



ISLE OF MAN BRANCH

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN
AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR 2006 - 2007**



ISLE OF MAN BRANCH

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2006-2007

1. INTRODUCTION

In January 2007, following the General Election, Mr Braidwood, Mrs Christian, Mr Gill, Mr Waft and Mr Watterson were elected onto the Executive Committee, with Mrs Hannan as the Associate Member. At the Committee's first meeting, Mrs Christian was elected Chairman.

2. DELEGATES

Over the last 5 years since the 2001 election, 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".

During that period, a total of 45 delegate places at CPA Conferences, Seminars and Parliamentary visits have been filled by 21 Members, which includes 6 members who have attended 3 or 4 events. However, during the same period 10 Members have not applied to attend any of the events offered to Members.

3. CONFERENCES

3.1 37th Regional Conference : Malta : 23 to 28 April 2006

Mrs A Craine, Mrs P Crowe, Mrs H Hannan and Mr M Quayle attended this Conference, together with Mrs C Christian, who attended as Regional Representative.

3.2 26th Small Countries Conference and the 52nd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference: Abuja, Nigeria from 1st to 10th September 2006

Mr Singer attended this Conference. Neither the other elected delegate nor the reserve were able to attend. However, Mrs Christian attended as Regional Representative.

4. SEMINARS

a. 55th Seminar on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure Westminster: 6 - 17 March 2006

The Branch received an invitation to this Seminar and Mr Lowey was selected to attend.

b. “Gender Equality - The Foundation of Democracy and Development”

The Branch received an invitation to this Seminar, but as it was taking place after the dissolution of the Keys, only Council Members were able to attend. Mrs Crowe was the only Council Member who applied and she therefore attended this event.

c. Westminster Seminar (5-16 March 2007)

The Branch applied for a place at this Seminar but was not successful.

d. UK Seminar (10-22 June) 2007

The Branch applied for a place at this Seminar and we will be notified in March as to whether we have been successful.

5. MID-YEAR MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Isle of Man hosted this event from 2 to 7 May 2006. The delegates were accommodated at the Sefton Hotel and the meetings were held in the Villa Marina.

Members of Tynwald participated fully in the programme of events, which included a luncheon attended by Their Majesties the Earl and Countess of Wessex.

The Branch received many expressions of appreciation for a well-organised and friendly Conference.

6. VISITORS TO THE BRANCH

6.1 The Tynwald Ceremony

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

SCOTLAND

The Rt Hon George Reid MSP

UNITED KINGDOM

Mr David Clelland MP

Mr Jeffrey Ennis MP

WALES

Mrs Rosemary Butler AM

- 6.2** A Ugandan MP, Mr John Bosco lubyayi Seguya , visited the Island briefly in September 2006. His short visit included a tour of the parliamentary building and a meeting with the Overseas Aid Committee.

7. YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE LEGISLATURE

7.1 School Visits

With the move into the new building and the appointment of the Information and Education Officer, greater facilities and assistance with school visits are now available. The CPA will continue to pay the travel expenses for school visits.

7.2 Junior Tynwald, 19th July 2006

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 Chamber at 9.30 am on 19th July 2006. Students from five of the Island's secondary schools participated.

Each school team consisted of students from Year 12 (sixth form). Additional students from each school were invited to attend as media representatives or in the Public Gallery as spectators.

Mr Roger 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. In addition Isle of Man Newspapers staff assisted some of the students to prepare a report on the event which was published in the local press.

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

7.3 Commonwealth Day

The 2006 Commonwealth Day celebrations were held in Sydney, as Her Majesty The Queen was in Australia to open the Commonwealth Games later that week in Melbourne. Branches were therefore invited to nominate two young persons who would be in Australia at that time to attend the celebrations. It was hoped that two competitors who were in Australia with the Island's Commonwealth Games Team could be nominated. In the event it was not possible for the team organisers to identify anyone who would be free to attend, because of the intensive training schedules leading up to the games.

However, the 2007 celebrations are again being held in London and the Branch has been invited to send two representatives to participate in the event.

8. COMMONWEALTH DAY DINNER

Commonwealth Day 2006 was marked by the customary celebratory dinner which was held at the Sefton Hotel, Douglas, at which Mr Andrew Rosindell MP was the Guest Speaker. Mr Rosindell was able to extend his visit, so a programme of meetings was arranged for him.

The entertainment was a very amusing sketch provided by Simon Clarke and James Radcliffe.

The 2007 dinner is to be held at the Mount Murray Hotel on Monday 12th March, when the guest speaker will be Mr John Wilkinson.

9. REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

The Branch is entitled under the rota system to appoint a Regional Representative for the period from 2005 to 2008 and Mrs Christian was appointed to this post.

10. THE FUTURE

10.1 Conferences

- (1) The 38th Regional Conference will be held in Belfast from 14 to 17 May 2007. The continuing delegates are Mrs Crowe and Mr Quayle. A further two delegates, who will also attend the 39th Conference in Gibraltar in 2008, will be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- (2) The 27th Small Countries Conference and the 53rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference are to be held in New Delhi, India, from 22 to 30 September 2007. Two delegates to attend these Conferences will be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

10.2 Parliamentary visit

It is hoped that a Parliamentary Visit to Westminster will take place this year. Details will be sent to Members in due course.

10.3 Junior Tynwald

Junior Tynwald is to be held on the morning of Monday 23rd July 2007.

11. CONCLUSION

The Executive Committee is continually exploring new initiatives which may be of assistance or interest, and would welcome suggestions from Members.

Mrs C M Christian
Chairman of the Executive Committee
March 2007

APPENDIX

PRESIDENT OF TYNWALD

THE HON N Q CRINGLE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Mr Joe ARNOLD
Mr Stephen BERRY
Miss Rachel BOOTH
Miss Karen CURPHEY
Mr Ashley KNEALE
Miss Alex MCPHERSON
Miss Kate REYNOLDS

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Mrs M CULLEN

HOUSE OF KEYS

DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF KEYS

Mrs H HANNAN MHK

RAMSEY

Mr Carlos PHILIPS
Miss Hannah UPTON-JONES

AYRE

Mr Adam CONNORS

MICHAEL

Mr Joe PILKINGTON

PEEL

Miss Jessica McLEMAN

GARFF

Mr Robert CHURCHER

GLENFABA

Miss Marie MEWS

MIDDLE

Miss Anna McCHESNEY

ONCHAN

Mr Braydie GROVE
Miss Jennifer OGDEN

DOUGLAS NORTH

Mr Alex NOROI-McCORMAC
Miss Stephanie REID

DOUGLAS SOUTH

Miss Laura BEVAN
Miss Rebecca DUKE

DOUGLAS EAST

Mr Michael BRADY
Mr Stepan PODOBSKY

DOUGLAS WEST

Mr Charles FRYER
Mr Daniel JOHNS

CASTLETOWN

Miss Hannah CORRIN

MALEW AND SANTON

Mr Andrew NEWTON

RUSHEN

Miss Jacqui BENNION
Miss Helen POOLEY

JUNIOR TYNWALD

Tinvaal Saa



ORDER PAPER

Claare Obbyr

DOUGLAS
WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY 2006
at 10.30 am

1. Questions

2. Monetary Contributions to Third World Countries

A Member of Ballakermeen High School (Mr Stephen Berry) to move –

That this Junior Tynwald is of the opinion that, as the Isle of Man is a relatively wealthy country, it should make larger monetary contributions to third world countries which suffer natural disasters, even though this would reduce the funds available for Isle of Man needs.

3. Healthy Food in Schools

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

That this Junior Tynwald is of the opinion that only healthy food should be available in school canteens and vending machines and that more guidance should be given to pupils on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

JUNIOR TYNWALD

Tinvaal Saa



QUESTION PAPER

Pabyr Feyshtyn

DOUGLAS
19th July 2006
at 10.30 am

FOR ORAL ANSWER

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

- (1) The Hon Member for Rushen (Miss Jacqui Bennion) to ask the Chief Minister –

Does the Chief Minister agree that the promise of first-time buyer houses is sometimes being used to obtain planning permission for land that is inappropriate for development? (CRHS)

- (2) The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Alex Norori-McCormac) to ask the Chief Minister –

- (a) Is the proposed reduction in the age of voting to 16 years putting too much pressure on young people; and
- (b) is there not a danger now that secondary schools will become areas that politicians will look to exploit for votes? (SNHS)

- (3) The Hon Member for Ramsey (Mr Carlos Philips) to ask the Chief Minister –
How can an unelected Chief Minister truly represent the people of the Isle of Man and public opinion? (RGS)
- (4) The Hon Member for Peel (Miss Jessica McLeman) to ask the Minister for Transport –
Would you enlighten this Chamber as to the results of the recent public consultation on a national speed limit –
- (a) numbers voting;
 - (b) cost of consultation; and
 - (c) breakdown of votes cast? (QE2)
- (5) The Hon Member for Douglas South (Miss Laura Bevan) to ask the Chief Minister –
What do you consider to be the appropriate course of action that should be taken against a Government Minister who breaks collective responsibility? (BHS)
- (6) The Hon Member for Rushen (Miss Helen Pooley) to ask the Chief Minister –
Does the Isle of Man Government have a policy on population size, and if so what is the maximum number? (CRHS)
- (7) The Hon Member for Douglas East (Mr Stepan Podobsky) to ask the Chief Minister –
Can more be done on the Isle of Man to halt the spread of anti-ethnic feelings especially amongst young people, in the light of the recent visit by the British National Party? (SNHS)
- (8) The Hon Member for Ramsey (Miss Hannah Upton-Jones) to ask Minister for Trade and Industry –
In what ways has the Government tried to help re-generate Ramsey since 2001? (RGS)
- (9) The Hon Member for Glenfaba (Miss Marie Mews) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment –
Are you able to outline for this Court the steps that your Department is taking to increase recycling, and reduce or minimise waste? (QE2)

- (10) The Hon Member for Douglas South (Miss Rebecca Duke) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -

Would you agree that it would be beneficial to introduce condom machines into sixth form centres across the Island? (BHS)

- (11) The Hon Member for Malew and Santon (Mr Andrew Newton) to ask the Chief Minister –

Do you believe that if the European Union introduced a constitution, the Island's relationship with the E.U. would have to be renegotiated? (CRHS)

- (12) The Hon Member for Douglas North (Miss Stephanie Reid) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

It is understood that the Governor of the Isle of Man does not pay Income Tax on his earnings. If everyone else on the Island has to, what makes him so special? (SNHS)

- (13) The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Joe Pilkington) to ask the Minister for Education –

Would you please explain the rationale for the recent decision to raise the admissions criteria for the funding of university courses, and how much you believe this will save in annual expenditure? (QE2)

- (14) The Hon Member for Douglas West (Mr Charles Fryer) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security –

What steps is your Government taking to combat the effects, and investigate the causes, of the growing heroin abuse among the youth of the Isle of Man? (BHS)

- (15) The Hon Member for Castletown (Miss Hannah Corrin) to ask the Minister of Health and Social Security –

Do you agree that the introduction of a Speech Therapy Unit on the Island would be of great benefit to the many people who suffer from speaking difficulties? (CRHS)

THE ISLE OF MAN BRANCH OF THE
COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 2007

RECEIPTS	£	£	PAYMENTS	£
Balance b/f 1 st March 2006		6090.94	Balances at 28 th February 2007:-	
Subscriptions Collected	344.50		Deposit Account	5,201.70
Bank Interest	8.76	<u>353.26</u>	Current Account	1,242.50
		<u>6,444.20</u>		<u>6,444.20</u>

Notes:

- 1) As at the 28th February 2007, subscriptions in arrears amounted to £17.50 and subscriptions paid in advance amounted to £9.00.

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 2007.

K. C. McGreal

Treasury
5th March 2007
CPFA

Honorary Auditor
Mr K C McGreal, CPFA; MAPSA

P. M. Shimmin

Honorary Treasurer
Mr P M Shimmin