

# CWEIC MEMBER NEWS

## A message from Oliver Everett

Many of you will have heard I have decided to move on from CWEIC. It was a very tough decision but I think it is right for me and the Council. In two years, we have gone from start up, to growth, to established business and I am sure CWEIC will cement its position during the run up to CBF/CHOGM in April 2018. We are debt free, have built a balance sheet to weather storms and have earned a reputation of which we can proud.

My job was to restructure CWEIC out of the ashes of CBC. I feel we have done a pretty good restructure and that the time has come for CWEIC to appoint a leader more suited to the path less bumpy. I want to return to the world of more challenged companies and business units and have decided to bow out now to give the Board time to appoint the right person before the CHOGM/CBF momentum builds.

I will be around until March 2017 or a new CEO is found. The process of appointing my successor has begun and is being led by Lord Marland, supported by my excellent colleague Weronika Patyk who can be reached on [veronika@cweic.org](mailto:veronika@cweic.org)



## CWEIC Annual Review – going strong two years on.

In the last 12 months we have grown our membership, started new programmes and delivered a series of successful events for our Country Strategic Partners.

The undoubted highlight was the Commonwealth Business Forum in Malta in November 2015. The Forum was addressed by 15 Heads of Government, 180 public and private sector leaders and attended by more than 1300 delegates from 75 countries.

This achievement, and many more, have been captured in our Annual Review 2015/16, which can be found on our [website](#)

The organisation itself is in good health and is well placed to promote the benefits of intra Commonwealth trade in the post BREXIT world.

As well as continuing our successful maritime, health and SME programmes, work has already begun on preparing for the inaugural Commonwealth Trade Ministers meeting, to take place in London on 9-10 March 2017.

## New addition to the CWEIC Team



September also saw the team welcome our new Senior Programme Manager Skadi Falatik-Papenroth. She joins having spent the last few years in London working with the Shaftesbury Partnership and InnoCentive EMEA. Skadi will be leading on a number of workstreams including our work on the healthcare and maritime sectors.



## Opportunities showcased at Healthcare Business Group

The Hon. Christopher Fearne MP, Minister for Health, Malta convened the Healthcare Business Group on 5 September. The meeting was an opportunity for the group to hear a request for assistance from the Government of Dominica. The Dominican Department of Health is seeking experts to help them assess and monitor the building of a new hospital. The group was also introduced to 6 Export Champions from our CommonwealthFirst programme. The group included Babylon Health (who have produced an App based product to make healthcare more accessible), iGene (a company taking forward digital autopsy technology), MDTI (who specialise in commercialising medical innovation), NMS International Group Limited (health infrastructure specialists), KM&T (a global consulting firm) and ThinkingSafe (a cyber security technology company).

For more information about the Healthcare Business Group please contact Skadi Falatik-Papenroth [skadi@cweic.org](mailto:skadi@cweic.org)

## Jersey looks beyond their shores

Earlier this month CEO Oliver Everett took up an invitation from Advisory Board member Senator Philip Ozouf to visit the island of Jersey and explore how we can work together. During his visit, Oliver met with the Chief Minister, Senator Ian Gorst, other Government Ministers and representatives from the Island's business and finance communities, including officials from Jersey Finance and Digital Jersey. After learning about Jersey's priorities and impressive capabilities during his visit Oliver remarked that "The Commonwealth can take a great deal from Jersey's experience of building a strong island economy."



Oliver was also quick to point out the opportunities on offer for Jersey businesses willing to look beyond their shores. The Government of Jersey is committed to increasing their engagement with the Commonwealth. Two recent examples are the signing of a Double Taxation Agreement with the Government of Rwanda and Jersey's participation in the Mining Indaba conference in South Africa. CWEIC looks forward to working with the Government of Jersey to share its knowledge and expertise and promote Commonwealth opportunities to Jersey businesses.

## CommonwealthFirst Update – making a tasty impression....

The CommonwealthFirst programme is now fully up and running with our first cohort of Export Champions selected.

On her recent visit to London, the Minister of Food Processing for the Government of India – The Hon Harsimrat Kaur Badal – visited Export Champions Partridges to discuss opportunities for the company to enter the Indian market and help more Indian artisan producers access the UK market.

Another one of our tasty Export Champions is Dalemian Mansion who produce marmalade as well as the renowned marmalade awards every year in Cumbria, England. Their success in the UK has now led them to work with the The South Australian National Trust and launch the Australian Festival of Marmalade. This awards event will be held on 20th November in Adelaide. Further details can be found [here](#).



The Export Champions will be going to the India-UK Technology Summit in New Delhi on 6-9 November. The delegation will be led by Advisory Board member Manoj Ladwa.

Any members who would be interested in joining the Mission or finding out more about the CommonwealthFirst programme should contact Director of Programmes [john@cweic.org](mailto:john@cweic.org).

We will be launching recruitment for our second cohort of Export Champions on 24 October.