



Chairman Report

The two key events of the month of April were the Networking Evening with Guest Speaker Pacita Juan President of Figaro Coffee Co. and our AGM held at H.M Ambassador's residency. Both are extensively covered in this month's Website Newsletter in **a)** the Event's Committee April report & **b)** my AGM report and presentation material.



The others key activities were:-

- 1) the workshop covering Infrastructure, Services, Manufacturing & Agriculture and IT organized by the ECCP which I attended as preparation for presentation at the Plenary-The Europe/Philippines "Business Opportunities and Challenges: Philippines-Europe" Conference being held between 10:00 am & 4:00 pm at the Renaissance Hotel Makati City on Thursday May 8th as part of Europe Day celebrations, details of which will be appropriately circulated in early May.
- 2) I briefed the key European companies in the Distilled Liquor business at the dinner hosted by C. Palanca family as part of the Diageo International & Scotch Whisky Association visit in early April.
- 3) Microsoft hosted a cocktail to thank the Foreign Chambers including the BCC-P, for supporting & lobbying the OOXML initiative to the Philippine government, which now appears to have successfully reversed the Government's initial position which had not have recognized the International expansion initiatives on this.
- 4) Karl Falkenburg E.U Trade Commissioner in Brussels hosted a luncheon for European Chamber heads and key selected European companies to be briefed on the progress of the Asean F.T.A and for us to advise him on the important issues specifically relating to the Philippines.

- 5) The Foreign Chambers of ECCP, BCC-P, Anzcham, Cancham and Amcham held a very successful Job Expo at Glorietta Mall in late April, following an earlier courtesy call and briefing to Mayor of Makati Jejomar Binay on how the City of Makati government can help. I also represented the BCC-P at a media press conference for TV, Radio and the Press to promote the Job Fair.

In May 2007 our similar event attracted over 5,000 job seekers. This year the numbers were in excess of 10,000! This reflected the interest and attraction for local employment with foreign companies based here and the many recruitment opportunities they have available.

Best regards,
Leslie

Families with School Aged Children moving within the S.E. & East Asian Region

Under "an article of special interest" and on behalf of British School in Manila (BSM) the BCC-P has included on our website www.bccphil.com a report issued in April by the current Chairman of the Federation of British International Schools in S.E. & East Asia (FOBISSEA).

The British School Manila is a member of FOBISSEA and this report is important for families moving within the region, many of whom have a parent who is a British Chamber of Commerce member.

We therefore recommend all families contemplating or facing a possible relocation from the Philippines to another country within the region, to review this article and also visit the FOBISSEA website detailed.

Best regards,

Leslie Stokes



New Members

The Board of Directors is very pleased to welcome the following New or Changed Members to the British Chamber of Commerce in the Philippines, and in particular the up-grading of Corporate to Premier Member status by Border Holdings (UK) Ltd (Britpart) and Diageo Philippines:

Premier

Border Holdings (UK) Ltd (Britpart)
(Upgraded from Corporate)

Diageo Philippines
(Upgraded from Corporate)

Corporate

International SOS Phils Inc

Individual

Geoffrey Short (Downgraded from Corporate)

Associate

Sommelier Solution Inc

Designated Nominees

David Beddow, Managing Director
Marita Mahinay, Purchasing

John Alonte, Country Manager
Louise Demillo, Marketing Director

Designated Nominees

Serge Grynkewich, President
Johnny Sinon, Deputy Regional Medical Director

Designated Nominees

Jerome Phillipon, President

Events

47 members attended the April Networking night at the Dusit Hotel where Pacita 'Chit' U Juan the co-founder, President and CEO of Figaro Coffee Company gave an entertaining talk on how she grew her company to 70 coffee shops all over the Philippines and China in 2008, from the very first coffee shop in Glorietta Mall in 1996.

She certainly has a passion for coffee and, despite some probably not so sensible financial decisions and a bit of luck, Figaro Coffee was able to take the dream of having good coffee produced and roasted in the Philippines to reality.



Pacita Juan and Leslie Stokes



Questions were asked about the Roasting procedures, the different types of coffee and where it can be grown in the Philippines. Chit brought along some of her team of coffee experts, who were able to give everyone a "coffee 101" detailed explanation and, of course, an experience of the taste! Later in the year we hope to run a day trip to one of the coffee plantations to see how coffee is grown from the very first steps of planting to picking to sorting.



Figaro stall

Sarah McLeod

Dates of Diary

- 10th May 2008 **British Women's Association Quiz Night 2008**
7:30 to 10:30 pm Murphy's Irish Pub Makati
- 11th June 2008 **"Adoption Awareness" - A BCC-P and BWA supported event**
6:30 pm Dusit Thani Hotel, Boardroom 2
- 14th June 2008 **British Women's Association and British Chamber of Commerce Grand Charity Ball**
7:30 pm Grand Ballroom, Renaissance Hotel
- 19th June 2008 **Joint social night with The Lighthouse Club**
6:30 pm JW's Lounge Bar

Here are details of this Year's BWA and BCC-P Grand Charity Ball. We have a great night Planned, a Martini Bar (of course), beer, champagne, wine and a 5 course dinner. The "Spirit of 67" is the band of choice this year. We will also be having our buffet of cheese and port, two blackjack tables, fabulous decor and the top raffle prize so far is a weekend for 2, all flights, accommodation, food and transfers to El Nido Resort in Palawan! You can book your tickets through Sarah McCleod or Janet Kelly.

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KEY ACTIVITIES May 2008

- 12 – 23 May Joyce Guzon to UK on Local Staff Attachment Scheme plus company visits to Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen
Contact: Joyce Guzon Joyce.guzon@fco.gov.uk
- 26 May – 2 June John Chick to London for UKTI Senior staff conference plus company visits to Nottingham and Northampton
Contact: John Chick john.chick@fco.gov.uk

For more information on any of the above events please free to contact the person as shown.

John Chick



We have the following activities lined up for the coming month.

The British Council will have a series of workshops conducted by Angie Malderez, a senior lecturer TESOL/Teacher Education at the University of Leeds, School of Education. Her specialisations include teacher education for TESOL, teacher and teacher educator thinking, mentor development for education professionals, the effects and group dynamics in teaching and training as well as the practice of supporting teacher training.

She is the author of several books on mentoring including "Mentor Courses: A Resource Book for Trainer-Trainers" published by Cambridge University Press. and co-organiser of the first joint University of Leeds/IATEFL International Trainer-Training Conference at Leeds in November 2000. She is also a member of the editorial advisory panel for English Language Teaching Journal published by the Oxford University Press.

Angie has more than 30 years of experience as teacher of children and adults, a teacher trainer, a materials writer, an outreach coordinator, a trainer's trainer and a trainer-trainer-trainer. For more information on the workshops please contact Jansen Mayor at jansen.mayor@britishcouncil.org.ph or the British Council at 9141011-14.

Details of events in Manila

In partnership with Ateneo Center for English Language Teaching (ACELT)

May 13-14 Mentoring for Professional Development – for professionals in the BPO and English Language Centres

May 15-16 Mentoring for Teachers of English – for teachers in the primary and secondary school, and the academe

Venue: Ateneo de Manila University

Andrew Picken

BCCP Membership Update

British School Manila Hosts Primary Games



Some 216 students from six British international schools in five Southeast Asian countries will be competing across the region, when the British School Manila hosts the 2008 Federation of British Schools in Southeast Asia (FOBISSEA) Primary Games on June 8-10 at its Fort Bonifacio campus in Taguig City.

This will be a homecoming for the games, as the British School Manila hosted the very first FOBISSEA event in 1991 at its previous site in Merville.

Aside from British School Manila, the participating schools are the International School Brunei, Jerudong International School, both based in

Brunei, the Seoul Foreign British School, the St. Christopher's International Primary School based in Penang, Malaysia, and The British School Tokyo. Over the three day event, the schools will compete against each other in football, T-ball, swimming and athletics.



The FOBISSEA Games emphasizes sportsmanship and respect for the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of gender, ability, cultural background or religion. They are referred to within the FOBISSEA region as 'the friendly games', and we fully expect that the Manila games will fulfill all expectations in this respect.

Chris Mantz