamir Khan.

What do you like to eat?
Gary: Thali.
Elisa: Thoda-sa (a little in Hindi).

What food do you like to eat?
Gary: I love Pizzas and Indian food.
Elisa: I am a big fan of the actor Aamir Khan.

Do you prefer to drive or get driven?
Gary: Driven by work.
Elisa: Definitely the latter.

The best thing about Mumbai is...
Gary: The culture and people.
Elisa: The people.

The worst thing about Mumbai is...
Gary: The crowds during peak hours and the nonsensical use of our horns.
Elisa: Vaudeville Customer Care and the obvious – traffic congestion.

The best part of the week for you is...
Gary: Discovering something new in India.
Elisa: The unexpected elements, of the day, the spontaneity of adventure of life here.

The worst part of the week for you is...
Gary: Waiting around for yet an- other handover or delivery.
Elisa: At the moment it’s got to be waiting around for yet another handover or delivery.

How would you rate the lingo?
Gary: Definitely the latter.
Elisa: The randomness and people.

Where do you like to go on location in London, Paris, Mumbai or Hong Kong?
Gary: Mumbai.
Elisa: Mumbai.

Monthly Meetings

ENERGY MATTERS
MAY 8, 2009

IN THE EYE OF THE STORM
JUNE 1, 2009

Gary Nitschke and Elisa Krantz

- 04 -

The Tata Steel Saga

AT A special screening for the epic saga of Tata Steel’s 100-year journey was dramatically portrayed in Crucible of Fire by the Indian noted film- maker Zafar Hai. The film was shot on location in London, Pakistan, Greece, North-East Asia and narrated by Jeremy Irons. It features Victor Banerjee and Christopher Mellows in key roles.

It’s not often that BBG members get an opportunity to be eyewitnesses to such rich and colourful history. After the screening Hai answered members’ questions about the screening. Hai answered members’ questions about the screenings. Hai answered members’ questions about the screenings. Hai answered members’ questions about the screenings. Hai answered members’ questions about the screenings. Hai answered members’ questions about the screenings. Hai answered members’ questions about the screenings. Hai answered members’ questions about the screenings.

It was B-Day as a power team from the conce...
Avanta offers offices
Talking to Amit Bansal - Sales & Marketing Director, Avanta India

Delivering possibilities

Taking a difference through CSR at your company might seem like a difficult process but one and simple action to take is to switch your company’s courier service. Mirakle Couriers, is different in the sense that it is run and managed by MBM group, an India based logistics provider. It is a key sponsor and partner of the UKIBC and the aim of providing of the best support network for British businesses in India.

WASHEUSES GREEN AUTO TECH

The automotive industry is a core aspect of the economy employing 25,000 people, generating over ten billion pounds annually. The world has a total of 40 of the top-100 global leaders having an office space in Mumbai. Companies wishing to develop green energy policies or tech in this sector are being assisted and supported by the UKIBC.

Welter higher education centres of excellence are the forefront of research and development and offer specialisations in all areas of automotive technology including powertrain, materials science, composites, electronics and bio. Avanta provides world-class facilities to its members, allowing them to not only host their own events and meetings but also the opportunities to meet the key leaders and businesses across the globe.

Guiding hand

A new edition of Nam-Askat Mumbai, the executive level of contact working in Mumbai office space service is now available. This 400-page book offers additional information on things such as moving to Mumbai, health, education, shopping, beauty and fitness. It is available for Rs 1000 with 100 percent of the proceeds adding local charities.

Welcome to the UKIBC

The British Business Group is pleased to welcome the UK India Business Council (UKIBC) as a key sponsor and partner of this newsletter in our common aim of providing the best support network for British businesses in India.

The UKIBC is the lead organisation of the British Government in the promotion of business and investment between the two countries.

It plays an influential role in creating and sustaining an environment in which trade and investment flourish.

A key objective in this regard is helping British businesses navigate through India’s complex regulatory and bureaucratic landscape. Through facilitating partnerships and with the support of an extensive network of influential corporate and government members, UKIBC provides the resources, knowledge and infrastructure support vital for UK companies to make the most of emerging opportunities in India.

The UKIBC team in India consists of British and Indian personnel who have the expertise and contacts to help British business in India.

Delivering services to UKIBC members in the following areas:


2. Member to Member connect: introduction to key members in India who provide services in commercial law, real estate, financial advisory, recruitment and business services.

3. Support across India and the UK: UKIBC provides various degrees of support to companies entering India, UK members benefit from two-day fee of space in Mumbai, Delhi and London. UKIBC also invites members of business space, residential and manufacturing space to show-case their products.

4. Launch Pad: A unique service that allows members to showcase products, highlighted by the members who enter or expand their businesses in India. This includes discounts on UKIBC partner events, access to invitation-only research and development forums, increased exposure in India, Information and insights, and opportunities for cross-promotional activities.

UKIBC actively works with members who are interested in increasing their presence in India. To find out more about how the UKIBC can help you, please contact the following:

Dhruv Lakra, Founder, Avanta
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T: +91 (0) 22 3953 0500
F: +91 (0) 22 3953 0504
Mumbai Office: 89-93, BKC, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Complex, Mumbai 400 051, Tel: +91 (0) 22 3953 0504
Fax: +91 (0) 22 3953 0500, Email: Mumbai@ukibc.com

www.ukibc.com

On the Board the Magic Train ‘THE MAGIC TRAIN’, a BBC documentary on India’s Lifeline Express, the documentary on India’s Lifeline Express for start-up companies that was screened by the British Council, was launched in 1991 by the Impact Board and directed by Gerry Troyna.

The film takes us to the remote regions of India, where it is a unique service that allows members to showcase products.

A unique service that allows members to showcase products, highlighted by the members who enter or expand their businesses in India. This includes discounts on UKIBC partner events, access to invitation-only research and development forums, increased exposure in India, Information and insights, and opportunities for cross-promotional activities.

Mirakle Couriers have a track and trace system that can take advantage of the on-the-spot assistance to its members, allowing them to not only host their own events and meetings but also the opportunities to meet the key leaders and businesses across the globe.

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Patricia Hewitt meets Indian business leaders, government officials

UK India Business Council’s new chair, the Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt MP, visited India from the 26th to 31st to deepen the existing UK India business relations and explore more bilateral trade and investment.

The former Business Secretary visited New Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore to meet industrialists, businesses, trade and industry leaders and government officials.

Commenting on her appointment and her visit, Hewitt said, “I am delighted to have a champion of UK India business in my new chairperson. Both as the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry as the Commerce Minister, Patricia Hewitt demonstrated a keen interest in engaging with Indian businesses and we look forward to her contribution in the future.”

UKIBC is very important visit where we met Indian businesses and the UK businesses and the Indian government and exchanged views and ideas, “said Sir Richard Brandon and Mr. Lakra, plus senior leaders from companies like Vodafone, Rolls Royce PL, Wabco, Bursing Pincus, Deloitte, etc. “With a strong private sector board, support from the British Government and a network of offices across the UK and India, the UKIBC combines the best of both public and private sectors to provide British businesses with a well-structured, ready-to-use, credible and reliable platform to help them succeed in India.

It has also launched the UK’s Business Angels Network (UKBAN) and the Next Generation UK India Network, to help nurture entrepreneurial talent across the UK and India, and offers reports on CSR in India and ‘Emerging Cities of India’ to help British business in India.

UKIBC to celebrate UK-India Partnership on London in October

One of the UK’s highest-level delegations from the UK and India are expected to attend the UKIBC Summit and dinner on London on 26 October 2010 to celebrate the success of UK-India partnership. The summit will highlight new models of partnership between the two countries, share experiences and benefits of ‘buddy’ UK India, and develop the automotive sector in India.

As a key sponsor and partner of this newsletter in our common aim of providing the best support network for British businesses in India.

It is an emotional journey, focusing on those stories of people who have not lost hope in our times. The Magic Train is for many a trip to a more, and for many launched in 1991 by the Impact Board.
NEW MEMBERS

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP
International Business Wales
JSK Corporate Consulting
Phoenix Legal
Hays Speciality Recruitment
Excelfor Trading

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Khusreeced Khurody
Stephen Foxwell - Bloomberg News
Dhilon Singh - CLSA India
Ajit Dugal
Ashish Gupta - Svenson
Handlevanken
Simon Lyell - Amarchand
Mangaldas Amrit Patel - Urban Heights Realtors
Ravi Manohar - Tandon Information Solutions

BBG COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jim James
Chairman
Roger Pereira
Speakers
Emma Lubbock
Treasurer
Renu Basu
Socials

Casting off from the Yacht Club

Alex also had a farewell drinks party at the Yacht Club for all his other friends. After all, one good party deserves another we reckon. And good fun it was. Alex made a slightly emotional but also very happy speech about his time in Bombay, particularly the early days and the people he has met over the years. Since his arrival back in November 2002, Alex has been actively involved in the various activities of the BBG and was part of the team that started the popular Sundowner evenings. From late 2002 to 2009 Alex was a consultant to Film Finances Ltd, monitoring Willard Carroll’s ‘Marigold’ and ‘The Forest’ with both films being produced in India. His voluntary work, over the past four years, has included acting as media consultant to the Impact India Foundation and its very special ‘Lifeline Express’, the world’s first hospital on a train. Alex has also been a visiting professor on the guest faculty at the International School of Business and Media in Pune, where he was also asked to join its Board of Governors.

He also helped promote livewhole.com, the internet website which launched in 2007, to help showcase the work of international short film makers globally. As the company’s India representative for the past two years, Alex has been promoting the Brisbane production company ‘Bollywood Dreams’ and, as producer, has been preparing their first feature film “Waves”, to be shot in Queensland in 2010. Alex is a long-standing member of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA), the American Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (ATAS) and the Production Guild of Great Britain. We wish him the very best of luck for the future. Let’s hope it’s not too long before he comes back and gives us an excuse for yet another party. Bon Voyage! ‘Admiral’ Alex.

Despite a rather late change of venue our latest Sundowner was another great success with over 60 members and friends braving the rains to get to Blue Frog in Lower Parel for an evening of chatting, drinking and enjoying some excellent snacks and appetisers. It was also an opportunity for us to say farewell to ‘Sir Alex’ who has been such a great supporter of the Sundowner since its inception and has fulfilled the role of Honorary President of the social side of the BBG with such enthusiasm and spirit.

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