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# Una Voce News Letter



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

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Dear Member --

I've been told by the Committee to make sure I advertise the Christmas Luncheon. So here's your second reminder -- the first was in the June Newsletter. Remember! November 24th from 11.30 a.m for 1 p.m. -- see separate notice for details.  
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Secretary Harry West has just a few copies of Dame Rachel's book 'Pathways to Independence' and they have been reduced to \$20 to clear - a steal! Ring Harry for more information.  
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Last week someone gave me a wife's definition of retirement -- twice as much husband and half as much pay.  
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The 10th anniversary of Independence in PNG was celebrated on 16th September with all the pomp and circumstance expected on such an occasion. Most of you would have seen some of the events in Port Moresby on television.

Here in Sydney the celebrations began on Saturday 7th with Prime Minister Michael Somare officially opening Somare House, the new office of the PNG Consul-General at 100 Clarence Street, Sydney.

Other Sydney events followed the program set out in our last newsletter, with the Martin Plaza shows given by the National Arts School students drawing very big crowds. On the 16th itself the Independence Day Dinner advertised in the Newsletter was held at the Menzies Hotel. Over 470 attended, including a large group of PNG National Netball Players and the NAS Students from Moresby. I believe that there were many disappointed Members who did not take our advice to book early and so missed out on tickets. Just to rub salt into the wound, let me say how happy the night was. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves - the noise was deafening, the smiles infectious and the food very good - including the taro and sweet potato. The major problem was that the large crowd made it difficult to get around to see friends. Some I saw in the distance but didn't get to speak to, others I didn't see at all, whilst with others it was a quick hello and good-bye. The flowing South Pacific Special Export Lager may have had something to do with all the jollity!  
\*\*\*\*\*

Also at the Dinner from Moresby were Sir John and Lady Guise (the former giving a very good speech) and Wally Lussick from Kavieng. Other interstate visitors were Madge Ormsby and Grace and Harry Jackman - all from South Australia.

\* \* \* \* \*

Members of the Association's Committee assisted Consular staff during the celebrations and also with one or two other Members manned the PNG Photo, Cultural and Tourist Display at the NSW Government Information Office from 16th to 27th September.

\* \* \* \* \*

Writing of Independence reminds me of the PNG national flag. The winner of the competition for a flag design was a 15 year old girl living at Yule Island Mission. Today she is Mrs Susan Huhume, married to an Eastern Highlands Sergeant-Major at the Gordon Police Barracks, and mother of three children.

\* \* \* \* \*

R. O. A. P. N. G 1985 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

11.30 a.m. for 1 p.m. -- plenty of time to socialise!

24 NOVEMBER, 1985

LOTUS ROOM

MANDARIN CLUB

CORNER GOULBURN AND PITT STREETS, SYDNEY

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The room is very large and has been refurbished. It has its own long bar and the luncheon will be served at the end of the same room, so there will be no need to move to a separate dining room.

The cost will be only \$14.00 per head for the banquet type meal.

It is important that we give the Club accurate numbers so please send your cheques to Harry West, 17 McIntosh Street, Gordon, 2072 as soon as possible. Cancellations notified to Harry on (02) 498 2271 by 9 p.m. on Friday 22nd November will receive a full refund. No need to send a covering letter - just the names of those attending on the back of your cheque, will be sufficient.

Since the AGM your Committee has reorganised itself into sub-committees to allow more involvement of all members and a greater capability to respond to Association needs.

The Social Sub-Committee, under Herry West, looks after our functions and any involvement such as with the PNG 10th Anniversary Celebrations. They have arranged the Christmas Luncheon so I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on 24 November.

The Keep-In-Touch Sub-Committee is being developed by Bert Speer, Christina Grant and their helpers to do just that -- keep in touch with any Members who may be a little lonely or in need of some advice or other help. Hopefully we can get some volunteers to do something similar in other centres.

The Legal and Administrative Sub-Committee under Doug Parrish is keeping an eye on such things as pensions and constitutional matters, and our relationship with the Superannuated Commonwealth Officers Association (SCOA).

Treasurer Gabriel Keleny has been revising our investments in light of the better opportunities offering. Unfortunately we are now a taxpaying organisation and we want to keep our capital intact and our income as high as possible as costs keep rising.

Fred Kaad, Pamela Foley, Les and Doreen Clout form a Newsletter Sub-Committee whose main complaint is that we are not getting enough gossip or news of who's doing what.

The suggestion that the role of Associate Members in our Association might be extended has met with very little response. However, I can assure Associates that their presence is always welcome.

With the trade deficit, the curbing of public expenditure and the increasing pressure on social services, a sixth sense tells me that superannuation benefits may come under closer scrutiny. There is absolutely no official basis for any such suspicion -- its merely a feeling I have. Nevertheless I believe that we must try and build up our numbers even more, and to strengthen our links with Associations like SCOA so that we are in the strongest position to defend our rights if the need arises.

Fred Kaad retired from full time work in September and in complaining that his part time work leaves him less time than ever. Good luck in your retirement, Frederick -- take some time off so we can go and pull in some fish! I also wish a change of fortune for the Clouts, who have been suffering from both arsonists and theives! Hopefully their troubles are in the past.

On behalf of Members your Committee recently presented past President Bill Seale with a hand woven wool rug from Goroka as a token of recognition of his long and valued service to the Association. Good luck and thanks, Bill.

May you all enjoy your memories of PNG in this period of celebrating its 10th Anniversary of Independence.

DAVID MARSH, President.

CHARLES ROWLEY

Charles Rowley died in Canberra on September 18, aged 78. His three main connections with PNG were in the AIF during the war, as Principal of ASOPA 1950-64 and as Professor of Political Studies at the University of PNG 1968-74. The field officers, teachers, doctors and others who passed through ASOPA and the University as students in those years - and that would include many of our Members, would be aware of the contribution made by Charles to the development of PNG, both directly by his writings and his advice to the Australian and the PNG governments and indirectly if you like by his influence upon these two institutions and upon his students. Many of us owe the inspiration to further our education, to increase our knowledge, to Charles. All of us were made to reflect critically upon what we were doing in PNG, to question our methods, our motives, our philosophies and I am sure we were all better officers from our contact with him.

Charles was a prolific writer. Apart from many reviews and articles there were Australians in German New Guinea (1914-21), The New Guinea Villager, The Politics of Educational Planning in Developing Countries. Then there was the famous trilogy on Australian Aborigines The Destruction of the Aboriginal Australians, Outcasts in a White Australia, and The Remote Aborigines - a daunting task for any reader. Penguin has published his A Matter of Justice which is short and easy to read and which should be required reading for all Australians. There is another book ready for publication.

It is these latter books and his work on various commissions and committees concerned with aborigines which are now recognised as being such important factors in bringing about the great change in the attitude of thinking Australians towards aborigines over the last 15 years.

Historians will write of Charles Rowley's contribution to the advancement of Australian aborigines, but I like to think that his contribution to Papua New Guinea will also be remembered in his epitaph.

\* \* \* \* \*

The President of the Manly PNG Social Club has extended an invitation to our Members to join in their Christmas BBQ luncheon. This will be held from 12.30 onwards at Don and Barbara McIntosh's residence, 1 Morgan Road, Belrose (seaward side off Forest Way, turn at Uniting Church Retirement Village) SUNDAY 8th DECEMBER.

Cost is not finalised, but will be about \$10.00 per head. There's a swimming pool, so bring a towel - oh yes, and something to wear! Don says children are welcome.

If you'd like to go, please ring Margaret Cameron on 919 4974 so that there won't be any catering problems.

\* \* \* \* \*

V A L E

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

- N.G.
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Mrs Norma Shacht<br>11 August '85         | Widow of Walter, who retired from Forestry in 1950.  |
| Mrs Nancy Feldt<br>23 August '85          | Widow of Eric, of Coast Watcher fame who died in 1968.   |
| Clive Devenish-Mearns<br>20 September '85 | Aged 82. Former Senior administration Officer in Rabaul. Leaves widow Ina & 2 married daughters. |
| Mrs Jean Clark<br>22 September '85        | Widow of Mervyn, who was a draftsman with Lands.   |
- P.N.G.
- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Mrs Daphne Thomson<br>18 June '85 | Widow of Noel, who was Public Service Commissioner in early sixties.  |
| Paul Jones<br>25 June '85         | Retired from Lands Department in Rabaul 1970.   |
| Albert Wicks<br>20 July '85       | P.W.D. Supervisor, retiring in 1975. Leaves widow Norma.  |
| Leonard Odgers<br>31 July '85     | Pre- and post-war Treasury. Walked overland with group from Wewak to Daru when Japanese invaded. Retired in Moresby in 1958. Leaves widow Margaret. |
| Alan Frazer<br>2 August '85       | Retired from Forestry Dept. in 1970. Leaves widow Gwendoline.   |
| Austin Gilchrist<br>11 August '85 | Very well known Moresby building inspector who retired 1970. Leaves widow Winifred.   |
| Paul Sebire<br>16 August '85      | Wartime RAAF pilot flying in PNG, later kiap then Magistrate at Moresby, retiring 1975. Leaves widow Evelyn.  |
| John Womersley<br>2 September '85 | Retired from Forestry 1975. Very well known and admired for his work, particularly with the Botanical Gardens in Lae. Leaves widow Mary.            |

KEEP-IN-TOUCH SUB-COMMITTEE

This Sub-Committee has been formed in accordance with the Constitution under Sections 3(b) and 3(c). Its function is to assist Members with any personal, social or other problems they may have. The need for such a group became clearly evident when a mini-survey of some of our older Members was conducted and it has been underlined by individual cases which have come to our attention.

It is only natural that for various reasons we may not want to admit to anyone else that we are not self-sufficient, that we do need a helping hand even if only temporarily. Those on the Sub-Committee are well aware of this feeling and their last wish would be to intrude upon anyone's privacy. However they do want everyone to know of the existence of the Sub-Committee and their desire to help in any way they can. They would like to know of anyone who is sick, in need of advice or company, either directly from that person or from someone who knows of such a person. Please contact:

- Roma Bates (02) 560-2648
- Christina Grant (02) 48-5450
- David Marsh (02) 938-3501

It is not intended to take the place of any existing social services but it could well inform Members of what is available and how to obtain them. Its work includes visiting those who would so desire, either at home or in hospital. Its members include women and men whose time is flexible and who are anxious to assist. Anything they do is, of course, confidential.

At present the Sub-Committee is operating only in Sydney but we feel that the need for such a service would also be present in many other areas, and hopefully our Association can help to meet that need. To begin this would require only a coordinator and one or two others, and we should be very glad to hear from anyone interested in taking on such a job in other areas.

V A L E

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

- Les Gray  
September '85  
Born and brought up in Rabaul, Les later moved to Lae with Guinea Airways, where his mother was in charge of catering services. Joined Army early - as Number MGX6 testifies.
- Charles Rowley  
18 September '85  
Principal of A.S.O.P.A. 1950-64 and later Professor at University of PNG. See separate section.
- Mrs Zen Baines  
August '85  
Widow of Bill, who was sawmiller in Wewak. Zen was secretary to the Medical Officer there for some 20 years, and well known for her help to the community.

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LIFE AFTER SIXTY

HOW TO KNOW YOU ARE GETTING OLDER.

EVERYTHING HURTS AND WHAT DOESN'T HURT DOESN'T WORK..

THE GLEAM IN YOUR EYES IS FROM THE SUN HITTING YOUR BI-FOCALS. YOU FEEL LIKE THE MORNING AFTER THE NIGHT BEFORE AND YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ANYWHERE.

YOUR LITTLE BLACK BOOK CONTAINS ONLY NAMES ENDING IN M.D.

YOU GET WINDED PLAYING CHESS.

YOUR CHILDREN BEGIN TO LOOK MIDDLE AGED.

YOU JOIN A HEALTH CLUB AND DON'T GO.

YOU BEGIN TO OUTLIVE ENTHUSIASM.

YOUR MIND MAKES CONTRACTS YOUR BODY CAN'T MEET.

YOU KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS, BUT NOBODY ASKS THE QUESTIONS.

YOU LOOK FORWARD TO A DULL EVENING.

YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF A NEWSPAPER IS "25 YEARS AGO TODAY"

YOU SIT ON A ROCKING CHAIR AND CAN'T GET IT GOING.

YOUR KNEES BUCKLE AND YOUR BELT WON'T.

YOU REGRET ALL THOSE MISTAKES RESISTING TEMPTATION.

YOU STOP LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR BIRTHDAY.

STALLING LONG DISTANCE WEARS YOU OUT.

YOUR BACK GOES OUT MORE THAN YOU DO.

A FORTUNE-TELLER OFFERS TO READ YOUR FACE

YOU TURN OUT THE LIGHT FOR ECONOMIC REASONS RATHER THAN ROMANTIC ONES.

YOU REMEMBER TODAY THAT YESTERDAY WAS YOUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

YOU ARE STARTLED THE FIRST TIME YOU ARE ADDRESSED AS "OLD TIMER"

YOU BURN THE MIDNIGHT OIL AFTER 9 PM.

YOU SINK YOUR TEETH INTO A PIECE OF STEAK AND THEY STAY THERE.

YOUR PACEMAKER MAKES THE garage door go up when you see a PRETTY GIRL.

YOU GET YOUR EXERCISE ACTING AS FALL-BEARER FOR YOUR FRIENDS WHO EXERCISE.

"HAVE A HAPPY CHRISTMAS WHILE YOU CAN"

**HAVE YDU HEARD.....**

Don Daniels, who has been teaching in PNG since 1967 - New Ireland, Milne Bay, Lae and then Goroka - has gone into business as manager/partner in the Mololo Hotel near Madang (used to be the Plantation Hotel).

\* \* \*

Veterinarian George Malynicz who came to Goroka in 1969, moved to Primary Industry headquarters in '76, is still in Moresby but now in a policy job. George is also President of the Association Looking after the interests of expatriate contract officers.

\* \* \*

Doreen Hogg (nee Ryan of pre-school) recently in Sydney from New Zealand proved that you can't keep a good man -- sorry, person -- down. Despite some heart troubles and a very bad car accident which did nasty things to her leg she's still bouncing. Her only concession to her problems is a walking stick -- which she keeps forgetting !

\* \* \*

Glad Sinclair, wife of Sandy, is in Greenwich Hospital, Sydney - and happy to see visitors.

\* \* \*

Bryan McCook, TAL pilot in earlier years, before founding MACAIR, has been in touch. Leaving PNG he went to the U.S. Virgin Islands as a pilot for Maureen O'Hara's Antilles Air Boats and in 1979 moved to Singapore where he managed seaplane operations for CONOCO, which has an oilfield in the South China Sea. His two sons are Sydney-siders -- one with QANTAS and one at the Institute of Technology. Your Editor is personally very glad to catch up with him again, as it was Bryan in his Cessna for finally found the plane after we crashed, and who flew me back to Madang the next morning.

\* \* \*

UNFORTUNATELY WE ONLY HAVE ONE FUNCTION WHERE WE CAN ALL GET TOGETHER

BUT HOPE TO SEE AS MANY AS POSSIBLE ON 24th NOVEMBER - HAPPY DAYS

"FREDDIE"

SUBSCRIPTIONS. ARE YOU IN THE RED ????????

Outstanding subscriptions \$	Current 1985 \$	TOTAL \$
Please forward to Hon.Treasurer Mr G.P.Keleny, P.O.Box 364 MAROUBRA NSW 2035		
Rates are: Members \$4 (Superannuants and their Widows ) Associates \$2 (Non-Superannuants, wives of Superannuants and former PNG Residents if they wish to join our ranks.		