



ISLE OF MAN BRANCH

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN
AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR 2008 - 2009**

Isle of Man Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Report of the Chairman of the Branch Executive Committee for the year March 2008 to February 2009

Introduction

1. The aims of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association are to promote knowledge of the constitutional, legislative, economic, social and cultural aspects of parliamentary democracy. It does this among other things by arranging Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences, and other conferences, seminars, meetings and study groups; and by promoting visits between Members of the Branches of the Association.
2. The Isle of Man Branch has had another successful year of activities in support of these aims, both overseas and here in the Island.

Off-Island activities

3. In March 2008 the Isle of Man was represented at the CPA Headquarters Commonwealth Day Observance in Westminster by Andrew Jones (Onchan and University of Exeter) and Justin Van Rhynn (Castletown and London School of Economics).
4. In the same month Mr Corkish participated in the 57th Westminster Seminar on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure, a two-week long event.
5. In April 2008 I attended the mid-year meeting of the International Executive Committee in Jersey as a Regional Representative for the British Islands and Mediterranean Region. At this meeting, after the unexpected resignation of the Treasurer of the CPA, I was appointed acting Treasurer.
6. In May 2008 Mr Crookall, Mr Gawne, Mr Waft and Mr Watterson attended the annual British Islands and Mediterranean Regional Conference in Gibraltar. I also attended in my capacity as Regional Representative. The theme of the Conference was the impact of climate change on the environment.

7. In August 2008 Mr Cannan and Mr Downie attended the annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (the “plenary conference”) in Kuala Lumpur, together with the annual Small Countries Conference and Conference of Women Parliamentarians. They participated fully throughout the event and in particular during the small countries conference, where the topics under discussion in the Small Countries Conference were:

- dealing with conflicts of interest and corruption in small states
- protecting the environment: water and waste management in sustainable development
- meeting the challenges to the holding of democratic elections
- promoting the interests of small states in international institutions.

Mr Downie chaired plenary session 1 on “dealing with conflicts of interest and corruption in small states”. Mr Cannan, in association with Chief Minister Lyndon Trott of Guernsey, led the debate in plenary session 4 on “promoting the interests of small states in international institutions”.

8. I attended Kuala Lumpur in my Regional Representative role to participate in the pre-onference Executive Committee meeting. In that forum I was nominated in the election for the new Treasurer but was defeated by the other candidate, the retiring Chairman of the Association Hon. Hashim Halim Speaker of West Bengal. I was later successful in the election for a new Trustee of the Association’s two Trust Funds, replacing Lord Foulkes of the UK parliament who was standing down. During the Plenary Conference I acted as moderator for one of the workshops and, as the retiring Regional Representative, chaired the regional meeting. This was my last event acting in that capacity, which I had held for three years. Under the system of rotation used in the British Islands and Mediterranean Region and as a result of the growing number of Branches in the Region, the Isle of Man’s next opportunity to nominate a Regional Representative will be in 2024!

9. In November 2008 Mr Crookall and Mr Watterson attended a conference at Westminster on overseas aid. They reported that from the discussions it seemed the Island was working in the right direction in terms of predictability of aid, and on the few conditions we impose. On the other

hand there could be more work to do on alignment and international involvement. They have sent a paper on this to the Overseas Aid Committee.

On-Island activities

10. The Branch Commonwealth Day Dinner was held on 10th March 2008 in the Sefton Hotel. The speaker was Lord Paul of Marylebone.

11. Official guests at the 2008 Tynwald ceremony included the following Commonwealth Parliamentarians:

- Mr Francie Molloy MLA, Deputy Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly
- Mr Bruce Crawford JP MSP, Minister for Parliamentary Business in the Scottish Parliament
- Mr William Graham AM.

12. Later in July 2008 the annual sitting of Junior Tynwald took place. The list of participants, Order Paper and Question Paper from this event are attached to this report. The participants were from Year 12 (“lower sixth”) in all five of the Department of Education’s secondary schools.

13. Visits to the Legislative Buildings for younger school pupils took place throughout the year.

14. In February 2008 the Branch Executive Committee was pleased to host a lunch for Mrs Claudette Anderson-Prior, Clerk of Councils and Public Relations Officer in the legislature of the Falklands, as part of her week-long study visit to the Isle of Man.

15. Planning has begun in earnest for the annual conference of the British Islands and Mediterranean Region on 10th to 14th May 2010, which we are hosting in the Isle of Man.

Officers of the Branch

16. In October 2008 Mr Malachy Cornwell-Kelly retired as Honorary Secretary. The Executive Committee thanked him on behalf of the Branch for his service over the seven years of his appointment.

Clare Christian MLC

March 2009

JUNIOR TYNWALD 2008
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

PRESIDENT OF TYNWALD

THE HON N Q CRINGLE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Miss Charlotte JESSOPP
Miss Becca KELLY
Miss Emme KIVER
Miss Gemma RODGER
Miss Sabrina RUSTON
Miss Delta WILLIAMS

DEPUTY CLERK OF TYNWALD

Mrs C MCDONOUGH

HOUSE OF KEYS

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF KEYS

The Hon S C RODAN SHK

RAMSEY

Mr Bryan JOPSON
Mr James DUFF

AYRE

Mr Andrew OLDFIELD

MICHAEL

Mr Peter FISHER

PEEL

Miss Alison CRAINE

GARFF

Miss Marion THOMAS

GLENFABA

Miss Megan CARTHEW

MIDDLE

Mr Christopher LODGE

ONCHAN

Mr Alex GRAHAM
Miss Sophie KNOX
Mr Sandeep IYER

DOUGLAS NORTH

Mr Lorcan O'MAHONY
Miss Jade LUND

DOUGLAS SOUTH

Miss Rebecca MICHAELSON
Miss Natalie PERKIN

DOUGLAS EAST

Mr Joel WATERHOUSE
Miss Sin-Yee CHEUNG

DOUGLAS WEST

Miss Laura CORKHILL
Miss Jenna REDMAN

CASTLETOWN

Miss Imogen CLARKE-
HALEWOOD

MALEW AND SANTON

Miss Imogen BIRCHALL

RUSHEN

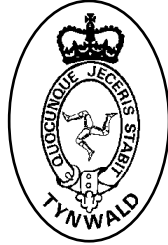
Miss Charlotte CAIN
Mr Ciaran STEPHENS
Miss Stacey ASTILL

CLERK OF TYNWALD

Mr J KING

JUNIOR TYNWALD

Tinvaal Saa



ORDER PAPER

Claare Obbyr

DOUGLAS
MONDAY 21ST JULY 2008
at 10.30 am

1. Questions

(See separate Question Paper)

2. Local Authority Elections

A Member of St Ninian's High School (Mr Lorcan O'Mahoney) to move –

That this Junior Tynwald is of the opinion that, as the April 2008 elections were not contested in two thirds of the Island's Local Authorities, Manx democracy is failing at the local government level.

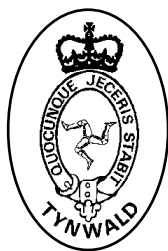
3. Driving Test Age

A Member of Ramsey Grammar School (Miss Becca Kelly) to move –

This this Junior Tynwald is of the opinion that, in the interest of safety, young people should be able to start learning to drive and to sit the Driving Theory Test at age 16 but should not be able to sit the Practical Driving Test until they have turned 17 years.

JUNIOR TYNWALD

Tinvaal Saa



QUESTION PAPER

Pabyr Feyshtyn

DOUGLAS
21st July 2008
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 Stacey Astill) to ask the Minister for Transport –

What is the Government intending to do to safeguard reliable and reasonably priced transport to and from and on the Isle of Man over the next 5 years? (CRHS)

- (2) The Hon Member for Onchan (Miss Sophie Knox) to ask the Minister for Transport –

- (a) Can the Government justify their continued reluctance to raise the age at which young people can obtain a provisional driving licence, given the number of accidents involving relatively inexperienced drivers; and
- (b) surely they should, at the very least, bring the Isle of Man into line with the UK age of 17 years to allow for an increased maturity in approaches to driving and its inherent dangers? (SNHS)

- (3) The Hon Member for Ayre (Mr Andrew Oldfield) to ask the Minister for Education –

What is the future of grants for students from the Isle of Man over the next 5 years? (RGS)

- (4) The Hon Member for Middle (Mr Christopher Lodge) to ask the Minister for Education –

Is education seen as a priority within the Isle of Man Government? (QEII)

- (5) The Hon Member for Douglas South (Miss Natalie Perkin) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security –

Would you agree that the Government needs to do more to create affordable housing for low income families? (BHS)

- (6) The Hon Member for Castletown (Miss Imogen Clarke-Halewood) to ask the Minister for Local Government and Environment –

What percentage of household waste was recycled in the Isle of Man in 2007? (CRHS)

- (7) The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Peter Fisher) to ask the Minister for Local Government and Environment –

What are the present policies regarding the coastal erosion in the West? (QEII)

- (8) The Hon Member for the Council, Miss Sabrina Ruston, to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security –

Does the Isle of Man have any proposals to introduce abortion legislation and availability on the Isle of Man? (RGS)

- (9) The Hon Member for Douglas South (Miss Rebecca Michaelson) to ask the Minister for Trade and Industry –

Would you agree that the work permit system is preventing people of talent from coming to the Island? (BHS)

- (10) The Hon Member for Malew and Santon (Miss Imogen Birchall) to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure –

Are leisure facilities for the Island's youngsters a priority for the Government? (CRHS)

(11) The Hon Member for Douglas North (Miss Jade Lund) to ask the Minister for Education –

(a) To what extent is it possible to extend the range of Higher Education opportunities on the Isle of Man; and

(b) has the Isle of Man Government explored the possibility of creating a Manx University with a wide range of courses, tailored, in some ways, to the needs of the Isle of Man? (SNHS)

(12) The Hon Member for Ramsey (Mr Bryan Jopson) to ask the Minister for Education –

Will the Isle of Man move the school leaving age to 18 in response to moves in England and Wales? (RGS)

(13) The Hon Member for the Council, Miss Emme Kiver, to ask the Chief Minister –

Which policies does the Isle of Man Government exercise in order to regulate monopolies on the Island? (QEII)

(14) The Hon Member for Douglas West (Miss Jenna Redman) to ask the Chief Minister –

Would you agree that increased immigration can only be beneficial both economically and culturally? (BHS)

**THE ISLE OF MAN BRANCH OF THE
COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 2009**

RECEIPTS	£	£	PAYMENTS	£	£
Balance b/f 1 st March 2008		6,861.20	Balances at 28 th February 2009:-		
Subscriptions Collected	306.50		Deposit Account	5,295.10	
Bank Interest	35.40	341.90	Current Account	1,908.00	
		<u>7,203.10</u>			<u>7,203.10</u>

Notes:

- 1) As at the 28th February 2009, subscriptions in arrears amounted to £13.50 and subscriptions paid in advance amounted to £86.00.

I have audited the above receipts and payments account in accordance with approved auditing standards and in my opinion, subject to the comment below, it is an accurate and true statement of the affairs of the Isle of Man Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association at 28th February 2009.



Honorary Auditor
Mr C Randall, Bsc (Econ) FCCA



Honorary Treasurer
Mr P M Shimmin CPFA

Treasury
3rd March 2009

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March 2009

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