



Dear Friends,

The coalition government's first priority is dealing with the burgeoning national debt but it is essential that companies – big and small - are encouraged to grow their businesses. Since 6th May 2010 Watford has had an MP – Richard Harrington – who successfully ran his own business for over 25 years throughout the swings in the economic cycle and therefore appreciates the problems facing companies in difficult times. Richard firmly believes tackling unemployment, particularly among young people, in Watford needs small and medium size companies in the town to prosper.

Business Clubs provide an excellent forum for companies to promote their products and services and to network with other business people to share common problems. No one has a monopoly on wisdom and sharing best practise is very important. My own company, Sun Mark Ltd exports to over 90 countries and we have certainly benefited from forging links with companies in those countries to understand their markets. In 2008, 2009 and 2010 we won The Queens Award for Enterprise in International Trade.

It is vitally important that our MPs understand the wide range of issues confronting businesses. I hope you will become a member of the Watford Business Club and through its meetings with Richard Harrington acquaint him with your company's position.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Warm regards,

Dr. Rami Ranger MBE, FRSA
President

FAQ

The Watford Business Club has been established to promote the interests of small and medium sized businesses within the Watford area.

What will we talk about? You will have an opportunity to express your views on the way government treats small businesses, what restricts their growth and how the future wealth generators of the country are affected by legislation.

How will we achieve this? As a member you will be invited to a number of social events throughout the year including at least two formal dinners. You will have the opportunity to join other members, enjoy fine dining and listen to and meet high profile speakers. Watford's MP, Richard Harrington, will be present alongside other high profile guest speakers. The events will be enjoyable, lively and provide a platform for thought provoking discussion and practical solutions to problems.

What are our financial aims? We are supporting the Conservative party – the party best placed to achieve the changes you want.

What is the cost of membership? The cost of joining the club is £600 a year which can be paid as one off payment or by standing order over 12 months.

You will never be asked to attend tedious committee meetings or worry about hosting events ...unless of course you want to! The organisational tasks will be undertaken by our team and all you have to do is enjoy this wonderful networking opportunity.



Lord Salisbury, 7th Marquess of Salisbury (Previously Viscount Cranborne)

Lord Salisbury was born in 1946 and educated at Eton College and Christ Church, Oxford. He spent several years in banking in California and London before being elected Member of Parliament for South Dorset (Conservative) in 1979. He was a Member of Parliament until 1987, when he did not stand for re-election. During these eight years he was particularly interested in foreign affairs, constitutional affairs and Northern Ireland.

He was summoned to the Upper House as Baron Cecil of Essendon, in the County of Rutland, by a Writ of Acceleration in 1992. He became a Life Peer in November 1999. From 1992 to 1994 he was Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Defence, from 1994 to 1997 he was Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords, and from 1997 to 1998 he was Leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords.

In a private capacity he is involved with a number of charitable and community enterprises. In addition, he is Chairman of the St. Albans Cathedral Trust, and of the Council of the Royal Veterinary College. He is President of the Prayer Book Society, Deputy Honorary Colonel of the Rifle Volunteers, and a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Dorset. His interest in rare breed pigs, and particularly in the Large Black, Middle White and Tamworth breeds, has led to his being elected President of the British Pig Association.



Lord Dolar Popat

Dolar Popat has been nominated to the House of Lords and will be known as Lord Popat of Stanmore. After practising as an accountant in the 1970s, Dolar specialised in business and corporate finance. Dolar is Chief Executive and founder of TLC Group, an organisation that has specialised in care of the elderly and hospitality since the early 1990s. Dolar, is a perfect example of a self-made entrepreneur who came to this country with little money and has succeeded in a number of businesses.

Passionately proud to be both British and a Hindu, Dolar Popat is well known and respected within the Indian community and is a Strategic Planning Advisor to the Hindu Forum of Great Britain. He is one of the UK Asian community's leading political thinkers, in addition to being highly regarded as a business and community leader. Dolar has served two Conservative Party Prime Ministers – Margaret Thatcher and John Major – as well as working closely with David Cameron. He will be the first Gujarati to represent the Conservative Party in the Upper House.

Dolar was blessed by his Guru, the revered spiritual leader Morari Bapu, who continues to be a major source of inspiration and guidance for Dolar and has been introduced to David Cameron. Morari Bapu was instrumental in supporting Dolar to accepting a life commitment to serve both the country and the community as a member of the House of Lords.

On learning of his Peerage, Dolar said that "With the blessing of my beloved Guru, Morari Bapu, I am delighted to represent the British Indians in the UK at the highest level. As endorsed by David Cameron, we are a key part of British society and our contribution has not been fully recognised. I shall continue to work tirelessly to redress this situation."

Dolar has achieved a significant amount in his life from humble beginnings and is certainly not, as the UK press would have us believe a Conservative that had the assistance of a privileged

background. Although his parents originated from Gujarat, India, Dolar was born and brought up in Uganda and arrived in Britain in 1971, a year before the expulsion of many Indians from Uganda. Dolar worked tirelessly at the time to assist fellow Ugandans to settle in Britain. "I came to England when I was 18 years old and was moved by the way Ugandan Asians were received at Stansted Airport by the then Conservative government with Edward Heath as Prime Minister. I was touched by the welcome and compassion the British government and British people had shown to the refugees arriving from Uganda due to the expulsion by the dictator, Idi Amin."

In addition to his business career, Dolar has also been involved with a number of Hindu community organisations. He is a founding Director of St Luke's Hospice and, more recently, Dolar has been an advisor to Nightingale House Trust (A charitable organisation that provides care to the Jewish community). Dolar founded and funds a registered charity, The Dolar Popat Foundation, which makes contributions to medical and educational institutions.

A leading advocate of community cohesion and the importance of reconciling and uniting different cultures under the UK's central democratic process, Dolar has been actively involved with the Conservative Party for over 30 years. During that time he has helped the Party's engagement with minority communities and groups. Among his Party positions, Dolar has acted as Secretary to the Anglo Asian Conservative Association; been an Advisor to the British Asian Conservative Link; a Member of the Conservative Ethnic Diversity Council; Chairman of the Stanmore Park Ward for four years; and is currently President of Harrow East Conservative Association.

As well as taking an active role in John Major's election campaign, Dolar was also the Chairman of the One Nation Forum in Barnet and Harrow and has been Vice Chairman, and subsequently Chairman, of the Strangers Gallery – a Private Parliamentary Club for the business community of Harrow. In 2009 Dolar was honoured with an award at the Asian Political and Public Life Awards at the House of Commons by the Conservative Party's then Chairman, Eric Pickles MP, for promoting the Conservative Party in the community.

Because of his background, knowledge of the Asian community and time that he has spent in the UK Dolar believes that he is best placed and is looking forward to assisting the Conservative Government in building trade and cultural links with India which will help both economies. India's economy is expanding quickly and the UK's historical relationship help us to build economic links – Dolar is keen to be involved in this relationship and is key to taking this relationship to the next level.



Lord Gareth Jones

Tristan Gareth Jones was born in 1941. He was educated at King's School, Canterbury and Madrid University. From 1960 to 1970 he was Principal of a language school in Madrid and from 1970 to 1974 a merchant banker. Following this, he worked for the Conservative Party from 1974 to 1979, spending the last year of this period as Personal Assistant to the then Party Chairman, Lord Thorneycroft.

He was elected Conservative MP for Watford in 1979. In March 1982 he was appointed Assistant Government Whip. From 1983 to 1986 he was Lord Commissioner of the Treasury and from 1986 until 1988 Vice-Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household. In 1988 he was appointed Comptroller of Her Majesty's Household, a position he held until 1989 when he became Treasurer of Her Majesty's Household and Deputy Chief Whip.

He was appointed Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in July 1990. He was the Minister for Europe responsible for the Maastricht Treaty negotiations and took the Maastricht Bill through the House of Commons. He was also responsible for security matters, for relations with Latin America and for international trade world-wide within the Foreign Office.

He was appointed a Privy Counsellor in the New Year's Honours in July 1990. He left the Government at his own request in 1993 to pursue a business career and is now a Managing Director of UBS, Chairman of UBS Latin America. He is also a Member of the Board of Acciona SA and Vodafone, Spain.

Lord Gareth Jones is married with four sons and one daughter. His interests include collecting books and contemporary art. He speaks Spanish and French.



President - Dr Rami Ranger MBE,FRSA

Rami came to the UK after graduating to study Law in 1971. His career started in a fast food chain but to realise his ambitions he started his first company, Sea Air & Land Forwarding Ltd in 1987 and received the Queens Award for Export Achievement 1999. In 1995 he launched a marketing company – Sun Mark Ltd, and started to represent British blue chip companies, like Unilever, Cadburys, Nestle. He started marketing products under his own brands like Robust, Royalty and Pure Heaven and these brands are currently sold in 92 countries. His company received the Queens Award for Enterprise 2009 and 2010.



Chairman - Richard Harrington MP

Richard was born in Leeds in 1957, the eldest son of a shopkeeper. After leaving Leeds Grammar School in 1975 he was awarded a scholarship to Oxford University to study Law at Keble College.

After University, Richard began his career in business with a postgraduate scheme with John Lewis where he was the assistant to the managing director of Waitrose after a long stint at Trewins in Watford.

Since then Richard has been involved in many business opportunities including setting up Harvington Properties, a property development company of which he is still a shareholder, and as managing director of a company active in the development, sales and management of holiday resorts in both the UK and Europe which employed more than 2,000 people.

As an experienced businessman, who has helped many small businesses during his career, Richard Harrington believes he is best placed to represent the interests of small business in Parliament and since his election in May 2010, he has been working tirelessly in Parliament to represent Watford.

On May 25th Richard was the first of the 2010 intake of MPs to make his Maiden Speech, highlighting the problem of youth unemployment in Watford. Richard is also parliamentary advisor to the Ethnic Minority Business Group.



Vice-Chairman - Cllr Steve O'Brien

Steve really is Mr Watford having lived here for over 55 years, during which time he has been to school in Watford, spent his working life in Watford, brought up his family in Watford, run a business in Watford and has even been on the books of Watford Football Club as a player. Steve has also represented Watford at Cricket.

Steve, along with his son Andrew, set up and has run Metro Commercial Printing based on Mowat Industrial Estate, Sandown Road in Watford for 25 years, and is currently serving as a County Councillor for Hertfordshire County Council, having previously served as a district councillor in Leggatts ward in North Watford.

Business Name: _____

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms): _____

First Names: _____ **Surname:** _____

Address: _____

_____ **Post Code:** _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please indicate which level of annual membership you would like:

- | | | | | |
|------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Individual | - | 1 named membership. | - | £600 annually / £50 monthly |
| Couple | - | 2 named membership. | - | £1200 annually / £100 monthly |
| Corporate | - | Allows 2 un-named representatives | - | £1200 annually / £100 monthly |

(members will be entitled to invite guests to events at an additional cost payable before the event if booked in advance)

Please make cheques payable to: Watford Business Club

or complete the following Standing Order: (Bank Details)

To: _____ **Bank**

Branch: _____

Branch Address: _____

Account Number: _____ **Sort Code:** _____

Account Name: _____

Please pay: The Watford Business Club, HSBC Bank - Watford Branch

Sort Code: 40-45-27 **Account Number:** 21853112

the sum of £ _____ Immediately & a similar amount **annually / monthly** until this order is cancelled.

Signed: _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____