



Una Voce News Letter

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA
P.O. Box 199, MOSMAN, N.S.W. 2088 - Category B

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No. 4, 1984 December

Dear Member,

Lots of good wishes for a happy Christmas and a very healthy 1985 from your President and Committee and also, I'm sure, from all we city slickers from Sydney town and nearby areas!

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As you may know, Una Voce is a team effort. I try to collect the news, write the copy and edit it. Treasurer Gabriel Keleny also contributes news and checks addresses. Pamela Foley types it up and then Les and Doreen Clout carry out the onerous job of arranging printing, then collating, addressing and posting the individual copies. This year a spell in hospital with a fractured femur has delayed my efforts, and the Clouts have been on a long cruise from Hongkong, not returning to Sydney until immediately before Christmas. So, with the present delays in the mail we are not sure when you will receive this issue, but hope it will be during the first few days of January.

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You will remember that in Newsletters Nos. 2 and 3 of 1983 and No.1 of 1984 we took up the problems of Members who have suffered since their return to Australia medical problems which would appear to have been caused by their service in PNG. Attempts to gain redress have been met by what can at best be described as lack of communication between authorities - others would describe it as duck-shoving, inertia, lack of interest or apathy. However, Committeeman Bert Speer has doggedly pursued the interests of our members through official and non-official channels. We believe we now have the correct approach to be followed by members who believe they have a claim for disabilities/illness suffered as a result of service in the PNG administration. Full documentation should be completed and forwarded to:

The Secretary, Australian Public Service Board
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

with a copy to:

The Director
Australian Development Assistance Bureau
Department of Foreign Affairs
P.O. Box 887, CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601.

(continued next page..)

Always keep two copies, and if after a reasonable interval, no replies to your correspondence have been received, get in touch with our Secretary so that we can follow it up.

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The University of PNG has published A New Guinea Bibliography listing publications dealing with PNG and Irian Jaya. A copy of the first of this series is held at the PNG Consulate Library, Clarence Street, Sydney, and I think at the High Commission Canberra, also most Universities and Colleges of Advanced Education.

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On the subject of books on PNG, Henry Lawson's Bookshop at 127 York Street Sydney has a varied and interesting list of PNG titles in which Members may be interested.

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During January-December 1984 your Association enrolled a record number of 80 new members, plus a further 3 Life Members. The major credit for this goes to Secretary Harry West and Treasurer Gabriel Keleny. With some 739 receiving superannuation there are plenty of other potential Members, as well as hundreds of Associates, so what about a special effort to recruit new Members in '85?!! Remember we are not just a social club - our major task is to preserve the benefits we already receive and if possible to improve them. As I personally found out when as Secretary and negotiating for improved benefits for widows and children, the stronger our membership, the more clearly our voice is heard.

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Missing Members -- Newsletters noted "Left Address" were returned from :

Cox, K.B.	65 Cummins St. Unanderra NSW 2526
Bayley S.V.	11/35 Anzac Rd. Long Jetty NSW 2261
Mynard R.W.	7 Robin St. Southport, QLD 4215
Tong J.	12 Kevin Street Copalaba QLD 4157

Would anyone knowing their present address please advise the Secretary, Harry West.

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The following new Life Members joined the Association in 1984 -

Bill Race,	formerly PHD medical assistant in Northern, West New Britain, Bougainville and all Highlands Districts.
Jim Dutton,	formerly Senior Superintendent of Police in Central, Milne Bay, Western Highlands and Bougainville.
Joe Lynch,	former legislative draftsman.

In addition, 5 members converted to Life Membership.

Your Committee has closely followed the changes in life membership adopted by the Gold Coast Papua New Guinea Club. It is possible some similar action may be forced upon this Association but this largely depends upon decisions about the payment of income tax by the Association. The situation should be clear by the time of our A.G.M. in April.

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REMEMBER THAT ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE ON
1ST JANUARY, 1985. THEY REMAIN UNCHANGED AT --

MEMBERS \$4.00 ASSOCIATES \$2.00

SOME 12% HAVE NOT PAID 1984 FEES. ELSEWHERE IN THIS
ISSUE THE AMOUNT YOU OWE AT THE END OF DECEMBER IS
CLEARLY SET OUT. PLEASE REMEMBER TO ADD THIS TO YOUR
1985 FEES.

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the quarter ended 30 September 1984 the C.P.I. rose by 1.4%. I am not in the business of 'guesstimating' what the overall annual change will be by the 31st March 1985, which will decide what percentage rise in superannuation we may expect in July, but I think we would be foolish to bank on anything more than 6% increase.

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The Commissioner for Superannuation and his staff sometimes get blamed for delays which are really our own fault -- or the fault of our representatives such as trustees or solicitors. For example, when a superannuant dies his spouse, trustee or solicitor fails to send to A.G.R.B.O. Canberra one or more of the necessary certificates. We strongly advise all new widows to adopt the following procedure:

- 1. Advise the Commissioner for Superannuation, P.N.G. Section, P.O. Box 22 Belconnen, A.C.T. 2601 of the death of the superannuant as soon as possible, at the same time formally apply for the spouse's pension and ask for the form "Application for Spouse's Benefit on Death of a Pensioner" to be sent to you.
- 2. When received, complete this form and return it to the Commissioner together with a photocopy of your marriage certificate and a photocopy of death certificate.

Do not delay returning the completed form because the death certificate is not yet available - instead enclose a copy of the death or funeral notice from the newspaper, making sure the name of the newspaper and the date of the entry is marked on it. Then forward a photocopy of the death certificate when you receive it.

Failure to notify the Commissioner quickly may mean that your husband's pension may continue, so that overpayment occurs and you will have all the hassle of returning the money. So -- to help yourself make sure that you or your solicitor or trustee act as above.

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Sir Percy Chatterton died in Moresby on 26th November at the age of 86, and was given a State Funeral. He came to Papua in 1926 with the London Missionary Society and was very active in religion, education and politics. He played a major part in establishing PNG's first self governing church, the Papuan Ekalesia. An official Member of the Legislative Council, he was later elected a member of the first House of Assembly and worked tirelessly for the independence and development of his adopted country and its people.

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HAVE YOU HEARD

Derek and Pat Baldwin of the well known Moresby family have just returned to Canberra after three years in Bangladesh with the Australian Development Assistance Bureau. Where to now, Derek ?

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Ted Shelton, the former pathologist at Rabaul and Goroka Hospitals, has just been admitted to hospital in Brisbane. Get well soon, Ted !

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Sister Gilbert (Gillie) is spending Christmas with Alan and Wen Boag and is then off to Singapore with the Gold Coast team.

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John Black of Highlands exploration fame is still farming in South Australia. He and his wife were in Sydney recently to see old friend and fellow explorer Jim Taylor who was down from Goroka visiting elder daughter Daisy. Incidentally, Jim's second daughter, Meg, took her law degree a few years ago.

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Committeeman Bert Speer (P.H.D.) has been shearing sheep in the Goulburn area on a family property. For some reason, his friends here don't believe his protests that his new haircut wasn't also done in the same shed !

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Lady Yvonne Mann celebrated an important birthday in October. Being a gentleman I can't report her age, but I understand that it has something to do with the Biblical three score years and something !

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Lady Dorothy Gunther is visiting son John and his family in Montreal, where John has been working for some years.

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Alec Zweck, ex-District Services from all over, is settled in Perth where he is active in Legacy, and occasionally sees Syd Johnson, one of our former legal eagles, also in Legacy. Alec hopes to be in Sydney next year for an Anzac Day reunion with his former 2/2 machine Gun Battalion.

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Hear tell Edwin (Ted) Hicks, former D.C. Sepik, was over in the West some time ago. Another birdie tells me that Ed is returning to the State of Excitement for Christmas. There must be some special attraction in the West ?

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Mike Corcoran, yet another ex-Kiap, has an hotel at Geraldton where he has a fairly constant stream of ex-PNG travellers. I understand he puts extra beer in the freezer and warns the local gendarmes when he hears that he is about to be invaded.

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Tom Jackson, ex-Lands Dept, has been Secretary of the Licenced Surveyors Association of NSW for some years, taking over when Les Clout retired.

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HAVE YOU HEARD

Des Sullivan, ex A.D.C. to J.K. Murray, and since then long time king of Rottnest Island, has retired from his island paradise. Many friends, from the East as well as West, who have enjoyed his help and hospitality when visiting Rottnest, will wish him good golfing in his new life in Perth.

P.S. The rumour that he is taking the quokkas with him is definitely untrue.

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Brother Jim Sullivan who used to look after personnel and finance matters for field staff from D.D.A H.Q. in Moresby and, earlier, in Rabaul, has also moved and by coincidence has ended up at Alsace Street, Carine, the same street as brother Des!

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Dr. Leslie Topham who for many years until 1964 was specialist ophthalmologist in Rabaul. Leaving PNG the next year, with wife Dorothy he went to Townsville General Hospital as consultant ophthalmologist, retiring in 1980. Returning to England two years later they are now at 2 Curlew Glebe, Dunnington, York YO1 5PO, England. In a note he recalls the move from the hospital at Namanula to the new one at Nonga and his association with Nursing Superintendent Lynn McAlister and Drs. Petrauskas and Willis, then later at Moresby where he worked with Stan Wigley, Doug Russel, Frank Smythe and Ian Brand. Leslie and Dorothy send their best wishes to all former colleagues and friends of PNG. (Leslie also sent a cheque to be used for the benefit of the Newsletter --- Thank you very much! Ed.)

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New Member, Ken Lamacraft, well known for his work in technical education in PNG gained his Ph.D. in education some time ago (congratulations, Doctor Ken) and has moved from Sydney north to Runaway Bay. He is now a consultant on career planning, training, technical manuals and Australia-Japan interaction.

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Another new Member is A.M. Ryan. "Mick" was in the 28th Battalion, 7th Brigade, 2nd Division 1st A.I.F. in Rabaul when he was discharged. In May 1928 he joined the New Guinea Administration as records clerk, then District Services as senior clerk at Kokopo, Kieta, Madang and Kavieng. He was Postmaster at Rabaul when he retired in 1940. Later he joined the Department of Territories in Canberra, where many post-war officers remember his interest.

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Les and Doreen Clout (Lands) recently spent some time in Hongkong then returned to Sydney on a cruise via Manila and Moresby. David Marsh (ex D.C.) met them on the wharf at Moresby and took them to see the sights, including the magnificent new Parliament House.

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David (Marsh) is in his third short spell in the Cape Rodney area east of Moresby, straightening out some land tangles in that large area declared waste and vacant in the early 1900s and now being developed for high yielding rubber. I don't envy him his job. He should be back in Sydney by February.

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HAVE YOU HEARD

Freddie Kaad was in Melbourne recently and fractured his right femur. To stop anyone jumping to the wrong conclusion he wants it known that it happened at 8.45 a.m. on his way to the Public Service Board! Now out of hospital he says he misses the Tender Loving Care of the nurses but is glad to be able to get an hour to himself without interruption for medicines, physio-therapy, lifting, needles etc. etc. He's very sorry his accident prevented him getting in touch with all his Melbourne friends.

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Ian Downs, living on a hilly property near Murwillumbah has turned his Goroka experience to good effect. He's put in several acres of coffee and persuaded neighbours to also plant up small areas and he's now producing some really good coffee beans for sale. Ian has also finished one book and is immersed in writing another

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Mrs. Edna Henderson has recently joined this Association. Edna was a resident of Rabaul from 1928-41 when she was married to Ian McLean, the dentist.

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John Ryan (P.H.D.) and wife Gwen are now ensconced in Bagara. John has had more than his fair share of health troubles and is having an operation on his eye early in '85. Good luck and better health, John.

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Our Christmas function was held on Friday 9th November. This was the week when Sydney had its cyclone and unusual rains which did record damage. Most of you will have seen its effect on T.V. The forecast for that Friday was for more of the same and one can only admire those people who did brave the elements and come to PNG House, and understand that for many others the weather conditions prevented them from attending. Some 60 Members, Associates and friends enjoyed themselves, together with the PNG staff of the Consulate who were our guests. Apart from our old and bold there were: Roy Ashton, former M.H.A. Flora Nitsche with son Joe who had just returned from Goroka; Ken and Dorothy Searle from the Gold Coast; John Joseph and Marjorie Murphy from Brisbane; Jean Lynch (Joe's better half); Lyle Newby from Bowral; Sandy Sinclair formerly of Sogeri Police Training; Bob Pulsford; the Toamsettis from their Blue Mountains eyrie; Professor Tony Radford from Adelaide; George Dunn; Les McManus; the Ashcroft-Smiths; the Connoleys; Edna Henderson; Linda Evans; Don and Barbara McIntosh (President of the Manly PNG Club).

\$	<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS !</u>	<u>ARE YOU IN THE RED ?</u>	\$
\$			\$
\$	Outstanding Subscriptions to December 1984: \$; 1985 : \$; TOTAL: \$
\$	Please forward to Hon. Treasurer, P.O. Box 364 MAROUBRA JUNCTION NSW 2035.		\$
\$			\$
\$	<u>RATES:</u> \$4.00 MEMBERS (Superannuants or their widows), \$2.00 ASSOCIATES (Non-		\$
\$	Superannuants, wives of Superannuants and former PNG residents if		\$
\$	they wish to join our ranks),	LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$40.00	\$
\$			\$
\$	Membership is free for widows of pre-war Superannuants (Papua or		\$
\$	Territory of New Guinea).		\$

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V A L E

With deep regret we record the passing of these Members and friends. On behalf of the Association the Committee extends sincere sympathy to their families :

Mrs Myrtle Chugg
15/9/84

Widow of Ron Chugg, a pre-war senior Medical Assistant who retired in 1964.

John (Jock) Stewart McLeod
21/9/84

Jock went to NG in 1936 and joined field staff. He served in ANGAU and after the war was ADO in several Districts and in Moresby. Retired 1964.

oy Frederick Barwick
26/10/84

After a long illness. Roy was a pre-war officer. Post-war was in Dept. of Labour, retiring as Chief of Division in 1965.

Robert Gilbert Gibson
15/11/84

A fisheries officer in DASF. He retired in 1971.

Colin (Tony) Lancelot Anthony
11/12/84

Aged 83. A pre-war New Guinea officer, Tony was chief draftsman in Lands in Rabaul. Postwar returned to Lands in Moresby, retiring as Chief of Lands Division in 1961. Leaves widow Mona, son Quentin & daughter Julianne (Clunies Ross)

F.G. (Bill) Driver
11/12/84

After a long illness. Bill was born in Milne Bay area of Papua. Post-war joined Native Affairs and later became D.C. Milne Bay. Bill turned his hobby into profit in setting up a stamp dealing shop at Bundaberg. Widow Molly lives at nearby Bagara.

New Guinea Fund

Walter Roy Smith
24/11/84

Pre-war clerk in N.G. Customs Dept, retiring in 1964 as Chief Clerk. Leaves widow Hilda at Briar Hill, Victoria.

ers

Sir Percy Chatterton
26/11/84

See separate item elsewhere in this issue.

B.E. Fairfax-Ross C.B.E.
9/11/84

Very prominent in private enterprise, he went to New Guinea in 1929 with B.P. plantations. During the war served in Tobruk and then behind Japanese lines in New Britain. Post-war Fax was head of British New Guinea Development Company.

John E. Turner
2/1/84

Former Staff member of Department of Public Health. Served overseas with Rats of Trobruk.

THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1983-84 FOR PAPUA NEW GUINEA SUPERANNUATION SCHEME

The main points of the Report are summarized below:

The Commissioner for Superannuation is responsible for the payment of pensions under the Superannuation Ordinances of the Territory of Papua 1917, the Territory of New Guinea 1928, and the Papua New Guinea Scheme 1973. The few contributions are paid into, and all benefits paid from, the Consolidated Revenue Fund:

	Pensions at 1/7/83	Commencements	Cessations	Pensions at 30/6/84
<u>Males</u>				
Early Retirement	93	-	3	90
Maximum Age	228	-	13	215
Invalidity	90	-	4	86
<u>Females</u>				
Early Retirement	14	-	-	14
Maximum Age	33	-	-	33
Invalidity	4	-	-	4
Widows	183	19	6	196
Children	31	-	3	28
Total Number	676	19	29	666

Total expenditure on pensions during the year amounted to \$10,974,860. The annual liability for the year ending 30 June 1985 in respect of the 666 pensions in force at 1/7/84 is \$11,489,901; this includes the pension increases that became payable on the first pension payday in July 1984.

PAPUA SUPERANNUATION AND NEW GUINEA SUPERANNUATION SCHEMES

Ten males were receiving pensions under the Papua scheme at 30/6/84, one less than previous year. The Scheme did not provide benefits for widows or children. Expenditure on pensions for the year amounted to \$121,559. 15 males and 48 widows (up 1) received pensions under the New Guinea scheme at 30/6/84. Expenditure was \$501,672.

MISCELLANEOUS

The administrative costs of the Australian Govt Retirement Benefits Office are met from an annual appropriation from Consolidated Revenue. Cost of the administration of the PNG Superannuation Scheme and the other schemes included in the Report was estimated to be \$80,000 for the year ended 30 June 1984.

There were no enquiries relating to Papua/New Guinea superannuation matters received from the Ombudsman during 1983-84.

WITH BEST WISHES TO ALL AND R E M E M B E R -

S T A Y A L I V E I N ' 85

Freddie
F.P. KAAD (Editor)