COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

ISLE OF MAN BRANCH

REPORT OF THE CHAIR AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR 2004 - 2005
COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION
ISLE OF MAN BRANCH

REPORT OF THE CHAIR FOR THE YEAR 2004-2005

1. INTRODUCTION

The Branch has continued to play a full and active part in the affairs of the Association, and in the past year the Committee has taken the following action:

a. Two luncheon presentations for delegates to report back to other Members about Conferences, seminars etc which they have recently attended. At one of these events, Ariane Barua from 3FM gave a very interesting presentation about her project in India, which was organised through the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association.

b. A social evening was planned for November 2004 which unfortunately did not proceed as very few Members of Tynwald would have been able to attend.

c. The Committee has made every effort to comply with Rule 10(a) of the Branch Rules which states that “the Executive Committee shall be required to maintain a programme with the object of affording each ordinary member of the branch the opportunity to participate in at least one conference, seminar, study tour or other parliamentary visit during the life of that House of Keys”.

In the period since the 2001 General Election to the end of March 2005, a total of 31 delegate places at CPA Conferences, Seminars and Parliamentary visits have been filled by 19 Members, which includes 9 members who have attended 2 or 3 events. However, during the same period 10 Members have not applied to attend any of the events offered to Members.
2. CONFERENCES

2.1 35th Regional Conference : Falkland Islands : February 2004

Hon A F Downie MHK, Mr Q B Gill MHK and Mr G M Quayle MHK attended this Conference and a presentation to Members was held on 20th April 2004.

2.2 24th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference of Members from Small Countries : Quebec, Canada : September 2004

Mrs A V Craine MHK and Mr J D Q Cannan MHK (who was the reserve candidate, as Mr Gelling had withdrawn) attended this Conference and a presentation to Members was held on 16th November 2004.

Concerns were again expressed at the Conference about the reporting procedure to the Plenary Conference. Many delegates were disappointed that the issues which had been raised during the Small Countries Conference and reported to the Plenary Conference were not responded to and there was no follow-up procedure.

The Isle of Man Branch was asked by the Secretariat to prepare a paper with suggestions for improving the reporting back procedure. This was done and circulated to all the Small Countries, so that they would have the opportunity to comment on our suggestions or submit their own paper to the Secretariat.

This matter will now be considered by the International Executive Committee at its mid-year meeting in April, and at the Small Countries Conference in Fiji in September. The Isle of Man submission is set out in Appendix 1.

2.3 50th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference : Vancouver, Canada : September 2004

Mr J D Q Cannan MHK and Mrs A V Craine MHK attended this Conference and a presentation to Members was held on 16th November 2004.
3. **SEMINARS**

3.1 **16th Parliamentary Seminar: Malaysia: May 2004**

Mrs P M Crowe MLC attended this Seminar and a presentation to Members was held on 16th November 2004.

The Branch has applied for two places on the 17th Parliamentary Seminar, to be held in May 2005 in South Africa.

4. **VISITS**

4.1 **PARLIAMENTARY VISITS**

4.1.1 **Parliamentary Visit: London, Brighton, Isle of Man: May 2004**

Mr G H Waft MLC attended this visit and has produced a report. Copies can be obtained from the Assistant Secretary, Mrs Cullen.

As part of this visit, 28 Parliamentarians and their partners together with officers from the UK Branch visited the Island from 13th to 15th May 2004. The Executive Committee is grateful to those Members of Tynwald who took part in this event and helped to make it such a success.

4.2 **VISITORS TO THE BRANCH**

4.2.1 **The Tynwald Ceremony**

The following Commonwealth parliamentarians were official guests to the Tynwald Ceremony —

(1) Mr Nick Hawkins MP, UK

(2) Ms Lisa Francis AM, Wales

4.2.2 **Other Visitors**

During the past year the Branch has been pleased to welcome and entertain the following visitors -
(1)  **Brent Catchpole MP, New Zealand**

Mr Catchpole met the Isle of Man delegation at the Plenary Conference in Canada, and shortly after the Conference he and his wife paid a short visit to the Isle of Man, as some of his ancestors were Manx. He was grateful for the assistance of the Family History Society and extended his visit by a day as there was far more material here than he had expected to find!

(2)  **Sue McLeod, Committee Clerk, Tasmania**

Mrs McLeod and her husband spent a few days on the Isle of Man as part of her study visit, which also included the UK and Channel Islands. She attended sittings of the legislature and various committee meetings.

5.  **YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE LEGISLATURE**

5.1  **School Visits**

Because sittings are currently being held in temporary chambers, it is not possible to accommodate large parties of school children. However, some Members have arranged school visits to the precincts and it is intended to encourage more frequent school visits, including secondary schools, when the refurbishment programme is completed later this year, when it is hoped that improved visiting facilities will be available. The CPA will continue to pay the travel expenses for school visits.

5.2  **Junior Tynwald, 12th July 2004**

With the active co-operation of the Department of Education, the Branch arranged a sitting of a Junior Tynwald Court comprised of students from the Island’s secondary schools. The meeting began in the Tynwald Chambers at 9.30 am on Monday, 12th July 2004. Students from four of the Island’s secondary schools participated (the Castle Rushen School team had to withdraw at short notice because of a recent fatal road accident involving students from the school).
Each school team consisted of students from Year 12 (sixth form). Additional students from each school were invited to attend in the Public Gallery as spectators.

It was agreed that the new format introduced in 2003 had proved successful and it was therefore retained for 2004, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30 to 10.15</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.15 to 10.30</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30 to 11.30</td>
<td>Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30 to 12 noon</td>
<td>Motions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 noon to 1.00 pm</td>
<td>Buffet lunch and informal discussion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr Watterson again assisted some students to record interviews with the participants, and selections from these interviews and from the proceedings in the Tynwald Chamber were broadcast on Manx Radio.

Appendix 2 to this report contains a list of participants and a copy of the Order Paper and Question Paper.

5.3 **Youth Parliament, Brisbane, April 2005**

The Isle of Man has applied for two places (the maximum allowed per branch) on the Youth Parliament. Applications were invited in the press and interviews held in December 2004. All the applicants interviewed were of a very high standard, and the interview panel had a difficult task to select just two. We have been advised that we have been offered one place and our second nominee is on the reserve list.

5.4 **Commonwealth Day**

The Branch has nominated two young people from the Island who are currently studying in the UK to attend the Commonwealth Day celebrations in London. The format has changed this year and will last for 2 days, with overnight accommodation being
provided. A copy of the revised programme is set out in Appendix 3.

6. COMMONWEALTH DAY DINNER

Commonwealth Day 2004 was marked by the customary celebratory dinner which was held at the Castle Mona Hotel, Douglas, at which Mr Brian Jenkins, Labour MP for Tamworth, was the Guest Speaker. Mr Jenkins was formerly a lecturer at the Isle of Man College and met the Isle of Man delegation at the Plenary Conference in Bangladesh in 2003. Following the dinner, Mr Jenkins joined the Anglo Manx Parliamentary group.

Musical entertainment was very able provided by Marlene Hendy and Dylis Sowery.

The 2005 dinner is to be held in The Max Restaurant, Onchan, on Monday 14th March 2005, when the guest speaker will be Elizabeth Smith OBE, Secretary General of the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association.

7. THE FUTURE

7.1 2004-2005

The coming year promises to be a very busy one and includes -

(1) a parliamentary visit to Dublin in May 2005.

(2) 17th Parliamentary Seminar, to be held in May 2005 in South Africa (an application for places has been submitted)

(3) 36th Regional Conference to be held in Jersey from 12th to 16th June 2005

(4) Junior Tynwald to be held on Monday 25th July 2005

(5) 25th Small Countries Conference and the 51st Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference to be held in Fiji from 1st to 10th September 2005.
Arrangements for the mid-term meeting of the International Executive Committee, which is to be held for the first time in the Isle of Man, from 3rd to 6th May 2006, are progressing. The meetings are to take place in the Villa Marina, with delegates being accommodated at the Sefton Hotel. Further details will follow in due course.

Mrs H Hannan MHK
Chair of the Executive Committee
March 2005
APPENDIX 1

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Isle of Man Branch

Submission to the Executive Committee on the Small Countries Conference

1. Introduction

During the 24th Small Countries Conference in September 2004 in Canada, many delegates expressed their dissatisfaction with the reporting procedure from the Small Countries Conference. Several issues which had been identified over a number of years had been reported to General Assembly, but had not been responded to. It was therefore suggested that an improved procedure for communicating concerns raised during the Small Countries Conference to the Executive Committee and the General Assembly be implemented, which would ensure that a considered response would be given to those concerns.

2. Options

We therefore request consideration of the following options –

2.1 Membership of the Executive Committee

The members of the small countries could elect one member to serve on the Executive Committee, specifically to represent the small countries. The elected representative would be required to attend the Small Countries Conference and report any issues raised to the Executive Committee and report back to the Small Countries.

2.2 Procedure for identifying concerns

At present, the format for the report from the Small Countries Conference to the General Assembly may not necessarily identify the issues in respect of which the Conference would require a response. At the 2004 Conference, some of the workshops recapped on the contributions of delegates, whilst other workshops highlighted general areas of concern. During the report back session it became apparent that delegates were unsure of the reporting procedure.

It would therefore be helpful for delegates to be given guidelines at the beginning of the Conference. The Chairman of each working group would then ensure that any issues raised during discussions which require a response are highlighted during the report back session.

The report back session would then concentrate on the issues raised in the individual workshops and the delegates would have the opportunity to agree on the issues which would be identified in the report as requiring a formal response.
There should be a formal procedure for that response to be circulated to all member countries within a set timescale, and it would be placed on the agenda for the following small countries conference to ensure continuity.

3. Accessibility of Executive Committee

Several delegates were disappointed at the limited opportunities for meeting members of ExCo. As the Executive Committee meeting and the Small Countries Conference took place simultaneously and in different cities, there was little opportunity for ExCo members to attend any of the Small Countries Conference sessions. The Small Countries and Plenary Conferences could be an opportunity for ExCo Members to meet as many delegates as possible, especially as in some of the larger regions, delegates have limited opportunities to meet their regional representatives throughout their term of office. We would therefore hope that this will be borne in mind when planning future conferences.
## APPENDIX 2

**JUNIOR TYNWALD 2004**

### PRESIDENT OF TYNWALD
- **GLENFABA**

### THE HON N Q CRINGLE
- **Samantha EDMUND**

### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
- **MIDDLE**
  - Alexandra BOSMAN
  - Jonathan CALLISTER
  - Robert CRELLIN
  - Victoria KIVER
  - Sarah McCHESNEY

### CLERK OF THE COUNCIL
- **DOUGLAS NORTH**
  - Mrs M CULLEN

### HOUSE OF KEYS
- **DOUGLAS SOUTH**
  - Laura JONES
  - Blae QUAYLE

### SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF KEYS
- **DOUGLAS EAST**
  - Ben BRANDRICK
  - William CHALLONER

### RAMSEY
- **DOUGLAS WEST**
  - Lawrie HOOPER

### AYRE
- **CASTLETOWN**
  - Helen KELLY

### MICHAEL
- **MALEW AND SANTON**
  - Amy CRELLIN

### PEEL
- **RUSHEN**
  - Ian HEARD

### GARFF
- **RUSHEN**
  - Adam PEEL
1. Questions

2. Road safety

   A Member of Queen Elizabeth II High School (Miss Katherine Lawrie) to move -

   That this Junior Tynwald believes that the death and injury rate among competitors, visitors and local people during the TT, Grand Prix and Southern 100 events is not acceptable and that such events should no longer take place on the Island.

3. Identity Cards

   A Member of Ramsey Grammar School (Mr Adam Peel) to move -

   That this Junior Tynwald believes that, in order to combat crime, all persons from the age of 14 should be required to carry an identity card.
FOR ORAL ANSWER

(Questions not reached before 11.30 am will receive a written answer)

1. The Hon Member of the Council (Mr Robert Crellin) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -

   Why does the Manx Government believe that the incinerator is the best way for the Island to dispose of its increasing waste, whilst many continental countries are abandoning similar policies? (B)

2. The Hon Member for Michael (Miss Eleanor Smith) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -

   What does the Government intend to do to improve the provision of dental practices on the Island? (QEII)

3. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Max Talavera) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -

   Do you agree that the Isle of Man should follow recent developments in Ireland concerning smoking in public places? (StN)
4. The Hon Member for Ramsey (Mr Ben Brandrick) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -

   What steps are being taken to widen the availability of NHS dentists? (RGS)

5. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gerard Landels) to ask the Minister Transport -

   What is the proposed annual expenditure by the Department of Transport for improving the road infrastructure and car parking facilities over the next five years? (CR)

6. The Hon Member for Douglas East (Mr Damian Corkill) to ask the Chief Minister -

   What is your Government doing to preserve the Manx national identity in the face of immigration from the United Kingdom and elsewhere? (B)

7. The Hon Member for Glenfaba (Miss Samantha Edmund) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -

   What is Government’s strategy for keeping the Island free from pollution? (QEII)

8. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Miss Laura Jones) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -

   Having invested so heavily in a new hospital, what steps are being taken to maximise the potential of this venture? (StN)

9. The Hon Member for Ramsey (Mr William Challenor) to ask the Minister for Education -

   What impact will the proposed changes in university funding have on the younger generation? (RGS)

10. The Hon Member of the Legislative Council (Miss Kimberley Manktelow) to ask the Minister for Transport -

    (1) What is the percentage pass rate of the driving test for the 16 to 17 age group; and

    (2) is there any intention to raise the age for obtaining a provisional driving licence? (CR)
11. The Hon Member for Douglas South (Miss Jo Hollows) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -

What is Government doing about the continuing poor state of Douglas beach? (B)

12. The Hon Member of the Council (Miss Sarah McChesney) to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure -

What are the Government’s plans for improving leisure facilities for young people on the Island? (QEII)

13. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Nick Wasley) to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure -

Would subsidising travel costs attract more competitors and tourists to the Isle of Man during the TT period and enhance its popularity? (StN)

14. The Hon Member of the Council (Mr Jonathan Callister) to ask the Minister for Transport -

Can ownership of 4 x 4 vehicles be justified for Manx residents not involved in agricultural work? (RGS)

15. The Hon Member for Castletown (Mr David Broadbent) to ask the Minister for Education -

In October last year it was reported that your predecessor said: “It may be time to consider attaching conditions to Government’s support”, regarding the funding of students’ tuition fees. Can you outline any plans to change the current allocation of tuition fees by your Department? (CR)
24 January 2005

TO ALL BRANCH AND REGIONAL SECRETARIES

To c.c. Members of the Executive Committee
Members of the CWP Steering Committee

Dear Colleague

CPA Headquarters Secretariat Observance of Commonwealth Day
14-15 March 2005

Commonwealth Day will be observed in 2005 on Monday 14 March. The theme will be “Education – Creating Opportunity, Realising Potential”. The CPA Secretariat’s contribution to the celebration of the Day will once again be directed towards our young citizens.

The arrangements that the Secretariat has made for the Observance of the Day in London have resulted in much positive feedback though we have been considering ways of reinforcing the benefits that the young people who attend may receive. This year we are changing the format to make it a two-day programme, 14-15 March 2005.

The first day will include:

- discussions on the Commonwealth and specifically on the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and our contribution to parliamentary democracy – we have obtained the services of visiting and UK Parliamentarians to help with these discussions;
- short debates or other presentations on current critical issues in the Commonwealth;
- attendance at the Observance at Westminster Abbey at which will be present Her Majesty The Queen as Head of the Commonwealth and all Commonwealth High Commissioners in London; and
- the possibility of attendance at the Commonwealth Secretary-General’s evening reception in the presence of Her Majesty.

On the second day, participants will take part in a ‘Youth CHOGM’ which will be held in Marlborough House. This event, organised by the Royal Commonwealth Society, will bring together around 80 young people from around the United Kingdom, for a one-day simulation of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) which take place biennially. The Day will try to reflect the shape of the real CHOGM and will include an Opening and Closing Ceremony and two debates on different issues pertaining to the Commonwealth. A third debate will allow participants to come out of the country role they have been playing and nominate an issue which they feel is particularly relevant to their lives on which they wish to debate and express their own opinions.
THE ISLE OF MAN BRANCH OF THE
COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>PAYMENTS</th>
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<td>5,388.71</td>
<td>Balances at 28th February 2005:-</td>
<td>5,164.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subscriptions Collected</td>
<td>330.00</td>
<td>Deposit Account</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Interest</td>
<td>31.32</td>
<td>Current Account</td>
<td>585.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5,750.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1) Associated membership list was not supplied and therefore it is assumed that associated membership list remains as 2003/04
2) As at the 28th February 2005, subscriptions in arrears amounted to £26.50 and subscriptions paid in advance amounted to £26.00.
3) Signatories on the Deposit Account and Current Account need amendment (current signatories deceased)
4) Attorney General in arrears for member’s subscriptions (04/05)

I have audited the above receipts and payments account in accordance with approved auditing standards and in my opinion it is an accurate and true statement of the affairs of the Isle of Man Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association at 28th February 2005.

Treasury 1st March 2005
Honorary Auditor
Mr K C McGreal, CPFA; MAPSA

Honorary Treasurer
Mr P M Shimmin CPFA