

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE
LONDRES

L'AMBASSADEUR

1st February 2011

Dear friends,

Having spent just over three wonderful years in the United Kingdom, I will now move to a new posting in Berlin at the end of February.

My time spent here has been the most enriching of my career and if I were to spend another three years here I could still hardly encompass the breadth and wealth of the people and situations from every aspect of life, which exist in the UK. The many institutions and organizations; governmental, academic, commercial and cultural and the many individuals I have met, have shown so much how greatly they value and wish to maintain their ties with France through so many aspects of life and how together our two countries are inextricably linked to forge ahead with so many issues for the benefit of both.

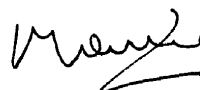
The great kindness and generosity of those I have met has been most humbling and gratifying and having forged many friendships I will hope to keep in contact where it is possible.

The French community in the United Kingdom is itself a 'tour de Force' and not only through the representation within the commercial and cultural worlds in the UK, but through groups such as the Chambre de Commerce, the Lycée and Institute, France and the French are well respected.

So, I hope that you will be able to attend a Reception which I will host on Wednesday 16th February and that will give me the opportunity to meet you and express my gratitude.

With many thanks for your co-operation and friendship.

With personal regards



Maurice Gourdault-Montagne