

European Senate

2013 Issue 1



Published by the British Senate on behalf of the Association of JCI Senators in Europe.
Editor: Peter Browning. Printed by Ruddocks, Lincoln



In this Issue

Deadline Dates

Please write to us about any topic you want, send interesting stories and pictures. The Copy dates are:-

14th April 2013 24th June 2013
23th September 2013 13th January 2014

Send material to peter.browning@virgin.net

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Then try browsing some of these web sites

ASE	jcisenate.eu
JCI	jci.cc
Austria	senatoren.at
Belgium	jcisenatebelgium.be
British Senate	britishsenate.org.uk
Canada	canadajcisenate.com
Denmark	senator.dk
Finland	jcisenate.fi
France	af-senateur.com
Germany	wjdsenatoren.de
Ireland	jci-ireland.org
Italy	senatojci-italy.com
Malaysia	jci-senate-malaysia.org
Monaco	jcisenatemonaco.asso.mc
Netherlands	jci.nl/senaat.html
Norway	jcisenate.no
Sweden	jcisenate.se
Switzerland	jci-senat.ch
Turkey	jciturkey.cc 'Senatosu' tab
USA	usjcisenate.org
ASAC	asacjci.org
ASEAN	jcisenateasean.com
Francophone	csf.jci.free.fr

Please let us know of any other JCI Senate sites to list here

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Want to 'Connect' to other Senators?

Try them out these 'JCI Senate' groups and see who you know there!

LinkedIn	senator.dk.b2b
Facebook	facebook.com
Xing	xing.com/net/jcisenate

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The 'European Senate' is published by the British JCI Senate and is printed using bio inks on sustainable paper by Ruddocks - an ISO14001 and FSC registered printer.

The 'European Senate' magazine is editorially independent and encourages debate on matters affecting JCI Senators. Views expressed are those of the individual writers and not necessarily those of the British JCI Senate or the ASE

From the President Margaretha Eriksson #51135

Dear Senator,

What have you done lately to support your local JCI organisation? What do you know about the local organisation that once awarded your Senatorship? Why not take a look!

Our organisation consists of so many fantastic people, Jaycees and Senators, and when we all work together under the "Be Better" motto we can move mountains. It is on the local level that we can make the biggest difference by taking part and being positive about what the young members do.

On the international level the First Timers meetings at EC and WC present wonderful opportunities to share JCI knowledge and history and also to get acquainted with many young members as a mentor. I urge you to be part of the FT meeting in Monaco! The meeting takes place in the afternoon before the opening ceremony and it gives the first time Jaycees a flying start to the conference.

Globetrotters - It is never boring to be a JCI Senator and the number of JCI member and Senate events we create is impressive, whether you want to ski, walk, play golf or visit the theatre with fellow Senators in your country or abroad - just take a look at the ads and events list in this newsletter. You can spend almost every weekend at JCI events in Europe, the US and the rest of the world!

Why not introduce younger members to this international opportunity by bringing them to their first international JCI

event? Those who get the "JCI travel bug" usually stay on as members and may even become Senators! To visit new places, make new friends and explore new things is really great.

Some of us make business from this and let the JCI events and friends be the places where we choose to do business. One of my friends makes sure his customers are close to great golf courses, combining business and pleasure in a superb way.

New Senate Awards - Would you like to recognize a fellow Senator who has supported JCI or the Senate in an outstanding way? There are now two new Senator's awards, one for internal JCI Senate activities and one for supporting the JCI organisation. These awards are now handled by the Senate. Send applications to the Joint Boards Secretary, Clare Ashton, and Earl Sawyer! (contact info on page 43) The Senate awards will be presented at the Senate lunch/dinner at the European conference and at the World congress.

See you in Monaco in June!

In Senate Friendship

*Margaretha Eriksson
JCI Senator #51135
ASE President 2012/2013*



New Senate Organisation Lukasz Kozak #71037



JCI Senate Poland was established on 6th October 2012, during a founders meeting. At this meeting there were 13 past JCI Poland Presidents present. The meeting was very successful and this was the first time in history when we gathered together so many people who had played a key role in our organisation in the past.

During this meeting we signed the official document founding the Polish JCI Senate. It was also decided that the Polish Senate Board will have three members.

The President will be elected automatically and will be the person who was the NOM IPP in the previous year.

For 2013 the JCI SENATE Board is:

President - Lukasz Kozak, Kraków
Board Member - Wojciech Podemski #65452, Wrocław
Board Member - Jakub Prusik, Warszawa

We have on our contact list around 65 people and we are working on updating it. For 24 years of JCI history in Poland nobody had taken care of that before!

There is a lack of officially registered Senators because of different situations, personal and organizational. We have given ourselves 3 years to clarify who is a real JCI Senator and would like to be officially recorded as Senate member. *(The JCI database online only has 18 Senators in Poland! Best of luck sorting it out. Editor)*

Best regards from snowy Kraków.

*Lukasz Kozak
JCI Senator #71037
2013 President JCI Senate Poland*

For more information see JCI Poland's Facebook page

Objectives Met!

Françoise Texier #55008

Colmar is a historic and dynamic city in the middle of Alsace between Strasbourg and Mulhouse. This is where, at the end of October 2012 in the vineyards of a golden flaming autumn, 80 Senators and their companions tasted the wines of Alsace, roast venison and many other gastronomic specialities. Senators from Alsace and other regions of France were present as well as Willy Machiels #12715, Ulrich Kistner #58860, Past ASE President, and his wife Annette.

They found good food, wine cellars and castles but they also talked a lot! The boards from 2011-2012 and 2013-2014 had a handover meeting and Didier Pelissier #58939 replaced Françoise Texier #55008 as President of the French Association of JCI Senators.

A meeting took place in the Colmar town hall between the Senators and representatives of JCI d'Alsace with the Senators randomly answering questions that the young members had prepared.

Thus the two objectives were met: conviviality between Senators and meeting our young successors.

With my friendship and my best memories a Happy New Year and best wishes to all.

*Françoise Texier
JCI Senator #55008
French Senate Past President*





Colmar est une ville historique, et dynamique, située au milieu de l'Alsace, entre Strasbourg et Mulhouse. C'est là que, à la fin d'octobre 2012, dans les vignes dorées par un automne flamboyant, 80 sénateurs et leurs compagnons ont goûté les vins d'Alsace, les rôtis de biche et bien d'autres spécialités gastronomiques. Etaient présents des Sénateurs Alsaciens et d'autres régions de France, ainsi que Willy Machiels #12715, Ulrich Kistner #58860 Past-Président de l'ASE et Annette sa femme. Ils ont découvert la gastronomie, les caves et les châteaux, mais ils ont aussi beaucoup parlé ! les deux boards 2011-2012 et 2013-2014 ont eu une réunion de passation de dossiers : Didier Pelissier #58939, remplace Françoise Texier #55008 à la présidence de l'Association Française des Sénateurs JCI.

A la mairie de Colmar, une rencontre a eu lieu entre les sénateurs et les représentants des OLM d'Alsace : les sénateurs ont du répondre à des questions tirées au sort, que les jeunes membres avaient préparées.

Ainsi les deux objectifs ont été remplis : la convivialité entre sénateurs et la rencontre avec nos jeunes successeurs.

Avec mes amitiés et mon meilleur souvenir,
Bonne année à tous, Happy new year and best wishes

Françoise Texier
JCI Sénateur #55008
Past-Président de l'AFS JCI

Meet the Presidents



Mogens Christensen #67617

My name is Mogens Christensen. I'm 44 years old and live in Frederiksberg, Copenhagen together with my girlfriend Marianne. I'm the 2013 Senate President in Denmark and joined JCI back in 1995 in Aarhus. I became a Senator in 2007 and now I am member of JCI Copenhagen which is the oldest local JCI chapter in Denmark.

Professionally I work within the IT service industry for CGI where I'm a department manager responsible for sales and delivery of information logistics services for the Danish market.

I'm looking forward to a lot of enjoyable and exciting events together with Danish and international Senators.

Best Regards

*Mogens Christensen
JCI Senator #67617
Danish Senate President 2013*

Didier Pelissier #58939

I am a Senator from the Cergy-Pontoise LOM (30 kilometres North West of Paris) but a native of the centre of France (Allier).

I have been married since 1983 to Véronique who is also a Senator - #61970.

Professionally I am a French customs officer (nobody is perfect) - secretary-general of the French customs data centre in Osny in charge of budget and administration.

I have a great interest in aviation and historic

planes and I have had a private pilot's licence since 1976 and I regularly fly a Cessna 172.

The programme I have proposed for the election at the congress in Tours consisted of animating the French Senate network and to assure its brightness in the French and European Jaycee environment.

All my best wishes for the New Year.

*Didier Pelissier
JCI Senator #58939
French Senate President 2013 - 2014*



Karen Sweeney #67600

Some people have mixed feelings about a year with the number 13 in it - I'm hoping it will be very lucky for me, not least because I'm JCI Ireland's Senate Chairman! I'm looking forward to a year where we get more of our Senate members involved in our activities and maybe start a few 'new traditions' at the same time.

I joined JCI in 2001 and have enjoyed many roles since then, including National President in 2007, the year JCI Ireland celebrated its 50th anniversary.

I currently work in Dublin as Head of Underwriting Operations for an Irish insurance company. When the social life in Dublin allows it, I escape for weekends to the country as often as possible, where I spend time with family and friends and enjoy the hills and lakes.

Travelling is a constant passion and my last trip was a spectacular two weeks camping and hiking in the Canadian Rockies in September last year. To unwind, I dance (if I can find someone to dance with!), and I enjoy painting and taking part in quizzes.

Prior to accepting the role of Senate Chairman for 2013, I

had set myself a slightly different type of challenge for 2013 - each month I want to do something new, something I haven't tried before - the only requirements being that the 'something' should be physically possible, legal and enjoyable. While Senate Chairman was not planned as part of that challenge, it fits in quite nicely with the three requirements - as far as I'm being told, anyway!

*Karen Sweeney
JCI Senator #6760
JCI Ireland Senate Chairman 2013*



Norwegian National Conference - Hamar



Sigurd Renander #64230 receives one of the annual Senate awards – was there any favouritism from the Senate President?



Some were paying attention during the Senate AGM - Probably just waiting for the next toast!



The 2013 Senate President, Bjørn Helge Eliassen #55806, tries on the chain of office!



JCI Kristiansund received money for their project "Merry Christmas to everyone" from the Senate President



The Senate Bar before the 'crowd' arrived



Torgier Riksfjord, the National President, backed by all the Norwegian Senators receives Senatorship #71811 from Heidi

Editorial

Peter Browning #49104

Happy New Year dear readers – I hope 2013 has started well for you.

As you will see from the many tributes that we had some very sad news towards the end of 2012 that Roger Alm #22866 had died. Roger in my view embodied the true spirit of the Senate and the fellowship that underpins it. He was a modest man with an impish smile who believed in his fellow man and also liked to have fun and promote the internationalism of the Senate – which he did by establishing the Bumble Bee Club. He was also a very generous friend to those who knew him. An example is that when Morag and I were going to visit Stockholm before the Crayfish Party one year I contacted him for suggestions on a suitable hotel to stay in. His response was "We will be holidaying on the West Coast at that time but you are welcome to stay in our apartment and I will post you the key"

Many Senators give 'Home Hospitality' when fellow Senators are visiting their area and show them the local sights as Bela tells us on page 8 but how many people would just post their keys to you and invite you to use their home while they are away? Not only did Roger give us a bed for the time we were in Stockholm but when we walked into the flat there was a welcome note beside 2 champagne glasses and a book of bus tickets for us to use. Apart from welcoming us and telling us some key information it said that he knew we would be thirsty after our tiring and 'dusty' journey so there was a bottle of champagne in the fridge for us to relax over. He also explained where the Gin & Tonic was for the rest of our stay and to help ourselves to any of the food in the fridge. That level of hospitality is true Senate Fellowship!

I am slightly confused by Margaretha's mention of 2 new awards for Senators in her message on page 3. Are these additional awards or are they revisions of the existing JCI 'Best Senator' award that I think she and Friedhelm Wachs #62758 have won in recent years and the Joint Boards' Senator of The Year that I was honoured to be awarded at a very memorable evening at the 2010 German Senate Conference in Munich and Ulrich Kistner #58860 was awarded in 2008?

Recently I received an email promoting the World Congress in Rio which I am sure will be excellent but I have to say I was a bit shocked by the registration fees which are \$480 until the end of March and \$550 until the beginning of October. The early bird fee is 14% higher than Taipei and the main fee is a whopping 22% higher. These may be good value for Jaycees but for Senators who do not go to the training sessions that is a lot for 5 lunches and a gala dinner which is what is included when I followed the link.

Please send me your views for next issue's letters page.

Slainte Mhath
Peter Browning
JCI Senator #49104



The Magic Kingdom – Senate style Bela Arora #63945



I was heading out to the University of Central Florida in January and thought it would be a great opportunity to meet up with fellow Senators. Just a decade ago I would have adopted a more convoluted approach of going through the board of the U.S. Senators to find an available contact, but thanks to the wonders of social networking, I was able to make plans at short notice. I put a note on Facebook and within a day or so I had a response from my good friend Frank Frost, Danish Senator #59603, who I first met in 2003 when I attended World Congress in Copenhagen. Frank is someone who has great judgment when it comes to connecting people and on this occasion he came up trumps.

Frank put me in touch with Doug #52995 and Kay White #61747 from the Florida Senate and we exchanged a mere handful of messages via Facebook to arrange a meeting. I thought it would be nice to simply meet fellow Senators with shared interests, maybe share a glass of wine or three or go for lunch. After all, I had no intention of imposing. Doug and Kay had other plans in mind and wanted to introduce me to the real Florida. The first message I received from Doug said 'Kay and I are both retired and don't have much of a schedule but just go when and where we want to.' At that stage I didn't know how old Doug and Kay were, but the start of the message suggested a mellow, sedate and relaxed pace awaited me. I'm low maintenance so that sounded just fine to me. Little did I know that Doug and Kay were far from living life in the slow and retired lane!

The next part of the correspondence had a rather different

tone that ignited my curiosity. Doug wrote, 'We are not much into the theme parks or the beach but several Senators in the area have camps in the swamp with RV's on them. I would suggest you bring some older clothes that you don't mind getting some mud on if we go ATV riding.' At that point I was wondering what on earth awaited me. I was chuckling to myself with bewilderment, excitement and a few nerves. In the next correspondence Doug and Kay invited me to spend two nights at their River Ranch camp and offered to pick me up from the airport and drop me at my conference hotel a few days later. True senate hospitality lay ahead.

I spent a couple of days with Doug and Kay that were like no other! Their warmth and generosity was humbling and they genuinely embodied the Senate spirit. I was impressed from the outset at how active they have been in JCI. Doug has been State President of Tennessee Senate and Florida Senate. Kay also held the position of State President of Florida Senate in addition to numerous roles at national JCI level. They have a wealth of experience and more energy than Jaycees half their age.

They were kind enough to introduce me to a side of Florida that you just don't hear about or see in the brochures. There was no sign of Donald Duck or Mickey Mouse, however, River Ranch was more of a Magic Kingdom than the one designed by Disney. It was natural, unspoilt, untouched by global tourism and felt like a community in its truest sense. River Ranch is 70 square miles of swamp land, only punctuated by camping zones and sand dunes. I use the

Same Procedure Every Year Helge Birkbo #45040

Danish Christmas Lunch

Every first Thursday in December the traditional Danish Christmas Lunch is held in Copenhagen. It's a co-operation between Danish and Swedish Senators - but the lunch always take place in Copenhagen.



The lunch is held every year in restaurant "KanalCaféen"

The lunch is always the good Danish open sandwiches, which is served as a kind of buffet at the table - the Senators don't like to go for the food when the food can be served at the table!



"After party" with #53237 Per Erichs, #67617 Mogens Christensen (Senate President 2013), #68920 Charlotte Velling (Senate President 2012), #46432 Frank Andersen, #45040 Helge Birkbo & #34343 Niels Kjeldsen

word 'camping' very loosely. This was not like camping I have ever known. I have always put myself in the category of glamping, which is a term to define glamorous camping. I have an 8 man tent with a dining area, a blow up sofa, a blow up bed and all mod cons. I thought that was glamping but I was wrong. Doug and Kay White have created a true home from home at their camp. Hey, they have a fridge on the decking fully stocked with chilled beer! That's Senate hospitality.

I had the chance to meet Kay's mum and sister Beckie, who were also camping with us. They treated me as a member of the family and were so welcoming. Another Florida Senator, Jim Aldal had a camp close by and took us all out in his swamp buggy, which reminded me of a monster truck. I've never seen anything like it. It was a real boy's toy, but also the most practical way to get around the ranch. We had a great day riding through the swamps in the glorious sunshine. It was a unique experience.

I have returned to the UK with the most incredible memories and photos to match. I was overwhelmed by Doug and Kate's kindness, warmth, energy and joie de vivre. I was treated to the best of American and Senate hospitality, with mornings that started with pancakes and then ended with a 'fire water' from a jar....surely the only way to seal a new Senate friendship.

Bela Arora
JCI Senator #63945

The most important aspect is that we have the possibility to have a good talk for some hours with our friends.

To avoid some problems remembering when the lunch will take place it is always the first Thursday in December. Then even the most absent minded Senator can find out where he should be (*as long as he remembers what day of the week it is – Editor*).

After the lunch some Senators can't find the way home - so there is, every year, a continuation in another place in Copenhagen. So it was also this time!

Helge Birkbo
JCI Senator #45040



Helge Birkbo, #45040 with the smallest beer on draught

**Brilliant BRUM Weekend
13th to 15th September 2013
British Senate AGM**

- B – Baltilicious food**
- R – Rumbustious times at Arts Fest**
- U – Urbane debate, it is the AGM**
- M – Monkey Nuts at Gingers! – Curious?**

Join us for an excellent weekend in Birmingham (including that bit of business known as the AGM!)

Variety is the “spice of life”. We offer the best of Indian food, local history, Arts Fest (special appearance by Jules Evans!), cocktails and tastings, and to cap it all Gongoozling with David Grainger.

What more could you want in life?

To find out more and to book your place contact Kate Canty at +44 7970 018 240 or c.canty@blueyonder.co.uk

STOP PRESS: Special pay now rates for hotel are available online for a limited time - We are staying at the Hilton Garden Brindley Place, Birmingham www.hiltongardeninn.hilton.com



Not the Lyke Wake Walk!

15 - 17 March 2013



Liz Walmsley invites you to explore this unspoilt part of North Yorkshire and welcomes you to her 'stomping ground' for a weekend of Yorkshire hospitality based in the picturesque village of Osmotherley – on the eastern edge of the North Yorkshire moors and conveniently located just off A19 for those coming by car and close to Northallerton for those travelling by train. Osmotherley is the traditional start (end) of the Lyke Wake walk – so many of you may well remember this destination after your 40 mile walk from the coast!

Friday evening we will gather in the Golden Lion - a traditional pub well known for its real ales and excellent food.

McCoys at the Tontine will be our Saturday evening venue - an award winning, country house hotel and bistro dating back to 1804. The Tontine creates a party atmosphere with its somewhat 'eccentric' decoration and non establishment approach!



Wilf Shaw is already planning our walks ; John and Barbara Hemy planning other local excursions – perhaps to Thirsk or Northallerton - traditional market towns; David Kerfoot is masterminding our 'hospitality'. We will visit Mount Grace one of the most important Carthusian Monasteries in UK (ruins, English Heritage/National Trust). There will be a very special opportunity on Sunday for small number to meet the international bookbinder Angela James who will show us her new studio and talk about her craft and binding the Booker Prizewinning Collections.

For those who don't need to leave early, Liz will welcome you to her home for an informal Sunday lunch (a light lunch after your hearty Yorkshire breakfasts)

Accommodation – there is a good range of comfortable and stylish accommodation in the village pubs, B&Bs or as a special treat at the Tontine. Special rates have been negotiated. There is also a Youth Hostel and Cote Ghyll caravan park.

Some Elements Fully Booked - Act Now!

For further information contact John Hemy or Liz Walmsley 01642 701348 / 07810 756489 liz.walmsley@gmail.com



All are welcome to the ASE Spring Board meeting

11-14 April 2013 in Waxholm town, Stockholm archipelago

We are staying at historical Waxholm Castle, sleep in the old garrison building, travel by traditionally built ships from ca 1900, and visit archipelago culture, nature and history. This is a unique opportunity to enjoy the Stockholm archipelago when it wakes up into spring.

Travel to Waxholm by ship from Stockholm City (ca 1h), or by taxi from Arlanda Airport (ca 45 minutes).

for programme details and booking form visit the ASE Spring Board facebook page “JCI ASE Spring Board meeting 2013” or www.jcisenate.eu

you can also contact contact: Margaretha Eriksson, ASE president 2012-2013
margaretha.eriksson@jcisenate.eu



NEW! Open forum for outgoing & incoming Senate presidents

Letter from America Ian Nelson #45643

Magic mirrors

There I was sitting in my usual seat at the ballet (C15 if anyone is interested) when a very attractive young lady took the seat next to me. As soon as she sat down she asked me if I was on my own. Now being a mere man I naturally assumed she was a bit forward having just met me but what the heck, if she wanted to get to know me better who was I to complain. And if she just happened to know a little bistro nearby where we could enjoy a quiet drink before popping back to her place for coffee or whatever, well it's about time I had some good luck. So it was trifle disappointing when I told her that I was indeed there alone to hear her say, instead of the imagined invitation to drinks after the show, would I swap seats with her boyfriend because they had not been able to get two seats together. Talk about pride before a fall.

A similar thing happened years ago at a posh international dinner in Finland. I was talking to some friends when a vision in a red dress approached me and asked, in a very sultry South American accent if she could borrow a pen to write down her address and phone number. I couldn't believe my luck. Here was an absolute beauty, rather younger than me (well, okay much younger) trying to give me her contact details. I wondered what had attracted her to me. Was it the sophisticated bow tie and dinner jacket, the natural good looks (well it was quite dark) or the English accent? Naturally I had no objection to lending her a pen. In fact it was a case which colour would you like madam? It was a bit of a come down when she gave me back my pen and turned and gave the note to a good looking young chap behind her.

It's a strange thing that no matter how fat, bald, old and ugly a man is (and I think I just qualify on the old and ugly so far, but I might admit to thinning a little) he still thinks he's a babe magnet. And however drop dead gorgeous a woman is she always thinks there's something wrong with the way she looks. It's that old joke about women will never have equality with men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and beer gut and still think they are sexy.

Of course our male delusions were not helped by the research a while back that claimed women in their thirties were giving up on men of their own age and seeking successful older men. The thinking was that thirty year old men were too stressed out to treat women properly. They come home from work having spent the day trying to climb the corporate ladder too tired to court their ladies. Added to that they are stressed about where the money for school fees, mortgage and car loans is coming from. According to the article they could not even keep their women happy in bed because they were too stressed. The more mature man is appealing because he has made his mark on the

corporate world and knows how to treat a lady like a lady. Being of a mature age myself of course I was fascinated by the article and looking forward to having young women flinging themselves at me. Trouble is I missed the bit in the article that mentioned young women were increasingly attracted to **rich** older men. Oh well I have half the attributes they are looking for. How's that for optimism?

Now although most men might think they are babe magnets some of us do look in the mirror when we get shaved in the mornings. I find it helps in ensuring the ears stay attached to the side of the head. So although we treasure the idea that every woman in the world is just longing to have our babies realism sets in and some of us begin to wonder why any woman, even the better half, would want the wreck they see looking back from the bathroom mirror.

That set me thinking about how we might cure men of their delusions and I had an idea. I often see women pull out from their handbag a little mirror and check that everything is where it should be (usually while driving in the fast lane of the motorway). I assume they are making sure their nose is still on the front and ears on the side sort of thing. Now if we could make it mandatory for men to carry a little mirror like that and check in it as often as possible maybe they would begin to realize that the lines that they think add character to their face are really wrinkles from the aging process and that no woman really finds them attractive. Better still make it a talking mirror, like in the fairy tale so that when the man says, 'mirror, mirror in my hand who is the fairest in the land?' the mirror would be programmed to respond, 'not you mate, try a face lift and some hair extensions. Or better still wear a bag on your head'. That might do the trick.

Ian Nelson
JCI Senator #45643



Norwegian JCI Senate

Invite you to

Senotium 2013

6 - 8 September 2013

In the beautiful land of the fjords on the northwest coast of Norway

The programme includes golf at the idyllic golf course in Volda www.voldagolf.no, a scenic walk in the "Sunnmørsalps" as well as a cruise on the fjord in Hjørundfjord.

Booking will be available on the Norwegian Senate website as soon as 2013 prices have been confirmed.

Please e-mail Bjørn Helge Eliassen at bhe@eign.no with any other queries.

A Titanic Experience

David Grainger #30164

The end of November and beginning of December so it must be time for the JCI UK National Convention. This year the event took place in Belfast, Northern Ireland, a place I have visited many times in Junior Chamber. One thing to be sure of was that there would be a good Senate Programme for Senators attending. The programme was organised by Marretta Colman #39504 who was the 2010 British Senate Chairman and she would therefore be well aware of Senators' expectations.

Now you would not expect me to do things the simple way would you, so I took an early flight to Belfast so that I could take time out to visit the Ulster Transport Museum at Cultra. It took me a little time to work out how to get out of George Best, Belfast

evening there was entertainment in the form of an Irish group but unfortunately as far as I was concerned the music drowned out the singing so I have no idea what songs they were singing and the babble of conversation over dinner in the room meant it would not have mattered anyway.

Saturday morning was the main feature of the Senate programme, a visit to the recently opened Titanic Experience, a fantastic exhibition housed right next to where the Titanic was built. This was in a building built to the same height as the bow of the Titanic would have been and the building was built in the shape of a star representing the White Star Line, the owners of the ship. Now those who attended Marretta's Drumming Out two years ago might have thought that they a seen it all



City Airport as a pedestrian so that I could walk to the nearest railway station. I remember the first time I flew into that airport there was just a little wooden hut at the end of the runway at the Shorts Bros aircraft factory.

After a visit to the museum, a trip on the train back to Belfast where I met up with several of the Senators who were about to leave for afternoon tea at the Merchant House Hotel but I had not booked for that. I had left registering for the conference too late to get into the conference hotel so was staying at the Premier Inn not far away but had a little local difficulty in finding it as Google Maps showed it in the wrong street.

The Friday evening was in the Ulster Reform Club. I had been in that building before but I think the club had a different name as several clubs in Belfast had merged in recent years. To start the evening we had a Senate reception in the library of the club and then went upstairs to the former billiard room to join the Jaycees. During the

but this was completely different from the tour we did that time of the dry-dock, pumping station and Harland and Wolfe offices and I am glad that I was able to do both.

Saturday afternoon was free time so I took the opportunity to travel on the city sightseeing bus tour and then walked back to my hotel visiting the Christmas Market in the grounds of Belfast City Hall or rather attempted to visit but it was so crowded I had to turn and come out.

Saturday evening it was back to the Titanic Experience for the gala dinner and awards ceremony in the Titanic Suite on the top floor of the building. The main feature of this room was the replica of the main staircase from the Titanic.

Sunday morning was the Senate breakfast and then those of us who would be on the British Senate Council for 2013 held a joint meeting with the JCI UK 2013 National Board. After that some time to walk around the city centre again and the return flight home.

David Grainger
JCI Senator #30164

A Bloody Foreigner Again Ellen Olsen #61977

But not the only one as the Danish JCI President was also present

The first weekend in December I took off for Belfast and the BJC National Convention. (*Ellen is showing her age! It is JCI UK now not BJC – Editor*) Having taken part in Marretta's Drumming out almost two years ago, I really wanted to see the Titanic Museum completed and I knew that a Senate programme prepared by Marretta #39504 could not be anything but great. And of course it was.

Marretta picked me up at the airport and after check in at the hotel we went off for a traditional English afternoon tea. This is something I have only read about, never done, and it turned out



way above expectations. (*You should have been at the post Northampton DO one! Editor*) The place for the venue was fantastic, an old bank building transformed into a restaurant. The tea and the food were also fabulous. I really enjoyed it.

The evening was spent at an old club – a fantastic building and again good company. That the music was on the loud side to be able to talk was only a minor irritation.

Saturday morning was the highlight for me. We went to the new Titanic museum and I was able to see it completed, I recommend a visit here to anybody with any naval interest. It was even better than my expectations - and they were high!

In the afternoon Clair #31337 and I went to the Christmas market which was very crowded and with a lot of food, not so many craft works as I expected though! Markets like this are common in Europe but what is presented varies a lot from place to place. The weekend was completed with the traditional gala dinner also in the Titanic museum.

The timing on the event was fantastic as the following week I have been reading about riots in Belfast - we did not see a thing!

Ellen Olsen
JCI Senator #61977



Formula 1 Pre-Tour

As you know, the 71st Monaco Grand Prix will take place on Sunday 26 May, just 3 days before the start of the 2013 JCI European Conference in Monte-Carlo. We have put together some great offers to guarantee a once in a lifetime experience.

Senators' Pre-Tour

From Monday 27 to Wednesday 29 May 2013, Senators willing to discover Monaco and its surroundings, can take part in the special pre-tour prepared for them by the SOC. It includes sightseeing, cultural visits, wine tasting and gastronomic experiences.

Monaco Senators' Privilege

From Thursday 30 May to Saturday 1 June 2013, Senators will have the possibility to discover:

- The institutional, diplomatic, financial and industrial realities of the Principality of Monaco
- Amazing sites not usually open to the public and not on the normal tourist circuits
- Exceptional conditions of access during the 2013 European JCI Conference

JCI Golf Trophy

JCI Senators' Golf Trophy will be held on the prestigious Monte Carlo Golf Club. Located in a mountain and sea environment at an altitude of 900 metres, at the heart of some typical Mediterranean nature, this « 18 hole course » is one of the most beautiful on the Côte d'Azur.

Join us...

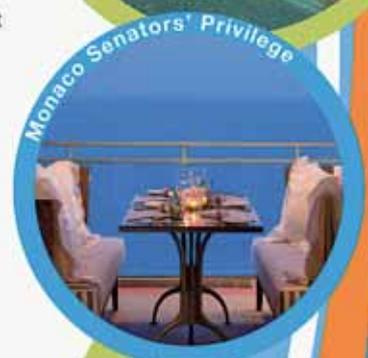
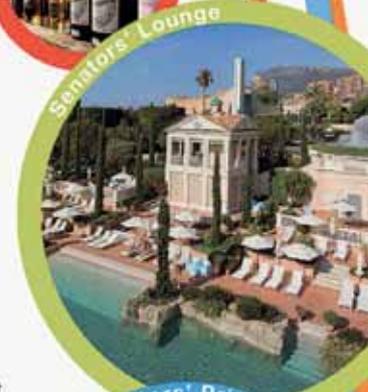
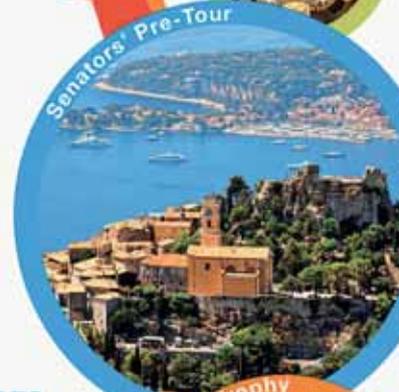
in Monte-Carlo for an unforgettable event in a wonderful destination.

See the conference website for additional information (check the **Senators' Guide Book**), registration and accommodation booking:

www.jci-ec2013.com



Be Better.™



Roger Alm #22866

3rd February 1936 – 23rd November 2012



Stromstad again!



Two Bumble Bees at Stromstad having a dip!

Do you remember when?

My thoughts on Roger #22866 are very much as per the words I spoke at his funeral on 17th December 2012 and given it is now the 6th January 2013 I find it really difficult to come to terms with the fact that Roger has gone from this world and that I will not enjoy a pint along with the wonderful banter we enjoyed so much.

As in death with most people you learn of their hidden talents and it was so obvious at his funeral reception that he was such a modest man but so active in many different ways whether that being with his golfing mates or his luncheon club pals or the secret society that Claës (Breitholtz) #24100 talked of. Modesty is a wonderful quality with which Roger was well blessed.

Talking of golf I will always remember Roger and a few of his Swedish golfing friends choosing to visit Ireland in the autumn of 2011 for their annual sojourn. Liz Spring was only too willing to let Roger and his mates stay at her house in Carrigallen in Co Leitrim near the border with Northern Ireland.

I have to say Roger could not have picked a worse week for weather as I think it rained so much that they only managed to play golf on one or two of the days. James, my son, works in Carrigallen and met them on arrival and used to check they were OK every day. Co Leitrim is the fishing area of the northern part of Ireland with all its fresh water lakes. Roger noticed the lake local to the house and was rather keen to swim in it.

When I told James I was visiting Roger in November he said I must let Roger know that it had stopped raining some 12 months or so later! Roger's response to that was at least they got to know the pubs well so golfing's loss was the landlords' gain!

The bathing in the local lake, or in extremely cold water, reminds me of Roger's desire to take an early morning dip when and where ever he could. Over and above the Bumble Bee swims, if you can call them that, I remember such

encounters on the island home of Roger's friend Bengt, off Stromstad and also with another friend who I think was also called Bengt when we travelled to his home by boat on the inland water ways. Can such escapades really be good for you!

This weekend I walked down Chestergate, the main shopping street in here in my home town of Macclesfield in the UK. There is an old pub there where Roger and I enjoyed a quiet beer when my central heating boiler broke down on one off his visits to my home!

Roger also had a Manchester United shirt with "Alm 65" on the back. He would call me in a concerned voice to say Sir Alex Ferguson, the world renowned Manchester United Manager, had not called him about a game or even a call up to the squad - perhaps it was something to do with Roger's age and the number on his back gave him a clue!

When Bill Preece #38649 and I visited Roger in hospital on the 16th November 2012 the week before died he still had that same wit. He told us that he discovered he had cancer last May when having his yearly check-up with his local doctor (General Practitioner (GP) as we know them). His doctor, being a lady, said she was concerned about some of the results from this check-up which were then confirmed as being cancerous. The doctor was upset and Roger told her not to worry as it would be alright. That is typical example of the modesty we admire so much in this fine Gentleman.

We also talked about when the three of us were last together at David Butcher's Drumming Out, last January in Northampton. He marvelled at the wonderful cream tea he enjoyed on the Sunday afternoon provided by Athene's friend.

Ironically, with the shock news of Roger's decision to stop the treatment, that weekend turned out to be cathartic for Bill and I, as we had time to discuss our times with Roger and Gunilla. As one chipped in a fond story the other would say "and that reminds me do you remember when ..."

I also recall the time that Bill and Pam, Zoë and I visited

New Views Through Old Glasses Ole Jacob Raad #8552



Bengt, Roger & Phil at Stromstad



Making a Life Inventory

When I was young and saw an old man walking slowly behind his lawn mower, I sometimes wondered: "What is he thinking about?" Now I know, because I am one of these old men. And I am thinking about things I have experienced in the past, and preferably the nice ones.

In September in Drammen, Heidi Berge #63318, the Norwegian Senate President, staged the annual Senotium weekend. A few days in advance she asked all participants to submit a few statements about themselves that sounded more or less strange or unbelievable and I submitted my contributions.

At the Get Acquainted party the 40 participants were divided into four groups and seated at tables for ten. Heidi and her faithful slave, Sigurd #64230, had made a quiz where our task was to guess who was behind the various statements regarding people in the other groups. All groups were involved, guessing about people in the three other groups. After the forms had been collected, we were presented with the correct answers.

I could hardly be the only one who was surprised by how much we did not know about some of the fellow Senators we thought we had known for decades. One of the ladies had been harassed by Ringo Starr in the casino in Monte Carlo, and a highly respected male Senator had been put in jail in Mexico after a fight over a girl! I think this social exercise can be greatly recommended at Senators' gatherings everywhere. It was real fun and did much for to us to "get better acquainted".

But for me, this was just half of the experience. After having sent my contribution to Heidi I remained by my pc with my document and my thoughts started to wander. In my memory I reverted to old times, thinking about things that I have experienced which maybe were far out of reach for most people. I thought back on them with pleasure and added them to my list - I kept on sitting and memorizing, adding items to the list. It was like making an inventory of good things in my life, and before long, it covered two A4 pages and I said to myself: "How privileged I have been - being allowed to enjoy all this!"

It is a good exercise - try it!

This is partly so because I spend my money on travels instead of luxuries that deteriorate over time, while good memories, like good wines get better over time, and because my generous wife allows me to travel (*on his own - Editor*) more than many husbands would be allowed to.

An old tune sung by Bing Crosby goes like this: "When I'm tired and cannot sleep, I count my blessings instead of sheep, and I fall asleep counting my blessings." So the name of my document became "Blessings". Seeing Bing ten feet away is also on my list, by the way, and I am still adding new items.

Ole Jacob Raad

JCI Senator #8552

ole.jacob@raads.no

PS

And what were my statements? Well, one was that I have driven cars legally for 54 years, after having flunked the driving test. How can that be? Ask me next time we meet.



Roger and Gunilla in Stockholm for a few days. On one of those days Roger organised a lunch on one of the islands of his beloved archipelago. When we arrive at the restaurant, by boat of course, Roger suggested we should honour a Swedish tradition whereby the men toasted the ladies first. The toast was a sherry schooner of aquavit, three of which duly arrived. Roger proffered the toast and we duly, with some reluctance downed the very strong spirit.

Thinking that was that, Bill and I were relieved that ordeal was over, only for Roger to say "But there are three ladies" which we duly toasted two more times. Then Roger uttered "Well gentlemen, now what would you like to drink". Only Roger could do that!

When Bill offered his "Oh My Darling Roger Alm" song at the lunch after the funeral service it was in response to Roger at Bill's 60th birthday party singing "Oh My Darling Clementine" to Bill with words specially prepared by none other than that well known impresario, John Eaton #19170 of Dearne Valley. Of course the thespian within Roger got the better of him and he dressed up as a lady - a term used loosely of course - including dress, wig, jewellery and make up.

Such an arrangement caused great difficulties behind the scenes and particularly with the organisers in as much that Roger felt he could not get changed in the Gents toilet nor the Ladies for obvious reasons. Therefore Roger ended up getting changed in the cleaner's cupboard to keep his act a surprise.

At the appropriate time Roger discreetly went to his new found changing room to get ready for his act. Once there Roger had not realised the proceedings were running behind time, as they are prone to in Buxton, and Roger remained imprisoned in this broom cupboard for over 45 minutes. Nonetheless he gave a brilliant performance and, other than Bill and Pam, was certainly the star of the show.

Roger, thank you for so many fond memories and such great friendship.

Phil Spring

JCI Senator #40459

Sent to Coventry

David Grainger #30164

It is appropriate that I write this report on the British Senate weekend in Coventry as it was one day about four or five years ago that I was sitting next to John Purser #49155 on a train back from London. We were discussing the British Senate and the conversation got round to working out when it was the last time that the Senate was in Coventry. I said that from my memory it was for #22736 Terry Forrest's Drumming Out in the 1990s. John then said that he would like to organise a weekend. However, because of other programme restraints and John's charity work commitments it took until the year just ended for this to come about.

I did not join the weekend party until the Saturday morning but I understand that a good time was had the previous evening in an Indian Restaurant. On the Saturday morning we went on a conducted walk around Coventry led by a blue badge guide who was a former city councillor and therefore very knowledgeable about Coventry and its very interesting history. At one point we stopped by a statue of one of John Starley's #51811 ancestors who was very important in the

development of the cycle industry in Coventry in the nineteenth century. Although Coventry was very badly damaged during the Second World War, I have been surprised on this and previous visits how much of the medieval city still remains. I think most people will be aware that Coventry's cathedral was lost during the war but that the ruins have been preserved as a memorial with the new cathedral built next to it. It is however only in more recent years have archaeologists discovered the remains of the previous medieval cathedral and we were shown some of the remains of this.

Lunch was informal in the cafeteria of the Herbert Art Gallery giving us a chance for a brief look around before going off the Coventry Museum of Transport which has been considerably extended since my last visit. We were split into two groups and taken on a guided tour of the museum. Unfortunately, I think our guide was more used to taking parties of schoolchildren around. I know that she was completely amazed that I knew that Jaguar cars were



originally badged as "SS" from Swallow Sidecars the original name of the company. I knew this because when I was a young boy, my father had an old 1939 SS.

In the evening we had dinner in the restaurant of the Belgrade Theatre where we were entertained by John's daughter, Jill, who teaches singing and dancing. Jill sang songs from well known shows and was accompanied in two of them by one of her students making his first public appearance.

It was planned that on the Sunday morning we should go to one of the aircraft museums at Coventry Airport. It was confusing in that Coventry had two aircraft museums but unfortunately the one that we were to go to had closed two weeks before our visit. However they could still provide facilities for our lunch but more of that later.

A small group of us therefore were able to visit the Electric Train Museum which conveniently was also at Coventry Airport. As a museum it is still in its development stage but

nevertheless was still very interesting. This museum is normally open only on a few days each year, one of which was due to be the day of our visit but they had moved the date so they were not officially open. However John had contacted them and they said that there would be people working on the site so we could come along to visit. Unfortunately this was the day that it rained and so we had a very wet time but it was interesting.

For the lunch we were still able to visit the closed museum to have lunch in a DC-6 aircraft. This aircraft, now converted to a restaurant last flew when being used for filming the Bond film Casino Royale. The aircraft had spent its operational life on covert operations for the CIA sometimes masquerading as a passenger airliner.

In all many thanks to John and Teresa for their organisation.

David Grainger
JCI Senator #30164



Gavin's Corner

Gavin K. Macpherson #16985

It's 1st January 2013, and Jeane and I have been celebrating New Year with the same 12 friends as we have for the past 49 years. As always, it was a delightful evening.

However, these days on these occasions, we probably spend more time reminiscing and looking back at the great times we've all enjoyed than we do looking forward to great times to come in the year ahead – of which there are many

Inevitably we all look back at the year that has gone.

marquee on the lawn of the Eaton's home in Cottingley Wood in Yorkshire.

Master of Ceremonies was Yorke Eaton who did an excellent job, assisted by the "old man" Senator #19170 John Eaton!

A generous sprinkling of Northern JCI Senators and their partners could be spotted among the many guests. The persistent rain which continued throughout the weekend failed to dampen a superb occasion.



Peter & Anita Bennett-Keenan with John Eaton and the Baroness all enjoying Wilf's hospitality



Brian Blowers, Jeane, Gavin, Richard Wightman & Stephen Tendlow

2012

2012 will long be remembered here in the UK for many many reasons. The Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, rain, floods, more Banking Scandals and of course Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

We were incredibly proud of our Urban Township of Bramhope at the time of the Jubilee in June. The whole village was festooned with bunting and flags. We had bonfires, blazing beacons, fireworks, barbecues, garden parties, bands playing, picnics and balloons everywhere!

SAD TIMES

There have been sad times in 2012 as well. We have all lost two of our oldest and best Senate friends in Sweden during the year. Roger Alm #22866 and Bengt Dahner #9552 will always be remembered. Jeane and I have enjoyed their company and their hospitality both in their homes in Stockholm and Gothenburg respectively – and here at our home in Bramhope during the past 30 years.

I have also lost my younger first cousin in New York, my older cousin Roger in Norfolk and several good friends in the Rotary Club of Leeds who have all left us during 2012.

GOOD TIMES

But there have been wonderful times in 2012 too.

First the delightful 70th Birthday Celebration – yes 70th – of Baroness Dr. Margaret Eaton-Loosebody held in a great

Then on 3rd November another large crowd gathered in Ilkley to celebrate the 80th Birthday – yes 80th – of Senator #13232 Wilf Shaw!

It was a great pleasure to see Peter Bennett-Keenan #7409 and Anita #15963 who had travelled from Germany for this historic occasion! Senators Brian Blowers #13736, Stephen Tendlow #13302, Richard Wightman #63829 and of course John and Margaret Eaton were among the 100 or so guests, including the great and the good from the splendid City of Bradford all gathered in Ilkley to celebrate Wilf's historic achievement.

Both Wilf and Manolita were in top form!

Let us hope we all have a great 2013

*Gavin K. Macpherson
JCI Senator #16985
ASE President 1990-1991*



Two faces of #13232! Wilfred faces Wilf on his 80th Birthday

Returning the Favour Bill Preece #38649

Roger and Gunilla came to my 60th Birthday and Roger had gone to immense trouble to write a special version of Clementine which he sang at the Party. To have written it in Swedish would have been impressive enough but to do it in English was just incredible. Hence my thought to do the same for Roger at his funeral - I hope he would have approved!

For Roger

In a town in Northern Sweden,
lived a man who was sublime.
He brought us medicine in little bottles,
and kept us laughing all the time.

CHORUS

Oh my Darling, Oh my Darling,
Oh my Darling Roger Alm.
He is gone but lives forever,
Oh my Darling Roger Alm

Playing Golf or Senate meetings,
he had friends where're he went.
Smartly dressed in tie and collar,
he behaved the perfect gent.

Oh my ...

He brought us costumes so eccentric,
Coloured stripes like the bumble bee.
We were proud to wear them swimming,
'cos we had joined the BBC.

Oh my...



He came to see me on my birthday,
where he sang this song for me.
And as I sing it now for Roger,
I know his like we'll never see.

Oh my...

But he didn't fix this party,
for us to be down hearted, sad.
So lets remember those little bottles,
and toast the man who made us glad.

Oh my....

*Bill Preece
JCI Senator #38649*

*This was sung by Bill at Roger's wake in Stockholm with all of the
British contingent singing the chorus - Editor*

End the year in Style 22 – 24 November 2013

Come and enjoy true Yorkshire hospitality in the magnificent surroundings of Outlon Hotel. One of Leeds' most resplendent hotels, it is an ideal setting for the culmination of the JCI UK year.

Our programme is designed to bring Jaycess and Senators together whilst respecting the true traditions of Senate programmes! We will create opportunities for joint working, networking and socialising while retaining opportunities for Senators to do their own thing, including visiting the renowned Barbara Hepworth Art Museum and Gallery. You may prefer instead to use the opportunity of the weekend to start Christmas shopping in the lively and vibrant city of Leeds.

With the Gala Awards Dinner on the Saturday night and Senate Breakfast on the Sunday this is a weekend to really come together and celebrate the 'Joys of Belonging' to JCI UK and JCI British Senate can bring!

Throughout 2013 we will develop the programme and keep you updated on how to book for this amazing weekend.

For more information contact Hick Hawley nick.hawley13@yahoo.co.uk +44 7966 564 334

The Secret Station
David Grainger #30164



In recent time a group of Senators have sort of spontaneously got together to form what has become known as the Senate Railway Group comprising Senators with an interest in railways. Recently Barry Miller through his connections got to hear of a tour of Aldwych Station and managed to obtain some tickets before they went on sale to the general public.

The London Underground station at Aldwych is known as the "Secret Station" because in 1994 it disappeared from the Underground map. However it is still there and is used for staff training and for filming when scenes on the Underground are required. So in December a small band was able to go to explore this station. In the safety briefing in the booking hall we were told that in an emergency we would evacuate via the emergency stairs (all 161 of them) or if that was not possible then we would evacuate through the tunnel to the next station. When we said 'yes please' we

were told no because there were trip hazards and the lighting was not very good.

We were able to see much of the station but were not allowed for safety reason to see the passageways and stairs which were built in 1907 when the station opened but never brought into public use.

When we got down onto the platform we saw that they had brought a train in to the station. Normally this train hides in the tunnel but is a full working train.

David Grainger
JCI Senator #30164

I was given captions for 2 of the pictures sent to me but not the others. I am sure they are of interest to train and transport buffs in the Senate so I have included them anyway! - Editor

Train Spotting Senate Style

A STEG Widow



I do not think they will need the small, medium or large sizes and they obviously are ignoring the notices

Happy Days!

Does not look that unhappy for a STEG widow

They obviously have not got the merchandising yet!!

One of the BF members

On a cold December morning, members of the Senate Train Enthusiasts Group met at Aldwych, London to have another of their days out. It has been reported that the Senate Train Spotting Group (STEG for short!) are on the lookout for new members. An extensive marketing campaign (talking to other Senate members in the bar) is being promoted to encourage new senators to join the "ol' boys" as younger members are needed to help the more mature members with obstacles when on trips.

In order to encourage membership of this elite group, new merchandising such as the stylish blue, white and yellow anoraks (sizes small, medium, large, X large, XX large, XXX Large and XXXX Large - all sizes fit nobody) are in production. These fashion items will encourage fashionistas to dress up and be recognised. Of course each item will bear the Senate logo and number so that members cannot be missed in a crowd.

Other memorabilia are planned:-

Pins – you will be able to own a pin with the stations/trains that have been spotted

Hats (Bobble) – to keep the chill from sensitive mature ears

Flags – to wave as you pass through closed up stations (courtesy of Minister Beeching)

Instant Cameras – to capture those precious moments

Gym and Swimwear – to show off when on holiday and of no possible use when train spotting

Recent trips have included:-

Around someone's garden (see Senate Newsletter Issue

Aldwych Underground Station – December 2012

New Rapid Transport network – Andalucía, Spain – courtesy of villa owner Senator Barry Miller #51886 – open 2015 onwards

International trip to Hartz Mountains, Germany – June 2012

International Trams of the World – Braunschweig, Germany – June 2012

Up and Coming Events

Statfold Barn open day - contact David Grainger (Steg 999)

Bluebell Line 2013 extension to East Grinstead – contact Senator Barry Miller – (Steg 013)

Anyone wishing to join this group can contact any of the STEG members and be assured of a warm welcome.

Sue
STEG widow of JCI Senator #51886

German Senate Spring Conference April 25th – 28th 2013

The German Senators invite you to their annual spring conference which will take place this year in Berlin. At the same time the 20th ECM (European Capitals Meeting) will take place and all together with JCI Berlin we will celebrate their 60th anniversary in a gala on Saturday 27th evening.

Booking will be available after the 30th January on www.seko2013.de

For questions or further information contact d.klapproth@ains-a.de

Forthcoming Events

March

- | | | |
|---------|---|---|
| 2 | 2013 Senate Day, Zermatt, Switzerland | Nicolas Dunand nd1970@bluewin.ch |
| 8 | Grampian Industrailists Dinner, JCI Aberdeen | |
| 15 – 17 | British Senate Weekend, Osmotherley, North Yorks, England
Yorkshire hospitality, good food, walking and culture! | Liz Walmsley Liz.Walmsley@gmail.com
www.britishsenate.org.uk |
| 23 | Senate Train Day, Stratfold Barn, England | David Grainger david.grainger@tiscali.co.uk |
| 25 – 27 | Asia Pacific Golf Tournament, Macao | senategolf2013@gmail.com |

April

- | | | |
|-----------|--|---|
| 12 – 14 | JCI Baltic Conference, Laulasmaa Spa, (nr Tallinn), Estonia | Henry Arnhold henry.arnhold@gmail.com
www.jci.ee/bc2013 |
| 5 – 7 | French Senate Week-end, Picardie, France | Didier Pélissier didpelissier@wanadoo.fr |
| 11 – 14 | ASE Spring Board weekend, Stockholm Archipelago, Sweden | Marita Claëson marita.claeson@comhem.se |
| 12 – 14 | Italian National Congress, Parma, Italy | Walter Kuen Gufler presidente@senatojci-italy.com |
| 13 | 4 th ASE Board Meeting, Stockholm Archipelago, Sweden | Marita Claëson marita.claeson@comhem.se |
| 15 | 'European Senate' Magazine Copy Date | peter.browning@virgin.net |
| 19 – 21 | British Senate Weekend, Lymington, New Forest, England
Historic shipyard, Victoria's summer palace and Royal Yacht Club | James King jfking@btinternet.com
www.britishsenate.org.uk |
| 19 – 21 | JCI Sweden's Spring Conference, Stockholm, Sweden
Celebrate JCI Stockholm's 60 th anniversary in style | Caroline Kåhre caroline@aqiro.se |
| 19 – 21 | JCI Finland's National Convention, Mikkeli, Finland | Ulla Tornainen ulla.tornainen@gmail.com |
| 25 – 28 | German Spring Meeting, Berlin, Germany
Joint Gala Dinner with Jaycees to celebrate 60 th anniversary and ECM | Dieter Klapproth d.klapproth@ains-a.de
www.seko2013.de |
| 26 – 28 | JCI Scotland National Conference, Edinburgh
With Senate Lunch on Sunday - see Scottish Senate facebook page for details | Scott Johnson sj@johnston-consulting.com |
| 27 | German Senate AGM, Berlin, Germany | Friedhelm Wachs wachs@wachscom.de |

May

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 1 – 4 | JCI Americas Conference, St Louis, USA | Earl Sawyer esawyer@jci.cc |
| 4 | Belgian Senate Mid Year meeting, Charleroi, Belgium | Jean-François Chaslain jfch@advalvas.be |
| 7 – 11 | JCI Africa & Middle East Conference, Gaborone, Botswana | coc@jcgaborone2013.com
www.jcgaborone2013.com |
| 17 – 19 | Canadian Senate Crew Meeting, Prince George, BC | Roy R Spooner amroy@telus.net |
| 29 – 2 ^{June} | JCI European Conference, Monte Carlo, Monaco
An absolutely unforgettable experience which will make your dreams come true! | promo@jci-ec2013.com
www.jci-ec2013.com |
| 30 | 5 th ASE Board Meeting, Monte Carlo, Monaco | Marita Claëson marita.claeson@comhem.se |
| 31 | Senator's Golf Tournament, Monte-Carlo Golf Club | www.jci-ec2013.com |

June

- | | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| 1 | ASE AGM, Monte Carlo, Monaco | Marita Claëson marita.claeson@comhem.se |
| 13 – 16 | Asia Pacific Conference, Gwangju, South Korea | aspac2013@gmail.com
www.2013aspacgj.com |
| 17 – 21 | US Senate Annual Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio, USA | Paul Hartmann plhhhh1@aol.com |
| 24 | 'European Senate' Magazine Copy Date | peter.browning@virgin.net |
| 7 – 8 | French National Convention, Menton, France | Didier Pélissier didpelissier@wanadoo.fr |
| 18 | 41 st Anniversary Staines Air Disaster memorial service, Staines, England | Chris Edge chris_edge@mis-ltd.co.uk |

July

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| 5 – 7 | British Senate Weekend, Malvern, England | Julia Goodfellow-Smith julia@questforfuturesolutions.co.uk
www.britishsenate.org.uk |
|-------|--|---|

August

- | | | |
|---------|---|---|
| 9 – 11 | 56 th International Crayfish Conference, Halmstad, Sweden
Enjoy traditional end new stuff plus Swedish Senate Golf Tournament | Peter Ljungman ljungman.peter@gmail.com
www.crayfishconference.com |
| 12 – 18 | ASAC 5th Annual Business Encounter, Trinidad & Tobago | Ray M.S. Brathwaite rmsbrath@yahoo.com |
| 16 – 18 | Finnish Senate Annual Meeting, Iisalmi, Finland | Juha Auvinen juha.auvinen@datagen.fi |
| 23 – 25 | 23 rd European Senators' Golf Championship, Mont Garni, Belgium | Rebecca von Bachellé rvb_1950@hotmail.com
www.esgc.info |

Send details of your event to peter.browning@virgin.net to have them included

September

- 5 – 8 German JCI National Conference, Munich, Germany info@buko2013.de
www.buko2013.de
- 6 – 8 Senotium, Volda, Norway Bjørn Helge Eliassen bhe@eign.no
- 6 – 8 JCI Lithuania National Convention, Lithuania Justina Vasileviciute justina@jci.lt
- 13 – 15 British Senate Weekend & JCI UK AGM, Birmingham, England Kate Canty c.canty@blueyonder.co.uk
Birmingham's Arts festival, balti history and brummy humour www.britishsenate.org.uk
- 14 British Senate AGM, Birmingham John Purser john49155@hotmail.co.uk
- 13 – 15 JCI Estonia National Convention, Estonia Maario Laas maario@wisestarter.ee
- 20 – 22 JCI Latvia National Convention, Riga, Latvia Elita Racina elitarac@inbox.lv
Special JCI Latvia 20th anniversary celebration programme for Senators
- 20 – 22 Belgian National Convention, Antwerp, Belgium Jean-François Chaslain jfch@advalvas.be
- 23 **‘European Senate’ Magazine Copy Date** peter.browning@virgin.net

October

- 4 – 6 French Senate Week-end, Ile de Ré, France Didier Péliissier didpelissier@wanadoo.fr
- 4 – 6 JCI Denmark National Convention, Copenhagen, Denmark, www.nk2013.dk Mogens Christensen sp@jci.dk
- 4 – 6 JCI Netherlands National Convention Eric Brouwer hcpbrouwer@live.nl
- 4 – 6 New Zealand JCI Senate AGM, Christchurch Denis Sawkins nzjc.senators@xtra.co.nz
- 11 – 13 Swiss National Conference, Interlaken, Switzerland Nicolas Dunand nd1970@bluewin.ch
- 11 – 13 JCI Finland National Convention, Joensuu, Finland Janne Pakarinen janne.pakarinen@sitefactory.fi
- 12 – 13 National Congress, Igualada, Catalonia Antoni Prat antoniprat@pratadvocats.cat
- 17 – 20 Swedish Diamond Jubilee National Congress, Gothenburg Håkan Stenson hakan.stenson@fordevab.com
www.jcisweden.se/nk2013
- 18 British Senate Lunch, House of Lords, London, England Joe Dilger dilgerjoe558@gmail.com
Lunch hosted by Baroness Margaret Eaton followed by London sightseeing www.britishsenate.org.uk
- 24 – 27 Norwegian National Conference, Quality Hotel, Sarpsborg Annika Hedström annika.hedstrom@gmail.com
- 24 – 27 French National Congress, Orléans, France Didier Péliissier didpelissier@wanadoo.fr
- 26 Scottish Senate AGM and Annual Dinner, Murrayshall, Perthshire Scott Johnson sj@johnston-consulting.com

November

- 4 – 9 JCI World Congress, Rio de Janeiro info@jcicongressrio2013.com
Look at their Facebook page! - 2013 JCI World Congress Rio www.jcicongressrio2013.com
- 22 – 24 JCI UK Convention, Leeds, England Nick Hawley nick.hawley13@yahoo.co.uk
Joint JCI and Senate programme www.britishsenate.org.uk

December

- 5 Senate Christmas Lunch, Copenhagen, Denmark Helge Birkbo birkbo@gmail.com
- 6 – 7 Wildschweinessen, Lübeck, Germany Lars Schöning schoening@ihk-luebeck.de
www.wildschweinessen.de

2014

January

- 4 Danish Drumming Out, Aarhus, Denmark Kurt Svit kurt@svit.dk
- 13 **‘European Senate’ Magazine Copy Date** peter.browning@virgin.net
- 16 – 19 British Senate Drumming Out, Sheffield & Peak District, England Bill Preece wpreece@globalnet.co.uk
We promise you a special weekend of Senate friendship www.britishsenate.org.uk
- tba Belgian Drumming Out, Belgium Jean-François Chaslain jfch@advalvas.be
- 24 – 26 Swedish Senate CCD, Sweden Stefan Thorberg stefan@inspirationcompany.se
Outstanding & different close to the 45th Swedish Senate year and NOT in Stockholm!

June

- 11 – 14 European Conference, Malta Maria Vella-Galea Senators@jci-ec2014.com
A Knightly Experience! www.jci-ec2014.com

November

- 23 – 29 World Congress, Leipzig, Germany
Dates still to be confirmed see the facebook page - **I would love to go to JCI World Congress 2014 Leipzig**

Future JCI Conferences

- 2015 European Conference - bidding venue - Izmir, Turkey

Welcome New Senators



Jorn Kristian Baltzersen #71758

Jorn grew up in Oslo, Norway, where he was born, and Nairobi, Kenya. In the first half of the 1990s he studied Computer Science at the Norwegian Institute of Technology in Trondhjem. He has an MSc and since 1997 he has worked as an IT consultant. He came into serious contact with JCI in 2005 on a debating night - an interest from his student days in Trondhjem when he enjoyed crushing his opponents to smithereens.

He joined JCI in 2006 and has been involved in several projects; been a trainer; held local & national elected offices; participated in debating & public speaking contests, holding titles at all levels including world, and participated in many conferences, academies, etc. Jorn was recognised as JCI Norway's Most Outstanding Member in 2009. He is regularly

challenged with bananas as his 2009 election campaign for national board was 'to go bananas' - a challenge he takes most seriously.

Outside of JCI, work, and staying up to date professionally, Jorn enjoys amongst other things:

Travelling the world

Writing and studying within a range of topics, including political philosophy, history, and economics

Keeping fit at the gym, in the pool, and otherwise

Formerly a competitive swimmer he generally loves competitions and is also uncle to two wonderful nephews aged two and four.

Jorn received his Senatorship from Heidi Berge, Senate President, with great ceremony and to a standing ovation.

*Jorn K Baltzersen
JCI Senator #71758*

Gro Sandvold #71757

Born in 1973 Gro grew up in Ringebu near Lillehammer. She moved to Oslo in 1992 to study and still lives there with her partner Kelton and their 4 year old son Mathias.

Gro has always been fascinated with the world outside Norway and travelled to Hastings (UK) at the age of 14 to attend a language school. At 17 she went to Okazaki (Japan) and lived with a host family for one year and went to a Japanese school as an exchange student. She went to Oslo University to study Japanese and then law - and spent one term at Regensburg University in Germany.

On graduating in 2000 Gro had a 3 month internship at the UN Headquarters in New York. After 3 years as a Norwegian Social Security officer she worked as a lawyer and started her own Law Firm in 2006 specialising in administrative law and social security law. She also teaches law at a Public Officer's course.

Joining JCI Innovation (Oslo) in 2004 Gro was President in 2009 and EVP Administration on the 2012 National Board. A Prime graduate in 2005 she also attended European Academy in 2008. Gro won the 2005 national speaking competition and was European runner up. She has also held debating titles at European & world levels.

In addition to JCI, Gro greatly enjoys cross country skiing, downhill skiing with telemark skies and swimming.

Gro received her Senatorship #71757 during the National Congress banquet in Hamar.

*Gro Sandvold
JCI Senator #71757*

Torgeir Riksfjord #71811

An only child born in 1980 Torgeir is unmarried and lives in his own flat, in Molde, on the NW coast of Norway.

Friends see him as a good listener, fair and organized. He recognises his leaders, is professional, and focuses on positive things. He also keeps calm in difficult situations.

Since 2010 he has been a purchaser at Møre & Romsdal County, one of Norway's 19 counties. Before that he worked for 4 years as a buyer at Stavanger University Hospital and he has a Bachelor's degree in Economics & Administration from Molde University College.

In November 2003 he started his Jaycee career in JCI Molde and was Vice President in 2005 - the same year as hosting the National Convention. Moving to Stavanger in 2006 he transferred to JCI Sandnes and was Secretary in 2008. As EVP-Administration in 2009 he was in charge of that year's National Convention.

In 2010 he returned to JCI Molde and was elected as 2011 Deputy President for JCI Norway and attended the 24th JCI Academy in Toyama, Japan. The same year as he was certified as a JCI Trainer.

Torgeir was honoured as JCI Senator #71811 at the 2012 JCI Norway's National Convention in Hamar.

*Torgeir Riksfjord
JCI Senator #71811*



Welcome to New Senators

Britain

Catherine Berry #71363 – JCI Wakefield
Emma Eastwood #71829 – JCI Leeds (December 2012)
Tim Metcalfe #71828 – JCI Leeds (November 2012)
Jen Little #71846 – JCI Cambridge (December 2012)
Steven Vandeveldt #71940 – JCI Sheffield (December 2012)

Finland

Henri Kulmala #71581 - JCI Turku

New Viking Invasion

Ellen Olsen #61977

On Saturday the 5th January the traditional New Year Concert took place in Aarhus music hall followed by the equal traditional Danish Drumming Out. 4 Norwegians in the audience and 6 on the stage playing!

This year I flew direct to Aarhus and arrived on Friday afternoon. After taking the bus into the centre of Aarhus I met up with two more Norwegians, Erik Kleiven #42093 and Odd Stene #227438. Together we found our way to Mirella Castelanos's #63844 place where Mirella served us a wonderful Italian meal. The last Norwegian, Aud #48767, arrived together with Charlotte #68920, and there was also a Swedish representative, Per Erichs #53237. It was a fun evening with good food, good drinks and good company.

When the others went home I had a bed at Mirella's place and just went to bed!

On Saturday morning, we went to the music hall. It was a fantastic concert with the Norwegian 'Brazz Brothers' as soloists'. Norwegian, African, American and European music - not exactly wiener classics but really what I liked. Playing the kudu horns was definitely a high in this respect.

After the concert we moved over to the Masonic Lodge for a good meal and the transfer of the chain from Charlotte to

Mogens #67617. It was, as always, a stylish event. Good food, short speeches, and good company. One important issue was that the outgoing Past President arrived without the Past President's chain, a tradition he has worked hard to remove, however the chain was found and also this part of the traditional ceremony was completed. Mogens is now in charge of the Danish Senate and I think it will be in good hands. At least he has an easy board to address. If he just says Charlotte most of them will respond (3 Charlottes are members of the board!)

When the party dispersed the Norwegians, Per, Charlotte and Mirella found their way to Mirella's favourite pub and enjoyed some drinks before we ended the evening at Charlotte's place.

Sunday Morning I helped in the preparation for a brunch at Charlotte's place before Mirella took me to the airport and I started on the trip back home. As always a good event, made even better by the hospitality of Charlotte and Mirella.

*Ellen Olsen
JCI Senator #61977*

Ellen does not say but I think the Charlotte she refers to most is Charlotte Velling but she does not tell us who the other Charlottes are!! Editor



Is Charlotte trying to get the chain back?



Charlotte receiving the Past President's chain of office



Erik & Aud do not look like invaders!



Mirella & Odd get down to the serious business at the bar



Jeppe the drummer as usual!



Charlotte & Anni Maare



The Past President's chain was found – look carefully to see why Henrik might want to misplace it!!



Charlotte preparing brunch



Annette & Ulrich were there too!



Ulrich & Per – the non Viking invaders



Odd & Mogens – Odd always appears to get his photo taken wherever he is!



Beautiful cars, beautiful walking and a blues festival – a great weekend in Great Malvern

5th – 7th July 2013

Morgan cars are beautiful to look at, fun to drive (so we've been told!) and hand made in Malvern. Watch the engineers in action on a guided tour of the factory, starting at midday on Friday.

On Saturday, we'll walk to the highest point of the Malvern Hills and enjoy a well-earned pub lunch.

Alternatively, you could visit the county town of Worcester for the day, taking in the riverside, Worcester Cathedral and the porcelain museum.

Saturday evening will be spent at Blues at the Fold, a local music festival. The line-up usually includes artists in a range of styles, including local bands of national renown such as Babajack, winners of the British Blues Award last year. The festival has a bar with a good range of excellent local beers, ciders and perry, and the festival-style food will be delicious.

We have booked a converted barn for our sole use, so we'll sit down to eat together and speechify, and will be able to wander out to the music whenever we like.

On Sunday, we'll finish off with a walking tour of Malvern and a picnic in the park.

Contact Julia on +44 7904 389 889, +44 1684 577 400 or julia@questforfuturesolutions.co.uk for a booking form.

Peerless Senators?!

Friday 18th
October 2013



The British Senate is delighted to announce the availability of a unique opportunity to enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime experience to hob-nob with our Peers, and enjoy Lunch in the House of Lords!



Regular readers of the Senate Newsletter may recall that John Eaton's Wife Margaret (aka Gloria Loosebody) was made a Peer of the realm, shortly after receiving a DBE for her Services to Local Government and the Community. Baroness Eaton (as she now is) (aka Baroness Loosebody of Dearne Valley) has kindly offered to host a lunch for

Senators and their guests in a select private Dining Room - the splendid Cholmondley Room - the most sought-after location in the House of Lords which also allows guests the chance to walk on the Terrace.

In order to make the occasion even more memorable, the Lunch will preceded by an informal Tour of the House of Lords, and then a Drinks Reception before enjoying lunch in the Cholmondley Room.



After the Lunch, there will then be two further optional Fun events, comprising the famous London "Duck Tour" www.discount-london.com/london-duck-tour and a flight on the London Eye.

Because of the limit on numbers, it is anticipated that the event may be sold out within a short time, so put the date in your diary now, and make sure you e-mail Joe Dilger at dilgerjoe558@gmail.com to request a booking form without delay

For more information contact

Joe Dilger dilgerjoe558@gmail.com

+ 44 774 709 6017

or John Eaton john.eaton@luptonfawcett.com

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Steaming in Staffordshire

The Statfold Barn Railway is a private railway near the M42 motorway in Staffordshire which is open to the public on only three days each year. Come and join the Senate Railway Group on a visit on Saturday 23rd March 2013. See and ride on the trains, walk round the workshops, see the owner's collection of vehicles and walk round his garden. Booking form on the British Senate website or email david.grainger@tiscali.co.uk for information.



LET OHIO ROCK YOU ON THE NORTH COAST

17 - 20 June 2013

The host hotel, the Holiday Inn-Independence, is fifteen minutes from downtown Cleveland, home of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Horseshoe Casino, Great Lakes Science Center and the new walk through Aquarium.

Less than an hour to the south you can find the Pro Football Hall of Fame and Amish country.

Our website allows you to register online. There is also a link to the Holiday Inn to make your room reservation and to check out our tours. Make sure you mark our website as one of your "favorites" and visit it often for up-dated information on the US Annual Senate meeting.

We look forward to seeing you on the North Coast in June 2013.

Paul Hartmann plhhhh1@aol.com

For information or to book visit www.cleveland-2013.com

I Miss His Itinerary *Flisa Lindblom*



Roger as a child



Roger with his first wife



Summer job as a croupier

Roger was born in 1936 in Eskilstuna. His parents Magdalena and Bertil separated quite early so Roger grew up with his mother and sister and his mother's new husband. In 1957 the family moved to Göteborg for work for a couple of years but Roger went to Stockholm to study that year.

Roger as a young man was hungry for adventure and he experienced work at a summer camp in the archipelago and as a croupier on the west coast. In 1959 he went as a paramedic with the UN to Gaza to make a difference. His thoughts later were to take a new assignment with the United Nations to Cyprus but then he decided not to.

In the early 60s he 'landed' in Göteborg where he got a job at Magnusson's auditing agency. When the same company later opened an office in Borås Roger was appointed the manager and moved there and started a family. He was active in Borås until the beginning of the 90s – the first years with the Magnusson and then with his own company. For his last 20 years he lived in Stockholm.

He knew many people and when he found a friend he kept them and he was one they could rely on. I know many of them and I spent lots of time with them when I was growing up. He was 'somebody' for many people which I realized at his funeral, or, as he himself wanted to call it, his 'farewell party'. But for me he was dad....

A dad who's always been there for us (my brother and me). A dad who wherever he found himself in the world would make sure we had the details of where we could reach him ... we always had his itinerary.

When I was growing up we went on trips together with other families and there are many mansions around Sweden which were visited by Sudu as that society from dad's young years called themselves.

Midsummer was celebrated for many years in Finland with the same families. And just because my dad was who he was there were often extra surprises that he carefully planned without saying so much as a word to anyone. One year in Finland he packed me and my brother into the car to make a trip to the Soviet Union (a country I am pleased that he allowed us to visit as it is now not possible :-)). His detailed, steady planning was something that sometimes went very far ... I arrived once at a riding camp with minimal luggage.

What happened? Well dad had packed and there was not an empty space, underwear wrapped in riding boots carefully packed in plastic bags, etc. ... a story that my dad and I laughed at... but then it went and I was not quite so happy. He was very careful with many things, it was routine that, when arriving at an hotel he immediately went and checked how to get out in case of a fire. Someone mentioned this in a speech at his farewell party and I smiled to myself that it was not just the children who, through the years, have experienced this. Now I do the same with my children!

He loved to surprise and one Christmas we children received presents containing letters ... it took us a few hours to piece them together ... but in the end it was one ski trip for all of us! With many friends and relatives around Sweden, it was sometimes a few hours in the car... and at that time there was no air conditioning so it involved starting in the early morning or late evening to avoid the heat of the car... And without technology to entertain children dad found a person who followed us all growing up... his name was "Rupert" and stories about him were endless... Today, I believe that many stories were dad's dreams for life... and I smile when I think that he got to experience many of his dreams. He told me only a few weeks before he passed away and before he took his final decision... "to let you know that I am satisfied with my life if it is over now" ... but he added, with his clever smile "but it would have been fun with a few more years!"

In recent years he had grandchildren, and even for them, there were plans for what they could see in life. If they would rather see Arsenal than Manchester that was nothing he whined about... he let them hold their own views. But maybe that was why he chose to go with them on a football trip to Barcelona instead of England :-)

Life with dad had regular days too where he was educational, learning and supportive... like a usual father... but he was special.

A father who I loved and wished that we lived life as much as possible.

Now I miss his itinerary!

Miss him, love him

Flisa

Proud daughter of Roger Alm

Roger Alm #22866

3rd February 1936 – 23rd November 2012

A funeral like no other

The funeral service for Roger was held in the Matteus Church, Vanadisvägen 35, on 17th Dec at 11:00 am.

In Sweden it is common practice to bring a small bouquet, rose, carnation or similar to leave by the coffin - there were so many of Roger's friends and family there to pay their respects at the coffin that the last mourners had to balance their flowers precariously on top of all the other flowers that had been offered. There was also a band called Absolut Swing playing and singing some of Roger's favourite music.

After the service we walked to Polstjärnan, Sveavägen 77, where a commemoration lunch was served. Before lunch was served we were treated to Champagne and Gammeldansk – not in the same glass though - and many of us made a personal toast to Roger first with one and then the other of two of Roger's favourite drinks.

During lunch Absolut Swing played again and it was also a good opportunity for Roger's friends to say a word or two about him. An old friend of Roger's - Claës Breitholtz #24100 - acted as toastmaster and had put together a typical Swedish song sheet just like the ones we use at the crayfish party in memory of Roger which of course we used and created an excuse for several 'Skåls'.

One of the speakers in particular gave Roger a tribute in true style. Paul Hill the current Bumble Bee club chairman had planned to be at the funeral but as he was about to leave for the airport his wife Carol was unwell and he had to stay with her (she is fine now) so Richard Jackson stepped into the breach. Suitably dressed for a funeral Richard went up to the microphone and after a few words proceeded to take off his jacket followed by the rest of his clothes until he was standing in just his Bumble Bee suit! He then delivered his tribute. I am sure Roger would have approved but would

have been even happier if Richard had got the suit wet!

There were too many people giving tributes for me to list them here but it was certainly a funeral to remember. After about 4 hours it was time to leave and some of us then repaired to one of Roger's favourite pubs for the rest of the evening.

I think we had the party that Roger wanted us to and Åsa Johansson has since made a comment to me that "I must say I have never been to a funeral like that!"

Editor
JCI Senator #49104

Swedish Entomologist

I first heard of Roger Alm #22866 when I was on the organising committee for Ian Nelson's drumming out in January 2000.

Ian told me I needed to liaise



with

Roger regarding the bumble bees and being snowed under with bookings and event planning etc. at the time, the last thing I needed was a Swedish entomologist to cope with. Ian then sent me a note saying that Roger was Chairman of the BBC. It was news to me that our august national broadcaster was headed up by a Swede!

All of course became clear and they say you never forget your first time. Roger presented me with my "one size fits nobody" costume and it made its first appearance at what was then called the Northampton Moat House at the traditional Saturday afternoon BBC meeting.

Since then I've met Roger on a number of occasions, most recently at my own Drumming Out last January. I remember him as a lovely man,

one of life's true gentlemen, encapsulating all that is good about Senate and JCI.

My last memory of him is seeing him off to the airport after the traditional English afternoon tea we'd arranged for our international guests following my Drumming Out.

He'd thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and it gave me such a feeling of pride when he said how good the Bumble Bee Club arrangements had been that weekend. It was like a seal of approval from the founder.

Sadly that was the last time I saw Roger. Athene and I will miss him greatly. He had that rare quality of brightening up any room (or more truthfully any bar) that he entered. He is the sort of person you wish you'd met earlier in life.

Senate and JCI are all the poorer for his passing. May he rest in peace.

David Butcher
JCI Senator #46828





remember when, I met Roger Alm, a fun loving person, always ready to sit down, have a talk, have a drink and trade stories or people watch. (We called it girl watching then, not PC today). On one of these occasions Roger sidled close and with a sly, impish grin and a sparkle in his eyes, he slipped me a small wrapped package and said, "I'll see you in the pool."

Oh no, oh my god, not one of those one size fits nobody suits. What had I done to deserve this! Now I'm so much smarter and know it for the honor it really was. I was accepted into a rare and unusual group.

It's Roger's fault that we've dipped our suits in some of the coldest lakes, oceans, seas, pools and rivers. This action left us feeling . . . well, you men know. At one of the June meetings, standing in the Mediterranean – warm - right? Not! A group of us were providing a shore full of onlookers a most unusual show. As the beach people were surprised to see us, Roger was taking pictures of the ladies on the shore, most of whom were topless!

At a US Senate national meeting I was asked to host a Bumble Bee party. After e-mailing Roger for permission he quickly responded, "Of course, you're now my Bumble Bee representative to the USA - send pictures."

Roger's impact on the Senate organization will live on as long as Senate fellowship survives - suits, water, champagne, and now of course, lady Bumble Bees. His legacy will be remembered forever.

His legacy will be remembered forever

I joined the JCI organization way back in the 1970's. Now I'm not as old as some of you who are here nor is my number as low as some, but I went to my first World Congress in 1984 and have never looked back. Where and when I met Roger Alm #22866 is lost in the dust of eroded brain cells, late nights closing hospitality rooms, and Senate bars throughout Europe.

Due to my overseas activities I was appointed to be the US Senate Ambassador to Europe and then attended the board meetings as well as the fun activities. Somewhere, sometime, I do not



There will be a Bumble Bee party in Cleveland, Ohio in June, 2013, with the blessing of Paul Hill #49094, current Bumble Bee chairman, and hosted by Bruce Geddes #35527 US Senate President. All attending Bumble Bees are invited to be there, suitably attired. I have already conveyed Bruce's condolences to the Alm Family.

Whenever we raise our glasses, it will be a celebration and a remembrance of the fun and fellowship that Roger Alm and his Bumble Bee costumes have brought to us over the years and for years to come.

Harry Kolodner
JCI Senator #34400

Roger Alm #22866

3rd February 1936 – 23rd November 2012

The angels are lucky

High in the sky I hear Bumble Bees crying as they have lost a friend.

Coming back from Taipei I heard that Jaycees around the world have lost a friend. Being back in Europe I realise that we all have lost a friend, a very close friend.

Roger #22866 was an extraordinary man with so many qualities.

He liked jokes, he was an extraordinary organiser, he created a positive and fun atmosphere around him and he was a nice guy to be with.

In Madras at an Asian conference Bertil Lindsköld #24666, Past JCI VP, and I were able to borrow a car and a driver, which Roger had in his possession, to go from the hotel to the beach. I was, for the first time, afraid of going by car because in Madras in India at that time

there were a lot of cows, chickens, pigs, dogs and people running around in the streets. So we asked Roger to tell the driver to drive extremely slowly. Well, of course he told the driver that he would get a bonus if he set a speed record going from the Hotel to the beach. It is still the worst car trip I ever have made. He drove over one dog and six chickens... Roger later on paid the driver a bonus.

He was Chairman of the Swedish JCI Senate when I was JCI President. The AGM was in Malmö.

I do not think I have either before or after participated in such a totally crazy old fashioned Senate meeting. Nothing serious was said during three hours, everybody tried to get the chairman to lose control, but Roger did not for one second lose his control and managed the meeting excellently though still in a funny mode - impressive and fun.

He formed the Bumble Bee club, for us Senators to have yet more fun! What an excellent idea from a creative man who cared about his friends and wanted us to get even closer.

He was also one of the driving forces of the European Senate Golf Club, ESGC in Mont Garni.

How many times have we all not participated in parties where one person has lifted the entire party to another dimension by starting to sing his imaginative schnaps songs. Roger was an extraordinary singer and we did not need fireworks when Roger was present. His songs lifted the party to another level.

He was also a serious man and close friend who you always could trust.

As my executive assistant when I was JCI President he was always there. Whenever there was a problem I called Roger and soon the problem was solved.

The angels are to be congratulated as they will have a lot more songs to sing and much more fun in heaven.

We have lost a great man and a very close friend. God bless you Roger!

Kjell Peterson
JCI Senator #25986

Could always light up a room

Roger Alm was one of life's big characters and will be missed by many.

I first met Roger when he was married to Karen and at many conferences we always had a good laugh with his wicked sense of humour.

In 1984 at a dinner hosted by Janet and David Slade #30926, Roger appeared with the then shy Gunilla and whom at the time didn't speak much English. Her command of the language is now excellent. When we heard in Den Haag of their marriage, it was perfect timing, as the Senate lunch provided the perfect venue for me to collect a canteen of cutlery to present to them as a wedding gift!!

During my year as Ambassador to Northern Europe I was hosted at dinner by Jan-Owe #31886 and Ann Modeer, what a lovely surprise when Roger and Gunilla were also invited. Roger could always light up a room.

When John Maguire #35841 and I founded Senski we knew that we would get massive support from the Scandinavian contingent and it was always a pleasure when Roger and Gunilla were with us. Roger became best of friends with the barman at the Hotel Aaritz

Daniele and his duty free allowance of Gammeldansk was split between a bottle in his room for his hip flask and a bottle behind the bar where he would subsequently buy back the odd shot to go with his beers!!

It was with great pride that I was admitted as a member of his Bumble Bee Club and have many happy memories of meetings of this illustrious society. On Senski each year we had particularly successful meetings with great support from our hotel Aaritz and wonderful hospitality from Roger's Scandinavian colleagues. The continuation of the BBC under Paul Hill's #49094 Chairmanship is brilliant, in that, it secures a lasting tribute to a great man.

My dear Roger "Skål"

Richard (Jackson)
JCI Senator #31757



Roger Alm

* 3 februari 1936
† 23 november 2012

Begravningsgudstjänst
i Matteus kyrka
måndagen den 17 december 2012



Invited in a lift

When you first start attending “international” Senate events, you become aware of something called the Bumble Bee Club. I think the first time I can remember this specifically was at Richard Jackson’s drumming out, where late on the Saturday afternoon – in the Swimming Pool of all places? – a meeting of the BBC was to be held. Not being a member at this time, I was curious, but no more, until when I attended the Tampere European Conference in Finland in 2001. There Roger Alm gave me a small package (in a lift as I recall) and invited me to attend my first meeting – at the nearby lake of course, this being Finland – the following afternoon – it was freezing, even in June, but my BBC virginity was lost!

My next BBC event was at the Halmstadt crayfish party that Summer, where I found the sea surprisingly a lot warmer than the lake at Tampere. On commenting on this, the Chairman advised me that as long as one could manage to break the ice to make an area to swim in, he thought it was warm enough. It was also amazing to see how the crowded beach at Halmstadt suddenly became a lot emptier near the very strange people in these funny swimming costumes.

Moving on, on the pre-tour for the Birmingham European Conference in 2003 we stayed in an hotel on Lake Windermere – yes, I know the UK Lake District is not exactly next to Birmingham, but that is what we did! A “real” BBC meeting was held in the hotel pool, but the programme offered “foolhardy” Scandinavians, the chance to repeat the event in the lake each morning – I don’t think too many did though!

In late January 2010, I received a phone call at work – it was Roger. To my considerable surprise, he advised me he wanted to give up the Chairmanship of the BBC and he wanted me to take it on for as long as I wanted or could do the job. A formal handover took place in the rain on the beach outside Aarhus in Denmark at EC2010, when Roger and I swapped T-shirts – when the T-shirts were made a special one had “Chairman of the BBC “ on the back – which I now have, luckily we were about the same size! I wonder now if Roger knew he was not so well and wanted to pass the club on “properly” whilst he could.

Roger also joined us at the European Conference in Tarragona in 2011 – where the BBC meeting was held at a seafront beach club pool – the water was as cold as my first meeting in Tampere – but the refreshment was just as good. I believe the last BBC meeting he attended was in April 2012 at the Spring Board meeting in Esslingen.

The formal agenda for a BBC meeting has always had two items on it, but from the 2013 British Drumming out it will have three, as follows:

1. Swimming
2. Toast to the founder – Roger Alm
3. Further refreshment

We will miss you Roger, but your name is carried on all the current costumes and your planning of the handover ensured I have plenty of stock of costumes and plenty of “name tags” – you will always be remembered when the Bumble Bee Club meets. The current costumes have a “Roger Alm” name tag on the right leg – very useful for trying to get the costume on the right way around, if there is a right way around? – but the older costumes do not. I have a supply of name tags and in black with yellow writing and if any member who hasn’t got a tag on their “suit” – as Roger always referred to the costumes, wants one – ask me.

I am still looking for worthy new members – if you are a traveller to international events – watch out for me bearing a small package!

*Paul Hill
JCI Senator #49094
Chairman of the BumbleBee Club.*



Bumble Belles

Clare remembers how she and Asa Johansson approached Roger about a bumblebee suit for lady Senators – “as Senators, we didn’t want to be left out!!”

They worked with Roger to develop an appropriate style and the first Bumble Belle suits were worn at the 1996 European Conference in Thessaloniki, Greece on a beach during a Senate cruise.

Paul and Clare were delighted that Roger was pleased with the new pink and purple Bumble Bell suits which were worn for the first time at the European Conference this year at Braunschweig. Thank you Roger for many happy hours of fun and laughter with Senate friends.”

Roger Alm #22866

3rd February 1936 – 23rd November 2012

We shall miss him

Such a great guy - and like so many other Senators I have many happy memories of being in his company. We shall miss him.

Derek & Maggie Beanland
JCI Senator #8872



Roger the papa

Living the Creed

He truly lived the line of the creed about the Brotherhood of man transcending the sovereignty of nations.

Peter Bakos
JCI Senator #32786



Roger and his mother

One of many Facebook tributes

Impossible "to like" this bad news! May he remain in our memory.

Joël Meudec
JCI Senator #35384

Posthumous homage

Hopefully the Bumble Bee Club will persist as a posthumous homage to its founder. We shall miss him.

Willy Machiels
JCI Senator #12715



Robert Gstalder with the "Bumble Bee Commander in Chief" and Aud

Join us with a smile

Roger - I hope you stay that child with a free mind up there. I hope you join us with a smile at all the Bumble Bee meetings. I hope you still have a comment on all those unrelaxed ones! And let us remember: bumble bees can't fly - unless they try.

Friedhelm Wachs
JCI Senator #62758



Roger before the BBC



Three generations

Happy I met him

I am happy that I met and knew this great gentleman. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Joe A Souza
JCI Senator #27511

Have a peaceful trip

We are deeply sorry and we hope that the Bumble Bee will continue its activities for his memory to be always alive. Dear FRIEND Roger have a peaceful trip to HEAVEN!!!! We remember the moment that he gave us the Bumble Bee costume in June 1996 during E.C. Thessalonika. Our consolations to his wife.

Penelope & Kostas (Varsos)
JCI Senators #47440 & #44272



Honoured

I received my membership in 2004 during the Senators' "Millenium Kitchen Club" Lunch in Halmstad and I felt very honoured to be in this special club.

Rest in peace, Roger

Herbert Ewers
JCI Senator #58996



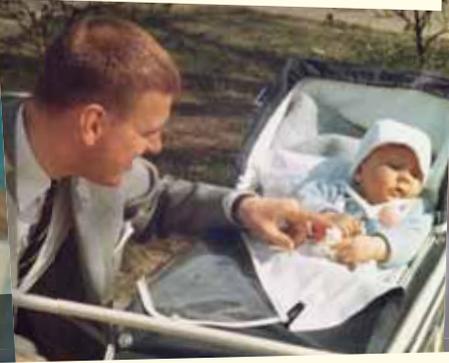
Missed

Our hearts goe out to Roger's family, he is missed.

Liz Boers-Maynard & Joost Boers
#59144& #61312



Roger and his children Flisa & Fredric



Not a fashion statement

I too remember getting my membership and costume - I believe the first non-European. Not a fashion statement but good fun!

Irene Harrington
JCI Senator #43597

Roger was one of them

Some people make a difference - Roger was one of them! Many very good memories. I will always remember him with a smile on my lips. My condolences to Gunilla and the rest of the family. R.I.P.

Peter Enckell
JCI Senator #46876



My friend

It was a privilege and an honour to meet him and to talk with him. To say "my friend" to him I will miss as well as his joking comments, laughing and his way to start a bumble bee party in the swimming pool. He shall rest in peace.

Ulrich Kistner
JCI Senator #58860

Unassuming but a great presence!

Roger was a quiet unassuming Senator, but with a great presence! I will always remember my first Bumblebee Club meeting on a cold and windy beach in the Netherlands twenty years ago! He was also the perfect host when I visited Stockholm some years ago, and he will surely be greatly missed by all his Senate family. My prayers too are with his family at this difficult time.

James King
JCI Senator #29344

Water was a golden colour

Had many a happy hour or four on the golf course with Roger and remember a Sunday morning tour of watering holes in Copenhagen after the end of Congress Senate breakfast accompanied by Bill Preece and Phil Spring. The water came in small glasses and was a golden colour. Will be missed by everyone who knew him.

Chris Dracott
JCI Senator #42450

MSF

If anyone would like to give a donation in Roger's memory his preference is for Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) who can be reached by phone: +46 10 199 33 00

Roger Alm #22866

3rd February 1936 – 23rd November 2012

We will never forget him

We will all miss Roger. He was one of the very special & unique characters in the JCI European Senate. And we all have the happiest memories of him – going back, so far as Jeane & I are concerned, to the early 1980's when I was Senate Ambassador to Northern Europe.

We've shared each other's hospitality in our respective homes, we've borrowed his car, we've travelled across Europe with him - & I was one the first 3 British Senators to be presented (with due ceremony by Roger) with a Bumble Bee suit in Savonlinna, Finland, in 1986 together with Ian Codrington #14786 & the late Cyril Meadows #3192!

We'll absolutely never forget Roger.

Gavin (Macpherson)
JCI Senator #16985

Inexhaustible supply of Gammeldansk

There won't be that many Senators who commanded such universal and deep affection. As you know, a few of us were privileged to have had the benefit of Roger's company on a good number of SENSKI holidays - when Roger in his Canary Yellow skiing outfit, and his seemingly inexhaustible supply of Gammeldansk, earned him widespread recognition and affection far beyond the slopes! It's nice that he does at least leave us all with another tangible memory in the shape of the Bumblebee Club; while that is with us, the memory of Roger will remain a strong and cheerful one.

John (Eaton)
JCI Senator #119170

Angel in a striped suit

There will no doubt be a Bumble Bee club in heaven now, lifting a glass of champagne to Roger. They say the stars are Angels looking down, just look for the one in a striped suit and you'll know who it is - the one with the big naughty grin x

Last weekend was the JCI UK national convention and Senate weekend and early on in the year Roger had said he would love to go to Belfast again and would think about coming over for the weekend but later on he told me that he would unfortunately not be coming. We remembered him at the Senate breakfast and had a toast to a very very kind and sincere gentleman who will be missed.

Yours in Senate and Bumble Bee friendship.

Julie Blakey
JCI Senator #59106

So embarrassed!

Clare Ashton presented me with my costume and the first outing was at the Crayfish weekend in 2009. A very memorable one at that, Roger made me go back into the sea as I had not got wet enough. I was so embarrassed. I had so far to walk to the sea and to get to the deeper part of water - I even had a little champagne after that!

Will miss you Roger

Marretta Coleman
JCI Senator #39504

Smiling in his way

I did not know Roger. I did not know of the Bumble Bees. We were in Maastricht and Roger came up to me and asked if I would be interested in being a member of a fun group. I replied that of course I would! Roger drew from his pocket a bumble bee costume and smiled in his personal way.

I was surprised and taken!

Thank You Roger. Thank You Bumble Bees.

Peace be with you, Roger

Asko Männistö
JCI Senator #48551



Dear Gunilla,

My deepest and fondest regrets go to you for this very painful moment you are going through.

Rudolf and myself were in Taipei with Paul, Kjell, Erik, and many other very close friends of Roger and we enjoyed speaking of Roger's wonderful Spirit, and his Passion to leave something behind that all Senators will take with them while in Jaycees..... and we all wished he had not passed away so soon.

He has left something in our hearts which is what Senatorship, Sportsmanship, and Friendship is all about....as well as the Bumble Bee event that symbolized the giving person he was...

The Bumble Bee has become institutionalized and what better way to leave something behind in all of us.

He was a true gentleman in all ways...with visions.

We will always remember him fondly and hope in the near future to be able to welcome you at all Senator events...where Roger so enjoyed being... a big hug to you and unfortunately Rudolf and I can not attend the funeral but we hope to welcome you in Mont Garni to commemorate Roger's memory....

*Rebecca and Rudolf
JCI Senator #15672*

Good thoughts in the future

I was with the first group of lady bumblebees who took our first swim in Greece.

I have followed the last days of Roger's life together with some Senate friends when we participate at the World Congress in Taiwan. The very sad message that the founder died on Friday night reached us the last day of the congress. We have many good memories that give us lot of good thoughts of Roger in the future.

*Aud Schjødt Fredriksen
JCI Senator #48767*

Always with champagne & much fun!

Our dear, dear friend for nearly 40 years!

You have meant so much to us. There are so many memories to recall and we regret not being with you at this sad time. We are keeping a long standing promise to our 8 year old granddaughter, Libby, who is making her stage debut tonight.

Through your inspired creation of the Bumble Bee Club, we have bathed in exotic, historic and fantastic places throughout the world – always with champagne & much fun!

Thank you Roger for your friendship and with our love to Gunilla, the family and friends.

*Mike & Clare Ashton
JCI Senators #11913 & #31337*

Such a sense of humour

I was so sorry when I received the very bad news.

In January 2010 Roger came in Monaco with Gunilla for the Monaco JCI Senate 20th anniversary and some of our Senators had the good surprise to receive their Bumble Bee swimming suits.

Roger had such a sense of humour, typically Scandinavian...

During the brunch I offered him the official dress of "Bumble Bee Commander in Chief" and every Bumble Bee present at the brunch received a special wooden Bumble Bee pin.

I regret that I can't be present for the commemoration, but my thoughts will be present with a special drink that day....

Please present my sincere sympathy to Gunilla and family.

*Robert Gstalder
JCI Senator #24664*



A Great Way to Forge Friendships Charlotte K. Velling #68929



The 5 intrepid travelling golfers – Rudolph von Bachellé, Charlotte, Stefan Thorberg, Rebecca von Bachellé & Kjell Peterson



Rudolph showing off as usual



Rebecca receiving her prize



That is a BIG 'Lazy Susan'



What is in the cans? – It does not look like a typical Senate golfer's drink!

It was perfect weather, and we were picked up early from the Senators' hotel heading for the Linkou Int'l Golf & Country Club in Taipei. We were only five Europeans - and this being my first round of golf in Asia ever, I really looked forward to the game.

After a brief breakfast, we met with the larger group from Asia. The tournament began with show tee-off by the JCI Senate Chairman - Kentaro Harada #67121 from JCI Japan. He did not join us for the tournament though!

The course was great, the company even better. We walked the course, with our caddies pushing a cart with clubs. Some of us had met before at other tournaments and competed amongst ourselves. Rebecca von Bachellé had a great shot at a par 3 hole and got closest to the pin.

The game rules according to the invitation were Nen Nen Peoria – I had absolutely no idea what that meant when I signed up, and still have not. I just know we had a great time at the course, had fun watching one of the participants down about a litre of beer while standing on a chair – not quite sure why. I was quite happy that I did not have to do that – I honestly would not know if I was supposed to or not. The winner of the tournament was announced during the Senators' Dinner the following day.

Dinner at the clubhouse after the tournament was served at a huge round "revolving" table, where the food was

distributed by turning the centre of the table. There were local specialities and lots of Chinese food and beer.

All in all a first class day.

Including a golf tournament in the programme of a JCI event is absolutely great – such a wonderful way to meet Senators and begin new friendships. I will look forward to the tournament in Monte Carlo later this year.

Charlotte K. Velling
JCI Senator #68929

Photos by Gamy Wong, © 2012

Golf used to be a common element of Senate programmes but in Europe at least they have all but disappeared! Editor

Upcoming golf tournaments

The Asia Pacific Golf Tournament will take place in Macao on March 25- 27th - See www.jcisenategolf2013.org or contact senategolf2013@gmail.com

The Senator's Golf Tournament during the JCI European Conference 2013 will take place at the Monte-Carlo Golf Club on May 31st See www.jci-ec2013.com/en/senators/golf-tournament.html

The European Senators' Championship will take place August 23 – 25th 2013. See www.esgc.info

Behind the Scenes #TFC007 & #TFC008

A view behind the scenes with a smile and a twinkle – The Foreign Correspondents



Celebrating James Bond anniversary (or going back to the 2012 ASE crime scene)

No we are not talking about the official 50th anniversary of James Bond. Actually there was a 40th birthday anniversary James Bond Party near the famous 2012 ASE Spring Board Meeting city of Esslingen. The invitation was from Senator #71225 Alex Lang aka “Le Chiffre”. We just went to the “Casino Royale” to give him “A quantum of Solace” because he was crossing the youth border.

At the Casino Royale we met a few Senators and Jaycees from the Braunschweig EC COC and Esslingen ASE COC and we discovered something strange – there was a guy, looking exactly like former ASE President Uli Kistner. He spoke quite strange German but pretty good American English. He introduced himself as **Ban – Ray Ban**. Even today we are not sure if he was a member of President Obama’s secret service, a member of the Corleone mafia clan or just simply a salesman for sunglasses - or maybe all of them! Anyway, as you may have noticed, you will meet almost the same or exactly the same people in the Senator’s and the secret agent’s worlds.



Ban – Ray Ban



Le Chiffre and his Bond Girl



Swiss Delegation at Drumming Out with Liz, the 2013 British Senate Chairman and Emma, the JCI UK President in the centre



It is a boy – we have got a new Bumble Bee-Baby! Martin Sterki #69793

Latest news from England

Got some latest news from one of our column readers: It was a very, very long journey for the Swiss Senate delegation to the British Drumming Out. They started on Friday at 04.30 in the morning, had a flight delay of 5 hours, drove another 3 hours by a rental car in snow and rain over icy roads (with summer tyres) and arrived late afternoon at Littlecote House Hotel in Berkshire (praise the Lord for Pesche’s navigation gear!). As far as we know they had a marvellous time: an excellent programme, British pups, the Bee Gees, the parties and cocktails, the beers, gins and whiskeys, champagne breakfast, the toasts and the Bumble Bee. By the way, next time you meet Pesche Luginbühl #62486, ask him about the three colours of the Senate and the candles....

The Great Waltz

Being a foreign correspondent means travelling – so we will next be on our way to Austria. To be exact our next destination will be the JCI Vienna Waltz Gala – the evening at the Hofburg Palace is a festive meeting place for Viennese entrepreneurs, Jaycee friends, international guests and of course correspondents and secret agents. Maybe we’re gonna discover the imperial secret of why Kaiser Franz Josef and Sisi are still alive. Those who attended the tradeshow at the EC in Braunschweig know what we are talking about!

Last but not least, again – spy work is dangerous and hard especially if you do not have many informers or much information. So if you hear some rumours, got some facts, untold secrets or scandals – please let us know – we gonna bring it on the front page – no mercy!

Write to 007TFC@gmail.com

The Correspondents – The Foreign Correspondents (TFC)
JCI Senators #TFC007 & TFC008

Write to 007TFC@gmail.com



Franz Joseph & Sisi

A Little Family History

John Starley #51811

The name Starley and certain parts of the history of Coventry are synonymous. Starley Road for instance, is in one of the highest crime areas of the city and nestles beneath the "gulgaginous" grey concrete of the inner ring road (itself a novel form of civil defence invented in the 60s to replace the older city wall and help in keeping out the unwanted).

In earlier times the Starley name, not then shorn of talent, looks or money, had arrived in the city where mechanical engineering flourished. In those days it was in sewing machines, but ever quick to cotton on (you'll have to keep up) to the application of those principles to transport, and in particular the bicycle, became a Starley family occupation. James Starley was known as the 'Father' of the cycle industry and his nephew John Kemp was himself a prodigious pioneer. In the half century before the arrival of the car, Coventry was the Detroit of the cycle industry.

Of course the cycle had its problems. Whilst as a form of exercise the appeal of being able to sit down is compelling, the speed of movement is a limitation. Trains got faster and faster and bicycles did not get more comfortable. A contemporary of Lewis Carroll may have expressed it thus:

*How doth the little bicyclist
Relieve the endless miles
And rubs the creamy balm so moist
On all his aching piles*

*How mournfully he sits and sore
As saddle chafes his bum
And senses little seat post bore
From anus to scrotum*

And so it was that Starleys, in company with Singers, Hillmans and their dog whose name I forget, pushed on and innovated the motor car industry. 94 makes of car originated from the city of the three spires and the population swelled to a third of a million. In the 1960s the wages earned in Coventry were the envy of the world.

The meteoric rise of an industrial city was imitated by the record breaking ascent of Coventry City Football Club into

the first division. Since then both City and Club have modified their direction of travel, a fact which both try to disguise. But the Sky Blues are still in the First Division so it can't all be bad?

It was to this cradle and crucible of transport that John #49155 and Teresa Purser invited the British Senate, and made them walk everywhere. On hearing once more the rhythmic swish and thump of Paul Hill's #49094 thighs we all understood the original impulses of those who wanted a better way of getting round. On Saturday morning a fascinating tour of this medieval city was followed by lunch and then a visit to the Transport Museum. In the evening, an excellent dinner in the restaurant of the Belgrade Theatre, so long in memory as the site of the writer's 7th birthday party, was accompanied by the beautiful singing of John and Teresa's daughter and friends.

A rather good Sunday lunch in a grounded DC6 airliner completed the transport themed weekend which everyone seemed to enjoy.

I was relieved at not having to fulfil my obligations as a Freeman of the City, an honour obtained in Coventry by servitude. I am obliged to maintain the Queen's peace and to inform the Mayor and/or Justices if I know of any gatherings or conspiracies moved or made against it. Fortunately the agreeable conviviality of the weekend might have been summed up by that same Lewis Carroll contemporary thus:

*How doth the aged Senator
Expend his fading wealth
And pour the waters of the grape
In many drinks "to Health!"*

*How cheerfully he seems to grin
How neatly spreads his girth
And welcomes little drinkies in
With gently chortled mirth*

Hearty thanks to John and Teresa for an excellent weekend.

*John Starley
JCI Senator #51811*



John entertaining the assembled company at the Belgrade Theatre



Does John resemble his illustrious ancestor?

Grave Danger towards the end #30164 David Grainger Writes...

A new year and sorting out my plans for 2013. My plan is to attend the JCI European Conference in Monaco this year as I remember that it was having Monaco as the venue for the 1998 European Conference that prompted me to get back into attending conferences having not attended for many years in the 1990s. Normally I do not have any difficulty in travelling to international conferences by flying out of Birmingham Airport but Nice, the nearest airport to Monaco, has proved very difficult to plan. Even the website for Nice Airport is not particularly helpful as they list five British airports with direct flights to Nice as all being about 4,000 miles and at least 8 hours 15 minutes flying time away. I could fly the Atlantic in that time.

I am not a technophobe; it just takes me a long time to decide if I really need some new piece of equipment. I still use my mobile phone to make telephone calls and have it switched off most of the time. I have been saying for some time now that I do not need a SatNav as I can read a map. Although I have to say that most of my map reading these days is on the internet. However I have just acquired a SatNav and it took me a little while to get it working. Part of the equipment, I have still not got working as the plug is not compatible with the socket on the SatNav itself. I plugged my SatNav into my computer to get the thing working and on the manufacturer's website they offered me the opportunity to plan a trial route. As I was travelling to my local airport the next day I thought I would see what it suggested. Now I was sure that Birmingham Airport was on Coventry Road not on Yosemite Boulevard. Looking closer, I found that the poor thing was trying to send me to Modesto City-County Airport in California. I could perhaps have understood Birmingham Alabama but not some American airport in the middle of nowhere. I then typed in Birmingham International Airport and found it. Interestingly the route was the same as the one I normally take at quiet traffic times but one of the instructions was wrong telling me to turn left at one point. This was a definite no no as I would have had to

turn round and come back along that road. The instruction should have been to continue on the main road but take the left hand lane.

My fame as a railway historian appears to be spreading. Recently as part of the rebuilding of Birmingham New Street Station, Network Rail sent me an email saying that they had found a bricked-up tunnel and asking me if I knew where it went. I was able to tell them that it was almost certainly the Post Office tunnel from the station to the pre-1970 postal sorting offices; the letters sorting office behind the old post office in Victoria Square and the parcels sorting office across the road on the site now occupied by the building known as One Victoria Square.

I did not, however, tell them about the secret tunnel which runs under New Street Station from the secret underground Birmingham ANChor telephone exchange to the old Birmingham MIDland and CItY exchanges. If you want to know where ANChor telephone exchange was situated just think about the hallmark of the Birmingham Assay Office. I am not giving away any official secrets; all of this information is now available on the internet including the government cover story while they were building these tunnels that they were investigating the possibility of building an underground railway in Birmingham. When they finished the building they announced that the soil below Birmingham would not be suitable for an underground railway. And the moral is; never believe anything the government tells you.

And having written.....

David Grainger
JCI Senator #30164



Hampshire and Isle of Wight by the Seaside A weekend based in Lymington in the New Forest, 19th – 21st April 2013

Explore a quintessential Georgian market town and world renowned nautical area

Lymington's ancient Charter Market on Saturday morning

Visit to Osborne House – Queen Victoria's Isle of Wight retreat

Dinner at the exclusive Royal Lymington Yacht Club

Visit Buckler's Hard – where some of Nelson's navy was built

Visit Exbury Gardens, ablaze with rhododendrons and azaleas, and a steam railway too!

Put the date in your diaries, and book your accommodation either in the Stanwell House Hotel, or at one of the nearby small B&B establishments.

Full details and the booking form are available on the British Senate website www.britishsenate.org

For more details on the weekend please e-mail

James King at jfking@btinternet.com or phone +44 02392 632956 with any other queries.



You Are Still Being Considered Rodney Spokes #30921



Venue Specific Training day



Rodney Spokes



The two Safety officers at handover time



View from my desk

Paralympics - in the Event Control Room

At my RST (Role Specific Training) – everything had an acronym - a film of the Bradford Fire Disaster complete with the Police radio soundtrack, certainly got our attention. In most countries crowd control at Olympic Games has been the responsibility of the Police; in China the Army was in control but in the UK it is the organiser's responsibility. This is the legal position under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act which came into force as a result of three tragedies – Ibrox, Bradford and Hillsborough.

But to go back a couple of years, I applied to be a Gamesmaker (volunteer) in October 2010 and selected Venue Management as my preferred option. When I was interviewed in July 2011 at Warwick University, the questions seemed to be more in line with Event Services – mainly the public facing greeters with the big hands. I then heard nothing except “you are still being considered” until June 2012 when I was offered the position of a Loggist at the Paralympics in the ECR (Event Control Room) at the Wheelchair Tennis venue Eaton Manor within the main Olympic Park.

Going to my VST (Venue Specific Training) I discovered the extent of the Olympic Park, taking 30 minutes to walk from the main entrance to Eaton Manor on one of the hottest days of the year. Again excellent training and an opportunity to meet people with whom I would be working and finally agree shifts splitting the day into two between 0800 and up to 2200 depending on the end of play.

The ECR was situated in a temporary building containing all the management control services. I sat on the right of my boss, the Safety Officer, whose responsibilities included allowing the venue to be opened to spectators; any decision to evacuate the venue; and overall health and safety requirements. There were two Safety Officers, both retired senior Police officers, working a shift every day. It was my

job to record any safety information and decisions made by the Safety Officer on an incident management computer system. I was also responsible for having available figures for the number of spectators in the stands and venue.

On the far side of the Safety Officer sat the Police Bronze Commander. In front of our desk were the London Fire Brigade Commander and two CCTV Group 4 Security operators with six screens each – they were excellent and drew attention to items such as children sitting in gangways. On the desk behind were the Ambulance Service Controller and H&S Officer. To our right the communications Gamesmakers monitored the six radio channels.

It was a fun team and interesting to meet the other Gamesmakers during our meal breaks. Our only volunteer “benefits” were a basic meal a day; uniform and most importantly a free Oyster card for travel in London – useful because I was travelling from my motorhome at the Abbey Wood Caravan Club site (no accommodation expenses provided).

When not on a shift, Pam and I were able to attend some super Paralympic events for which we had purchased tickets: Athletics in the main stadium, wheelchair basketball and tennis, sitting volleyball; table tennis at the Excel centre; and the best was seeing Heather Frederiksen win gold for GB in the Aquatic Centre.

Well I am pleased to say we did not have any major incidents or evacuations but it was good to know everything was so well organised and prepared, and I enjoyed my small involvement in such a successful British event.

Rodney Spokes
JCI Senator #30921

Any other Gamesmakers or volunteers in other areas are welcome to share their experiences via the magazine - Editor

Young and Senator! Cédric Roos #69195

Swiss Senate Drumming out

On 1st December 2012, for the first time in a long time, we had the Drumming Out of the Senate and of JCI Switzerland together and at the same time. It was a goal of the 2012 committee to be as close as possible to Junior Chamber in Switzerland.

This event took place in Langenthal, Martin Reinmann #70289 the national President's LOM, at the hotel "Bären", a wonderful Baroque building. About 100 people took part and we spent a great time together young and Senator.

Cédric Roos #69195 thanked its old committee and then all the past presidents and the committee transferred the chain of office to the new President - Nicolas Dunand #66918.

Nicolas is 42 years old and works in real estate. His LOM is la Côte Vaudoise and during his JCI 'career' he spent 2 years on the national committee as business vice-president and Zone 1 vice president.

The new committee is composed of Irène Steiner #62498 for the EST part of Switzerland, Martin Sterki #69793 as vice president and responsible for the central part. Pierre Fellay #64426 will be the one for the French part. Cédric Roos as Past President will deal with the international relationships. Georges Bouverat #52085 will take care of our treasury and Herbert Thalmann #65526 for the 4th time will take the post of secretary.

After that, the National President gave the chain to the new one - Boris Litmanowitsch #71887.

Congratulation to the President and the new 2013 committee!

*Cédric Roos
JCI Senator #69195
2012 Swiss Senate President*



The two 2012 Presidents – Cédric & Martin

Nicolas being sworn in

The 2013 committee

The ASE Board

ASE President

Margaretha Eriksson #51135
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*Munich Comes to Monaco
Joumana Moyne #66461*



JCI Senate Monaco organised an Oktoberfest for Senators, Jaycees and past members. The event was held in the Café de Paris at the Casino Square in a facsimile tent with wooden tables and typical Bavarian orchestra. Of course typical food and beer (above all) was appreciated by the 50 members present that evening.

Some of them also tried the nice Bavarian style clothing...
Just judge for yourself !!

*Joumana Moyne
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