

## British Senate Chairman's Report

### 2021 AGM

I'm delighted to say after over 18 months of lockdown, due to Covid restrictions, we are now progressing with some of the weekends from the 2020 British Senate programme of events we have managed to salvage.

In July around 59 Senators and guests attended our first Senate event in Rutland, organised by David and Athene Butcher. It was a great weekend and we managed to spot several Ospreys flying over Rutland Water hunting for food. It was a marvellous spectacle to witness. It was wonderful to see everyone in person other than virtually in a square box on Zoom!

Our next Senate event is the Gentleman Jack weekend in Halifax from 1-3 October. There's still time to book and join us for another great weekend of Senate fun and fellowship. The weekend will be full of the history associated with Halifax, where we will visit the famous Piece Hall and Shibden Hall. We will then visit another piece of Yorkshire history, the Bronte Country in Haworth on the Sunday.

Then there's the Lady of the Lake weekend in Mid Wales, 20-24 October, which will be another rich and interesting time for everyone to enjoy with beautiful scenery and it will be packed full of unusual places to visit. If you've never experienced a weekend organised by Peter and Morag Browning, then don't miss this one as they are unique, memorable and full of mystery!

Of course, the Organising Team of the Drumming Out in Leeds in January (13-16) is ready to welcome you. They will be taking you to unusual and historic places to experience, and it will be a long weekend of fun with lots of our international friends and guests already booked to come along to join us all. Leeds is a modern, stunning and vibrant city and we will be showing you the best of it all! Booking is open online.

Whilst we've been in lockdown I've continued with the twice weekly Zoom meetings which have been hugely successful with so many Senators looking forward to joining us each week. We also have a following of international Senators who never miss a weeks meeting. It's excellent to see everyone and we have got to know each other so much

better because of Zoom. Now lockdown has finished we still have a smaller gathering each week and the Zoom will be continuing twice weekly except when we have a Senate Weekend away.

Behind the scenes we have ensured that the British Senate has been running smoothly with regular updates on our British Senate Website, our accounts are up to date, merchandising is well looked after, our international activities are being updated, (not that we're allowed to visit any of the European meetings to date!). Our database is constantly being kept up to date, and our Secretary is working keeping everyone in check, so basically your Council Team have been working very hard to keep everything running smoothly.

A HUGE Thank You to the fabulous 2020/21 British Senate Council Team.

On the database front we are looking to upgrade our records and we're trialling the MembershipMoJo which is a modern online database which can be easily accessed by members but personal information is protected and unavailable for everyone to see. It looks and will be more professional to use and will make it easy for Senators to contact each other. I'm hoping this will get the green light before the end of the year.

Peter Browning has retired as Editor of the European Senate Newsletter after a mammoth 16 year stint at the helm, working hard on it. It's an unenviable, relentless job to do year on year and I 'Congratulate' Peter and thank him for everything he has undertaken over the years. He has put an enormous amount of work into developing and making the Newsletter the successful one it is today. Well Done Peter. Your work is much appreciated.

Mark Riddel, British Senate Immediate Past Chairman, has now taken over the role as the new Editor and we wish him every success in carrying on the good work and taking it forward. Kate Canty, Past Senate Chairman, has been assigned as Deputy Editor.

I have started to collate information about what you, our fantastic Senators have done during your lives in JCI UK (BJC) over the years. What major and minor projects you have taken on? What you've done in your working life/career, what roles you've undertaken in the past? So much of our/your rich history of achievements has been lost over the

years and there's been some really good projects we have forgotten about.

I'd like to have a file that we can dip into as a record of our amazing past. If you'd like to send me information and any photos, and I will add them to what will be the British Senate Archives. I hope that if we get enough information we can have them professionally archived.

Some Senators hold magazines, awards and other folders but don't know what to do with them or who to pass them on to. This would be another way of keeping those records for us all to look back on and not lose them. It will also be a reference point for JCI UK. We have records in the Senate Newsletter but there's so much more that hasn't been recorded.

And finally, I thank you so much for your loyal support over the past 18 months during these unprecedented circumstances. You have all been an inspiration and great support, be it in emails, letters, phone calls and supporting the hugely successful Zoom meetings every week. We've come out of it stronger, wiser and more determined to keep the camaraderie and our unique Fellowship connected more than ever!

A Huge Thank You to You All.

Janice Hadfield  
Senator 48902  
British Senate Chairman 2020/21

End

Email:- [chairman@britishsenate.org.uk](mailto:chairman@britishsenate.org.uk)

Events/bookings/British Senate Website:- [britishsenate.org.uk](http://britishsenate.org.uk)