Brigadier Christopher Hammerbeck CB
Executive Director
British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong

Christopher Hammerbeck was educated at Mayfield College in Sussex before becoming an Articled Clerk with a large firm of London Solicitors. He attended Mons Officer Cadet School prior to being commissioned in January 1965 into the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment. Between 1965 and 1970 he served in a variety of regimental appointments in both UK and the British Army of the Rhine. In 1970, he joined the Parachute Squadron Armoured Corps as Air Adjutant/Operations Officer serving in UK with operational tours in Northern Ireland where he was awarded the General Officer Commanding's Certificate for Gallant Conduct.

In 1972 he served as a staff officer in 20th Armoured Brigade before being selected to attend the Army Staff Course at Camberley in 1975. After Camberley he was appointed Deputy Chief of Staff of 12 Mechanized Brigade in Germany. He then commanded a tank squadron with 4th Royal Tank Regiment in Muenster. This was followed by a staff appointment as the staff officer responsible for officer personnel matters in the Royal Armoured Corps.

He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and served as a member of the Directing Staff of the Army Staff College in May 1982. In December 1984 he assumed command of the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment in Fallingbostel, which he converted, to the 'Challenger Tank'. In July 1987, he was promoted Colonel and became Assistant Chief of Staff 1st British Corps before attending the 1989 Royal College of Defence Studies Course.

In April 1990 he became Commander 4th Armoured Brigade in Muenster West Germany. He commanded the Brigade during the Gulf War in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait and was made a Companion of the Bath for his services in the war. In June 1992, he became Deputy Commander & Chief of Staff British Forces Hong Kong.

In February 1994 he left the Army to take up the appointment of Executive Director of the British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong. Since then he has fulfilled that role.

He is a Senior Advisor to PA Consulting Group, a Foreign Consultant to the Mayor of Wuhan and advisor to the Vice Governors of both Hebei and Hainan Provinces, Executive Director of Comford Resource Limited, President of Institute of Export and a member of the Career Development Board of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He was a Director of The Year in the 2005 Institute of Directors, Director of the Year Awards.

His interests include winter sports; he was for a number of years Vice Chairman of Army Bobsleigh, walking, shooting and water sport. He is President of the Royal British Legion-Hong Kong & China Branch, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Locally Enlisted Personnel Trust and Honorary President of the Hong Kong Ex Servicemen's Association. He is a member of the Army & Navy Club and the Hong Kong Club. In addition he is a keen but erratic golfer!