

Welcome

If you are a former salaried staff member (or CFTC expert) of the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Commonwealth Foundation, the Commonwealth of Learning or any other accredited Commonwealth organisation, and you wish to meet and keep in touch with those who have also worked for the Commonwealth professionally, this alumni association is for you.

Our annual programme comprises a variety of activities including:

- Our annual lecture (now the Patsy Robertson Memorial Lecture) when a major international figure addresses the membership, usually in Marlborough House, London. This is the highlight of our Annual General Meeting and is followed by a reception welcoming past and present Commonwealth staff and a wide range of invited guests;
- Commonwealth advocacy projects, including campaigning with other Commonwealth organisations to prevent the closure of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London;
- Participating in official meetings of the Commonwealth (including the biennial Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting) and contributing expertise through the Independent Forum of Commonwealth Organisations (IFCO), as well as involvement in other seminars and conferences of interest and relevance to the Commonwealth;
- Preparing submissions to the Secretary-General, official Commonwealth meetings and to Expert Groups on a variety of topics;
- A special projects programme where members work together on topics of interest to the membership such as our oral history project; and
- A social programme.

Our Executive Committee keeps members informed about invitations to Commonwealth events and meetings taking place in the UK and online. Much networking goes on at our events, making it a friendly and productive way to keep up with Commonwealth news and share experiences. We have members in many Commonwealth countries and look forward to welcoming all those wishing to maintain their Commonwealth links.

Who are we?

Members of The Commonwealth Association include Members of Parliament, diplomats, government officials, academics, scientists, journalists, and others from many walks of life who have worked with the Commonwealth professionally.

Members have worked in the field of global development and international affairs in major inter-governmental Commonwealth organisations, non-governmental and professional bodies, and in civil society. They have considerable experience in legal, economic, political, diplomatic, technical assistance, gender and youth affairs, education, health and communication matters.

The association was established in London in 2001 as a means for members to:

- Support the values of the Commonwealth of Nations;
- Support the work of the Commonwealth Secretariat, Commonwealth Foundation and other Commonwealth organisations;
- Promote the discussion of subjects of Commonwealth interest;
- Provide a social and cultural forum for the pursuit of common interests;
- Organise activities which advance the above aims.



Members and guests attending the annual lecture in Marlborough House

Membership Application Form

Please complete and return this form to David Blake, Secretary, The Commonwealth Association, 29 Eskdale Avenue, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 3AX or email it to him at: info@comassoc.org The subscription fee is £20 per annum for those in the UK and £10 per annum for those in other parts of the world. We will contact you at a later date to arrange payment.

Given name _____

Family name _____

Mailing Address _____

Preferred telephone number _____

Preferred email address _____

Do you wish to receive emails from the Association about events, news of former colleagues and related matters? Yes/No.

Name of Commonwealth Organisation where you worked

When did you work there?
From _____ to _____

What was your division/area of work?

Other professional/leisure interests

Any information you provide will be held confidentially and will not be divulged to third parties. It will be handled in accordance with the Association's privacy policy, which is available on our website, www.comassoc.org



THE COMMONWEALTH
ASSOCIATION



Members of the Executive Committee, led by Patsy Robertson, and with Sir Peter Marshall, meet the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Patricia Scotland



Cheryl Dorall presents a cheque to the Albino Centre in Tanzania following CA fundraising



Patsy Robertson with the former Zimbabwean opposition leader, Morgan Tsvangirai, at the 2007 CHOGM in Uganda

Staying
Engaged
promoting and
fostering the
Commonwealth

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