



OUT OF AFRICA

Hertfordshire's premier four star hotel, West Lodge Park, has welcomed a new General Manager to the team. David Seward (*pictured right*) has 22 years experience in the hotel industry, a career that began in his home land of Zimbabwe.

David, 41, began his apprenticeship at the Victoria Falls four star hotel and later worked at the Kariba Breezes hotel situated on the shores of the Zambezi river, deep in safari territory. In 2001 David left Zimbabwe as the country sank into crisis, arriving in the UK with his family and suitcases. He was employed by Beales Hotels at their Buckingham Hotel and six years on he has been promoted to General Manager of West Lodge Park in Hadley Wood, Herts.

Fortunately there are no wild animals roaming the 35 acre grounds of West Lodge Park, however David has other challenges ahead of him including a £400k refurbishment of the hotel:

"Taking the reins of such a beautiful and historic hotel is thrilling and exciting but I am hoping to give a fresh perspective to West Lodge Park. I was very fortunate to join Beales Hotels when I arrived in the UK, they have been a supportive employer and genuinely care about their staff. I look forward to carrying on this tradition in my new post."

Andrew Beale (*pictured left*), the eighth generation of the family business, will now be able to concentrate on future projects for Beales Hotels such as the development of the spa facilities at West Lodge Park and the building of a new floor of bedrooms at Beales Hotel, Hatfield.

West Lodge Park has 120 staff, most of whom have been at the hotel for many years. It is the highest graded four star hotel in Hertfordshire and North London and provides the perfect country retreat for weddings, spa treatments and special events throughout the year. Call 020 8216 3900 or look at the extensive website www.bealeshotels.co.uk for further details.

Note to newdesk - If you would like to interview David or review the hotel's award winning (two AA rosettes) Cedar Restaurant, hotel accommodation and spa treatments please contact Beales PRO Jane Manners on 07971 262124.