



Phil Spring 40459
Chairman 2007
British JCI Senate
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Dear Senator,

As the saying goes “time flies when having fun”. I cannot believe that already my year is half way through.

When I took on the role of the British Senate Chairman my aim was to serve the British Senators the best way I could by focusing on our domestic programme and the official international events such as the European Conference.

Well, since then I have really caught the bug and have enjoyed the official programme plus the many other events which have proved to be a bonus. By the time you receive this letter the British Senate will have enjoyed nine events from our official programme.

They include events in Northern Ireland, Boston Lincolnshire, Reading with Lunch at the Leander Club, JCI UK National Conference in Sheffield, The EC2007 Pre-Tour and European Conference in Maastricht, The Northumberland Walking Weekend, The York Race Day and the Shropshire weekend at Wrekin.

Those occasions have proved to be varied and, I am pleased to say, very successful all in their own unique way.

As your Chairman I attended the European Spring Board meeting in beautiful Copenhagen where Annette Kjeer and her team put on a superb event for ASE President Paal Aschjem. Being in the company of so many dear friends from Europe and beyond is always so special

In June, my very first visit to the USA saw us at the US Senate 35th Convention in Annapolis in the State of Maryland. Everybody told me this event would be different. They were right. In joining on the Monday direct from our Northumberland weekend the proceedings were in full flow. Our colleagues in the US are so together, very enthusiastic with a clear sense of purpose and achievement.

We were made to feel more than welcome; Calvin Baerveldt, First Lady Diane and their excellent team made us feel very much a part of such a world class event. I was so proud and honoured to be part of this wonderful occasion including witnessing first hand the swearing in of their 36th President H T “Jumper” Davis. My sincere best wishes go to Jumper and First Lady Hilda for their year.

I am really struck by the respect and standing in which the British JCI Senate is regarded in the European and US Senate circles.

The common thread to all these occasions is sharing the fellowship of special people who have added to the quality of my life. They include those who just get on with organising the event without any fuss; those who simply deliver; those who make us all feel so welcome; those who share their valuable experience and advice so freely; those who are first timers and those who have not attended an event for a long time.



A further bonus to me has been sharing the company of the younger Senators who are still active within JCI and the JCI members themselves. Hosting Sarah Oxby and Ryan Stevens, the two winners of the British Senate Bursaries and their JCI colleagues at Maastricht was very much a highlight.

Maastricht also brought us the election of our very own Clare Ashton as the Secretary and Peter den Bremer as the President of the Association of Senators in Europe for 2007/8 and Julia Lea won the Most Outstanding Senator award in Europe. Congratulations and Best Wishes to Clare, Julia and Peter.

In JCI terms the glass is still half full and we are looking forward to the second half. You are all aware of the programme we set at the outset of the year. There are too many events to go in to too much detail on each. On the international front we look forward to attending the 50th Crayfish Party in Halmstad, Sweden next month, the JCI Ireland 50th Anniversary Convention in Cobh in October and of course the Pre-Tour and World Congress in Antalya, Turkey in November.

Closer to home we enjoy our AGM event in the beautiful city of Bath in September, in October we have the Lunch at the House of Commons followed by the South Coast weekend and the JCI UK National Awards in Doncaster in early December. The year is concluded with the Drumming Out in Manchester. You can be assured of a warm welcome in January with the theme being **"The Magic of Manchester"**.

All our events are on the superb website at www.britishsenate.org.uk, where you can even book on line!

A key objective for the year is working more closely with JCI UK and I am pleased to report we are making good progress. Locally I thoroughly enjoyed a Manchester JCC training session this last week. We reiterate our support for President Amanda Fitzsimmons, her Deputy President Sarah Jane Mills and their JCI UK team

I thank my Council and supporting team for getting on with the business whilst I am busy representing you at our many events. I am pleased to see that Barry Miller's plans for next year are coming together.

Remember you are a special and valuable member of the British Senate; we welcome you as an important part of the organisation. Please join us at one of our events.

In Sincere Senate Friendship

Phil Spring

Senator 40459
British JCI Senate Chairman 2007

Senators - Strengthen JCI UK by joining the Mentoring & Training Programme now - contact me for details

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