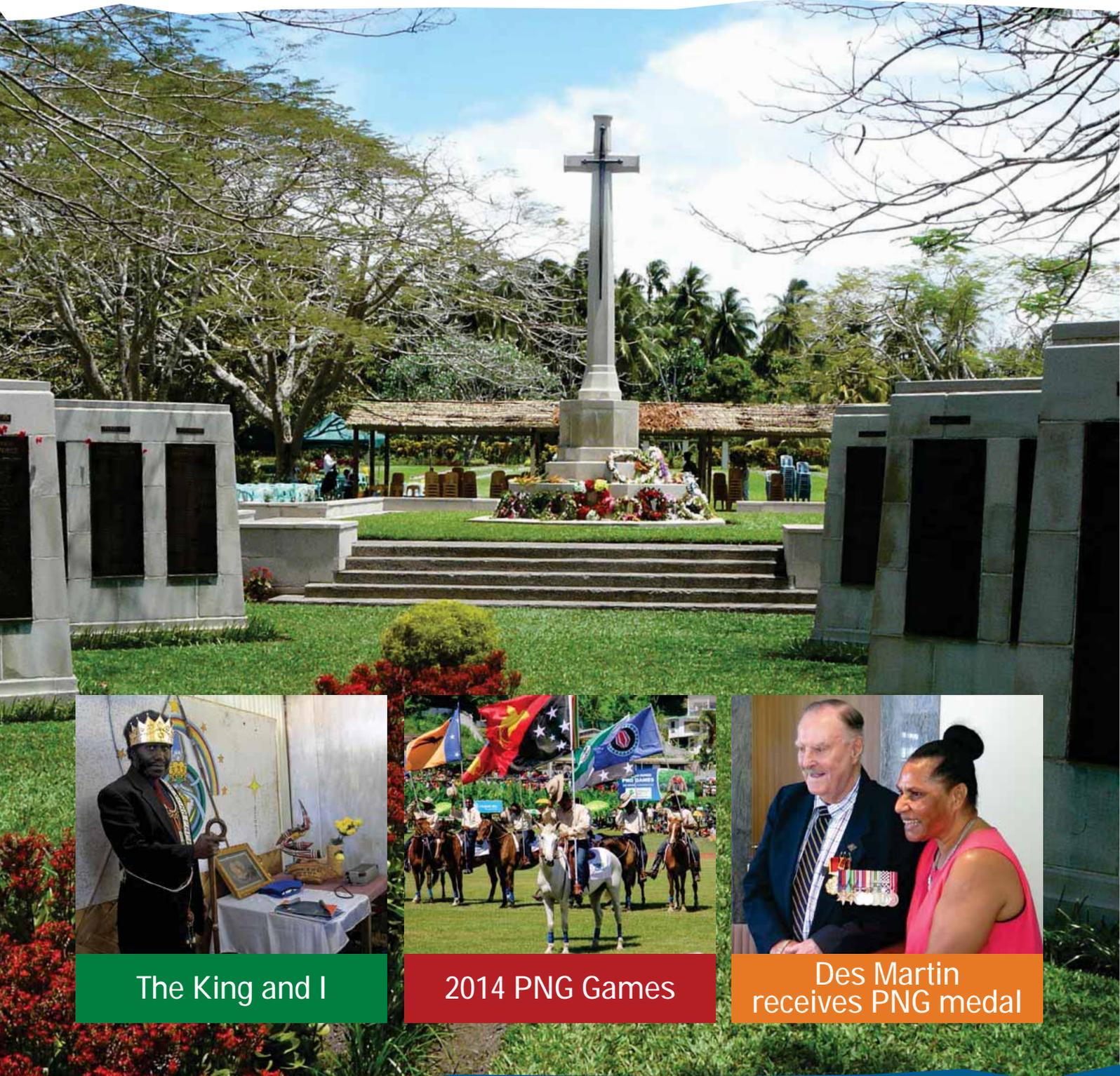


Journal of the  
Papua New Guinea  
Association of  
Australia Inc.

JUNE 2015

# Una Voce

Patrons: Major General the Honourable Michael Jeffery, AC, AO (Mil), CVO, MC (Retd), Mr Fred Kaad OBE



The King and I



2014 PNG Games



Des Martin receives PNG medal



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Gallipoli Veterans  
Lost on Montevideo  
Maru. Page 5

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Membership is available to any person having an interest in PNG. Annual subscription is \$30. The membership year corresponds with the calendar year. An application form is available from the Secretary at the address below or on our website.

Receipts are not given for subscriptions as it would add to our postage costs.

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**PNGAA Website:** If you do not have access to a computer and would like a hard copy of anything on the website please contact the Secretary, PNGAA.

We encourage members to pay membership fees by direct deposit to the PNGAA account:

BSB: 062 009 Account No: 0090 7724

Please ensure you include your Membership Number. It would be appreciated if you could also notify the Treasurer by email. Thank you!

**Deadline for submissions to September issue of**

**Una Voce:** 17 July 2015

**To access the PNGAA Collection at the Fryer Library go to:**

[www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer/ms/uqfl387.pdf](http://www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer/ms/uqfl387.pdf)

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**Correction:** In the last edition, the obituary for Roger Bonnicks incorrectly gave Roger's age as 81. He was 71.

**Correction:** I've got big shame! Somehow, I let an apostrophe creep in to the wrong place three times in my article in the last issue. Kiaps' should of course be the plural possessive - Kiaps'  
*Bob Cleland*

## President's Update

It's been tremendously exciting to see this first colour issue of Una Voce take shape. Splashes of vibrant colour enliven us and are combined with a wonderful balance of articles. Many thanks to Dianne Guy and Greg Leech. Please do let us know what you think!

25 April 2015 marked the 100th Anniversary of the landing of ANZAC troops at Gallipoli and this issue commemorates this centenary. The battle at Bitapaka, commemorated last September, was the first commemorative event of the ANZAC centenary. Poignant photos from the 2015 Anzac Day Dawn Service at Bomana, PNG, are shared with you in this issue.

Our next issue will commemorate the 40th anniversary of Papua New Guinea's Independence. Jot down some of your memories and send them to the Editor, Dianne Guy!

The 64th Annual General Meeting on 3 May 2015 was another occasion to enjoy the company of friends and meet others with similar interests. Whilst we missed some regular attendees, it was great to see those who had travelled long distance, as well as those who are based in Sydney. With thanks to Juli Allcorn for her organisation, a friendly, casual luncheon set the tone which was enjoyed by those who attended. The Minutes from the AGM are included as an insert with this Una Voce. An unaudited financial report was included in the March 2015 Una Voce and will be available in a Members area on our website.

PNGAA Life Member, Len Bailey, who has audited our financial report for over 30 years has offered

his resignation this year. He has made an extraordinary contribution to the association and has provided much stability. The AGM agreed to send him a Certificate of Appreciation. Treasurer Doug Wood has been able to secure a new Honorary Auditor for the PNGAA and we welcome and thank Phil Williams.

I congratulate, and thank, the following members who have taken on voluntary Management Committee positions for the 2015-2016 period:

**President:** Andrea Williams  
**Treasurer:** Doug Wood  
**Secretary:** Rebecca Hopper  
**Editor:** Dianne Guy

Paul Munro (Public Officer); Roy Ranney (Membership Officer); Julianne Ross Allcorn; Phil Ainsworth; Dr Jonathan Ritchie.

I look forward to working with this wonderful group of people for my last term as, according to our rules, the President has a four year term - ensuring fresh ideas invigorate the association.

Dianne Guy recently joined us as Editor. As mentioned in March, Keith Wall had to step back but will continue to assist on the sub-editing team. The format for the preparation of Una Voce has changed. Dianne will forward edited material to Greg Leech in Perth. As Dianne does contract work, having a team of reliable sub-editors is important. We thank those who have offered to assist and always welcome anyone who is interested.

The AGM highlighted the passing of time, the changing demographics



and the need to invest in our future. Our association's value comes in various ways. Una Voce has, for many years, been the backbone of the association, but our value is also in the strong and diverse network of people who are members and who contribute in many ways: in supporting our wonderful events; contributing to the PNGAA Collection at the Fryer Library (with special thanks to Dr Peter Cahill) and working together in the wider community to ensure the association remains relevant and vital. We are always looking for ways to improve – please let us have your ideas! To sustain the association we need to encourage both younger generations and those who have strong connections with the contemporary Australia/PNG relationship to join the PNGAA – and we need your help!

Social networking is now possible at little cost via Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other online means. It keeps people in touch wherever they live in the world and despite the years between

contacts...but it doesn't replace a vibrant and friendly gathering – so put the date of the Christmas lunch in your diary now – Sunday 6 December – and gather your friends to come along. If you don't know others, let us know – we're happy to introduce you!

Another exciting day will be the belated launch and screening of the DVD KIAP: Stories Behind the Medal at the Roxy Theatre, Lindfield, on Sunday 14 June. This is a unique opportunity to view the film on a large screen and, with a Q&A panel, will be a very special day. All are welcome.

Other events are sprinkled through the year and we encourage you to come and invite your friends to come too. There is the 73rd Commemorative service for the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group to be held in Canberra on Sunday 28 June and there will also be a gathering at Ballina, northern NSW on 25 October.

Work done by members of the Rabaul and Montevideo group have highlighted the drastic cutback

in time allocated in the new Australian syllabus for the study of the Pacific War (WWII). Despite record attendances at Anzac Day, and the 70th anniversary of the end of the War in the Pacific, it is tragic that our curriculum is placing less importance on this vital and defining period in our nation's history. The History Teachers' Association of Victoria (HTAV) also knocked back the offer of a speaker from the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group at their Annual Conference 2015. Amazing... when most of the men of the 2/22nd Battalion, many of whom drowned on the Montevideo Maru, Australia's greatest maritime disaster, came from Victoria!

Due to the increasing volume of material to be listed for the PNGAA Fryer Collection, and the ease of access with our PNGAA website, we have decided to list all future donations on our website. Gradually, all archived lists will be added, ensuring a comprehensive list on the PNGAA website.

A major event this year will be the PNGAA Art Show, acknowledging the 40th anniversary of Papua New Guinea's Independence, in September. Julianne Ross Allcorn will be coordinating this so please contact her with any queries.

Many volunteers, both on the Management Committee and for extended working groups, are needed to make an association such as the PNGAA tick. I thank all our members for the support you give and look forward to a great year ahead!

Just a reminder, too, that PNGAA members have access to all archived issues through the members only area of the PNGAA website. If you access Una Voce electronically you can click on hyperlinks to view original or more detailed articles, providing a livelier, multi-faceted experience.

The password to access this members only area on the PNGAA website is changed annually and is shown on page 8 of this issue.

## A Chance Encounter

We decided to travel to Sydney by public transport to attend the PNGAA lunch in December 2014.

Saturday: Bingie to Moruya; bus to Nowra; bus to Bomaderry; diesel train to Kiama; suburban service to Central and then Central to Gordon!. Travel time seven and a half hours with, of course, mandatory meal stops.

The following morning we asked our cousin Peter Bidencope, who we were staying with, to take us

for a drive enroute the Killara Golf Club. This included 5 Kardella Avenue, my family home immediately after WWII.

As I walked into the garden I was greeted by an elegantly dressed lady coming out of her house. I announced my reason for being there and she noticed my Air Niugini tie. 'Are you going to the PNGAA lunch?' my new acquaintance asked. And then said, 'well so am I!'

Much conversation followed, linking Joan Stobo's (PNG 1960s) early days and life in TPNG to my uncle Viv Crisp and Steamships Trading Company.

The return journey on the Monday was an exact reversal which again took seven and a half hours!!

**David Montgomery**  
(*Didiman TPNG 1956 - 1965*)

## Des Martin receives PNG medal

On 3 March 2015 Des Martin was presented with the PNG medal of the Order of Logohu (Bird of Paradise) in a ceremony in Brisbane. Magdalene Moi-He, the PNG Consulate General in Brisbane, presented the medal on behalf of the Governor General of PNG.

Des and his life-long friend, the late Bob Blaikie were the first two patrol officers to enter the disaster area at Mount Lamington on behalf of the TPNG Administration on 22 January 1951, the day after the catastrophic eruption that killed almost 3,000 people.

Des and Bob worked for three weeks with others, including the volcanologist Tony Taylor, on the horrific relief effort. They were eventually relieved of their duties because of the physical and emotional exhaustion they suffered (PTSD). Memories of the disaster remained with them for rest of their lives.

Des and Bob were both terrific correspondents when I was collecting information about the disaster-management aspects of the 1951 Lamington eruption for the book, *Fire Mountains*.

**Wally Johnson**



Be part of the exclusive premier of KIAP. The Story Behind The Medal, to be screened soon in Sydney.

**Places are limited, so an early RSVP recommended. See 'What's On' section on page 28 for full details.**

# Gallipoli Veterans Lost on Montevideo Maru

The sinking of the Japanese prisoner transport ship Montevideo Maru 73 years ago remains Australia's greatest maritime disaster - and there is a tragic link with Gallipoli. Recent research revealed that 15 of the civilian internees who died aboard the ship - some highly decorated - had fought on Gallipoli and in France.







officers of the District Services, Lands and Works Departments, moved in November, leaving Page in Rabaul as Deputy Administrator looking after the remaining departments. But then Japan came into the war, with the first bombing of Rabaul on 4 January and the Japanese invasion on 23 January. The European civilians went into internment camps.



*Robert Page with his sisters*



*Harold Hillis Page*

On 22 June 1942, 845 prisoners of war and 208 civilian internees boarded the Montevideo Maru bound for Hainan. On 1 July the unmarked and unescorted ship was torpedoed by an American submarine off the north east coast of the Philippines. There were no survivors from the battened down hatches. All 1,053 died.

Major Harold Hillis Page, DSO MC, born 8 August 1888, died 1 July 1942.

### Robert Charles Page (Harold's Son)

Meanwhile back in Australia, Harold's eldest son, Robert, quit his medical studies at Sydney University to join the Army. He was commissioned into the 2nd/4th Pioneer Battalion but soon transferred to Z Special Unit, a joint Allied unit carrying out raids on Japanese installations in south east Asia.

In 1943 he took part in Operation Jaywick using a Japanese-built fishing boat, the Krait, to enter Singapore Harbour and attach limpet mines to Japanese shipping, destroying or badly damaging seven ships.

On his return to Australia Page married Roma Prowse in Canberra on 1 November 1943. Even his wife did not know about his role in Z Force. Bob Page was awarded the DSO for his courage and devotion under extreme hazardous conditions in Operation Jaywick, but it was not officially promulgated until 1945 because of the extreme secrecy. Page never knew about the award.

In Operation Rimau in September 1944 the raiding team was taken by submarine to the South China Sea where it seized a junk and sailed towards Singapore. But it was discovered and Bob Page was captured by the Japanese and executed in Singapore on 7 July 1945 - just one month before the end of the war.

Roma later recalled, We waited and waited for them to come back, but of course they never did, and then we waited for something official.

On her second wedding anniversary she received a telegram to say Bob had died of illness while a POW of the Japanese. It took many years for her to discover the truth.

Captain Robert Charles Page, DSO, born 21 July 1920, died 7 July 1945.

**Don Hook**

### Early history of aviation in PNG

A video compiled by the Gray family will appeal to anyone interested in the early history of aviation in PNG. Kieran Nelson made it available on his YouTube page at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZF7jwgmvKk>

It is quite long, so you need to have time to view it.

The video is made available with the permission of the Gray family and is also available publicly in the National Archives of Australia (NAA).

### Change of Web Site Password

The members area of the PNGAA web site will have a new password from 1 July 2015:

**User Name:** pngaa

**Password:** wantok



### Dental Clinic

The YWAM dental clinic is now up and running, treating the first patients onboard on 26 April 2015. At a combined gathering on board the ship in Sydney late last year, the Wantok Group donated \$1,500.



### Youth with a Mission (YWAM)

This little one was born in Sisiami village. She was delivered with the help of a clean birth kit in the grass and the mud near the river bank. Mother and baby are well and the baby was immunised by the Primary Health Care team.

### Notes from the Northern Territory

The PNG-Australia Social and Cultural Group in Darwin can be described as inactive. Nothing new there, I suggest. Forty years ago the German Club and the Italian Club in Alice Springs were flourishing. Both have vanished as the migrants with their enthusiastic volunteers fade out of the picture and succeeding generations find plenty to interest them outside their history. Happily PNGAA hasn't disappeared and while we maintain our quarterly link across the continent it won't soon. On a brighter note we can hope that Darwin's Social and Cultural Group can reactivate once more to turn on a 40th, if final, Independence celebration next September.

*Jim Toner*

# Christopher Viner-Smith, OAM

Christopher Viner-Smith was named in the 2015 Australia Day Honours list, with the citation: The Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for services to community history particularly through securing recognition for Patrol Officers in pre-independence Papua New Guinea.

Chris said, ‘I am certainly honoured to receive it and hope it opens a few more doors to Australia’s understanding of the work done by the Kiaps and indeed all of those Australians who served the Government in developing TPNG.’

Many people were involved in securing the Police Overseas Service Medal (POSM) for Patrol Officers (Kiaps). Most notable amongst them are the Hon. Jason Clare, a Minister in the then Labor Government, the Hon. Scott Morrison, a Minister in the current Liberal Government, Julia Gillard, the then Prime Minister, who recommended to the Queen that the criteria for the award of the Medal be altered to include Kiaps, and of course, Her Majesty the Queen who authorised the granting of this medal to us.

Several Kiaps, including Mike Douglas, were also involved in

securing the POSM for us and we thank them for their contribution. We are grateful to everyone who helped, but none of us would ever have received this medal without the tireless persistence and perseverance of Chris Viner-Smith.

Chris began his campaign for our medal in 2002, with a letter to the Hon. Dana Vale, Minister for Veterans Affairs, followed in 2003 by letters to the Hon. Chris Ellison, Minister for Justice and Customs, the Hon. Phillip Ruddock, Attorney General of Australia and the then Prime Minister John Howard.

Every year from 2004, Chris sent a series of letters and submissions to Prime Ministers John Howard and Kevin Rudd, various Ministers and other Members of Parliament. Chris also met with various Ministers, Members of Parliament, government agencies and NGOs in a monumental effort of extraordinary perseverance, to secure official recognition for us, but all to no avail.

Then, on 16 November 2009, Scott Morrison MP in the presence of several Kiaps in the public gallery, rose in Parliament to propose that Kiaps be officially recognised.



However the opposition rejected the Private Members Bill and Chris then had to lobby the independents Windsor, Oakeshott, Brandt and Wilkie and the Labor MP for Canberra, Brodtmann, who all supported him. Although the Bill was withdrawn there was enough support, especially from Canberra Labor Senator Lundy, to allow both sides to agree to seek a change to the POSM Letters Patent from the Queen and in 2013 we were granted our Medal.

Those of us who have received this Medal owe it to Chris for his dedication, diligence and perseverance. His reward, justly deserved, is the Medal of the Order of Australia.

Thank you, and congratulations Chris Viner-Smith, OAM.

*Chips Mackellar*



# The King & I

“When would you like to hold the interview?” asks the Fijian. He is a large man – ex-Special Forces with active Middle East military duty under his belt.

“Well, I’m here now, so let’s go ahead and do it,” I reply.

I am in the south of Bougainville Island and dressed for the tropical heat in a singlet and shorts.

He looks me up and down and there is a slightly amused glint in his eyes.

“You will have to go and get changed,” he says. “You are about to meet Royalty.”

“Yes, yes, of course,” I mutter and wonder where I will find clothes fit for a royal audience. Home is a seven-hour rough drive away in Buka town and I have only brought casual gear on this journey.

I tell him I’m staying in a nearby village and will return within the hour.

He nods and we shake hands. I walk to the hired Landcruiser with Lepo, my partner’s cousin who is Commander of the King’s Royal Guard – a militia made up mainly of ex-rebel soldiers from the ten-year Bougainville Civil War. The war was a brutal episode in Bougainville’s recent history which claimed up to 20,000 lives. It was sparked by landowners of the giant Panguna copper mine area who had become increasingly frustrated about receiving negligible benefit from the mining operations. They were also horrified by the destruction of their land, environmental damage on a scale they had not anticipated. What started off as essentially an environmental battle escalated into a secessionist war against Papua New Guinea.

Though a peace agreement was signed between the PNG Government and the various fighting factions in 2001 there are still armed pockets of rebels who did not sign the agreement.

Shunning the peace agreement, the rebellion's father, the late Francis Ona, set up the Kingdom of Me'ekamui – meaning Holy Land – in the Panguna mine area, proclaiming it a no-go-zone.

In the early 2000s Noel Musingku, originally from South Bougainville, was forced to leave PNG capital Port Moresby after his money scheme U-Vistract – which originally started as a Christian Mission in Australia – brought him to the attention of local authorities.

In 2003, after spending time in the Solomon Islands, Musingku sought refuge with Ona for a while. Musingku then set up his own Me'ekamui stronghold in Tonu, South Bougainville – naming it the Twin Kingdoms of Papaala and Me'ekamui. Today he rules as King David Peii II.

From his remote, fortified stronghold, Musingku operates the International Bank of Me'ekamui which offers “world class financial solutions” via its Website. Musinkgu has assured U-Vistract investors their money is coming soon. He denies he is running a cargo cult.

The Fijian is the last remaining ex-soldier from a contingent of nine who came to Bougainville eight years ago to train Musingku's militia. Their arrival sparked a major international incident between Papua New Guinea and Fiji. The former soldiers were forced to leave – some surrendered to the Papua New Guinea Government

whilst others escaped through the nearby Solomon Islands. The Fijians had come on the promise of F\$1million each.

The remaining Fijian tells me he is still here, in part, to ensure that promise is kept.

Lepo and I reach the Landcruiser where my partner's relatives are waiting. I tell them I have to go and change into “smart” clothes and they howl with laughter. A white man being told he has to dress up neatly to meet a black man is great sport to them.

I am less amused but they tell me they will scrape together something suitable for a royal audience.

The village is about twenty minutes away by road and the boys in the truck are still chuckling when we arrive.

The villagers are curious about my visit. None of them has ever seen the King – he never leaves his Kingdom – but they all have stories to tell about him.

“He wears a five-kilogram pure gold crown on his head,” one informs me, eyes shining at the thought.

“Ask him when the money is coming,” says another.

The day before, I had arrived in the village after having organised my audience with the King through my partner's uncle John, a local chief. He had made the necessary arrangements with Lepo.

After I had settled in the village, John called Lepo and, whilst I couldn't understand what was said, I did catch the word “Fijian” a couple of times. When John hung up he had a worried look on his face. He said the Fijian had raised some questions about my visit.

John decided to ride his bicycle to see Lepo and make sure I would be safe.

He arrived back some hours later looking a bit edgy and said I had to meet with the Fijian who would then decide whether I could have an audience with the King.

That night I had strange dreams.

## R

It is morning and I jump into the Landcruiser's front seat whilst John and a group of village boys hop in the back.

We drive in silence and as we get closer to the militarised self-ruled kingdom I feel a nervous urge to make small talk with the driver.

The road leading to Tonu, unlike the others in the district, is well-maintained. At intervals, half the road is blocked by rock piles – alternately on the left then the right side – to ensure vehicles drive at a respectful speed.

We pull into Tonu proper, the driver parks the Cruiser and we jump out.

The Kingdom looks like any small town in PNG, though is neater than most.

There is a big sign declaring Papaala to be a Sovereign Nation. The path to the Royal Headquarters is barred by a boom gate where an unarmed soldier from the Royal Guard sits. Maybe there are weapons in the guardhouse. I don't ask.

John tells the guard we are looking for Lepo and he sends word. Shortly a grim-looking man wearing neat military gear walks towards us. He's a big, solid black guy - Bougainvilleans take pride in being the blackest on the planet - and he doesn't smile, even when being

introduced to me, his in-law. But the big man is, nonetheless, polite.

Lepo takes me to a nearby hut and tells me to wait while he fetches the Fijian. The two return and I am introduced to the former Special Forces combatant, who smiles as he shakes my hand.

He asks me my intentions and I explain that I am a journalist based in Bougainville, here to write a story about the King. Whilst he does not make it obvious, I know the Fijian is closely studying me and what I am saying. Journalists are to be treated with caution, the King has had a lot of bad press - mainly from people who have not met him.

After a few minutes of discussion, the Fijian indicates he is satisfied by my answers and says I may ask the King as many questions as I like.

I tell him I am grateful and this is when he asks me when I would like to conduct the interview.

R

I arrive back at Tonu from the village dressed in oversized jeans and a scruffy long-sleeve button-up shirt. For this part of the world the outfit is more than formal. Lepo greets me and this time he is smiling.

He escorts me past the guardhouse up to the Protocol Office and leaves me at the door. I'm met by two men who write my details down in a ledger. They are happy when I tell them of my connection with Lepo - but it affords me no privilege. I will still have to undergo further checks before I can meet the King.

Whilst waiting for Lepo to return the two protocol officers tell me about the kingdom. They speak with enthusiasm about God, who has blessed and protects the King.

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We sit and shortly the Fijian gestures for me to stand. From an adjoining room the King emerges. He stands still in the doorway long enough for me to take in the full majestic sight of him.

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They explain how the King is going to revolutionise the economy not only of Bougainville but the entire World. The kingdom, they proudly tell me, has printed its own currency. The different denominations feature variously the heads of Francis Ona, Jesus and the King himself. The Bank of PNG had recently placed ads in the newspapers warning people not to accept these Bougainville Dollars.

The men also inform me that in the Kingdom it is already 2014 and the current month is Jasper - all months here are named after minerals mentioned in the Bible.

I nod as I take all this in, genuinely fascinated.

Lepo returns and takes me to a third checkpoint, the gate of the Royal Headquarters compound.

Here I am met by a small group of men who ask me the same questions but this time I am searched and my camera is taken from me to be scrutinised.

When I tell them I am connected to Lepo's family the group leader shakes my hand and beams.

"I know you," he says and opens the gate.

On the inside of the compound is a small hut occupied by two older men. They are extremely welcoming and shake my hand with enthusiasm.

They ask me all the same questions but I am not searched.

The two tell me how pleased they are that I have come to visit their

King but before I can proceed we must pray. We close our eyes and they lay hands on my shoulder, chanting loudly in a tongue I have not heard before. I feel slightly disoriented but the prayer is soon over and they send us on our way with God's blessing.

We walk towards the Royal Headquarters, a plain fibro building, and enter an open door.

Inside is the Fijian, calmly smiling.

He is sitting at a long bench, at the head of which is another man with a notebook.

The Fijian gestures for me to sit and sends Lepo out to fetch ice creams. The man with the book looks at me, pen poised.

"Name?" he asks.

After all my details are written in the notebook they tell me the King is waiting for me in his office. I must go into the other room and wait for him. I am to stand when he enters and will address him as Your Majesty.

I nod and am reminded I may ask as many questions as I wish.

The King is, I imagine, sensitive about his financial dealings and I search for a polite way to say so. The Fijian makes it easy for me.

"Ask about any subject," he says.

The man with the notebook re-enters and I am told the King will see me now.

The Fijian and I enter. In the corner sits a big man who nods in greeting.

The room is simple – a desk, some plastic chairs and a royal seal on the wall.

We sit and shortly the Fijian gestures for me to stand. From an adjoining room the King emerges. He stands still in the doorway long enough for me to take in the full majestic sight of him.

He is dressed in a sulu suit, has a large gold crown on his head and is clutching a sceptre which he places in a special holder. He nods regally at me then walks over to take the Fijian's hands. They pray loudly and the Fijian leaves, locking the door behind him.

“Knock on the door when you're finished and I'll let you out,” he says.

The King asks me to sit down then sits himself.

The big guy in the corner off to the side is silent and although I can't see him I can feel his presence.

The King welcomes me to his kingdom and lets me know how happy he is for me to be here. Then before I can ask my first question he starts giving me a detailed outline and history of his operations.

When he stops for breath I ask if I can turn my tape recorder on. He explains that we are currently just chatting – the interview has not yet begun – but, yes, I am welcome to start recording.

The King is a fine orator. His mind is clearly full of many ideas and thoughts which tumble from his mouth at lightning speed, one topic quickly turning into another. At university he took courses in engineering, architecture, computing, law and politics.

It is easy to see why people follow him. He has an indefinable charisma. And, yes, he is evangelical in the Pentacostal mould.

Whatever people may think about him – many are scathing – he is a remarkable character.

Musingku speaks at length about his plans to unify Bougainville. But he says the Autonomous Bougainville Government refuses to fall in with his plans – plans which, it must be said, are somewhat unorthodox.

Musingku has been accused of being a separatist and a hindrance to the Bougainville peace process.

In 2006 a neighbouring warlord led an armed attack on the Kingdom but retreated when one of his men was killed by the Tonu forces. Musingku himself was shot in the jaw, the bullet leaving a still-visible hole and shattering several teeth.

The two leaders have since reconciled.

I ask the King how he felt about getting shot in the face.

“It is God's will,” he says, looking me in the eye.

The fact that despite being a marked man he has survived for so long is, he says, part of God's Master Plan.

He tells me a new shipment of banknotes is on the way and I ask what reserves he has to support the currency's integrity.

We are sitting on a wealth of gold in the ground, he says.

He shows me documents from the International Monetary Fund, the European Council and International Organization for Economic Development. The documents state that these organizations recognize Musingku's “Government of Bougainville Island” as the legitimate ruler of the independent state of Bougainville. King Peii II is recognised as the head of that government.

“People may think these are forgeries,” he says, assuring me they are not.

I ask him about the money that is owed to investors in U-Vistract, a sum estimated to be up to K350 million. It has been over a decade and people are still waiting – with varying degrees of patience.

It's coming, he says and shows me a shipping manifest listing jeeps, fire engines and heavy machinery. This cargo is arriving soon, I am told.

There is a sports festival taking place in Tonu which will go on for forty days and forty nights. At the festival's conclusion, the money and cargo will arrive.

We rise and shake hands, the King again thanking me for coming to visit.

Before I depart he invites me to come back in a week's time to witness distribution of the cargo. I tell him I shall if I can.

I knock on the door and the Fijian lets me out.

Lepo takes me on a small tour of the Kingdom and I watch some youths playing soccer. On the way back to the Landcruiser I am met by the protocol guys who have come to say goodbye.

They take pictures of me as I leave.

I go back to the village where I spend a wonderful few days relaxing, eating garden food and swimming in the clear, cold, refreshing waters of the nearby river before returning home.

I am unable to make it back to the kingdom at the end of the forty days and nights so cannot, at this stage, confirm arrival of either the cargo or the money.

**David Lornie**



# 2014 PNG Games

**Hosted by Lae City, Morobe Province**

The PNG Games were initiated by the PNG National Sports Institute of the PNG Sports Foundation in 2000 to provide the opportunity for youths to represent their provinces in a multi sport event. The games provide for the identification of outstanding sporting talent whilst promoting provincial pride and national unity.



In 2014 the PNG Games were staged in Lae from 16 to 29 November. The Host Organising Committee (HOC) delivered the biggest, most successful and professionally run games ever.

Nearly 11,000 people were directly involved with the games, with approximately 7,000 athletes from all 23 provinces competing in 28 sports.

The budget for the games was K27 million with funding provided by the national and provincial governments and their agencies. Sixty percent of the funding was used to upgrade public sports facilities. Lae and Port Moresby businesses supported the event, the Bank of South Pacific secured naming rights and the event was used as one of the launching pads for the PUMA energy brand.

The HOC ensured local service providers and suppliers were paid promptly. Free transport for athletes and officials was provided by local bus operators. Private security, the Royal PNG Constabulary, the Australian Federal Police and the PNG Defence Force ensured a trouble free event.

For the first time the opening and closing ceremonies were televised live on EMTV and live telecasts of outdoor and indoor sports treated the nation to a feast of sport.



The opening ceremony was vibrant and colourful. The Prime Minister, Peter O' Neill, was the guest of honour. Horses and cowboys from the Markham valley led the provincial teams into the Sir Ignatius Kilage Stadium with their provincial flags. The PNG Defence Force mounted a full guard of honour to welcome the Prime Minister and commandos abseiling from a helicopter delivered his speech. The stadium was filled with the rhythmic dancing and colourful costumes of numerous singing groups. Games ambassadors Toea Wisil, Commonwealth Gold Medallist Dika Toua and Rugby League legend Scott Prince were amongst the VIPs. The day was closed with superb performances from Australian singer Christine Anu and Morobe band Jokema.

The delivery of the games was a confidence booster for the country's preparations for the 2015 Pacific Games in Port Moresby and it allowed officials to identify new talent. Fifty athletes were selected to attend camp after the games, with a number of them continuing to train for the Pacific Games.

According to Tony Green, President of the Papua New Guinea Athletics Union, the 2014 PNG Games was by far the best to date. Morobe Province won the games with NCD second and Central Province in third place. The Autonomous Region of Bougainville turned in a huge performance to secure fourth place.

The 2014 PNG Games was one of the most successful sporting events to be staged in the country. The future of sport in PNG is now more promising than ever.

**Materua Tamarua, Chief Executive Officer, 2014 PNG Games**

and

**Phil Franklin MBE, Chairman, Host Organising Committee 2014 PNG Games**



The 2014 PNG Games was one of the most successful sporting events to be staged in the country. The future of sport in PNG is now more promising than ever.



# Moresby - paradise for women

The Argus, Melbourne, December 1953

Melbourne's torrid heat has been too much for Mrs. A R Wardrop, who left by air yesterday to return to her home at Port Moresby.

Papua's summer temperature was much more moderate and pleasant, she said, 'I am longing to return home to cool off', Mrs. Wardrop added.

She has been in Melbourne for the last three weeks, and on Saturday attended the wedding of her son, Robert and Miss Joy Nelson, who has just completed her fifth year medical studies.

Port Moresby is a paradise for women, whether married or not, she declares. There are more men than women and girls who go there to work seem to be married in no time, particularly nurses, she said.

Typists and stenographers earn about £13 a week and live for reasonable cost at hostels, and there is no direct taxation. Cost of goods, most of which have to be imported, is high.



*Reita and Anthony Wardrop and Jean and Bob Smith at Chevron, Surfers Paradise, QLD, 1962*

But your prices are high in Australia, too. There is plenty of competent help for the householder. Most have a cookboy, houseboy, and laundry boy. This relieves the housewife of all household chores and she is free to enjoy a very nice social life.

It is 19 years since Mrs. Wardrop went to Papua with her husband and two young sons. They were part of a small community at Misima Island, and were isolated from any medical help.

After a year they moved to Port Moresby and have lived there ever since except when Mrs. Wardrop was evacuated in 1942, her husband remaining in the Army. Both boys were then at Scotch College.

Returning in 1946, she had to take back everything, for their old home which had been bombed and stripped of everything.

Her younger son, 20 year-old Owen, went to a 1,500 acre estate at Poligolo, 50 miles from Port Moresby, when he left Scotch a year ago.

Port Moresby's population has risen from 900 before the war to 5,000 today. This has meant more amenities in the way of electric stoves and refrigerators.

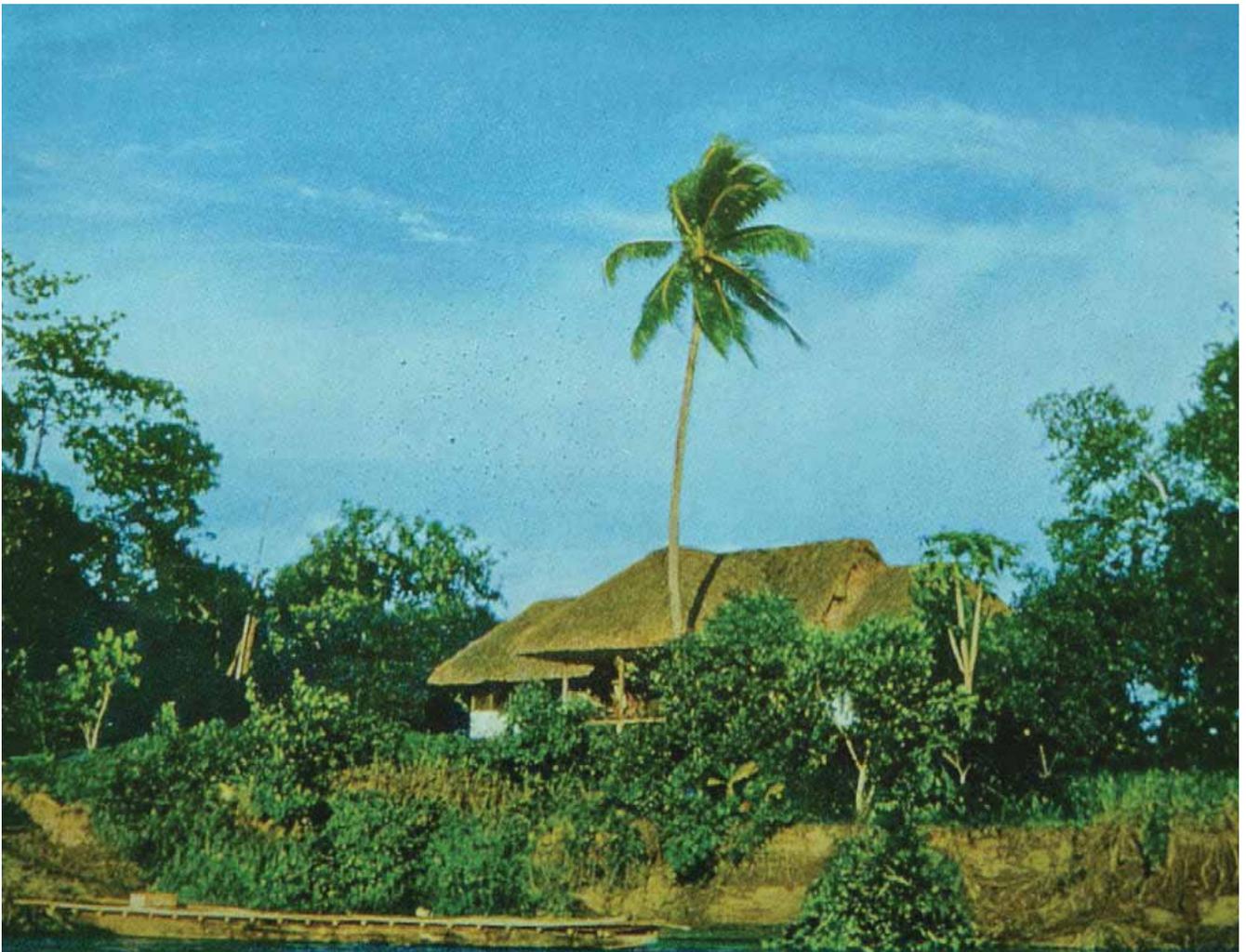
Fresh vegetables are grown in the highlands and pineapples, bananas, papaws and tropical mandarins and oranges, a different variety from those grown in Australia, are plentiful.

The only thing which Mrs. Wardrop really misses is fresh milk for a cup of tea. All their supplies are tinned.

The Wardrops lived at Poligolo Plantation on the Kemp Welsh River until about the time of Independence when they moved to Northern NSW.

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*Below: Wardrop family home in Poligolo, Rigo, PNG*





## Art of the Sepik River, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Myth and magic: art of the Sepik River, an exhibition of over 80 impressive works of art, opens on 7 August 2015. It includes art from communities of the lower and middle Sepik River, the Murik lakes, the Blackwater and Korewori, distinguished for their visual arts.

*Iatmul people, East Sepik Province Mai mask mid-20th century, wood, shell, clay, fibre, tusk, ochre, porcelain. National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, purchased 2014, IRN 250193*

Many of the exhibits were collected from 1914 to just before World War II. During and after the upheavals of the early twentieth century, the region's communities continued to practise many of their art traditions.

The art of the region is bewilderingly inventive. Materials including pig tusks; feathers; shells; clay; human bones, hair and teeth; wood; fur and skins; fibre and a vibrant palette of ochres are used. Although the artists used the resources they had at hand, they did not always restrict themselves: materials obtained from trade was incorporated into their work. Reckitt's Blue (the blueing agent) was particularly sought after, as was red paint.

Stone-bladed adzes were used - and were still in use as late as the 1960s - to fell trees and rough out blocks of wood for masks or spirit figures. More detailed work was done with wooden mallets and blades hafted to form chisels. A tooth of a pig, rat, flying fox or other mammal was hafted to create a fine engraving tool. Slivers of bamboo, the sharp edges of certain shells and pig tusks were used to scrape and smooth the surface of wooden objects.

The particular tools used can be discerned in the subtle effects upon the surface of a figure or mask. There is less visual rigidity than when metal tools are used; the designs are more fluid and sculptural volumes seem more organically expressed.

Aside from the immense skill and intimate knowledge of materials that all Sepik River carvers attain, there are ritualised rules of conduct that must be followed when making important objects. These vary depending upon the religious or magical significance of the object



*Sawos people, East Sepik Province 'Malu' plaque 19th century, wood.  
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, purchased 1977. IRN 116223*

created and differ from community to community. Observances included sexual abstinence, food taboos and working in secrecy at a secluded place away from the village and the eyes of the uninitiated.

Each community has its own artistic cannon, history and cosmology. According to an origin myth of the Iatmul people, the world was created by a primordial crocodile that swam everything into being.

Floods are the crocodile settling down into the waters as the land and the crocodile's back are one and the same and earthquakes are signs that the crocodile is moving. The jaws of a crocodile symbolically represent the worldview: the upper jaw is the sky and all within it and the lower jaw is the land and the river and everything on or in it.

The saltwater crocodile is the most revered and respected inhabitant of

the Sepik, perfectly adapted to the environment, it is a neighbour of which to be wary. Understandably, the crocodile permeates the myths and legends and art and architecture of many Sepik communities.

Sculptures of crocodiles, such as the 6.3 metre long spirit crocodile figure from the Korewori River on loan from the Papua New Guinea Museum and Art Gallery, can be larger than life size. Every village has at least one ceremonial house, Haus Tambaran, that is the centre of all political and religious activity. These majestic buildings are supported by giant wooden posts spectacularly carved with clan-associated figures, animals and overlapping patterns. Ritual objects, such as ancestral figures, masks, and other important items are stored in the concealed upper chamber of the house.

The ceremonial house is where youths are initiated into manhood. Initiates are kept in seclusion for months while being instructed in arcane knowledge and receiving scarification marks to the back and chest. These marks are one of the most spectacular forms of indigenous body art still practised. The scar patterns symbolise the teeth marks of the ancestral crocodile, which has devoured the initiate, transforming him into a man, and a warrior.

Life along the Sepik continues much as it has done for centuries. Cooked sago is still a staple food and the ubiquitous dugout wooden canoes continue to be made and used for travel and fishing. Communities still have a strong sense of identity defined by pre-Christian myths and oral histories, and continue the traditional cycle of events such as initiations and, to a lesser extent, the creation of extraordinary ceremonial arts.

Myth and magic: art of the Sepik River provides a rare opportunity to encounter masterpieces from the Sepik, works that speak of a time and a place where spirits and ancestors were integral to daily life.

The National Museum and Art Gallery of Papua New Guinea has generously lent five of its masterpieces, but most of the works come from the exceptional collections of Australian museums and art galleries, and many have never been shown before.

*Crispin Howarth*

Curator Pacific Arts, National Gallery of Australia

Images courtesy of the National Gallery of Australia



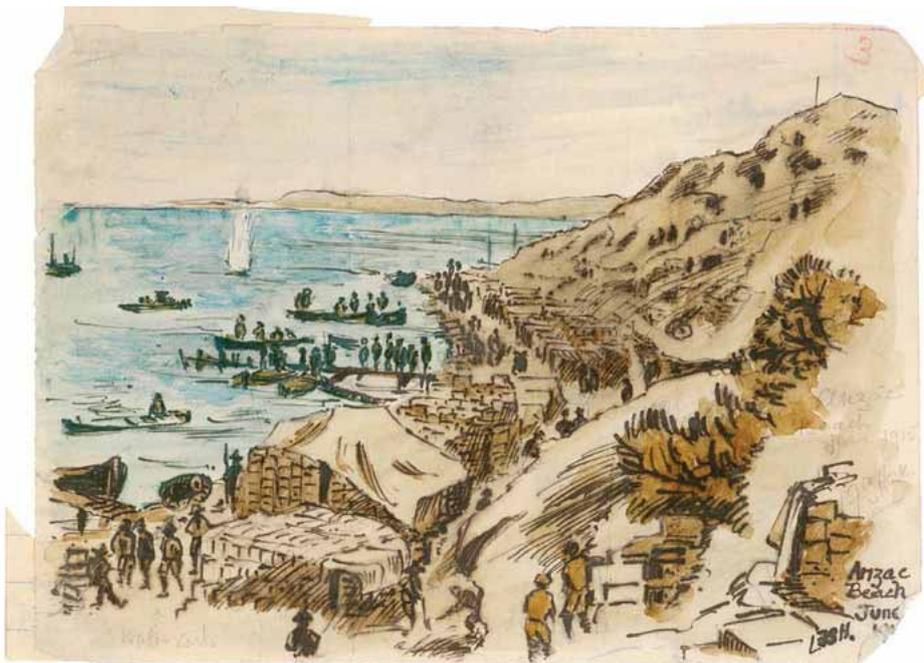
*Yimam people, Korewori River, East Sepik Province Yipwon early–mid 20th century, wood, patina. National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, purchased 2011, IRN 211518*



*Sawos or Iatmul people, East Sepik Province Wundjumbu (spirit face from a ceremonial-house post) 19th century, wood. National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, gift of Margaret and Michael Cockburn and family, 2007, IRN 167425*

# Leslie Hore's WWI Pictures

Like many Australian ex-service men, Lt Colonel Leslie FS Hore, MC MID went to the former German colony of New Guinea after WWI. When he died in 1935 he owned a plantation on the island of New Ireland.



*ANZAC Beach – June 1915*

During his war service with the 8th Light Horse Regiment (LHR) at Gallipoli in 1915 Leslie Hore produced 32 water colour paintings and drawings and another 70 pictures during his service on the Western Front. He was badly wounded during the infamous charge at The Nek in August 1915 when the 8th LHR was nearly wiped out.

In 1919 Leslie Hore gave his WWI pictures to the Mitchell Library, Sydney before he went to Rabaul with the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (ANMEF). The pictures are on the NSW State Library website at [www.sl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)

Click on Manuscripts and Pictures and search for Leslie Hore.

The Australian Department of Veterans' Affairs education website at <http://anzacsite.gov.au/5environment/hore/hore.html>

has a section about Leslie Hore and his Gallipoli pictures.

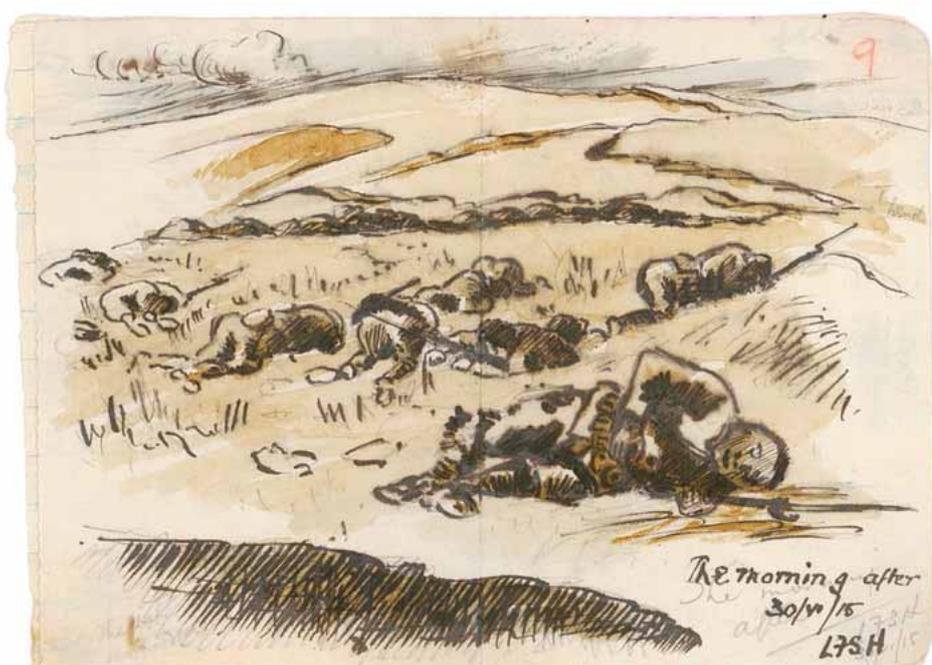
The National Library of Australia website,

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/picture/result?q=Leslie+Hore>

has a link to a photos of Leslie Hore.

*Patrick Bourke*

Photos from Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW



*The Morning After*

## Christy King receives Star of Courage

Christy King was presented with the Star of Courage bravery award by the Governor-General, Peter Cosgrove, on 30 March 2015. She was cited for the award, one of the country's highest decorations, for displaying conspicuous courage in circumstances of great peril in leading trekkers to safety after the Black Cat Track attack in PNG.

A trekking party led by Christie was attacked by men armed with machetes and a shotgun. Three men were killed, seven wounded and the trekkers were beaten and robbed when ambushed at Banis Donki on September 10 2013.

Christy described the attack as a frenzied bloody massacre which

made no sense. She immediately identified herself as the group leader and negotiated and pleaded with the attackers to stop their assault. Although she had been clubbed with a machete she organised first aid, medical assistance and evacuation after the attacker ransacked the campsite and fled.

She led the trekkers who could walk down the mountain for five hours, mostly in darkness, taking the most vulnerable position herself.

Christie paid tribute to the 19 Papua New Guinea porters on the trek, the trekkers and the rescue team.



## PNG Oral History

Efforts to capture the oral history of WWII through the eyes of Papua New Guineans have been made possible through an Oral History Program supported by the Kokoda Initiative, a bilateral program of the Australian and PNG governments.

Dr Andrew Moutu, Director of the National Museum and Arts Gallery, said:

'Because we are dealing with PNG subjects, we thought we would do this orally. Much of what we know of PNG history cannot be found in books; very few Papua New Guineans write and some of them are now in archival materials, but photographs and such can lead us somewhere.'

Dr Jonathan Ritchie, Team Leader of the Oral History Program, describes Papua New Guineans perspective on WWII history as dark hole. Apart from Ben Moide's book, very little is known about the Papua New Guinean experience as told by Papua New Guineans.



Dr Moutu hopes this program will contribute to the museum's vision of seeing more Papua New Guineans placing greater value on their history.

'We want to foster a deeper appreciation of history and the knowledge of history to be utilised elsewhere.'

Information from: <http://www.emtv.com.pg/article.aspx?slug=National-Museum-Seek-out-Options-to-Revive-PNG-s-WWII-History&subcategory=Education>

Ford Trimotor on display at the National Museum and Art Gallery

# Digitising of Family History

Many PNGAA members would like to give new life to personal or family archival papers. Here is how to do it!

I persuaded my 90 year old mother-in-law, Marjorie, not to throw out a bundle of letters sent to her by her husband, George, from PNG from 1943 to 1944 when he was serving in the AIF 9th Field Ambulance. After Marjorie died in 2011, I glanced through the letters and letter-cards which were in various stages of decay. What first attracted my interest was descriptions of events and the day-to-day drudgery in army camps in Sydney and Rigo, near Port Moresby.

Harry West encouraged me to preserve and develop them. He pointed out that the letters were social history and would be of interest to the Australian War Museum (AWM), where they are now preserved, each in a plastic jacket, in chronological order.

Encouraged by the AWM's Curator of Private Records, I converted the contents of the bundle into a single Microsoft Word document so they can be searched for names, places, officers, regimental numbers, movies and the like, making them much more accessible.

## Converting hand written material

Using a voice recognition package, Dragon Naturally Speaking, I dictated each letter. The package is readily mastered and it is more than of 90 percent accurate.

Once I had transcribed all the letters I added photos, family and historical or regimental details to complete the resource. It is now available

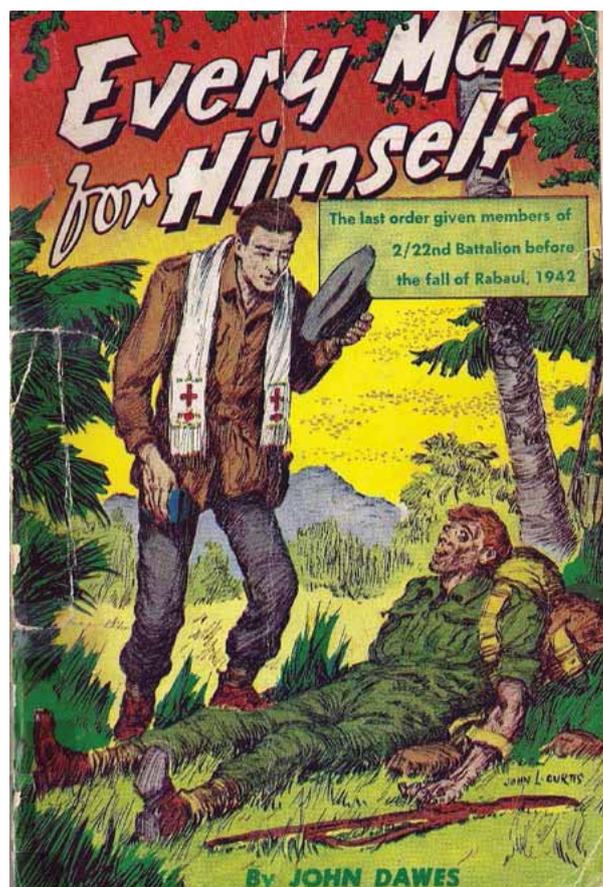
to a wider group than ever expected and may eventually be published as an IBook on iTunes, using a free download application for Mac called I Author.

## Converting typewritten material

I wanted to make a legible copy of a book, *Every Man for Himself* by John Dawes and Ken Scully which is out of print. It tells the story of the escape of some of Lark Force from Rabaul in 1942 and Father Ted Harris of Mal Mal.

Andrea Williams lent me a copy of the book which was a newsprint paperback probably more than 40 years old. I used an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) package, OmniPage Ultimate 18, to copy it by scanning two pages on a Hewlett Packard 3 in 1 printer. After proofreading, I edited the scanned material and converted it. The accuracy of the recognition was extraordinarily high.

I then used the package to convert the result into an editable document that allows for conversion to an e-book. Once I have the family's approval, I hope PNGAA will



publish details of where to find the electronic version of the book.

I was surprised at how easy it was to convert the book and how quickly and cheaply it was completed. You can probably get this done commercially quite cheaply but I doubt that I would have ever got around to it. The do it yourself approach has the advantage of allowing you to study the material carefully and put it into useful order.

Dragon Naturally Speaking cost about \$120 and OmniPage Ultimate 18 cost \$150, both with a discount.

*Paul Munro*

## PNG IN THE NEWS

### PNG Visas for Australians

Sir Peter Barter, Chair of the Madang Visitors and Cultural Bureau, took up the issue of PNG Visas for Australians with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Rimbik Pato, at the opening of the Cairns Consulate. The Minister said the issue was being discussed and he hoped it would be resolved by December.

Although the fee has been dropped, Sir Peter suggested that the two week delay in obtaining a tourist visa from PNG offices in Australia is still a deterrent to tourists. It would be discriminatory to issue visas on arrival to passengers on direct Cairns - Rabaul flights and cruise ship passengers but not to other Australian tourists.

Sir Peter intends to make further representation to the Government to have Australians issued with visas on arrival in Port Moresby as they are for people from most other countries.

### PNG defines marriage age

The revised Lukautim Pikinini Act will enforce the legal marriage age of 18 years in PNG. It will be illegal for people under 18 to marry under the new law.

Constitutional Law Reform Commission Secretary Eric Kwa outlined the marriage age and other measures to protect children's rights in the new Lukautim Pikinini Act during the 2015 PNG Women's Forum in Port Moresby.

He said that it's the first time the Government has developed a child protection policy, which would guide the implementation of the Lukautim Pikinini Act.

Three laws: Lukautim Pikinini Act 2009, Deserted Wife and Children's Act and the Infant's Act have been merged and amalgamated as a single legislation.

*Radio New Zealand,  
14 March 2015*

### Melanesian Airlines Agreement

The Melanesian airlines of PNG, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu have signed a partnership agreement which is now in force.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding the three airlines will share promotion and sales and introduce a codeshare arrangement on a PNG to Vanuatu route, via Solomon Islands.

Solomon Airlines commercial services manager Gus Kraus told Koro Hawkins that the partnership is just the beginning and hopefully will expand to include other Melanesian carriers in Fiji and New Caledonia in the future. He said that it links PNG and Vanuatu, making it easier to travel between these countries and further afield.

## DIY Surfboards

Surfers in PNG are learning the traditional Hawaiian techniques of timber surfboard building from renowned Australian surfboard shapers Tom Wegener and Bryan Bates. Members of the Tupira Surf Club in Madang Province were taught to build boards like those ridden in pre-20th century Hawaii (Alaia style).

'It's a bit of work, a lot of man power and a lot of sweat', said PNG Surfing Association president Andrew Abel. The boards are made from locally-sourced balsa wood and carved using a combination of hand tools, axes and machetes.

The thin boards feature round noses, square tails and often do not have fins. 'They're very difficult to ride but a lot of the lightweight kids had no trouble whatsoever in hopping onboard and ripping those waves up in Tipura', Mr Abel said.

Mr Abel hopes the surfboard shaping training will be the catalyst for a new era in PNG surfing.

*Sam Bolitho*

From ABC Online News:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-04-15/papua-new-guinea-surfers-learn-how-to-craft-diy-boards/6393942>



**A Tupira Surf Club member uses a bush knife to shape his new surfboard.**

*Photo: Robert Weber*

## When Malcolm Fraser stopped military intervention in PNG

Malcolm Fraser, Australia's 22nd prime minister, died aged 84.

One little known story about Fraser's time as Defence Minister under Liberal Prime Minister John Gorton was that he averted Australian military intervention in Papua New Guinea during the Mataungan uprising of 1970.

Gorton wanted to send Australian troops to the Gazelle Peninsula to restore order. He intended to do this without involving Cabinet by getting the Governor-General to sign an Order In Council to authorise it.

When word got to Fraser he was outraged as he had clear principles about the circumstances in which the military should be used and he did not believe that, in this case, it was appropriate.

Without Gorton's knowledge, Fraser warned the Governor-General not to consider making such an order as it was unconstitutional and promptly resigned, triggering the eventual downfall of Gorton who from that time on refused to speak to Fraser. Later Fraser recalled the incident in Robin Hughes' extensive interview with Malcolm Fraser for Film Australia, Australian Biography Online.

*Peter Kranz*

[http://asopa.typepad.com/asopa\\_people/2015/03/the-time-malcolm-fraser-stopped-military-intervention-in-png.html#more](http://asopa.typepad.com/asopa_people/2015/03/the-time-malcolm-fraser-stopped-military-intervention-in-png.html#more)

# ▶ WHAT'S ON?

29 May

## Painter in Paradise: William Dobell in New Guinea Exhibition

SH Ervin Gallery, 2 Watson Road,  
Millers Point, Sydney, Australia

29 May to 12 July 2015

In 2015, the year of Papua New Guinea's 40th anniversary of independence, the SH Ervin Gallery is presenting a major exhibition focusing on the little-known work produced by William Dobell following his journeys to the Territory of PNG in 1949 and 1950.

6-7 June

## Madang Festival

The Madang Festival will be held on 6 - 7 June (the Queen's Birthday weekend) in Madang. It is held annually on the Queen's Birthday Weekend.

28 June

## Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Group

73rd Annual Commemoration  
Service and Luncheon –  
Canberra

We have decided to keep the service and luncheon on the same day. It is always a special service and the stories and camaraderie that flow with the luncheon make it a memorable occasion. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Date:** 11am Sunday 28 June 2015

**Where:** The Australian War Memorial, Canberra, ACT

We will then meet for a banquet style lunch at: Thai Chiang Rai Restaurant, 48 Giles Street, Kingston, ACT

**Cost:** \$28 per person (drinks at own expense)

**RSVP by 19 June by email:** admin@memorial.org.au or phone Rebecca Mills: 0427 111 377

**Payment to PNGAA:** CBA, BSB 062 009 Account No: 0090 7724 with email to membership@pngaa.net quoting your name and membership number, or via Treasurer's Corner

## Brisbane Memorial Service

The NGVR and PNGVR Association hold an annual public Montevideo Maru Memorial Service at the Brisbane Cenotaph at 10am on July 1.

Please contact Phil Ainsworth on 0418 730 348 or email: p.ainsworth@kingco.com.au if you are interested in attending.

## KIAP: Stories Behind the Medal

On 14 June 2015 the PNGAA will host a belated launch and an opportunity to view this DVD on a large cinema screen. Following the screening guests will have the opportunity to participate in a Q&A by former Kiaps. Everyone is invited - please ask your friends to come along but make sure you respond quickly to ensure your place!

Chris Viner-Smith spent 10 long years campaigning for some recognition for the unique work of the Kiaps in Papua New Guinea. The film was initiated when PNGAA member Greg Harris and the PNGAA President and committee members recognised the need to have this historic Kiap medal presentation recorded.

Without this recognition, the story of the Kiaps would not have survived. The PNGAA was delighted to join with Gum Leaves Productions in ensuring that their story was told. To view go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8C52NIcXD6I>

14 June

## CINEMA SCREENING followed by Q&A 14 June 2015 RSVP: NOW!

**What:** KIAP: Stories Behind the Medal

**When:** 1 – 5pm, Sunday 14 June 2015

**Where:** Roxy Theatre, Screen Australia, 101 Eton Road, Lindfield, NSW

**Cost:** \$25 per person – includes film and light refreshments

**RSVP:** 5 June 2015

**email:** membership@pngaa.net or phone the Secretary

**Payment to PNGAA:** CBA, BSB 062 009 Account No: 0090 7724 with email to membership@pngaa.net quoting your name and membership number, or via Treasurer's Corner

22 Aug

## Kokopo Festivals

The National Cultural Commission and East New Britain Provincial Administration present:



### Warwagira Festival

15-19 July

### Mask Festival

9-14 July

## Built on Culture: the Art of Papua New Guinea

Celebrating 40 years of PNG Independence at the National Museum and Art Gallery, Port Moresby, PNG. Opening September 2015

### DWU Cultural Show

The Divine Word University (DWU) Cultural Show in Madang on 22 August 2015. Entrance K10.

This annual event is considered by some to be the best cultural show in PNG.

12-27 Sept

## PNGAA 2015 Art Exhibition

Celebrating Papua New Guinea's 40th Anniversary of Independence with an art exhibition, showcasing both historical pieces and contemporary artworks.

The PNGAA is calling for artists to explore their creativity. This dynamic exhibition will also feature a diverse collection of historical and cultural pieces to view.

**When:** Official Opening:

Saturday 12th September to Sunday 27th September

**Where:** Space 145, 145 St Johns Road, Glebe, NSW

**Contact:** Julianne Ross Allcorn: 0466 521 313

**Email:** juliallcorn@gmail.com

**Entry Fee:** \$20 PNGAA member \$25 PNGAA Non member

**Note:** At present this is not a competition and there are no prizes. All work is submitted at the artist's expense. The PNGAA will not pay for transport. 25% commission on all sales goes to the PNGAA to support a chosen project. For further details please see the PNGAA website, [www.pngaa.net](http://www.pngaa.net) or the PNGAA Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PNGAA/>

*All entries to be finalized by 7 August 2015.*

25 Oct

## Ballina Gathering

Join PNGAA members and friends for lunch in the Spinnakers Room (on the waterfront) at the Ballina RSL Club.

**When:** From 11.30 to 3pm on Sunday 25 October 2015

**Cost:** The cost for the buffet lunch is \$45 (pay for your own drinks)

**Contact:** Charles Betteridge for enquiries

**RSVP:** To Charles Betteridge by 25 August 2015

Charles Betteridge, Phone: 02 66282064, Email: [charlesbetteridge@hotmail.com](mailto:charlesbetteridge@hotmail.com)

For payment details please see Treasurer's Corner.

# BOOK NEWS & REVIEWS

## Peter Ryan, *Fear Drive My Feet*

Published in 2015 as a Text Classic with an introduction by Peter Pierce, by Text Publishing.

ISBN: 9781925240054, Paperback, 336 pages. Available from Text Publishing: [www.textpublishing.com.au](http://www.textpublishing.com.au) at \$12.95. Also available as an ebook.

*Fear Drive My Feet* is Peter Ryan's enduring account of his time patrolling isolated regions of New Guinea during WWII. Far from his fellow Australians and with Japanese forces closing in around him, the 18 year old Ryan endured the hardships of the jungle, overcoming loneliness, fatigue and fear with quiet courage. He finds beauty in the rugged mountain landscapes of New Guinea, and admires the charm and resourcefulness of its people.

Rarely out of print in the past four decades, *Fear Drive My Feet* is a classic memoir of the war in the Pacific, a major work of Australian war literature. For the work he describes in this book, Peter Ryan was awarded the Military Medal and was mentioned in dispatches.

## A Game to be Played: The Great War and Australian Football in Sydney

by Ian Blackley and Lesley Bryden

Published in 2015 by NSW Australian Football History Society.

ISBN: 978-0-646-93293-4, Soft cover, 99 pages with black and white photos.

Available from the NSW Australian Football History Society: [www.nswfootballhistory.com.au](http://www.nswfootballhistory.com.au) or email: [history@afnswact.com.au](mailto:history@afnswact.com.au) Cost \$25 plus \$3.50 postage in Australia.

*A Game to be Played: The Great War and Australian Football in Sydney* was launched by Ian Blackley and Lesley Bryden, the son and daughter of Freddie McGargill, a WW1 digger who played Australian Rules in Sydney before and after the war.

The authors identified 198 players who played Australian Rules in Sydney and served in the Great War. Ralph Robertson, Teddy McFadden and Tom Watson served in the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force that went to New Guinea at the beginning of WW1 and John Messenger died on the AE1 in September 1914.

*Patrick Bourke*

## Graeme Lindsay, *When Anzac Day Comes Around (100 Years From Gallipoli Poetry Project)*

Published by Forty South Publishing Pty Ltd. Hobart. Tasmania.

ISBN: 978-0-9942527-0-8, Soft cover, 277 pages, colour photos at \$40 plus \$15 for postage and handling in Australia. Go to [www.ozzywriters.com](http://www.ozzywriters.com) for an order form.

This book presents the poems of more than 200 Australian and New Zealand poets, selected by Graeme Lindsay to stimulate readers to consider the differing ideas about each nations' commemoration of military conflicts and the emotions that arise from such events. The poetry is accompanied by more than 120 photographs of war memorials from across Australia and New Zealand.

My poem, Drowning In the Sunshine, about the sinking of the Montevideo Maru in 1942 is included.

*Patrick Bourke*

## Dr. Peter Munster, OAM: *A History of Contact and Change in the Goroka Valley, Central Highlands of New Guinea, 1934-1949*

Published by Deakin University Library, available online from Deakin University Library internet service, may be a charge for non Deakin members.

This is my PhD thesis on the history of the Goroka Valley. It has been published online and I think it is available for our readers. There may be a charge if you are not a Deakin member.

It includes the story of the first Europeans in the Highlands, the Lutheran missionaries (1929) and Mick Leahy and Mick Dwyer (1930). I also attempt to briefly outline of the history of the Goroka Valley people prior to European contact. Many people have asked me for a copy of the thesis and now it is available through Deakin's internet service.

*Dr. Peter Munster, OAM*

## Barry Taverner, *Scenery and Seismic in Papua New Guinea*

Published in 2014 by Barry Taverner, printed in Singapore by Paradigm Print Media. ISBN: 9780994150103, Hardcover with dust jacket, 133 pages, landscape format. Available from William Adrian McGrath. Weight 900 grams, cost \$49 plus postage.

A collection of photographs, with a little text, taken over almost 20 years. It includes colour photographs of highland and coastal areas, the people of PNG and recent and current seismic field operations.

### Peter Thompson and Robert Macklin, *Operation Rimau*

Published in 2015 by Hachette Australia  
ISBN: 9780733633478, Paperback, 352 pages. Available at Berkelouw Books, Cronulla for \$29.99.

Previously published as *Kill the Tiger*, new material has been added to this edition of *Operation Rimau*. Australia's heroic and daring commando raid on Singapore.

In the last months of 1944, a group of elite Australian and British commandos was selected for the biggest Allied behind-the-scenes operation of the Pacific War. Their mission: to devastate the enemy's shipping by destroying the Japanese ships at anchor in Singapore Harbour.

*Operation Rimau*, Britain's last throw of the colonial dice in South-East Asia, was intended as a body blow to the Japanese and a signal to the world that she would reclaim her Eastern Empire. Britain was trying to reclaim past glory - while Australia's wartime prime minister, John Curtin, had turned to America. In this atmosphere, *Operation Rimau* was planned ... *Operation Rimau* takes us inside the fierce conflict, and tells what really happened to these brave commandos - from the very beginnings of the operation through to their intense and courageous fighting in the South China Seas, and its aftermath. It exposes the sloppy planning behind the raid, and names the officers who betrayed and abandoned them in their hour of need, and details the political double-dealing which for so many years hid the real story behind red tape and bureaucratic lies. For more information about Bob Page and the Gallipoli Veterans on *Montevideo Maru* refer to the PNGAA website.

### Br Barry Louisson, *Moments of Truth*

Distributed by Christian Brothers, Vunakanau, ENBP, soft cover, 250 pages.

Available from Br Barry Louisson [barry.vuvu@gmail.com](mailto:barry.vuvu@gmail.com) until 3 July 2015. Cost \$10 plus postage \$23 - PNG to Australia.

From 6 July 2015 available in Australia from Les Louisson, [leslouisson@gmail.com](mailto:leslouisson@gmail.com) Cost \$10 plus postage within Australia.

In the early 1950s Br Barry Louisson, originally from New Zealand, travelled to Rabaul in the Territory of Papua and New Guinea. His mission work started at St Mary's Central School, Vuvu and in 1955 he was posted to Bundralis on the north coast of Manus. In 1962 he returned to St Mary's Junior High School, Vuvu as Headmaster.

Br Barry believed in process and preparation, not just the imposition of ideas. He admired those dedicated to the teaching of children and was a key contributor to the Foot Enquiry which recommended the introduction of a national teaching service.

He now lives in the Brothers' House at Vunakanau where he spends much of his time as an official translator of work for Personality and Human Relations PNG.

Br Barry is not just big physically, he continues to be a magnificent champion for education in Papua New Guinea ... little wonder that in just three months 700 copies of his book have been purchased.

For further details please refer to the PNGAA website or, If you do not have access to a computer and would like a hard copy, contact the Secretary, PNGAA.

*John Kleinig*

### Dianne McInnes, *Pictorial History of Papua New Guinea*

Published by Pictorial Press Australia, ISBN: 978-1-876561-07-09 (Set), Two volume boxed set - Vol 1 - Pre 1975 and Vol 2 - Post 1975. Cost \$120-00 per set, postage included Aust only. Thousands of words and more than 500 images. Available from Pictorial Press Australia, PO Box 388 Corinda QLD 4075, Phone 07 37160104, Fax 07371601105, Email [robert@pictorialpress.com.au](mailto:robert@pictorialpress.com.au)

#### Drowning In the Sunshine

On this sunny autumn day  
We are many miles away  
Lost in time  
Drowning in the sunshine.

It's another world  
For me and you  
The Second World War  
The dark days of 1942.

Our men waited in Australia's  
Garden of Eden  
In the land of plantations they did dwell  
Yet things would soon change  
And they would be in a living hell.

For in a blink of an eye  
They were overwhelmed  
And most became prisoners  
To an unforgiving foe.

And so  
Most were shipped out  
Slaves to the core  
Slaves to work in mines  
Until the end of the war.

Alas  
The ship with the South American name  
Never made it to the distant shore  
And our brave men went  
Down to the bottom of the sea  
The casualties of war.

Bodies lie in the plantations  
Bodies lie at the bottom of the sea  
Countless lives were shattered  
But a nation will always remember them  
For they fought for what really mattered.

On this sunny autumn day  
We are many miles away  
Lost in time  
Drowning in the sunshine.

*Patrick Bourke*

# Invitations / Reunions

## Invitation to a Kiap Reunion Sunday, 8 November, 2015 Kawana Waters Hotel, Nicklin Way, Buddina, Sunshine Coast, Queensland

An invitation to a Reunion is extended to all Kiaps, their families and friends. It is at the same venue as the last few years.

The Hotel is near Kawana Waters Shopping Centre, on the main road between Mooloolaba and Caloundra. There is a large parking area.

The venue looks out over the water to a marina. It has a covered outdoor deck linked to an indoor bar/lounge with adequate dining and seating facilities.

There is a good restaurant/bistro adjoining our area where you can order meals and sit with whom you choose. The restaurant is open from 11.30 am to 8.30 pm. Please let us know if intend to attend as we need to provide approximate numbers 16 October 2015.

Drinks are available at bar prices from the Lounge Bar and Public Bars open from 11.00 am to 10.00 pm.

Informality will continue to be the order of the day: definitely no speeches, everyone is far too busy catching up with friends.

Sixteen hotel rooms have been booked at the Kawana Waters Hotel for the 7 and 8 November 2015. Phone the hotel on 07 54446699 and mention the Kiap Reunion group. First in, etc, the rooms were in demand at previous reunions.

### Accommodation may also be available at:

Kyamba Court Motel, 94 Brisbane Road, Mooloolaba .....	07 54440202
Mooloolaba Motel, 46 Brisbane Road, Mooloolaba .....	07 54442988
Mantra Sirocco, 59-75 The Esplanade, Mooloolaba.....	07 54576000
Raffles Mooloolaba, 65 First Ave., Mooloolaba.....	07 54440077
River Esplanade Motel, 98 River Esplanade, Mooloolaba .....	07 54443855
Twin Pines Motel, 36 Brisbane Road, Mooloolaba.....	07 54442522
Seaview Resort, 143 The Esplanade, Mooloolaba .....	07 54443400

Some of these provide special deals for us.

Breakfast on the Monday morning will be at Bellissimo's Restaurant on the Esplanade at Mooloolaba, overlooking the beach.

Please tell all the Kiaps you know as we could miss some. Really looking forward to seeing you all again.

There will be a gold coin entrance fee to cover costs of mail, etc.

Please contact Denys/Helen or Bob/Heather to confirm you attendance. Apologies will also be noted and recorded.

### Denys/Helen Faithful

Home 07 54444484  
denysfaithful@hotmail.com  
46 Tawarri Crescent  
Mooloolaba Qld 4557

### Bob/Heather Fayle

Home 07 54447446  
rjfayle31@gmail.com  
31 Moondarra Crescent  
Mooloolaba Qld 4557

# Pacific Islands Regiment and PNG Command 75th Anniversary Reunion

**20 June 2015,  
Gold Coast, QLD**

All Pacific Island Regiment and Papua New Guinea Command ex-Servicemen and their families and friends are invited to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the formation of the Pacific Island Regiment at Murray Barracks.

There will be activities all day on Saturday from 11 am and on Saturday night at Surfers Paradise.

For details visit [www.nashospng.com](http://www.nashospng.com) and follow the PIR Reunion 2015 link.

For enquiries contact Kev by email: [lindyhorton@hotmail.com](mailto:lindyhorton@hotmail.com)

or

Greg 07 5476 6971 (Home).

## Notice to Members regarding PNGAA Collection, Fryer Library

The Committee is currently investigating options to the current arrangement whereby photos and other documents from Members of the PNGAA have been donated to the Fryer Library at Queensland University. Dr Peter Cahill's collation of this collection is a significant resource and we are hoping to develop an arrangement whereby the Members will be able to view many of the photos and documents via the Internet. We will keep you informed of the progress of this project.

All listings of donations to the PNGAA Collection, Fryer Library, will be progressively updated on our PNGAA website at: <http://pngaa.net/Fryer/Jun2015.htm>

If you do not have access to a computer and would like a hard copy please contact the Secretary, PNGAA.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

<b>Dr Kirstie BARRY</b>	47 Johnson Street, PASCOE VALE SOUTH	VIC	3044
<b>Dr John William Copland</b>	57 Golden Grove, Red Hill, CANBERRA	ACT	2603
<b>Mr John Ross EGERTON</b>	PO Box 521, DRUMMOYNE	NSW	1470
<b>Mr Warwick EMANUEL</b>	PO Box 244, MT GRAVATT	QLD	4122
<b>Mr Denis James FISK</b>	342 Main Road, CAMBERAWARA	NSW	2540
<b>Mr Humphrey Walter GILL</b>	57 Gellibrand Street, Campbell, CANBERRA	ACT	2612
<b>Major Bernard Hayes</b>	ADS, AHC-PNG, Locked Bag 40, KINGSTON	ACT	2604
<b>Mr Kerry HENRY</b>	PO Box 7018, McMAHONS POINT	NSW	2060
<b>Mr Richard Campbell Hunter</b>	24 Weatherall Road, BEAUMARIS	VIC	3193
<b>Mr. Peter INGRAM</b>	7 Tashey Court, BUNDALL	QLD	4217
<b>Mrs Heather JANSSEN (nee Butler)</b>	Unit 1, 8 Salvado Street, COTTESLOE	WA	6011
<b>Mr Mark LAURIE</b>	68 Repton Road, SOMERTON PARK	SA	5044
<b>Brother Barry LOUISSON</b>	PO Box 2510, RABAUL	PNG	
<b>Mr Michael LOWE</b>	22 Galway Gardens, WARNBRO	WA	6169
<b>Mr Wally MOSER</b>	PO Box 13, DEEPWATER	NSW	2371
<b>Mr Mark STUBBS</b>	PO BOX 245, JABIRU	NT	0886

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

<b>Mr John BLYTH</b>	269C South Boambee Road, BOAMBEE	NSW	2450
<b>Mr Ken CONNOLLY</b>	Apt 7918 - De Paul Manor Estate, 1 Edmund Rice Drive ASHMORE	QLD	4214
<b>Ms Marg CURTIS</b>	Box 2088, Wattleree Road PO MALVERN EAST	VIC	3145
<b>Mrs June LF HARRIDGE</b>	Apartment 111/112, Arcare Endeavour, 65 Endeavour Boulevard NORTH LAKES	QLD	4509
<b>Mr Anthony HAZLEWOOD</b>	193/126 Cotterill Avenue, BONGAREE	QLD	4507
<b>Mrs Colleen LAMB DEN</b>	c/o Arcare St James - Suite 31, 404 E Lensuale Road HELENSVALE	QLD	4212
<b>Mrs Janet PALFREYMAN</b>	19 Dangar Street, ARMIDALE	NSW	2350
<b>Mr Andrew PRATT</b>	3/25 Duke Street, Kangaroo Point BRISBANE	QLD	4169
<b>Mr Ralph SAWYER</b>	1 Orlander Avenue, GLENMORE	NSW	2745
<b>Ms Anne STEPHENSON</b>	PO Box 3769, MARSFIELD	NSW	2122
<b>Mr Philip (Hooky) STREET</b>	PO Box 61, EDGECLIFF	NSW	2027
<b>Mr Ray THOMAS</b>	Unit 168, 29 Wells Road CHELSEA HEIGHTS	VIC	3196
<b>Ms Dorothy TRIGG</b>	Unit 1, 69 Tiral Street CHARLESTOWN	NSW	2290
<b>Mr Harry WEST</b>	C/O John O'Dea, 16 Prices Circuit WORONORA	NSW	2232

# Mick Jagger visits PNG

Sir Mick Jagger (Rolling Stones) took a cruise through the Trobriand Island aboard the Kalibobo Spirit with Sir Peter Barter in late November 2014. He was impressed with his visit and said he would like to return with some of his children.



*Mick Jagger with a group of kids at Kitava*  
Photo courtesy of Post Courier



*Mick Jagger on Kiriwina*

Photo courtesy of Post Courier



## Donations to the Fryer Library PNGAA Collection

The PNGAA is grateful to the following members and friends for their donations to the PNGAA Collection at the Fryer Library, University of Queensland. It is their fastest growing collection, supported by the tireless work of Dr Peter Cahill whose passion ensures that this valuable history is kept and recorded.

Donations to the Fryer Library, June 2015, were made by:

- Roy and Daera Andrews
- W.A. McGrath, Pacific Book House, Broadbeach
- Mary Jenkins
- Peter Stone
- Don Matheson
- Peter Cahill
- Ron Sterland
- Maxwell R. Hayes
- Brian Johnstone
- Charles Betteridge
- Wendy Cousins

Each issue of Una Voce will highlight various pieces from the collection.

These photos were taken by Ron Sterland who was a teacher in various districts of PNG. Many more of his photos are located in the collection.

A list of contributions can be found on the PNGAA website at: <http://pngaa.net/Fryer/Jun2015.htm>

If you do not have access to a computer and would like a hard copy please contact the Secretary, PNGAA.

Over time, a complete historical listing of donations to the PNGAA Collection will be available on the PNGAA website for reference. To access the material contact Fryer Library, University of Queensland.

# Help Wanted

## Julius Forsstrom

Julius Forsstrom (born in Finland) was a very well-known copper miner in the Snowy Mountains, NSW in the early 1900s and built a huge pipe (clay) hotel in a Shangri-La type valley there called Ravine or Lobbs Hollow.

Australian and family records indicate he died at Wau or Bulolo on 31 May 1931 (aged 65) possible after being speared. Does anyone know where records may be held which may have details on his death?

I need this for a forthcoming article and also family members who I am in touch with.

### Bob Piper

Canberra,  
Phone: 02 6254 8376, mars55@tpg.com.au

## Army Education in PNG

I have a Commonwealth Army History Research Grant to write an account of the work of conscripted members of the Royal Australian Army Educational Corps in TPNG from 1966 to 1972. I believe this scheme was part of the Australian Government's plan to prepare TPNG for self-government and independence.

I would be pleased to hear from anyone who might be able to point me in the direction of people who may know more about this aspect or even suggest potentially useful publications. Please contact me at:  
d.dymock@griffith.edu.au

### Darryl Dymock

## Percival Murray Penhalluriack collection

Does anyone know where the Percival Murray Penhalluriack collection is? I've heard he had a large archive of documents and photographs relating to his time as a Patrol Officer in New Guinea. If you know or have heard of him or his collection please contact Kylie Moloney: kylie.moloney@anu.edu.au

### Kylie Moloney

Executive Officer, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau  
School of Culture, History and Language  
College of Asia & the Pacific

## Catalina Estate, Sogeri

After World War II a magnificent twin engine PBV Catalina flying boat was parked on a plantation beside the road to Sirinumu Dam. The plantation became known as Catalina Estate.

How the aircraft got there, who flew it, the date of its arrival have intrigued people for years. I remember seeing it in the 1960s but am told that nothing of it remains.

Does anyone know more, or better still, have a photo which we could copy and credit to share with others.

### Bob Piper

Canberra,  
Phone: 02 6254 8376, mars55@tpg.com.au

## Seeking Richard John Murphy

PNGAA has had a request from an old friend of Richard John Murphy seeking news of his whereabouts. For at least four years from 1966, Richard worked as an Agricultural Extension Officer in the Western Highlands, helping establish pyrethrum crops as well as working with tea and coffee production. One of his superiors was the late Mick Belfield. Richard was from Victoria and a graduate of Longerenong Agricultural College.

If you can help, please contact  
**Murrough Benson** on  
(02) 94115560 or 0448 216 049 or  
email bensonmj@bigpond.com

# MEMORIAL NEWS

## **RABAUL and MONTEVIDEO MARU GROUP** 73rd ANNUAL COMMEMORATION SERVICE AND LUNCHEON – CANBERRA

This year we have decided to keep the service and luncheon on one day. It is always a special service and the stories and camaraderie that flow with the luncheon make it a memorable occasion.

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

**Date:** Sunday 28 June, 11am

**Where:** The Australian War Memorial, Canberra ACT

Following that attendees will meet at the following restaurant at Kingston for a banquet style lunch:

**Where:** Thai Chiang Rai Restaurant, 48 Giles Street, Kingdom ACT 2604

**Cost:** \$28 per person (drinks at own expense)

**RSVP:** ASAP or by 19 June Email: [admin@memorial.org.au](mailto:admin@memorial.org.au)  
or phone Rebecca Mills M: 0427 111 377

### **Payment to PNGAA:**

CBA, BSB 062 009 Account No: 0090 7724 with email to [membership@pngaa.net](mailto:membership@pngaa.net) quoting your name and membership number, or via Treasurer's Corner

## When Anzac Day comes around by Graeme Lindsay ISBN: 9780994252708

Soft cover Large format 24 x 21 cm 277 pages colour throughout 100 Years from Gallipoli Poetry Published April 2015 Project Deloraine Tasmania [www.ozzywriters.com](http://www.ozzywriters.com)  
Email: [gallipoli-100@ozzywriters.com](mailto:gallipoli-100@ozzywriters.com)

\$AUS 40.00 per copy PLUS P&H - Australia: \$AUS15 for first book plus \$AUS10 for each additional book. Contact: Graeme Lindsay P O Box 170 Deloraine Tas 7304 Australia

<http://www.ozzywriters.com/images/stories/members/100Years/downloads/OrderForm.pdf>

This book presents answers to two questions that Graeme Lindsay posed to Australian and New Zealand poets as part of his 100 Years from Gallipoli Poetry Project:

– What does Anzac Day mean to you, to today's families, communities or nations?

Patrick Bourke's poem, Drowning In The Sunshine, is included in this book. This poem is about the sinking of the Montevideo Maru in 1942 and what happened in the New Guinea Islands during WWII. History teachers can use this poem in their teaching of the history of the War in the Pacific.

Patrick recently visited his old school, Dubbo College, and discussed the book and the story of the New Guinea islands with senior students.

### **The NGVR and PNGVR Association hold an annual public Montevideo Maru Memorial**

**Service** at the Brisbane Cenotaph at 10.00 am on July 1. Please contact Phil Ainsworth on Mobile: 0418 730 348 or Email: [p.ainsworth@kingco.com.au](mailto:p.ainsworth@kingco.com.au) if you are interested in attending.

### **Curriculum**

Work done by members of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group have highlighted the drastic cutback in time allocated in the new Australia syllabus for the study of the Pacific War (WWII). Despite record attendances at Anzac Day this year, and the 70th anniversary of the end of the war in the Pacific, it is tragic that our curriculum is placing less importance on this vital and defining period in our nation's history.

The History Teachers' Association of Victoria (HTAV) also knocked back the offer of a speaker from the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group at their Annual Conference 2015. Amazing...when the majority of men from the 2/22nd Battalion, many of whom drowned on the Montevideo Maru which was Australia's greatest maritime tragedy, came from Victoria!

### **46 Australian WW1 Servicemen on Montevideo Maru**

At least 46 Australian WWI servicemen are listed as dying as Australian civilians on the Montevideo Maru on 1st July 1942. The service records of these WWI Australian servicemen can be viewed on the Discovering Anzacs website at <http://discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au>. You can register to make contributions to this site by hovering your mouse over the words My Profile.

At least one of these former WWI veterans, Harold Page, served at Gallipoli, where he was awarded a military decoration. Harold Page was awarded the Croix de Guerre, the French military decoration, for his actions at The Apex (near Lone Pine), Gallipoli, on 29th October 1915. The citation reads: "For daring reconnaissance of enemy's trenches during which he shot one Turk with his revolver while Serg. Bracher who accompanied him shot another Turk in the act of lighting a bomb. Having secured a supply of bombs the officer and NCO proceeded to bomb the enemy's trench, and eventually returned with valuable information. This officer has repeatedly distinguished himself by his gallant conduct in dangerous patrol work. (Source: official recommendation on AWM's Honours and Awards website).

# Your Club Your Stories Your History

by Gail Thwaites

Inaugural Olney Family Best on Ground Medal was arranged by Gayle Thwaites with the Warburton Football Club for the recent 2015 Anzac Day match. Gayle's great uncles, Neil and Jock Olney, played for many years before WWII for Warburton Football Club who will now make this an annual presentation.



Whilst at Bonegilla Training Camp, Neil joined the 2/22nd Football team and they got through to the AIF Grand Final played in Wodonga, which they lost against 11th Field Artillery. The battalion departed in April 1941 for Rabaul – New Britain. On the 23rd January 1942, the Japanese attacked Rabaul– the small Australian garrison was totally unprepared for the attack. The order was eventually given 'everyman for themselves'. Neil and a few of his company managed to escape capture. It took them over five months to get to Mt Hagen in New Guinea. They trekked over dangerous mountain ranges and crossed rivers and seas with little or no food plus they had to avoid being caught by the Japanese or hostile natives.

Originally, Jock was enlisted in the 2/2 Medical Regiment as Driver – but he was then transferred into the 2/22nd Battalion D Coy and sent with them to Rabaul – New Britain. When the Japanese attacked on the 23rd January 1942, Jock was captured at the airfield. On the 22nd June 1942 the Japanese decided to move the POW's and they were boarded onto an unmarked 'Hell Ship' the MS Montevideo Maru. On the 1st July 1942, just before dawn near the northern Philippine coast, an American submarine, the USS Sturgeon fired four torpedoes at the Montevideo Maru, which caused the vessel to sink.

Another uncle, Wally, played with Healesville Football Club before

enlisting in 1942 and departing for New Guinea in 1943. Wally was tragically killed in when the Jeep he was driving, plunged over a 450ft gorge, as the bridge he was on over the Wau-Edie Creek, collapsed.

Gayle says: 'It's nice to know that not all memorials need to be on a state level or national level, communities can do their own.'

Gayle Thwaites with the Healesville FC & Warburton FC Presidents and Gayle's Great Uncle Joe who's brother was Wally, and whose uncles are Neil and James. Joe got to the flip the coin – a very special moment. As a tribute to their family members, both Gayle and Joe the National Anthem and Last Post.



## Phoebe Parsons

– Don Hook's granddaughter, aged 15.

This watercolour is of a scene depicting life in the trenches on the Western Front and was painted to commemorate the centenary of the WW1.'

# Rothman's

What a great photo Maxwell Hayes sent in of two expat school girls handing out free cigarettes to locals in 1964 (Una Voce No.1, 2015).

Twenty years later Barbara and I sailed into Madang Harbour. We passed Sir Peter and Jan's 5 star Madang Resort Hotel, and went right down to the bottom where a group of other cruising yachts were anchored. Lofty Hansen operated a small ships' chandlery ashore. We all came to his Friday night barbecues which were a lot of fun. And on several of those nights a yacht would be boarded and items taken – mostly food. I remember the locals saying, 'It's not us – It's those thieving Sepiks.' No one was ever caught.

For us Madang was a tropical paradise and, by chance, I got a job working for the Madang Provincial Government, under Premier Max Moeder. On the day we arrived Barbara sent me shopping and an expat asked me to have a drink in the club. He was talking to a friend but heard me chatting to the waiter in fluent tok pisin. I explained that I had previously worked in Port Moresby as a lawyer. Lawyers who could talk to the locals were not common – hence I was offered a job.

I learnt that, under its former name Fredichswilhelmshahen, it had been the first capital of the German 19th century occupation and I saw the

gravestones of some of the German missionaries. I was told that when the death rate from malaria reached 10 percent per annum they packed up and went to Rabaul.

We had two wonderful years there but the time came for us to continue our cruising life. I smoked heavily at the time so I went to see the manager of the Rothman's factory and asked if I could get some duty free. Over a cup of tea he said that I could – if I did the paper work. So I completed five copies of a licence to export and obtained the elaborate seal and signature of the Collector of Customs.

I returned with the completed form. He called an employee in and asked him to put one shipping carton in Mr. Noble's boot. I asked how much and gave him my cheque and left.

When I got home and opened the boot I found that I had just purchased 10,000 sticks at the unbelievable price of 20 toea a packet. The Recommended Retail Price per packet was 1 Kina. Wow!

*Rod Noble*

## Gilmore Family Revisit the Historic Hotel Madang

The Hotel Madang is a part of history, going back to when it was a guest house during the German colonial days. At one time the Gilmore Family owned the hotel and it changed hands several times until acquired by the Barter Family in 1976. They have expanded and rebuilt the hotel, now known as the Madang Resort.

Members of the Gilmore clan revisited Madang for a week leading up to ANZAC Day. They were taken on a tour of the property by Sir Peter Barter which left them spellbound, trying to recognise the remains of the old Hotel Madang. The Madang Resort remains the oldest hotel in PNG and is one of the best loved hotels in the Pacific.



From left to right John (Butch) McEvoy, Jeremy McEvoy, Karen McEvoy, Sir Peter Barter, Alison Rayner, David McEvoy, Suzie McEvoy and Travis Aslett - all members of the Gilmore Clan

# Obituaries

## **Joachim (Joe) Josef Nitsche, 22 November 2013, aged 80**

Joe Nitsche was born in Teheran, Persia (Iran) on 17 February 1933. During World War II, his family, together with other German and Austrian families, was expelled and the men sent to Russia or Australia. Joe, with his mother and younger sister, returned to Germany. His father spent the war in an internment camp in Victoria, while Joe and his family lived in Angemunde, Germany. After the war, Joe's father stayed in Australia and in 1949 the family was reunited in Sydney.

Soon after they arrived in Sydney, his father, Hugo, went to work as an Agricultural Officer in PNG where Joe's mother, Flora, joined him after the children went to boarding school.

Joe attended St Gregory's College in Campbelltown, then studied Agriculture in Gatton, near Brisbane. In 1954 he went to PNG as an Agricultural Officer.

Joe lived in a number of places in PNG, including Kainantu, Kapagery and Goroka. He loved his life there, particularly in Goroka. His final job as National Coffee Co-ordinator involved travelling across the Highlands, quarantining plantations with diseases, training local people to grow coffee commercially, etc.

After Independence and a number of break-ins at his home in Goroka, Joe retired and returned to Australia in 1984, moving into his house in Killarney Heights.

In Australia, Joe became involved with the ROAPNG (now PNGAA) in 1984. He was Secretary From June 1987 to June 2001 he was the Secretary and remained on the committee until June 2009. He significantly increased the membership, spent much time folding, wrapping and posting Una Voce, and was involved in every function and most activities.

Joe died three months after being diagnosed with cancer which he'd thought he'd beaten six years earlier.

## **Melba (Mel) Esme Pike, 28 January 2014, aged 78**

Mel Pike passed away at Redcliffe, Brisbane. She was the widow of Senior Superintendent James Rennie Pike, RPNGC and is survived by three daughters and their families.

I best knew the Pikes when I was stationed at Lae in the early 1970s where Mel worked at ABCO Transport and later at NAMAU.

*Maxwell R. Hayes*

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## **Doreen Beadle, 6 April 2015**

Doreen, wife of Frank Beadle, passed peacefully away on Monday 6 April 2015. They had 71 years together.

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## **Joan Dowling, 21 April 2015, aged 94**

Joan Dowling passed away peacefully at her Kenmore home on Tuesday 21 April 2015.

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## **Melba (Mel) Esme Pike, 28 January 2014, aged 78**

Mel Pike passed away at Redcliffe, Brisbane. She was the widow of Senior Superintendent James Rennie Pike, RPNGC and is survived by three daughters and their families.

I best knew the Pikes when I was stationed at Lae in the early 1970s where Mel worked at ABCO Transport and later at NAMAU.

*Maxwell R. Hayes*

## Summarised Obituaries

Due to space constraints, the following obituaries have been summarised. For further details, please refer to the PNGAA website: [www.pngaa.net](http://www.pngaa.net) or, if you do not have access to a computer, please contact the Secretary, PNGAA for a hard copy.

### **Enid Ann Edgeworth Bartlett (nee Saunders), 1 February 2015, aged 82**

Ann was born in Kavieng, New Ireland in 1932. At the start of World War II, Ann, with her mother and brother, was evacuated to Australia. She lost her father during the Japanese invasion of Kavieng.

Ann taught PE at SCEGGS Redlands, Cremorne. She married John Bennett and they had three sons, Peter, Michael and Robert.

### **Margaret Jacquelyn Briggs, 29 November 2014, aged 87**

Margaret was the beloved wife of the late Donald Harrison Briggs. After their marriage they lived in Rabaul where they stayed for 47 years. Their children, Lorraine, Rain, Meredith, Gae and Brad were born in quick succession.

In the late 90s they moved to Brisbane where Don passed away in 2002.

### **Dennise Margaret Filan, 31 October 2014, aged 68**

Dennise was born on 4 April 1946. She trained as a nurse and a midwife. She met Mark Filan in Hagen and they married.

Den excelled in a variety of nursing roles in PNG and Australia.

She passed away on 31 October 2014. She will be known as an irreplaceable friend, wife, mother and grandmother, and will not be forgotten.

### **David A Fopp, 8 March 2014, aged 85**

David first went to PNG in 1966, working in Port Moresby. He had a remarkable theatrical career, both as an actor and director.

David was also an art collector and works from his collection are to be hung in the National Gallery in Canberra.

Originally from South Australia, he lived in Canberra.

*Ray Watson*

### **Dennis Gray, 14 February, 2015. Aged 71**

It was sad to hear of the passing of Dennis Gray. I never met him but we had several conversations, and I was the fortunate recipient of some remarkable film and photographs of his.

Dennis was an Ansett pilot and flew in PNG in the 1970s. He was a member of the remarkable Gray family: three generations of pilots flying in PNG.

Dennis was the son of Chas and Tess (both dec'd), husband of Margaret, father of Paula and Jeremy and friend to many.

A tribute to Dennis was published in the Post Courier.

*Robin Mead*

Dennis got in touch with me a few years ago. We had PNG in common and we both went to Stafford State School in Brisbane.

He wrote a book about growing up in the 50s. He was so funny. He wrote as he spoke, like an awful young boy. He was a lovely man and I liked him.

*Susan Hertrick*

### **Geoffrey Michael Peter Gray, 6 February 2015, aged 76**

Geoffrey was born in 1938 in London. He was part of the forced child migration depicted in the film *Oranges and Sunshine*.



Geoffrey taught in PNG before beginning the work in Industrial Relations which defined his life. He established an unfair dismissal practice and an Industrial Relations Hotline Service in Perth.

Geoffrey led a remarkable life which started with State and institutional brutality and finished with the debilitating effects of Parkinson's. His life was filled with loving friends from all over the world.

### **June Head, 23 December 2013, aged 77**

June was born in Melbourne in 1936. With her husband, Rob, she served from 1962 to 2008 in PNG, translating the New Testament and parts of the Old Testament, into four dialects of the Kaugel language group.

June and Rob had two children, Peter and Nola, and eight grandchildren.

As a dedicated member of the Wycliffe family, June will be dearly missed.



### **Reinhard Martin Kuhn, 12 March 2015, aged 74**

Reinhard was born in Leutental Germany. With his wife Elisabeth, he migrated to Australia in 1960, then moved to the Eastern Highlands District of PNG in 1966.

In 1968 they leased a coffee plantation, Abiera, near Kainantu. In 1974 they returned to Germany but eventually settled in Queensland, where they built a fabrication business in Mackay. In 2007 they moved to Koumala where they produced avocados and mandarins.

Reinhard died at Mater Private Hospital, Mackay after a long illness. He is survived by Elisabeth, his wife of 54 years and a son, Martin, and his family.

### **Geoffrey Francis McKenzie, 22 March 2015, aged 90**

Geoffrey was a well-known Rabaul and New Guinea identity.

After service in the RAN and the Royal Navy in WWII he returned to New Guinea and became involved in underwater salvage operations. He married Gwen Lazarus and they started Rabaul Stevedores. His interest in palletised and container shipping led to his invention of the ABILIFT for transporting containers on shore.

After selling Rabaul Stevedores and retiring to Australia in the 1980s he was invited to join the board of John Swire & Sons. In retirement he lived both in Sydney and overseas.

### **Norman Edward Mullins**

His motto was, God has been on my side.

Norman was born on 14 October 1922 in Coburg, Melbourne. As the eldest of eight children, he had a lot of responsibility from a very early age. At 18 he enlisted in the Army and was sent to New Guinea.

Norman and Therese were married in 1946 and went to live in PNG where their children Helen, Joan, Damian, Sue, Margaret, Judith and John were born.

In 1975 Norm retired to the Gold Coast. Norman was Chairman of the National Civic Council and instigator and Chairman of the Knights of the Southern Cross in Surfers Paradise.

### **Janet Rowe (nee Dallas), 13 February 2015, aged 79 years**

Janet was born in Wynyard, Tasmania. She trained as a nurse and continued her interest in nursing and disability services over the years. She married Barry Rowe and they celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary in December 2014.

Janet had three children, Tom, Sam and Jenny, and six grandchildren.

**Joseph Shaw,  
22 October 2014, aged 84**

Joseph Shaw's wife Margaret said: Living with Joe Shaw for 62 years was not always plain sailing, but it was never boring!

Joe was born in Melbourne. In 1961 He moved his family to PNG where his work as a clerk to the Public Trustee took him all over the country and he immersed himself and his family in PNG culture.

Joe coached David Palmer, a junior squash player, to become a World Champion.

In 1972, Joe returned to Australia and worked for Medibank.

**John Ronald Stuntz,  
21 February 2015, aged 86**

John passed away in Angeles City, Philippines.

He went to PNG in 1949 as a Cadet Patrol Officer and later bought a copra plantation. He was appointed to the Legislative Council and was the member for East Papua Regional Electorate in the first House of Assembly.

After the death of his wife, Wari, in 2007 John moved to Angeles City and married Tess Genambiang. He is survived by his wife and daughters Julia and Jana in the Philippines, another daughter, Beverley, and two adopted sons Kopi and Peter.

An obituary, together with photos, was published in the Sydney Morning Herald, 25-26 April, 2015.

**Florence Wilkinson, 8 August 2014,  
aged 95**

Florence's husband Ernest was with the PNG Health Department from 1930 until his retirement in 1962. Following their marriage, they lived in PNG from 1946 to 1972.

From 1955 they lived in Goroka where Florence was a welfare officer for the Eastern Highlands District. They also lived in Rabaul and Buka and after Ernest's retirement in 1962 they built the family home in West Goroka.

She is survived by her son John, daughter Anna, four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

*John Wilkinson*

**Vale Summary**

With deep regret we record the passing of the following members and friends.

**Enid Bartlett (nee Saunders)**  
1 February 2015, aged 82

**Doreen Beadle**  
6 April 2015

**Margaret Jacquelyn Briggs**  
29 November 2014, aged 87

**Joan Dowling**  
21 April 2015, aged 94

**Shirley Dunbar-Reid**  
2 April 2015, aged 79

**Dennise Margaret Filan**  
31 October 2014, aged 68

**David A Fopp**  
8 March 2014, aged 85

**Dennis Gray**  
14 February 2015, aged 71

**Geoffrey Michael Peter Gray**  
6 February 2015, aged 76

**June Head**  
23 December 2013, aged 77

**Reinhard Martin Kuhn**  
12 March 2015, aged 74

**Geoffrey Francis McKenzie**  
22 March 2015, aged 90

**Peter Muller**  
10 April 2015, aged 92

**Norman Edward Mullins**

**Joachim (Joe) Josef Nitsche**  
22 November 2013, aged 80

**Melba (Mel) Esme Pike**  
28 January 2014, aged 78

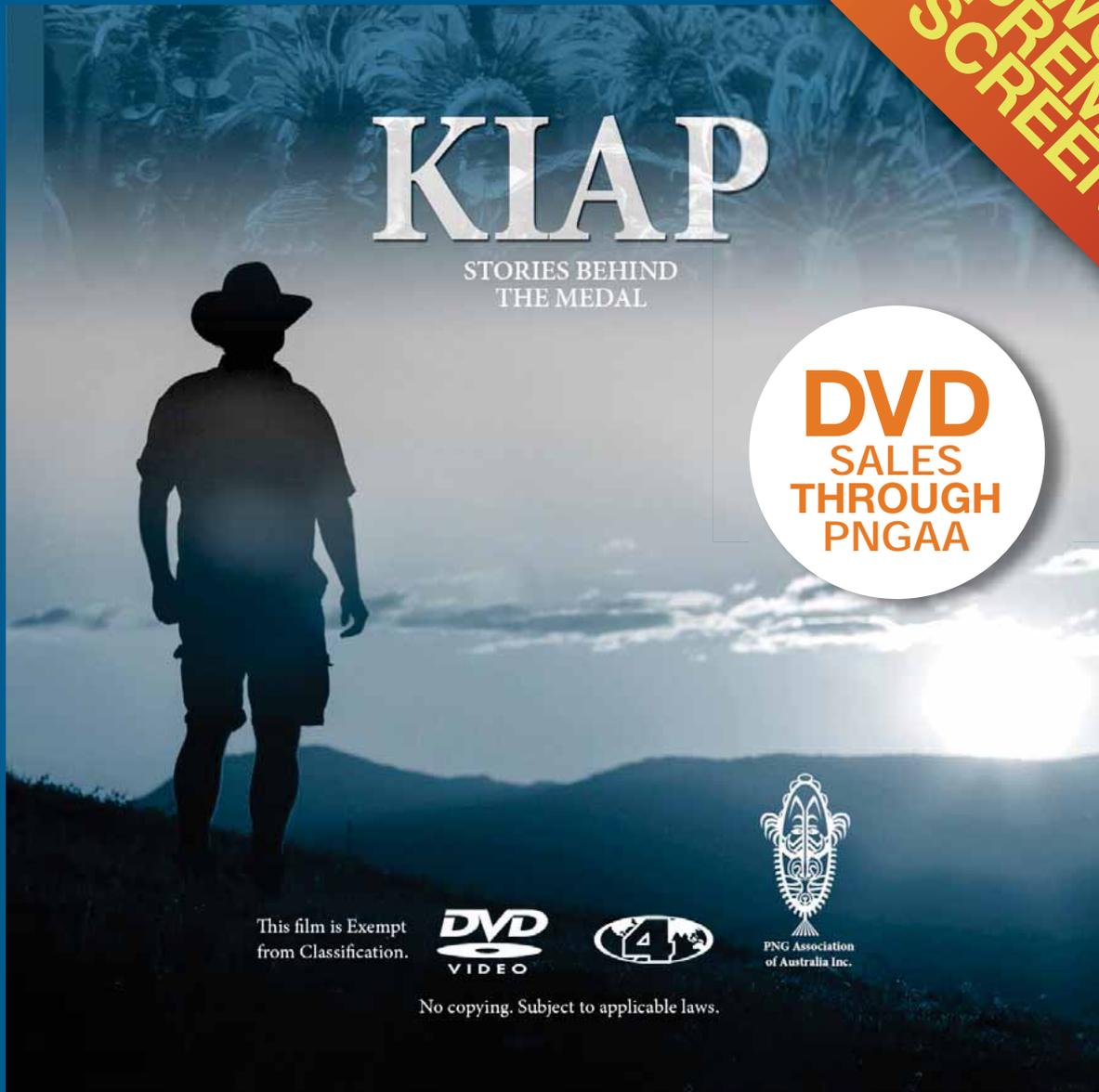
**Janet Rowe (nee Dallas)**  
13 February 2015, aged 79

**Joseph Shaw**  
22 October 2014, aged 84

**John Ronald Stuntz**  
21 February 2015, aged 86

**Florence Wilkinson**  
8 August 2014, aged 95

**WORLD  
PREMIERE  
SCREENING**



# **KIAP: Stories Behind the Medal**

## **CINEMA SCREENING followed by Q&A**

### **Sunday 14 June 2015**

**Time:** 1-5pm

**Where:** Roxy Theatre,  
Screen Australia, 101 Eton Road,  
Lindfield, (Sydney) NSW

**Cost:** \$25 per person  
– includes film and light refreshments

**RSVP:** Now – and by 5 June 2015 latest  
E: [membership@pngaa.net](mailto:membership@pngaa.net)  
M: 0409 031 889

**Payment to PNGAA:** CBA, BSB 062 009  
Account No: 0090 7724 with email to  
[membership@pnga.net](mailto:membership@pnga.net) quoting your  
name and membership number, or via  
the yellow Treasurer's Corner, in this issue.

***Bring your family and friends!***  
***ALL WELCOME!***

In this unique film, Kiaps tell their stories of living and working in Papua New Guinea.

There is also footage of the 2013 ceremony at Parliament House, Canberra, where Kiaps were awarded the Police Overseas Service Medal.

This outstanding DVD provides a powerful and poignant tribute to the world of the Kiaps. Shining through is the close relationship between the Kiaps and the Papua New Guinean Police whose loyalty they depended on.

Fascinating and entertaining Kiap: Stories Behind the Medal reflects on an era now long gone but which had such an extraordinary and lifelong impact on Australians living in Papua New Guinea prior to PNG Independence.

**KIAP: Stories  
Behind the Medal  
DVD – For Sale**

*Papua New Guinea  
Association of  
Australia and Gum  
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**Cost for DVD:**  
\$30 PNGAA members  
\$35 for Non Members

**How to order?**  
[www.pngaa.net](http://www.pngaa.net) or on  
enclosed Treasurer's  
Corner

A short excerpt is  
available here:  
[https://www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=8C52NlcXD6I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8C52NlcXD6I)