



Una Voce News Letter

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA
P.O. Box 199, MOSMAN, N.S.W. 2088 - Category B
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President: Bill Seale (02)418-3357; V/Pres. David Marsh (02)938-3501
Secretary: Harry West (02)498-2271; Treasurer: Gabriel Keleny (02)349-7613
P.O. Box 364 Maroubra NSW 2035
Editor News Letter: Fred Kaad (02)969-7217, 969 1888
Asst. Secretary: Pamela Foley (02)969-8271, 969 1888

No. 1, 1984 - March

Dear Member,

There is plenty of reading in this issue - amended list of Members, the Commissioner's Annual Report, news from P.N.G. and of course details of our forthcoming Annual General Meeting and Luncheon.

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Many thanks to all those who responded to our request for Ruth Graham's address. It appears that the other Bren Gunner aboard "Laurabada" on the Palmal trip was probably Whit Greenshield. Particularly interesting was a note from Ivan Champion, who was captain of the ship at that time. Among his crew were J.K. McCarthy (i/c landing parties) Fairfax-Ross (gunner) and Speed Graham whom he next met as a Patrol Officer in 1949. It was not until a Gold Coast luncheon last year that Ivan realised that Bill Seale was one of the men he rescued! With his usual modesty Ivan covered the whole journey in one paragraph but hopefully we can get a longer account when Lyn Clark finishes his research on the ship.

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The Consumer Price Index rose by 2.3% for the December quarter. In our next issue, after the end of the March quarter, we can give a good estimate of the percentage increase on our superannuation we can expect but on present indications it will probably be about 8 1/2%.

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Some of your Committee feel that it would be worthwhile to have a function between our Annual General Meeting in April and the Christmas luncheon in November, perhaps in July / August ??? Your thoughts about this idea and if you agree, your suggestions are sought as to what kind of function and where. These could be given verbally at the A.G.M. or in writing.

We have recently received the Annual Reports of the Commissioner for Superannuation to the Minister for Finance in respect to PNG for both 1982 and 1983. The 1983 Report is printed below:

PAPUA NEW GUINEA SUPERANNUATION SCHEME

The Scheme

1. Since 1 July 1976 the Papua New Guinea Superannuation Scheme has been administered by the Commissioner for Superannuation in accordance with section 20 of the Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) Act 1973. Any contributions received are paid into, and all benefits are paid from, the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

2. The detailed provisions of the Scheme are contained in the Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) (Superannuation) Regulations made under section 65 of the (Staffing Assistance) Act. There were no amendments to the Regulations during the year.

Contributions

3. Contributions received during the year amounted to \$9124. This comprised payments from those members, retired on or before 30 June 1978 and before attaining maximum retiring age, who elected to purchase a full pension and pay outstanding contributions by way of fortnightly deductions from pension.

Pensions

4. During the year 23 new pensions were approved and 27 were terminated reducing the total number of pensions being paid at 30 June 1983 to 676. Details of the pensions are shown in the following Table.

Pensions as at 30 June 1983

	Existing 1/7/82	New Pensions	Pensions Ceased	Existing 30/6/83
Males				
Early Retirement	95	-	2	93
Maximum Age	242	-	14	228
Invalidity	92	-	2	90
Females				
Early Retirement	14	-	-	14
Maximum Age	34	-	1	33
Invalidity	4	-	-	4
Widows	164	22	3	183
Children	35	1	5	31
Total	680	23	27	676

5. Of the 27 pensions that ceased to be paid during the year, 22 were terminated on account of death and 5 due to cessation of children's pensions.
6. Total expenditure on pensions during the year was \$10 052 116. The annual liability for the 676 pensions being paid at 30 June 1983, including the increases that became payable on the first pension payday in July 1983, was \$11 122 200.
7. There was no change during the year in the number of invalidity pensions suspended on account of employment, the number remaining at 4. The annual value of these pensions if not suspended would be \$61,175.

New Guinea Superannuation and Papua Superannuation.

8. The Commissioner for Superannuation also administers the payment of pensions approved under the Superannuation Ordinance 1928 of the Territory of New Guinea and the Superannuation Ordinance 1917 of the Territory of Papua. The Funds established for the purposes of these Ordinances have not existed for many years and the full cost of the pensions is met by the Commonwealth.
9. Pension payments made during the year for New Guinea pensions and Papua pensions totalled \$462,617 and \$113,363 respectively.
10. At 30 June 1983 there were 15 males and 47 widows receiving pensions arising from the New Guinea Ordinance, this being 6 less males and 3 more widows than at 30 June 1982. The annual liability, including pension increases payable in July 1983, was \$510,857. There were 11 males receiving pensions arising from the Papua Ordinance, which did not provide for either widows' or children's benefits, (annual liability \$126,286), this being the same number as at 30 June 1982.

CONTRACT OFFICERS RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME.

Lump Sum Payments

11. All former officers' entitlements have now been finalised and the Scheme is effectively closed.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ombudsman Enquiries

12. There were no enquiries relating to Papua/New Guinea superannuation matters received from the Ombudsman during 1982-83.

Reconsideration of Decisions

13. No requests for reconsideration by the Commissioner for Superannuation of decisions taken under the superannuation and retirement benefits provisions of the Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) Act 1973 or the Regulations were received during the year.

Representations by Members of Parliament

14. Another avenue of external review available to former members of the Scheme is by representations to the Minister for Finance or the Commissioner through a Member of Parliament. Six such approaches were made during 1982-83.

Freedom of Information

15. No requests under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 were received during the year for access to documents relating to the various Papua/New Guinea Schemes.

THE THIRTY THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

will be held on

SUNDAY 15th APRIL, 1984

at the British Ex-Services Club
541 Kent Street, Sydney

(between Liverpool and Bathurst Streets -
200 yards from Town Hall Station)

The Meeting will begin at 11.30 a.m. and should finish by
12.15 p.m., when drinks will be available. Lunch will
begin at 1 p.m.

A G E N D A

Members present and Apologies
Confirmation of Minutes of 32nd A.G.M.
Business arising from Minutes
President's Report
Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement
Correspondence
Election of Office Bearers
General Business
- another function between AGM and Xmas Luncheon

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PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU READ THE NOTICE CONCERNING THE ARRANGEMENTS
AND THE CHARGE FOR THE LUNCHEON. THIS APPEARS ON THE NEXT PAGE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

COST OF LUNCHEON IS \$10.50

Because of rapidly escalating costs the Association has to give the British Ex-Services Club an estimate by the 11th of April of the number who will be coming for luncheon on the 15th April.

IF THE ESTIMATED NUMBER DO NOT ARRIVE THEN THE ASSOCIATION HAS TO PAY FOR THEIR LUNCHEONS. BECAUSE OF THIS WE MADE A LOSS OF \$102.00 ON THE LAST LUNCHEON, AS SOME MEMBERS DID NOT TURN UP AFTER MAKING THEIR BOOKING.

We therefore must request Members who intend coming to complete the form set out on another page of this Newsletter and send it, together with their cheque, as soon as possible. If cancellation is made before 11th April their money will be refunded.

Cheques and/or inquiries about the luncheon should be directed to Doug or Candy Parrish, 12 Mycumbene Avenue, Lindfield East, NSW 2070 -- phone (02) 467 2966.

Inquiries can be made of Pamela Foley - (D2) 969 1888.
(02) 969 8271 (home)

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A SMILE costs nothing, but gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it, and none is so poor but that he can be made rich by it. A SMILE creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and it is nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Some people are too tired to give you a SMILE. Give them one of yours, as none needs a SMILE so much as he who has no more to give.

HAVE YOU HEARD THAT.....

Bill Brown, former D.C. Bougainville and latterly Program Director for the South Pacific Commission, has been appointed to the United Nations Development Advisory Team, with headquarters in Suva. I'm told that Bill's French still has an Australian touch but petite wife Pamela parle Francois parfaitement.

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John Huon de Navrancourt (PNG '52-72) took an old friend for a quick trip around the Atherton Tablelands. Just after New Year his friend rang to tell him that he (not John) had just received a knighthood. If you can't guess the answer turn to the PNG News section.

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Bill Grainger, known to many as a lecturer at A.S.O.P.A. and then in the Administration from 1947-53 in D.A.S.F. now lives out from Adelaide and is steadily recovering from Leukaemia. I'm sure all Members send their best wishes for a full recovery, Bill. Earlier, Bill and his wife were hosts to many Administration officers passing through Canberra.

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Our former long time Treasurer, Joyce Oldroyd-Harris, will be in Sydney during April. Joyce is not going overseas -- on a cruise -- on a coach tour -- or to hospital, and will be joining us at the A.G.M.

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Peripatetic Doreen Hogg -- formerly head of the pre-schoolers in PNG and now married to Rugby Union official, fan, expert with a dictionary memory Bob Hogg -- was in Sydney overnight on one of those Christmas cruises which seem to go everywhere. They both seemed to be having a wonderful time -- just to make up for their last visit here when Doreen had some heart trouble and had to return immediately to New Zealand.

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Our old maritime Member 'Frog' Evans has just become a father again.

There must really be some good nutriment in Samoan paw-paws !!!!

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Last year we asked for assistance in the way of information for first one then a second Member who had developed symptoms/illnesses which appear to be directly related to his service as an officer in the Administration in PNG. We particularly asked medical people who could be assumed to be able to assist. However we have had no replies except from one Member who was invalided out. He got tired of trying to get anything done through the Australian or PNG Public Service Board and decided to concentrate on Veterans' Affairs. He was able to relate most of his problems to war service and found Veterans' Affairs officers very considerate.

He now gets a T.P.I. pension which has very considerable tax and medical benefits. He suggests that anyone who has even a remote case refer it to the Department - I'm certain the State R.S.L. pension advisers would be very helpful. Its not quite the answer we wanted, but it may be very good advice if it is applicable to you. Many thanks to that Member !!!!!

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Max Hayes, who has for some time dabbled in the postage stamps, and postal history of the post war issues of TPNG and PNG, has recently taken up collecting the duty stamps, and embossed duty stamp imprints on documents, of the post war period - all too late of course as he left the land of Paradise almost a decade ago.

If any readers have any used examples of these items - other than the most commonly used values - and being desirous of finding a good home for them, would care to get in touch with him, some mutual arrangement can be worked out. Max, incidentally, has a very large collection of some 600 pages of world wide police philatelic material, including policemen on postage stamp, special cancels with police depicted, police messages on post office slogans, and the like, a hobby commenced some years ago when he was a lad in khaki (before the blue came in). Readers incidentally might be happy to know that the first stamp ever issued anywhere in the world to depict a policeman came from Papua was back in 1932, when a 5/- definitive stamp depicted Sgt. Major SIMOI. Since then there have been several stamps from TPNG and PNG to depict policemen.

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We have had one or two anxious enquiries as to whether the Undeducted Purchase Price rebate we receive cuts out at a certain age, or on death. The simple and reassuring answer is that there is no maximum age and you (or rather your executors!) can claim it until you leave this mortal coil.

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Harry Jackman as been asked to contribute to the history of the 30 Aust. Inf. Bde., particularly in relation to the Annanburg Force. Anyone who might help him or know the present address of Fred Richardson would get a grateful response from Harry.

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Hospitality is the art of making people feel at home -- when you wish they were!

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We have been in touch with the Commissioner's office about the Medicare Levy and I believe you will all have received a letter to inform you that it is being deducted as from 1st February 1984 at the rate of 1% for a full year or 0.416% (5/12 of 1%) until 30th of June this year.

The Office assured us that superannuants living overseas will not have the Medicare levy deducted but it would be wise for anyone who does live out of Australia to check that there has been no variation in their superannuation payments and write immediately to the Commissioner if there has been. It is possible that some Members may have an Australian address but actually live overseas, and if this is the case such Members should write immediately to the Commissioner, or if they can obtain one, send a completed Medicare Levy Variation Declaration to his Office.

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LOST MEMBERS -- DO YOU KNOW THEM ?

We seem to have lost contact with the following Members (at their last known address as shown below). If you know them or can supply any information as to their present whereabouts, new address, or confirm the address given here, it would be appreciated.

Details to be given to our Honorary Treasurer, G.P. Keleny, whose phone number and address appears on the title page of this News Letter.

BOYCE, Miss	N.T.	17 First Street,	MENTONE	VIC 3194
COWLEY, Mrs.	A.	7/19 Albert Street,	HORNSBY	NSW 2077
DIX, Mrs.	N.	7 Beatrice Street,	BURWOOD	VIC 3125
HEALY, Mrs.	C.T.	3/47 Skew Street,	SHERWOOD	QLD 4075
JONES, Mrs.	K.	3/ 1 Lombard Street,	BALGOWLAH	NSW 2093
LARKIN, Mrs.	T.	10 Newmarket Street	HENDRA	QLD 4011
LEWIS, Mrs.	M.E.	36 Conley Street,	CLONTARF BEACH	QLD 4019
NEILSEN, Mrs.	G.F.	967 Beenleigh Road,	RUNCORN	QLD 4113
RENTOUL, Mrs.	D.	8 Winnie Street,	CREMORNE	NSW 2090
TAYLDR, Mrs.	E.	111 Tamir Street,	BALLINA	NSW 2478

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Our friends from the Papua New Guinea Club at Manly have very kindly extended an invitation to any of our Members to their "Pleasant Sunday Afternoon" to be held at Manly Civic Club at 3.30 p.m. on 18 March, 1984.

However, for catering purposes it is most important that intending starters contact their club Secretary, Marg. Cameron on 918 9569. Cost will be \$5.50 per head.

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"TAIM BELONG MASTA" The Australian involvement with Papua New Guinea. by Hank Nelson, Published by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. 1982.

Many Members will have heard the programme of this title broadcast by the A.B.C. in 1981. The radio programme, a series of broadcasts, was based on interviews made with many former PNG residents.

Both those who heard this interesting programme and those who missed it will welcome the publication of this book, based on the radio talks. In twenty-four chapters the book deals with the subjects covered in the radio programmes from first contact with a new land and with newly contacted people to Independence and "going finish".

As Hank Nelson states in the introduction: "The aim of the radio series Taim Belong Masta was to persuade many different Australians to talk about themselves in Papua New Guinea. We wanted them to say why they went, what they did and what they took away.... They cover an apparent telescoping of massive change." This was achieved.

The great value of the broadcasts was that former territorians were allowed to describe their experiences and views - we could hear and recognize their voices. This personal touch is retained by the book -- one can sense that it is more an account by the people who lived and worked in PNG than just a story by someone who went there just to collect material for a book. Many Members, even those who did not participate in the programme, will be able to identify themselves with the book and with the comments made by their former fellow officers.

The book is published with a soft cover and is well illustrated with black & white photographs, particularly from the pre-war period of Papua and New Guinea.

"TAIM BELONG MASTA". Available from ABC bookshops and leading booksellers; also by mail order from The Cashier, ABC, G.P.O. Box 487, Sydney, 2001. Recommended retail price \$16.95

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One of our Members has complained that several times his Superannuation cheques, which are paid through Westpac, are late but his Veteran's part pension is always on time. Are other Members experiencing any problems of late cheques? If they let us know we may be able to help.

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PNG news -- By courtesy of 'Kundu' the news bulletin published by the PNG Consulate-General in Sydney.

The following people received honours in the Queen's New Years Honours List :

KBE to Barry Holloway CMG TO Leo Hannett
CBE to Gago Mamae, Warwick Andrew, Sinaka Goava
OBE TO Nigel Agonia, Henry Ewing, Henry Humphries, Frances Iramu, Joel Maiah, Wilfred Moj, Geoffrey Mosuvadoga.
MBE to Peter Dennis, Tomi Tuges, Gerardus Lucas, Jacinta Kodana, Bernadette Lafe, Michael Mondia, Henry Moses, George Panao, Nenik Pasul, Harry Pelgen, Henao Rei, Emily Saeron, Peter Tapural, Arnold Tobat, Leo Woo, Famundi Yaviri.
BEM to Disala Babowa, Kagileo Rawalo, Kome Arua, Gabriel Birua, Moroku Pokuaea, Tinam Saganioik, Hesingut Wangu, Nangia Wiru, Leo Dion, Cosmos Pulai.

 Pope John Paul will visit Papua New Guinea from 7th to 10th May this year. The Pope's visit will not be his first, as he visited friends in Goroka in 1973.

 The Anglican Church of PNG has elected Bishop George Ambo from the Northern Province as Archbishop. He has been a senior Bishop since the retirement of Bishop David Hand in May. Bishop Ambo is married with 3 daughters and 3 sons.

 A plan for a Mall in Lae city has been completed and will be ready for construction soon. Second and Fourth Streets, Coronation Drive and Central Avenue will be closed. An artificial lake, an amphitheatre, a stage, a fountain and an artifact market will be constructed.

 (This will make old Lae-ites sit up !Ed.)

 From January 1st employees will be taxed on the value of their whole income, rather than just their wages. Included will be tax on accommodation, motor vehicles, domestic servants, public utilities and electricity provided as part of the employees work permit.

 The city of Lae and the Australian city of Cairns have become sister cities. The Mayor of Cairns said that he was delighted with the link. He said that both cities had much in common, topography, location, commerce and population numbers.

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ALSO -

Congratulations to PNG Prime Minister Michael Somare on being named 'South Pacific Man of the Year for 1983' by the U.S. endowed Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific. Mr. Somare was presented with the award by the Foundation President, at a ceremony in New York.

V A L E

George Francis Toohey	12/12/83	Formerly a Clerk in the Education Department.
Clarence Ray Nelson	18/ 1/84	Formerly in the Department of Social Development and Home Affairs.
Albert Alan Roberts	28/ 1/84	Dne of New Guinea's first cadet patrol officers. See separate para.
Reay Weidenhofer	5/ 2 84	Joined the Administration on 1/4/39. He retired in 1966 as Executive Officer in Forestry Dept.
C.H. (Clem) Rich	9/ 2/84	Pre-war A.R.M. in Papua. See separate para.

Clem Rich was the second son of the well-known L.M.S. family. Born in 1905 at Kwato, he joined the Papuan service in 1924. He soon became an A.R.M., serving in most areas of Papua. He enlisted in the army in Australia but returned to Papua as O.I.C. A.N.G.A.U. on the Bulldog Road. Post war, Clem served in the Milne Bay area and retired in 1951. He spent most of the rest of his life in the Ferguson Islands, where he passed away.

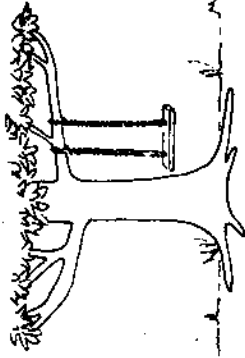
Alan Roberts, originally a teacher in Victoria, was one of the first six cadet patrol officers appointed to New Guinea in 1925. His early service was in Aitape and Morobe and he was ADO Kokopo when the Japanese came, escaping to Australia with a RAAF party. Returning to PNG he became a major in ANGAU, serving at Jacquinot Bay and then H.Q. at Moresby.

Post-war, after a period in Lae as A.D.O then D.O Morobe, Alan went to Moresby as Assistant Director in 1949, and in 1953 took over from J.H. Jones as Director of District Services & Native Affairs. He retired to Heidelberg in 1966 where he resumed drawing and painting, at which he excelled. He died at 79 years of age.

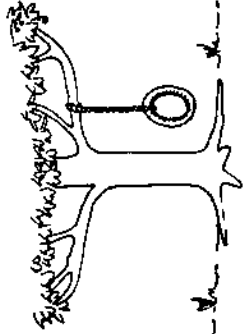
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SUBSCRIPTIONS ? ARE YOU IN THE RED !!!

Outstanding Subscription \$ Current 1984 Sub.\$ TOTAL \$
 Please forward to Hon.Treasurer, P.O.Box 364 MAROUBRA NSW 2035.
 RATES ARE: \$4 MEMBERS (Superannuants and their Widows) \$2 ASSOCIATES
 (Non-Superannuants, Wives of Superannuants and former PNG Residents if
 they wish to join our ranks) LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$40. Membership is FREE
 for Widows of Pre-War Officers of Papua and New Guinea.

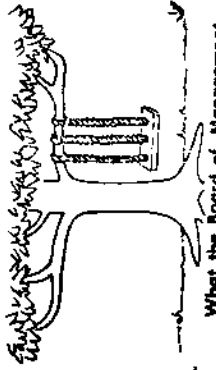
EDUCATION DECISION MAKING



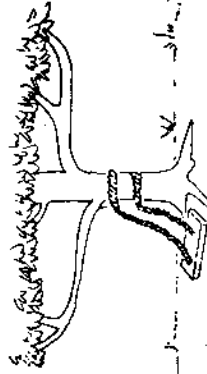
What the kids wanted



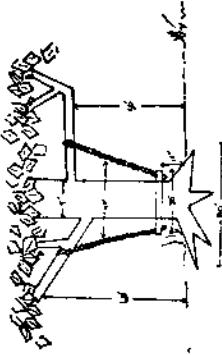
What the teachers asked for



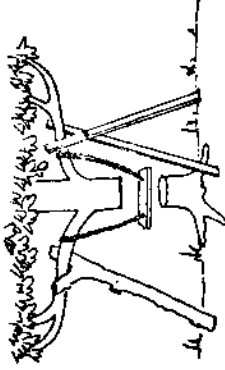
What the Board of Management requested



What the Department of Education approved



How PWD designed it



What the contractor built

With apologies to A.C.T. Commonwealth Teachers' Federation!