



**Newsletter Issue 7 • January 2017**

Chancellor of the Exchequer's SA Visit • Global Network Live • Event Roundup

**Message from British Chamber CEO, David Dawson**

Greetings! We trust you've had a restful holiday period and return with renewed energy and focus for what lies ahead. 2017 looks interesting from a political and economic perspective - both British and South African. As ever, your Chamber team will be doing its bit to cultivate a healthy business environment and a strong bilateral relationship. We'll also be working hard to promote the interests of our members and to assist UK exporters. We expect to host more important UK visitors soon - look out for your Chamber invitations to these engagements, as well as to business briefings and other events.

To a successful and prosperous year!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.



***Chancellor of the Exchequer visits SA***

*"Improving our strong SA business links is a UK priority".* This was the reassuring message from the Rt Hon Philip Hammond, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to over 120 members of the South African / British business community at a British Chamber reception in his honour at Hyde Park on December 7th. See the event gallery [here](#).



Mr Hammond's itinerary in Johannesburg included meetings with Ministers Gordhan and Nkoana-Mashabane to discuss opportunities for the UK and South Africa to deepen economic and investment ties. In Cape Town, Mr Hammond met with Western Cape Premier Helen Zille, engaged with fintech startups at Barclays Rise, and attended a private investors' luncheon facilitated by the Chamber and co-hosted by Investec and the British High Commission.

David Dawson participated in the Focus on Africa session at the BCC Global Network Live event in London in November. The event offers advice, resources and expertise to UK exporters. Over 25 international chambers participated. Lord Price CVO, Minister of State for Trade Policy, was the keynote speaker.



While in the UK, David participated in events and meetings facilitated by the Sheffield, Thames Valley, Hull & Humber and West Midlands Chambers of Commerce. He also presented at Advanced Engineering 2016 at Birmingham's NEC, on opportunities in Southern Africa.



### ***That was so 2016...***

Chamber members brought an eventful year to a close in festive spirit in both Cape Town and Johannesburg. In the Mother City, guests were treated to a single malt whisky tasting at the Cape Town Club, facilitated by Diageo. A little choreography meant everyone left having met new contacts at this 'members only' event. See what you missed [here](#).



In Johannesburg, comedian Mark Banks entertained Chamber members at the end of year dinner at the Inanda Club. Check out [photos](#) of this event or remind yourself of the [event highlights](#) of 2016. We look forward to a varied and lively [event calendar](#) in 2017, and in particular to more frequent events in Cape Town, reflecting the ever-increasing level of member engagement there.

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### *Member News, Exclusives and Thank You's*

A warm welcome to new members **Griffin Advisors** and **AdDynamo**. Many thanks to members **Barclays Africa**, **Virgin Atlantic**, **Investec**, **HSBC** and **Diageo** who sponsored or otherwise helped facilitate Chamber events last quarter. Selected members received invitations to the following events in Cape Town and Johannesburg in the last quarter: **BSI** Food Safety Breakfast; **Arup** *City Making in Africa* event; the **Relocation Africa** sponsored EuRA Congress; **South Africa's Business Environment; Unlocking Prosperity** roundtable discussion with Neil Wigan, Director for Africa, FCO. Finally, check out [this article](#) by Gary Eisenberg, of **Eisenberg & Associates** on Home Affairs Minister Malusi Gigaba, the 'change agent'.



#### **BURNS NIGHT 2017**

Becoming event partner for the biggest Burns Night (and celebration of all things Scottish) in Africa was a logical decision for the Chamber. Bring on the haggis!



#### **SAVE THE DATE: JOHANNESBURG**

Gain insight into African conflict trends with Vincent Cassard, International Committee of the Red Cross. 16 February 2017, [Inanda Club](#).



### **GTR AFRICA TRADE FINANCE WEEK**

The Chamber is delighted to be one of the official partners to the market's premier pan-African trade finance gathering, taking place at the Westin, Cape Town in March.

Watch your Inbox for news of complementary passes...

### **SAVE THE DATES: CAPE TOWN**

#### **Eve of Opening of Parliament**

Reception on 8 February, Bishopscourt.

#### **Members' Business Briefing**

6 April, Deloitte Greenhouse, Green Point. Speaker: **Dr Morne Mostert**,

[Institute for Futures Research](#)



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