



Una Voce News Letter

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

36 Prince Albert Street, MOSMAN. N.S.W. 2088

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JANUARY 1980.

Dear Member,

May I begin by extending to all Members and their families your Committee's best wishes for the Festive Season and for happiness, health and prosperity in 1980. It is also our earnest hope that the New Year will see an early end to the crises in Kampuchea, East Timor, and Iran.

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We now have copies of reports from the Commissioner for Superannuation or the Board for the years ending 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977. These are being examined by friends with accounting experience. More next issue !

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Our log of claims to improve our benefits is still with the Department of Finance but I am assured that it will be with the Minister in January. Departmental officers are well aware of the nearly eighteen months delay and are anxious that the claims be finalised. Meanwhile, we remain disadvantaged - and in some cases acutely so. For example, one of our late members married after he had retired, on the understanding that after a qualifying period his wife would be entitled to superannuation on his death, just as in the Commonwealth Scheme. You can imagine the difficulties and anxieties she is facing, since she has been told she is not entitled to anything ! It is easy to blame the husband for not making a written enquiry, but that doesn't help his wife!

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Long time Member 'Monty' Moncur celebrated his 90th birthday on Friday 14th December! Stop complaining, all you youngsters of 60 and under ! Have we any older Members ? If so, please drop me a note if you want to be entered in the Veterans' Stakes.

After being wounded in France, Monty went to New Guinea in 1917 as a lieutenant and was appointed Deputy District Officer at Kieta, then Kavieng, where he did the first census of Tabar and met the old Petersen who was allegedly associated with the blackbirding days. After discharge from the Army Monty joined the Mandated service as a police officer. When hostilities began in New Guinea Monty walked from Wau to Moresby and helped Harry Downing settle evacuees in Australia. He returned to PNG as a major in A.N.G.A.U. at Wau, then Torokina. After the war he was married and returned to the Police Force, retiring about 1950.

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For those wanting some good entertainment and coffee table type of publication with lots of magnificent photographs and some equally good short stories, try "Paradise Plus", the second series of selected articles from the in-flight magazine of Air Niugini, published by Pacific Publications. Well edited, professionally presented, it is a credit to the airline and to Gerry Dick, its editor.

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For those Members of more serious endeavour, Leonards have just published "That They Might Live" by Ellen Kettle, M.B.E., Principal Matron in the Department of Health in PNG from 1969 to 1974. It deals in particular with the history of health services from the arrival of the Christian missionaries until Independence. All will recognise places, names and events - but possibly have their own different versions. This book undoubtedly helps to fill a gap, even though a very specialised one, in the history of Papua New Guinea. Members and ex-Members of the Department of Health will find it worth the price of \$20.00.

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Your Secretary has a confession. For 13 months I have had \$2.00, given me for associate membership at the signing of the Torres Strait Boundary Treaty at PNG House, Sydney, in November last year. I have checked and re-checked but without success. If the gentleman will let me know I shall pay his subs for 1980. He may also now realise whe he didn't get any Newsletters this year.

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New Members

- Miss E.M. McAlister, "Nonga", David Law Highway, Perecian Beach, Q4573
- Mr. J.F. Gurn, 73 Seaville Ave., Scarborough, Q4556.
- Mrs. M.L. Townsend, Mons School Road, Buderim, Q4556.

Transferred from Widows of R.O.A.P.N.G. list:

- Mr. J. Colwell, P.O. Box 97, Cooroy, Q4556.
- Mrs. J.S. Dishon, 10 Derrice St., Moorooka, Q4105.
- Mrs. Ormsby, 36 Dunbar Terrace, Glenelg, SA5045

Change of Address;

- R.A.J. Bentinck-Pitt - to 40-47 Bortfield Drive, Chiswick NSW 2046.
- C. Bowman to 13 Olinda St., Glen Waverley, Vic 3150
- Mrs. A.Dawe to 19 Whytecliffe Pde, Woody Point, Q4019
- Mrs. P.Frank to 5 Woolych St., Holder, A.C.T. 2611.
- C.T. Walmsley to 12 Deakin Ave., Southport, Q 4215.

Amendments

- Carter W.R. should read Carter W.T.
- Mrs. P. Foley 25 Avenue Rd., should read 22 Avenue Rd.
- Vanderbilt J. should read Vanderiet J. (Jan says he'd be happy to change if the millions went with it !)

Newsletters Returned

Newsletters for the following Members have been returned with various notations from the postman. Would anyone knowing their whereabouts or correct address please notify the nearest police station -- sorry, please let me know.

- G. Bentley, c/- Mrs. A. Den Elzen, 9 Victoria St., Mansfield, Vic
- Mrs. A.F. Cowley
- Mrs. M.E. Hill, P.O. Russell Island, Q 4165
- Mrs. M. Gough, 82 Chestnut St., Wynnum, Q 4175
- R. Kapp, P.O. Box 412, Dee Why, NSW 2099
- S.C. Middleton, 8 Paradise St., Charters Towers, Q 4810

V A L E

It is with sincere regret that we record the passing of the following Members. On behalf of all in the Association the Committee extends our sympathies to their relatives :

L.V. Wild - formerly Chief Clerk in the Morobe District during the goldfields era, and later Administrative Officer in the Department of District Services and Native Affairs at Rabaul. Leigh was a tower of strength and a mine of information. He returned to War Damages Commission after the War and at 86 was the last surviving member of the original Lodge, Rabaul.

Mrs. H. Bosgard - wife of the well known Land Department officer, who first went to Moresby in 1954.

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Professor Colonel Sir Jack Keith Murray died early in December, at the age of 92. Principal of the Line H.Q. School of Civil Administration, which prepared army personnel for administering recaptured territories, and later the first post-war Administrator of Papua and New Guinea, J.K. Murray prepared the way for and began the changes which came to fruition in Independence for PNG. Like any agent of change, he had more than his share of early critics, but even the worst of these had to admit his integrity and sincerity. Although he was not a member of the Association, your editor would be failing in his duty if mention was not made of the passing of J.K. Murray. Most of you will have already read the obituaries which outlined his work in PNG.

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We wish to confine this issue to four pages for economy's sake - so, more of Harry Jackman's suggested titles in the next issue.

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Yours sincerely,

(Fred Kaad)
Honorary Secretary

EDITOR'S NOTE Did you see the Honours List for Papua New Guinea ?

Our Secretary Fred was awarded the O.B.E. CONGRATULATIONS

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

According to the Constitution the Annual General Meeting should be held before the end of January. Many complaints have been made that January is too hot and inconvenient, and the last A.G.M. suggested that it should be held later in the year.

The President has therefore decided to call a General Meeting for 10 a.m. Sunday, 20th January 1980, at his home, 68 Phoenix St., Lane Cove.

The business of the meeting will be to consider and if thought fit, to pass an amendment to Clause 14 of the Constitution so that it will read :

'The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than the thirtieth day of April in each year. A notice convening such meeting shall be posted to the registered address of each member at least seven days previous to the date set down for such a meeting. Ten members, of whom one must be the President or the Deputy President personally present, shall form a quorum at an Annual General Meeting'.

This is purely a technical amendment so that we can carry out Members' wishes. A form of proxy is subtended for Members desiring to vote but unable to attend.

FORM OF PROXY

I, being a member of the Retired Officers' Association of Papua New Guinea do hereby appoint * or of Sydney whose signature appears below, to vote Yes/No on my behalf at the General Meeting of the said Association to be held on 20th January, 1980, and at any adjournment thereof.

Signed: Member

. Proxy

Dated this.....day of January, 1980.

* Here insert names of any two Committee Members or another Member you are certain will be at the Meeting.

Committee Members are:- H.P.Seale, D.Clifton-Bassett, L.E.Clout, Miss Joyce Oldroyd-Harris, G.Keleny, F.P.Kaad, H.L.R.Niall, J.Rudge, Miss V.Bignold, Mrs. P.Foley and D.Parish.
