



## Rob heads off for a new career on the mainland

### Welcome to the Winter 2008/Spring 2009 issue of the BBA newsletter.

As many of you may be aware of by now, our former chairman, Rob Pigot, has resigned from X-Isle Sports, his watersports business on Embankment Road, to pursue a career on the mainland.

This leaves the BBA without a chairman at the present time, though our vice chairman, Brian Cantwell, has kindly agreed to step into the breach temporarily.

In an email to Brian, Rob said: "As I have resigned from X-Isle Sports and no longer have a business in the village I am no longer qualified to be a member of the BBA.

"This has come about through a number of reasons on my part but mainly due to wanting a change of scene, having been on the Island for

seven years. A very exciting opportunity came up on the mainland which fitted very well with my career aspirations. As ever in these situations the timing of this did not allow for a smooth transition."

The committee would like to thank Rob for all his efforts during his time at the helm of the BBA. He brought many new ideas to the association, not least the 'technical' events, where members could come along, listen and gain practical benefit from experts who had experience in a diverse range of business areas.

We, are left, however, with a vacancy at the top of the BBA which needs filling. So, if you would like to get more involved with your association and really play a part in shaping its future direction, now is the time to register your interest. Please get in touch with one of the committee members if you feel you could perform this role.

### Communicating with the membership

For the last few years, where members have provided us with an email address, we have been using it as the main method of communication. Therefore invites to social events, BBA newsletters, subscription reminders etc. have all been delivered by email.

The committee has taken the view that it might be more effective if all communication were in paper form, so starting with this newsletter, everyone will receive a hard copy of the communication. We still intend to use email for more 'instant' communication with members, such as the recent request for content for the newsletter, so if you have an email address and you haven't yet provided me with it, then please drop me an email.

*David Groom, membership secretary*

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The BBA would like to wish all its members a happy and – if at all possible given the current climate – a prosperous new year.

### A message from St Veronica's

Theresa Martin of St Veronica's bed and breakfast in Lane End writes:

*It probably has not escaped your notice that St Veronica's is on the market. This was not our original intention but one of the partners is emigrating. The remaining partner wishes to stay and is hopeful that a potential business partner will come forward before the property sells.*

*In the meantime, St Veronica's is open for business as usual, not only as a bed and breakfast, but members may find it useful to know that we can also offer cosy board or meeting rooms from 12 noon with a small buffet if required.*

*Please call 872872 if you would like to know more. We wish all BBA members a Happy New Year. Kind regards*

*Theresa Martin*



## Banjul or bust!

### Shaun and Lynsey's big adventure

As those of you who were 'ambushed' at the BBA Christmas social will know, former BBA chairman Shaun Burden and his better half Lynsey have a small trip planned for the new year. A small trip of about 4,000 miles, that is!

After a rush of blood to their respective heads they have decided to take part in the Banjul Challenge, which will see them, along with several other participants, driving down through France and Spain, catching the ferry to Morocco, driving through Morocco and over the Atlas Mountains in the Western Sahara, then on to Mauritania and Senegal before arriving in Banjul in The Gambia.

Shaun and Lynsey have invested in a seven-seater Mitsubishi Space Wagon that has had several careful owners. The idea is that there is plenty of room to sleep in it if they don't fancy another night in the tent. It also has a nice high suspension to cope with the Sahara off-road section. (And we thought Island roads were bad.)

Lynsey and Shaun are aiming to raise a minimum of £3000 for the Earl Mountbatten Hospice – if you haven't already been nabbed by Shaun you can still support them by going to:

[www.justgiving.com/shaunandlynsey](http://www.justgiving.com/shaunandlynsey)

...or if you're quick you could call them before they leave on 872324.

The BBA wishes Shaun and Lynsey all the best on their mega-trip. Experts inform us that it will be considerably warmer in the Western Sahara than it has been on the Island recently, so there shouldn't be too much windscreen scraping to do.

### Committee & Officers as at January 2009

Vice Chairman: Brian Cantwell, Desktop Studio,  
tel: 874874, email: [desktop\\_studio@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:desktop_studio@yahoo.co.uk)

Treasurer and Membership: David Groom, Vectis Web Design  
tel: 873853, email: [mail@vectis-webdesign.co.uk](mailto:mail@vectis-webdesign.co.uk)

Hon Sec: Richard Weaver, Weaver Bros  
tel: 872598, email: [richard@weaverbros.co.uk](mailto:richard@weaverbros.co.uk)

#### Committee:

Chris Perkis, Phil Howden, Carol Pearce, Tom Robinson, Paul Rainford, Shaun Burden

## Jacque Martin launches business writing courses

BBA member Jacque Martin, aka The Copy Queen, is launching a range of writing courses aimed at small businesses who want to do their own business writing but lack the professional know-how.

They will cover all the key area of marketing and selling where good writing produces better results.

Web writing will be one of the first to be launched, at the start of the new year. It will include invaluable tips such as: improving your chances by prospective customers and holding their interest once there.

Jacque says: "Every organisation uses writing in some way but most small businesses don't have budgets that run to professional writers. An impending recession makes effective publicity vital to keep ahead of the game. These courses will be simple to follow, with a wealth of information to improve communication with customers, and at a reasonable cost."

If you have any enquiries or ideas for topics you'd like covered, please contact Jacque on 873008 or email [hrh@thecopyqueen.co.uk](mailto:hrh@thecopyqueen.co.uk).

## New members

The BBA is pleased to welcome two new members. One of them will be familiar to most BBA members already – it's Shaun Burden (*see story left*), who has signed up his new business, **Shaun Burden Car Sales**. The other is **Bouncy World**, which is owned by Mark Leverett, who can be reached on 872229. A warm BBA welcome to both new members.

## Village guides

Time is running out, but if you would like to place an advert in the 2009 Village Guide, please get in touch with one of the committee members as soon as possible. As well as getting your business a mention in a high-profile publication that has a very long shelf-life, your advert will also help support the work of the BBA – so how can you resist?!