



2010 in retrospect

Our Chairman Nei Beta has been away in New Zealand and Kiribati for much of the year, so, as most of you will be aware, I was asked by the Committee to act as Chairman.

It has been a mixed year: on the positive side the Dance group have been active, and, as reported elsewhere, we had one of the best attended Independence Celebrations for many years, organised by Simon and Kaitibo Batterham (who I take this opportunity to thank once again).

On the less positive side, as many of you will also be aware, the former Chairman and a few other people left during the year to form a rival group; so the role of the KTA as a family club where, as Nei Beta put it in last year's Te Buu 'members will take care of each other with respect' is not as universal as in the past.

Sad though it is, we in the UK are not alone in having a split – the same has happened in the I Kiribati communities in Australia, NZ and the US – and we have formally reaffirmed through an AGM resolution that members of the new group are welcome to join us at any KTA event and to belong to the Association as well (indeed, several have already come to KTA events).

The AGM also formally approved our updated Constitution (my thanks to the members who contributed to this through the sub-Group set up at Carmarthen in 2009). It is worth setting out the new formulation of the Association's aims.

They are to:

- Bring people of I Kiribati origin and their families into contact with each other through social gatherings and Dance Practices;
- Teach the younger generation about the culture and traditions of Kiribati through dialogue and dance;
- Welcome visitors from Kiribati and ensure that they take happy memories home with them of the Kiribati community in the UK;
- Encourage those from other countries who have worked in or visited Kiribati to continue to enjoy those experiences through membership and support of the Association;
- Promote an increased knowledge of Kiribati in the United Kingdom through displays of traditional I Kiribati dancing and by exhibition of I Kiribati artefacts.

Nei Beta will be back in the Spring of next year, and will resume her Chairmanship.

In the meantime, may I as Acting Chairman wish you all the best for Christmas and the New Year. I look forward to seeing you all at KTA events, including the planned New Year's party which will be held in Bristol. Details are on the website <http://www.ktaweb.org.uk/>.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Robee', written in a cursive style.

2011 Get-Together

Next Year's Independence Day Get-Together will be in Canterbury, Kent, on July 29th to 31st. The Lawrence family will be the hosts for 2011.. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

Subscription reminder

The Kiribati Tungaru Association membership fee of £10.00 falls due on 1st January.

Members who pay through their bank with a Standing Order are asked to check the sum paid (subscriptions were increased in 2006, but not all Standing Orders have yet been updated!).

Members who make payment by cheque to the KTA Treasurer are asked to make the sum payable to The Kiribati Tungaru Association; kindly remember to include any outstanding past years' subscriptions.

Anyone wishing to arrange future payments of their KTA Subscription via their bank can download a Standing Order mandate from the KTA website (www.ktaweb.org.uk) or request a form from the KTA Treasurer, 62 Radnor Park Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5AY (telephone 0130 325 6015).

Get-Together 2010

More than 220 members and friends of the KTA gathered at the Lavender House Hotel, Ashburton, Devon, on the edge of Dartmoor National Park. By Thursday the field in the nearby campsite which had been especially reserved for KTA members was already beginning to fill up with people!

This year's hosts, Kaitibo and Simon Batterham set up a field kitchen at the camp for the preparation of the traditional Get-Together lunchtime feast.

The Get-Together formally began on the Saturday morning, with the Annual General Meeting.

KTA Secretary Paul Chilton reported on the activities of the Executive Committee during the past year; owing to the demands of his growing family he was unable to continue as KTA Secretary and would, with great regret, be standing down after this meeting.

Dance Organiser Mrs Rotee Walsh then reported on the activities of the Dance Group (see page 5).

Treasurer Patrick Lawrence then referred members to the audited Annual Accounts and Dance Fund (pages 4 and 6). The accounts were adopted after discussion.

The Secretary then proposed the adoption of the revised Constitution, which was agreed unanimously.

Two vacant Committee posts were filled: Terema Wainwright for the post of KTA Secretary, and Kaitibo Batterham as Dance Coordinator.

Philomena Lawrence asked to host the next Annual Get-Together in Canterbury, Kent. This was agreed and the date was set for the last weekend of July.

Food had been set up and Father Iona Tatau said grace. The hotel reported that a total of 230 dinner plates were used at the luncheon!



Soon after lunch the KTA Dancers started to prepare for their performance which, due to the fine weather, was staged outside on a raised area of ground alongside the lawns. The place buzzed with excitement, not least when the little ones, all eager, performed!



The Deputy Mayor of Ashburton, Councillor Donald Distin, cut the Independence Cake at tea time, followed by the Raffle, very efficiently organised by Paul Chilton.

With the afternoon programme almost at an end it was not long before some members started saying their farewells in preparation for their journeys' home. Early evening saw those members who were spending the weekend under canvas return to the

Campsite to prepare for the evening meal and many people could be seen playing host to relatives and friends; the entertaining went on into the early hours!



On Sunday morning, Mass was celebrated in the campsite by Father Iona Tatau, assisted by catechist Areru Bobai. Giving thanks to the Lord for a marvellous gathering was perhaps the most appropriate way for us to end the weekend. Everyone left for home with happy memories of a very enjoyable reunion!



For a more detailed account of the day (by Patrick Lawrence), with many more photographs, visit the KTA website.



THE KIRIBATI TUNGARU ASSOCIATION NO2 ACCOUNT - GENERAL FUNDS

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MAY, 2010

INCOME		Opening Balance 01/06/2009	£8,043.67
		EXPENDITURE	
Subscriptions	£1,139.00	Committee Meetings	£563.30
Donations	£80.00	Newsletter & Admin.	£362.28
Interest on Savings	£2.09	KTA Website	£144.00
2009 Get-Together		2009 Get-Together	
Ticket Sales	£1,225.00	Food,wine,bar stock + hog roast	£1,340.00
Camping Fees	£205.00	Venue, campsite + insurance	£853.25
Raffle, Bar + Sales	£553.70	GT Banner, T-shirts, etc for sale	£319.73
Refund of GT Float	£227.52		
2010 Get-Together		2010 Get-Together	
Ticket Sales	£360.00	Lavender Hse Htl + campsite deps	£190.00
		Hire of Catering Equipment deposit	£173.96
		GT Invites + postage	£53.18
Total Income:	£3,792.31	Total Expenditure:	£3,999.70
		Excess of Expenditure over Income	-£207.39
		Closing Balance 31/05/2010	£7,836.28
		Bank Reconciliation	
		less monies yet to be deposited	-£20.00
		Balance at Lloyds TSB Bank 31/05/2010:	£7,816.28
Patrick Lawrence		Lloyds TSB Interest Earning Acct	£5,100.16
KTA Treasurer, 1st June, 2010		Lloyds TSB KTA No2 Current Acct	£2,716.12

I have examined these accounts and supporting documents and am satisfied that they provide a fair and true summary of the transactions on the Kiribati Tungaru General Funds No2 account for the year 01 June 2009 to 31 May 2010.

Peter Illsley

Honorary Auditor, 14th July, 2010

The Association's finances

The accounts for the year are shown opposite.

At the start of the financial year (1st June 2009) KTA funds stood at just over £8,000 which had been saved from surpluses of previous years and membership fees paid in advance. During the year the Association received £1,139 in subscriptions and £80 in donations, plus a few pounds earned in interest on savings.

The KTA Committee held five meetings during the year which cost £563 and spent £ 362 on the production and distribution of the annual newsletter and other administrative matters. Management and maintenance of the website cost £144. The main event of the year was of course the Get-Together which took place in Carmarthen, at a cost of approximately £2,270. Ticket sales and Camping fees raised £1,430 whilst a Raffle, Bar and other sales raised a further £760. (The overall event thus resulted in a small loss).

The accounts also include £417 costs connected with preparations for the 2010 Get-Together - the circulation of invitations to members and deposits placed on the GT venue and campsite. Additionally the year's income includes £360 of ticket sales for the 2010 GT.

On 31st May, 2010 the KTA thus had a little over £7,836 in the General Fund.

Kiribati and climate change

Beretitenti Anote Tong has continued his campaign for the world bodies to accelerate their efforts.

The Tarawa Climate Change Conference this November resulted in *The Ambo Declaration*, which calls for more and immediate action to be undertaken to address the causes and adverse impacts of climate change.

The Declaration is a non-legally-binding agreement between the nations to present at the larger international climate change summit, in Cancun; as well as Australia and NZ it was signed by China and Brazil and many vulnerable states.

Sadly the UK and US Governments – although present at the Climate Change conference as Observers – would not sign it.

Visitors from Kiribati

After last year's Te Buu had gone to press, the former Beretitenti Teburoro Tito and Nei Keina were briefly in the UK.



We then saw the Minister for Education Toakai Koririntetake and party briefly in London, in January; and the MP for Maiana, Teiwaki Arieta, and his wife, here in March for the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association conference.

The Association was delighted to welcome, in July, Willie and Ann Toketaake, Jacob and Lavinia Teem, and Alexander Teabo, who were also here for a Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference on Climate Change.

Our first Beretitenti, Sir Ieremia Tabai (he gained his Knighthood just before Independence) is part of a

Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group which is trying to make the Commonwealth more relevant. He will be here in January; we hope to catch him then.

We also had a number of guests from I Kiribati in Europe, at the Cornwall festival and at the Get-Together. They included Father Iona Tatau, and catechist Areru Bobai, and others from Switzerland and Germany.

The Dancers

It has been good to see a number of new (or rejoined) dancers, so that we now have a bigger pool of them than for many years.

We have had at least six practices over the year.

The Dancers performed at:

- The 60th Birthday celebrations of Carl Wright, of the Commonwealth Secretariat
- The Waddington Air Show in Lincolnshire
- The Independence Day celebrations
- The pan-European Melanesian, Micronesian and Polynesian Celebrations, this year held in Cornwall
- The Commonwealth Countries League Commonwealth Fair in November. Visit *Best Dance & Music at The Commonwealth Fair 2010 London* on YouTube for a film of this performance, as shown on Pakistani television!

The Dance Fund accounts are shown overleaf, and there are photographs of the Waddington and Commonwealth Fair performances on page 7.

THE KIRIBATI TUNGARU ASSOCIATION

THE DANCE FUND

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MAY, 2010

		Opening balance 01/06/2009	£1,726.20
INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Donation from Unite Union, Chesham	£1,000.00	Dance Practices Chesham + Postbridge	£550.00
Refund Coach hire - West.Abb.- RCS	£345.00	Waddington Air Show:	
Waddington Air Show donations + coll.	£819.49	Hire of Mini-bu Hire of Mini-bus and fuel	£403.08
Music Centre Hire + Video sales Mrs RW	£55.00	Other travel expenses of Dancers	£107.14
Marlborough House Dance Display	£126.00	Carl Wright Display - Dancers travel	£241.15
Raffles at DP Chesham + Postbridge	£46.00		
Donation - Carl Wright Dance Display	£350.00		
KTA Committee Meeting Chesham	£50.00		
Total Income:	£2,791.49	Total Expenditure:	£1,301.37
		Excess of Income over Expenditure:	£1,490.12
		Closing Balance 31/05/2010:	£3,216.32
		Bank Reconciliation:	
		Plus unpresented cheques:	£287.15
		LloydsTSB Dance Fund Acct 31/05/2010:	£3,503.47

Patrick Lawrence
KTA Treasurer 1st June, 2010

I have examined these accounts and supporting documents and am satisfied that they provide a fair and true summary of the transactions on the Kiribati Tungaru Association Dance Fund account for the year 1 June 2009 to 31 May 2010.

Peter Illsley,
Honorary Auditor, 14th July, 2010

On 1st June 2009 there was £1,726 in the Dance Fund, which represented a surplus from previous years.

During the period of these accounts (1st June 2009 to 31st May 2010) the Dance Fund received donations totalling £1169 resulting from dance performances, and £1000 from the Unite Union towards a trip planned to the Commonwealth meeting in

Trinidad (that did not in the event materialise).

The cost of coach hire for dancers attending the Commonwealth Day Celebration at Westminster Abbey funded during the previous year's accounts was reimbursed by the Royal Commonwealth Society (£345). Hire of Dance Group equipment and fund raising at Dance Practices raised a further £101 and the KTA Committee

contributed £50 towards a shared venue. Of expenditures, £126 was paid towards travel costs of dancers who performed at a display given at Marlborough House; £550 was spent on the hire of venues for Dance Practices; and £751 for other travel costs of dancers including the hire of, and fuel for, a mini-bus.

On 31st May 2010 the Dance Fund thus stood at £3,216.32.



Waddington Airshow



Commonwealth Countries League Fair

Newport - Ymerodraeth State of Mind.

The hit music video spoof about Newport, a parody of the song by Alicia Keys and Jay Z "Empire State of Mind", featured none other than the KTA Secretary, Terema Wainwright.

Terema has learned I Kiribati dancing with the KTA since she was 12.

Earlier this year she got an audition for a music video. The producers were looking for somebody who could sing in a Welsh accent: it was an unusual request, and Terema got the part.

The spoof song was titled *Newport - Ymerodraeth State of Mind*. (Ymerodraeth is the Welsh word for empire). Newport rapper Alex Warren, and Terema, celebrated the sights of the Welsh city.

Rather than a grand piano in Times Square, Terema played a battered synthesizer on the riverfront, and crooned in a thick Welsh accent:

"In Newport/ concrete jumble/ nothing in order/ not far from the border/ when you're in Newport/ Chips, cheese, curry/ makes you feel brand new / washed down with Special Brew."

The video was produced by director Morgan-Jane "MJ" Delaney who (prophetically) said:

"I hope Jay-Z and Alicia get to see the video as long as their publishing people don't force us to take it offline. It's only tongue in cheek."

Unfortunately the 'publishing people' didn't get the joke. The track was aired on BBC Radio 1 and others, and 'tweeted' by celebrities including Lily Allen, Gavin and Stacey comic Rob Brydon, and comedians Phil Jupitus and Dom Joly. When it was released on Youtube on July 20th 2010 it reached a record-breaking number of 1,268,277 hits in only five days!

Terema was interviewed numerous times by the BBC, ITV, and by several national newspapers.

Sadly, however, Jay Z refused permission for an official record release.

Perhaps we need a rap around the KTA ... in the meantime, we are delighted that the co-opted Terema was confirmed as Secretary of the KTA at the AGM.

"Tom Jones/ Steve Jones/ Zeta-Jones/ traffic cones/ if you come and visit/ use the designated parking zones".



Fifteen years ago

Rotee writes:

By chance, I recently came across the very first Newsletter from Autumn 1994, with reports of the celebration (by the then newly established Mwanean Kiribati Association) of the 15th Anniversary of Independence in Paignton.



The photograph shows some of the then rather young dancers, all of whom are still active in the Association; and we now have three times as many people at the Independence as we did then!

KTA's Artefacts Collection

Those who attended the Get-Together this year will have seen a sample of the KTA's collection of artefacts on display.

We are always grateful for additions to the collection.

Of great interest also are any old photographs (or Super 8 film) from the 1960s or earlier. In those days, I Kiribati people did not own cameras and the collection that Michael Walsh has made over the years (from people like Nigel Pusinelli and Sir John and Lady Peel) is being gradually transferred to DVD, and will be sent to the National Archive in Tarawa.



If you have any old photographs or film that you are willing to lend to Michael to copy, please contact him (mravellwalsh@btpopenworld.com).

There is also a project in Germany to take back to Kiribati copies of the films shot there in the 1960s by the late Dr. Gerd Koch. There are details of this project (in German) on <http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/186980.html>

They are looking for photographs of the now disappeared islet of Bikeman. If you have any, please contact Rotee (rotee.walsh@yahoo.co.uk).