

Kiribati and Tuvalu Association, EU (<http://www.ktaweb.org.uk/>)

Who will be KTA's new Chairman from July 2006?

Mrs Samoala Kofe Jackson has announced that she wants to step down after chairing the KTA for seven eventful years. At the AGM, she agreed to stay on until 2006 to give everyone time to look for a successor. The KTA would like to thank her for what she has done and wish her all the very best in future endeavours.

2006 Kiribati and Tuvalu Day

The Keswick AGM agreed to a proposal from the Pacific Island Society of the UK and Ireland (PISUKI) to hold the 2006 event as part of a bigger event that PISUKI is organising to celebrate its 25th anniversary. This "jamboree" will include all the Pacific Island societies and be held probably at a big scout camp near Nottingham. In the meantime, the KTA Committee is looking for its own venue as a contingency. **OFFERS TO BE THE 2006 HOST ARE INVITED URGENTLY;** if not needed for 2006, then you would get first refusal for 2007.



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Keswickian Relish



Kiribati and Tuvalu Day 2005 was marvellous. Keswick's setting and famed weather pattern of three seasons in a day added a new dimension to proceedings. Members from all over Europe started arriving at sunset on Thursday and the multitude was not complete until the early hours of Saturday. Campers pitched on the Keswick School rugby field and everyone else bed and breakfasted in the adjacent town, which was full of Christians and mountaineer look-alikes.

The dance rehearsal on Friday afternoon was choreographed by Ioanna Tentau (the visiting dance coach) and Rote Walsh. Outside the hall, the KTA youth lit the BBQ for the Friday night set. The aroma of the assorted viands supplied by a local butchery made everyone's mouth water, and it didn't take long to polish off the lot.

As the evening went on, the action moved to host Anna Gee's back garden, where the pig was to be ground-oven baked and the school's well equipped kitchen, where the KTA chefs

A Saturday Sizzler

Formality was injected into the revelry by the AGM, although even it proved lively and overran (!). The Mayor and Mayoress of Keswick and visiting dignitaries waited patiently, admiring the handicrafts and photos.

Then, the Champagne corks popped and the bar opened, especially for those who did all the talking at the AGM. Ioanna cut the cake and the celebrations took off. Short work was made of the first batch of food, comprising a mix of island and English dishes, exquisitely laid out, but the pig had gone missing. Had it risen from the earth oven? Or gone along to the market? Or been chased away by the big bad wolf? No, nothing so romantic, it was stuck in the 18/7 traffic jam.

In came more food, and the pig. There was a scary moment about whether it was cooked, but that was a false alarm, and, in fact, the whole thing was evenly done and very succulent.

Then came the dancing. Magnificent! The best ever said those who'd been to the past dozen renewals. The stage was full, with virtually everyone there, fully attired in the modern way, all afternoon,



chopped, kneaded, peeled, scaled, cut, skinned, sliced, mixed, stirred, dishwashed and, of course, sang, talked and laughed. Many hands made light but very noisy work. Such a delightful bunch!

Saturday had arrived. Expectations were high! The weather forecast was not promising but the appetising thought of the pig in the earth oven compensated for that. The main school hall was transformed into a 5 star function room within an hour. The pleasant aroma of the fried breadfruit coming from the kitchen was hard to ignore and resist. Did any of it reach the dining table by the way? It was exhilarating seeing members young and more senior looking and friends arriving, a few in island costumes (let's hope we get enough next year to run a best-dressed competition), which definitely upped the mood and transformed the atmosphere from the grey and damp of the mountainside to a bright and sunny one at the school.

Well done dancers and musicians.

Then, the raffle caught everyone's imagination and raised a lot of funds. And just when everyone was thinking they could give their stomachs a rest, assorted Cumbria tea breads and cakes from the local bakery, and cream teas and deserts from posher climes were served for afternoon tea, although there wasn't actually much tea drunk. Wasn't it nice to try some of the local produce and specialities, not forgetting the Crag Rat?

And so, another amazing gathering was well on the way to finishing, although fun, laughter, high jinks, fisticuffs and acts of contrition were still ahead. There was the usual lull as everyone found a quiet corner or a mountaintop and recharged their batteries. Then the hall was alive again with the sound of disco music. Some people slept, others partied until sunrise. The clearing was performed. The packing was packed. Everyone returned whence they had come. See you next year, eh?



Kam bati n rabwa

Fafetai lasi

Thank you very much

Merci beaucoup

Danke schön

Diolch yn fawr

Go raibh maith agaibh



Chairperson's Report 2005

Kam na mauri! Talofa lava!

Thank you everyone for participating in the successful Annual Celebration in Keswick Cumbria in July this year. In many other ways too, the Kiribati and Tuvalu Association has had a good and productive year. Membership has grown considerably. Our dance group have had more practices and other activities than usual (see the dance organiser's report by Nei Rotee Walsh). The website is well supported, with photos and news of KTA, PISUKI and Tuvalu Independence events.

I hope you have had as much enjoyment as I have in reflecting on our weekend in Keswick. On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank the following

- Keswick School, the headmaster, caretakers and governing body for letting us use the Queen's Hall as well as the School field for camping.
- The Mayor and Mayoress of Keswick, Mr and Mrs. Weightman, for taking time off their busy schedule to attend our gathering.
- Our host, Mrs. Anna Gee, and Mr. Ken Price for running around to gather information and ensure that our weekend in Keswick was one to remember.
- The Keswick Town Council for the donation of £250 to help with the expenses of the weekend celebration. The KTA very much appreciate your generosity.
- The PISUKI's Chairman, Mr. Michael Walsh, who helped me with the toast to our two nations, Kiribati and Tuvalu.
- Our dance teacher, Nei Ioanna, who cut the cake for us in such a memorable way. Instead of a small speech, Nei Ioanna did it with some symbolic dance movements,

which everyone loved. Actions speak louder than words - as dancers well know.

- Miss Natalie Minnis for stepping in at the AGM to take the minutes.

Kam bati n rabwa - Fafetai lasi!

For anyone who wasn't able to make it to Keswick, "You don't know what you missed!" Next year, it could be even better!

On the dancing front, we are greatly indebted to our Dance Organiser, Nei Rotee Walsh, and Nei Ioanna, our visiting dance teacher; and the dance team for keeping the group going strong. To our young dancers and children especially, "You are our most valuable ambassadors for our two peoples and we are very proud of you. Many thanks".

The parents and supporters did a lot of driving around England and Wales to bring everyone to wherever our dancing practices and performances were held, and mostly were sleeping rough (or getting no sleep at all!). Well done. I think you deserve medals.

The committee has been doing its bit all year too, to run the association. Patrick Lawrence has been very good at being treasurer, making sure that the KTA accounts are healthy. Well done too to Nei Hegnes Dixon, our Newsletter and Web Editor, and Mr Jeremy Cooper our KTA Web Master. I hope as many of you as possible visit the site regularly, and if you have news and stories to contribute, please get in touch with Hegnes. A lot more people than only members visit the site, and they come from all over, including Kiribati and Tuvalu, so it's a good way of contacting people. Our Secretary Mr. Simon Seligman has been doing his best too, and it's nice to know that he is there when needed.

Samoala Kofe Jackson

Visiting your website is a piece of cake

You'll find it at

www.ktaweb.org.uk

As on 5 November, it features photos and reports from Keswick, the Motufoua Centenary and Tuvalu Independence celebrations in Alton, and the PISUKI South Seas Islands Night in Kew. If you are reading this newsletter in black and white, visit the website for the full colour version.

Anyone with photos, stories and news for the website (or the 2006 newsletter) is invited to send them to the editor, Hegnes Dixon at K.Dixon@open.ac.uk or 94 Frithwood Crescent, Kents Hill, Milton Keynes MK7 6HU, ENGLAND.

Money, Money, Money

The following statement purports to show where the Kiribati and Tuvalu Association has obtained money from between June 2004 and May 2005, and to describe the activities and items that that money has been used on.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MAY 2005

		Opening Balance 1/06/04	£3,445.61
INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Subscriptions	£1,336.01	KTA Website	£165.01
Donations	£256.50	Committee Meetings	£330.30
		Newsletter + Admin	£245.90
		Keswick visit for 2005 GT	£143.60
		VIP Reception + Gift	£273.18
2004 Get-Together		2004 Get-Together	
Ticket Sales	£2,020.00	Food + Drink net	£1,797.08
Camping Fees	£110.00	Venue Hire + Insurance	£735.11
Bar Profit	£193.20	T Shirts + Mugs	£500.00
GT Raffle proceeds	£139.20		
T Shirts + Mug sales	£152.00		
	<u>£4,206.91</u>		<u>£4,190.18</u>
		Excess of income over expenditure	£16.73
		Closing Balance 31/05/05	£3,462.34
Patrick Lawrence		Bank Reconciliation	
Treasurer 20-Jun-05		Unpresented cheque	£30.50
		Balance at Bank 31/05/05	£3,492.84

I have examined these accounts and supporting documentation and am satisfied that they provide a fair and true summary of the transactions on the Kiribati and Tuvalu Number 2 Account for the period 1 June 2004 to 31 May 2005.

Peter Illsley 16-Jul-05
Auditor

Postscript

The financial outcome of the Keswick event looks like being receipts during 2005-06 of £3,000 and expenditures of £2,800. When mugs and tea shirts, and the visit to Keswick in 2004-05 (see above accounts) are taken into consideration, the event has probably broken even, as planned, which seems to have pleased at least one person.

In Plain English

On 1 June 2004, the KTA had £3,500 arising from past surpluses and many members having paid fees for 2004-05 and later before 1 June.

Between 1 June 2004 and 31 May 2005, the Association received £1,600 in donations and subscriptions, some for previous years but most for 2004-05 or later.

The committee met a few times, it maintained a web site and distributed Te Buu. A reception was held for the vice president of Kiribati and some administration costs were incurred. All these amounted to almost £900.

The main event was the get-together in Great Dunmow in July. It cost £3,000 and £2,600 of revenue was collected. Purchases not used were transferred to the 2005 event at Keswick. Starting to organise this cost £140.

On 31 May 2005, the KTA still had almost £3,500, some of it being members subscriptions paid in advance for 2005-06 and future years.



Dance Coach adds a Tarawan angle

In 2004, unainen te KTA dancers and supporters felt that to keep the group motivated after Mrs Avira Harding, Mrs Rake Hardy and Mrs Suliana Barber had had their turn at coaching, someone different was needed, and where better to look than back at the grassroots. So, after Mrs Ioanna Tentau (nee Tebanimarawa) had caught the attention of some of the KTA dancers while performing on Mereniem Island (formerly Karorain Island) during the first sunrise broadcast by the BBC, she was contacted and persuaded to visit us.

It turned out that, besides her dance coaching activities on Tarawa, where she deals mainly with Primary School children of 10 and over, Ioanna was an assistant chef at the Kiribati Teachers College in Bikenibeu. Anyway, she agreed to come to Europe and was here from March until August, when the Te Buu Editor asked her in I-Kiribati about herself at Teuea and Brucetta's house at Brompton in London, a week or two before she returned to Tarawa.

When did you start learning to dance?

I started dancing as early as I can remember (c. 1965) but mastered it when I was ten. I regarded dancing as a hobby beside sewing, tibatua and crochet. I joined my father's famous troupe then in Kiribati called Tekeang Ni Marawa, which is derived from the names of my mother, Keang, and my father, Tebanimarawa. Besides performing back home, I travelled to other places with our dance group representing Kiribati and was 14 when I performed in New Zealand at the South Pacific Festival of Art. That was not only a huge success for the group but also a great experience for me too. I had never performed in front of such a huge crowd before. After that, there was no stopping me when it came to dancing. I went to Fiji, Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia and the Marshall Islands, either performing or as a mentor. The last big adventure before this one was a global one, when I appeared on international television during the Millennium sunrise on Mereniem Island.

Were you optimistic or pessimistic when you said that your last important dance was during the Millennium?

Never in my wildest dreams did I believe at my age that I would come to Britain in the name of dancing. I just couldn't turn down this once in a lifetime opportunity. Only I-Kiribati post-graduates, parliamentarians and those in the government and NGOs come to big rich countries in Europe, not people like me as Kiribati dancers. I am very grateful to my husband for supporting and encouraging me to come, although I also feel guilty for having left him to look after our five children and two grandchildren for these past few months. One problem was my job at KTC, which I've done for six years. I've now been informed that I've taken too much leave and that they've replaced me, so I'll have to find another job when I get home. I hope the KTA will support my applications with good references.

What was your first impression of England?

Bad, I'm afraid. This was my first time to travel on my own. Arriving at Heathrow was a nightmare, because I lack English. I didn't know which queue to join, where my baggage had gone or how to get out of the arrivals section. The signs are meaningless to someone who can't read English and when I tried asking for help, nobody could understand Kiribati. I had

to follow my instincts. There were many people rushing about for god knows what and to follow suit I accidentally broke one of my only shoes on the escalator. Trusting and sticking to my instinct of following the crowd finally led me to the doors of the outside world, or, as they call them here, the exit! I was overwhelmed by mixed emotions of relief, missing my family and the unknown, and so I just burst into tears. I was scared but learnt a fantastic amount through the struggle of circling Terminal 3 three times in more than two hours barefooted with my luggage dragged behind. I was resilient, and so now, having learnt so much about airports, I am confident about going back in two weeks time. I expect it will be a lot easier, exciting and relaxing.

How were you treated by the dancers and their families?

When I arrived, it was agreed I would lodge with each family for 4-5 days teaching their dancer(s) all day. I was a bit apprehensive but also excited. I guess it was the fear of the unknown, but this usually melted away during the first hour of arrival at each home. Every home greeted me with open arms, as if I was a long lost relative returning home. The hospitality, generosity and friendliness I experienced were immense; and the Kiribati words of Kam bati n rabwa are inadequate to say how I feel.

Each family had their own special treat for me, mainly fun outings both outdoor and indoor. We went to many places. Things that stick most in my memory are the ding-dong sound of Big Ben of London, the dazzling lights of the night traffic and arcades, being at the top of the London Eye and seeing for miles and miles, and driving frighteningly among the big cats and other wild animals at the Woburn Safari Park. I was bewildered by the variety of foods in supermarkets and shocked when I saw the price of fresh tuna and coconuts.

There were embarrassing moments too, of course, and the one that I shall remember for a long time was when I went to a public swimming pool for the first time. I was given a bikini to wear by the family that took me and I thought they were only joking. But realising how serious they were, I began to protest. I asked, "Why can't I just wrap a lava-lava around me like we do in the Tarawa lagoon?" Anyway, the family convinced me that I had no choice. So, I said a quick prayer of forgiveness for what I was about to wear, which I thought was indecent, and in a flash slipped it on and hastily jumped in the water to hide. At first, I was relieved once I was in but then began to think how I was going to get out. Amazingly, nobody in the pool seemed to notice me let alone care about my clothes, so I began wondering what all the fuss I made was about.

Any remarks on your first rehearsal?

The first big rehearsal was nerve racking because the young dancers could not understand I-Kiribati. It was too early for me to show signs of frustration, and so I proceeded with the help of interpreters among the mothers. I cannot believe that your children do not understand I-Kiribati. Nevertheless, I am glad that during the dance rehearsals, the young dancers have picked up quite a lot of I-Kiribati words, and in return, I learnt many English words, which I hope will help me during my journey back home. I urge you parents to use I-Kiribati language to your children in the homes.

(continued top of next page)



Keswick Dancing Goal Achieved

(continuing interview with dance coach)

What do you think of the KTA get together at Keswick?

Keswick is a fantastic small town with its own striking scenery and I was very lucky to have been and seen it. The dancers were super troupers and I am very grateful to them for their dedication and obedience. I thank the KTA for accepting me to teach their dancers and with commitment, dedication and compliance; we have achieved what we aimed for. My only wish is for the young and new dancers to learn I-Kiribati and to carry on dancing. Never give it up because it is an important part of the culture and wherever you are, at school, work place or another country, you can always be proud and privileged that not only are you able to speak the language but you can transform that language into music and choreograph it.

What have you missed a lot beside your family of course?

The warm weather, the blazing sun, the sea and the lagoon breeze. I missed my \$2 big whole tuna with ripe soft breadfruit. They will be the first foods on the menu when I arrive home.

Do you think you might come back here or visit another country?

Definitely, if the KTA can afford it; and yes if other Kiribati groups from other countries invite me. I'm sorry I wasn't able to go with the dancers who went to Germany but never mind. Who knows perhaps next time? If dancing can take me to places, then it is an opportunity very hard to pass by.



International Event staged by PISUKI at London-Welsh RFC Tuvalu Community

A truly international gathering successfully celebrated the Centenary of Motufoua Secondary School and the 27th Anniversary of Tuvalu's Independence at the Alton House Hotel in Hampshire on 1st October 2005. The 200 participants included the Tuvalu Ambassador to the UN, The Right Honourable Sir Enele Sopoaga OBE and his wife Lady Sailo and family, who were among a group who made the trip across the Atlantic. Several I-Kiribati families joined the Tuvaluans. A particular cause for excitement was the performance of the dancing group from New York alongside the one from the Tuvalu community in Britain. This was the first time for such an event in Britain and ideas for a repeat are already taking shape.



Te Batere by KTA members was a highlight of another South Seas Island Night in October. The event was organised by PISUKI in Richmond, Surrey and drew about 150 people from most islands of the Pacific. Among the guests were the high commissioners of Fiji and Papua New Guinea and their partners; and from Germany a Polynesian dance jamboree organiser.

The KTA shared the stage with other performers notably from West Papua (see <http://www.westpapua.net/>). Other items on the programme were addresses by the chair of PISUKI, Mike Walsh and other PISUKI officials and guests; food and drink were supplied through the Welsh club, who made us most welcome; and a giant raffle, for which there were enough prizes that almost half those attending won something.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary's Job is very challenging. This year was a very good year for all, including visits from VP of Kiribati, and visiting MPS of the Maneaba ni Maungatabu (NAMES PLEASE HEGNES).

We were fortunately able to find some very convenient

accommodation for our committee meetings, centrally placed in Victoria at 77, Buckingham Palace Road, which we hope to make more use of in future. Use was also made of the Warwick Castle, located in Little Venice. I have been

prevailed upon to make use of a minute book, about which I had surprisingly never thought of.

Everyone on the Committee has been in fine fettle, but we were sad in midsummer to lose the pleasure of Erin Orme's company.

I'm sorry I was unable to attend the AGM in Keswick' I ended up Glastonbury instead, where I was reading poetry, a friend was playing, as well as supporting a friend who is a musician.



In Plain English

On 1 June 2004, the dance group had almost £3,400, arising from surpluses and remains of a Lottery grant.

Between 1 June 2004 and 31 May 2005, the group raised over £750 from performing and other means. It spent the remaining Lottery grant on performances and practices, and £1,400 on bringing the dance coach from Kiribati.

The activities generated in spending this £3,100+ culminated in an elaborate and very successful performance at the KTA's main event of 2005 in Keswick.

On 31 May 2005, just over £1,000 remained in the dance group account.

Do you have any ideas that the KTA can turn into a Lottery grant application?



Dancing with Money

The following statement purports to show whence the dancing group of the Kiribati and Tuvalu Association obtained money between June 2004 and May 2005, and to describe the activities and items that that money has been used on.

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MAY 2005

		Balance 01/06/04	£3,378.57
INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Auction Proceeds	£268.80	Dance Practices:	
Sound System Hire	£130.00	Venues, subsistence, etc	£1,505.50
British Museum Display	£150.00	Dunmow Carnival	£161.57
Donations	£30.00	Visit of Kiribati Dance Instructor	£1,447.73
Dunmow Carnival	£177.84	Other expenses	£10.00
Total Income:	<u>£756.64</u>	Total expenditure:	<u>£3,124.80</u>
		Excess of Exp. Over Inc.	£2,368.16
		Balance 31/05/05	£1,010.41
		Bank Reconciliation	
		Unpresented cheque	£37.50
		Balance at Bank 31/05/05	£1,047.91

Patrick Lawrence
Treasurer 20-Jun-05

I have examined these accounts and supporting documentation and am satisfied that they provide a fair and true summary of the transactions on the Kiribati and Tuvalu Dance Account for the period 1 June 2004 to 31 May 2005.

Peter Illsley, Auditor 16-Jul-05

Lottery Grant Ideas Please

The Lottery Board recently announced that it isn't receiving enough applications for projects. Having managed, only just, to spend our first grant, perhaps it is the right time to make further grant applications. Lessons learnt from the first grant seem to be:

- Make a separate application for each idea, and so make more than one application if necessary
- Before submitting each application, develop the idea far enough into a project so that the specific activity to be funded is very clearly defined in terms of
 - when it will take place and where
 - who will be involved (including who will monitor and control the activity)
 - how the activity is expected to pan out and what it will achieve
- how much money will be spent and on what kinds of items.
- For each successful application, have the treasurer keep a separate record in the accounts and charge the KTA Committee with ensuring that the grant is spent within the clear specification and on time

So, do you have an idea for an application? The Committee will be pleased to hear from you with outline details. Send them to skofe@tiscali.co.uk or elijahtheartist@yahoo.co.uk.

Note that the money usually has to be spent in the UK on things that benefit communities in the UK, so the Board probably won't approve hiring a 747 to take us all to Nikunau.

Dance Organiser's Report (continued from back page)

Visit by the Dance Coach

The KTA Committee agreed to use some of the funds from the Lottery to bring a dance coach from Kiribati. Nei Ioanna was recruited and arrived in March 2005. The trip to the UK was an adventure for her, as she had never left Kiribati before and spoke no English. Being delayed for 24 hours in Dubai added much trauma, not to mention negotiating Heathrow.

After recuperating for a few days, Ioanna started teaching new dances both to the children, and to the older generation, with her unique combination of determination and patience. She held a teaching session for English schoolchildren (with Kabure and Liz) in Wimbledon in June, the day before we all performed there. She also choreographed and taught us new dances for this year's celebrations in Keswick.

The July celebration was arguably the best performance ever to take place in the UK. Some even said that the performance rivalled those in Kiribati – many even said that the girls, boys and women were better than those back in Kiribati. Thank you to everyone who took part in such a successful day – it was marvellous and there was an overwhelming sense of pride in the hall as the show proceeded.

Future Events

We are discussing with the Minor Canon of Westminster Abbey and the Royal Commonwealth Society a dance performance at the Commonwealth Observance Day next March.

A major festival of contemporary New Zealand and Islander arts, PASIFIKA 06, is planned for June next year in Cambridge, and we have

been approached to participate in this.

Dance Assistant

I am delighted that Kabure Blake and Timake Day have been appointed by the KTA Dancers as dance assistants. I look forward to working with them during dance practices.

Thanks to you all

Thank you for attending practices and events, and provided hospitality at them.

Thank you to everyone who could come to Milton Keynes to say goodbye to Ioanna in August. We were able to thank her on behalf of everyone involved in the KTA for giving us so much of her time and knowledge. She is now back home, and happy to be back with her family again, relating to them with many of her new memories from her time in England.

Rotee Walsh



Will KTA get to perform at Westminster Abbey during the Commonwealth Observance?

Start praying now, please.

Annual General Meeting

In addition to the various reports from office holders (most of which have been revised for inclusion in this edition of Te Buu, the main items of business were

- An appeal for less acrimony and greater unity among members from be they from Kiribati, Tuvalu, the Solomons, Britain and Ireland.
- A proposal to increase the size of the committee to include a dancer and a deputy chair. The proposal has to go to the

2006 AGM, but in the meantime, it was agreed for two people to be co-opted to the committee but without voting rights.

- A proposal from the chair of PISUKI to hold a joint event near Nottingham with other Pacific Island groups in place of the usual July Kiribati and Tuvalu Day.

The minutes are available to all financial members from skofe@tiscali.co.uk or K.Dixon@open.ac.uk.



Kam bati n rabwa - Fafetai lasi!

Thanks to everyone for all the contributions, large and small, in cash and in kind, made that have made the year interesting and, on the whole, successful. That applies to the Keswick get together especially, whether it was in the run up to the event or on the day itself, in the kitchen, bar

and raffle counter, around the hall, in the foyer, on the campsite, running around the town and county, etc. Particular thanks to Anna Gee our host in Keswick, who also donated the pig and cooked it in her backyard, and accommodated some early birds on the Thursday.



Kiribati and Tuvalu Association

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.ktaweb.org.uk/>

Te Batere during 2004 and 2005

Events during the year

Since the last Annual General Meeting, the KTA Dancers have performed at the following places and events.

Holy Cross School, Wimbledon, London (June 2005): this is the school where Mary Burentarawa teaches. Each class decided to 'adopt' a country and perform its dances. After a previous day of practice with

Ioanna, one of the schoolchildren carried the Kiribati flag, which were so proud of, and afterwards they performed as Kiribati.

Afterward, the KTA Dancers opened a concert for over 500 parents and friends of the school!

Riverside Nursery School, Putney, London (July 2005): the Nursery (at which Agnes is a supervisor) held a Sports

and Fun Day with a South Sea Island theme.

We have also had many rehearsals, near Bridgwater, Fareham, Alton, Milton Keynes, Abergavenny and elsewhere.

PISUKI (October 2005)

See separate item on p. 5.

(Continues on inside page)

About Our Organization

We are a large and diverse association of people based in the British Isles and Continental Europe. We all have family, social, cultural and/or (past) employment links to the Republic of Kiribati and the Dominion of Tuvalu. These island countries in the central Pacific Ocean have been known as the Kingsmill Group, the Gilbert Group, the Ellice Group, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate of Great Britain and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

The Association was set up in

April 1994 by several families of mixed marriage between former colonial staff and aid workers from Britain and I-Kiribati and Tuvaluans. Their aim was to bring together other similar families and other I-Matang or Palagi who had lived and worked in or have other links to Kiribati and Tuvalu, and to support I-Kiribati and Tuvaluan visitors while they are in Europe.

The Association is a non-profit organisation and its main activities are social and cultural. It stages an annual get-together for all members

and friends in July, a small part of which is given over to an annual meeting of members. This annual meeting appoints unpaid officials who form the general committee and holds these officials accountable through a reporting process. The Association and its Committee relies on this annual newsletter, published in November, to communicate with members, along with the website it established in 2003.

The Committee welcomes any proposals from all members for the betterment of the Association.

Fraternisation Opportunities

Pacific Festival 2006: 15th to 18th of June 2006 in Kibæk, Denmark
Polynesian Dances, Workshops, contests and great Rock'a'Hula - Party with Waikiki & the Kon Tiki Dancers from Norway

INVITATION – The German Pacific Society / Deutsch Pazifische Gesellschaft invites all Pacific Islanders of Europe to join us at the Pacific Festival 2006. Come to Denmark for this 6th meeting of Pacific Islanders. Details about the programme and how to reach the place will be found on the Internet soon. All nations are welcome, no matter where you come from, Micronesia, Melanesia or Polynesia. The local organiser is the Samoan Group of Denmark under Jerry T. Sila. Access should be easy for friends in different European countries because of the nearby West Denmark Airport, Billund. A provisional program will be available at the end of October. There will be contests for children and different offers in sports. From Thursday to Saturday, there will be dance workshops by different teachers in different Polynesian dance styles.

Jerry T. Sila - Committee for European Pacific Events (Pacific Festival)

Internet: www.pacificinfo.de

Hula Festival in Zeulenroda 7th to 9th of July 2006 (for details, see www.hulafestival.de)