



**Council for Education in the Commonwealth**

## **Commonwealth Education News August 2009**

CEC Newsletter, 31 July 2009

**URGENT:** The Royal Commonwealth Society, with the support of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, is organising an on-line “COMMONWEALTH CONVERSATION” between July 20th and October 31<sup>st</sup>. The aim is to tell the Commonwealth Heads of Government how their peoples think the Commonwealth should shape its future, when they meet in Trinidad in November.

To take part, go to  
[www.thecommonwealthconversation.org](http://www.thecommonwealthconversation.org),

=====

Back in the spring of 2007, CEC resolved to make its two main focuses of advocacy the biennial CHOGM (Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting) and the triennial CCEM (Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers). This year sees both meetings, first the CCEM in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in mid-June, then the CHOGM in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, at the end of November. CEC was well represented at the first and will certainly field a presence at the latter.

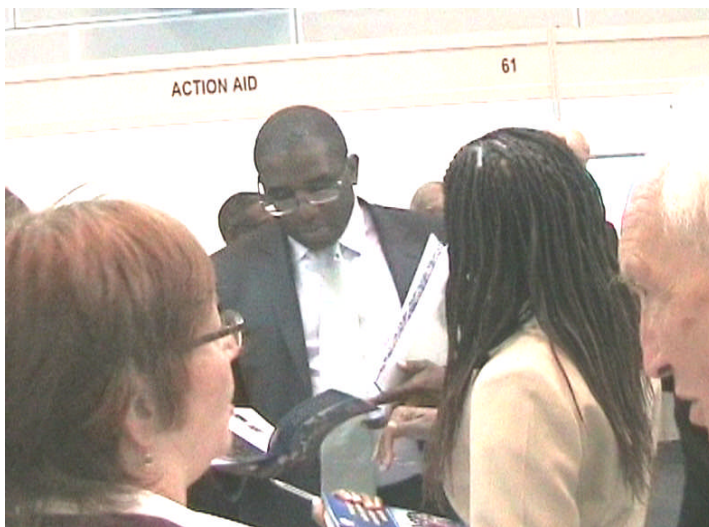
### 17 CCEM, Kuala Lumpur, 15-17 June, 2009

CEC’s accredited delegation to the CCEM comprised Kees Maxey, our Hon. Secretary, Martin Kenyon, our Parliamentary Liaison Officer, and ‘Chandra’ Chandramohan, our Activities Secretary. However, through collaborating with the Commonwealth Consortium for Education (CCfE), and the Commonwealth Countries League (CCL), as well as with the Commonwealth Foundation, CEC was able to have a further five members actively involved in the CCEM and its associated events. Mark Robinson and Peter Williams, led a pre-conference meeting, “*Learning to Live Together: Education for Social Cohesion*”, Rosemary Preston and Keith Lewin helped draft the report of the Stakeholders Forum, while Casmir Chanda represented the Commonwealth Countries League.

While all three members of the CEC delegation pursued the usual activities of communications, lobbying and helping to look after the Consortium’s joint stand of information and publications, Chandra also ran a workshop on the private sector in higher education as part of the Stakeholders Forum (see below).

The CCfE pre-conference aimed to take forward the recommendations of the 2007 Sen report on *“Civil Paths to Peace”*. CCfE’s partners in organising the conference were the Commonwealth Foundation and the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. A strong statement outlining ways in which education could contribute to social cohesion was issued and can be seen on the Consortium and CEC websites.

This 17<sup>th</sup> CCEM marked 50 years since the first Commonwealth Conference on Education and took as its theme, *“Education in the Commonwealth: towards and beyond global goals and targets”*. Of the 53 current members of the Commonwealth, 40 sent delegations, 37 of them headed by ministers. Some 700 delegates attended. The UK did not send either of its Secretaries of State with some responsibility for education, but was represented briefly by the gallant Rt. Hon. David Lammy, Minister of State for Higher Education. ‘Gallant’ and ‘briefly’ because the Prime Minister conducted the recent reshuffle of portfolios in the same week as the CCEM, so that Mr. Lammy departed for Kuala Lumpur on the Monday, arrived there on Tuesday morning, delivered his message –“crisp and sensible”, according to Martin Kenyon (MK from here on)- and networked appropriately with his fellow ministers during the daylight hours, then flew back to London during the late evening, to be on duty at the new Department of Business, Innovation and Skills on Wednesday. Fortunately, he has retained his portfolio for higher education and, as you can read below, agreed to report back to CEC on his experience.



Despite that gallant effort, MK “gives a very bad mark to whoever it was in the British Government who allowed the Minister (the only one to attend from the UK) only 12 hours out of four to five days devoted to this once-in-three years gathering by the majority of other Education Ministers.” – and this the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the first Commonwealth Education Conference!

(CEC members will have noted that the UK now has no

department of state with the word ‘education’ in its title.)

The CCEM was run as a “six-ring circus”, to adapt a phrase of MK’s, with the main meeting of Education Ministers backed by four forums –Stakeholders, Teachers, Vice Chancellors [for the first time] and Youth (and Students)- and a meeting of Senior Officials.

CEC’s principal role in the Stakeholders Forum was to run a workshop on the private sector in higher education. It had originally been proposed by Governing Board member, Neil Kemp, but his state of health unfortunately kept him at home. However, his CEC partner, Chandra, was happily able to take over and, under the sponsorship of the Lim Kok Wing University of Creative Technology in Malaysia, deliver a well attended and lively event. Guy Perring of the British Council office in Malaysia discussed “Transnational Education in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand”, while Dr Rozilini Fernandez-Chung of the Malaysian Qualifications Agency reflected on “The Role of Private Higher Education Sector in Malaysia in

Providing Quality and Access -- Coming out of the Shadows". The presentations opened a discussion of one of the key contemporary developments in education.

The emergence of transnational education, globalisation and the national, regional and even wider frameworks for accreditation that were evolving in response, seemed to signal the decline of the traditionally central role of the state in further and higher education and the rise of for-profit models of funding and governance. The workshop itself exemplified a new symbiosis between state, multilateral, private and civil society (voluntary) sectors: Malaysian government hosting the CCEM in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat and Commonwealth Foundation, Lim Kok Wing University in the private sector sponsoring the workshop, and CEC, a civil society organisation, designing, organising and chairing the event.

Chandra adroitly steered the discussion past the ideologically polarised interpretation of the emerging situation as a contest between the state and the private-for-profit sectors. The availability of free educational resources (OER) was increasing fast, as were the technologies to make them more widely, even universally, accessible: what implications did this portend for education and the range of its supporting institutions? The question stimulated wider and livelier participation from the audience.

The recommendations that emerged from the debate focused on realizing the potential of the non-state sectors and included:

- Encourage and support effective educational partnerships locally, regionally, internationally and across the Commonwealth through policy and practical ways.
- Ensure statutory registration of all bodies that offer education and training, and appraise their provision according to national standards applicable to all.
- Create mechanisms to impede profiteering from education, particularly in poor and struggling communities, and to improve transparency and accountability.
- Encourage all bodies (public, private and voluntary) to adopt appropriate governance strategies.

They were reported to the Stakeholders Forum plenary for inclusion in the final communiqué from the Ministers.

A bye-note: the sponsor of the workshop,

Lim Kok Wing University, erected a lavish display of its offerings, not just in Malaysia, but also at its campuses in Indonesia, Cambodia, Botswana and, yes, the UK. It is the first Commonwealth university to set up shop in this country: its premises are near Hyde Park Corner in London. One of its publications is entitled "Transforming Higher Education for a Sustainable Tomorrow".

After the forums, the Ministers held a round-table, which accredited delegations were invited to observe. So CEC had a presence there in the persons of Chandra, Martin and Kees. Chandra was also able to get in a two-minute interview with India's Minister for Human Resource Development. The full reports of all three members will be on the CEC website in due course.

CEC, along with other bodies, has been pressing for some time for a more balanced approach to the goals and targets of Education for All and Millennium Development (MDG). The stress of the latter on Universal Primary Completion over the past nine years has led to the neglect in relative terms of both the other EFA goals like adult literacy and skills development, as well as of secondary, further and tertiary education and to shortfalls in teacher education. It is also largely inapplicable to the many Commonwealth countries that are already at the point of launching

drives for universal secondary education. So it was with some satisfaction that our members saw in the Ministers' communiqué the following paragraph:

*9. While stressing the overriding importance of maintaining a focus on achieving internationally-agreed goals, Ministers recognised the importance of preparing the groundwork for moving beyond these goals at the same time as striving to achieve them, and of looking at education more holistically and as a continuum. Indeed, they affirmed that the achievement of the international goals is dependent on looking forward, while noting the importance of innovative delivery mechanisms in light of resource constraints in this area. Ministers emphasised that the expanse and quality of secondary and higher education not only determine the number and quality of primary school teachers, but are also critical for providing innovative solutions; for enhancing quality and equity in the delivery of education; and for delivering socio-economic development. In this regard, Ministers recognised the importance of delivering:· Improved access to Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE);· Improved access to secondary education;· Expanded access to skills development and higher education;· Improvements in the quality and professionalism of teachers;· Good governance in education administration; and “Gender mainstreaming” across all interventions;*

The Ministers also enjoined the Secretariat to work on:

- i. Advancing education in Small States through a variety of capacity-building and research initiatives;
- ii. Continuing work on the Commonwealth Teacher Recruitment Protocol and comparability of teacher qualifications, focusing on the quality and professional status of teachers;
- iii. Continuing work on the identification and training of school leaders, based on their demonstrated leadership abilities;
- iv. Promoting gender-related work in schools, including on boys' under-achievement, and girls' access and completion;
- v. Fostering education for Respect and Understanding based on core Commonwealth values;
- vi. Education for sustainable development, with particular emphasis on climate change;
- vii. Enhancing the delivery of multi-grade teaching; and
- viii. Strengthening HIV and AIDS education.

This list of deliverables clearly suggests an agenda that CEC should monitor and, where appropriate, act on over the next three years until the next CCEM in 2012 –it is to be held in the Bahamas.

However, in some quarters the communiqué was felt to be the weakest in a long time. It certainly did not satisfy a number of the participants of the four forums that had the remit to put proposals to the Ministers. The Vice Chancellors' Forum for example complained that the communiqué had virtually ignored the central theme of the conference and had not gone 'beyond global goals and targets'. What was the point of assembling Vice Chancellors from 180 universities around the Commonwealth, if Ministers latter seemed to take no notice whatever? The other three forums were less forceful in expressing their disappointment, but were similarly offended.

Some participants suspected that the drafting process that had begun well before the real conference and discussions, had in the event usurped what the forums had actually had to say. It seemed odd for instance that what was submitted did not appear to correspond to the themes and sub-themes given to the four workshops of the Stakeholders Forum.

In the view of some observers, the treatment of the forum's conclusions reflected the real status of civil society. As one put it, "Much rhetoric is expended on the value, virtues, importance, indispensability of CSO" but in the event they are left scurrying about on the margins, with few taking note of what they are saying.

Nevertheless, MK felt that the contributions from the Ministers from India, Jamaica, Kenya, Nigeria, Seychelles, Sierra Leone and Tonga deserved special marks. He notes that "Uganda's excellent Minister of Education ... was unable to have *Education about the Commonwealth* included in the communiqué, a subject on which she is as passionate" as MK himself.

The Conference Secretary, Ms. Caroline Pontefract of ComSec, had pressed for a communiqué that was clearly action-oriented. Whether she succeeded is in MK's view debatable. The failure of the CCEM once again to set up a ministerial mechanism to monitor action would seem to confirm his scepticism.

Also, Commonwealth Deputy Secretary General Mr. Ransford Smith, had called on the Ministers to send a strong statement to the CHOGM in November. In the event, no such statement was issued! This is surely an extraordinary omission in the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of Commonwealth co-operation in education. One would have expected instead at least a strong affirmation of what education had contributed to the welfare of Commonwealth peoples. (The Secretary General was unfortunately taken ill, when he arrived in Kuala Lumpur, so DSG Smith deputised for him.)

Despite these less than ideal outcomes, CEC will make it its business to carry to the CHOGM the messages from the CCfE conference and the workshop on the private sector in higher education.

At high level conferences like the CCEM, concerns about security can involve annoying procedures. However, MK reports, "CCEM security proved to be lightly and most courteously carried out. Indeed, courtesy was the hallmark of the whole event at every level from Malaysia's Prime Minister to the humblest of Malaysian door-keeper and waitress."

The CEC website has a video of the conference with interviews taken in Malaysia with David Lammy, Colin Power from Australia who is the Chair of the Commonwealth Consortium for Education and Thomas Uthup of the UN Alliance of Civilizations. It briefly covers the visit by David Lammy to the CCfE stall as well as the opening and closing ceremonies. It is just under 10 minutes long, You will need to have broadband to view it properly.

#### The next CCEM

The Government of the Bahamas will host the 18<sup>th</sup> CCEM in 2012, and the Government of Mauritius will host the 19<sup>th</sup> in 2015. In that year the final tallies of progress towards the Millennium Development and Education for All goals will be reckoned.

#### CHOGM, Port of Spain, 27-29 November, 2009

The theme of this year's CHOGM is "Partnering for a more equitable and sustainable future." Although the Heads of Government will no doubt be sending a strong message to the Copenhagen conference on the environment in December, this year education is not one of their official focuses.

However, as education is a key element in ensuring a more equitable and sustainable future, CEC will send a small delegation to CHOGM to help make sure that education is not overlooked. It will take part in the People's Forum that precedes the meeting and presents its conclusions at the

usual round-table with the Foreign Ministers. CEC will work hard to see that the messages that did (and should have!) emanate(d) from the CCEM are taken on board.

The CEC committee meetings in September will be finalising plans for participation.

#### Advocacy in the UK

CEC maintains regular contacts with its Parliamentary Chairs and Patrons –vital in the campaign for Commonwealth Scholar-ships and Fellowships (see below). In addition, CEC has made a point of introducing itself to new ministers and heads of civil service divisions who are concerned with educational issues in or about the Commonwealth. In early June, a small delegation led by Valerie Davey had an interview with David Lammy, Minister of State for Higher Education. They apprised him of what CEC hoped the CCEM would achieve and asked him to follow the example of his predecessor, Bill Rammell, in giving CEC and an audience from High Commissions a report on what the CCEM had in the event accomplished.

Pursuing CEC's interest in educating the UK public about the Commonwealth, the delegation also emphasised the importance of the international strategy for education, of its continuing provision of Commonwealth Scholarships and of its support for development of higher education in Africa.

Mr. Lammy gave a reassurance that the Joint International Education Unit would continue to see that current international and global concerns, the Commonwealth included, were addressed by schools. (The present head of the Unit, Win Harris, will be retiring later this year: CEC is grateful for the good relations it enjoyed with her and her team. We look forward to working with her successor.)

While the June reshuffle left Mr. Lammy with his current responsibilities, it led to a change in the other big player in international education, the Department for International Development (DFID). Michael Foster, MP for Worcester, is now the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State with responsibilities for human development, UK civil society, governance and social development and aid effectiveness, among a number of other areas. CEC has not yet had an opportunity to make itself known to Mr. Foster, but will be seeking an interview after the summer recess. CEC is of course familiar to the senior civil servants concerned with education in DFID - Peter Colenso, Jo Bourne, David Levesque and Carew Trefgarne, who have generally been sympathetic interlocutors.

Members will be aware that DFID has just published its new White Paper, "*Building our Common Future*". CEC sent in substantive comments during the consultative process leading up to the White Paper. It will now be studying it to determine what its strategy should be to help ensure that education in the Commonwealth receives its due attention and resources.

#### Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan

One of the issues on which CEC has been lobbying hard is the development of the CSFP or Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. CEC's concern was initially triggered by the unfortunate decision of the FCO in early 2008 to cease its annual contributions to it. That effectively cut eight countries out of the UK's part in what has been a very successful programme. The former Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills (now DBIS – see above) partially offset what was widely seen as a regrettable step.

CEC is now focusing its attention on encouraging support for the new endowment fund officially launched at the 17<sup>th</sup> CCEM in June. The FCO itself has made some amends by contributing £500,000 to the Fund in which the host country, Malaysia, had already led the way by pledging £500,000. Beside the UK, others followed:

Kenya - £315,000

Maldives - US\$10,000

Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) - £250,000

British-Nigeria Foundation - £50,000

Commonwealth Foundation - £10,000

Commonwealth Secretariat - £25,000

Two governments preferred to offer more scholarships rather than cash: four from Botswana, two from Sri Lanka.

One might be forgiven for wondering whether the UK with its income per head around six times that of Malaysia and sixty times that of Kenya might not be able to contribute rather more generously to this Fund: perhaps from the £1bn per annum that the DFID has pledged to support education in developing countries in each of the years between 2010 and 2015.

In addition to lobbying for more Commonwealth Scholarships and support for the new Fund, CEC has been in dialogue with the Commonwealth Secretariat about possible terms of reference for a co-ordinating unit to mobilise support for CSFP and monitor the Plan's progress.

#### Education about the Commonwealth

The third task that we set ourselves at the 2007 Spring Conference was to add efforts of our own to those working to make the great British public, especially the young British public, more aware and much more appreciative of the Commonwealth. So far we have managed very little. Nevertheless, the importance of the task has been under-lined by a survey commissioned by the Royal Commonwealth Society with the support of the FCO. A key finding:

*"In general, of the countries polled, the Commonwealth was least valued in Great Britain."*

Clearly, CEC needs to think harder about how best, given its meagre financial and human resources, it can take its third task forward.

The full findings of the survey are available at

[www.thecommonwealthconversation.org](http://www.thecommonwealthconversation.org)

#### Commonwealth Secretariat – Henry Kaluba

As CEC members will know, we work most closely with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Commonwealth Foundation. A strong friend and supporter in the Secretariat has been Henry Kaluba, the Head of the Education Section. We are very sorry to learn that he will be retiring at the end of August and returning to Zambia, where he says he will be looking after chickens. While we quite agree that Zambia needs to be well fed –“An egg a day and a chicken in the pot on Sundays!” used to be a slogan of the Ministry of Agriculture just after independence in 1964- we do hope that Henry's huge knowledge and expertise in education will not be lost either to his country or to the Commonwealth for a good many years yet. For our part, we will long be grateful to him for all the support, moral, intellectual and financial, that Henry has given CEC over the past many years.

Jyotsna Jha is another very good friend whom we shall shortly be losing at ComSec. We are indebted to her for her advice on issues of gender and education, for her contributions to our conferences and for her help in mobilising finance for publications.

Bobbie Dohunsu-Tetty has already left the Secretariat. She, too, was a good friend to CEC and was of enormous help in securing rooms for meetings and generally making life easier for a small but busy CSO.

#### CEC AGM, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

The British Council, with its customary generous hospitality, hosted the CEC AGM on Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The room it provided was comfortably filled with some 40 CEC members and representatives from a number of High Commissions –Antigua & Barbuda, Canada, Cyprus, Kenya, Lesotho, Malaysia, Malta, Mozambique, Papua New Guinea, St. Lucia, South Africa, Zambia.

Despite the recent government reshuffle, an overcrowded diary and obligations to constituents that same morning, Mr. David Lammy was happily able to spend half an hour reporting on his brief experience of the CCEM. He had clearly made maximum use of his one working day in Kuala Lumpur to network with a good number of fellow ministers and to come away even more committed to cooperating with them to expand and improve education across the Commonwealth.

After Mr. Lammy had left, CEC delegates, ‘Chandra’ Chandramohan, Martin Kenyon and Kees Maxey, each reported on their experiences at the CCEM. Other members who had been there in other roles filled in the picture.

#### News of CEC members

Peter Williams is stepping down from the Governing Board after nine straight years of serving on it, (and a further **25 years** before that on its forerunner, CEC’s Executive Committee!). He chaired the Policy, Strategy and Public Affairs Committee, acted as Deputy Executive Chair (nine years is the maximum term of service set by the CEC constitution), and was one of CEC’s really active and effective lobbyists at every CHOGM and CCEM. Peter’s latest stint as Deputy Executive Chair was not his first: he had in fact held the office for three years, 1981-84, before he joined the Commonwealth Secretariat as Director of Education, and then again from 1995 to 2000. (The editor for one hopes very, very hard that Peter will repeat the earlier pattern and return to the Board at the 2010 AGM.)

Martin Kenyon (MK) paid an eloquent tribute to Peter’s huge contributions to the activities, products and effectiveness of CEC. If the organisation punches well above its weight, it owes much of its power to him.

*“I’ve done few intelligent things in my life, but one of them was putting the spot on Professor Peter Williams and enlisting him for a serious assignment at the moment Mrs. Thatcher arrived in 1979 and overseas students fees went through the roof. The history of the overseas student saga, resulting in the Pym Package announced in the House of Commons in 1983, says it all Peter was the crucial element in devising the authentic and serious response....*

*That is all more than thirty years ago –he has never stopped since then. The Commonwealth Committee on Student Mobility was his baby. He played a major part in the conception, birth and development of the Commonwealth of Learning. The Protocol on Commonwealth Teachers owes much to his initiative and hard graft.*

*A few disconnected thoughts about Peter;*

*- a wordsmith par excellence*

*- a professor with a cutting edge (not so very common)*

*- when on the prowl as a lobbyist, he is second to none in his disarming pursuit of his quarry*

*- a unique capacity to consume the written word, even when standing on his head, viz. desks of officials, professors et al. in the U.S., Canada, Brussels, Bonn, Paris, were not exempt from his prying eye*

*- age is irrelevant: he must not tell us again how old he is, while he remains the life-blood of our enterprise*

*- Peter is essential for controlling the worst excesses of my behaviour*

*- divine discontent is in my opinion an important element of the character which wishes to change things for the better: I have examples of Peter's expressions of Divine Discontent, e.g. his response to the Pym Package. BUT his Divine Discontent is so brilliantly conveyed with charm and integrity –an unbeatable mixture.*

*Peter is loved by all of us, by everyone –so I was delighted to meet someone in Kuala Lumpur, who told me she quaked at his approach and hides under the table...*

*But, Peter, the Council for Education in the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth Consortium for Education, A Policy for Overseas Students and so much else. You MUST collect your miscellaneous writings over 50 years and we'll find a publisher.*

*At the end Peter is and always has been above all a team player. Did he conjure up the title for the Consortium's symposium in Cape Town in 2006, "The Power of Partnerships, the Strength of Friends"? It could well be his abiding motto."*

Margaret Brayton, M.B.E. We send our warmest congratulations to one of our longest standing members, Margaret Brayton MBE, who celebrated her 90th birthday on July 13 this year. Margaret has been a regular participant at CEC meetings. She is also a Vice-President of the Royal Commonwealth Society and a former Chief Officer of the Commonwealth Nurses Federation.

We are sad to record the recent deaths of two distinguished members of the Council.

John Smyth who died on 3 June 2009, two months short of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, set up UNESCO'S World Education Report in the late 1980s and was its Chief Editor until 2000. Colin Power, former Assistant Director-General for Education and Deputy Director-General of UNESCO from 1989-2000, and now Chair of CCfE, said in the obituary he wrote for UNESCO, "John played a leading role both in UNESCO's World Education Reports and the reform of UNESCO statistics. He made an enormous contribution to ... our efforts to promote education for all, the reform of education systems and in documents used to shape UNESCO education policy and priorities. John was a man for all seasons, a gentleman and a scholar, deeply committed to the ideals of the United Nations and his church, a man of great intelligence, competence, commitment and honour. We all loved and respected him."

Malcolm Dalziel, CBE, who died on 27 June 2009 at the age of 73, after major heart surgery, was a very special man, writes Trevor Bottomley. His service to CEC included stints as Deputy Executive Chairman (1990-98) and Membership Secretary (2001-03). His long career in the British Council took him to the Middle and Far East and to Africa

as well as to senior posts in the London headquarters. The award of the CBE at the end of it signified the high regard in which he was held. With his life-long passion for cricket and his urbanity, Malcolm was quintessentially English. He nevertheless had a very international outlook and was interested in matters European as well as Commonwealth. He was the kindest of men, gentle and courteous, especially to ladies, with a wry and impish sense of humour. He had the rare knack of making whomever he was speaking to feel that they were unique and special too. At his funeral High Mass of Requiem on 7 July at St Mary Magdalen in Oxford, Malcolm left us with praises from many and, as he had requested, lusty singing from all assembled in his honour there.

“Policies, Politics and Progress”, the theme of the biennial UKFIET conference for 2009 has reportedly attracted an unusually large number of papers and participants. So it is a particular honour that CEC in its 50<sup>th</sup> year has been invited not only to propose a key-note speaker, but also to convene a 90-minute symposium on the role of bodies like itself in influencing policies, politics and progress in education around the Commonwealth. The additional good news is that the Social Transformation Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat has agreed to co-sponsor CEC’s effort.

Through the good offices of Peter Williams, Sir Sonny Ramphal, Commonwealth Secretary-General from 1975 to 1990, has accepted the role of key-note speaker, and our Executive Chair, Valerie Davey, and GB member, Rosemary Preston, are at this moment devilling for the symposium.

The symposium will start with three 10-minute addresses on *“Political moments and Commonwealth educational policy processes since 1959”*, *“Working with parliamentary links to maintain Commonwealth educational profiles: the case of the CEC”* and *“Responding to the challenge of the future”*. Mark Robinson, former government Minister, former CEC Executive Chair and former member of the Commonwealth Secretariat, will take up the second topic. The speakers on the first and third ones are still to be confirmed.

The conference will be taking place in New College, University of Oxford, from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2009.

#### Publications

In 2006, the Commonwealth Secretariat commissioned CEC to undertake a study of efforts of three Commonwealth countries in Africa to achieve Universal Primary Education. Through the Consortium for Research in Education, Access, Transition and Equity (CREATE), Keith Lewin augmented the commission to enable the inclusion of two additional countries. Led by long-time member Lalage Bown, a CEC team and colleagues from the ‘case’ countries, produced *“Maintaining Universal Primary Education: Lessons from Commonwealth Africa”* and the Secretariat has just published it. The lessons come from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zambia. Copies are expected to be available at the UKFIET conference in Oxford in September. Although the list price is £15.00, the book will be on offer to CEC members for £5.00, including packing and postage. Indeed, new members recruited at Oxford may receive a copy free.

The Commonwealth Consortium for Education (CCfE) has published an attractive new volume *“Working together for education: a Commonwealth update”* which brings together the series of briefing papers in revised form. CEC members have authored nine of the 13 contributions. The main essays will shortly be placed on the CEC website.

CCfE has also issued an updated “*Directory of Commonwealth Education*”, which lists over 40 organisations and programmes in Commonwealth education co-operation

CEC’s new Chair of its PPCC (Programmes, Projects and Communications Committee), Roselle Antoine, launched her own book at an event at the Royal Commonwealth Society on June 5th, “*Managing challenging behaviour: a British-Caribbean perspective*”. In the work, Roselle first examines the interlocking forces that have shaped the way the British education system has managed the behaviour of Caribbean children over the past 50 years. Then, using her own experience in dealing with ‘The Big Bad Youth’, Roselle discusses what she has developed as a ‘Behaviour Excellence Model’ to help young people of Caribbean descent become more centred and confident in their own culture and identity.

Priced at £19.99 (plus £2.50 p. & p.), the book is available from the TCS College Press, 55 Palmerston Road, Wealdstone, HA3 7RR.

#### Gladwyn Lecture 2009

CEC is delighted that Ms. Mmsekgoa Masire-Mwamba, Commonwealth Deputy Secretary General, has accepted its invitation to deliver this year’s Gladwyn Lecture. The date scheduled is Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30 p.m., and, thanks to the good offices of our new Patron, Lord McNally, the venue will again be in the House of Lords.

More precise details will be published closer to the date.

#### CEC Website

Our Hon Secretary, Kees Maxey, continues assiduously to make sure that the CEC web-site is kept up-to-date and includes all the new documents and links to relevant events. The address is [www.cecomm.org.uk](http://www.cecomm.org.uk)

This edition of the Newsletter was **compiled and edited by John Oxenham**, one of the Council’s Deputy Executive Chairpersons.

---

Commonwealth House • 7 Lion Yard • Tremadoc Road • London SW4 7NQ  
Tel: 01277 212357 Web: [www.cecomm.org.uk](http://www.cecomm.org.uk) • Email: [secretariat@cecomm.org.uk](mailto:secretariat@cecomm.org.uk)

Patrons: Lord Judd of Portsea • Lord McNally of Blackpool  
Joint Parliamentary Chairpersons: Tim Boswell MP • Simon Hughes MP • Sally Keeble MP

Registered Charity No 1091704 Company limited by guarantee in England & Wales, No 4391999