

Wilkinson TP

4th December 1981

Thank you so much for your letter of 27th November.

I was very pleased indeed to have your report on the Anglo-Asian Conservative Association and I do want to thank you, most warmly, for all that you have done to build up and sustain its numbers and its influence.

As you know, the branch in my own constituency continues to flourish.

If there is any particular way in which I can help, would you please let Ian Gow know?

I was delighted to hear about the twinning of Hillingdon and Amritsar.

John Wilkinson Esq MP

cc. Michael Pattison Esq



From: JOHN WILKINSON, M.P.  
(Ruislip - Northwood)

CC 16.



R 28/11

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

27 November, 1981

Dear Prime Minister,

I thought you might be interested in a Report on the Anglo Asian Conservative Society now that I am coming towards the end of my three year term as Chairman.

We have always been especially pleased and proud to have you as our President and an active president at that, who takes a real personal interest in her own Borough branch in Barnet, which is one of the strongest and best in the Society.

We have not had a dramatic impact on the political scene. I do not think the Society has grabbed many headlines but on the other hand we have avoided adverse publicity and harmful controversy at a time of considerable political difficulty for our members.

I have been glad that we have avoided any resignations both over the changes in immigration rules in the first session of Parliament and over the British Nationality Bill in the second.

The reaction of our members both to the Home Office Report on Racial Attacks and to the Scarman Report has been favourable and we have a solid foundation on which to build for the future.

It may well be that the impact of the Liberal/Social Democratic Party Alliance is greatest in supposedly safe Conservative constituencies rather than in the more mixed and marginal inner city areas where the ethnic minority communities predominate. I have always found that once we have secured the friendship and loyalty of the minority communities the bonds can be very close and the loyalty extremely deep. For example, when I lost my seat in Bradford West in 1974 I retained the friendship of many Pakistanis throughout the five and a half years of office.

I shall try in my remaining half year of office to get the Society onto the offensive forming new branches and expanding our membership. Anything you can do from your position as Prime Minister by way of public statements or other forms of encouragement to our membership would be greatly appreciated and would give a real lead to the Society at what must be a very critical time for our Party.

*Yours etc*  
*John*  
JOHN WILKINSON

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,  
Prime Minister.

P.T.S.





HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

- 2 -

P.S. Since you took a great interest yourself on your visit to India in the proposed town-twinning arrangements between the Borough of Hillingdon and the City of Amritsar in the Punjab, you will be interested and I am sure delighted to know that the town-twinning was made official two days ago.

*P.P.S. I'm sure you're not too disappointed by the Crosby result. It's the final battle in my campaign that counts!*