



# Una Voce

JOURNAL OF THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC  
(formerly the Retired Officers Association of Papua New Guinea Inc)

Patrons: Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC (Retd)  
Mrs Roma Bates; Mr Fred Kaad OBE

### Special General Meeting And Luncheon

To be held on **Sunday 26 April 2009** at Killara Golf Club in Sydney. Full details are on page 3 of this issue, booking slip and payment form are on a separate yellow insert.

➡ **Note:** At the Special General Meeting members will be asked to vote on proposed amendments to the Association's Constitution – these, together with a proxy voting form, appear in the enclosed information.

*The Management Committee would like to thank all those who sent Seasons Greetings.*

If you do not wish to have your name and address included in the **MEMBERSHIP LIST** which is published in the **June** issue of *Una Voce*, please advise the Secretary.

### **ARE YOU UNFINANCIAL???**

If you notice a **red dot** on the address label of your copy of *Una Voce*, you are **unfinancial**. Please complete the Membership Renewal Form on the yellow insert – please also include your membership number.

Please note: Membership Fees \$20 pa.

➡ **Have you had a say?** Visit the **FORUM** on our

website: [www.pngaa.net](http://www.pngaa.net)

### In This Issue

<b>NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>IT'S OUR PARTY</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>GREAT CHARITY RAFFLE - \$9000</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>POSITION VACANT – TREASURER</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>PNGAA WEB SITE</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>AT THE RACES</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>PNGAA Caveat Emptor</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>NOTES FROM THE NT</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>A VISIT TO SOGERI</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>LETTERS TO THE EDITOR</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>RUNDLE and the Montevideo Maru</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>ROBERT ROTHSAWAY COLE OBE MC</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE-Emanuel Trial</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>A LOT OF HOT AIR</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>THE WAU FACTOR</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>THE ALLIED LIBERATION of LAE - 1943</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>SHEETS OF STEEL</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>HELP WANTED</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>BOOK NEWS</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>GETTING PUBLISHED</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>PNGAA COLLECTION - FRYER LIBRARY</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>THE GREAT DAY</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>TWO VOLCANOLOGISTS DEAD!</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>BOB COLE and the 30 POLICE BADGES</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>KONE BAR FLIES v. THE KONE TIGERS</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>SIALUM PIG CALLING</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>DERRIS</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>RETURNING TO NEW IRELAND</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>FIFTY YEARS AGO IN PNG</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>PETER E FIGGIS MC</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>'BILONG GUT TAIM BIPOR'</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>VALES</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS</b>	<b>68</b>

**'UNA VOCE' IS THE JOURNAL OF  
THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

**ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC**

Please send all correspondence to: **The Secretary, PNGAA, PO Box 1386, Mona Vale NSW 1660.** Items for *Una Voce* are welcome and should be marked 'For Attention: The Editor' or emailed to: [editor@pngaa.net](mailto:editor@pngaa.net) By submitting your article/story for publication, you agree that we may, after publication in *Una Voce*, republish it on the internet unless you advise us to the contrary.

*Una Voce* is published in March, June, September and December.

**Advertising** is available - please contact the Editor.

**Website:** [www.pngaa.net](http://www.pngaa.net)

**Membership is available to any person having an interest in PNG.**

Annual subscription - \$20. The membership year corresponds to the calendar year and an application form is available from the Secretary at the above address or you can download one from our website.

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**The Objects of the Association:**

- to foster and maintain an interest in contemporary and historical events in Papua New Guinea;
- to foster and encourage contact and friendship with Papua New Guineans;
- to encourage the preservation of documents and historical material related to Papua New Guinea;
- to encourage members to contribute to the production and recording of the oral and written history of Papua New Guinea;
- to promote friendly association among all members;
- to continue to safeguard and foster the retirement conditions of superannuated members of the former services.

In so far as the original association was formed to safeguard and foster the retirement conditions of superannuated members of the former services, including conditions applicable to their widows and dependants, the association shall continue to represent such members, their widows and dependants in all superannuation matters appropriate to their prior service in the former services.

**DISCLAIMER:** *Una Voce* is produced for the information of members of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia Inc. It is written with care, in good faith, and from sources believed to be accurate. However, readers should not act, nor refrain from acting, solely on the basis of information in *Una Voce* about financial, taxation or any other matter. Having regard for their own particular circumstances, readers should consult the relevant authorities or other advisers with expertise in the particular field. Neither the PNGAA nor the editor accepts any responsibility for actions taken by readers. Also, the views expressed by any of the authors of articles or book reviews included in *Una Voce* are not necessarily those of the editor or the PNGAA.

A **Special General Meeting (SGM)** of the Association is planned for April 26 at the Killara Golf Club, and takes the place of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) that had already been announced. At this SGM members will be asked to vote on proposed amendments to the Association's Constitution. One of these proposals is that the Association's office-bearers and members of the Management Committee should henceforth be elected by a postal vote of the membership, rather than on a show of hands by those attending the AGM. This change to the Rules, like all the changes presented at the SGM is unanimously recommended by the Management Committee. If this is approved, time of course will be required for nominations to be received from members and postal voting forms sent out. Thus the 2009 AGM will now be held on Sunday 28 June at the Killara Golf Club, where a light afternoon tea will be served and drinks available. Updated information on all these developments will be published in the June Una Voce, as well as on the Association's website: [www.pngaa.net](http://www.pngaa.net).

### **NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

A Special General Meeting of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Incorporated, will be held in Sydney on **Sunday 26 April 2009 at the Killara Golf Club, 556 Pacific Highway, Killara, NSW**, commencing at 11:30 am. A Luncheon has been arranged starting at approximately 1:00 pm.

### **AGENDA**

1. Members present and apologies.
2. Receipt of Proxies
3. To consider and if thought fit, pass the following Special Resolution:  
*To replace the document entitled Rules of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Inc. dated 1 December 2002 (the Old Rules), with the document entitled Rules of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Inc., dated 26 April 2009 (the New Rules)*

Please note that alcoholic beverages will be available from a cash-only bar. Members together with their families and friends are all welcome – but please let us know if you wish to come to the luncheon by completing the booking form and payment details on the separate yellow insert and returning it as soon as possible. Anyone with special dietary requests? Please let us know so we can arrange something suitable. Again you may indicate if you wish to sit with particular people or pre arrange a table of 8 or 10.

For those coming by train, take the exit on the western side of Killara station, walk along Marion Street, cross the Pacific Highway at the lights and then turn left along the Highway towards the Killara Golf Club (550m). Restoration work to Lindfield Station, including two lifts and a ramp, should be completed in late May. Until Lindfield Station has these facilities free return shuttle transport from Gordon Station, which has a lift and a taxi rank, is offered if you would like. Please phone Harry West #9418 8793 regarding transport or further information. Public transport information # 131500.

**The cost is \$47.50 per person** – this does not include liquor or soft drinks - would those attending please pay in advance and not at the door. Advance payment enables us to plan the seating and confirm numbers with the House Manager, Killara golf Club.

**Cancellations** advised to Ann Graham (02 9999 4490) by Monday April 13, 2009 will secure a full refund. This is the date we inform the Club of final numbers – after this date the Association must pay for those unable to attend. ▪

## **RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT**

***Keith Jackson AM, who was elected president of the PNGAA at the annual general meeting on 27 April last year, resigned as of 6 January 2009. Keith's resignation letter is as follows:***

I would like the Committee of the Association to accept my resignation as President and as a Committee member of the PNGAA. This decision has been made over a number of weeks and has been arrived at for the following reasons:

1. Despite what was said to me before I agreed to put my name forward as President last year about there being a mood for change in the PNGAA, it is clear that a vocal minority of people within the Association, and particularly within the former ROAPNG membership, are implacably opposed to change.

While I know there were serious divisions in the Committee before my election as President and subsequent arrival on the Committee, and while Committee meetings under my chairmanship have been conducted professionally and in a businesslike manner, I have no desire to preside over a voluntary organisation in which such divisions persist and in which such ill will is manifested to the person holding the office of President.

2. I believe that pressing ahead with the changes I believe are necessary to sustain the Association will, in the short term, exacerbate existing divisions. These changes are likely, also, to cause some members to leave. In my view, while such departures would not affect the long-term viability of the Association, they would make me feel that I had failed in a fundamental sense to have the Association operate harmoniously and in union.

While such disharmony and discord would be in large part due to the inflexibility, intolerance and, in some cases, intellectual dishonesty of some members – which in most circumstances would not deter me – I nevertheless feel compassion for these people, most of whom are ageing, and I also feel a sense of duty to the origins and history of the Association.

In other words I feel conflicted between what I know is in the best longer term interests of the Association and the reaction of some members to my prescription for the sustainability of an Association I believe is under threat.

Since I do not intend to preside over a body that may have a limited future, and since if in trying to provide it with a sustainable future my efforts cause the perpetuation of existing conflict, I believe I can best resolve this matter by stepping down. While I do not believe my resignation will resolve the conflict, nor be of assistance in equipping the Association for the future, at least, at a personal level, I will not need to deal with what is essentially dysfunctional micro-political behaviour by some of our members, which I find both discomfiting and a waste of my time and energy.

3. I am chairman of a company that, while it has longevity and a good reputation, is nevertheless a small business. You would be aware of the prevailing economic climate and I am sure you will understand that I need to devote more time to my business during such a period. In circumstances where I feel the time I would devote to the PNGAA would more usefully be spent protecting and enhancing my firm, I choose to do this.

4. There are other personal reasons, which I do not intend to canvass here, that make dealing with the difficulties of the PNGAA even more burdensome on me at this time, and these factors have also influenced my decision.

I cannot write this letter without escaping the feeling that I am letting down a great number of people. I apologise to them and thank them for their support and kindness. But sometimes we must make decisions in our own best interests as well as in the interests of others, and this is what I am doing today.

My decision is irrevocable, it has been made alone, and I ask that you respect it. I will continue to work selected PNG-related projects I have been undertaking, but will not do so as President or as a PNGAA Committee member.

My resignation is tenable as of today's date.

Best wishes

Keith

Keith Jackson AM

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***The Acting President of the Management Committee of the PNGAA, Mrs Pamela Foley, sent the following letter of appreciation to Keith on 9 February:***

Dear Keith

In accepting your resignation as President, the Management Committee of the PNGAA would like to thank you most sincerely for the enormous amount of time and effort you put into the position of President and for helping us to form a vision for the future of the Association. Your energy and drive have stimulated the Committee into acting with an increased sense of purpose which will have long-term benefits for the Association.

In planning for the future, the Management Committee intends to build on what was achieved under your Presidency. These achievements are many and include the following:

- The future direction of the Association has been highlighted. There is greater awareness that it should cater for the diverse interests of the growing membership so that the aims and aspirations of our members may be accommodated whilst, at the same time, the traditional social and superannuation roles are maintained.
- A review of the Constitution has motivated a broad cross-section of members to become actively engaged in the Association.
- The sub-committee system was extended, broadening the Association's activities to make it more relevant to our expanding membership.
- All back copies of *Una Voce* were electronically scanned; this is certainly valuable for posterity and something we have tried to achieve for years.
- Whilst the PNGAA website was initially successfully established by Ross Johnson, it has been substantially diversified, making it more informative and interactive. The forum, now up and running, should be an excellent way of engaging more of our members in the Association's activities.

I am sure you will be pleased to know that at its meeting on Sunday, 1 February 2009, the Management Committee unanimously approved the recommendations of the Constitutional Review Committee. We hope the new constitution will be endorsed by the members when it is put to them at the Special General Meeting planned for April. It has been seven years since the Rules were last revised and the Committee applauds the prodigious, constructive and visionary effort you, Andrea Williams, Ross Johnson and Riley Warren applied to setting the pathway to the future for the PNGAA. We wish you well, and we thank you once again.

Yours sincerely

Pamela Foley

Acting President ▪

## CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Following a meeting of the Management Committee in July 2008, a working group was formed to undertake a review of the Association's current Rules and to propose recommendations that would broaden the scope of the Association and to make PNGAA a more sustainable and productive organisation. To this end a Supplement, containing a questionnaire was included with the September 2008 *Una Voce* which asked interested members to provide comment on all or any of the 11 items under consideration. We thank those individual members and groups who provided comment.

In both reviewing the comments received and the existing Rules, the working group has recommended several significant changes to the Rules which have been unanimously endorsed by the Association's Management Committee. It is hoped that these recommendations will also be endorsed by the members when put to them at the Special General Meeting.

Changes of particular note are:

- an extension of the Association's Objects
- alterations to the structure and membership of the Committee
- biennial elections
- a postal ballot, when needed, of the membership as a whole for both Office-bearers and Management Committee.

Separately enclosed with this *Una Voce* are:

1. Explanatory Notes including proposed changes to the Rules
2. New Rules for the PNGAA dated 26 April 2009
3. Proxy voting form – to accept the new Rules

1. The Explanatory Notes refer to each proposed change of a rule and provide the rationale behind those changes. Each note in the Explanatory Notes relates to a change in an existing Rule. The affected rules are listed in the 'Comparison between Current and Proposed Rules' following the Explanatory Notes. The existing Rule is shown in the left hand column with the proposed changes to that Rule adjacent in the right hand column. It should be noted that where there is no comparison, there is no policy change to that Rule.

2. 'Rules of the Papua New Guinea Association Inc' dated 26 April 2009 (the New Rules). It is this document, incorporating all the referenced amendments, that we hope you will vote for in the Special Resolution on the accompanying Proxy Form.

3. Proxy Form – If you do not intend, or are unable to attend, this meeting a Proxy voting form is enclosed. A Special Resolution requires a three-quarters (75%) majority of those voting in person or by proxy to be passed, so please exercise your rights as a member - your Vote is important.

If mailing your proxy, please ensure it is received by the Returning Officer, PNGAA, PO Box 1386, Mona Vale, NSW, 1660, by Friday 24 April 2009. Proxies may be handed to the Returning Officer prior to the Special General Meeting.

**Note: Annual General Meeting (AGM) delayed to Sunday 28 June 2009 at Killara Golf Club:** It is hoped by the Management Committee that the new Rules will be adopted at the SGM. However, before they can come into effect, they need to be approved by the NSW Department of Fair Trading. Therefore we have to delay our AGM so that we can implement the new Rules, particularly the Rule that allows postal voting for the Officers and Ordinary members of the Management Committee should voting be necessary. ■

## **IT'S OUR PARTY... by Robin Mead**

I have been asked to pen some words about December's Christmas lunch function. Initially I thought that I would just write a narrative of the day; however on reflection I'd like to offer, as well as a 'consumer' perspective, an overall perspective on what it takes, and has taken, to put it all together.

I'd like people to reflect for a moment on the word 'volunteer' and what it means for our Association. Every member of your PNGAA Management Committee is involved; in relation to our Christmas 'do', many people down the years have put in many unsung, quiet hours of their own time to do their bit to try to make it a good time and a happy time for everyone, so that the day is enjoyed by the many members who attend. The work starts months in advance, planning, liaising, discussing, checking to ensure that on the day everything is there and everyone knows exactly what to do.

Certain people stand out in my mind – I know there have been many more – as people who have always turned up, always have done their bit in the past few years. Clear in my mind is a picture of Pat Hopper and Frank Smith – Caring Committee – always welcoming members in the foyer of the old Mandarin Club. Joe Nitsche, long-time Secretary, with the flags and the raffle tickets; Pam Foley organizing the raffle tickets too, the name tags and, together with her colleagues planning the seating arrangements. And our dear Harry West, tireless in his efforts to keep our Association alive. Other volunteers come to mind – Marie-Clifton-Bassett, Liz Thurston, Ian Reardon, Ann Graham. And many others.

Memories of the Mandarin functions – trying to pin table lists to impenetrable red partitions held up by upturned side-plates, the 'interesting' toilets and other 'unique' experiences ... but still fun overall.

When it emerged that we would have to leave our former long-term venue, some members breathed a sigh of relief. But it also created a major headache for the Association. Liz Thurston enabled a great interim venue for us, but then a venue Sub-Committee led by Andrea, assisted by Ross, Rebecca Hopper and myself, vetted no less than 27 locations. We needed a venue that could cater for us preferably on a Sunday, we considered a combination of location and ambience, affordability, convenience of parking and access, both at the venue and to the venue (transport, lifts and taxi service at train stations). In the end we settled on Killara, and this has worked pretty well.

And so to December. Once again every member did their bit, months in advance. Harriet Troy and her team took up the baton and did an excellent job tying the details together. All the regular faces were still involved, of course. Among those more recently involved, Keith had worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure we had a workable way to turn Air Niugini's gift of air tickets into something useful for the people of PNG, in the form of a boost for the Oro Community Development Project. Ross worked in his fantastic and comprehensive way, doggedly determined as always to see things done properly and well. Juli put her mark on ticket sales. Everyone participated. I did my usual MC thing, something that Harry first asked me to do some years ago to take some of his load. Even that role isn't always as easy as it might seem, and this time round was the first where one could relax a little, because everything was so smooth and well-organised, as well as being very successful – one of the biggest and best - for a lot of good reasons.

Over the years, I've become accustomed to hearing a mixture of bouquets and the occasional brickbat. This year was no different... Music, volume, speech etc ... For the record, I and many others thought that Phil Charley and his band were super, and that it was a real coup for us to have a significant government representative in the form of the Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island affairs, who visited us en route from Canberra to the Top End.

Personal viewpoints are all very well, but it's also worthwhile to think about the implications before getting too vocal and spouting off in public. We all have a responsibility to each other, and hopefully some respect. To those that feel that they have something they'd like to say, I'd say this: come and join in, work with the other participants - *Bung wantaim na halivim olgeta*. Together, we can all have a good time. ■

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### **Great Charity Raffle achieves an outstanding \$9000**

After a major fundraising effort, the PNGAA handed over a cheque for \$9000 to the Oro Community Development Project, (refer: [www.oropng.org](http://www.oropng.org)). The raffle was drawn at the annual Christmas lunch and was won by PNGAA Life Member Len Bailey. Oro Project organisers were delighted with the outcome and sent the following letter of appreciation:

Monday 8 December 2008

Dear Keith,

As the very fortunate recipients of PNGAA's 'Great Charity Raffle', we thank you and the committee most sincerely for this extremely worthwhile initiative.

Yesterday, the Hon Duncan Kerr MP enunciated the need for closer contact between both the governments and the peoples of PNG and Australia. Such a statement of intent is important and it reaffirms what we all believe should be the status quo.

The Oro Community Development Project provides us with a remarkable opportunity to assist children in the province. The education and health systems struggled well before the impact of Cyclone Guba.

We believe our decision to concentrate on helping teachers to teach, empowering mothers to be the basic health providers and encouraging children to take a much greater interest in the village garden and agriculture in particular, will make a difference.

Thank you Keith, for making the approach to Air Niugini and persuading them to donate two return tickets as the prize. The work of Robin Mead as the Chair of the Papua New Guinea Relations Committee and others was greatly appreciated.

Without the wonderful support of PNGAA members, the idea would clearly have faltered. The winner was overjoyed and those who missed out on the tickets can be assured that their investment will benefit the communities of Oro.

On behalf of all those directly associated with OCDP, we sincerely thank you for what you achieved.

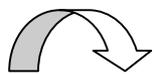
With kind regards,  
John Kleinig ■

**Congratulations!** To Mrs June Whittaker, former lecturer at ASOPA and PNGAA member, who was awarded an OAM in the Australia Day awards.

### **POSITION VACANT – TREASURER**

Our Treasurer and Membership Officer of 10 years, Ross Johnson, informed the Committee last year and those attending the 2008 Christmas Luncheon that due to personal and family reasons he will not be seeking re-election as Treasurer nor a position on the Committee in 2009. We are now seeking expressions of interest from those of you who may be interested in contributing to the further development of the Association. Preferably the person we are looking for would be computer literate with a reasonable knowledge of both Microsoft Office and an understanding of computerised book-keeping or a basic accounting package (MYOB or Quick Books). He or she would need to be prepared to devote approximately 3 to 4 hours a week in looking after the Association's membership register and treasury functions. The work load is cyclical in the sense that there are peak periods generally when Membership subscriptions fall due, before each issue of *Una Voce* and the finalisation of accounting records at the end of the financial year. If you feel you can afford the time and are interested in putting your name forward, please contact our out-going Treasurer on 9876 6178. In this respect, Ross will be pleased to answer any questions and to assist in any familiarisation period required.

**Seeking Raffle Prizes:** As everyone is aware, our luncheons are always supported by a raffle and the funds raised help to cover the costs for our guests. We are appealing to members for donations of suitable prizes for the upcoming Special General Meeting Luncheon. Can you please help? eg. Jewellery, PNG memorabilia, wine, tickets to shows or other similar ideas. If so please contact Juli Allcorn (Tel: 9416 1430) [j\\_allcorn@hotmail.com](mailto:j_allcorn@hotmail.com) or Harriet Troy (Tel:9868 2123) [clive.troy@bigpond.com](mailto:clive.troy@bigpond.com)

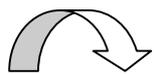


**PNGAA Web Site:** In September, the PNGAA obtained the services of Nick Booth as its Webmaster. Nick has many years of experience in computing and web design work.

The PNGAA web site has had a mild redesign. The previous design was good, but did not allow for the fact that many users now have high-definition screens. The new design deals better with these wide screens. However, not all pages can be changed immediately, so we will have a period when some pages are the old design and some the new design.

An important new feature is the **PNGAA Forum**, where members can add their comments on all facets of life in PNG. Anyone can look at the comments made on the Forum, but you have to register before you can add comments. Registration is very simple: just click on the "Register" button at the top of each Forum page.

Additional material is being added all the time. To find out what's going on, click on "What's new on the site" on the home page. ■



**The PNGAA collection** can now be accessed through the **Fryer Library** home page, [www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer](http://www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer). It appears as the 'Featured Collection', with a bright red heading, just a little further down the page from the 'Special Collections' information.

► **Correction:** Re the 'So called 'Montevideo Maru Nominal Roll', in December 2008 *Una Voce* p53 end of second para commencing 'The photo appears to be incorrectly entitled...'. Although I relied on this sentence from information then on hand and conversations ( all disclosed in the article), it appears that this cemetery is the first burial place of those soldiers of the 2/14th Infantry Battalion killed about the end of November 1942 in the Gona campaign. MR Hayes

### **From Duncan Kerr's speech at the 2008 Christmas luncheon:**

'Australia's relationship with Papua New Guinea is, by any measure, one of our deepest and most enduring. PNG is an important friend and neighbour to Australia, and we connect on many different levels - but especially through people-to-people links formed over many decades through family ties, business, education and on the sporting field.

Through its extensive networks in Australia, the PNG Association of Australia has been integral in maintaining these people-to-people links...

This Association also plays a key role in educating Australians about our vital relationship with PNG, particularly through preserving for future generations important connections and historical materials relating to PNG...

As neighbours, we enjoy not only a tremendously strong sense of shared history, but, dare I say, an equally strong sense of a shared future. That future will depend on people like you.

*'Australia and PNG: New Beginnings', Speech by Duncan Kerr, Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs, PNGAA, 7 Dec 2008*

## **AT THE RACES**

### **The Great Hermitcrab Derby**

**The Date:** 1944 **The Site:** Vivigani, Goodenough Island, Milne Bay District.

**The Owners:** About fifty of the 2/12<sup>th</sup> AIF on stand-by before taking part in the battles at Buna.

**The Onlookers:** Any who 'just happened' not to have any other duties at the time, including myself as an officer with ANGAU

**The Horses:** Small hermitcrabs about the size of a large acorn or small walnut. Each one with a vividly painted number on its shell and a very small hermitcrab tucked neatly inside.

**The Track:** A ring of small stakes planted close together in a circle of about six feet radius. Inside this circle, four other circles inside each other formed by earth raised about 1½ inches high.

**The Object:** On their release at the centre of the earthen circles, the crabs had to go for their lives climbing over each circle of raised earth in order to reach *any part* of the surrounding circle of stakes.

Some of the horses climbed each hurdle without any trouble at all and went "full speed" for the next before just closing down and resting from its exertion. Some kept inside the earthen circle looking for an easier way to climb and just kept going round and round in circles while their owners tried hard not to burst. Other horses started climbing but then rolled over backwards. A few tried more than once and kept going over hurdle after hurdle.

**The Procedure:** After bets had been laid with the Ringmaster, all the horses were placed carefully inside a tin. Everyone was then warned not to make any movement, speak or make any noise whatsoever which might upset the horses which are very sensitive to movement and noise and rapidly retreat inside their shells when threatened. That is NOT the way to win the race.

When everyone was suitably hushed and standing still, the Ringmaster walked slowly to the centre of the circle, upended the tin putting all the horses on the ground, then walked swiftly to stand outside the circle of stakes.

Everyone watched with bated breath not even groaning when their favourites and very expensive horses retreated inside their shells with only small claws waving outside. Any cheering as their favourites neared the winning post was made internally and not a sound was heard in the deathly hush of the jungle until the first, second and third horses reached the circle of stakes.

Then there was a concerted roar from us all! Cheers for the winners which were proudly shown around by their owners and then as each owner picked up his horse which *hadn't* been successful, they just hurled them back into the surrounding jungle! I often wonder if there are any vacant hermit crab shells with vividly painted numbers wandering round Vivigani these days, although their original owners would have passed on to a Larger Shell many years ago!

I'm not sure what the prizes were, I supposed the Ringmaster who had handled all the cash (and possibly also the IOUs) arranged that in due course. I suppose the winning horses were given a feed of mashed "kaukau" (sweet potato), but I didn't wait to see.

Geoffrey Baskett

### **Papuan Safari**

I was president of the Motor Sports Club between 1965 and 1967 and several events were held throughout the year mainly at the Motor Sports Club grounds along Racecourse Road in Port Moresby. Some of the events included drag racing along the old Wards Airstrip, standing quarter mile events, some time trial races in the Club's grounds, and hill climb events at the water treatment/pumping station up in the hills along the road to Sogeri, but the big event each year was the Papuan Safari held mostly in November and involved anything from a hundred miles distance to a full weekend event that averaged around 400 miles.

The Papuan Safari went in and around Port Moresby, up through the plantations in Sogeri (with the owners permission), and along some remote beaches, rough dirt tracks, and through tall kunai grass tracks and across a creek or two and anything else the organizers could throw at us. In March 1966 I purchased a Toyota Sports 800 car (the first one ever in PNG) and it was powered by a small two-cylinder air cooled 800cc engine. The first time I entered this little sport car in the 1966 Safari I was asked by the officials to withdraw it as they said it was too small, too low to the ground, and underpowered and it would not get through. I entered just the same and my then girlfriend (Penny) was my navigator. We completed the entire course much to the amazement of everyone and came 23<sup>rd</sup> out of 32 and this little car was praised by everyone for its endurance in such rough conditions.

I entered it again in the 1967 Safari. My 'navigator' was now my wife and we came third outright out of 33 entries. We would have come first outright but at a secretly controlled farm gate that we didn't close properly we lost 20 points. I used my little sports car as our wedding car when my 'navigator' and I got married in Port Moresby in November, 1967.

Charles Betteridge

### **IN 100 WORDS OR LESS**

#### **Theme for next issue – Your choice!**

Deadline for entries 8 May 2009 Please write/phone/fax/email

**Did you know?** The original, 33mm diameter, one kina coin released in 1975 was withdrawn from circulation on the 31st of December 2008. A smaller coin, 30mm diameter, of the same design and face value, was introduced in November 2005.

## **PNGAA Caveat Emptor (“let the buyer beware”) by Graham Taylor**

The resignation of Association President Keith Jackson generated concern, disappointment and a timely reminder of the truism that an Association such as ours can only be as strong as the will of its members. In Keith’s unbridled enthusiasm for rapid far reaching change, students of Greek mythology might well have seen some symbolism in the fate of Icarus, who on wings of wax and feathers flew too close to the sun and melted.

In my piece “*PNGAA Quo Vadis*” in the December *Una Voce*, I encouraged members to reflect on the raft of Jackson-inspired changes in the aims, objectives and constitution of our Association and I urged them to exercise their democratic rights to vote on them.

However, one must acknowledge that these same brisk winds of change turned out to be very destructive and divisive. Now with the Special General Meeting currently scheduled for 26 April, a day of reckoning is fast approaching. It is for this reason I have thought it timely to introduce my “Caveat Emptor” imperative in this March issue of *Una Voce*. I hope it will serve as a reminder to members that as we face the task of restoring a degree of more placid normality to our Association we can profit from our recent unfortunate experiences and negotiate a new and more stable future.

The Management Committee has created this opportunity by seeking members’ approval for a number of important changes to the Constitution. It is seven years or more since the Constitution was last revised, and it is timely that we should now be moving to accommodate the changing aspirations of members.

Sadly, as we approach these decisions we face two inconvenient truths. Some members believe that the PNGAA has no future beyond their own lifetime. They resent notions of constitutional change. Lacking a sense of history they have no will to ensure that the contributions to the development of Papua New Guinea by past generations, including their own, can be carried forward to future generations by our forward-looking Association. I, for one, would not wish the PNGAA to wither away on the vines of geriatricity.

The second – contrasting – truth is that there appears to be some enthusiastically committed to some of the ambitious far-reaching Jackson initiatives aimed at broadening the visibility and traditional role of the Association, ideas which generated much turbulence in recent months. This pursuit begs important, and previously unanswered, questions about the present and future availability of the resources – human, financial and infrastructural – which would be required to sustain many of these ambitious and altruistic activities.

We 1600 members facing a day of reckoning on 26 April will have an opportunity to influence the future of PNGAA. We should not hesitate to exercise our democratic rights to vote for an active, stable, forward- looking united Association. ■

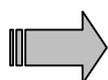
<p>The Fryer Library at the University of Queensland collects archival material on PNG (photographs, documents, maps and patrol reports). Dr Peter Cahill coordinates this – please contact him on phone 07-3371 4794 or email: <a href="mailto:p.cahill@uqconnect.net">p.cahill@uqconnect.net</a></p>
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**Can you help in the search for documentary history of PNG?**

*Riley Warren, Convener of the PNGAA's History and Scholarship Sub-committee, reports;*

The members of the History and Scholarship Sub-committee are proud of Australia's role in the development of Papua New Guinea, and of the roles played in it by so many of the members of the Association.

Throughout Australia, and in other parts of the world, there are collections of valuable historic documents recording the work of many of those who served in PNG. We suspect that among our members there could well be other historically significant documents that could make fine additions to these various collections. The PNGAA has, over time, sent various documents from members to the Fryer Library, University of Queensland. Dr Peter Cahill has, for many years, done an excellent job of collecting and collating items for the well respected PNGAA Collection in the Fryer Library.

The "Colonial Period" as it is now called, provides fascinating research for scholars all over the world. To ensure the real story is told, the Sub-committee would like to encourage members who have any documents along these lines, and useful for research purposes, to consider making them available by either informing the Sub-committee of what they have or by sending them to the PNGAA, which will pass them to Dr Cahill at the Fryer Library. Alternatively, you might like to send them to another collection directly.

Our Sub-committee is also seeking to establish a register of PNG collections to assist people undertaking PNG-related scholarship. You could help by informing us of collections you know about. We expect to publish these on our website. Please feel free to contact me directly at [rwarren@ozemail.com.au](mailto:rwarren@ozemail.com.au)

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**Website Walkabout**

Take a look at the following new websites:

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

[www.montevideomaruofilm.com](http://www.montevideomaruofilm.com)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyEHIJnC5ho>

[www.johnpasquarelli.com](http://www.johnpasquarelli.com) - John Pasquarelli, now living in central Victoria, has been busy painting. Self-styled as: 'opal miner, crocodile hunter, Sepik River trader and art dealer, politician, notorious speech writer, author, publican and maker of mayhem...' his artwork is influenced by his heritage and his career.

[www.pasifiknau.com](http://www.pasifiknau.com) – for contemporary PNG art including Bilum art.

## **NOTES FROM THE NORTHERN TERRITORY from Jim Toner**

In December the PNG-Australia Social & Cultural Group held its Christmas BBQ Picnic Luncheon on Darwin's foreshore but, sadly, dodgy weather limited attendance.

A cricket season spent in Darwin on loan to the Nightcliff Club has paid off for Papuans, Jacob MADO and Vani MOREA, who have been selected for the PNG team, called the Barramundis, to go to Argentina and compete in the ICC Division 3 league. They will play in one-day matches against such as Afghanistan and the Cayman Islands but also against Uganda which knocked them out of the World Cup qualifiers at Darwin in 2007 with an annoying 50th over victory. If PNG can succeed in Buenos Aires they will travel to South Africa in April to meet stronger countries in Division 2.

National Seniors Australia announced its NT Policy Group for 2009-10 which includes a couple with PNG experience. These are Kevin DIFLO from the Education Department, survivor of an aircraft crash at Kainantu in 1970, now located at Tennant Creek and Dr. Rolf GERRITSEN with Charles Darwin University who, when a doctoral aspirant with ANU, researched in PNG. I doubt if in those days they ever contemplated being eligible for free travel on NT buses but they are now.

Journalists liked to trail PM John Howard on his morning power walks around Kirribilli but I wonder if their PNG counterparts similarly pursue their Governor-General on his 'Monthly Health Walk'. Assembly at Government House is at 04.45 hrs .... and Sir Paulias Matane then leads an ascent of Tuaguba Hill returning by 06.00 hrs for refreshments.

Port Moresby's road traffic has grown somewhat since 1973. It now has 1500 taxis which were obliged to have meters fitted by 1 January. This has provoked protests from many owner-drivers. Also the National Capital District government is talking of introducing parking fees in the city estimated to collect over 50 million Kina annually! More protests can be anticipated.

I have applauded the ascent of women into the highest ranks of PNG government but when one of them as Attorney-General said that her department "would be tasked to operationalise" a project it gave me pause. Still I suppose if you are going to walk the bureaucratic walk you must also talk the talk.

If asked to provide an example of a *non sequitur* PNGAA members such as one time District Finance Officer Terry Turner might offer the following:- a teenage girl is assaulted by a man in Yangoru while walking to the District Treasury office with the result that her angry relatives attempt to burn down that Treasury office....??

Of the seven District Commissioners for whom I clerked Robert Rothsay COLE was the first. I count myself a fortunate young man. The last time I saw him was in 1969 when in Police Commissioner's uniform he alighted from a plane at Mendi airstrip accompanied by his replacement, the highly credentialed Raymond Whitrod. Bob had been touring the Territory introducing the future Commissioner to his officers and letting the other ranks see their new *nambawan*. Unfortunately the time and effort expended proved to be for nothing as within twelve months Whitrod had resigned in order to take over the Queensland Police Force. In a personal communication Bob told me of his

regrets for this outcome. He would have had other disappointments in his life but having believed Whitrod was the right man to lead the RPNGC into the future this was a major one.

Significantly in an episode of "Australian Biography" on ABC TV Ray Whitrod (d.2003) when asked to sum up his PNG experience replied "Well, it's a short story because it was stupid of me to go in the first place". To be fair to the Commissioner whilst absent from Moresby his wife, then 60 years of age and new to the Territory, awoke one night to find an intruder in her bedroom. Her scream brought the *hauskuk* galloping to the rescue preventing any harm but it is certain that domestic pressures can cause officers to amend their career plans.

Bob's story (Una Voce, March 1993) of his wife's tribulations travelling from Sydney to join him in Buin in 1947 is also short but an unforgettable record of what many women had to endure to start or resume married life in post-war PNG. It was well known that Bob Cole's favourite dessert was apple pie and ice cream but it was only a rumour that he dined on this 365 days per year. Never the less there's a tip for readers wishing to live to the age of 95. RIP Sir.

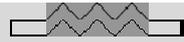
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## A VISIT TO SOGERI

*This excerpt from Robert (Bob) Tebble's memoirs 1957 - Port Moresby was sent to us by his daughter Linda Moran*

I had bought a second hand Morris Minor SBD - the latter representing 'seen better days'. The woolly nature of its side valve engine needed darning but it was a cheap car to operate. One Saturday we set off in the car to visit Sogeri. In trying to negotiate the very curve which caused the bus passenger to leap from his seat, I struck trouble. The road surface was rough and covered with loose stones and the driving wheels of the car could not gain enough purchase. There was a sheer drop to our left and as I tried to accelerate, the car slid sideways towards it. I backed down the steepest part of the hill where Iris and Mum got out. I thought I could drive around the curve with fewer people in the car and my passengers could walk to join me. Again the curve defeated me and my difficulties were compounded by an inoperable handbrake. When the engine stalled, which it did frequently, I had to hold the car by the footbrake while trying to restart and find a way of transferring my right foot from the brake to the accelerator. All this achieved was a slewing and slipping process which was bringing the car dangerously close to the sheer drop. My right leg was aching with effort and I considered steering so the back of the car crashed into the cliff face on my right but I was unsure whether I may have been too close to the edge to avoid putting a front wheel over it. In the very moment of my dilemma a group of locals came from the road above the curve and, sizing up the problem immediately, pushed the car up the slope and provided me with the chance to turn it and coast down to where Iris and Mum, who were helpless witnesses of the drama, were waiting. I shall always be grateful for those strong and agile men - who were probably labourers from one of the rubber plantations - who came to my rescue. The record of this event would not be complete without mentioning that the act of service was performed with bubbling good humour and a few appropriate comments about the lack of power in the engine of my car. ■

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### **PNG in the News...**

► PNG Education Minister Sani Rambli and Commerce and Industry Minister Gabriel Kapris travelled to Terrigal and the Central Coast Grammar School in October 2008. The school has a special relationship with the Maprik High School in Mr Kapris' electorate. Richard Lornie, now principal of Central Coast Grammar School, was Mr Kapris' former teacher. In September students from Central Coast Grammar visited Maprik and donated A\$10,000 worth of books and equipment to the school and helped repaint classrooms.

See: <http://www.pngaa.net/Library/Maprik2008.pdf>

Visiting Sydney and speaking to heads of independent co-educational schools from New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, Mr Rambli challenged them to include a subject on learning about PNG in their schools' curriculum.

Mr Rambli felt that by including PNG learning in their curriculum, and encouraging frequent exchange visits by students of both countries, people-to-people relationships would be strengthened, and wrong perceptions about PNG, often created by an uninformed media, would be removed.

*Info from The National 24 October 2008*

► On 08 December 2008 a mini tidal wave hit the eastern coastal villages of New Ireland also affecting Tench Island in Murat LLG, Djaul Island and Nusa Island causing considerable damage. Tench Island was all but submerged under water leaving a small spot where 118 people, including children, awaited evacuation.

\* \* \*

► AUSTRALIAN singer Kamahl performed to packed houses at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Port Moresby and at the Ralum Club in Kokopo in early December, helping to raise more than K300,000 for Operation Open Heart in PNG. This followed a successful visit in June 2008.

\* \* \*

► Visit Kokopo, East New Britain Province, in July this year - the Tolai Warwagira will be held from 8 to 14 July 2009 and the 15th National Mask Festival from 15 to 18 July 2009.

\* \* \*

► A clinic at Efogi along the Kokoda Track was reopened after receiving aid under the \$US15 million Kokoda Development Program initiated by the outgoing government of Prime Minister John Howard. The clinic has been closed for the past seven years due to inadequate funding from the PNG government. ■

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Barry Craig** writes: 'Readers of *Una Voce* may, or may not, be aware that an ex-kiap turned novelist, Randolph Stow, recounts the Boianai UFO sightings, reported by Reverend William Gill, as the Prologue to his novel *Visitants* (1979). He gives a detailed précis of that incident and incorporates, further into the novel, reports given to him from 'the inhabitants of the island of Kitava' of UFO sightings and the disappearance of three men from the island of Tuma. Stow advises that the Boianai incident was discussed by Jacques Vallee in *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* (1965). Quite apart from its relevance to the topic of UFO sightings, Stow's novel is well worth reading for its beautifully-written evocation of colonial administration in the remoter parts of Milne Bay Province. In some ways a follow-up (the settling in England of a protagonist recovering from malaria), he wrote the fantasy novel, *The Girl Green as Elderflower*.'

\* \* \*

**Having read in the December 2008 issue of 'Una Voce' the article 'The so called 'Montevideo Maru' Nominal Roll'** I would like to refer readers to my web site: [www.annemccosker.co.uk](http://www.annemccosker.co.uk) in particular the sections *Montevideo Maru*, and *Montevideo Maru questions*. The New Guinea history sections in this web site – including the 'Montevideo Maru' sections - are based on my book *Masked Eden, a History of the Australians in New Guinea*. Readers may like to read two primary source material extracts from *Masked Eden*, from my *Montevideo Maru* chapter available on my web site.

*'Lulu Miller was to say: 'There were very few men on that ship' [the Montevideo Maru] She after all, said she knew when one man, Harold Page himself had disappeared while he still was in Rabaul. Lulu was also to tell the wife of a very prominent Rabaul business man that she knew when this lady's husband had disappeared.'* Page 266 *Masked Eden* See Note 8 page 339. See also page 222. *'One morning a native came and told her [Lulu] that Page's bed had not been slept in. Page was never seen again'*. Lulu Miller was a grand daughter of Queen Emma. Her father was Dutch. Lulu was in Rabaul throughout WWII surviving the Japanese occupation by telling them her father was German.

The second extract is from *Masked Eden* page 277: (see also my web site).

*'Some time in 1948 while living in Rabaul three native men from three different villages came to see me at different times and said 'Masta Clark 'e no go along ship'. What actually happened I asked not letting on that I had heard this claim before. Each native told me a similar story. The white men were taken to Matupi, made to dig trenches and then killed...'* (Extract from letter Pat Leeuwin-Clark, wife of John Leeuwin-Clark, son of Nobby Clark, to the author May 1989. See note 39 page 343).

These two extracts are, as is much of the material in my chapter *Montevideo Maru*, from people either in Rabaul during WWII, directly involved in the war in New Guinea, or in Rabaul soon afterwards. ... This current interest in the ship is, in my opinion, especially with so many confusing and contradictory statements being made diverting and distracting peoples' energy. The USA navy and Japanese navy have both recorded where and how the 'Montevideo Maru' sunk. If found, approximately where it is said to have sunk, what then? Will even the most modern sophisticated equipment be able to detect the exact number of european men killed or the names of these men? If not, what then?

Anne McCosker

*Cont. over →.*

**Doug Robbins**, Patrol Officer at Tufi in the Northern (Oro) Province 1970 and 1971, with his wife Annette went to the recent Adventure Travel Expo in Brisbane hoping to catch up with Soc Kienzle who last year established Komplekte Kokoda Tours, only to find that Soc and wife Robyn were away in Tasmania and their delightful daughters Carly and Suzanne were very capably looking after their Stand, shared with Tufi Resort, Driftwood Resort Alotau and Airlines PNG. After regaling the two young ladies and others in attendance with stories including Soc's bachelor days at his roundhouse spectacularly overlooking the Mambare River and the good times we all had at Kokoda and Tufi, Doug and Annette completed an entry form for prizes offered by the four operators. On the way home a phone call from their eldest son Craig (conceived at Tufi and born after Doug and Annette were transferred to Kokoda in 1972) informed them that they had won two nights at Tufi Resort including a village day tour! Timing and luck couldn't have been better considering Doug's plan for a Village-Stay venture using local Tour Guides for the Wanigela-Musa villagers, referred to at page 9 of March 2008 *Una Voce*. Among those expressing interest in Doug's "Wanigela Walk" are his District Commissioner David Marsh, fellow Patrol Officer and Tufi boss Fif Favetta, Coastwatcher Lionel Veale, and Tufi Resort, as well as welcome words of encouragement from Governor-General Sir Paulias Matane. Any others interested can contact Doug on 07 5533 5656 or email [kuralboo@bigpond.com](mailto:kuralboo@bigpond.com)

**Carleton Gajdusek first came into our lives at Easter, 1957.** He had come to Kainantu en-route to Lae and back to the USA. Vin [Zigas] had some kuru patients brought to the airstrip for him to examine and in no time Carleton had become very interested, offloading his luggage; he always travelled lightly, and moved to our house, before going to Okapa. Thereafter, our house became a base for him and passing through investigators. He was a pleasant guest, easygoing and entertaining, never in the way because he was always working. He would be so engrossed in his work he hardly knew what he was eating or drinking. Nor did he care. I would watch him with coffee, when he would talk and keep on spooning sugar into his cup. When he got to five spoonfuls I would say "*Stop that's enough*" Possessed of a brilliant mind, a prolific letter writer, scientist, he was interested in many things. He had a large collection of Australian folk music, a vast knowledge of art and was a constantly travelling the world. The last time we were in contact he said, "*Hurry up and come and see me, the time is getting short*". Remembered by Misha and Tony Zigas and **Gloria Chalmers**



**Bob Shaw read with interest G.C. Yates account of his incident at Poroma** in Cessna 206 VH-GKM (*Una Voce* June 2008 pg23). Having been involved in aircraft salvage/recovery, he sent some photos taken at the time by Dave (Nosey) Parker, or his brother Chris Parker. The recovery trek was fictionalised to form part of the plot of his second novel, 'Fire Cult'. ([www.tropicanapress.com.au](http://www.tropicanapress.com.au)) Records show the date of accident as 28th March 1968. The wings were in fact dismantled and carried cross country along with the fuselage and also endured a precarious 'flying fox' river crossing as shown in photos.

## More on Emira...

**Peter Shanahan** from Kuranda, Queensland, the grandson of **Juanita and Carl Wilde**, writes in answer to Warren Martin's query in his story in the December issue mentioning the grave on Emirau - or Emira, which Peter says is the name the family knew it as.

Peter writes: The grave and memorial is that of my grandmother, Juanita Wilde (nee Stehr) put in place by my grandfather Carl Leopold Bruno Wilde. Juanita was the daughter of Franz and Caroline Stehr of Manuan plantation in the Duke of York Islands. The Stehr's were a well known pioneering family with connections to Queen Emma.

Carl and Juanita established and planted Emira plantation after they were married and had four daughters Eileen Caroline Emira Bertha, Maria Juanita (Nita) my mother, Elspeth Emira (Ticky or Chicky), and Erdmie (Golly). Juanita died while travelling on the family schooner, the *Emira*, to the hospital in Kavieng to give birth. However the schooner was forced to take shelter on the other side of Emira from a storm. She gave birth to twin daughters, Faith and Hope, but unfortunately contacted septicaemia and died before she could return to Emira. One of the twins also died and the fate of the other is unknown and is a family mystery. It is said that my grandfather was so distraught by her death that he refused to accept the child and legend has it that she was taken away by German missionaries.

C.L.B. Wilde sold the plantation to Carpenters and sent the daughters to boarding school in Australia. He then joined the gold rush in Wau, where he established Koranga Gold Sluicing company and several other gold mines. He bought a government Experimental Coffee block and established Wilde's coffee plantation at the base of the Wau aerodrome. He was effectively the pioneer of the New Guinea Coffee industry. He established his home on a miners Homestead lease along the Big Wau Creek and planted it with twenty-five acres of the finest Arabica coffee. This homestead was later developed by my mother and father as Wau Coffee Estates.

Wilde was interned as a German national during the war, later released in the custody of my uncle John Emery. He never returned to New Guinea and died in Mona Vale, Sydney, in 1948. His ashes were taken to Emira and interred alongside his beloved wife and comrade. He was an important part of the pioneering history of New Guinea.

All my aunts and my mother were well-known figures in the Mandated Territory and some respected pioneers in their own right. For those wishing to know more about C.L.B.Wilde, Les Bell in his book *New Guinea Engineer* (with Gillian Shadbolt), tells of his experiences on Emira at the time when he worked for my grandfather. He actually travelled to Emira with the headstone that still stands there today.

**Jim Ridges** in Kavieng writes:

The Emirau piece by Warren Martin, and Island Trader by Gordon Harris, both in *Una Voce* December 2008, interested me. Just a few comments are necessary. Emirau, or Emira as the locals say, is much higher than "a few feet". There are cliffs perhaps 150 feet high there.

*Cont. over* →

The German armed merchant raiders *Komet* and *Orion*, with the supply ship *Kulmerland*, did indeed land about 500 passengers and crew survivors from at least seven ships there on 20 December 1940, overwhelming the food supply situation on the island. Kavieng rallied on the 24th when news were received. Some supplies and John Goad the Medical Assistant, landed early on Xmas Day, and back-loaded some wounded and women and children to Kavieng. The *Nellore*, diverted en route to Manila, picked up the women and everyone else from Emira on 26th December, taking them to Rabaul.

The large cross over Juanita Wilde's grave was erected by Les Bell in 1927 when he was working at Emira plantation. This was when and where he also found the small cast iron, not brass, cannon in the swamp at Emira, not Mussau as in Harris's story. From 1927 to 1940 it was in Kavieng, and only went to Rabaul Botanical Garden in 1940 when Les went south to join up. It would have been nice if the cannon did indeed have the Spanish impress on its breech as stated, but *New Guinea Engineer*, the book by Gillian Shadbolt and Les Bell, and my two telephone calls to Les before he died, do not support that.

The German officer "travelling in some state and comfort" and "treacherously murdered" on Mussau Island was presumably Bruno Menke, killed with his secretary Cuno in 1901. He was a rich German on a private scientific expedition, who foolishly went to then uncontrolled territory, and when he realised that he needed more gear, sent his only ship back to Kokopo, leaving himself very vulnerable to attack.

Captain Carlson, as an old man, had the distinction of being one of a few Europeans not killed by the Japanese. He died of old age on Anelaua Island leper colony in the war, where he was sheltering with the Mission staff who were evacuated in June 1944.

**John Bell** writes:

'My uncle, Les Bell, erected the headstone for Carl Wilde. A drawing of his from memory, together with a detailed account of the erection of the headstone, and of the Wilde family, appear in *New Guinea Engineer*, published by Rosenberg Publishing Pty Ltd. The book is a collection of very detailed memories of New Guinea, specifically based on Kavieng, from the mid 1920s until 1950. It also contains photos of the Emira plantation buildings in the late 1920s, and photos of three of the Wilde children. Les Bell was then working for Carpenters, who 'lent' him to their good customer Carl Wilde, to set up an electrical lighting plant for his plantation. They became close friends.

**Harry Brutnall** writes:

Re the story by Warren Martin. Wilde died in Australia. He was cremated and his ashes were sent to Rabaul with his wish that they be taken to Emira to be put on his wife's grave. At that time I was skipper of the MV *Coral Star* owned by G. V. Miller's Pacific Islands Salvage Company, which had salvage rights to Emira. Since I was due to go there, the ashes were stowed under my bunk. After leaving Rabaul I received a radio message diverting me to Manus Island. The ashes sat under my bunk for three or four months before I got to Emira. We had a small ceremony at Juanita Wilde's grave and her husband's wishes were carried out.

Over the years, the grave had been well cared for - I assume by the local islanders. The house was also in good condition and had a kwila floor. During the late '60s or early '70s Bruno Kroening took over Wilde's place and worked copra and traded with Musseau the neighbouring islands. ▪

### **Rundle and the Montevideo Maru by Jim Eames**

Max Hayes dedicated efforts to trace the *Montevideo Maru's* nominal roll got me thinking about how difficult it must be getting the real story of actually who was on board the vessel when it was sunk off the Philippines in 1942.

In the late 1990s I wrote a book *The Searchers*, about the search for missing allied air crew in the South west Pacific at the end of the war. While there were chapters which outlined the efforts to trace some USAAF aircrew, the book was mainly the story of the work of Squadron Leader Keith Rundle and his team who, handed a 'book of wrecks' detailing as much as was known of the final missions of some of those who had not returned, spent several years after the war moving around the islands by boat and trekking the inland.

One of Rundle's proudest achievements was the discovery of the bodies of fifteen RAAF airmen, twelve Americans and an unidentified civilian in a mass grave near the foot of Matupi in 1950. Whenever he spoke of his find, Rundle would always mention that the find, along with others, put paid in some way to the oft-repeated claim by Japanese in post war interrogations, that certain individuals, known to be in captivity in Rabaul during the war but untraceable later 'had been on the *Montevideo Maru.*' Such claims, with time, became less and less convincing.

At about the time late in 1943 that some of the RAAF men Rundle subsequently located in his 1950 'find' were reported to have been taken away from camps in Rabaul for embarkation, two other Japanese vessels, the *Kenyo Maru* and the *Nikonkai Maru* had left Rabaul and subsequently been sunk by allied torpedoes. I'm wondering whether anyone has done any research as to who might have been on either of those vessels. Rundle's find however, at least put a lie to the claim that the airmen he found had embarked for Japan late in 1943.

I've often wondered since how many more we think may have been tragically lost on the *Montevideo Maru* might still be not far from Rabaul, suffering the same fate those Rundle, his colleagues Colonel 'Pop' Houghton and Tommy Henderson found in mid 1950. ▪

► Adventure Kokoda, with Charlie Lynn, is inviting trekkers to enter teams into the **2009 City to Surf, from Sydney to Bondi Beach**, on Sunday 9 August 2009. It will be used as a fundraiser for the Adventure Kokoda Pikinini Program on the Kokoda Trail. More details in the June issue of *Una Voce* or contact Charlie for more information by email: [charlie.lynn@adventurekokoda.com.au](mailto:charlie.lynn@adventurekokoda.com.au) or by phone: 0439 303 303



## **Robert Rothsay COLE, OBE, MC** **by Jim Sinclair OBE**

Bob was born in Dubbo, NSW, on 3 November 1913, the 7<sup>th</sup> of the nine children of George and Letitia Cole. He grew up in that pleasant country town and first demonstrated his leadership qualities at Dubbo High School, where he was outstanding in sports, and served as school captain. After leaving school, Bob commenced a study of accountancy. Times were hard in Australia then, with the effects of the Great Depression still being felt, and Bob did not complete his studies but decided to go to the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, and on 2 November 1938 he joined the Department of District Services and Native Affairs as a probationary patrol officer. He proceeded to Wewak, completed his first term there and at Angoram, and did a lot of patrolling.

When World War II broke out Bob immediately joined up. He was one of the celebrated first contingent of volunteers from the Mandated Territory to go to war, and served in the Middle East, and later in the Mandated Territory and Dutch New Guinea as a member of AIB (Allied Intelligence Bureau) and then ANGAU. He was awarded the Military Cross for outstanding work behind enemy lines. During the war Bob married Kathleen Gillies. If ever a marriage was made in heaven, this was. As all who had the good fortune to know them will attest, throughout their lives together Bob and Kay were a totally devoted couple. They had one son, Jim, and adopted another, Rob. After receiving his discharge, Bob tried to make a new start in Dubbo, but like so many returned men he was restless in civilian life. New Guinea was in his blood, and with Kay's blessing he applied for re-admission to his old department.

Bob's first posting was as ADO Buin, Bougainville. He was then appointed District Commissioner to the newly created Western Highlands District, and in 1954 was moved to the frontier Southern Highlands District. He directed the exploration and consolidation of government influence in that huge district with notable success. Bob returned to the Sepik after his Southern Highlands service, and was still DC Sepik when he was personally requested by the Administrator, Sir Donald Cleland, to take over the position of Commissioner, Royal Papua and New Guinea Constabulary. For many reasons (known by old hands) the vital relationship between the police and the kiaps had been deteriorating, and it was hoped that a man of Bob's reputation and quality could help heal the breach. It was not an easy decision for Bob Cole, who was a kiap through-and-through. But he had never shirked responsibility, and took over the position of Commissioner on 8 December 1964. He was a success. Many senior police officers had worked with him, some during the New Guinea campaigns during the Pacific War, and he largely restored the trust and co-operation of old. He created the Special Branch, and introduced new methods and regulations which revitalized the Constabulary, helping to prepare it for Independence. His PNG service was recognized by the award of the OBE.

Bob was a keen gardener, and one day while working in his garden in Port Moresby he injured his back, an injury that forced him out of the Service in April 1969, and which largely contributed to his death. He returned with Kay and the two boys to Australia, initially to a house in Sydney, but in August 1972 to the property on the banks of the Nerang River in south-east Queensland where they

spent the rest of their days. In retirement Bob and Kay maintained busy and useful lives. Kay took up pottery, with great success. Bob involved himself heavily with Legacy, and was a strong supporter of the RSL. They kept open house for their many New Guinea friends – among whom were a number of senior police officers, as well as kiaps. Men who had the good fortune to work under Bob while he was a kiap, frequently came to pay their respects. Kay was especially beloved, for during her New Guinea years she was a surrogate mother to many of them. In 1989, Kay died. It was a terrible blow from which Bob never really recovered. But he went on with his life, refusing to move from the home he had shared with Kay. He retained his keen interest in PNG affairs.

I have a confession here. Bob Cole was my uncle, although our relationship was more that of elder and younger brother. We talked on the telephone every Sunday and most Wednesdays after Kay died, and Bob spent most of his Christmases with us. I have collected a huge mass of material relating to PNG, and over a period of years Bob prepared indexes and content lists of the hundreds of bound volumes of patrol reports, district annual reports and so on, in my library. This has made them much easier to use for research purposes, and gave Bob countless hours of enjoyment, immersed in old New Guinea records.

Bob maintained good health until a year or so before his death. His back started to deteriorate, badly, and specialists confirmed there were no surgical solutions. He was forced into a retirement home just before his death, and his final days were painful. Typically, he bore everything bravely and without complaint. His funeral was attended by a very large crowd, some people travelling great distances to see Bob off. Fred Kaad thought so much of Bob that he flew from Sydney – wheelchair and all. He delivered a moving tribute to Bob before flying back to Sydney, a grand effort for a man who has spent half his life in a wheelchair.

It is comforting to know that Kay and Bob are now together. Vale, Bob Cole, a rare human being.

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**RPNGC FORMER OFFICERS' ANNUAL LUNCH** - The years slip by and friends pass on or drift apart. In Brisbane, former members of the RPNGC, wives, widows and staff try to arrest the process by having an annual lunch. Thoughts of having a statuesque lady leap out of a giant cake to entertain the menfolk are long gone. There are too many pacemakers in the room to risk such rich fare.

The sixteenth annual lunch was held at the Quays Restaurant, Mercure Hotel, Brisbane on Saturday 6 December 2008. Turn-out was 48 which was a slight increase on last year. As always we are especially appreciative of those who travel long distances interstate and from regional centres to attend.

The gathering noted the passing of three colleagues and the wife of another during the year. These included Barry York, Watson Beaton, Bob Cole, and Rosemary, the wife of John Monk. Colleagues attended the funerals of the first three. With the passing of Bob Cole, the oldest former officer still gracing the lunches is Jack Graham (86), with runner-up John Herbert (83).

Guests were reminded of Peter Cahill's request for original source documents and photographs, and other memorabilia for the Fryer Library at UQ. Several have already contributed and others have expressed interest.

The lunch as always, was full of bonhomie, and the stories of highs and lows in Territory life were, after many years of practice, delivered with wit and aplomb. The plan is to hold the next annual lunch on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

**Derek Bell**

## Photo and Historical Perspective - the Emanuel Trial Judge Clive Wall QC



The December 2008 *Una Voce* contained an article by Derek Bell about the murder of Jack Emanuel and the subsequent trial of those charged with his murder. Readers may be interested in the attached photograph of counsel involved in the trial and the attached perspective which shows what became of most of those shown in the photographs. The photograph is quite unique from this point of view.

### HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

1. Ken Carruthers (Sydney), later Mr Justice Carruthers, NSW Supreme Court
2. Ted Lusher QC (Sydney), later Mr Justice Lusher, NSW Supreme Court
3. Jim Barry (Brisbane), now Justice Barry, Family Court of Australia
4. Gerard Brennan QC (Brisbane), later Sir Gerard Brennan, Chief Justice, High Court of Australia
5. Norris Pratt (Rabaul), later Mr Justice Pratt, Supreme Court of Papua New Guinea
6. Clive Wall (Port Moresby), now Judge Clive Wall QC, District Court, QLD and Planning and Environment Court, QLD at Southport
7. John Hamilton (Sydney), now Mr Justice Hamilton, NSW Supreme Court
8. Michael Adams (Port Moresby), now Mr Justice Adams, NSW Supreme Court
9. Sean Flood (Port Moresby)
10. Richard Wood (Port Moresby)
11. Peter Luke (Port Moresby)
12. Brian Hoath (Port Moresby), later Judge Brian Hoath, District Court, QLD

Not shown:

PL Stein, later Mr Justice Stein, Court of Appeal, NSW

PJ Moss, later Mr Justice Moss, Family Court of Australia

## **A LOT OF HOT AIR by Doug Robbins**

Before going to Papua New Guinea I, with another 38 recruits, attended the four month Assistant Patrol Officer's Orientation Course at Australian School of Pacific Administration, Middle Head, Sydney. Fred Kaad was our mentor and subjects included: History, Geography, Public Administration, Local Government, Law, Anthropology, Pidgin English, First Aid and Physical Education. I gained top marks overall for this course. It was mid 1969 – the year man first landed on the moon and the era of the Vietnam War, feminists and hippies.

On arrival at Port Moresby, I stepped off the plane to be hit by a blast of hot air from the jet engines. But, the engines were not running; this was the country's normal air temperature with a light breeze coming across the bitumen tarmac! After that initial shock, we spent five hot weeks at Kwikila near Port Moresby under Bruce Dunn on our Induction Course learning the practical aspects of the job: surveying, maps, roads, bridges, airstrips, explosives, police, firearms, courts, jails, radio, reports and health. December we were posted to various Districts – Drew Pingo and I to the Northern District: coastal plains, rivers and swamps, rising sharply to high mountains. (Resident Magistrate Monckton commenting on the reputation of our District in the early 1900s wrote that “many officers preferred to resign rather than be sent there.”!) The fifth day, we set off on our first (daytime/trial) patrol, and over the next four years I spent one-third of my time on patrol, being confronted with most field matters: census, elections, area studies, economic development, land investigations, cash crops, timber rights, labour, road construction, mechanics, relief work, carriers, hunting, rations, wells, latrines, disputes and political education. Also, we were commissioned Police Officers of the RPNGC.

One hot (but beautifully clear) day, I accompanied District Local Government Officer Peter Thomas and Public Works on an inspection of outstations and airstrips from Tufi to Wanigela then on to Safia via Wowo Gap, flying fairly close to a spectacular waterfall in the Goropu Mountains, where the peak of Mt Suckling rises to over 12000 feet. This waterfall can be seen from off Tufi Harbour, 50 miles away. We returned to Tufi over the Didana Range section of the Pongani-Safia Road that I had been clearing. Landing at Wanigela, the heat was such that the pilot, Alan Woodcock, couldn't get the plane to stay down. It kept bouncing back up with the rising hot air, until we almost ran out of strip before finally coming to rest, safely on the ground. Another experience was more frightening: Pilots new to the country had to do a familiarization flight with one experienced in the particular area. This new pilot had been checked the day before and apparently had learnt of the effect of hot air rising. We departed early morning from Girua, a bitumen strip built by the Americans during the war; the then airstrip for Popondetta. A short time later we banked over Ioma station, crossed Tamata Creek quite low over the trees and lined up for the distant strip – too far in the distance, I thought. Then the stall buzzer frantically started. We just managed to make it to the emergency touchdown section of the strip – a bit rough and overgrown, but at least we weren't in the trees.

Ioma is a grass strip which doesn't get as hot as bitumen and, besides, it was still in the cool of day. The pilot had compensated for a non-existent uplift and almost ran out of air space!

Magisterial powers were granted to me on 8 November 1971. Prior to that, an expected role while on patrol was to hold 'court' in the villages. Punishment was equally unofficial: Nine days into a lengthy patrol to the Lower Musa, a commotion broke out in front of us while taking census at Kinjaki. It was one time I really did fear for our safety. My police calmed everyone down and, after hearing the complaint, I ordered the ringleader to accompany the patrol so he could be dealt with back at the station. Having spent the next 22 days with us as an unpaid carrier, it was decided he had duly served his time. A two month Advanced Patrol Officer's Course in Port Moresby was normally a prerequisite to becoming a Magistrate and, although my appointment had already been gazetted, I attended in September 1972, staying in a flat at the government Ranaguri Hostel, with my wife Annette and our few months old son.

*This was an excerpt from Doug's short stories 'It Seemed Enough' Papua New Guinea 1969-1973. We hope to bring you more in future issues.*

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**The Madang Game Fishing Club (MGFC) will host this year's 34th Game Fishing Association of PNG National Titles** from April 3 to April 13.

The GFAPNG holds the national titles once a year during the Easter period. There are four affiliated clubs which alternate the hosting - Madang, Rabaul, Lae and Port Moresby.

Papua New Guinea is a well known game fishing destination and this prestigious event draws hundreds of anglers from all over PNG as well as from overseas.

This year K10,000 is being offered to any GFA affiliated angler who can land a Blue Marlin heavier than 273kg in Madang Game Fishing Club waters.

Information about this event is available from: [www.gfa.com.pg/2009/](http://www.gfa.com.pg/2009/)



At the 33<sup>rd</sup> GFA PNG National Game Fishing Titles held in Rabaul 2008 six anglers who had competed in the 1<sup>st</sup> GFAPNG in 1975 (also held in Rabaul) enjoyed the reunion.  
Left to right:  
John Lau, Ian Dunkerton,  
Keith Kingston, Alan  
Jamieson, Laurie Williams,  
Lyndon Anderson

## **The WAU FACTOR**

### **Adventure tourism in Papua New Guinea**

**by Elizabeth Thurston**

I had left Sydney at 7.30 am on a cold morning in July on a flight packed with shivering pilgrims returning to Papua New Guinea from World Youth Day. Many had come from New Britain where I grew up and we were soon chatting like *wantoks*. But I was setting off on my own pilgrimage and, instead of a Bible, I was carrying my father's war diary – destination Wau in Morobe Province.

Now as I buckled my seatbelt on AirNiugini flight 108 from Port Moresby to Lae, a local business man sitting next to me voiced surprise that we were on time. "You're lucky – it's known as the 'one o late'!" It seemed we had no sooner reached cruising altitude when our plane banked to port, and the sharp outline of the Salamaua peninsula came suddenly into view. The swirling clouds usually so impenetrable parted to show the green peaks of mountain ranges stretching as far as the eye could see. Far below, the Markham River wound through the valley folds like a giant python. I tried to imagine Nadzab airstrip rushing up to meet us, as it must have been 65 years ago – swarming with khaki military personnel and reverberating with the sounds of Dakotas, Liberators and Fortresses.

In January 1943 United States Air Force B-17 E Flying Fortress 41-9234 – otherwise known as "the ghost of Black Cat Pass" - had been skilfully crash landed by pilot Lieutenant Ray Dau just out of Wau. It had been hit first by anti-aircraft fire while bombing Lae harbour and then suffered a relentless barrage from the Japanese Zeros. But in Ray Dau, the United States had an extraordinary pilot and the story of the ill-fated Fortress is one that involved my father. I had come to see it for myself.

Tim Vincent, from Wau Adventures, was easy to spot as I entered the terminal and with him was Phillip Bradley, author of the critically acclaimed *Battle for Wau* (Cambridge University Press). We had a three-hour drive ahead of us and as we crossed the Markham Bridge the light was already fading. By Zaneg it had gone. We wound higher and higher up through the Bulolo gorge and around the mountains – the only sound was the rushing torrent of the Bulolo River to our right. July is the wet season and heavy downpours had turned the unsealed road to Wau into a quagmire of lakes and craters. I clung to the back of Tim's seat as we rattled and splashed and Tim would occasionally stop to wipe the mud off the headlights. This was definitely adventure tourism!

Wau Adventures is run by Tim and Danielle Vincent. Danielle has spent her life in PNG and Tim is an ex Australian army officer, who fits the country perfectly. They are passionate about the Wau-Bulolo Valley and its tourism potential – especially for trekkers looking beyond the Kokoda experience.

Morobe Province has a colourful history from the time of the first gold rushes at Edie Creek near Wau in the 1920s. Come the war and the region was the

scene of a different activity. Phillip Bradley's book gives a fascinating account of the heroic battle for Wau. Played out in a landscape of dramatic mountains, misty valleys, and the baking kunai grass of the lower slopes, a small band of Australian soldiers, led by Captain Sherlock, from Kanga Force, held grimly on to Wau defending its airstrip against vast numbers of Japanese until vital reinforcements could be landed.

I unpacked my father's war diary and over dinner and a glass of wine we looked at the entries for January 1943. Ted Fulton had been gold prospecting in the Sepik before war was declared. In 1939 he joined the A.I.F. and served in the Middle East and Greek Campaigns. When the Sixth Division was sent to New Guinea he was posted behind enemy lines with ANGAU to collect intelligence and to persuade the local people to side with the Australians. He had just spent days walking the precipitous Bulldog Track and was in Wau organizing supplies to continue on to the Sepik when around midday on 8 January he saw the B-17 "coming slowly up the valley at 2,000 feet". The crew were throwing out ammunition and equipment as the plane, losing height, disappeared into the mountains in the vicinity of Kaisenik.



The USAAF B-17E Flying Fortress, near Wau, July 2008  
Photo: Elizabeth Thurston

Rescue parties were sent out from Wau and Corporal John Smith, together with the people from the village of Kaisenik, was first to the crash site. The Americans' relief was immense because they thought they had ditched in enemy territory. Sadly, the tail-gunner, Sergeant Henry Bowen, died on the mountain. My father, who had also been sent to locate the survivors with

flasks of hot coffee, helped bring the injured party back to Wau. He writes...

"Some of the carriers were scared of being in the dark with a body. I reassured them and pushed onto the swing bridge where I found Corporal Mills with the injured [airman] on a stretcher. Crossing the narrow swaying bridge in the dark was extremely difficult. I went ahead with the torch while two natives held the wires apart to stop the bridge swinging too much...Progress in the dark was very slow and required extreme caution as slipping off the narrow path would have had fatal results...the going was very bad but the carriers did an excellent job with the stretchers; there was a minimum of shaking despite the fact they had to feel their foothold all the way...Our rescue mission had brought back one dead, four stretcher cases and four walking wounded." The injured airmen were flown to Port Moresby on 10<sup>th</sup> January by the Australian RAAF pilot, Flight Lieutenant "Arch" Dunne and the B-17 remains exactly where it came down 65 years ago.

Early next day we drove to the spot where we would begin the trek. It is impossible not to surrender to the mood and beauty of the mountains that circle Wau. Emerald green and blue ridges melt into the sky and a cool silver mist rises through the pine trees in the morning. Cascading streams and wild orchids complete the canvas.

We stopped first at the village of Kaisenik because I wished to meet the people whose fathers had tenderly carried the stretchers alongside Ted. I showed them his photo taken during the war and this caused much interest as we compared stories of that fateful night. I stood on the swing bridge and looked toward the mountains. Tim had supplied me with a backpack, water bottle and walking stick and Abraham, from Kaisenik, went ahead with the machete, cutting steps into the slippery mud to help me as we climbed ridge after ridge up and down through kunai grass, rainforest and jungle. "How" - I wondered aloud - "Did they ever carry those stretchers through this country in the pitch black?" The sense of anticipation was palpable. We crested the last ridge and there it was - on a sloping bank at the head of Black Cat pass, the B-17 lying like an enormous broken bird.

United in the silence of the landscape, we sat on the giant wing and looked down the valley mentally retracing the flight path over the tree-tops. With profound skill and a miracle, Ray Dau and his co-pilot Donald Hoggan had brought the crippled fortress to where it now lies. The two starboard engines were knocked out and Dau was unable to gain altitude. He says, "I knew it was just a matter of time, so I began to look for a soft place to set her down. We glided in on the side of a mountain at about 110 miles an hour and, as luck would have it there were no trees...so we slid along into a crash landing."\* We marveled at his cool-headed courage and the sacrifice of tail gunner, Henry Bowen, who lost his life fighting till the bitter end. Lieutenant Albert 'Bud' Cole was hit by shrapnel many times and Robert Albright died in hospital six days later. Every member of the crew of 41-9234 was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Purple Heart.

In my back pack I had brought my father's diary and letters from Ray Dau and Donald Hoggan, who live in Arizona and California. They are the last survivors of the crew and they have never returned to Wau.

Ray Dau wrote to me, 'Your father earned the respect and thanks of our B-17 crew for the rescue operation...' Donald Hoggan wrote, "I want to express my gratitude to your Dad, not a day goes by that I don't think about some phase of my life spent in New Guinea during the war."

If he were alive, Ted would reply that he was only one of many who helped with the rescue that night. He had shared a moment in wartime with the village people from Kaisenik and they, with true courage and compassion, were there when Ray Dau and his men needed them most.

*\*Dau interview with Justin Taylan*

## IF YOU GO

AirNiugini has daily flights to Port Moresby from Brisbane and Cairns and twice weekly from Sydney. There are daily flights from POM to Lae (Nadzab Airport). Tim Vincent from Wau Adventures offers primary treks – the Black Cat from Wau to Salamaua and the Bulldog between Wau and Port Moresby. “Together they present world-class, if rugged, coast to coast journeys.” He can assist DIY trekkers as well as organizing fully serviced and led treks. Other packages include battlefield walking tours, mountainous 4-wheel drive tours, the Aseki smoked bodies, limestone caves, ancient burial sites, traditional dancing and feasts, local village stays, the gold dredges and ultra-light joy flights. Accommodation is a comfortable bungalow that sleeps up to twelve. All meals and transfers arranged by Wau Adventures. Email [info@wauadventures.com.pg](mailto:info@wauadventures.com.pg) ■

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### **The Allied Liberation of Lae - 1943 by Dr Peter Cahill**

*Dr Peter Cahill recently wrote an article with the above title for the Fryer Folio, an annual publication from Fryer Library highlighting assorted pieces from its wonderful collection. We thank Dr Cahill and the Fryer Library for giving us permission to reprint the following excerpts, drawing on material generously donated to Fryer by the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia.*

‘The endeavours of Australian forces on the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea between July 1942 and January 1943 have been widely documented in books and elsewhere, including a recent feature film. The battle for Lae on New Guinea’s east coast is less well documented, but was nonetheless a highly significant episode in Australia’s struggle for survival during World War II.

...

‘The 7th and 9th Divisions fought their way into what remained of the town of Lae against determined Japanese rearguard opposition on 15 September while American bombers were still attacking it. By then the Japanese had given up all hope of retaining the town and withdrew 6,000 men. One officer wrote in his diary “... the sight of men being blown to bits was horrible”.<sup>8</sup> The Australians found the stench of their rotting bodies just as horrible. Dozens of Japanese planes were strewn about the airstrip and wrecked motor trucks lay everywhere. In their haste to evacuate, the Japanese abandoned large quantities of equipment including artillery, anti-aircraft guns, mortars and machine guns. The Australians harassed the starving and diseased Japanese who fled, leaving their wounded in tunnels modelled on their great tunnel complex in Rabaul. When the Australian order to come out and surrender was ignored, the entrances to the tunnels were simply bulldozed shut. Many Japanese soldiers who escaped from Lae died from starvation as villagers would not give them food. Some were butchered and eaten by their starving comrades.’

*This article appears in Fryer Folio issue vol.3 no.1 September 2008 and can be accessed on the website at the following address:*

[http://www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer/publications/ff3\\_1\\_2008.pdf](http://www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer/publications/ff3_1_2008.pdf)

*If you do not have internet access please contact the Editor who will arrange a copy to be mailed to you.* ■

## SHEETS OF STEEL By Neil Lucas

Even as late as the late 1950s and into the early 1960s, Port Moresby and most of the theatres of WWII conflict in PNG still showed tangible signs of those conflicts. Well known were the dumps of old aircraft which existed where Boroko shopping centre, BPs et al, became established during the 1960s; and the almost intact establishments of Oro Bay in the Oro Province, then Northern District, left behind by departing US forces following the conflict. Sheets of used roofing iron, flat iron, marsden matting and used 44 gallon drums abounded in dumps of material around towns.

However, time and the activities of salvage collectors took their toll on these priceless heaps. It was about mid 1960s that a frequent cry went up from a well known welfare officer in Moresby, name of Dave Case. Dave was nothing if not conscientious, and took upon himself much responsibility in trying to provide care and shelter for any in need. Often confronted with a shortage of a sheet of roofing iron or something to hold it up, Dave would announce that what the country needed was another war!

Why? “The country is fast running out of marsden matting and forty four gallon drums, mate” would be the answer.

And in those earlier years when money wasn't easy to come by for small construction jobs, those two items did constitute a big part of the construction of assorted facilities. Recall suburban fences in the towns and suburbs; marsden matting reigned supreme. It kept dodgy bridges operable on outlying roads and made beaut house posts, if you could bend them to triangular shape. And some settlements around Moresby and many other towns and outstations had to use the material or go without.

Vaimuru airfield received large amounts of marsden matting, or at least large amounts left Oro Bay bound for Vaimuru. Men from Orokaiva villages were recruited to lift this stuff from the wartime airfield of Horanda in the Oro Bay area. It was to be moved to Oro Bay to be loaded upon a barge, named the *Wewak*. The story had it that this vessel, a landing barge, would ship the matting to Vaimuru, go on to the Northern Territory, pick up cattle as back loading to PNG, and so on. This was a truly thankless job for those souls involved in retrieving the matting with soaring temperatures during the day with no respite on those flat windless pumice flats, to very low, by New Guinea standards, temperatures at night. The health toll to those involved was just short of horrendous. Chest infections too often developed into pneumonia, and there became a frequent ferry of patients back to Saiho Hospital.

As a Cadet at the time I had to spend some time on supervising the lowliest of jobs such as this and formed the opinion, after talking with a couple of the crew off the *Wewak*, that the operation wasn't going to last long. As the vessel was a landing barge, I queried why the marsden matting had to be carried out to the barge by swimmers. Why not come ashore, drop the loading ramp, and bingo! “Er,well,” came one reply after another, “The ramp isn't all that substantial any more, is hard to move, and if you look closely you can see daylight through parts of it” Having been taught to see hear and speak no evil, I kept my own counsel.

But this operation wound up shortly thereafter, due mainly to the inability of the barge *Wewak* to stay above water level, and the increasing difficulty of salvaging the matting. ■

## HELP WANTED

### Golden Wedding Anniversaries

In 1958, about 37 Patrol Officers attended ASOPA at Mosman for their one year course. Of this number, I believe only one Patrol Officer started the course already married – George Ball. However, I understand 33 returned to PNG married after completing the course. This included Edna and I who have just celebrated our Golden Wedding Anniversary. I know there are others who are also celebrating their Golden Anniversaries at this time. It would be appreciated if they could please contact me, **George Oakes** on 02 4758 8754 or email [gdoakes@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gdoakes@optusnet.com.au) and possibly we could list them all in a following *Una Voce*. The number who got married seems high but you must remember that if we did not take the opportunity to get married then, it would have become difficult to get married with only three months leave every two years! What can you do in three months? It will be interesting to see how many of those 33 have made 50 years married.

\* \* \*

Does any member have a recollection of **the meeting at the Rabaul RSL where Sir Donald Cleland and Bill Harry from Melbourne exhibited the katakana nominal roll**, of those presumed to be on board *Montevideo Maru*, to the members of the forces assembled at the time? This was a restricted meeting, devoid of press representation at Sir Donald's request, circa early 1960s. If you have any information about this meeting could you please contact Albert Speer MBE, 21/163 Willoughby Road, Naremburn NSW 2065 Phone: 02-9438 1120 Email: [biscospeer@yahoo.com](mailto:biscospeer@yahoo.com)

\* \* \*

**Neville Threlfall** would like to contact "**Bud**" **Graham**, who was managing BP plantations on New Ireland in the early 1950s, or any family member or friend who has news of him. Email replies to [threlfallnm1@bigpond.com](mailto:threlfallnm1@bigpond.com), or write to 18 Mawson Drive, Killarney Vale, NSW 2261. Phone (02) 4334 4289.

\* \* \*

David Watters would like to get in contact with **Anna Phillips**, the daughter of **Franz Tuza** who wrote "As the Catalina flies".

David is writing a History of Surgery in PNG from 1800-2000 and would also be interested in any surgical or surgeon's stories members would wish to share.

He would also be interested to hear of anyone who knew Surgeon, Dr R K Wilson (PNG Health Department Goroka, Rabaul, Port Moresby 1950-56) including his career in the Australian Petroleum Company, his employer for some years from 1957. I made an earlier request for information about RK Wilson in *Una Voce* but received nothing as my email was mis-spelt.

Please write to Professor David Watters, Department of Surgery, Geelong Hospital, Ryrie St, Geelong, Vic 3220 or email: [watters.david@gmail.com](mailto:watters.david@gmail.com)

\* \* \*

**Richard Hinder** asks if anyone knows if there is **a history of Goroka Teachers' College?** He was a member of the 6th E Course at Rabaul in 1964. Later he went to Hagara, Tubusereia and Gavuone Primary T Schools and after that to Goroka Teachers' College in 1968. Specifically he would like to obtain the names and photographs of staff members in the sixties and seventies. Please contact him at email: [richard\\_hinder@hotmail.com](mailto:richard_hinder@hotmail.com) or PO Box 4304 Kingston, 2604 Canberra Phone: 62 316 579

\* \* \*

In September 2008 *Una Voce* page 34, photos donated to Fryer Library collection included 'postwar view of Dowsett St. (later Ah Chee Avenue Matupi Farm Chinatown) showing **Captain J.H. McGregor Dowsett** with Chinese friends'. The memory was jogged, and in Bagail (Pakail) Cemetery Kavieng is a grave to perhaps two stillborn infants (as there is no age and only one date), .lair MacGregor Dowsett & Margaret Jean MacGregor Dowsett died 9th February 1930. Who was Captain J. H. and are these two of his children? Any information would be appreciated.

**Jim Ridges** P.O.Box 86, Kavieng, email [pmcewan@global.net.pg](mailto:pmcewan@global.net.pg)

\* \* \*



**Help Wanted from our Treasurer:** On 23 January 2009 one of our members **electronically transferred \$40** to PNGAA's bank account in order to renew his/her membership subscription. Unfortunately, no separate email was sent to our Treasurer (as required) and all our bank statement shows is - "WFC, 2 years Sunscript"

WHO IS WFC?

Would WFC please come forward otherwise the \$40 will be classified as a donation. *This illustrates the need to at least put your full surname and initial - if you know your membership number that would be all that would be required - in the 'comments' field when transferring funds electronically.*

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## BOOK NEWS

Gerrald Pickering from Houston has several books from his PNG collection for sale. Whilst not museum pieces the books are all hard covered and collected from PNG and Australia, some about 60 years ago.

They are original editions of the following:

1. "James Chalmers of New Guinea" published by Pictery? and Inglis (no date)
2. "Work and Adventure in New Guinea" by Chalmers and Gill 1885
3. "Across Papua" Kenneth Mackay 1909
4. "Pearls and Savages" Frank Hurley 1924
5. "Knights Errant of Papua" Sir Hubert Murray 1935
6. "High Valley" Kenneth Read 1965
7. "Adam with Arrows" Colin Simpson
8. "Adam with Plumes" Colin Simpson
9. "Highland Frontier" Joan and Gordon Carter 1954

If you are interested, please contact Gerrald Pickering at 68 Sugarberry Circle, Houston, Texas TX77024 USA or Email: [cgdpickering@aol.com](mailto:cgdpickering@aol.com)

**Gemo: Memories of a happy island in the sun, by Myra Kennedy Macey.** ISBN: 978064650105-5 (pbk) Published by and available from the author at 107/319 Macquarie St, South Hobart, Tasmania 7004 Phone: 03-6221 5407 Email: [maceyrodmyra@westnet.com.au](mailto:maceyrodmyra@westnet.com.au). \$25 plus \$2.50 postage in Australia

There couldn't be any long-time readers of *Una Voce* who haven't noticed the increasing number of self-published books now being reviewed in its pages. There is hardly a *Una Voce* book review section that doesn't include one or more self-published titles of PNG interest direct from authors, or from tiny,

virtually one-man band publishers happy to set and print a title for an author, (though it's up to the author to flog it). The good news, of course, is that useful titles are now getting into our hands that regular commercial publishers spurn because production and distribution of small print-runs is uneconomic for them.

**Gemo** is a typical example of what can be done. Old PNG-hands Myra and husband Rodney Macey organised the production and met the costs of Myra's book, which is printed in Hobart, where they now live. Determined to get the story onto the record, Myra began writing it several years ago, joining a local writing group to improve her skills, and eventually help in "sorting out my rambling scripts". The result, she says in a foreword to the book, is "neither an official history nor the whole story of Gemo Island or the management of TB and leprosy in Papua New Guinea. It is personal recollections and involvement during the most enriching years of my life. Many more people have been associated with the hospital than I have been able to include here and some will have clearer memories and different interpretations. However the Gemo story is worth preserving as it has a small but important place in the evolution of health care in Papua New Guinea."

Gemo is a small island in Port Moresby harbour on which an isolation hospital for TB and leprosy patients was opened in 1937, and closed in 1974 when isolation was no longer necessary, In 1960 Nursing Sister Myra Kennedy, as she was then, was sent there from Scotland to work for the London Missionary Society. When Gemo closed, she transferred to the PNG Health Department as a travelling nurse educator and health administrator.

In the two years of the early '50s that I lived in Port Moresby, I seldom saw any activity across the harbour at Gemo, but Myra's account is filled with incidents, facts, names and stories about it, both joyful and sad. And not only about Gemo, but throughout her years in PNG. Indeed, there are so many names in this 200-page illustrated book, many popping up again and again, that I regretted it has no index. But it's certainly "a useful book" that may not otherwise have seen the light of day, and will add to PNG's medical history, and, incidentally, to our knowledge of church activity.

Stuart Inder

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## **Philip Fitzpatrick talks about “GETTING PUBLISHED”**

I published a book about Papua New Guinea a couple of years ago with Pandanus Books, which was attached to the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University. Pandanus eventually fell victim to budget cuts and its stock was passed on to the University of New South Wales for distribution.

A few weeks ago, when I contacted UNSW Press for copies of the book (*Bamahuta--Leaving Papua*) to fill a couple of orders, I was told that the last copies had just that week been sent off to Borders the bookshop chain, and the University of PNG Bookshop, and that my book was officially out of print.

The original print run was only modest but it had been selling steadily by word of mouth and it looked like doing so for awhile yet. On this basis and because the rights had reverted to me I decided to suss out another publisher. I figured that this would be difficult because Pandanus had been one of the few publishers interested in publishing PNG material.

About this time I received an email from Brian Darcey, who had got my name from the ‘exkiap’ website, advertising his new book *Bougainville Blue*. Being an avid collector of PNG literature I couldn’t resist and ordered a copy from his publisher - and it turned out to be a good read. One thing led to another and I ended up signing a contract with Brian’s publisher to reprint my own book.

Diane Andrews is a niche publisher who works from her boat in Cairns. While she is primarily interested in publishing books about sailing (she’s particularly looking for cruising guides around PNG and its islands) she decided to take on my reprint and is making encouraging noises about the next book when it is finished.

Diane provides an editing service and organises suitable covers and layouts but what was of particular interest to me was her use of ‘print-to-order’ publishing and, to a lesser extent, production of ‘down-loadable’ books. The ‘print-to-order’ option appealed to me because, with the demise of Pandanus, the marketing of my book fell largely into my own lap. Diane expects her authors to do the leg work when it comes to selling their books – something that generally happens with small print runs, anyway.

This arrangement falls somewhere between self-publishing and conventional publishing. The system has the advantage, however, of not lumbering everyone with unsold copies of the book if it doesn’t sell well. In this way costs for both the author and publisher are kept to a minimum. Diane also offers a more equitable distribution of profits; far better than the measly 10 – 15% royalty offered by most other publishers.

She will produce a conventional print run if a book sells well as a ‘print to order’ and even offers a competitive ‘short run’ service for books with limited commercial appeal; - what is sometimes called ‘vanity’ publishing.

I imagine there are other niche publishers around who offer the same sort of service as Diane and it occurred to me that it is an ideal medium for all those budding memoirists and novelists within the ranks of the PNGAA, who use various excuses for not attempting to publish anything about their rich memories of Australia’s colonial period in PNG, not to mention the fascinating contemporary experiences evidenced consistently in the pages of *Una Voce*. I would encourage everyone to rethink those old excuses of ‘who would publish this’ and ‘I can’t afford to print this myself’ and get cracking on this important work. Diane can be contacted on [dianepithie@gmail.com](mailto:dianepithie@gmail.com). ■

**DONATIONS TO THE PNGAA COLLECTION - FRYER LIBRARY**  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY**  
**Dr Peter Cahill**

**Clarrie James:** booklet *Balus Tin Bisket 1932-1936* photographs and text of freighting dredges, heavy machinery, equipment and supplies into the Wau/Bulolo gold-fields; notes on walking various tracks in the northern Morobe, Southern/Eastern Highlands areas of New Guinea and Central and Milne Bay areas of Papua. **Rev. Wesley Lutton:** photograph of the Kabakaul (east New Britain district) memorial to Australian army personnel killed during the action to capture the German wireless station at Bitapaka, 1914.

**Barry R. Smith:** (see March 2007 *Una Voce*) photographs and brief notes on the Milne Bay Memorial Wall at Nundah, Queensland. **Derek O'Dean** 1920s Rabaul photos of a tennis party, the O'Dean home, Rabaul; the Baxter Bruce home on Namanula. **Dr Colin Branch:** copy of *Masta bilong Fire: the life of a Vulcanologist in Papua New Guinea 1963-1964*. Includes photos of Mother, South Daughter, Rabalanakaia, Matupit, Vulcan, Mts Balbi, Bagana, Langila, Lamington & Yelia, Lake Dakataua Caldera; spectacular photos of Manam volcano erupting 260464, and foundations for new observatories at Manam, Tabele and Esa'ala. **Chris Read:** photos of bombing run over Alexishafen 091143, view of Wewak 011243, bombing Jap aircraft on Boram strip 161043, bombing Jap ships Wewak 020943, parachutes over Alexishafen 091143, Allied aircraft over Boram (?161043), also boxed set of 87 New Guinea Social Studies in Pictures for Upper Primary School; disparate subjects range from tapping rubber trees, Kokoda to a twin-hulled Motu canoe to unloading a car from a plane at Goroka airstrip. "Golden Oldies" CD with approximately 500 photos (now indexed but not numbered) including those mentioned earlier and other black & white photos; a run of black & white photos of the Rabaul eruptions 1994 and 1997; the last 216 photos are a repeat in colour of the eruption photographs recording the ruin of Rabaul including late evening/night views taken from Kokopo of the 'pyrotechnics' of Tavurvur (Matupi). **Albert Speer, MBE:** meticulously researched collection of documents and photographs dealing with the torpedoing of the *Montevideo Maru*. Includes manuscript *The Search for the Truth of the Montevideo Maru*, research in Japan and interviews with the sole Japanese survivor, crew list of the *Montevideo Maru*, two engraved metal plaques, one in English, one in Japanese, general correspondence, newspaper articles and records.

**Adrian Geyle:** 60 coloured slides taken on expeditions of Enterprise of New Guinea, Gold and Petroleum Development N/L 1956-1958 photos of upper/lower/ middle Sepik River areas, e.g. village life, villagers, buying native food, Asio long house, native woman boiling water with heated stones, clearing for a potential airstrip, etc. **Arthur L. (Paddy) Ethell** (see *Una Voce* no.3 September 2008 p.35): assorted correspondence ca.1950-1990, partial drafts of experiences in postwar Papua and West Australia and "Parson's Son", 1920s/1930s photographs of (?Hoy) Creek, Papua, native headdresses, groups, canoes, coastal/land/river scenes Upper Purari River area, Lawes road overlooking Konedobu, Hanuabada and Badili area showing causeway to Gabutu Motu Motu (pre-war gaol), postcards – Samarai, natives on outrigger, body prepared for burial, sausage tree, native police, copies of Australian War Memorial photos of post (marked by leg bones) showing western point of

Japanese advance (see Barry R. Smith material above), interior Siaw Local Govt House, Aitape ca.1960s, typescript *How to give away territory*, *Foreign Affairs Style: Torres Strait* by James Griffin, ANU, 1980.

**Gail Burke:** Port Moresby Arts Council programs including 4<sup>th</sup> PNG Annual Festival of Drama 1963, The Creative Arts Centre presentation of two plays; copy of *Titpuke* the Magazine of Manus High School 1969; **Charles Betteridge** : 25 negatives of scenes around the Northern Rivers of NSW ca.1920s; photographs\* ca.1916-1919 Middle East locations, includes post cards and 14 photos of the wreck of the German raider *Emden*, assorted items relevant to Australian service personnel in WW1 including Honour Scroll awarded to Henry Robertson (Betteridge's uncle), various medals and a printout of battle between SMS *Emden* and HMAS Sydney as reported by Captain von Mülle; photos Chinese dragon dance Madang 1969; 2d of 4 copies of typed (not stencilled) *Rabaul Times* Volcanic Issue 040637; PNG National Gazette G23 120380 recording dismissal from office of Michael Somare and replacement with Julius Chan; Report 81/5 of Rabaul volcanoes by C.O. McKee June 1981; CD PNG holiday Nov.1970 – Jan. 1971; CD photos of bombing raids northeast mainland NG coast (some duplicated in Chris Read collection – see above); Japanese surrender ceremony with General Adachi handing over his sword; general views of war-damaged Wewak/Boram/Angoram; Edward Kenna VC. **R.D.M. Cleland:** Papua New Guinea Resource Atlas, Jacaranda Press, 1974. **Christopher Madden:** Allied Geographical Section, Southwest Pacific Area, New Guinea Terrain Handbooks\*\* nos 2,4,8,10,11,12,14,15,17,18,19 + supplement, 21,25,27 – these have excellent maps (mainly pre-war). and aerial photos of the TNG areas represented. **Dr H. Champion Hosking** (courtesy Max Hayes): CD of 200 photographs (now indexed and numbered) taken in 1937 of the Rabaul parade and decorated floats to mark the coronation of King George VI; eruptions of Vulcan and Tavurvur (Matupi) and the evacuation of Rabaul residents to Kokopo; post-eruption damage; an *Apologia* for the eruptions by (then) Justice Phillips, wreck of Stinson aircraft at Wau 280837 before tour of inspection of Madang, Alexishafen, Wewak, Wanimo (*sic*), Aitape, Ambunti, Marprik(*sic*), Angoram, Marienberg, and many smaller outposts and native villages; group photos of Sepik identities C.Rossiter, J.Bretag, ADO T.Ellis, ADO H.Woodman. Photos of *Montevideo Maru* memorial and Tol Plantation massacre added by Max Hayes. **John Watts:** Dinah Frank (1960) booklet *Under the Mango trees*, Marilyn Havini *Your colouring book from Bougainville No.1* – designs and descriptions of carvings, 'Buka umbrella', Upe hat for boys, Nasioi umbrella, Buin/Buka baskets, walking sticks, arrows, spears, lime containers, garamuts and kenabuts, Mona canoes, Buka cooking pots, carved heads, food baskets, Buka "Roko" (imaginary spirit), Tshana (men's meeting house), Kaur pipes and trumpets, carved bamboo combs, carved spearheads on woven cane shafts; poster "Votim Pangu Pati". **Myra Kennedy Macey:** *Gemo: memories of a happy island in the sun* (tuberculosis/leprosy nursing in Papua New Guinea) 1960-1982.

\*useful for comparison with Australian service personnel in PNG during WW2.

**\*\*can anyone supply the missing numbers?**

To view items *which may not be borrowed* arrange a mutually convenient time with the Fryer Librarian (07.3365.6276) The Collection will be digitised and placed on The University of Queensland Library website as funds permit.

## THE GREAT DAY by Bob Blaikie

The great day had finally arrived. After surviving over five months of the rigours of No 9 Short Course at the Australian School of Pacific Administration in Sydney at last I was finally off on the great adventure. Two or three of us who were Queenslanders had flown from Sydney to Brisbane a few days earlier to spend a short time with family and friends. What a hectic time that had been but now we were off with some excitement but also with some trepidation. What was the future to bring?

Out to Brisbane's Archerfield airport to wait for the Qantas DC3 to come up from Sydney with other members of the Course comprising mostly Cadet Patrol Officers but also with a few Cadet Agricultural Officers. My mother was there together with my two younger brothers and my girl friend.

The heritage listed terminal building where we all waited and said our farewells has been refurbished and is still there. It was Tuesday 31 August 1948 and our Course members were the only passengers on this Qantas three times a week service from Sydney to Port Moresby and on to Lae. We finally got off the ground about 12.30 for the first leg of the flight to Rockhampton for fuel and then on to Townsville arriving about 5.30. Here we were in the tropics and on to the Queens Hotel on the waterfront. Dinner in the hotel dining room was a little surprising as no entry to the dining room without ties. However the hotel kept a supply of ties behind the door for such eventualities.

To bed and woken at 4.45 the next morning. Down to the hotel kitchen for tea and toast before heading out to the airport to join our aircraft. A bit of frustration here as one engine had decided not to start however the fault was quickly rectified and we were away by 6.30 with our next stop Cairns. This was our last major stop in Australia and a few of the boys ran across the road to a small shop to buy some fresh milk as it might be a while before we tasted fresh milk again. The aircrew threatened to leave without them but eventually with all aboard we were off to our last stop in Australia at Cooktown to refuel.

Landed at Cooktown Mission Strip where refuelling was done from 44 gallon drums with a hand pump. This was our last stop in Australia and before climbing aboard again we all took a long last look. From Cooktown we headed out across the Coral Sea with our next stop to be Port Moresby.

The deep blue of the sea contrasted with the varying colours of the reef. We were all captivated by the spectacle and excited at what might lie ahead.



Cooktown Mission Strip 1948 - refuelling the aircraft from a 44 gallon drum with hand pump.

Some of us chatted or slept while a few others sat in the aircraft aisle and played cards. They sat on the large cylindrical vacuum flasks which aircraft at that time carried to keep food warm.

Then there in the distance we could see the cloud covered mountains of Papua and then we were over the coast with a village built out over the water far below us. After following the coast for a short while we landed at Jackson's Field at Port Moresby. Jackson's Field was named after Squadron Leader John Jackson. He was the commanding officer of 75 Squadron RAAF and killed defending Port Moresby on 28 April 1942. Jackson had been a family friend. A pilots' memorial on the banks of the Balonne River at St George in South West Queensland commemorates Jackson and Warrant Officer Leonard Waters the only known aboriginal pilot in the R.A.A.F.

We were totally unprepared for the loud clatter clatter as the plane landed on the marsden matting strip and then after coming to a halt the doors opened and we were hit by a blast furnace of hot air. Was this what the tropics were to be?

Customs gave us only a perfunctory glance and then in a rattling old former army bus to our quarters in the former RAAF barracks on the Konedobu side of Touaguba Hill. After settling in we spent the afternoon wandering around the town and among other inviting emporiums we visited Steamships little knowing that my brother Bruce was later to become Deputy Managing Director. Then in the evening we all went to the movies but I think most of us slept right through the show. It had been a long day.

Next morning we were woken at 6 by a police bugler playing reveille. Then to breakfast at the mess. To get to the mess we had to cross a taro garden. Our mess was what might later become the Aviat Club. Then on to the office at Konedobu where we were welcomed by the Director Ivan Champion. He gave us a talk and among the things he said in his unmistakable voice, 'Now don't you fellas get the idea of such things as refrigerators.' We were all asked what type of posting we wanted but think this was only a charade as postings had already been decided. Together with Jim Sinclair and John (Shorty) Jordan I was posted to the Morobe District. We were given a supply of atebirin and took our first dose. In the late afternoon we were all invited to Government House to meet the Administrator Colonel Murray and Mrs Murray. It was meant to be an informal meeting but was a bit stiff however the view of Port Moresby and the harbour was spectacular.

I had met my old friend Reg Harris an agricultural officer who was mainly instrumental in my going to Papua New Guinea. We had planned to visit Sogeri on Friday but at the last minute we had to meet the Administrator again in the conference room where we spent most of the morning.

Next morning Saturday 4 September together with Jim Sinclair, Shorty Jordan, Harry Thomas and Andy Anderson we went back to the airport by truck and caught a DC3 to Lae. The flight over the Owen Stanley Range was spectacular with the aircraft climbing to 12,000 feet to cross the mountains. We flew above the clouds most of the time and reached Lae at 12.50. Jim and Shorty and I were quartered at the Administration mess and my big adventure was to begin. ▪

## **TWO VOLCANOLOGISTS DEAD! By Neville Threlfall**

*(It is now thirty years since the events described here. As a resident of Rabaul at the time, and a friend of Robin Cooke and his family, I have endeavoured to recreate the feelings in the community at the time.)*

News of the deaths of Senior Volcanologist Robin Cooke and Technical Assistant Elias Ravian, while observing a volcanic eruption on Karkar Island, came as a stunning blow to members of the Rabaul community and to the people of the nearby Tavui village. The deaths occurred early on Thursday 8 March 1979, and late that day and the following day the news spread rapidly by word of mouth, before it was featured on Rabaul Radio. People discussed the deaths in hushed voices, hardly able to believe the news at first. Robin Cooke was so well known in the Rabaul community; and thoughts turned in sympathy towards his wife Hellen and their children Alison, Katherine, Joanna and Owen. Elias Ravian was likewise well known in the Tolai community, and the Tavui villagers mourned along with his wife Addie and their children Helen, Rachel and Robert. The staff of the Rabaul Volcanological Observatory grieved deeply at the loss of their two colleagues.

Emotions deepened as it became known that the two men had been keeping close watch over Karkar's volcano in order to protect the island's villagers, in case the threat of a fresh eruption made it necessary to evacuate the island. Their watching position exposed them to danger, and a sudden blast from a new vent had killed them outright. As it was realised that they had lost their lives while doing their duty and for the protection of others, their communities determined to pay a worthy tribute to both.

On Tuesday 13 March an ecumenical service of tribute to Robin Cooke was held in the Anglican Cathedral of St George, Rabaul, led by Bishop Bevan Meredith and Father Bob Stewart of the Anglican Church, Father Bernhard Francke of the Catholic Church and myself (Rev. Neville Threlfall of the United Church).. Giving the eulogy, I told of Robin Cooke's long career in volcanology and his constant efforts to study the volcanoes of PNG, to make life safer for those living near them. "Living in the shadow of volcanoes, we take for granted the protection given by the workers of the volcanological service," I said. "But now we have been reminded of the courage and the sacrifice which may be required of those workers."

On the following day the memorial service for Elias Ravian was held at Tavui. The United Church building was packed for the service, which was led by Rev. Saimon Gaius, the past Bishop of the New Guinea Islands Region. Many more stood outside; and there was a great crowd at the graveside for the burial afterwards. Rev. Saimon paid tribute to Elias as a fine young man, and pointed out that he had died while working for the benefit of the people and his death, and that of Robin Cooke, was a challenge to each of those present, to do whatever they did with real dedication.

It took a long time for the emotions aroused by the deaths of these two men, still in the prime of life, to subside. Suggestions were made that posthumous awards should be sought for both; but nothing eventuated, perhaps because no-one knew the correct protocol for applying for these. However, the Geological Survey of Papua New Guinea published in 1981 a memorial volume, the *Cooke-Ravian Volume of Volcanological Papers*, as a special tribute to

both. This book, edited by R.W. Johnson, contains many articles about the volcanoes of Papua New Guinea, including several by Robin Cooke and notes he was compiling for further articles at the time of his death.

In May 1979 I paid a special tribute of my own: while on local leave I traveled to Madang and flew out to Karkar Island. While the light aircraft circled above the great caldera, with the active cone still puffing out a cloud of dust and ash in the centre, I could see the effects of the fatal blast of 8 March: great tree-trunks had been blown down and scattered like matchsticks on the caldera rim and down its outer sides. I silently offered a prayer of remembrance for the two brave men who had died there. ■

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## **NEW YEAR'S DAY- A HALF-CENTURY AWAY From Jim Toner**

Cricket first played in England in the 18th century was carried by its citizens all around the British Empire and now, into the 21st century, is still providing a glue which holds the former dominions and colonies together as a Commonwealth of Nations. Manchester, Madras and Melbourne all have fine cricket grounds, particularly the latter, but on New Year's Day 1959 I was privileged to play at Mendi, an outstation in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. The pitch was hardly up to Test standard but the scenery was as spectacular as any landscape artist could wish for. The cluster of buildings constituting a District Headquarters lay in a narrow valley overlooked by towering white-faced cliffs on one side and a well-wooded ridge on the other. Of course you had to complete your match before the afternoon rains set in.

The local Highlanders had no knowledge of the game or indeed any other than their tribal warfare. However since Papua was declared a British protectorate in 1884 the Anglican Church and the London Missionary Society had introduced their converts to bat and ball. Doctrinal differences there were between the Established Church and the Nonconformists but they were as one on the values of cricket.

Having a huge headstart in terms of education on the Mendis - to whom 'civilisation' had been introduced only seven years earlier - Papuans had been brought up from the coast to work in Government offices and stores. They were of course subordinate in the colonial scheme of things but when playing cricket they were free to shatter a white man's stumps or belt his bowling to the boundary. And so on this 'level playing field' they did, the Papuans scoring 126 to defeat the Dimdins (Motu for white men) 58. I was never a man, in that felicitous English phrase, "to trouble the scorers" and contributed only three runs. This didn't help much but my diary confides that 1/1/59 was a beautiful day. ■

Articles submitted for *Una Voce* are greatly appreciated and enjoyed by our readers. It is important that our members contribute memories of their time in PNG to preserve an important part of its history. Space is increasingly being challenged and we ask that contributors limit submissions to between 100-1800 words enabling variety in our journal. Longer articles will take longer to appear. Sometimes it may be possible to include an 'extract' in *Una Voce* whilst the longer article is published on the PNGAA website. For members not on computer, the longer article can be personally requested. Thank you for your assistance and understanding.

## **FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT AT SALAMO - Rev Lu Piper**

**Part of a long and interesting letter written July 2008 from Rev. Lucille Piper, based at the United Church Regional Office at Salamo, D'Entrecasteaux Islands, PNG, and passed on to us by Bob Piper of Canberra (no relation), underlines that the doing of good works in PNG is not without its problems. But a cheerfully determined spirit remains!**

It has been a time of ups and downs since my return from leave in Australia at the end of March. The beauty of the place and people here can't but help draw you back! I travelled to Alotau, hoping to pick up a boat to take me down to the south-coast of the mainland where I wanted to do some preparatory work for the maintenance of the health centres and aid-posts there. While I waited I went down rather badly with malaria....

But let me get all the *other* negatives out of the way. The cat died - it is always sad to see a creature sick - and of course there's no vet here that you can run to....Oh, and I flew over the side of one of our bridges along the track - bike and all. On landing, I missed the creek by inches. I'd been racing to the wharf to catch the boat with some mail, and the bike wheel got caught up in the timber. Missed the boat ...The station generator broke down for five weeks, so we had no power...The Coleman was playing up, and the solar battery seems to be defunct, which meant it was back to the trusty old hurricane lamp. Not really the best when you are trying to write reports or letters, so not much got done at night...The Community Health Workers school had their back-up generator going until it also broke down, and often I would go up there to work at night. My small project officer's generator that I retrieved from the work-site saved the day until I, and everyone else, had run out of petrol!

But, day by day, of course, life and work proceeds as normal around the hiccups. Time has been spent on meeting agendas, minutes, and dealing with various government statutory requirements (via the accountant in Moresby); and more particular issues related to the break-in at Salamo. Fuel, computer parts, cash and cheques were stolen by men armed with guns - a loss of about \$A4000. With cheques stolen, the company account had to be closed, which meant sales orders were disrupted and as there was no available cash, some workers were stood down.

Alongside company work, I have been dealing with my own projects, especially the development of the Community Health Workers' Training School. To summarize: there is now a two-room lecture block with an office/storage area and a small library; a three room office complex; adequate accommodation for twenty-five female students plus an ablution block; and accommodation for twenty-four male students ...I must say it is now beginning to look like a 'proper school' and the students, all in uniforms, looked splendid marching on our anniversary day.

Another task has been to write a submission for a possible Rotary grant. We have been blessed with two benefactors who are willing to assist the women with their wish to purchase a boat so that their work across the region can be more effective; however top-up finance would be needed, hence the submission.

When I was putting down on paper the work the women do for the church and community, I was honestly amazed. In Australia, much of what they do would be undertaken by the government, and by paid workers at that. As well as

evangelism, they tackle health issues, from cervical cancer to HIV/AIDS to TB prevention, financial management, good agricultural practice, family counselling, and domestic violence. They teach literacy and communication skills, sewing and good housekeeping. We know that educating women is vital for the well-being of a nation, and here it is the church that takes the lead!

If only the government could catch the vision and also use its resources as wisely too. So what is the problem? Basically, financial management is extremely poor and there is no follow through. Unless some disaster strikes, like the cyclone that hit the Oro Province last year (and us indirectly), there are plenty of yams grown (a potato-like staple) and greens are generally plentiful, as are fish; and yet the boarding students at the government high school at Alotau, where our selected students go for years 11 and 12, receive only three hard biscuits for breakfast and a plate of rice with either a little tinned fish or tinned meat for lunch. Teatime is the same. Parents, mostly village folk, have to find K1,600 (\$625) per annum for school fees; it seems incongruous that local food isn't supplied.

The point is that with the natural resources God has endowed this country with, and the enormous financial assistance coming through AusAID, there seems to be no need for many of the problems, which include the problems of law and order. ▪

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## **BOB COLE AND THE THIRTY POLICE BADGES**

**By Chips Mackellar**

Bob Cole's funeral was held on Saturday 29 November 2008. More than 200 people were present at the Somerville Chapel at Nerang, more than the Chapel could comfortably contain. All the inside seating was occupied, and the remaining standing room inside was packed to capacity. I sat outside with Jack Battersby, and John and Joan Colman, and we listened to the service via the Chapel's PA system. Bob's biography was delivered by his two sons, and other family members expressed their memories, remembrances and reminiscences of this great man. War hero, kiap, and Commissioner of Police, it was all remembered. There were messages of condolence from the Papua New Guinea Consul General, and also from the current Commissioner of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary, and passionate eulogies were delivered by two other famous kiaps, Fred Kaad and Jim Sinclair.

The skies had been overcast all day, and weather forecasts were predicting heavy storms, and minutes after the service had ended and people were enjoying tea and sandwiches outside the Chapel, it all happened. A torrential downpour and high winds struck the gathering. The wind gusts were so severe that they blew the sandwiches off the tables, and with the Chapel then closed, the only shelter from the driving rain was in the cars which people had arrived in. So there was a mass scattering to the cars and people drove off in all directions through the pouring rain, leaving the Chapel grounds deserted. Thinking that people might gather together at the nearest pub to continue their remembrances of Bob Cole, Bill McGrath and I adjourned to the Hinterland Hotel. We sat in the bistro bar there while the rain tumbled down outside and we waited for other people to arrive, but nobody came.

So, alone in that bar, Bill and I honoured the memory of Bob Cole, by telling each other Bob Cole stories. And one of the stories I told Bill was the story of Bob Cole and the thirty police badges.

*Cont. over →.*

When Bob Cole was Commissioner of the Royal Papua and New Guinea Constabulary, it was customary for kiaps passing through Port Moresby on posting or on leave, to drop in and pay their respects. So on the occasion of my six-month long service leave en route on a round-the-world holiday, I called in to say hello. Bob wanted to know the purpose of the round-the-world tour. I said nothing special I would just look at this and that, and make like an ordinary tourist.

“That’s not good enough, Chips,” Bob Cole said, “every important endeavour like a world tour should have a purpose. If you have no particular purpose in mind, then I will give you one. Come back and see me at this time tomorrow and I will give you thirty police badges. Wherever you go in the world and whenever you have the opportunity, call into the local police station and exchange a badge. When you return to PNG, bring me thirty badges from different police forces around the world, and I will put them in the Police Museum here.”

It seemed like a good idea, and I agreed. “And not only that, “ Bob added, “but you will find that there is a brotherhood amongst policemen throughout the world, and the contacts you make when exchanging badges could be useful for other purposes, like making friends in a foreign country and all that.” And he was right.

I did the tourist bit in Hawaii. That is, I watched the hula dances, I walked down Waikiki Beach, I looked at Diamond Head, I had a drink at the Royal Hawaiian, and I saw the tourist advertisements for a US Navy conducted tour of Pearl Harbour. This is a must for all visitors to Hawaii. So I tried for that. Alas, all booked out six weeks in advance. Ah well, I thought, I might as well try and exchange one of Bob’s police badges. So I walked into Police Headquarters in Honolulu, and asked one of the officers behind the counter if I could exchange a badge, and I presented him with a RP&NGC badge. The officer looked at it, and called the Sergeant, and the Sergeant said “Wait while I ask the Loootenant,” and the Lieutenant referred the badge to the Captain, and the Captain went off somewhere while I waited, and when the Captain came back he said “The Chief wants to meet you.” So the Captain took me up in the lift to the top floor of the Honolulu Police Headquarters building and ushered me into the office of the Chief of Police.

“Noo Guinea eh?” said the Chief as he examined the badge, and he proceeded to tell me that his uncles and his cousin had all fought in the New Guinea campaigns, and we talked about General Macarthur and so on, and he told one of his subordinates to give me a Honolulu Police badge, and the exchange was made. And just as I was leaving the Chief asked me if there was anything they could do for me while I was in Hawaii, and I said I would have liked to have seen Pearl Harbour but the tours are booked out. “Fix it with the Navy,” the Chief said to the Captain who had accompanied me. Outside the Chief’s office the Captain asked me which hotel I was staying in, then proceeded to make a few phone calls. Then he told me to stand on the pavement outside the front door of my hotel at 8.30 the following morning. And so the arrangement was made, although I was not exactly certain what to expect.

Next morning just before 8.30, I stood at the kerbside in front of the hotel trying not to look like a dumb tourist, and a vehicle stopped beside me. It was a US Navy Shore Patrol jeep, stripped for action, no roof, no windscreen, containing two Navy Shore Patrolmen, white gaiters, side arms, white gob caps, and red on black SP arm bands, just like you see in the movies. I almost could not believe what I was seeing.

“Are you Officer Mackellar from Noo Guinea?” said one of the Navy Shore Patrolmen in the jeep, sitting nearest to me.

“Yes,” I said.

“Climb aboard, Buddy,” he said, “we are taking you to Pearl Harbour.” So I climbed into the back of the Navy jeep, and when we arrived at Pearl Harbour, a Navy launch was waiting, and from it out in the harbour I saw the unbelievable might of the US Seventh Fleet, its Aircraft Carriers, cruisers, frigates, destroyers, supply ships, tenders, escorts, submarines, dockyards, and so on, and of course the Arizona Memorial. The Memorial spans the USS Arizona but does not touch it, and from this Memorial I gazed down with awe and amazement at the mighty battleship in the waters below me, still there, resting on the bottom with the ghosts of its 1,102 sailors still on board. They have been there since 7th December 1941, which, according to President Roosevelt is a date which shall live in infamy. It was the day the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbour, the event which brought the US into the Second World War. Drowned when the USS Arizona sank, its crew is still on board. They have remained there undisturbed, all these years.

So that is how I saw Pearl Harbour, that is, by exchanging a police badge for Bob Cole. It was also how I was given a conducted tour of New Scotland Yard, how I observed police dogs being trained by the Essex Constabulary, and how I met other police in other countries and it also how I discovered the nearest US equivalent to kiaps. They are the United States National Park Rangers, responsible for the district administration of large tracts of the American wilderness, including isolated pockets of Native Americans living within the National Parks. And as I was exchanging a badge at a National Park Ranger Station, the ranger asked casually where I was stationed in PNG.

“Esa’ala,” I said, thinking it would mean nothing to him. “Esa’ala,” he repeated, then asked “is that somewhere near Dobu Island?” I was so astonished I replied



Exchanging a Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary Badge for a Santa Fe Police shoulder patch with Assistant Police Chief Rudy Miller of Santa Fe Police, New Mexico, USA.

“Yes. Three miles away. But how did you know?”

“We have to know our Anthropology too.” he said, and he remembered reading *Sorcerers of Dobu* by R.F. Fortune. And there in the American wilderness I found myself discussing cargo cults, Malinowski, and the Trobriand Island yam harvests with the National Park Rangers. It was an amazing experience.

And as I began to collect Bob Cole’s police badges, I found that I had accumulated more than thirty in exchange for the original thirty RP&NGC badges which Bob had given me. The reason for this was that some police forces have more than one badge. For example, some have one badge for general duties, a different badge for the traffic police, a different badge for the water police, a different badge for the mounted police, and so on. So in exchange for one RP&NGC badge, I was often given in exchange, more than one

badge from the same police force. So I decided that I would keep the excess badges for my own collection, and when I returned to Port Moresby, I went to see Bob Cole, and in good faith I gave him thirty police badges from different police forces from around the world. But I did not tell him that I had other police badges which I was keeping for myself, and one of these badges which I kept has a special significance for me.

When I visited Taos in New Mexico, it was a picture postcard of the Old West, with beautiful buildings, all appearing as though they had all been made from adobe, all the colour of desert gold, wide streets, with men wearing big hats and cowboy boots and so on. And as I walked past the Sheriff's Office, I remembered to exchange a badge. So I approached a Deputy Sheriff at the counter, and offered a RP&NGC badge for exchange. "I'll have to ask the Sheriff." He said, and took my badge to an inside office. He came back without my badge, and said "The Sheriff wants to meet you." By this time several other Deputies had gathered around, and we all tramped into the Sheriff's office.

"Yawl want to trade badges?" the Sheriff asked without introduction.

"Yes, Sheriff," I said, and I explained the mission which Bob Cole had given me. "Just trade badges?" the Sheriff asked again, "Hell. I can do better than that. Raise your right hand!"

So I raised my right hand, not knowing what was to follow.

"Yawl swear to uphold the Constituuuuution of the United States and the Laws of the State of Nooooo Mexico?" asked the Sheriff. Since I had no reason not to uphold them I said "Yes, Sheriff."

"Then by the powers conferred upon me by the laws of the State of Nooooo Mexico," continued the Sheriff, "I hereby appoint you Depidy Sheriff of Taos County. Here's your badge, Depidy," and he handed me a Deputy Sheriff's badge. All the other deputies filed past me shaking my hand and congratulating me.

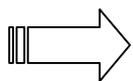
"Congratulations, Deputy."

"Congratulations, Deputy."

"Congratulations, Deputy," they all said, and then we adjourned to an outer office where we all sat down and drank coffee and yarned as though we had known each other for years.

But I have to confess that that badge never made it into the Police Museum in Port Moresby. It now has pride of place in my trophy display cabinet, along with my family heirlooms and other family collectables. Although I did receive this Deputy Sheriff's badge in exchange for a RP&NGC badge, I was faithful to the assignment Bob Cole had given me, in that I did return to him, thirty other police badges. That is, I gave him thirty badges in exchange for thirty badges, but not this one.

So that is how Bob Cole was able to present to the Police Museum in Port Moresby, thirty police badges from different police forces from around the world, and that is how I became Deputy Sheriff of Taos County. ■



Two events are planned for this year but no dates are yet set. If you are interested in receiving further information about either of the following, please contact the Editor (details page 2):

- a get-together in the Ballina area
- a talk on Lark Force in Sydney

Following is an excerpt from the 1957 program of 'The Kone Bar Flies v. The Kone Tigers'. Our thanks to Jim Kemsley for sending this to us. Jean Kemsley's father, Brooke Webb, was Chief Surveyor at Land Survey and Mines and had kept them for many years. The complete program will soon appear on our website: [www.pngaa.net](http://www.pngaa.net)

**THE KONE BAR FLIES V. THE KONE TIGERS**  
**SOUVENIR PROGRAMME 1957**

Moresby's Most Talked About Rugby Trial  
At The Department of Education's Oval, IDUBADA  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 1957 Game will commence at 4pm Blunt  
Referee: Marilyn Monroe Touch Judges: Diana Dors, Gina Lollobrigida  
Entrance 2/- (TWO BOB) Proceeds if any to the Injured Players Fund.  
Dogs, cats and horses will not be permitted on the oval whilst the game is being played unless accompanied by their owners: this rule will not be relaxed.

**LOOK AT THIS SENSHASHIONAL TWISTING LINE UP OF BAR FLIES**  
**CAPTAIN:** BILL O'BRIEN (F/Eighth) - Star of the 1936 ICEBERGS who played at Cloncurry where the temperature was 154 in the PUB

**V/CAPTAIN:** LEN BUTLER (Half Back) - International Fishing Champion 1616 BC. He will bruise and batter this mob with his baiting tactics.

**FORWARD:** LEN CARLSON - Perth's dashing Cavalier, known for his antics both on aerials and underground, knows all about the Brittanica, don't you LEN?

**HOOKER:** JACK PAIN? - Claims to have played in the OLD Dart, if he did, then it must have been at night with the BABY SITTER.

**FORWARD:** LORRY MIEKLEJOHN - Centre Forward for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ladies Basket Ball Team at Collinsville in 1953. Always a danger with his mighty stamping action.

**2<sup>ND</sup> ROW:** ROLLY PACHOLKE - Comes to us from Cairns where he was apprentice taster to the local BREWERY, a real killer, LADY KILLER.

**2<sup>nd</sup> ROW:** RON MAWSON - This bloke's a real Chiller, gained his experience as COACH to a large Presbyterian Ladies College on the UPPER FLY

**LOCK:** GEOFF MOTTERSHEAD - Adviser to the TIGERS for 1957. Once ran 100 yards in evens in bare feet, also represented the CLERGY against the BOOKMAKERS at Randwick on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 1907. DON'T MISS THIS GUY.

**WINGER:** BRUCE LESLIE - 1<sup>st</sup> Reserve for Burma Panthers in the 1948 World Series played at Canberra - Faster in water than on Terra Cotta.

**CENTRE:** BILL WIESE - Represented the Artists when they played the Interleckshials at Cooktown in 1951. Unconfirmed. Watch him wield his crayon.

**CENTRE:** CLIFFE RYAN - Captained Maitland's Dry Cleaners' 13 in 1948, ACTUAL FACT. A mighty producer is this boy.

**WINGER:** KEVIN O'MARA - Comes from the back of Bourke; am told that he was really outstanding in his game with the Opposition Baker's Daughter and was fortunate to escape detection.

**FULL BACK:** DAVE JEFFORD - A definite passenger but as he will be way back is most unlikely to get in the way. Claims he played for Oxford against Cambridge 1945, MAYBE AT DARTS, but nought else.

ANY TALENT SCOUT FOUND TRYING TO SIGN UP ANY OF THESE PLAYERS  
WILL BE GIVEN EVERY ASSISTANCE.

## SIALUM PIG CALLING by Paul Oates

In 1974, Mum and Dad came to visit my wife and me at Sialum Patrol Post. Sialum Patrol Post was situated on the north eastern tip of the Huon Peninsular of the then Morobe District. While Mum and Dad were with us, I asked the people of Sialum Village if there was anything locally we could show my parents.

The people put their heads together and suggested they might like to see the feeding of the local pigs. The afternoon was hot and Mum begged off however Dad, being an old country boy, was very keen to see how the people fed their pigs. We collected the village Committee man and followed his directions to where the pigs were fed. We travelled north along the coast road while the village women took a different path and walked through the mouth of a nearby river. They emerged with saucepans of boiled taro on their heads and walked to where we were in a dripping wet 'gaggle'. Clearly it was a daily, social activity.

The pig feeding site was a semi island near a beach that was formed by a bend in the river. Together with the women, some men arrived and everyone then went to their prearranged location and started to call their pigs. The silence was broken by a cacophony of different sounds, many of which would have won an award at a Tennessee Hog Calling Competition. Each caller had a different call so that the pigs would recognise only their own call and therefore come to their owners. There were grunts and yells and yodels with each caller trying to make sure his or her call was heard over the everyone else's. There was a sudden grunting from all around us and appearing out of the scrub and bushes where they had been sleeping, the village pigs emerged. There were large tuskers, sows with piglets and pigs of all sizes. Most were black although many of the piglets were striped brown and black.

When each family's pigs were gathered around their owners they were counted and checked. Boiled taro from the saucepans was then poured into giant clam shells that were used as feeding troughs. The people told us that some of these clam shells had been used for many generations and it was hard to find ones of this size anymore. The bigger shells were at least a metre (three feet) across.

When everyone had settled down to enjoy the view of their pigs happily feeding, Dad asked about the red chewing gum that a lot of people seemed to be chewing. I then explained about the process of chewing betel nut. The effects of this mild stimulant were like a strong cup of coffee but to get this effect, one had to chew up the hard nut and precipitate the mild alkaloid stimulant by adding unslaked lime to the mixture in your mouth. Having tried betel nut previously, I thought Dad might like to try it himself.

I asked around if there was anyone who would like to sell me 'the makings'. Immediately, the cry went around in a loud voice, "*Husat igat buai? Kiap i laik traim nau!*" with a certain amount of passion and a lot of grinning. I bought a couple of 'nuts' and showed Dad how to skin them and chew the contents up without swallowing the spittle that the bitter flavour produced. I then showed him how to add *daka* (pepper flower) and *kambang* (unslaked lime) to his mouth that made the bitter nut semi sweet and I thought, something like a liquorice flavour. When Dad got the red colour and the idea, we got rid of our

mouthfuls. It was a lovely afternoon and as the sun started to set, everyone sat around and relaxed.

Suddenly reality dawned. "For goodness sake", said Dad wiping his mouth, "Don't tell your Mother!"

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### **DERRIS by Paul Oates**

When I was at Sialum, I remember walking along the beach and seeing a bloke from the village (Kwamkwam) nearby, busily pounding two rocks together. I'll give the gist of what happened next and translate it for those who don't know Tok Pisin.

"*Apinun*", says I, "*Yu mekim wanem?*" (Good afternoon, what are you doing?)

*Apinun kiap*", he said, "*Mi wokim liklik rop bilong bus.*" (Good afternoon, I'm doing something with some roots I got from the bush.) (Too literal, but anyway you get the drift).

"*Kam mi lukim.*" (Let me have a look) I said.

Between the two rocks, one flat one about a foot in diameter (the mortar) and the other one (the pestle) a round stone about 6 inches in diameter there were some brown roots. The roots had been partially squashed but I remember they looked like mulberry roots although they were much darker in colour (rusty brown) but this could have been due to the soil they came from.

"*Bai yu mekim wanem samting long dispela?*" (What are you going to do with it?)

"*Bai mi kisim pis ia wantaim dispela marisin*" he said (I'm going to catch some fish using this medicine - too literal, sorry) and indicated where he had put his net and where there was an obvious dark patch (a school of fish) in the turquoise blue lagoon.

"*Olsem wanem yu inap long kisim pis wantaim dispela samting?*" I asked. (How can you catch fish using this stuff?). He then explained how he would throw this (stuff) into the lagoon on the far side of the fish and they would swim up and away from it and he would catch them in his net.

I then remembered stories I'd been told at school of how aborigines used a poison to stun and catch fish in rock pools. I asked the bloke what did it smell like and he offered it to me to look at closely. Being very cautious, I kneeled down and I used my hand to waft some of the possible odour in my direction. No smell at all. I stood up and almost went straight over backwards. Whoa! That was a powerful substance.

Anyway, his plan worked. He got his fish and I received yet another lesson in local customs.

I understand the active ingredient is the same organic substance that they put into cabbage dust (derris dust - rotenone). I have since found out it is known, grown and used in many areas in PNG. ■

## RETURNING TO NEW IRELAND by Peter Comerford

Returning in July this year we landed just on dusk at Kavieng airport, so were deprived of the wonderful sight of the coast of New Ireland, turquoise waters and white sandy beaches with the Bulaminski Highway snaking its way towards the town. It was exciting to be back and there was certainly a sense of *déjà vu* as we taxied down the runway as car headlights illuminated a path towards a larger terminal than we had remembered.

We based ourselves at the Malangan Lodge Resort where we met up with the manager John McLeod, who we knew on Bougainville and close friend Gordon Doyle, who had been an E Course teacher on New Ireland. The Malangan is situated in an ideal location on the harbour with wonderful views across the water towards the islands of Nusa and Nusa Lik and was a quiet walk, at PNG pace to shops and trade stores. I took a number of photos in and around town for the upcoming New Ireland reunion in March 2009.

Kavieng hadn't changed very much at all. The buildings were older and a little more shabby and there were a few new shops in the Chinatown area. The Kavieng hotel was now painted blue and the Kavieng Club had a besa brick fence around its perimeters. The town and harbour foreshores with rain trees and turquoise waters are still like something out of a Somerset Maugham novel. Eco tourism is alive and well with the attraction of diving and surfing, sailing and fishing. A number of the small islands off Kavieng have small 'resorts' on them which cater to a limited number of guests. The market is still very good but with the addition of vegetables grown at altitude on the Lelet plateau and there are still 'kukas' a plenty.

The New Irelanders are a friendly group of people and things are still slow and quiet and is far enough from the mainland to hopefully maintain its friendly and peaceful pace. We walked around by day and night and travelled down the highway to villages by PMV without any problems being recognised and greeted by people wherever we travelled. Our plans were to spend a couple of days in Kavieng and then travel around to specifically find ex students and old friends.

We had forgotten how hot it was but this time around could escape to the luxury of air conditioning or an overhead fan, something we didn't have in our first posting to Madina in 1971. The Buluminsky Highway is now sealed for quite a distance so we travelled comfortably down the road this time in a twin cab rather than on a Honda 90, to Lakuramau, Lemokot, Fissoa, Mongop, Madina and Luapul and arrived without being covered in white 'koronus' dust.

Wherever we travelled we were armed with a sheaf of lasier copies of old photos I had taken of various villagers and students all those years ago. Naturally they were well received but often, sadly to say, we were greeted by the news "O sori....em I dai pinis." And so we would then be lead through the village to visit the sandy mound of a 'mat mat' with a simple inscription scratched into a cement slab or headstone.

Our visit to the old schools of Madina and Utu and to Kavieng Hospital where Marian was matron had the memories flooding back even though the landscape had changed with the addition of new buildings. The sight of an Aids clinic at the hospital brought home the reality that even the relative isolation of

Kavieng wasn't enough to spare it of the infection that is reeking havoc on the mainland.

Our plans for a simple tree planting ceremony at Manggai for our friend Kaylene had embarrassingly gained momentum. We arrived at the village with flowers for the grave of an outstanding former student of Gordon, Kaylene and myself, Bospidik Pilokos, to be greeted by the village elders. We were then led to an area especially prepared and decorated with flowers and palm leaves to sit in the shade. After some moving speeches from the elders and ex PNG High Commissioner Tom Ritako who explained the reasons for the ceremony and this unusual request to plant a tree in memory of an ex teacher, a symbolic 'tanket' or cordyline was planted near Bospidik's grave. A magnificent feast had been prepared and after the pig was marked, divided and distributed according to custom the benches were soon laden with bowls of fruit, fish and 'mu mu' karamaps'. We returned to Kavieng on dusk feeling humbled yet again by the genuine warmth and acceptance of New Ireland hospitality and content that we had fulfilled Kaylene's request.

Our final few days were spent on Tsoi Lik on the tip of Tsoi island, which is literally a pearl in the Pacific. An aerial shot of it appeared on the cover of Paradise in flight magazine earlier this year. We travelled by banana boat from Kavieng past a myriad of islands and stayed on Tsoi Lik courtesy of Robinson and Ruthy Sirimbat. Robinson, an ex Utu student, is the retired New Ireland Provincial Secretary. Accommodation was clean and comfortable and right on the waters edge. The food was simple and very tasty. We ate fish 3 times a day and on a couple of occasions even had lobster for breakfast and lunch. Many of the small islands off Kavieng and New Hanover have small resorts which cater to a limited number of tourists. The cost of petrol is horrendous and a trip from Kavieng to Umbukul return could cost 300 kina in fuel. The owners of these resorts have to make regular trips by boat to Kavieng for supplies. Similarly it costs a fortune for villagers to bring their supplies by boat to the Kavieng market to sell.

The return trip to Kavieng was expected to take us an hour and a half and the plan was to leave early before it became too hot and windy. Needless to say, 5 hours later we arrived at the beach at the Malangan Lodge like sun burnt survivors of a ship wreck. We had stopped off at Limus and visited the ex Governor of the province Ian Ling Stucky who has built an incredible holiday house on the island. It is cleverly designed, built of imported kwila and commands magnificent views over the islands looking towards Kavieng. When I had last camped on Limus years ago it was known as Bishop's island and the only man made structure was a simple corrugated iron lean-to. We also called into Lisuang where there is an eco tourist resort that caters to scuba divers. It also has an excellent location and tastefully maintains the ambiance of a secluded tropical paradise.

So in a nutshell a return trip was extremely therapeutic though tinged with moments of sadness but what stood out besides the beauty of the place was the ex students themselves. Some of them are successful in their professions, that ranged from doctors, lawyers, teachers, many were now grandparents but what really touched us was how pleased people were to see us and welcome us back.

People were keen to have our laser copies of photos as most have no pictorial record of their school or village life. I had taken literally thousands of photos over my years in PNG, particularly of students and villagers, so on our return I created a number of diaries and small photo albums using a digital album site on the internet. Hopefully these will provide a more permanent keepsake for friends and school libraries. ■

## FIFTY YEARS AGO IN PNG by Brian Darcey

In 1955, I had just returned to Sydney from a trans-Tasman crossing to New Zealand in *Kylie*, a steel ketch which had taken up the previous two years of my young life as we built her in the sand dunes of La Perouse on Botany Bay.

As a newly married man, not yet gainfully employed, I was faced with two choices: Longreach in Western Queensland where a job as radio announcer awaited, or Port Moresby in what was then Australian Territory where Steamships Trading Company had a ship needing a supercargo, (Code for sea-going clerk/handyman/dogsbody). Port Moresby (which I had never seen) seemed the better alternative and I left Sydney with a one-way ticket to Port Moresby aboard a vintage DC4 leaving my new bride behind to follow 'later', when my employers would hopefully pay for her to join me.

Port Moresby signalled my arrival with a shattering metallic clatter as the aircraft touched down on the wartime runway at Jackson's Airport, still covered with the ubiquitous marsden matting; interlocking steel plates which the post-war territory used for purposes never dreamed of by its American inventors. Tank stands, pig fences, security barriers and fishtraps were just a few.

I had invested in a new officer's cap complete with snow-white cover to complement my reefer jacket and long trousers; appropriate attire for my new career, or so I thought. Sweating profusely in the humid air, I went straight to my new ship, MV DOMA which was moored alongside Port Moresby's only wharf, fully loaded needing only its new supercargo before departing for Daru across the Gulf of Papua.

Her shirtless skipper David Herbert, brother of Australian author Xavier, raised a bushy eyebrow at the appearance of this new Supercargo in wildly inappropriate attire and wordlessly poured me a very large glass of Negrita rum before turning to the Chief Engineer with what I later learned was his invariable signal for immediate departure.... "Kick 'er in the guts Lofty!" he said, and we sailed for Daru without further ceremony.

Doma was part of a fleet of small ships bought by Steamships Trading Company for peppercorn prices from the Australian Government, which disposed of the huge mass of machinery and equipment left behind by departing U.S forces to anyone with a cheque book. She was 120 feet overall. Flat-bottomed. Powered by twin diesel engines but without the usual benefit of contra-rotating propellers, which made her almost uncontrollable when going astern. She was designed by a general in the US Marines as a water tanker and general cargo carrier: if these small ships survived one beach invasion, this was all that was expected of them. Doma was fully loaded with a mixed cargo of rice, tinned meat, sugar, flour, tobacco and other staples below a single long hatch. The deck was completely covered with 44-gallon drums of highly volatile fuel, and this in turn was overlaid by over one hundred deck passengers, complete with pressure stoves, which were lit from time to time directly on top of the fuel drums.

Navigation equipment was minimal. Depth sounding was by leadline. Other aids were completely absent. No Radar, no Radio Direction Finder; and no buoys, lights, or any other indication of position or depth for the hundreds of miles of shallow, mud stained water of the Papuan Gulf. The success (or otherwise) of a voyage was entirely dependant on the local knowledge of her officers and crew, mainly the latter, whose seagoing antecedents had sailed these seas in huge claw-sailed Lakatoi canoes for centuries.

Doma successfully completed this, my first voyage, with no more than the usual number of groundings and missed landfalls. On return to Port Moresby, she was immediately loaded with an almost identical cargo for the reef strewn East Coast of Papua. Destination, Samarai, at the Southeast end of Papua.

More appropriately dressed now for my job, I approached the shipping manager for an advance on my princely salary of sixty pounds per month for an airfare for my new wife Ivy who was patiently waiting in Melbourne. To the astonishment of Skipper "Dave" Herbert, Steamships Trading Company agreed. "Yer must have caught them off guard by turning up sober," was his percipient comment.

The voyage to Samarai was our honeymoon and attracted the close interest of planters at ports along the coast. They had been attentively listening to ships' radio Skeds carrying my messages to Ivy which included sentiments and detailed promises of connubial bliss better expressed in more privacy than that afforded by an open radio circuit!

Heat, dust, and an overall air of makeshift dilapidation pervaded Port Moresby, still showing the effects of years of military occupation, which ended in 1945. The streets were potholed. Traffic was chaotic, and wheeled transport was salvaged army jeeps or trucks and battered sedans with the occasional new car driven by one of the newly rich entrepreneurs of this frontier town. We set up our first home in an apartment in the dusty outer suburb of Boroko. Ivy started work as assistant to Dr Joan Refshauge in the Health Department and I went back to sea for two more trips on Doma.

Sufficient sea time now accumulated, I sat for the rudimentary examination of the times, gained a Ships Master's Certificate and was immediately offered command of a small 85 foot motor vessel M.V. Moturina. I managed, with the considerable assistance of my Papuan crew, to safely negotiate the entire coast of Papua for the next three months. I will be forever grateful to those Papuan seamen for their help in keeping me off the reefs and mudbanks of their home waters.

A tactful, discreet cough, followed by meaningful inclination of a bushy head translated as "Turn now boss or we'll all be swimming!"

Moturina, like Doma, was another wartime legacy. Single-screwed with a high deck house aft. I first took command while she was on the slipway after a refit and proceeded to move her all of half a mile to the small ships wharf, where an official group consisting of the managing director, the shipping manager and the all-powerful harbour master, whose signature was hardly dry on my new masters certificate, awaited the arrival of the new Captain.

For six months of the year, the Southeast Tradewind blows across Port Moresby harbour at 25 knots or better, and it was directly behind me as I approached the wharf and its assembled dignitaries.

'Slow Astern,' rung down on the rickety telegraph to the engineer two decks below, had no discernable effect on Moturina's headlong charge at the wharf... 'Half Astern,' followed by 'Full Astern!' had no time to take effect before wooden ship and solid timber wharf met with a rending crash, sending the welcoming committee down in a confused heap of white-clad limbs and bulging eyes, accompanied by a roar of alarm from the local wharf workers.

Damage was confined to a few planks stove in above the waterline, which were repaired much sooner than the ego of her chastened skipper, who retreated to the Snakepit, the mariners' retreat at the nearby Papuan Hotel.

*Previously published in Brian's blog < [www.briandarcey.blogspot.com](http://www.briandarcey.blogspot.com) >*

## PETER E FIGGIS MC

***With thanks to Hugh Figgis and Barrage for permission to print this article which was previously published in the May 2007 issue of Barrage: the Official Journal of 2/4 Field Regiment Association.***

*The important work performed by the Coastwatchers was crucial to ensuring that the 7th and 9th Divisions and other Allied military units reached such places as Lae, the Huon Peninsula and other areas of operations in the South West Pacific with greater safety. Major Peter Figgis MC was one of these brave men and the following is an article written by Peter Figgis' son Hugh about his father's great service rendered to the Allies...*

### **The Man who returned to Hell...**

In 1941, Lieutenant Peter Figgis was the senior Intelligence Officer in 'Lark Force', which had been sent to defend Rabaul in New Britain, the northern most part of Australian Protectorate Territory.

Figgis was born in Cornwall during the First World War and came to Australia as a three year old with his Australian father and English mother. He had attended Melbourne Grammar, played Aussie Rules and been a competitive swimmer. At the outbreak of the WW11 he was living in Melbourne and working for wool firm Grazcos - which 15 years later he would head as Managing Director. In 1941 Figgis was a tall calm athletic young man of 25 who had lost his father to a car accident in 1927.

'Lark Force' was a garrison which had built up to around 1400 personnel including 938 soldiers of the 2/22 Battalion plus civilian staff such as nurses and administrators. Figgis was soon sending dispatches to Australian forces in Port Moresby warning that Japan was building up its forces and readying for an attack on Rabaul, but his warnings went unheeded. His final warning estimated that around 100,000 Japanese troops were heading to Rabaul and that Rabaul would be overrun. Which is precisely what happened. The Japanese simply sailed into Rabaul Harbour on 23 January 1942 and after some sporadic resistance, the hopelessly outnumbered and poorly armed Lark Force was defeated in one day. Most of Lark Force surrendered or were captured but a small number like Figgis ran for their lives. Figgis was in fact the last soldier to leave Rabaul endeavouring to maintain radio communications with Port Moresby. His radio was put out of action and he was blown through the side of his hut when a Japanese bomb exploded nearby.

### **An unpunished war Crime**

Some 160 of Lark Force were captured south of Rabaul at Tol Plantation. The Japanese bound each soldier's hands behind his back and gave him the option of being bayoneted or shot. All 160 were butchered. One, Bill Cook, was bayoneted 11 times including through the neck, but amazingly he survived. No Japanese was ever tried for these War Crimes. A few days after the massacre, Figgis returned to the plantation, and it was his sombre task to try to identify the corpses that had been rotting in the scorching heat. 'It was not a pleasant job' said Figgis with characteristic understatement.

Figgis and 153 others including Coastwatcher Hugh Mackenzie (later Figgis' best man and godfather to Figgis' son Hugh) escaped on a small leisure cruiser, the 'Laurabada', arriving in Port Moresby on 12 April 1942.

## **Australia's Titanic**

Some 1050 Australian soldiers and civilians from Lark Force who surrendered or were captured were sent in an unmarked transport ship named the *Montevideo Maru* to prisoner of war camps in Japan. Unfortunately en route the ship was torpedoed and sunk on 1 July 1942 off the coast of Luzon by the USS Sturgeon, an American submarine. The Australians were down below when the torpedoes struck with the hatches locked shut and therefore had no chance of survival. Rumours continue to surface to the present day that some of the Australians survived and ended up in POW camps in Japan but Figgis dismisses such rumours out of hand. About two thirds as many souls were lost on the *Montevideo Maru* as on the *Titanic*, yet the sinking of the *Montevideo Maru* - Australia's greatest maritime disaster - is rarely commemorated in Australia. There is however a memorial in Ballarat to those lost on the ship.

In total, only 20 members of the 2/22 Battalion survived the Fall of Rabaul and only 6 including Figgis ever saw active service again.

## **Returning To The Scene of the Crime...**

A year later, Figgis, now a Coastwatcher himself, in company with his commanding officer Malcolm Wright, returned to New Britain having been dropped off by a US submarine at Cape Orford. Figgis stayed in the foothills outside Rabaul with his native assistants lead by Simogun Pita (who was knighted after the War.). Wright journeyed to the southern tip of New Britain.

The small force of Coastwatchers had been established by Captain RBM Long on 8 September 1939 and led by Commander Eric Feldt. They were placed at strategic points around New Guinea, the Torres Strait, the Solomons and Bougainville to spy on Japanese troop, vessel and aircraft movements.

Having spotted enemy movements using his giant German binoculars, the Coastwatcher would report in code using an AWA wireless to Coastwatcher Headquarters in Rockhampton and to the US Pacific Fleet. Each Coastwatcher usually operated alone except for his native assistants. Figgis' natives remained loyal to him and the Allies. Some of the local tribesman would however accept bribes from the Japanese to give away Coastwatcher positions. The Coastwatchers were also often forced to run for their lives as the Japanese were able to tune in on the wireless's frequency and thereby pinpoint the Coastwatcher's location.

Figgis was chosen for his assignment outside Rabaul where the Japanese had set up its major base camp in preparation for an attack on Australia because, 'I was the logical choice, as I knew the terrain.' This cannot adequately explain why a soldier would agree to return to the place where he had witnessed such carnage and defeat. In any event Figgis, from his camp in the hills, sent out his broadcasts for 13 months without being captured. For example he might broadcast to a US airbase that a squadron of Japanese bombers would be overhead in thirty minutes. Twenty minutes later the US squadron would scramble and come out of the sun and destroy the Japanese planes – instead of being bombed and destroyed themselves on the ground. Thousands of allied lives were saved by the Coastwatchers because of the advanced warning given by these intelligence broadcasts during the War.

Each Coastwatcher carried a cyanide capsule around his neck to take if he was captured to avoid giving away secrets while being tortured. However, some 36 Coastwatchers were in fact captured, tortured and beheaded. Their names are now inscribed on the Coastwatcher Memorial Lighthouse in Madang, which was switched on and dedicated with much ceremony in 1959. At the base of the

Lighthouse is the inscription; 'They watched and waited and died that we may live.'

### **Rescuing famous Americans...**

The Coastwatchers were meant to stay hidden and not engage in fighting with the enemy unless cornered. Their code name was Ferdinand named after Munroe Leaf's cartoon character Ferdinand the Bull, who sat quietly under a tree smelling daisies. In fact they often came 'into the open' to rescue those in distress. These included some 321 shotdown airman, 280 sailors, 75 POWs and nearly 200 missionaries, other expatriate civilians and native people.

The most famous rescue was by Sub-Lieutenant Reg Evans who saved PT boat Commander John F Kennedy and crew in the Solomons. After the War Evans was welcomed to the White House by the young President. Figgis rescued Commander Dix Leeson whose PT boat was sunk. Figgis and his native assistants also rescued downed US airman Bill Krantz. Unsurprisingly, both were grateful and to this day remain friends of Figgis. Leeson brought Figgis and his wife, Nerida, to Washington in 1994 to take part in an annual meeting of Peter Tare (PT), the association of PT boat commanders, attended by the retired Commanders and their wives. Figgis was to be the guest of honour and was invited to speak. Bill Krantz also attended.

Before leaving for the States, Figgis was uncharacteristically nervous. In all seriousness he asked his son Hugh 'what do you think I should talk about'? By all reports he gave a brilliant speech about the Coastwatchers and their relationship with the PT boats and he was given a standing ovation by the 200 guests.

### **Later on...**

After his tour of duty in New Britain Figgis returned to New Guinea and for the rest of war continued his Coastwatcher activity in other parts of New Guinea and Netherland East Indies such as Lae, Wewak and Beak. In total he spent 1337 days on active service behind enemy lines. He was promoted to Major and awarded the Military Cross. His lengthy spell in hiding in New Guinea had taught him a thing or two. In the mid sixties as the USA was just starting to build up its forces in Vietnam, Figgis was telling incredulous friends and neighbours that 'America will lose the Vietnam War.' When pressed to explain such an incomprehensible prediction he merely stated: 'They do not know how to fight a jungle war'.

### **And finally the legacy...**

Peter Figgis is now 91 [now 93] years of age, married to Nerida for 61 [63] years, and living in Sydney. Figgis is one of only two living Coastwatchers. Up until a few years he was being interviewed for or asked to edit more than a dozen books dealing with various aspects of the war in New Guinea and the Pacific. The most famous of these books is 'the Coastwatchers' by Eric Feldt. The book was rereleased a decade ago as part of 'Weary' Dunlop's series of most important Australian war books.

Late last year US writer Bruce Gamble (author of two books on famed US pilot 'Pappy' Boyington and his 'Black Sheep squadron) published 'Darkest Hour', the story of the Fall of Rabaul. Figgis was interviewed at length by Gamble for the book. On 26 January this year Alan Ramsey wrote a detailed article in the Sydney Morning Herald describing the Fall of Rabaul and lamenting its lack of formal remembrance.

As for the Coastwatcher legacy, the Americans are in no doubt as to the contribution by these Australians in the winning of the War in the Pacific.

As Admiral of the Fleet William Halsey put it 'The Coastwatchers saved Guadalcanal and Guadalcanal saved the South Pacific'. ■

## EXTRACT FROM 'BILONG GUT TAIM BIPOR'

by Henry G Eekhoff

*Henry wrote this in 1966.*

*With thanks to Ossie Dent for sending this to us*

*Continued from December 2008 Una Voce (Part 2 of 2)*

Affairs were grim, so, on the fall of Singapore I sent the mining boys to their homes giving the 'boss' boy the contracts to hold, closed up the house, took the gold to NGG at Kaindi, and made my way to Lae, just in time to see all women and children evacuated by plane to Moresby the next day.

I shall never forget that sight as all the menfolk stood on the tarmac with mixed feelings of joy and sorrow as their families were airborne. Joy to know they would escape the Japanese, sorrow because we were uncertain as to whether we would all meet again. Just over 300 women with their families were put on an Army Transport for South. Three babies were born on the voyage. There were two lady doctors on board.

Lae was a man's town. We took turns on watch, each night under the big tree on top of the hill, subsequently cut down by the Japs.

On January 21<sup>st</sup> 1942 at 11.55am the Jap Zeros came over and machine-gunned the town followed by six bombers. Houses were toppled by high explosive bombs, several planes were set afire on the airstrip, [and] my store and house were wrecked. I was annoyed. Luckily we had dug trenches in which we took cover. Trees and telephone wires straddled the road, and to put it briefly, Lae was a heap of ruins. Very upsetting. Residents divided themselves into two parties, one under Government supervision and a party of 27 - 'The Independents'. I was in the latter, and the Administration in the former, for at that period Lae had been declared the Capital of New Guinea, which has never been rescinded so it still is! This was due to the great eruption in Rabaul some 18 months before.

Well, after the bombing we 27 decided the place wasn't too 'healthy' so we decided to walk overland to Wau. Our first stage across to Salamaua by Guinea Airways pinnace. So late at night the 27 sallied forth. It was very 'Hush-Hush' naturally. Half way across the whole of Lae was an inferno, the NGVR fired all the petrol and we went 'full steam ahead' but as we neared Salamaua the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles opened up on us with their machine gun from their right thinking we may have been Japanese Naval Officers from what they concluded was an 'engagement' at Lae and the cause of the fire. On Board the Guinea Airways pinnace was one Vic Horsley, who assured us "take no notice of the b\_\_\_\_, they can't shoot!" This was naturally very re-assuring, so at dead of night we landed on the wharf. Salamaua was a shambles, we made for the Hotel. The place was deserted. By the light of candles, we 'turned in', the beds were perfect. By the aid of an axe, we 'prised' off the padlock, accommodating ourselves with 'eats', blankets, ground sheets, and other items for our long 'trek' over the mountain ranges beyond Salamaua. I slept well, a cool breeze was blowing and there was every indication of rain. We needed no sleeping pills that night. There was much speculation as to where the people had concealed themselves. The native had also decided Salamaua wasn't too healthy at the moment.

At dawn next day we started on our long and arduous journey. We left the airstrip still smouldering, passing Kevin Parer's battered plane on our right. He was the first casualty of the war.

Crossing the Frisco River we picked up the old track formerly used by native carriers, prior to the advent of aircraft and by now almost obliterated by time. About midday we heard planes over Salamaua, evidently to ascertain the extent of the damage caused by their previous visit.

For 4½ days we plodded on, between rain and sunshine, when to our delight we were met by a Patrol Officer from Wau, bringing with him several bottles of whisky, cans of water, mugs, biscuits, tinned meats and smokes. Can't think of his name now. Three trucks stood by, into which we 'packed' and were driven to the District Office, where the DO allocated us quarters in the deserted town which, up to this time had not been bombed. The several stores supplied food-stuff, tobacco, clothing, all free over the counter. The hotel provided free meals, there being two daily - breakfast and a late meal at night, as the mountainous nature of the country didn't lend itself to night operations by aircraft. During daylight, no one came out into the open. Penglas the DO did a wonderful job. After three days, planes began to land from Moresby, bringing ammunition and other items for the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles, 'back loading' the 27 wanderers from Lae. The planes were of fabric so not up to the standard required of Civil Aviation in 1966. Every plane, derelict or otherwise was put into operation. The pilots were a game lot.

Arriving in Port Moresby, we found many of the residents still there. We 'parked' in the hotels 'ad lib' but some of the folk gave us clothes, for we were only allowed our shaving gear on the planes. Our 'gear' was burned at Wau. It was at this stage that we learned that the Government Party was still outside Lae, the Administrator sick and being nursed back to health. Moresby was on a war footing, troops and planes were parked on and near the drome. The War was really ON!

The question now was 'where do we go from here?' All contact with civilization was cut off. The Navy came to our rescue. We were allocated a boat, well known in Papua as a coastal trader if we could 'find a skipper'. Personally I am no Captain Cook, but eventually a 'skipper' and two engineers volunteered to take us and a few from Moresby to Cairns. The Navy gave the OK and away we sailed into the unknown future and hopes ran high as soon as things settled down, that it wouldn't be long before we connected up with those we had farewelled on the Lae airstrip some weeks before, and from whom we received no mail.

I acted as steward and nurse to a man who had been wounded at Wau the day after we left. The Japs had pasted Wau. They landed at Lae on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 1942. We steered for the northern part of the Great Barrier Reef, and kept inside during the trip. Without further event, we cruised off Cairns early one morning and waited for a pilot to take us in. Having tied up, the Naval people came aboard to whom we reported some past events, port of departure, etc. Again we were billeted in an hotel. We were taken under the wing of the Queensland Tourist Bureau and the next day boarded a train for Brisbane. At each 'refreshment' station we were provided with meals by the Queensland Government and eventually arrived at Roma Street in Brisbane. There was a

crowd to meet us, press and friends, Mrs Doris Booth amongst them. Again we were accommodated by the Government.

None of us had much cash. Mine I carried in a belt which I hung on a tree for the night, and walked away in the morning, forgetting it, anxious to keep with the mob when we talked about our trek to Wau.

Next day I went to the Bank of NSW to see if I could get some cash. I was ushered into an office by a clerk who regarded me with suspicion for I was to say the least, looking slightly disreputable. I was greeted by the gentleman - "Why its Henry Eekhoff, you hobo!" He had known me when he was at Salamaua. I was given £150 on account. All records were lost in Lae and Salamaua.

Financial once again, I purchased a complete 'rigout' and changed into it after the first good bath I had had for weeks. Next a hair cut. Sitting in the chair the barber said "Have you by any chance come down from New Guinea, Sir." It surprised me. "New Guinea" said I, "where's that? I read about it. Believe there's a war up that way, why do you ask?" "Saw a photo of a chap like you in the paper," he replied. It must have been snapped by one of the press men. I wondered if he was OK.

After a few days I learned through a friend of my wife that my wife, daughter and daughter-in-law had been sent to Dalby, so naturally I made my way there. I arrived at Dalby by rail motor from Toowoomba. The darkness could almost be felt. The place seemed deserted save for a taxi cab outside the station. Approaching the drowsy individual, I asked, "Do you know the whereabouts of three women down from New Guinea?" "Too right" was his reply. So I hopped in and in a few minutes, we pulled up outside an empty house, at least it appeared to be. The house suddenly came to life as three women rushed out and nearly squeezed the breath out of me. There was no furniture in the house, they slept on the floor, with a few blankets given them by the local Anglican Priest, who subsequently secured beds also. Questions were fired at me. "Where is Gordon?" (My son) where was Alf? (My son-in-law). The wife heard that Lae had been bombed and she wondered if due to the fact she had received no mail, I was still alive. Eventually letters came through, after we contacted the NGVR through Moresby. Gordon was patrolling Bulolo area, and Alf had made a dash in a pinnace from Namatanai to Solomons with Bob Shultz as skipper and after handing the boat over to the District Officer he was lucky enough to catch the last boat South.

Well, it was arranged that my daughter and daughter-in-law would go to work while my wife stayed at 'home' to look after the three youngsters.

My wife and I went to Sydney and I worked at the Beaufort Bomber Factory at Mascot and Philips Vacuum Oil Depot at Pulpit Point. My job really was an 'observer' in the Corps of Commissionaires. At times I wore a uniform, at other times, 'civvies' according to the nature of the job. The job at the Aircraft factory was pushing a truck around, selling soft drinks, and supplying the quota of tobacco and cigarettes to those working on aircraft and to report my 'observations' to a 'security man' who appeared at knock off time. At Philips Works, I wore uniform and was supplied with a six shooter on night duty, which I had to sign for coming on duty. The Pulpit Point job was the worst. It was night work guarding the lighters loaded with drums of petrol, to be taken

down to the Harbour to be shipped to the War Zone. Patrolling in the cold pitch dark, often in the rain wasn't a pleasant occupation. Several times during the night a police patrol launch appeared outside the 'boom' slung round the lighters. They would signal me and on reply from my shoot lamp would clear off.

These and other similar jobs, kept me interested during hostilities, so the time arrived in which I had to start 'pulling strings' in order to return home to Lae. Eventually we left on a troop ship, the name of which I have forgotten. There were quite a few returning, among whom were the Sisters from Vunapope who had been imprisoned in the Romanie [sic] Valley, a terrible ordeal.

We landed at Lae from the ship in a pinnace and had to climb over wrecked Japanese craft in order to get ashore. We were met by Ted Jenyns, who took us to his farm, about 6 miles down the Markham Valley Road. I believe the site is now occupied by the Agriculture Department.

After a few days rest, I went into what was at one time - Lae. Both my business and residential sites were just vacant allotments, not even the post holes remained.

The Americans occupied Lae but on departure had demolished their buildings from all private property, leaving those on government land intact. The Americans had left their Post Office on the opposite corner to my site. I was lucky to buy this for £5. After cleaning out the rubbish, we moved in and started life afresh.

The Australians had been camped on the other side of the Busu River where there were buildings and 'parks' of cars, trucks, tanks, etc. Here we salvaged two beds, chairs, tables, and the 'unexpired' rations, knives, forks, plates and other crockery, in fact anything useful even a cat named 'George' who it was said was responsible for half the feline population in the area.

We carried on in our new Post Office home which acted as residence, store and church.

And so we carried on until I felt that I could never again open up business with my overseas agents, it being impossible on account of high costs, so I sold out to Mr Bob Bunting.

*With thanks to Ossie Dent for sending this to us. The original booklet which Ossie sent will now be donated to the PNGAA collection in the Fryer Library.*

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**VALE – With deep regret we record the passing of the following members and friends**

**ROBERT BRUCE KENNEDY** (9 February 2008, aged 95 years)

Bruce arrived in Port Moresby in 1946 following his discharge from the Australian Army. He was employed by the Australasian Petroleum Company in the field drilling for oil and in 1952, following his marriage, he was transferred to the APC base at Napa Napa (20 minutes by boat from Port Moresby as there were no roads from Napa Napa in those days). In 1957 Bruce, with his wife and two children, moved to the APC base at Badili, a suburb of Port Moresby where Bruce continued to work as an electrician. When Oil Search (the parent company for APC) began to reduce their financial support in the drilling for oil, staff were advised to find alternative employment. Bruce joined the PNG Electricity Commission. For the last few years prior to his retirement in 1973 Bruce was the electrician in charge at the Port Moresby General Hospital.

Bruce is survived by his wife Louise, his children Robert and Susan and five grandchildren.  
Louise Kennedy

**Robert Rothsay COLE** OBE, MC (24<sup>th</sup> November 2008), aged 95 years

PNG District Commissioner, Commissioner of Police RP&NGC, Honorary Colonel PNGVR

Bob Cole joined the TNG administration on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1938, enlisted at Wewak 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1940 and was discharged 12<sup>th</sup> November 1945. His valuable service behind enemy lines in New Guinea during the Pacific War won him the Military Cross. Primarily a kiap, Bob was appointed first District Commissioner of the Western Highlands District, subsequently the first permanent District Commissioner of the Southern Highlands District – the then frontier Highlands District – in 1954 and later District Commissioner of the huge Sepik District (destined to be split into two). His popular appointment as Commissioner of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1964 almost coincided with the introduction of the smart new blue police uniform which replaced the dark blue serge uniform with red cummerbund (sulu, laplap, cartridge belt, handcuff chain with bayonet and scabbard and, from 1955, the beret) a legacy of the Royal Papuan Constabulary. Bob was seen as ‘a breath of fresh air’ for the RPNGC. Many of the senior native police had served with him during the New Guinea campaign and he toured most police stations and remote patrol posts where native police served. During his term as police Commissioner, Bob introduced changes including an extension of areas under police jurisdiction, creation of the Special Branch and the promulgation of new orders and regulations which revitalised the RPNGC giving it direction and preparing it for Papua New Guinea’s independence. His wife, Kay, pre-deceased him. He is survived by his sons, Rob and James.

**Martin Rowland GENTLE** (14 October 2008, aged 61)

Aged 19 he became an APO in June 1966 and opened his service within Native Affairs at Minj. Mike Press, a contemporary, represented PNG at the funeral in Darwin.  
Jim Toner

**John FITZHERBERT (17 October 2008)**

John was a former RAAF member, accountant and long term PNG treasury official. He joined the PNG public service in 1948, spent time in Rabaul, Madang and Port Moresby, finally departing in 1974.  
Ian Morton

**Jonathan TREAGUST** (8 November 2008, aged 37 years)

The sudden and unexpected death of Jonathan Treagust in Bangkok has shocked and saddened many people in Australia, PNG, Britain and SE Asia. Jon was raised in PNG from age 3 to 18 (1974-1989) where his parents (Cherry and David Treagust) were high school teachers. His father David ended his career in PNG as Principal of Aiyura National High School in Eastern Highlands Province. Jon did his schooling in PNG, and attended Ukarumpa High School. After school, he studied for a B Sc in Rural Resource Management at Silsoe College in the UK. He returned to PNG to commence his working life. Details are: Field Manager Aviamp Tea, Western Highlands (1994-1995); Crop Manager, Poliamba Oil Palm, New Ireland (1996-1999); study for Master of Science degree in Management for Agricultural Development, Crafeld University, UK (1999-2000); Agricultural Program Manager, Children's Aid Direct, North Korea (2000-2001); Self-employed landscaping business; Portsmouth, UK (2002-2004); and CARE Australia (2005-2008). Jon was based at CARE's Melbourne office where he was responsible for CARE's programs in PNG, Thailand and Burma, as well as anti-trafficking and agricultural development programs in Southeast Asia.

Jon had a great affection for PNG and its people and retained in close contact with many PNG and expatriate friends from his high school days there. He worked on many CARE programs in PNG, including one evaluating sweet potato varieties, water and sanitation projects, poverty reduction and support for refugees from the Manam Island volcanic eruption. He was a generous person, was always supportive and respectful of his PNG colleagues, had a huge capacity for work, was creative, and intelligent, but humble. He is greatly missed. He is survived by his wife Naomi, parents (Cherry and David) and sisters (Rachael and Sara).

Mike Bourke

**Robert Gregory DAVIES** (October 5 2008, aged 68)

Bob was born in Cremorne, Sydney. He left St. Aloysius' College after Fourth Year, when his father passed away, and took a job with MLC Insurance. Bob could not see himself spending the rest of his working life in insurance, so when he turned 21 he gained a teacher training opportunity within PNG on the recently established E Course, set up to help staff the expanding primary system that was optimistically aimed, in line with firm UN recommendations, at universal primary education in the country.

He spent three stints working in PNG – a total of 36 years. From 1961 to 1979 he worked in East New Britain, East Sepik, and Manus. From 1982 to 1987 he was secondary headmaster in the East Sepik and Eastern Highlands. And for his last period in the country – 1990 to 2000 – he worked as a secondary headmaster in Madang and deputy h/m in West New Britain. He reluctantly said good-bye to PNG for the last time in December 2000.

Apart from teaching, for which he had a special talent, he was an enthusiastic member of the PNGVR, Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles – often called the 'Weekend Warriors' by the cynical. He also served for three years as a councillor with the Wewak Local Government Council where his sense of humour and flair for organisation were greatly valued.

In the broader community he will be remembered particularly for his prowess on the tennis court. He represented PNG several times at South Pacific Games and won gold and silver medals for his efforts. His last involvement was as PNG team coach for both men and women for the 1984 Games in American Samoa.

Paul Dennett

**Julia (Julie) Lesley CLELAND** (10 December 2008, aged 77 years)

Julie came to Papua New Guinea in 1955 to be married to Bob, a Patrol Officer fresh out of his cadetship. City born and bred, her first home was a small *pitpit* and thatch house on a remote Eastern Highlands base camp. She loved the country and its people from the start and was never concerned about isolation or rough conditions. After a move to Kainantu, then a year at ASOPA, Bob and Julie were posted to Daru, then Balimo in the Western District. Here, she encouraged the old men to revive and pass on their wood carving skills. She organised a market for them through the Port Moresby Guide Shop. She made history with the first European birth at Balimo when their second daughter was born in the spare bedroom after the regular aircraft couldn't land.

Then followed six years in Lae where she became active with the town's women's clubs. Impatient with the established, formal Welfare Section approach, she encouraged fresh thought, independent organisation and practical projects where her handcraft skills were very useful. Many wives of the town's leading citizens, and their daughters, proudly wore dresses expertly sewn and fitted by Julie. Her cooking and hospitality skills were frequently appreciated – especially by the District's single kiaps and others just passing through.

Another year at ASOPA, then to Kokopo during the time of the Mataungan situation. Again, women's clubs claimed her interest. Quickly appreciated by the Tolai women, they ensured that Julie was totally safe visiting clubs in staunch Mataungan areas.

Finally coming full circle, Julie and Bob were posted to the Highlands, first to Chuave, Chimbu District, then to Goroka in the Eastern Highlands. Some minor health problems began to intrude on Julie's preferred activities, so the last three years of Julie's 21 year PNG residency were quieter for her than previously. Settled in Brisbane, and despite an often painful back, Julie was a regular visitor to a succession of residents in several retirement villages close to her home. She fought back from two major health crises in the '80s and '90s. In recent years, chronic lung illness and increasingly frequent spells in hospital curtailed her mobility but not her toughness and will to survive. Looking forward to loved theatre and ballet events seemed to prolong her life and provide an extra layer of enjoyment.

She died in hospital peacefully and without pain. Julie is survived by husband Bob, daughters Susan and Kathryn, and grandchildren Andrea, Trent, Heather, Brigitte and Curtis.

Bob Cleland

**Michael B DIERCKE** (11 December 2008 aged 51 years)

Michael, born Vunapope ENB, was a fourth generation member of the Coe-Parkinson families (Queen Emma line). He lived at Induna, Reiven, Mandres and Rapopo plantations. His education included enrolment at Ulapia College ENB with fellow classmate Joseph Kabui. Michael worked in the stevedoring industry at Panguna in the 1970's, enlisted in the Australian Army then worked for Sydney Water Board and finally joined National Parks and Wildlife in the Blue Mountains. Michael came to know the Gazelle Peninsula very closely as a keen military buff. He died in Katoomba Hospital after a few years of suffering from mesothelioma and will be interred at the family Parkinson mat-mat Kuradui, ENB. He is survived by his mother Gwen, his siblings, Chris, Larry, Rosie and Frank and children Marcus and Monica.

Chris Diercke

**Alfred Max Parkinson UECHTRITZ** (Dec 13<sup>th</sup> 2008, aged 82 years).

Alf was a part of New Guinea History. Grandson of Richard Parkinson - famed anthropologist, botanist, planter, surveyor and author who introduced commercial coconut plantations and livestock to New Britain - and his much loved and respected wife and co-worker Phebe. Pioneers both, they established a foundation of knowledge associated with botanical and anthropological heritage of the islands and set up a deeply respectful association with the Tolai and Baining peoples of East New Britain - which continued on through Alf. Phebe's sister 'Queen Emma' was Alf's Great Aunt. Alf was born prematurely in a small boat in New Britain waters somewhere between his home Sum-Sum plantation and Kokopo. On making landfall a birth certificate was signed by Dr Phyllis Magloo, who later became Lady Cilento. Unfortunately an idyllic plantation life was to be shattered by events associated with the two wars of the 1940's German and Japanese. Alf's education at St Ignatius Sydney had to be cut short, but not long after returning to the plantation, he and his stepmother and half brother had to evacuate to Australia, just ahead of the Japanese.

Alf, still a teenager, picked up jobs where he could - mostly on the land and incidentally acquired knowledge and skills which were to prove of great benefit later on. After the war Alf returned to Sum-Sum to restore and manage it. Jeeps were plentiful and cheap and he bought four for the plantation. Thus began a lifelong interest in jeeps and Military vehicles.

In Rabaul he met and married Mary Lou. Their first six children were born in Rabaul. Then followed a few years on Australian properties: sheep/cattle /crops and four more children. However, the call of his homeland was too strong and he and family returned to New Guinea; to the Markham Valley and Erap DASF Agricultural Station. He founded and taught - in pidgin - the Farmer Training School there and became Supervisor of other such schools throughout the country. The schools were mainly for simple village folk who wished to start cattle projects but needed a certificate of relevant knowledge and experience before getting Bank loans. Alf persuaded 15 'Big Men' of the area to combine their land to make 'Zifasing Cattle Ranch' which he then managed and it prospered.

In 1988 he left for Australia, settling on a son's fruit and cattle farm near Innisfail. However he and Mary Lou frequently revisited PNG - especially New Britain. In 2004, following the discovery of Phebe's grave near the Japanese POW camp in New Ireland, where she died, Alf led the ceremonies for her re-burial in the Parkinson family *mat-mat* [cemetery] at Kuradui near Kokopo.

Alf's ashes will eventually also be interred in this mat- mat. In Innisfail, Alf's coffin was carried on one of his jeeps with a Guard of Honour of friends in Military vehicles. Alf is survived by wife Mary Lou, his ten children and thirty five grandchildren.

Mary Lou Uechtritz

**Robert John TEBBLE** (11 October 2008 aged 84 years)

Bob moved to Port Moresby from Brisbane in 1956 and worked for the Department of Civil Affairs. In 1960 he transferred to Police Headquarters and later worked for the Dept District Administration, eventually becoming Assistant Commissioner in the Office of Local Government until 1976. Bob's wife Iris worked for the Supply & Tenders Board in Treasury. Both Bob and Iris were active members of the Port Moresby Arts Council and Iris performed in many plays.

Iris pre-deceased Bob on 16 November 2007.

Linda Moran (nee Tebble)

**Esme Eleanor Jessie JOHNSON** (nee Bock) (7 June 2008, aged 87 years)

**Eric Christopher JOHNSON** (8 June 2008, aged 90 years)

Both Esme and Eric had become increasingly frail following serious falls and subsequent complications earlier in the year. They were a devoted couple and while their deaths within twenty four hours of each other was somewhat remarkable and very sad, their family agrees that for either to have survived longer without the other would have been just as sad. Esme was born in Port Moresby in 1920, the daughter of Walter and Madge Bock – Walter Bock joined the Government Printing Office in Moresby in 1912 and was Government Printer during much of his time there. After secondary schooling in North Queensland, Esme worked for a time in Burns Philp's Moresby office. Eric joined the Bank of New South Wales in North Queensland and in 1938 was transferred to Port Moresby where he met and married Esme. The couple moved to Brisbane and Eric joined the AIF serving in Australia, Papua and Borneo. After the war he rejoined the Bank and the family moved to various posts in Queensland and enjoyed a two-year posting to Port Moresby from 1948. The family grew to seven with the births of Alan, Lynne, Lesley, Merryl and Geoffrey. Esme was a dedicated collector and documenter of the births, deaths and marriages (and much in between) of many people in her own family and the families of others. Eric was very supportive of her work and travelled extensively with her throughout Australia, the UK and the US. Following Eric's retirement in 1975 Eric and Esme threw themselves energetically into their various passions – for Eric it was golf, gardening, choir singing and tennis, for Esme it was her genealogical 'digging', gardening, mahjong and solo. Eric and Esme are survived by four of their children (Geoff having died in 2004), grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and Esme's brother Wally Bock.

Lynne Johnson

**NIELSON Sydney Albert**, (12 February 2009) – more details next issue

**LEAHY Sir Daniel Joseph**, (4 January 2009, aged 78 years)

Danny Leahy and his older brother Tom left Toowoomba in 1947 and worked for their Uncle, the late Mick Leahy of Zenag in the Morobe District of New Guinea. After several years Danny went Gold Mining in the Bulolo Gorge whilst Tommy opened up a farm in the Markham Valley after a period of gold mining on the Upper Watut. Ultimately Danny worked with Tom for a period before going to Goroka to work for his Uncle, Jim Leahy in 1950.

Danny worked his own Coffee Plantation on the Bena until 1960 when he joined Eddie Collins in forming the famous partnership, Collins and Leahy. They bought out P W Reilly who had a trading venture in Goroka, and became Coffee Traders, Coffee Processors and Exporters. The Company was listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and was famous for paying a dividend of 100% in every year of its operation. They became interested in real estate, and in the late 80s purchased a controlling interest in Steamships Trading Company.

Danny also had an interest in Heavy Lift Russian Helicopters, and he was Knighted in the 1990s for services to Papua New Guinea.

Sir Daniels funeral was attended by over seven hundred people and he was mourned by two ex PNG Prime Ministers and Meg Taylor the Daughter of ex Kiap the late Jim Taylor.

Bob Curtis

**David SPEAKMAN** (18th January 2009, aged 71 years)

David was the last Clerk of the House of Assembly prior to Papua New Guinea's independence. In 1962 he was sent to the Australian School of Pacific Administration in Sydney for a training course. He served for 19 years in TPNG rising from a Cadet Patrol Officer to be the Clerk of the House of Assembly. After he left and returned to the UK he continued to advise the fledgling government on the parliamentary standing orders. His passion, drive and love for Papua New Guinea is instilled in all of us children who grew up in this magic place. He is survived by his wife Ann and their three children Elizabeth, David & Michael.

David G. Woolcock

**Ernest Bain YOUNG**, (19 November 2008 aged 88 years)

Ernie joined RPNGC (P121) on 14/4/1953 and served at Port Moresby, Wewak, for many years at Rabaul, Mt Hagen and finally at Konedobu until retiring on 16/12/1974 as a Senior Superintendent. He was awarded the Police Long Service & Good Conduct Medal. Prior to coming to PNG, he served in the NSW Police Force from 1/4/1937 until 1/4/1953 during which he served in RAAF aircrew as a Sergeant wireless air gunner from March 1944 -September 1945. After PNG he became a publican at Collector, NSW and was later involved in a security business. He is survived by Marie and children Sandra and Warren

Warren Young and Maxwell Hayes

**Dr D Carleton GAJDUSEK** (13 December 2008, aged 85 years)

Carleton Gajdusek was born in New York, the son of a Slovak father and a Hungarian mother. He received his degree from Harvard Medical School in 1946, specializing in paediatrics. In 1951 he spent two years as a research virologist at the Institut Pasteur in Tehran, then became a visiting researcher at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute in Melbourne, working with Sir Macfarlane Burnet. On his way home he visited Papua New Guinea as part of his search for unique diseases to study. In the Goroka Hotel he met Dr Vincent Zigas, who told him about a disease the people called kuru, from the Fore word meaning 'to shake'. Dr Gajdusek was fascinated - he visited Okapa immediately and stayed involved with the study of the disease in the years ahead. He realised that the victims had all participated in an ancient funerary ritual where women and children consumed the brains of the deceased (the custom was formally banned in 1959). Further studies by Dr Gajdusek and others showed that a similar infectious agent was responsible for scrapie in sheep, for Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease in humans and for its variant commonly known as mad cow disease.

In 1976 Dr Gajdusek was awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine. He later helped other researchers find genetically isolated populations that helped shed light on the causes of other rare illnesses. From 1970 until 1997 he headed the brain studies laboratory at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. His work productivity was enormous. He legally adopted numerous children from New Guinea and Micronesia. The adoptees regarded him as their father and he spent much of his own money raising and educating them. However in 1996 he was charged with molesting one boy (by then an adult) and served a year in gaol. Dr Gajdusek spent the last ten years of his life in Europe, visited by the children he raised, colleagues, and friends. He still travelled the world, gave lectures, received international honours, and met with dignitaries.. In addition to his many adopted children, Dr Gajdusek is survived by two nephews.

From an obituary in the *Los Angeles Times* 18-12-08 and *The Age* 6-1-09 and from Dr Roger Rodrigue.

**David BLOOMFIELD**, (29 November 2008)

David was part of the forward deployment strategy to protect Australia from a possible Japanese invasion. He was 17 years old when he left Australia, much against the wishes of his parents. He was one of 70 manning heavy anti-aircraft guns when the Japanese attacked Rabaul in huge numbers on 23 January 1942. The Australians were absolutely overwhelmed, with huge losses of men, with the consequence that the order was given, 'Every man for himself.' David joined a group of men who made for the hills and found themselves in almost impenetrable jungle. Eventually they faced starvation and some died on the escape from malaria, [whilst] others were seized by the enemy and bayoneted. David had made up his mind never to surrender and he had some very lucky escapes on route to the coast. He was suffering from malaria and starvation every day but showed great fortitude in helping others who were near death. Eventually and most unexpectedly, to the great relief of those who had made their way to the coast after many weeks, volunteers from New Guinea were sighted in a small boat. About 100 men were rescued and taken to Pt Moresby and later to Australia.

When David died he was the last survivor from his unit. We were married 62½ years. David wrote of this time in 1942 in his book 'Rabaul Diary'.

Anna Bloomfield

**Ian PURVIS** (10 January 2009) – we hope to have details next issue

**Sir George Constantinou** (16 December 2008, aged 75 years)

Sir George was murdered during an attack apparently involving rascals at one of his timber yards in Port Moresby near the controversial Tete settlement at Gerehu understood to be on State owned land. Born in Cyprus and arriving in PNG during the early 50s Sir George quickly adapted himself to both the country of PNG and its people. He established the business Papuan Welders in Port Moresby. He founded the Hebou Group of companies; developing a civil building and construction business empire including roads, hotels and apartments. A keen Rugby League player, later referee, Sir George owned and sponsored the local Broncos team. More than 600 people attended his funeral in Brisbane including the PNG Prime Minister, Sir Michael Somare, who described Sir George as a great man, visionary and innovator.

*Info from the Post Courier, The Australian and also with thanks to the Gold Coast Papua New Guinea Club Inc.*

**Mr Perry KWAN CHEE TAI** 20 January 2009 (aged 72 years)

Perry was the second of ten children to Mr and Mrs Kwan Wah of Kavieng, his siblings: Henry, James, Marina (deceased), Judy (deceased), Edward, Cecilia, Richard, David and Patricia. Perry's dedication and interest in the people of New Ireland was well known and he was affectionately known by the locals as *Masta* Bow Tai. From 1962 onwards he moved between Port Moresby and Kavieng. His eldest brother, Henry, remained in Madang but the other siblings all moved to Australia. Perry was quite a good artist and did all the calligraphic Chinese signs for the shops in Kavieng, Lae and Port Moresby. He made friends easily and his family enjoyed hearing about his many adventures. From April to June 1972 he was Speaker of the 3<sup>rd</sup> House of Assembly. Perry was the Member for Kavieng open from 1972 to 1977 and also spent time as Ambassador to the Philippines.

Ben Scheelings

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Dr J L ANDERSON	PO Box 2109 , HIGH WYCOMBE, WA, 6057
Mr E J ARNOLD	9 Connata Place , MELTON, VIC, 3337
Mrs F BALMER (Nee Lumme)	5 Heidke St, EIMEO, QLD. 4740
Mrs Barbara BELL	6 Parker Close , BEECROFT, NSW, 2119
Mr E T BEVEN	6 Wicklow Place , KILLARNEY HEIGHTS, 2087
Mr H R BRUTNALL	4 Ethyl Street , RAVENSHOE, QLD, 4888
Mr R CARPENTER	116 Pinehurst Avenue , NEW YORK NY 10033, USA,
Mr L CHEUNG	20 Grosvenor Road , LINDFIELD, NSW, 2070
Mrs Jill M CURTIS	PO Box 156 , LANE COVE, NSW, 2066
Mr Ben CURTIS	66 Hull Road , BEECROFT, NSW, 2119
Mr Mark R CURTIS	66 Hull Road , BEECROFT, NSW, 2119
Mr S J DAVIES	701/102 Alfred Street , MILSONS POINT, 2061
Mr D DENOON	203/40 Refinery Drive , PYRMONT, NSW, 2009
Mr Chris DIERCKE	37a Prospect Road , GARDEN SUBURB, NSW, 2289
Mr Brian DODD	22 Rattray Road , MONTMORENCY, VIC, 3094
Mr F DONOVAN	PO Box 5892 , CAIRNS, QLD, 4870
Mr M A DOUGLAS	11/82-84 Yathong Road South , CARINGBAH, 2229
Ms R EATHER	40 Elimatta Road , MONA VALE, NSW, 2103
Mr E C EDWARDS	8 Janelle Crt Moreton Downs, DECEPTION BAY, 4508
Mr D L EDWARDS	288 Rowley Road , BURPENGARY, QLD, 4505
Mr R FROST	45 Melton Green Rotherham, YORKSHIRE S636AA, UK
Mr T A GLADWIN	29 Danaher Avenue , WALLAN, VIC, 3756
Mr I C HARRIS	PO Box 2062 , McLAREN VALE, SA, 5171
Mr Frazer HARRY	20 Niblick Street , WODONGA, VIC, 3690
Mr M F HENDERSON	PO Box 1132 , MALENY, QLD, 4552
Mr K R HINDER	PO Box 4304 , KINGSTON, ACT, 2604
Mr J HOPPER	52 Lilly Street , HENDRA, QLD, 4011
Mr P C JOHNSON	26 Brimstone Court , KALLANGUR, QLD, 4503
Mrs E V JONES	21 Durban Crescent , KINGSLEY, WA, 6026
Ms L LEAVER	4/139 Rous Road , GOONELLABAH, NSW, 2480
Ms D LIVINGSTONE	98B Watkins Road , WANGI WANGI, NSW, 2267
Mr S A MARK	105 Riverview Street , RIVERVIEW, NSW, 2066
Mr J J McLAUGHLIN	14 Moola Court , BROADBEACH WATERS, QLD, 4218
Mr J M MURRAY	7 Raglass Street , EVERTON PARK, QLD, 4053
Mrs Beth NIELSON	6/16 Marine Walk , ALEXANDRIA HEADLANDS, 4572
Mr D C OLLERENSHAW	5 Hillside Court , LITTLE MOUNTAIN, QLD, 4551
Ms Helen POLLOCK	16 Kilmaine Street , THE GAP, QLD, 4061
Mr S ROBERTS	10 Carrington Place , BRIDGEMAN DOWNS, 4035
Ms Ann ROBERTS (Nee Curtis)	"Saraban" Saraban Road, CANUNGRA, 4275
Mrs Helen ROBIN	"Minderoo" Halls Creek Road, ATTUNGA, NSW, 2345
Ms E J SIMPSON	4 Pritchard Street , THORNLEIGH, NSW, 2120
Mrs Ann SPEAKMAN	9B Dunrobin Crt 389 Finchley Rd, LONDON NW36HE
Mrs M L UECHTRITZ	"Kuradui Estates" PO Box 107, INNISFAIL, QLD, 4860
Mr W J WHITE	27 McIntyre Street , GORDON, NSW, 2072
Mrs B WREN (Nee Hancock)	7 Cambridge Crescent , EAST BALLINA, NSW, 2478
Mr Warren B YOUNG	3 Grand Street , BALD HILLS, QLD, 4036

# THE TREASURER'S CORNER

**Payments to – PNGAA, PO Box 1386, MONA VALE, NSW, 1660**

**If you want to renew your –**

1. Membership;
2. Attend the Special General meeting and Luncheon on 26 April 2009, or
3. Purchase a copy (or copies) of the “Walk Into Paradise” DVD,

please **PRINT** your full name below and complete the relevant Section(s) you are interested in.

**NOTE: Method of Payment details are on the reverse side of this page**

Full Name .....	<b>Membership No.</b>
Address .....	(if known)
.....	↓
..... Post Code .....	□
Telephone .....	
Email Address .....	

## **1. Your Membership Renewal**

***If you see a large red dot on your address label, you are currently NOT A FINANCIAL MEMBER and you should take immediate steps TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION (Your Membership Number is also printed on this label.)***

<b>I wish to renew</b>	my Membership Subscription for <b>2009 @ \$20</b>	
OPTIONAL	{	plus my Membership Subscription for <b>2010 @ \$20</b>
		plus my Membership Subscription for <b>2011 @ \$20</b>

**Note for Members whose Postal Address is NOT Within Australia:**  
 International Post (Airmail) charges apply. To assist in defraying this additional postage cost, international or overseas members should increase their membership renewal by —  
     **Asia/Pacific** - \$8 p.a. (\$2 per issue);  
     **Rest of the World** - \$12 p.a. (\$3 per issue)  
**Air-mail postage (only if appropriate)** ..... years @ \$ .....

**Sub-total (AUD)** (transfer to point 1 over page) \$

<b>2. <u>Walk Into Paradise – DVD</u></b> <i>(price includes postage and packing)</i>	<i>No of Units</i>	<i>Rate \$</i>	<i>Amount \$</i>
Walk Into Paradise DVD – Member		30.00	

*Transfer the above amount to Point 3 over page*

**3. SGM Luncheon – Killara Golf Club – 26 April 2009**

I will attend the Special General Meeting Luncheon and will be accompanied by –

.....  
 .....  
 .....

If possible I would like to be seated with .....

Please advise number (if any) of vegetarian meals required →

	No.	Rate (\$)	Amount (\$)
<b>Why not make up a Table of 10?                      For further details, see page 3 of the March 2009 Una Voce</b>	My Luncheon payment	47.50	
	My Luncheon Guests ..	47.50	
	Table of 10 .....	475.00	
	<b>Sub-total (to point 2 below) \$</b>		

**PAYMENT DETAILS** (Please circle method of payment)

You may pay by either **Cheque, Bank Draft, Postal Money Order, Credit Card (MasterCard or Visa card only)** or by **Electronic (Internet)** Transfer to PNGAA; BSB 062:009; A/C No. 0090:7724; (CBA, Wynyard)  
*If paying electronically, please advise Membership Number and details of payment by email to admin@pngaa.net.*

<b>Note that all payments must be in Australian Currency (AUD)</b>	<b>1. Membership Renewal</b>	\$	
	<b>2. Walk Into Paradise DVD</b>	\$	
	<b>3. SGM Luncheon - 2008</b>	\$	
<b>Grand Total (AUD) \$</b>			

**MASTERCARD**

**VISA CARD**

**Expires** ..... / .....

**Card Number:** ..... / ..... / ..... / .....

**Name on Card (Print):** .....

**Signature of Card Holder:** ..... **Date** .... / .... / .....

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, INC.**

*(formerly the Retired Officers' Association of Papua New Guinea, Inc.)*

*(Incorporated in New South Wales : ABN 35 027 362 171)*



**PROXY FORM  
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

**It is essential  
that you sign  
and date this  
Proxy Form**

I, ..... (Please **print** full name)

of ..... (address)

*Membership No.  
(if known)*

being a financial member of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Inc.,

hereby appoint ..... (full name)

of ..... (address)

*Membership No.  
(if known)*

being a financial member of the Papua New Guinea Association of

Australia, Inc., or failing him/her the Chairperson of the Meeting as my Proxy to vote

in accordance with the following directions (or if no directions have been given, as the

proxy sees fit) at the Special General Meeting of the Association to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup>

day of April 2009 and at any adjournment of that meeting.

*(please read the explanatory notes issued with the March 2009 issue of "Una Voce")*

**Special Resolution**

***To replace the document entitled  
Rules of the Papua New Guinea  
Association of Australia, Inc. dated 1  
December 2002 (the Old Rules), with  
the document entitled Rules of the  
Papua New Guinea Association of  
Australia, Inc., dated 26 April 2009  
(the New Rules)***

**FOR**

**AGAINST**

*(Please Mark  X to indicate your direction)*

.....  
Signature of Member

..... / ..... / 2009  
Date

If you are mailing your proxy, please ensure that it is received by the Returning Officer, PNGAA, PO Box 1386, Mona Vale, NSW, 1660, by Friday 24 April 2009.

Proxies may be handed in to the Returning Officer prior to the start of the Special General Meeting.



**RECOMMENDED CHANGES  
TO THE RULES  
OF THE  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION OF  
AUSTRALIA, Inc.**

**EXPLANATORY NOTES**

**March 2009**

## **Introduction:**

Following a meeting of the Management Committee in July 2008, a working group was formed to undertake a review of the Association's current Rules and to propose recommendations that would broaden the scope of the Association and to make PNGAA a more sustainable and productive organisation. To this end a Supplement, containing a questionnaire was included with the September 2008 Una Voce which asked interested members to provide comment on all or any of the 11 items under consideration. We thank those individual members and groups who provided comment.

In both reviewing the comments received and the existing Rules, the working group has recommended several significant changes to the Rules which have been unanimously endorsed by the Association's Management Committee. It is hoped that these recommendations will also be endorsed by the members when put to them at the Special General Meeting.

Changes of particular note are:

- an extension of the Association's Objects;
- alterations to the Constitution and Membership of the Committee;
- biennial elections, including
- a postal ballot of the membership as a whole for both Office-bearers and Management Committee.

The Explanatory Notes below are followed by the proposed amendment to each relevant Rule, the existing Rule is shown in the left hand column with the proposed changes to that Rule adjacent in the right hand column. Each note in the Explanatory Notes below refers to a change in an existing Rule and the rationale behind those changes. **These proposed amendments will be determined at a Special General Meeting of the Association to be held on Sunday 26 April 2009** – see Notice of Meeting on page 3 of the March 2009 Una Voce. If you do not intend, or are unable to attend this meeting a Proxy voting form is enclosed with these explanatory notes.

Also enclosed is a document entitled Rules of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Inc. dated 26 April 2009 (the New Rules) which incorporates all of the referenced amendments. This is the document referred to in the PROXY FORM enclosed with the March 2009 issue of Una Voce. A Special Resolution requires a three-quarters (75%) majority of those voting in person or by proxy to be passed, so please exercise your rights as a member - your Vote is important.

If you are mailing your proxy, please ensure that it is received by the Returning Officer, PNGAA, PO Box 1386, Mona Vale, NSW, 1660, by Friday 24 April 2009. Proxies may be handed in to the Returning Officer prior to the start of the Special General Meeting.

## Explanatory Notes :

Note	Rule	Comment
1	1	<b>Definitions –</b> Insert Director-General (of the Department of Fair Trading)
2	2	<b>Objects</b> (a), (d) and (e) are new and allow for the Association to pursue activities in each of these areas. The other objectives have been refined but not substantially changed. None of the former objectives has been excluded. Note qualification re political activity and authority to raise funds.
3	7	Allows the transfer of unexpired membership to next-of-kin
4	15	<b>Committee Constitution and Membership –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is considered that a ten member committee is an efficient size for the Management Committee to carry out its tasks; larger committees tend to fragment and become inefficient.</li> <li>• The Management Committee does not believe the position of a Deputy President is necessary as in the absence of the President the Management Committee can elect a chair from amongst themselves at the meeting.</li> <li>• Whilst the Management Committee is not ready to move to a national structure at this stage it will explore the establishment of regional groups of members where there is an interest by them to have such groups linked more formally with PNGAA.</li> <li>• Altering a President’s term of continuous office to a maximum of 4 years is considered to be in the best interests of the Association.</li> </ul>
5	16	<b>Election of Members –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is considered that an election every two years allows for greater stability of the Management Committee such that committee members know they have committed two years to the management of the association. This will also help to defray costs associated with conducting management committee elections where a postal ballot is involved.</li> <li>• Where an election is needed for the Association’s office bearers and the ordinary members of the Management Committee this will be undertaken by a postal ballot of all members. In this respect see Note 13 to Rule 33 Voting (below).</li> </ul>

6	21	<p><b>Meetings and Quorum -</b> Deletes reference to the position of Deputy President and adjusts the quorum for Management Committee meetings in line with the reduction in the size of the Management Committee.</p>
7	24	<p><b>Annual General Meetings – Holding of –</b> Replaces “Commissioner” with “Director-General” (24[3])</p>
8	26	<p><b>Special General Meetings – Calling of –</b> It was originally suggested that a requisition of members able to call a Special General Meeting be changed from a percentage of members to a finite number (20). The Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) specifically provides for a number being a percentage of at least 5% of membership.</p>
9	27	<p><b>Notice –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increases the required ‘due advice’ notice to members of the calling of a general meeting to a minimum of 28 days in order to allow the return (if required) of votes (either proxy or ballot).</li> <li>• Provides for electronic transmission of such notice.</li> </ul>
10	29	<p><b>Presiding Member –</b> Deletes reference to the position of Deputy President.</p>
11	31	<p><b>Making Of Decisions –</b> Deletion of “or by proxy” as being not necessary.</p>
12	32	<p><b>Special Resolution –</b> Alters written notice of 21 days to 28 days. Replaces “Commissioner” with “Director-General”.</p>
13	33	<p><b>Voting –</b> Section 5 of the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) specifically requires that Special Resolutions must be “passed by a majority which comprises not less than three-quarters of such members ... as being entitled ... vote in person or ... by proxy”. However there is no such requirement for matters being determined at Annual General Meetings. Therefore in the interests of transparency and the need to involve the entire membership of the Association, the election of office bearers and committee members, in the event of a plurality of nominations, shall be undertaken only by postal ballot – hence the necessary qualification in Rule 33 (2).</p>

**COMPARISON BETWEEN CURRENT AND PROPOSED RULES**

<b>CURRENT RULES</b>	<b>PROPOSED (UPDATED) RULES</b>
<b>PART 1 - PRELIMINARY</b>	<b>PART 1 - PRELIMINARY</b>
<p><b>1 DEFINITIONS</b></p> <p>(1) In these Rules unless the contrary intention appears:  <b>"association"</b> means Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Inc.  <b>"committee"</b> means the Management Committee of the association.</p> <p><b>"financial year of the association"</b> means a period of 12 months commencing on 1 January and finishing on 31 December.</p> <p><b>"former services"</b> means the previous public services in Papua New Guinea established by or under the following Acts of the Commonwealth of Australia as amended from time to time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The Papua Act 1905 and the Public Service Ordinance 1907 (Papua),</li> <li>(ii) The New Guinea Act 1920 and the Public Service Ordinance 1922 (New Guinea),</li> <li>(iii) The Papua New Guinea Provisional Administration Act 1945, and the Public Service Ordinance 1949, and</li> <li>(iv) The Papua New Guinea Act 1949 and the Public Service (Papua and New Guinea) Ordinance 1963;</li> </ul> <p><b>"member"</b> means a person or entity described in Rule 4</p>	<p align="right"><b>1</b></p> <p>(1) In these Rules unless the contrary intention appears:  <b>"association"</b> means Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Inc.  <b>"committee"</b> means the Management Committee of the association.  <b>"Director-General"</b> means the Director-General of the Department of Fair Trading.  <b>"financial year of the association"</b> means a period of 12 months commencing on 1 January and finishing on 31 December.</p> <p><b>"former services"</b> means the previous public services in Papua New Guinea established by or under the following Acts of the Commonwealth of Australia as amended from time to time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The Papua Act 1905 and the Public Service Ordinance 1907 (Papua),</li> <li>(ii) The New Guinea Act 1920 and the Public Service Ordinance 1922 (New Guinea),</li> <li>(iii) The Papua New Guinea Provisional Administration Act 1945, and the Public Service Ordinance 1949, and</li> <li>(iv) The Papua New Guinea Act 1949 and the Public Service (Papua and New Guinea) Ordinance 1963;</li> </ul> <p><b>"member"</b> means a person or entity described in Rule 4 who</p>

who has been admitted to membership of the association;

**"principal place of administration"** means the residence of the public officer or such other place as is determined at a general meeting of the association.

**"secretary"** means:

- (a) the person holding office under these Rules as secretary of the association; or
- (b) if no such person holds that office - the public officer of the association;

**"special general meeting"** means a general meeting of the association other than an annual general meeting;

**"the Act"** means the Associations Incorporation Act 1984, as amended;

**"the Regulation"** means the Associations Incorporation Regulation 1994, as amended.

**"treasurer"** means the person holding office under these Rules as treasurer of the association.

(2) In these Rules:

- (a) a reference to a function includes a reference to a power, authority and duty; and
- (b) a reference to the exercise of a function includes, if the function is a duty, a reference to the performance of the duty.
- (c) The provisions of the Interpretation

has been admitted to membership of the association;

**"principal place of administration"** means the residence of the public officer or such other place as is determined at a general meeting of the association.

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(2) In these Rules:

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- (c) The provisions of the Interpretation Act

<p>Act 1987 apply to and in respect of these Rules in the same manner as those provisions would so apply if these Rules were an instrument made under the Act</p>	<p>1987 apply to and in respect of these Rules in the same manner as those provisions would so apply if these Rules were an instrument made under the Act</p>
<p><b>2 OBJECTS</b></p> <p>The objects for which the Association is primarily established are –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) to foster and maintain an interest in contemporary and historical events in Papua New Guinea;</li> <li>(b) to foster and encourage contact and friendship with Papua New Guineans;</li> <li>(c) to encourage the preservation of documents and historical material related to Papua New Guinea;</li> <li>(d) to encourage members to contribute to the production and recording of the oral and written history of Papua New Guinea;</li> <li>(e) to promote friendly association among all members;</li> <li>(f) to continue to safeguard and foster the retirement conditions of superannuated members of the former services.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2 OBJECTS</b></p> <p>The objects for which the Association is primarily established are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) to strengthen the civil relationship between the peoples of Australia and Papua New Guinea;</li> <li>(b) to foster and encourage contact and friendship with Papua New Guineans and promote friendly association among members;</li> <li>(c) to foster and maintain an interest in contemporary and historical events in Papua New Guinea;</li> <li>(d) to provide appropriate financial, material or intellectual assistance to projects of benefit to Papua New Guinea as an Association individually or in conjunction with other agencies;</li> <li>(e) to publish journals, magazines, newsletters, websites, books and other media to inform and educate people about Papua New Guinea and to provide a means of communication among members of the Association and others;</li> <li>(f) to encourage the preservation of documents, historical and cultural material related to Papua New Guinea; including the production and recording of oral and written histories.</li> <li>(g) to safeguard and foster the</li> </ul>

	<p>retirement conditions of superannuated members of the former services in Papua New Guinea.</p> <p>In pursuance of these Objects, the association –</p> <p>(1) Will not be involved in, nor engage in partisan politics, however this does not prohibit the association from engaging with members of parliament or public servants in pursuit of its objects.</p> <p>(2) May raise funds for its approved projects.</p>
<p><b>7 MEMBERSHIP ENTITLEMENTS NOT TRANSFERABLE</b></p> <p>A right, privilege or obligation by reason of being a member of the association:</p> <p>(a) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person or organisation; and</p> <p>(b) terminates on cessation of membership.</p>	<p><b>7 MEMBERSHIP ENTITLEMENTS NOT TRANSFERABLE</b></p> <p>A right, privilege or obligation by reason of being a member of the association:</p> <p>(a) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person or organisation;</p> <p>(b) terminates on cessation of membership, and</p> <p>(c) any residue membership period of a deceased member may be transferred to that member’s next of kin or to another family member nominated by the next of kin.</p>
<p><b>PART III - THE COMMITTEE</b></p>	
<p><b>15 CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP</b></p> <p>(1) Subject in the case of the first members committee to section 21 of the Act, the committee is to consist of:</p> <p>(a) the office-bearers of the association; and</p> <p>(b) 5 ordinary members or such other number as determined by an</p>	<p><b>15 CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP</b></p> <p>(1) Subject in the case of the first members committee to section 21 of the Act, the committee is to consist of:</p> <p>(2) the office-bearers of the association; and</p> <p>(3) 6 ordinary members each of whom is to be elected at the annual general meeting of the</p>

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<p>annual general meeting each of whom is to be elected at the annual general meeting of the association under Rule 16.</p> <p>(2) The office-bearers of the association shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the president;</li> <li>(b) the deputy president;</li> <li>(c) the treasurer;</li> <li>(d) the secretary;</li> <li>(e) the assistant secretary; and</li> <li>(f) the editor of the newsletter.</li> </ul> <p>(3) Each member of the committee is, subject to these Rules, to hold office until the conclusion of the annual general meeting following the date of the member's election, but is eligible for re-election.</p> <p>(4) In the event of a casual vacancy occurring in the membership of the committee, the committee may appoint a member of the association to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed is to hold office, subject to these Rules, until the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of appointment.</p>	<p>association under Rule 16.</p> <p>(4) The office-bearers of the association shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the president;</li> <li>(b) the treasurer;</li> <li>(c) the secretary; and</li> <li>(d) the editor of the journal</li> </ul> <p>(5) The President may not hold that office for more than four consecutive years.</p> <p>(6) Each member of the committee is, subject to these Rules, to hold office for two years until the conclusion of the annual general meeting following the date of the member's election but is eligible for re-election.</p> <p>(7) In the event of a casual vacancy occurring in the membership of the committee, the committee may appoint a member of the association to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed is to hold office, subject to these Rules, until the Annual General Meeting when the next biennial elections are held.</p> <p>(8) The Management Committee has the power to establish or recognise regional groups of members within Australia or in Papua New Guinea and that such groups will be governed by the Rules of the association.</p>
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**16 ELECTION OF MEMBERS**

- (1) Nominations of candidates for election as office-bearers of the association or as ordinary members of the committee.
  - (a) shall be made in writing, signed by 2 members of the association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of the nomination); and
  - (b) shall be delivered to the secretary of the association at least 7 days before the date fixed for the holding of the annual general meeting at which the election is to take place.
- (2) If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the committee, the candidates nominated are taken to be elected and further nominations shall be received at the annual general meeting.
- (3) If insufficient further nominations are received, any vacant positions remaining on the committee are taken to be casual vacancies.
- (4) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated are

**16 ELECTION OF MEMBERS**

- (1) Nominations of candidates for election as office-bearers of the association or as ordinary members of the committee
  - (a) shall be made in writing, signed by 2 members of the association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of the nomination);
  - (b) Nominations must be received by the Secretary 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting
- (2) If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the committee, the candidates nominated are taken to be elected and any vacant positions remaining on the committee are taken to be casual vacancies.
- (3) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated are taken to be elected.
- (4) If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a postal ballot is to be held notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 33. This will be supervised by one or more independent honorary returning officer(s) appointed by the Management Committee.

<p>taken to be elected.</p> <p>(5) If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot is to be held.</p> <p>(6) The ballot for the election of office-bearers and ordinary members of the committee is to be conducted at the annual general meeting in such usual and proper manner as the committee may direct.</p>	
<p><b>21 MEETINGS AND QUORUM</b></p> <p>(1) The committee shall meet at least 3 times in each period of 12 months at such place and time as the committee may determine.</p> <p>(2) Additional meetings of the committee may be convened by the secretary at the request of the president, or in his absence the deputy president, or at the request of a majority of the committee members.</p> <p>(3) Oral or written notice of a meeting of the committee shall be given by the secretary to each member of the committee at least 48 hours (or such other period as may be unanimously agreed on by the members of the committee) before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting.</p> <p>(4) Notice of a meeting given under sub-clause (3) above shall specify the general nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting and no business other</p>	<p><b>21 MEETINGS AND QUORUM</b></p> <p>(1) The committee shall meet at least 3 times in each period of 12 months at such place and time as the committee may determine.</p> <p>(2) Additional meetings of the committee may be convened by the secretary at the request of the president, or at the request of a majority of the committee members.</p> <p>(3) Oral or written notice of a meeting of the committee shall be given by the secretary to each member of the committee at least 48 hours (or such other period as may be unanimously agreed on by the members of the committee) before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting.</p> <p>(4) Notice of a meeting given under sub-clause (3) above shall specify the general nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting and no business other than that business shall be transacted at the meeting, except business, which the committee members</p>

<p>than that business shall be transacted at the meeting, except business, which the committee members present at the meeting unanimously agree to treat as urgent business.</p> <p>(5) Six committee members shall form a quorum at any meeting of the committee and the presiding officer shall have a deliberative and casting vote.</p> <p>(6) No business is to be transacted by the committee unless a quorum is present and if, within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same place and at the same hour of the same day in the following week.</p> <p>(7) If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.</p> <p>(8) At a meeting of the committee:</p> <p>(a) the president or, in the president's absence, the deputy president shall preside, or</p> <p>(b) if the president and the deputy president are absent or unwilling to act, such one of the remaining members of the committee as may be chosen by the members present at the meeting shall preside.</p>	<p>present at the meeting unanimously agree to treat as urgent business.</p> <p>(5) Five committee members shall form a quorum at any meeting of the committee and the presiding officer shall have a deliberative and casting vote.</p> <p>(6) No business is to be transacted by the committee unless a quorum is present and if, within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same place and at the same hour of the same day in the following week.</p> <p>(7) If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.</p> <p>(8) At a meeting of the committee: if the president is absent or unwilling to act, such one of the remaining members of the committee as may be chosen by the members present at the meeting shall preside.</p>
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**PART IV - GENERAL MEETINGS**

**24 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS - HOLDING OF**

- (1) With the exception of the first annual general meeting of the association, the association shall at least once in each calendar year and within the period of 6 months after the expiration of each financial year of the association convene an annual general meeting of its members.
- (2) The association shall hold its first annual general meeting:
  - (a) within the period of 18 months after its incorporation under the Act; and
  - (b) within the period of 6 months after the expiration of the first financial year of the association.
- (3) Sub-clauses (1) and (2) above have effect subject to any extension or permission granted by the Commissioner under section 26(3) of the Act.

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- (1) With the exception of the first annual general meeting of the association, the association shall at least once in each calendar year and within the period of 6 months after the expiration of each financial year of the association convene an annual general meeting of its members.
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- (3) Sub-clauses (1) and (2) above have effect subject to any extension or permission granted by the Director-General under section 26(3) of the Act.

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**26 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS - CALLING OF**

- (1) The committee may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special general meeting of the association.
- (2) The committee shall, on the requisition in writing of at least 5 per cent of the total number of members, convene a special general meeting of the association.

**26 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS - CALLING OF**

- (1) The committee may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special general meeting of the association.
- (2) The committee shall, on the requisition in writing of at least 5 per cent of the total number of members, convene a special general meeting of the association.

8

- (3) A requisition of members for a special general meeting:
- (a) shall state the purpose or purposes of the meeting; and
  - (b) shall be signed by the members making the requisition; and
  - (c) shall be lodged with the secretary; and
  - (d) may consist of several documents in a similar form, each signed by one or more of the members making the requisition.
- (4) If the committee fails to convene a special general meeting to be held within 1 month after the date on which a requisition of members for the meeting is lodged with the secretary, any one or more of the members who made the requisition may convene a special general meeting to be held not later than 3 months after that date.
- (5) A special general meeting convened by a member or members as referred to in clause (4) shall be convened as nearly as is practicable in the same manner as general meetings are convened by the committee and any member who consequently incurs expense is entitled to be reimbursed by the association for any expense so incurred.

- (3) A requisition of members for a special general meeting:
- (a) shall state the purpose or purposes of the meeting; and
  - (b) shall be signed by the members making the requisition; and
  - (c) shall be lodged with the secretary; and
  - (d) may consist of several documents in a similar form, each signed by one or more of the members making the requisition.
- (4) If the committee fails to convene a special general meeting to be held within 1 month after the date on which a requisition of members for the meeting is lodged with the secretary, any one or more of the members who made the requisition may convene a special general meeting to be held not later than 3 months after that date.
- (5) A special general meeting convened by a member or members as referred to in clause (4) shall be convened as nearly as is practicable in the same manner as general meetings are convened by the committee and any member who consequently incurs expense is entitled to be reimbursed by the association for any expense so incurred.

**27 NOTICE**

- (1) Except if the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the association, the secretary shall, at least 14 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, cause to be sent by pre-paid post to each member at the members address appearing in the register of members, a notice specifying the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business proposed to be transacted at the meeting.
- (2) If the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the association, the secretary shall, at least 21 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, cause notice to be sent to each member in the manner provided in sub-clause (1) specifying in addition to the matter required under sub-clause (1), the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution.
- (3) No business other than that specified in the notice convening a general meeting is to be transacted at the meeting except, in the case of an annual general meeting, business

**27 NOTICE**

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- (1) Except if the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the association, the secretary shall, at least 28 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, cause to be sent, either by email or by post to each member at the members address appearing in the register of members, a notice specifying the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business proposed to be transacted at the meeting.
- (2) If the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the association, the secretary shall, at least 28 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, cause notice to be sent to each member in the manner provided in sub-clause (1) specifying in addition to the matter required under sub-clause (1), the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution.
- (3) No business other than that specified in the notice convening a general meeting is to be transacted at the meeting except, in the case of an annual general meeting, business which may be transacted under Rule 25(2).
- (4) A member desiring to bring any business before a general meeting may give notice in writing of that business to the

<p>which may be transacted under Rule 25(2).</p> <p>(4) A member desiring to bring any business before a general meeting may give notice in writing of that business to the secretary who shall include that business in the next notice calling a general meeting given after receipt of the notice from the member.</p>	<p>secretary who shall include that business in the next notice calling a general meeting given after receipt of the notice from the member.</p>
<p><b>29 PRESIDING MEMBER</b></p> <p>(1) The president or, in the absence of the president, the deputy president shall preside as chairperson at each general meeting of the association.</p> <p>(2) If the president and the deputy president are absent or unwilling to act, the members present shall elect one of their number to preside as chairperson at the meeting.</p>	<p><b>29 PRESIDING MEMBER</b></p> <p>(1) The president shall preside as chairperson at each general meeting of the association.</p> <p>(2) If the president is absent or unwilling to act, the members present shall elect one of their number to preside as chairperson at the meeting.</p>
<p><b>31 MAKING OF DECISIONS</b></p> <p>(1) A question arising at a general meeting of the association shall be determined on a show of hands and, unless before or on the declaration of the show of hands a poll is demanded a declaration by the chairperson that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried or carried unanimously or carried by a particular majority or lost, or an</p>	<p><b>31 MAKING OF DECISIONS</b></p> <p>(1) A question arising at a general meeting of the association, other than the election of members as required by Rule 16 hereof, shall be determined on a show of hands and, unless before or on the declaration of the show of hands a poll is demanded a declaration by the chairperson that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried or carried unanimously or carried by a particular majority or lost, or an entry to</p>

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<p>entry to that effect in the minute book of the association, is evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour for or against that resolution.</p> <p>(2) At a general meeting of the association, a poll may be demanded by the chairperson or by at least 3 members present in person or by proxy at the meeting.</p> <p>(3) If a poll is demanded at a general meeting, the poll shall be taken:</p> <p>(a) immediately in the case of a poll which relates to the ejection of the chairperson of the meeting or to the question of an adjournment; or</p> <p>(b) in any other case, in such manner and at such time before the close of the meeting as the chairperson directs,</p> <p>and the resolution of the poll on the matter is taken to be the resolution of the meeting on that matter.</p>	<p>that effect in the minute book of the association, is evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour for or against that resolution.</p> <p>(2) At a general meeting of the association, a poll may be demanded by the chairperson or by at least 3 members present in person at the meeting.</p> <p>(3) If a poll is demanded at a general meeting, the poll shall be taken:</p> <p>(a) immediately in the case of a poll which relates to the ejection of the chairperson of the meeting or to the question of an adjournment; or</p> <p>(b) in any other case, in such manner and at such time before the close of the meeting as the chairperson directs,</p> <p>and the resolution of the poll on the matter is taken to be the resolution of the meeting on that matter.</p>
<p><b>32 SPECIAL RESOLUTION</b></p> <p>A resolution of the association is a special resolution</p> <p>(a) if it is passed by a majority which comprises at least three-quarters of such members of the association as, being</p>	<p><b>32 SPECIAL RESOLUTION</b></p> <p>A resolution of the association is a special resolution</p> <p>(a) if it is passed by a majority which comprises at least three-quarters of such members of the association as, being entitled under these Rules so to do, vote in</p>

<p>entitled under these Rules so to do, vote in person or by proxy at a general meeting of which at least 21 days written notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution was given in accordance with these Rules, or</p> <p>(b) where it is made to appear to the Commissioner that it is not practicable for the resolution to be passed in the manner specified in paragraph (a), if the resolution is passed in a manner specified by the Commissioner.</p>	<p>person or by proxy at a general meeting of which at least 28 days written notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution was given in accordance with these Rules, or</p> <p>(b) where it is made to appear to the Director-General that it is not practicable for the resolution to be passed in the manner specified in paragraph (a), if the resolution is passed in a manner specified by the Director-General.</p>
<p><b>33 VOTING</b></p> <p>(1) On any question arising at a general meeting of the association a member has one vote only.</p> <p>(2) All votes shall be given personally or by proxy.</p> <p>(3) In the case of an equality of votes on a question at a general meeting, the chairperson of the meeting is entitled to exercise a second or casting vote.</p> <p>(4) A member or proxy is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the association unless all monies due and payable, by that member or proxy, to the association, has been paid.</p>	<p><b>33 VOTING</b></p> <p>(1) On any question arising at a general meeting of the association a member has one vote only.</p> <p>(2) All votes for Special Resolutions shall be given in person or by proxy. All other voting shall be in person or, where a ballot is required under Rule 16, by postal voting.</p> <p>(3) In the case of an equality of votes on a question at a general meeting, the chairperson of the meeting is entitled to exercise a casting vote.</p> <p>(4) A member or proxy is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the association unless all monies due and</p>

<p>(5) Only superannuated members of the "former services" are entitled to vote at General Meetings on matters affecting their retirement benefits and conditions.</p>	<p>payable, by that member or proxy, to the association, has been paid.</p> <p>(5) Only superannuated members of the "former services" are entitled to vote at general meetings on matters affecting their retirement benefits and conditions.</p>
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**RULES**  
**OF THE**  
**PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION**  
**OF**  
**AUSTRALIA, Inc.**

***Motto: "Una Voce"***

*(Originally known and incorporated as the Retired Officers' Association of Papua New Guinea, Inc.)*

**26 April 2009**

**PO Box 1660, MONA VALE, N.S.W., 1660**

## PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

### 1 DEFINITIONS

(1) In these Rules unless the contrary intention appears:

“**association**” means Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Inc.

“**committee**” means the Management Committee of the association.

“**Director-General**” means the Director-General of the Department of Fair Trading.

“**financial year of the association**” means a period of 12 months commencing on 1 January and finishing on 31 December.

“**former services**” means the previous public services in Papua New Guinea established by or under the following Acts of the Commonwealth of Australia as amended from time to time:

(i) The Papua Act 1905 and the Public Service Ordinance 1907 (Papua),

(ii) The New Guinea Act 1920 and the Public Service Ordinance 1922 (New Guinea),

(iii) The Papua New Guinea Provisional Administration Act 1945, and the Public Service Ordinance 1949, and

(iv) The Papua New Guinea Act 1949 and the Public Service (Papua and New Guinea) Ordinance 1963;

“**member**” means a person or entity described in Rule 4 who has been admitted to membership of the association;

“**principal place of administration**” means the residence of the public officer or such other place as is determined at a general meeting of the association.

“**secretary**” means:

(a) the person holding office under these Rules as secretary of the association; or

(b) if no such person holds that office - the public officer of the association;

“**special general meeting**” means a general meeting of the association other than an annual general meeting;

“**the Act**” means the Associations Incorporation Act 1984, as amended;

“**the Regulation**” means the Associations Incorporation Regulation 1999, as amended.

“**treasurer**” means the person holding office under these Rules as treasurer of the association.

(2) In these Rules:

(a) a reference to a function includes a reference to a power, authority and duty; and

(b) a reference to the exercise of a function includes, if the function is a duty, a reference to the performance of the duty.

(c) The provisions of the Interpretation Act 1987 apply to and in respect of these Rules in the same manner as those provisions

would so apply if these Rules were an instrument made under the Act

## **2 OBJECTS**

The objects for which the Association is primarily established are:

- (a) to strengthen the civil relationship between the peoples of Australia and Papua New Guinea;
- (b) to foster and encourage contact and friendship with Papua New Guineans and promote friendly association among members;
- (c) to foster and maintain an interest in contemporary and historical events in Papua New Guinea;
- (d) to provide appropriate financial, material or intellectual assistance to projects of benefit to Papua New Guinea as an Association individually or in conjunction with other agencies;
- (e) to publish journals, magazines, newsletters, websites, books and other media to inform and educate people about Papua New Guinea and to provide a means of communication among members of the Association and others;
- (f) to encourage the preservation of documents, historical and cultural material related to Papua New Guinea; including the production and recording of oral and written histories.
- (g) to safeguard and foster the retirement conditions of superannuated members of the former services in Papua New Guinea.

In pursuance of these Objects, the association –

- (1) Will not be involved in, nor engage in partisan politics, however this does not prohibit the association from engaging with members of parliament or public servants in pursuit of its objects.
- (2) May raise funds for its approved projects.

## **3 TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

In so far as the original association was formed to safeguard and foster the retirement conditions of superannuated members of the former services, including conditions applicable to their widows and dependants, the association shall continue to represent such members, their widows and dependants in all superannuation matters appropriate to their prior service in the “former services”.

## **PART II - MEMBERSHIP**

### **4 MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS & MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

The membership of the association shall consist of ordinary members, special members, corporate members, honorary members and honorary life members (herein called “members”).

#### **4.1 ORDINARY MEMBER**

An Ordinary Member is a person who is supportive of the association’s objects.

#### **4.2 SPECIAL MEMBER**

(1) A Special Member is a person who is an Ordinary Member who as a result of advancing age, failing health and/or other circumstance has been granted Special Membership by the committee. The Committee may, at its discretion, waive the payment of an annual membership subscription.

(2) Such member shall have full voting rights but shall not hold office.

#### **4.3 CORPORATE MEMBER**

(1) A Corporate Member is an entity that is supportive of the association’s objects.

(2) Such member has no voting rights and shall not hold office.

#### **4.4 HONORARY MEMBER**

(1) An Honorary Member is a person who has been granted honorary membership status by the committee under such terms and conditions as may be determined by the committee from time to time.

(2) Such member has no voting rights and shall not hold office.

#### **4.5 HONORARY LIFE MEMBER**

(1) An Honorary Life member is a person who is an Ordinary Member who has rendered outstanding meritorious service to the association.

- (2) A Resolution recommending the appointment of an Honorary Life Member can only be determined at an Annual General Meeting.

## **5 ADMISSION OF MEMBERS**

- (1) An application for membership of the association shall:
  - (a) be made by a prospective member of the association in writing on a suitable application form; and
  - (b) be lodged with the secretary.
- (2) The secretary shall acknowledge in writing the receipt of the application for membership and after ensuring that all requirements have been met shall forward the application to the treasurer.
- (3) The treasurer upon receipt of the application form together with the appropriate membership subscription shall enter the member's name and details in the register of members.

## **6 CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

- (1) A member ceases to be a member of the association if that member:
  - (a) dies; or
  - (b) resigns membership; or
  - (c) is expelled from the association; or
  - (d) fails to pay any subscription that is more than six months in arrears.
- (2) A member of the association who has paid all amounts payable by the member to the association in respect of the member's membership may resign from membership of the association by first giving to the secretary written notice of at least one month (or such other period as the committee may determine) of the member's intention to resign and, on the expiration of the period of notice, the member ceases to be a member.
- (3) If a member of the association ceases to be a member under sub-clause 1(a)(b)(c) or (d) and sub-clause (2) of this Rule and in every other case where a member ceases to hold membership the treasurer shall make an appropriate entry in the register of members recording the date on which such member ceased to be a member.

## **7 MEMBERSHIP ENTITLEMENTS NOT TRANSFERABLE**

A right, privilege or obligation by reason of being a member of the association:

- (a) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person or organisation;
- (b) terminates on cessation of membership, and

- (c) any residue membership period of a deceased member may be transferred to that member's next of kin or to another family member nominated by the next of kin.

## **8 REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

- (1) The treasurer of the association shall establish and maintain a register of members of the association specifying the name and address of each member together with the date on which the member became a member.
- (2) The register of members shall be kept at the home of the treasurer or some other place as determined by the committee from time to time.

## **9 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- (1) A member of the association shall pay to the association an annual membership subscription as determined by the committee from time to time:
  - (a) except as provided by paragraph (b), before 1 January in each calendar year, or
  - (b) if the member becomes a member on or after 1 January in any calendar year - on becoming a member and before 1 January in each succeeding calendar year; or
  - (c) should a person become a member on or after 30 September in any calendar year such member will be deemed to have also paid the succeeding year's membership subscription;
- (2) Any variation in subscription rates approved by the committee in clause (1) of this Rule shall not take effect until the first of January in the calendar year after the meeting of the committee at which the variations were made.
- (3) Payment of a membership subscription may be remitted at the discretion of the committee.
- (4) A member may pay advance membership subscriptions for as many years as may be determined from time to time by the committee.

## **10 MEMBERS' LIABILITIES**

The liability of a member of the association to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the association is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the member in respect of membership of the association as required by Rule 9.

## **11 RESOLUTION OF INTERNAL DISPUTES**

Disputes between members (in their capacity as members) of the association, and disputes between members and the association, shall be referred to a community justice centre for mediation in accordance with the Community Justice Centres Act 1983.

## **12 DISCIPLINING OF MEMBERS**

- (1) A complaint may be made by any member of the association that some other member of the association
  - (a) has persistently refused or neglected to comply with a provision or provisions of these Rules; or
  - (b) has persistently and wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the association.
  
- (2) On receiving such a complaint, the committee shall:
  - (a) cause notice of the complaint to be served on the member concerned; and
  - (b) give the member at least 14 days from the time the notice is served within which to make submissions to the committee in connection with the complaint; and
  - (c) take into consideration any submissions made by the member in connection with the complaint.
  
- (3) The committee may, by resolution, expel the member from the association or suspend the member from membership of the association if, after considering the complaint and any submissions made in connection with the complaint, it is satisfied that the facts alleged in the complaint have been proved.
  
- (4) If the committee expels or suspends a member, the secretary shall, within 7 days after the action is taken, cause written notice to be given to the member of the action taken, of the reasons given by the committee for having taken that action and of the member's right of appeal under Rule 13.
  
- (5) The expulsion or suspension does not take effect:
  - (a) until the expiration of the period within which the member is entitled to appeal against the resolution concerned; or
  - (b) if within that period the member exercises the right of appeal, unless and until the association confirms the resolution under Rule 13(5), whichever is the later.

### **13 RIGHT OF APPEAL OF DISCIPLINED MEMBER**

- (1) A member may appeal to the association in general meeting against a resolution of the committee under Rule 12, within 7 days after notice of the resolution is served on the member, by lodging with the secretary a notice to that effect.
- (2) The notice may, but need not, be accompanied by a statement of the grounds on which the member intends to rely for the purposes of the appeal.
- (3) On receipt of a notice from a member under clause (1), the secretary shall notify the committee, which shall convene a general meeting of the association to be held within 28 days after the date on which the secretary received the notice.
- (4) At a general meeting of the association convened under clause (3):
  - (a) no business other than the question of the appeal is to be transacted; and
  - (b) the committee and the member shall be given the opportunity to state their respective cases orally or in writing, or both; and
  - (c) the members present shall vote by secret ballot on the question of whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked.
- (5) If at the general meeting the association passes a special resolution in favour of the confirmation of the resolution, the resolution is confirmed

## **PART III - THE COMMITTEE**

### **14 POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The committee shall be called the committee of management of the association and, subject to the Act, the Regulation and these Rules and to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting:

- (a) shall control and manage the affairs of the association; and
- (b) may exercise all such functions as may be exercised by the association, other than those functions that are required by these Rules to be exercised by a general meeting of members of the association; and
- (c) has power to perform all such acts and do all such things as appear to the committee to be necessary or desirable for the proper management of the affairs of the association.

## **15 CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP**

- (1) Subject in the case of the first members committee to section 21 of the Act, the committee is to consist of:
  - (a) the office-bearers of the association; and
  - (b) 6 ordinary members each of whom is to be elected at the annual general meeting of the association under Rule 16.
- (2) The office-bearers of the association shall be:
  - (a) the president;
  - (b) the treasurer;
  - (c) the secretary; and
  - (d) the editor of the journal
- (3) The President may not hold that office for more than four consecutive years.
- (4) Each member of the committee is, subject to these Rules, to hold office for two years until the conclusion of the annual general meeting following the date of the member's election but is eligible for re-election.
- (5) In the event of a casual vacancy occurring in the membership of the committee, the committee may appoint a member of the association to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed is to hold office, subject to these Rules, until the Annual General Meeting when the next biennial elections are held.
- (6) The Management Committee has the power to establish or recognise regional groups of members within Australia or in Papua New Guinea and that such groups will be governed by the Rules of the association.

## **16 ELECTION OF MEMBERS**

- (1) Nominations of candidates for election as office-bearers of the association or as ordinary members of the committee
  - (a) shall be made in writing, signed by 2 members of the association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of the nomination);
  - (b) Nominations must be received by the Secretary 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting
- (2) If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the committee, the candidates nominated are taken to be elected and any vacant positions remaining on the committee are taken to be casual vacancies.
- (3) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated are taken to be elected.

- (4) If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a postal ballot is to be held notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 33. This will be supervised by one or more independent honorary returning officer(s) appointed by the Management Committee..

## **17 SECRETARY**

- (1) The secretary of the association shall, as soon as practicable after being appointed as secretary, lodge notice with the association of his or her address.
- (2) The secretary shall keep minutes of:
  - (a) all appointments of office-bearers and members of the committee;
  - (b) the names of members of the committee present at a committee meeting or a general meeting; and
  - (c) all proceedings at committee meetings and general meetings.
- (3) Minutes of proceedings at a meeting shall be signed by the chairperson of the meeting or by the chairperson of the next succeeding meeting.

## **18 TREASURER**

The treasurer shall:

- (1) Ensure-
  - (a) that all monies due to the association are collected and received and that all payments authorised by the association are made; and
  - (b) that correct books and accounts are kept showing the financial affairs of the association, including full details of all receipts and expenditure connected with the activities of the association.
- (2) Act as membership officer of the association and maintain a register of members in accordance with Rule 8.

## **19 CASUAL VACANCIES**

For the purpose of these Rules, a casual vacancy in the office of a member of the committee occurs if the member:

- (a) dies; or
- (b) ceases to be a member of the association, or
- (c) becomes an insolvent under administration within the meaning of the Corporations Law; or
- (d) resigns office by notice in writing given to the secretary; or
- (e) is removed from office under Rule 20; or
- (f) becomes mentally incapacitated; or

- (g) is absent without the consent of the committee from all meetings of the committee held during a period of 6 months.

## **20 REMOVAL OF COMMITTEE MEMBER**

- (1) The association in general meeting may by resolution remove any member of the committee from the office of member before the expiration of the members term of office and may by resolution appoint another person to hold office until the expiration of the term of office of the member so removed.
- (2) If a member of the committee to whom a proposed resolution referred to in sub-clause (1) above makes representations in writing to the secretary or president (not exceeding a reasonable length) and requests that the representations be notified to the members of the association, the secretary or the president may send a copy of the representations to each member of the association or, if the representations are not so sent, the member is entitled to require that the representations be read out at the meeting at which the resolution is considered.

## **21 MEETINGS AND QUORUM**

- (1) The committee shall meet at least 3 times in each period of 12 months at such place and time as the committee may determine.
- (2) Additional meetings of the committee may be convened by the secretary at the request of the president, or at the request of a majority of the committee members.
- (3) Oral or written notice of a meeting of the committee shall be given by the secretary to each member of the committee at least 48 hours (or such other period as may be unanimously agreed on by the members of the committee) before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting.
- (4) Notice of a meeting given under sub-clause (3) above shall specify the general nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting and no business other than that business shall be transacted at the meeting, except business which the committee members present at the meeting unanimously agree to treat as urgent business.
- (5) Five committee members shall form a quorum at any meeting of the committee and the presiding officer shall have a deliberative and casting vote.
- (6) No business is to be transacted by the committee unless a quorum is present and if, within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to

the same place and at the same hour of the same day in the following week.

- (7) If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.
- (8) If at a meeting of the committee the president is absent or unwilling to act, such one of the remaining members of the committee as may be chosen by the members present at the meeting shall preside.

## **22 DELEGATION BY COMMITTEE TO SUB~COMMITTEE**

- (1) The committee may, by instrument in writing, delegate to one or more sub-committees (consisting of such member or members of the association as the committee thinks fit) the exercise of such functions of the committee as are specified in the instrument, other than:
  - (a) this power of delegation; and
  - (b) a function which is a duty imposed on the committee by the Act or by any other law.
- (2) A function, the exercise of which has been delegated to a sub-committee under this Rule, may, while the delegation remains unrevoked, be exercised from time to time by the sub-committee in accordance with the terms of the delegation.
- (3) A delegation under this section may be made subject to such conditions or limitations as to the exercise of any function, or as to time or circumstances, as may be specified in the instrument of delegation.
- (4) Despite any delegation under this Rule, the committee may continue to exercise any function delegated.
- (5) Any act or thing done or suffered by a sub-committee acting in the exercise of a delegation under this Rule has the same force and effect as it would have if it had been done or suffered by the committee.
- (6) The committee may, by instrument in writing, revoke wholly or in part any delegation under this Rule.
- (7) A sub-committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper.

## **23 VOTING AND DECISIONS**

- (1) Questions arising at a meeting of the committee or of any sub-committee appointed by the committee shall be determined by a majority of the votes of members of the committee or sub-committee present at the meeting.
- (2) Each member present at a meeting of the committee or of any sub-committee appointed by the committee (including the person presiding at the meeting) is entitled to one vote but, in the event of an equality of votes on any question, the person presiding may exercise a second or casting vote.
- (3) Subject to Rule 21(5), the committee may act despite any vacancy on the committee.
- (4) Any act or thing done or suffered, or purporting to have been done or suffered, by the committee or by a sub-committee appointed by the committee, is valid and effectual despite any defect that may afterwards be discovered in the appointment or qualification of any member of the committee or sub-committee.

## **PART IV - GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **24 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS - HOLDING OF**

- (1) With the exception of the first annual general meeting of the association, the association shall at least once in each calendar year and within the period of 6 months after the expiration of each financial year of the association convene an annual general meeting of its members.
- (2) The association shall hold its first annual general meeting:
  - (a) within the period of 18 months after its incorporation under the Act; and
  - (b) within the period of 6 months after the expiration of the first financial year of the association.
- (3) Sub-clauses (1) and (2) above have effect subject to any extension or permission granted by the Director-General under section 26(3) of the Act.

### **25 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - CALLING OF AND BUSINESS AT**

- (1) The annual general meeting of the association shall, subject to the Act and to Rule 24, be convened on such date and at such place and time as the committee thinks fit.
- (2) In addition to any other business which may be transacted at an annual

general meeting, the business of an annual general meeting shall include the following:

- (a) the confirmation of the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any special general meeting held since that meeting;
  - (b) the reception of committee reports on the activities of the association during the last preceding financial year;
  - (c) The election of office-bearers of the association and ordinary members of the committee;
  - (d) the reception of the statement required to be submitted to members under section 26(6) or the Act.
- (3) An annual general meeting shall be specified as such in the notice convening it.

## **26 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS - CALLING OF**

- (1) The committee may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special general meeting of the association.
- (2) The committee shall, on the requisition in writing of at least 5 per cent of the total number of members, convene a special general meeting of the association.
- (3) A requisition of members for a special general meeting:
  - (a) shall state the purpose or purposes of the meeting; and
  - (b) shall be signed by the members making the requisition; and
  - (c) shall be lodged with the secretary; and
  - (d) may consist of several documents in a similar form, each signed by one or more of the members making the requisition.
- (4) If the committee fails to convene a special general meeting to be held within 1 month after the date on which a requisition of members for the meeting is lodged with the secretary, any one or more of the members who made the requisition may convene a special general meeting to be held not later than 3 months after that date.
- (5) A special general meeting convened by a member or members as referred to in clause (4) shall be convened as nearly as is practicable in the same manner as general meetings are convened by the committee and any member who consequently incurs expense is entitled to be reimbursed by the association for any expense so incurred.

## **27 NOTICE**

- (1) Except if the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the association, the secretary

shall, at least 28 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, cause to be sent, either by email or by post to each member at the members address appearing in the register of members, a notice specifying the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business proposed to be transacted at the meeting.

- (2) If the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the association, the secretary shall, at least 28 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, cause notice to be sent to each member in the manner provided in sub-clause (1) specifying in addition to the matter required under sub-clause (1), the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution.
- (3) No business other than that specified in the notice convening a general meeting is to be transacted at the meeting except, in the case of an annual general meeting, business which may be transacted under Rule 25(2).
- (4) A member desiring to bring any business before a general meeting may give notice in writing of that business to the secretary who shall include that business in the next notice calling a general meeting given after receipt of the notice from the member.

## **28 PROCEDURE**

- (1) No item of business shall be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of members entitled under these Rules to vote is present during the time the meeting is considering that item.
- (2) Twenty members present in person (being members, of whom one shall be an office bearer, personally present entitled under these Rules to vote at a general meeting) constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a general meeting.
- (3) If within half an hour after the appointed time for the commencement of a general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting;
  - (a) if convened on the requisition of members, shall be dissolved; and
  - (b) in any other case, shall stand adjourned to the same day in the following week at the same time and (unless another place is specified at the time of the adjournment by the person presiding at the meeting or communicated by written notice to members given before the day to which the meeting is adjourned) at the same place.
- (4) If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting the members present (being at least ten) shall constitute a quorum.

## **29 PRESIDING MEMBER**

- (1) The president shall preside as chairperson at each general meeting of the association.

If the president is absent or unwilling to act, the members present shall elect one of their number to preside as chairperson at the meeting.

## **30 ADJOURNMENT**

- (1) The chairperson of a general meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of the majority of members present at the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting at which the adjournment took place.
- (2) If a general meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, the secretary shall give written or oral notice of the adjourned meeting to each member of the association stating the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting.
- (3) Except as provided in sub-clauses (1) and (2), notice of an adjournment of a general meeting or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting is not required to be given.

## **31 MAKING OF DECISIONS**

- (1) A question arising at a general meeting of the association, other than the election of members as required by Rule 16 hereof, shall be determined on a show of hands and, unless before or on the declaration of the show of hands a poll is demanded a declaration by the chairperson that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried or carried unanimously or carried by a particular majority or lost, or an entry to that effect in the minute book of the association, is evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour for or against that resolution.
- (2) At a general meeting of the association, a poll may be demanded by the chairperson or by at least 3 members present in person at the meeting.
- (3) If a poll is demanded at a general meeting, the poll shall be taken:
  - (a) immediately in the case of a poll which relates to the ejection of the chairperson of the meeting or to the question of an adjournment; or

- (b) in any other case, in such manner and at such time before the close of the meeting as the chairperson directs,

and the resolution of the poll on the matter is taken to be the resolution of the meeting on that matter.

### **32 SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

A resolution of the association is a special resolution

- (a) if it is passed by a majority which comprises at least three-quarters of such members of the association as, being entitled under these Rules so to do, vote in person or by proxy at a general meeting of which at least 28 days written notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution was given in accordance with these Rules, or
- (b) where it is made to appear to the Director-General that it is not practicable for the resolution to be passed in the manner specified in paragraph (a), if the resolution is passed in a manner specified by the Director-General.

### **33 VOTING**

- (1) On any question arising at a general meeting of the association a member has one vote only.
- (2) All votes for Special Resolutions shall be given in person or by proxy. All other voting shall be in person or, where a ballot is required under Rule 16, by postal voting.
- (3) In the case of an equality of votes on a question at a general meeting, the chairperson of the meeting is entitled to exercise a casting vote.
- (4) A member or proxy is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the association unless all monies due and payable, by that member or proxy, to the association, has been paid.
- (5) Only superannuated members of the “former services” are entitled to vote at general meetings on matters affecting their retirement benefits and conditions.

### **34 APPOINTMENT OF PROXIES**

- (1) Each member shall be entitled to appoint another member as proxy by notice given to the secretary no later than 24 hours before the time of the meeting in respect of which the proxy is appointed.
- (2) The notice appointing the proxy shall be on an appropriate form.

## **PART V – MISCELLANEOUS**

### **35 FUNDS – MANAGEMENT**

- (1) The funds of the association shall be derived from annual subscriptions of members, donations and, subject to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting, such other sources as the Committee determines.
- (2) All money received by the association shall be deposited as soon as practicable and without deduction to the credit of the association's bank account.
- (3) The association shall, as soon as practicable after receiving any cash, cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes or other negotiable instruments, raise an appropriate receipt.
- (4) All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments shall be signed by any 2 members of the committee or employees of the association, being members or employees authorised to do so by the Committee.

### **36 INCOME AND PROPERTY**

The income and property of the association from whatever source shall be used and applied solely in promotion of the objects of the association and the exercise of its powers as set out herein. No portion thereof shall be distributed, paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to or amongst the members of the association. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of interest to any such member in respect of monies advanced by that member to the association or otherwise owing by the association to that member or of remuneration to any officer or servant of the association or to any member of the association or other person in return for any service actually rendered to the association. Further that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the payment or repayment to any member of out of pocket expenses, money lent, reasonable and proper charges for goods hired by the association or reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let to the association.

### **37 AUDIT**

A person who is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia or the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants shall audit the financial affairs of the association.

### **38 ALTERATION OF OBJECTS AND RULES**

The statement of objects and these Rules may be altered, rescinded or added to only by a special resolution of the association.

### **39 COMMON SEAL**

- (1) The Common Seal of the association shall be kept in the custody of the Public Officer.
- (2) The Common Seal shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the committee and the affixing of the common seal shall be attested by the signatures either of 2 members of the committee or of 1 member of the committee and of the Public Officer or secretary.

### **40 CUSTODY OF BOOKS**

Except as otherwise provided by these Rules, the public officer shall keep in his or her custody or under his or her control all records, books and other documents relating to the association.

### **41 INSPECTION OF BOOKS**

The records, books and other documents of the association shall be open to inspection, free of charge, by a member of the association at any reasonable hour.

### **42 SERVICE OF NOTICES**

- (1) For the purpose of these Rules, a notice may be served by or on behalf of the association on any member either personally or by sending it by post to the member at the member's address shown in the register of members.
- (2) If a document is sent to a person by properly addressing, prepaying and posting to the person a letter containing the document, the document is, unless the contrary is proved, taken for the purposes of these Rules to have been served on the person at the time at which the letter would have been delivered in the ordinary course of post.

#### **43. PATRONS**

The association may at an annual general meeting appoint one or more patrons.

#### **44 DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS ASSETS**

If the association shall be wound up in accordance with the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 of New South Wales and there remains, after satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among members of the association, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the association, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the association under or by virtue of Rule 36, such institution or institutions to be determined by the members.

#### **45 PRIVACY DECLARATION**

The personal information collected from members is what is required to provide membership and support services in furthering the objects of the association. In this respect, the association is committed to the provisions of the Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988, as amended.

(1) Members:

- (a) have the right to access, and if necessary correct, the personal information held in respect of their Membership of the association; and
- (b) may advise the secretary in writing to withhold publication of all or part of their collected personal information in any communication, magazine, journal or newsletter published by or under the authority of the association.

(2) The association:

- (a) shall not share Members personal information with other entities other than to those who may be contracted to undertake association initiated mailing services and then only under a confidentiality agreement.
- (b) may, from time to time, request members to voluntarily update personal information held on their behalf by the association.