



Message from British Chamber CEO, David Dawson

Dear Member,

Well, halfway through 2017 already! Lots happening on the local business scene, not least the difficult trading conditions being experienced as evidence of the macro economic climate. And of course the ANC Policy Conference taking place this week. Nevertheless, we continue to strive and, taking a leaf out of our new patron's book, remain 'strategically optimistic'.

As you'll be aware, political and economic matters are as lively in the UK as in SA, albeit for different reasons. Do remember that your Chamber is a member of the British Chambers of Commerce and we are happy to signpost you to useful counterparts in the UK, be it the regional Chambers, BCC (HQ) in London and so on.

Finally, at the time of writing we look forward to the deciding Test match between the British & Irish Lions and New Zealand this weekend, a mouth-watering prospect.

Best wishes,



High Commissioner encourages engagement

'Be part of determining the future shape of the SA/UK economic partnership'. This was the advice of the new British High Commissioner and Chamber Patron, Nigel Casey, CMG, MVO to the Chamber's Cape Town members at their June event. In Johannesburg a week later Nigel again addressed a [Chamber event](#) and reminded members that Britain remains deeply invested in South Africa and maintains a long-term commitment to seeing the country prosper. Pictures of both the [Cape Town](#) and [Johannesburg](#) event are now on our website.

Nigel had presented his credentials to President Zuma on 8 June, before hosting a reception at his Residence to which Chamber members were invited. Guests braved the chill to speculate on the results of the UK general election, and to meet the new High Commissioner. Nigel served previously in Johannesburg in the 1990s and has followed South African affairs closely since then. His wife Clare has accompanied him to South Africa.

GIBS / GGDA Event

Chamber CEO David Dawson joined MEC Lebogang Maile, and GGDA CEO, Saki Zamxaka, among other speakers on the agenda when GIBS hosted an event on UK-SA engagement. The event featured a panel discussion on 'Unpacking the bilateral relationship' which uncovered diverse perspectives on the topic. Johannesburg members were invited to attend.



NEW MEMBERS:

We're delighted to welcome the following new members in Johannesburg and Cape Town:

- [Henley & Partners](#)
- [Adam Smith International](#)
- [Intrepid Capital](#)
- Nicholas Williams (Individual)
- [Dunster Attorneys and Conveyancers](#)
- [Pernod-Ricard](#)

MANY THANKS TO:

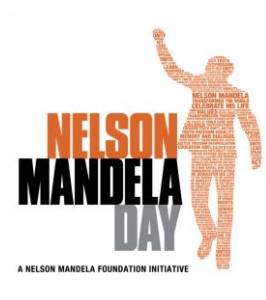
- **Jaguar Land Rover** and **G4S** for sponsoring recent Chamber events
- **AdDynamo** who facilitated a Twitter for Business workshop for the Chamber and British High Commission colleagues.

- [LifeCo UnLtd](#)

ERROR: our last issue featured a broken link to **Focus Africa Advisory's 2016-2017 Mozambique Incident Heat Map** - now corrected, with apologies.

We're getting a new look!

Have you noticed Chamber communications looking more polished and professional recently? The bright sparks at Chamber member Firecracker marketing and events agency created new Brand Guidelines for us that are being gradually implemented across all our platforms. What do you think? Next up - our website. What would you like to see on our new site?



Mandela Day #actionagainstopoverty

On July 18th we are called once again to celebrate Madiba's birthday by following in his footsteps and serving others. In 2009, the UN declared this date Nelson Mandela International Day, urging everyone, everywhere to take concrete steps towards improving life for others. The campaign is now observed in 149 countries. Not sure how to get involved? Check out the [Mandela Day website](#), or [contact us](#) for ideas.

New Head of Trade & Investment, Cape Town

A warm welcome to Owen O'Connor who has recently joined the Dept of International Trade team at the British Consulate. His responsibilities across the Western Cape include assisting South African companies looking to invest in the UK. For further details please contact Owen directly at owen.oconnor@fco.gov.uk



Takealot, Cape Town

GreenCape CEO Initiative

GreenCape is an NGO that supports businesses and investors in the South African green economy. In partnership with the Western Cape government, they're currently engaging with CEOs in the province, offering a free decision-making tool around Solar PV. If you'd like expert, independent advice on whether there is a business case for Solar PV for your business, contact GreenCape's Energy Services Analyst, **[Seraj Chilwan](#)**.



CAPE TOWN BREAKFAST SERIES

Get your best ideas over your morning coffee? Let's share them! Our first Cape Town members only breakfast takes place on 1 August. Topics will focus on business challenges we all face.



SAVE THE DATE: JOHANNESBURG

Join us to hear from business leader Siphos Pityana, our guest speaker this month. [#BritChamEvent](#) sponsored by Discovery.



CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Please continue connecting us to potential members. Growth is good for the network; for every 2 new corporate members introduced you get an entry to our London business class flights draw!



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Thursday August 24th

Cape Town members can expect a Chamber event with a difference taking place on **Thursday 24th August**.

Full details to follow...



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