



Una Voce News Letter

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

P.O. BOX 199, MOSMAN, N.S.W. 2088

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OCTOBER 1981.

Dear Member,

This Newsletter should have gone out several weeks ago but I have been holding it up in the hope that I could give you definite news that the regulations covering the payment of extra benefits to widows and children had at long last been assented to by the Executive Council. Unfortunately this is still held up by drafting difficulties. Your Committee has been most frustrated by this inordinate delay and has maintained an active dialogue with the Department of Finance to obtain a speedy conclusion - (only this afternoon I rang Canberra). I know that some of you will be wondering about the efficiency of the government machine and I would certainly agree. All I can say in its defence is that what I thought was a fairly simple matter is, in fact, a very complex one, particularly when three different sets of regulations are involved.

However, I believe we are well along the home straight and can hopefully look forward to good news in the near future. To the few members acutely affected I can only express our regrets and say that your Committee is still pushing !

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From time to time members of your Committee leave this sprawling metropolis and venture forth into the 'dangers' of the country and interstate. Unfortunately we don't always have much advance notice and consequently are unable to let members know via Una Voce, although we try to advise one or two contacts so they can pass on the word. In October, President Bill Seale will be at Southport on 075-325841 until 14th, and your Secretary will be in Hobart from 19th to 24th. The contact - Bernie Mulcahy, 204285 (day) 477752 A.H

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Our ex-Treasurer, effervescent Joyce Oldroyd-Harris, recently returned from Canada, where she successfully avoided the hugs of polar bears and Eskimos. Since then she had a spell in hospital (perhaps to recover from the excitement of travel ?) but is back home again now.

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Elsewhere you will read of our forthcoming luncheon on 22 November. There will be only one speech - given by the Consul-General for Papua New Guinea, Mr. Alkan Tololo, whom many of you would have known in his teaching days. This will be the first time we have had a guest speaker, and he has promised to 'keep it short'. Mark your diary now AND BE THERE. Please ring Bill Seale, 4283357, David Marsh 938 3501, or Doug Parrish 467 2966 to let us know you are coming -- this is important so we can estimate the numbers and arrange transport for those who need it.

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There appears to be some uncertainty about what a wife should do officially when her husband passes on. The first thing is to have someone advise the Commissioner for Superannuation, P.O Box 22 Belconnen, A.C.T. and the necessary adjustment to superannuation will be made. If this is not done the widow may have to find a largish sum to cover any overpayments made by the Commissioner on the expectation that her husband was still alive.

We would then ask you to let the Association know. You will be treated as a member for the remainder of that year, but then will become liable to pay the \$4.00 annual membership thereafter. Widows of Life Members are not required to make any payment as their husband's membership passes to them. Widows who come under the pre-war Papua or New Guinea Funds are not liable for such payments.

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Members are advised of our new address -
Post Office Box 199
MOSMAN N.S.W. 2088

With the exception of fees payment or matters directly concerning the Treasurer, all correspondence should be addressed as above. This will avoid delay if any member of the Executive is away and make for better co-ordination. Letters to the Treasurer should be addressed to Mr. G. Keleny, Post Office Box 364, MAROUBRA JUNCTION, N.S.W. 2035. Stamped addressed envelopes are required if you want a receipt for your fees, although I would suggest a receipt is not really necessary for you if you have your cheque butt or money order number. We have a record of payments in our receipt book if the Tax man should want confirmation of your payment.

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New Treasurer Gabriel Keleny has been busy going through the records and at page 7 of this newsletter you will find a box indicating your financial position in the Association. Would you please make an extra effort to become financial if you are not in this happy position.

In this regard I would remind widows of officers who were in the pre-war Papua or New Guinea Funds that they do not have to pay any membership fees, but we would appreciate news of any changes of address, and so on.

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Many of you will remember a former Director of Education, G.T. Roscoe now 81 and still going strong, as Honorary Librarian at St. Francis Anglican Seminary in Brisbane. I hope to have his 'get up and go' when I'm 81.

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Still in the education field, Ken McKinnon a later Director of Education in PNG and former head of the Australian Schools Commission, is now Vice Chancellor of the University of Wollongong.

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Dr. R. Johnson of the Bureau of Mineral Resources has written to say that he had many letters from Members about his inquiries on volcanic activity in the Rabaul area, and has gained valuable information from the help given. I think this is a tangible reminder of the value of sharing your PNG experience when requested, for research and historical purposes.

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* Our second and final luncheon for 1981 will be held on : *
* SUNDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER *
* at noon. *

* At the British Ex-Servicemens' Club, 541 Kent St. Sydney *
* (between Liverpool and Bathurst Streets, about 100 *
* metres from the Kent St. entrance to Town Hall Station) *

* Come along, meet your friends and make this a *
* good start for the Christmas season - but don't *
* forget to let us know via one of the telephone *
* numbers given earlier. *

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Again - I regret the delay in this Newsletter, but apart from wanting to wait for good news, in the last 12 weeks I have been away on business more than 4 weeks, and Pamela Foley has been in hospital for three and then convalescent after a hip replacement. Thankfully Pamela is now back working - even if hopping along with a walking stick. At least the latter keeps me in order !

Remember, when you are fed up, tired and wondering whether its worth it - many clouds do have a silver lining, and the sun will shine tomorrow.

Sincerely -

Fred Kaad.

MINUTES OF THE 30th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE RETIRED OFFICERS'
ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Held at 541 Kent Street, Sydney, on 22/3/81 at 11 a.m.

The Meeting opened at 11.25 a.m. and the President welcomed Members.

Present: President, Mr. Seale, Vice President, Mr. Marsh, Secretary Mr. KAAD, Treasurer Miss Oldroyd-Harris, Asst. Secretary Mrs. Foley. Committee members Sir Horace Niall, Messrs. Parrish, Clout, Rudge, Keleny, and approximately 65 members.

Apologies: Miss Bignold (Committee Member) and the following Members:
L. Evans, V. Smith, W. Burns, J. Cox, J. Reilly, L. Le Fevre, J. Williams, C. Champion, H. West, J. Bramell, N. Burke, M. Clifton, M. English, R. Bates, W. Watkins, E. Hayes, R. Hilton, W. Suttie, G. Angell, H. Jackman, P. van Hoeckle, J. Eggink, T. Ellis, R. Carne, B. Wallis, E. McAdam, I. Holmes, Mac Jamieson.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 1980 were read, and confirmed.

Motion: Mr. Williams, seconded: Mr. Clout. Carried.

Matters arising from the Minutes :

Benefits: The Secretary advised Members of the current position. Our claim had been accepted by Cabinet and one draft of the new regulations had been prepared by the Legal Draftsman but had been returned for amendment. He had been told on 20/3/81 that it was hoped that further progress could be confirmed by the end of April. The Secretary reminded Members that with the passing of the new regulations, conditions for spouses and dependants would be similar to those applying to spouses and dependants of Commonwealth retired officers. The benefits would date back to 1 July 1979.

He added that the Commissioner for Superannuation has discretionary powers to deal with specific cases.

President's Report

The President presented his report for the year.

(Lack of space prevented this being included in this issue - it will be published in the next issue)

Treasurer's
Report:

The Financial Report was presented by the Treasurer. In doing so Miss Oldroyd-Harris confirmed that she had tendered her resignation, and thanked the President for his praise of her work as Treasurer, the meeting for the spontaneous acclaim expressed, and the Association for the gift of luggage which would give her pleasure in choosing and using.

Sir Horace Niall moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, seconded, Mr. Aitcheson.
Carried (with much applause).

Correspondence: The Secretary summarised the correspondence - which was available for Members to read in full. He pointed out that the increasing number of comments, queries, requests, and so on indicated rising interest in the Association and this was welcomed by the Committee.

Mr. Rudge moved that the correspondence be accepted, seconded by Sir Horace Niall. Carried.

The Secretary appealed to members who had special knowledge to answer requests for information made from time to time in the Newsletter, and thanked those who had done so in the past. He went on to thank the Members who had sent in suggestions about membership, payment of fees reminders and other items for 'Una Voce'. However he still had one outstanding query - what was the meaning of the name 'Namanula' - the hill behind Rabaul? He had asked more than 20 Tolais and many ex-Rabaul residents, but with no result.

Mr. Kaad said he would like to endorse the President's remarks about the work done by Joyce Oldroyd-Harris as Treasurer over the past years. He said that the feeling of the Committee and, he believed, of members generally was best expressed in an extract from a letter received from Mr. Claude Champion, which read -

"The Association has lost a good Treasurer in the retirement of Joyce Oldroyd-Harris and the position will be hard to fill. I would like to place on record the sterling service Joyce has given the Association over these many years. Years ago when I was President and/or Secretary of the Association, Joyce gave me such a lot of help and did all the organising, arranging Dinners etc. She must be very proud of what she has done -- I know the Association is."

Election of
Office Bearers

The President vacated the Chair, which was then taken over by Sir Horace Niall for the Election of Office Bearers.

<u>Election of Office Bearers</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Nominated by</u>	<u>Seconded by</u>
	<u>President</u>	Mr. Seale	Mr. Williams	Mr. Clout.

No other nominations - Mr. Seale was elected, and resumed the Chair.

V/President

Mr. Marsh	Sir Horace Niall	Mr. Anthony
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Treasurer

Mr. Keleny	Mr. Clifton-Bassett	Mr. de Graaf
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Secretary

Mr. Kaad	Mr. Keleny	Mr. Meehan
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(Mr. Kaad said that he had given notice of his intention to resign because of both work commitments and health problems. However if no volunteer could be found he would be prepared to carry on at least for the time being. There being no volunteers Mr. Kaad was elected)

Committee

<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Nominated by</u>	<u>Seconded by</u>
Mr. Clifton-Bassett	Mr. Kaad	Mr. Aitcheson
Mr. Parrish	Mr. Meehan	Mr. Clout
Mr. Rudge	Mr. Aitcheson	Mr. Donaldson
Mr. Clout	Mr. Parrish	Sir Horace Niall
Sir Horace Niall	Mr. Meehan	Mr. Clifton-Bassett
Miss Bignold	Mr. Williams	Mr. Clout
Mrs. Foley	Mr. Kaad	Mr. Marsh

Moved nominations be closed -

Mr. Aitcheson, seconded Mr. Donaldson

Hon. Auditor

Mr. Aitcheson	Mr. Kaad	Miss Oldroyd-Harris
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General Business

Mr. Aitcheson wished to thank the Committee on behalf of members - in particular Mr. Kaad for his efforts in regard to the claim for increased benefits.

Sir Horace Niall wished to thank Mrs. Foley for her work as Asst. Secretary and suggested an honorarium. This latter was declined with thanks by Mrs. Foley.

Mr. Parrish asked that these expressions of appreciation be placed on record.

The Secretary said that although Association finances appeared to be in a favourable state continuing care must be exercised because of increasing costs, and the fact that Life Members had to be serviced for many years to come. He asked for suggestions for a form of reminder of subscriptions due to be included in the Newsletter. It was a very time-consuming task to do this individually for each member.

He also asked to Members' views on including social items in the Newsletter when there was available space. Our main aim must be to preserve and if possible increase our benefits but perhaps a few social notes would make 'Una Voce' more interesting.

The President thanked Members for their attendance and advised them of the invitation to join the newly formed PNG Club. Forms of application were available.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.25pm

<u>OUTSTANDING</u>	<u>DUES</u>	
Current Dues	\$	
Arrears	\$
T O T A L	\$	_____

V A L E

With deep regret the Committee records the passing of the following members, and on behalf of the Association extends sympathy to the families.

Mrs. R. McMullen - 3/1/81 - Widow of Ken McMullen a former NG field officer Army colonel and director of W.R. Carpenter.

Mrs. M. Henderson - 10/6/81 - Widow of 'Hendy' of the Dept. Agriculture and tea planting fame at Garaina.

Chris Normoyle Well known and admired, former Commissioner of Police.

'Bunny' Balfour-Ogilvy Former valuer-General.

John Eggink With PWD in Mt. Hagen and other Districts

Ronald Pfeng - 16/4/81

John Stitt

Alastair Alt.

(A D V E R T I S E M E N T)

NOTICE TO MEMBERS RE OFFICIAL P.N.G. HANDBOOK

From Des Clifton-Bassett

"On behalf of the Papua New Guinea Government it is my pleasure to let you know that the very latest official Handbook on Papua New Guinea is now available and I have been granted rights of distribution. The book is well illustrated with over 200 beautiful colour plates, and a lift-out map.

As the dust-jacket states :

" 'This is Papua New Guinea' is the first full length reference book published by the Papua New Guinea Government since Independence was achieved in 1975.

It has been compiled by the Office of Information from information supplied by government departments responsible for activities that have been grouped together under the various sectional and subject headings. It is as up to date as is possible, given the constraints that apply to any nation in its early development years.

The information is factual to the point of being prosaic. A reader looking for political or social comment on issues that have dominated the local and overseas media will not find it in this work. However, those wishing to gain basic information of Papua New Guinea, its people, history, culture and government will find a wealth of information in this volume."

The sections on "Government" and "The Economy" are quite extensive, and principal Departments from Education to Defence are dealt with in the section "General Administrative Services".

The fixed Government price is \$11.75 for the hardcover or \$9.25 for the softcover, plus postage and packing, which is \$2.00 per copy for orders within N.S.W. or \$3.50 per copy for other States.

Order Form

Please forward the following copy/copies of 'This is Papua New Guinea' to :

Name.....

Address.....

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- 1. The hardcover at \$11.75 : No of Copies ... Total : \$
- 2. The softcover at \$ 9.25 : No of Copies ... Total : \$

Plus NSW postage and packing of \$2 per copy
or Interstate postage and packing of \$3.50 per copy

My cheque/Money Order for the full total of \$.....is enclosed.

Send to: D. Clifton-Bassett, Niugini Advisory & Service Centre,
P.O. Box A99, SYDNEY SOUTH, N.S.W. 2000