

Greetings from the British Ambassador to Norway

By David Powell, HM Ambassador to Norway - June 2006

I began my posting as Ambassador to Oslo just over a month ago, and already I've been struck by the strength, warmth and variety of the links between the UK and Norway. I've had the opportunity so far to visit Stavanger and the Lofoten Islands, and I plan to travel the length and breadth of the country



*David Powell,
HM Ambassador*

over the course of my posting here. Our long and close history, especially during the Second World War, provides the foundation rock for these links, which of course go well beyond the political, economic and trading relationships that are the main concern of my Embassy. In Oslo we also have the British Council focusing on cultural and educational relations, and Visit Britain promoting London and the UK as a tourist destination.

Both the UK and Norway share a strong democratic tradition. And our political institutions have to confront much the same kinds of problems and issues.

I welcome this initiative to form a British Politics Society in Norway. As I have been learning about Norway in my first few weeks as Ambassador, I have been impressed that so many Norwegians already have an understanding of British politics. But there is of course always scope for new perspectives and greater sharing of ideas among Norwegians, particularly so for those with a professional interest in politics in the UK. A new forum like this will therefore I'm sure be both useful and appreciated.

Lykke til og god sommer!