



Journal of the
Papua New Guinea
Association of
Australia Inc.

Una Voce

2017, No 3 – September

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



ISSN: 1442-6161, PPA 224987/00025



When The War Came -
available now!



Kylie Adams-Collier,
Rabaul 2017



DON'T MISS two important opportunities to hear Philip Selth OAM talking about the Coastwatchers.

Refer to outside back cover for details.

See What's On
for other events
and make your
reservations
without delay!



Everyman's Hut, Wacol Military Heritage Precinct,
907 Boundary Rd, Wacol (Brisbane) 4067.

Photo: Phil Ainsworth

FRONT COVER IMAGE

Rabaul New Guinea Club ruins following volcanic eruptions, 1994.

Photo: Andrea Williams.

Patrons

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

Membership

Membership is available to any person with an interest in PNG.
Annual subscription is \$40. The membership year corresponds with the calendar year. Application forms are available from the Secretary at the address below or our website, www.pngaa.net
No receipts are sent for subscriptions as it would add to our postage costs.

2016-2017 PNGAA Office Bearers

President

Position temporarily vacant

Secretary

Murrough Benson
Mob: 0448 216 049
Email: admin@pngaa.net

Treasurer

Doug Wood
B/H: 02 9956 7500
Email: treasurer@pngaa.net

Membership Officer

Roy Ranney
Mob: 0412 556 593
A/H: 02 9439 4763
Email: membership@pngaa.net

Editor

Belinda Macartney
Mob: 0411 037 377
Email: editor@pngaa.net

Events Coordinator

Sara Turner
Mob: 0401 138 246
Email: events@pngaa.net

PNGAA Collection - For all donations to this collection (photographs, diaries, letters, publications etc.) please contact Steve Burns sburns1@outlook.com.au or PH (02) 9489 0824

PNGAA mailing address: PO Box 453 Roseville, NSW 2069

PNGAA Website: www.pngaa.net

PNGAA Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PNGAA/>

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.

Payments

We encourage member to pay membership fees by direct deposit to the PNGAA Account: BSB 062 009 Account No. 0090 7724. Please include your membership number.

Please notify Membership Officer by email when you have made payment. membership@pngaa.net Thank you.

COPY DEADLINE

FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER for 2017, Issue# 4 – November
All contributions to editor@pngaa.net

Contents

66th PNGAA AGM.....	2
Letters	5
What's on?	7
Committee Round-up	9
A Chalkie (Part 2)	14
40th anniversary of independence	15
60 Years in PNG – reflections of a daughter on the life of Peter Richard Coote	16
WHEN THE WAR CAME: New Guinea Islands 1942	17
Kalibobo Spirit Sepik Exhibition	
27.12.2016 – 02.01.2017	20
'Gus' Smales: an old journo mate sadly missed	23
Memorial News.....	25
KAVIENG, NEW IRELAND, OVERSEAS WHARF IN 1917	34
The Wreck of the 'St. Paul'	36
Vudal and the Mataungans	36
Memories of my time in TPNG	41
CREATIVE ARTS + Books & Reviews	42
Help Wanted	44
Youth.....	45
Sing Sing – events and reunions	47
Vale	51
Welcome to New Members	57
Website walkabout	57



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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

66TH AGM – 30 April 2017



Welcome to the 66th AGM of the PNGAA. A special welcome to our Co-Patron Fred Kaad, whose ongoing support we greatly appreciate.

I'd also like to acknowledge the Presidents of two affiliated organisations, who we are privileged to have as active and valued members of the PNGAA management team. Phil Ainsworth, President of the NGVR/PNGVR Ex-Members Association, from Brisbane, and our special congratulations to Steven Gagau, who has recently been elected President of the Wantok Association - we are also delighted to have his wife Jenny and son Leslie here today too.

A warm welcome to two new Committee members too – Yana is up from Melbourne and also Russell – please introduce yourselves to them! And I know we have some other guests – thank you to Anne Collins for inviting Srs Rosa, Miriam, Antonia and Paula.

As you know I have been in the President's role for five and a half years and there is a four-year term. The PNGAA will be strengthened with a new person bringing fresh ideas but, to date, no one has had their arm twisted! If you are interested, please discuss with me. The Association needs to have active, interested people – people willing to utilise their

many and considerable skills for the benefit of the Association – and so far we have been very successful in building a wonderfully cohesive team who work so well together. All volunteers who generously give so much of their time; whose wives, husbands, partners also need to be acknowledged because they are all part of it and their support is much appreciated too.

The PNGAA is unique amongst NGOs because it is run by volunteers and because it does not focus on one area but rather on the whole ... the whole PNG/Australia relationship. Its aim is to engage people in enjoyable and productive experiences that build pathways in many directions. Every member can help by taking initiatives that extend our networks and promote the good that the Association aims to do. It's often the little steps – perhaps ringing an old PNG friend to see if they're OK, or supporting a community event – it all helps contribute to strong bonds.

I thought that I would take this opportunity to highlight the work the PNGAA Management Committee does through its extraordinary people.

2016 began with several new Committee members coming on board. We have been delighted that Sara kindly stepped in as Events Coordinator. Sara has

been thoughtful and creative in trialling new ideas to try and appeal to a wider demographic. We also thank her husband Roger Carroll for his interest and active support which we've enjoyed very much. The AGM and Xmas lunch were happy, successful events – one highlight of the lunch was having Roy Mumu attend from Port Moresby. Roy was inspired by the passion of those who gathered for the lunch and he was especially happy to see some old friends. The Diana Ferrari evening was an innovative idea and also a load of fun! Thank you Sara! I was relieved the photos didn't reach Una Voce! Lunches were also held in Perth with thanks to Linda Cavanaugh Manning who is an ace with the camera; Adelaide with thanks to Graham Taylor, Jan Kleinig, Robin Radford, Ron Storer and all who help in various ways; and in Brisbane. The State Library of Queensland co-sponsored a viewing of the PNGAA/Gumleaves Productions film Kiap: Stories behind the Medal and we were grateful to the panel of Kiaps who generously answered questions and discussed some of their unique experiences.

Murrough Benson together with Joy, had already been giving considerable help despite not being on the Committee and we have been very grateful for Murrough's organisational skills after taking on the role of Secretary. His list of correspondence at each meeting is fascinatingly diverse. Murrough and Joy Benson, together with Roy Ranney, organise the quarterly packing days for Una Voce at Chatswood Bowling Club. There is always a delicious morning tea and friendly chat, thanks to Joy and others, and everyone is welcome.

Belinda Macartney became our Editor and her energy and innovative ideas are refreshing and inspiring. Thank you for being here today from Brisbane, Belinda. It's a diverse role and she is sensibly trying to streamline it so that it is more manageable. That means training the rest of us! The journal is an important element in bringing together our members from all over, so we thank Belinda for taking this on. Greg Leech has also assisted with sourcing advertising. This is a much needed area and one all members can help with. The PNGAA has a great audience, so let them know what opportunities are available. There would be businesses out there that don't realise the value they would get by advertising with us.

In 2015 Fryer Library clarified that their interest in the PNGAA Collection was the period prior to PNG Independence. For many years the PNGAA has aimed to start on a process of

digitisation of the collection but not being able to determine the extent or cost of that was proving challenging. Members were donating to the collection but, with the digital era well ensconced, the PNGAA had limited ability to instantly use items in our journal or on our website for the benefit of members. Steve Burns joined the Committee to coordinate the PNGAA Collection from within the Management Committee so that ultimately it can be widely available. Please tell your friends about this collection so that it can be expanded upon and everyone can benefit.

The new website, which I know we keep saying is coming along, really is coming along. Roy and I, together with others assisting, Lyn Arden in South Australia, Nigel Wong here in Sydney, Paul Johnson in Queensland, have had many evenings on Skype sessions with our developer tweaking it here and there ... and I know the extraordinary time Roy has put in to checking and double checking. It will be an interactive and informative way to communicate amongst our membership. And, of course, Roy is our wonderful Membership Officer; I'm sure many of you have spoken with him. With an association of our size, the membership role is surprisingly large ... I know Ross will agree!

Ross Johnson and Nick Booth have also been involved with parts of it too and, of course, our original website is maintained. It's these little groups, people meeting with a common goal, that are one of the highlights of the Association. The work can

sometimes be intense in short bursts, but it's good to see the final outcome.

Facebook's immediacy attracts thousands of PNG tragics. We thank Kieran Nelson for his great assistance with the PNGAA site. Facebook is free which makes it attractive, but where does all the information go? There is space for both websites and Facebooks and we hope our members will encourage their friends to join our Association and rebuild it going forward.

Besides being out in the field, showing us what other opportunities there are to strengthen the PNG-Australia relationship, eg by assisting with a Rotary project in the Trobriands, Steven Gagau brings a broad range of connections and energy to the Association. The PNGAA gets wide-ranging queries and these are often farmed out to Committee members or anyone we think might help. One example from the end of last year was when the Battle for Australia Association approached us wishing to maintain their PNG connection. Steven has been an enormous help working to facilitate an ongoing involvement. As the Battle for Australia Day is commemorated widely in the media, the exposure of the Australia/PNG relationship is significant.

Recently I had the opportunity to meet up with a wantok of Steven's and mine from Rabaul, renowned historian Gideon Kabakin. Phil Ainsworth kindly arranged a visit to the PNGVR Museum in Brisbane and Gideon was much inspired

with the collection, all treasures curated so well by John Holland who showed us around. The Museum had a considerable extension last year and I know Gideon is looking forward to his next visit. Again, an example of a valuable network facilitated by the PNGAA.

Doug Wood, PNGAA Treasurer, has made a huge contribution to the Association through the professional support of his firm Foster Raffan for which the PNGAA is enormously appreciative.

And last but not least, the wonderful Paul Munro, who has been on the Committee for over six years and our Public Officer for the last four, is retiring from the Committee at the AGM today. The best team is a team that willingly contributes in whatever area for the overall benefit and Paul is very much that person. We have been privileged to be able to rely on his commitment, his dedication, his professionalism, his friendship, his occasional verbose(!) but accurate explanations and his enormous support for the varied projects undertaken in so many areas over these past few years. Paul joined the PNGAA Management Committee at a time of great change and, as a well-respected member of the Committee, assisted in working through this challenging period. The Association is still changing and has a great need to have ongoing support to attract younger and active members.

Paul's early support for the 2014 symposium, despite some queries I'm sure, together with other Committee members

was crucial to ensure that this wonderful event succeeded. Paul has contributed greatly to our understanding of the process related to opportunities at the Ten Terminal in the old ASOPA site ... and I know he has put many, many hours in behind the scenes with the research of and compilation of documents – and approaches for support for a proposal from the PNGAA. It's a long-winded process with one step forward and two steps back, however we believe that our proposal for an engaging and interactive cultural learning experience is comprehensively thought out, especially when the relationship between Australia and PNG and the Pacific is fragile. Despite the 500 odd or so Australian companies in PNG, Australians need much greater education about their Pacific neighbours and our past history with PNG.

Two highlights throughout 2016 were the Middle Head Open Day in May where many Pacific cultural groups came together as one, and the round table in August. The diversity of culture and skills had potential bursting in so many directions. There is clearly much interest ... however it needs arms to the wheel to convince our various levels of government.

This year there are many 75th anniversaries of the start of the Pacific War in PNG which we acknowledge. The PNGAA/Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group will be commemorating the 75th anniversary on 1 July 2017 with a service at the Australian War Memorial and a dinner in Canberra that evening. Everyone is welcome.

The long awaited book should be ready by then – Gayle Thwaites has collected a whopping 500 plus pages of fascinating family stories covering all aspects of this complex disaster. One of the surprising aspects has been the intermingling of early history from rural Australia. It makes an outstanding book for your collection.

The Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group congratulates Karen McPherson for being accepted as a presenter at the National History Teachers' Association of Australia Conference to be held in Brisbane in September this year. Karen presented in Sydney last year and attendees at her presentation found it outstanding. The school package that Patrick Bourke has collated has also had excellent comments and is a valuable tool for schools. If you are involved in a secondary school, this makes an interesting addition to the curriculum so please speak with them about it and contact us.

The pre-Independence era in PNG needs more awareness. Earlier this year the PNGAA Management Committee gave in-principle support for a Kiap Memorial Scholarship asking that a couple of the current scholarships be renamed.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as President – and earlier on Editor – of this outstanding Association. Our network is unique and our goals relevant. Thank you for the support and, especially, the wonderful friendships I've made.

Andrea Williams

Treasurer's Report 2017 AGM

The 2016 year result is an after tax loss of \$4,184 similar to 2015 (loss of \$4,262). The major changes were the cessation of the \$5,000 donation to the Crocodile Prize offset by an increase in Una Voce production costs of \$5,669. Due to higher amounts of funds on deposit for the entire year our interest earnings increased 35% (\$ 1,127). The functions held during the year returned a small loss which is acceptable to the Committee. The DVD sales continue although at a much lower rate now that the Kiap – Story Behind the Medal has been in the market for approximately 18 months. The Brisbane launch was a focus during the year.

One initiative during the year was the holding of a workshop on 10 May to develop and prioritise ideas to form the basis of a successful proposal to the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Trust for PNGAA to use Ten Terminal buildings and spaces on Middle Head. The workshop (or strategy or brain-storming session) cost \$1,400 and is included in Administration expenses. This cost was offset by the decision to cease production of a hard copy Membership List due to privacy concerns (Cost 2015 of \$1,330).

Looking now at the balance sheet the Association is financially secure with net assets of \$150,562 which is represented by three term deposits totalling \$168,147 at rates from 2.35 % to 2.6%. Unearned membership income (prepaid subscriptions) totals \$ \$32,593 which is down 11% from 2015. Our aging membership is a concern but something we have to accept as the vast majority of our members were involved with PNG during the pre-September 1975 era. Time waits for no one, sadly.

I would like to express my personal thanks to Andrea for the leadership and motivation she has brought to the Committee again during 2016. Also to Paul Munro for his continuing dedication to the operations especially with regard to Ten Terminal deliberations. They will both be surely missed in these roles. I would like to thank Murrough and Roy for their tireless application to the secretarial and membership activities that are essential to the smooth running of the Association. I would like to congratulate Belinda Macartney on her first anniversary as Una Voce editor. The improved quality of Una Voce has been noted by the membership to me in numerous phone calls – please keep up the good work.

As we enter 2017, we focus attention on the 75th anniversary of the Japanese invasion and the numerous acts of devastation and brutality they unleashed throughout PNG. I hope you all have an opportunity to pay your individual respects to our fallen forebears whether they be military or civilians – there is no distinction. Please look out for our new book When the War Came – New Guinea Islands 1942. It should be available in the second half of the year.

Doug Wood – Treasurer 30 April 2017



Letters

From the Editor

This issue is dedicated to the various Rabaul and Montevideo Maru commemorative services that occurred in June. I was privileged to be part of the Rabaul four-day tour; the stories in this issue will remind readers of the personal significance, as well as the historic importance, of continuing to remember this tragic loss.

Members' contributions continue to flood in. I remind readers of the DISCLAIMER in the front of every issue, stating 'Una Voce is written in good faith and from sources believed to be accurate'. Subject to space, UV also includes comments from readers in the Letters section.

Enjoy your September Una Voce!

Belinda Macartney

Letters



I recently met Sara Turner and Andrea Williams through Yana di Pietro, at the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia's annual general meeting. I decided to book for the Rabaul & Montevideo Maru 75th Anniversary Tour upon learning about it at the AGM. Even though I had never been to Papua New Guinea, my father was born in Rabaul and my grandfather had run plantations before being captured and embarked on the Montevideo Maru. Some of my family had returned to PNG after the war and continued to run plantations.

I found the tour to be very educational and emotional. Our tour guides were very well informed and considerate. I imagined what Rabaul would have been like when my father was a boy: giant frangipani and mango trees, playing "fly" with the local children. I met some lovely people on the tour who knew my family and built a bigger picture of my family history. Our tour group had a common bond in the Montevideo Maru. We shared our stories, which came to life as we visited war sites and relics. How could such a beautiful island paradise endure such tragedy?



I was very honoured to be invited to sing my song 'Montevideo Maru 1942' at the Rabaul & Montevideo Maru 75th Anniversary service on the site where 1,053 prisoners of war embarked. Upon my album release (January) I will donate 50 cents from every sale to the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia to contribute to raising awareness of the biggest maritime tragedy in wartime history. More information can be found at www.kylieadams-collier.com.

A special thank you to Susie McGrade and the Rabaul Historical Society for their wonderful efforts in protecting our history in Rabaul and a special thank you to Andrea Williams and everyone in the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia and Montevideo Maru Society for continuing to educate and remind us all of that fateful day, the legacy it left behind, and the history of a prosperous island life before the war came.

Regards,

Kylie Adams-Collier • 0423 956 758 • www.kylieadams-collier.com • kylie.adams.collier@gmail.com

As Andrea cautioned, in her email of 14 June "... wrong information gets out and is perpetuated", this appears to be potentially the case on page 47 of the June UV in a report on a Perth gathering.

Lest the Maprik people be offended (I believe cannibalism among such people as the Ndu language speakers of that area ceased in the 50s), Pat Dwyer was on patrol south of Karimui (now Chimbu Province) in the Upper Purari Census Division of the Gulf Province at a village named Kairuku when he recorded his message in the Village Book (as attached) in September, 1962. A long way from Maprik!

The book is in my possession having been handed to me when the 'new-look' blue Village Books were handed out as replacements many years ago.

Chris Warrillow

Corrections 2017, Issue #2 – June

P.7 'Philip Selth: The Carnival is Over' – The article initially appeared in the online journal *Justinian*, published by Law Press Australia. The questions were not those of Mark Tedeschi QC, but of the journal's editor, Richard Ackland. The photo was by Mark Tedeschi.

P.50 Apologies to Deryck Thompson who is referred to in one instance as David.

► What's on?

THE COAST WATCHERS - JJ MURPHY, JACK READ & PAUL MASON

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND

Presented by: Philip Selth OAM, Retired Executive Director of the NSW Bar Association and retired CEO of the Australian Bar Association

WHERE: "Everyman's Hut" & NGVR/PNGVR Museum

907 Boundary Rd, (Fulcrum & Boundary), WACOL, QLD 4076

WHEN: Saturday 9th September, 2017

TIME: 10:00am

COST: Free (Incl. Morning Tea & NGVR/PNGVR Museum tour with guides (approx. 1 to 1 hr 30 mins))

PARKING: on site and on road

PUBLIC TRANSPORT:

Richlands, Darra & Wacol Train Stations nearby with taxi ranks; Uber is available

RSVP: 1st September, 2017

CONTACT: Sara Turner M: 0401 138 246
Email: events@pngaa.net

Sponsored by PNGVR, NSAAQ and PNGAA – wheelchair friendly event. Please register at: <https://pngaa.org/site/blog/2017/08/06/coastwatchers-talk-in-brisbane/>

HISTORY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA NATIONAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

27-29 September

All Hallows' School, Brisbane

PNGAA/Rabaul and Montevideo Maru presentation by Karen McPherson at the History Teachers' Association of Australia National History Conference 2017 being held in Brisbane on 27-29 September 2017.

The workshop with Karen will be on Thursday 28 September 2017 from 1.45pm to 3.50pm with the theme 'Breaking Boundaries'. The PNGAA/RMvM is paying for a bus to take attendees to the PNGVR Museum at Wacol as part of the afternoon workshop with Karen.

The conference is at All Hallows' School, located on Ann Street and is close to the Brisbane CBD and The Valley. Peter FitzSimons will be the keynote speaker on the first day of the conference.

<http://qhta.com.au/htaa-conference-brisbane-27-29-sept-2017/>

Please spread the word to teachers you know!

THE COAST WATCHERS'- JJ MURPHY, JACK READ & PAUL MASON

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

Presented by: Philip Selth OAM – Retired Executive Director of the NSW Bar Association and retired CEO of the Australian Bar Association

WHERE: Hampton RSL

25 Holyrood St., HAMPTON, Vic., 3188

WHEN: Saturday, 14th October, 2017

TIME: Registration-11:00am

COST: \$35pp Includes nibbles and lunch. NB. Attendees to pay for their own beverages. Please advise if you have any special dietary requirements when you book prior to the event.

RSVP needed: 6 October 2017

CONTACT: Yana Pelikan M: 0425 771 359
E: coordinator@pngaa.net

PAYMENT: to Bank CBA: BSB 062009; Account No.00907724 Please notify admin@pngaa.net when payment is made.

PNGAA CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON-SYDNEY

WHEN: Sunday, 4th December, 2017

TIME: 11:30 am to 3:30pm

WHERE: Killara Golf Club
556 Pacific Highway, Killara, Sydney

(plenty of parking/10minutes walk from Killara railway Station) Disability access available

COST: \$65 pp (two course meal). NB.
Please advise if you have any special dietary requirements when you book prior to the event.

NB. Attendees to pay for their own beverages at Members rates

RSVP: EFT PAYMENT: Bank CBA; BSB 062 009; Account No. 0090 7724

NB: Please notify membership@pngaa.net when payment is made

You are able to make up your own table of ten or request seating with friends.

CONTACT: Sara Turner (0401 138 246)

PNGAA CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - MELBOURNE

WHEN: Saturday, 18th November, 2017

WATCH SOCIAL MEDIA SPACES FOR MORE DETAILS

CONTACT: if you want help, contact Yana di Pietro coordinator@pngaa.net



ANNUAL AUSTRALIAN DOCTORS INTERNATIONAL (ADI) FUNDRAISER

WHEN Saturday 14th October

WHERE Manly Golf Club, Manly, Sydney

TIME from 6:30pm.

COST Tickets are \$160 for a delicious 3 course meal with all wine, beer and cider included

RAFFLE

fantastic raffle prizes and a live auction on the night. Prizes include travel packages, dinner for four at Tetsuya's, two places on a bike ride down the Boluminsky highway in May 2018 as part of the ADI New Ireland great bike ride and much more.

ENTERTAINMENT

A PNG dance group will perform and a doctor who has gone to New Ireland on patrol with ADI four times will tell their story.

You can purchase tickets in the following ways:

Call the ADI Office during business hours and purchase a ticket over the phone (02) 9907 8988 or www.adi.org.au

The PNGAA needs your urgent donations now to help send 350 students tables and 700 chairs to PNG – please see page 45.

Donations can be made through the PNGAA website or by EFT to PNGAA BSB: 062 009 Account NO: 0090 7724, using reference UTS and your name. Please also email admin@pngaa.net to advise.

Committee Round-up

Update on the Situation Regarding the Role of President

The position of President remains open, pending suggestions.

Subject to this casual vacancy being filled, the Committee agreed at its meeting on 10 July that the role should be performed on a rotating basis by members of the Committee. Sara Turner has agreed to be Acting President for the July-September 2017 period, Doug Wood will assume the role for the October 2017-January 2018 period and Steven Gagau from February 2018 until the AGM in April 2018.

Please direct any queries (and suggestions of people to fill the role of President!) to the Secretary, Murrough Benson, on 0448 216 049 or email admin@pngaa.net.

Generations of friendship

- Supplied by committee member Chris Warrillow



Charles ('selfie') with waving Madeline Spencer (nee Reid, Aussie parents) visiting Mary-Anne Heap (nee Thorold, mother from Kavieng) and her daughter Kehra, born 8 June in Townsville, a sister for Nahla. The three were regular playmates at the Port Moresby Aviat Club during their primary school years during the 80s and have remained in touch ever since.



Charles Warrillow (mother from Kerema, Toaripi) and Caroline Healey (mother from Paramana, Motu) with their first baby, Coco Nora born in Townsville 1 February, 2017.

Committee Round-up

MINUTES OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PNGAA HELD AT THE HORNSBY RSL CLUB, SYDNEY on 30 April 2017

Meeting opened at 12.08 pm
The Secretary, Murrough Benson, presided

In the absence of the President, Andrea Williams, the Secretary, Murrough Benson, was appointed to chair the meeting.

MOTION: That Murrough Benson be appointed to the Chair.

Moved: Paul Munro, seconded Phil Ainsworth. CARRIED

The Events Coordinator, Sara Turner, presented a Welcome to Country after which singing of the National Anthems of both Australia and Papua New Guinea was led by Leslie Gagau.

1. Members Present and Apologies

Members present as per Attendance Book noted to constitute quorum: Phil Ainsworth, Murrough Benson, Patrick Bourke, Steve Burns, Anne Collins, Yana Di Pietro, Steven Gagau, Pat Johnson, Ross Johnson, Fred Kaad, Jan Kleinig, Belinda Macartney, Paul Munro, Allan Neilsen, Oscar Oberholzer, Kevin O'Connor, John O'Dea, Alan Pierce, Roy Ranney, Margaret Shakeshaft, John Stevenson, Joan Stobo, Clive Troy, Sara Turner, Russell Wade, Doug Wood

Apologies: Quentin Anthony, Marie Clifton-Bassett, Steven Cottingham, John Mills, Jane Munro, John Pearn, Chris Warrillow

2. Receipt of Proxies

Secretary Murrough Benson, reported that a total of 40 proxy votes had been received on the Proxy Form sent to all members on 2 March 2017 with the latest issue of Una Voce, as required under Rule 27(2) of the PNGAA Rules. All proxy votes supported the Special Resolution.

3. Consideration of the Special Resolution

The Special Resolution sought an amendment to Rule 28 of the Rules of the PNGAA to reduce from twenty to ten the number of members required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a general meeting.

Background to the Special Resolution had been provided to all members on the Proxy Form distributed on 2 March 2017 and Paul Munro repeated that background for the benefit of those present at the meeting. He then called for those in support of the Special Resolution and those against. Support was unanimous.

MOTION:

Section A: That Rule 28 of the Rules of the PNGAA be amended by deleting from Paragraph 28(2) the words "twenty members" and substituting "ten members".

Section B: That upon carriage by Special Resolution of the alteration to Rules set out in Section A of this Special Resolution, the Public Officer of the Association shall cause the alteration to be engrossed and consolidated with the Rules as in force after the adoption by the Special Resolution of 30 April 2017 and submit the consolidated copy of the Association's Rules as now amended for registration by the Director General under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009.

Moved Paul Munro, seconded Doug Wood.

CARRIED

The Special General Meeting closed at approximately 12.20 pm.

MINUTES OF THE 66th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PNGAA HELD AT THE HORNSBY RSL CLUB, SYDNEY on 30 April 2017

Meeting opened at 12.21 pm
The Secretary, Murrough Benson presided

In the absence, for the first half of the meeting, of the President, Andrea Williams, the Secretary, Murrough Benson, continued in the Chair, having been appointed at the commencement of the immediately preceding Special General Meeting.

1. Members Present and Apologies

Members present as per Attendance Book noted to constitute quorum: Phil Ainsworth, Murrough Benson, Patrick Bourke, Steve Burns, Anne Collins, Yana Di Pietro, Steven Gagau, Pat Johnson, Ross Johnson, Fred Kaad, Jan Kleinig, Belinda Macartney, Paul Munro, Allan Neilsen, Oscar Oberholzer, Kevin O'Connor, John O'Dea, Alan Pierce, Roy Ranney, Margaret Shakeshaft, John Stevenson, Joan Stobo, Clive Troy, Sara Turner, Russell Wade, Andrea Williams (for latter half of the meeting), Doug Wood
Apologies: Quentin Anthony, Marie Clifton-Bassett, Steven Cottingham, John Mills, Jane Munro, John Pearn, Chris Warrillow

2. Confirmation of Minutes of 65th AGM (circulated with June 2016 Una Voce)

MOTION: That these Minutes be confirmed.

Moved: John Stevenson, seconded Phil Ainsworth.

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes of the 65th AGM on 15 May 2016.

4. President's Report

In the absence, to this point of the meeting, of President, Andrea Williams, her prepared report, covering the activities and priority matters of the year, was presented mostly by Belinda Macartney. Phil Ainsworth presented that part of the report relating to the significant contribution to PNGAA of retiring Public Officer, Paul Munro, followed by the presentation of a gift of appreciation. The report was received with acclamation and is reprinted at the end of these Minutes.

MOTION: That the report be accepted.

Moved Phil Ainsworth, seconded Ross Johnson.

CARRIED

4(a) The meeting noted the unanimous support for the Special Resolution considered at the Special General Meeting immediately preceding the AGM.

5. Treasurer's Report and adoption of Audited Financial Statements

Treasurer Doug Wood presented the financial report for the year ended 31 December 2016, a copy of which was circulated at the meeting. This included statements covering Income & Expenditure, Assets & Liabilities and the Auditor's Report. Doug then spoke to a written summary.

Any member requiring a copy of the Audited Financial Statements should contact the Secretary on 0448 216 049 or by email: admin@pngaa.net.

MOTION: That the Treasurer's report be received and adopted and that the Audited Financial Statements be adopted as a true reflection of the state of affairs for the year ended 31 December 2016; and that the Treasurer be instructed to complete and lodge the Annual return (Form A12) with NSW Fair Trading.

Moved Doug Wood, seconded Steve Burns. CARRIED

6. Correspondence

Murrough Benson provided an overview of the considerable volume of general correspondence dealt with by members of the Committee, in particular the President. The breadth of issues covered was also emphasised. In addition to general correspondence, it was pointed out that Membership Officer Roy Ranney also corresponds frequently with members on matters relating specifically to their membership as well as welcoming new members.

7. Election of Honorary Auditor

Mr Phil Williams of Carbonara Business Advisers, Chatswood has performed the duties of Honorary Auditor for the past year and offered himself for re-election.

MOTION: That Phil Williams of Carbonara Business Advisers, Chatswood be re-appointed as Honorary Auditor under Rule 37 of the PNGAA Rules.

Moved Doug Wood, seconded Phil Ainsworth. CARRIED

8. Election of Management Committee for 2017-18

The meeting noted the election (unopposed) of the following members of the Management Committee for 2017-18:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Phil Ainsworth | • Roy Ranney (Membership Officer) |
| • Murrough Benson (Secretary) | • Sara Turner (Events Coordinator) |
| • Steve Burns | • Russell Wade |
| • Yana Di Pietro | • Chris Warrillow |
| • Steven Gagau | • Andrea Williams |
| • Belinda Macartney (Editor) | • Doug Wood (Treasurer) |

The position of President is still to be filled, Andrea Williams having stepped down at this AGM after serving the maximum period of four consecutive years in the role allowed under Rule 15(3) of the PNGAA Rules.

9. General discussion

Ross Johnson paid tribute to the outstanding contribution of Andrea Williams throughout her 16½ years of service on the Management Committee of the Association (including nine years as Editor and five and a half years as President) and presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation and gift in recognition of her contribution. Andrea will remain on the General Committee. The presentation was received with acclamation and Andrea provided a short response.

The meeting closed at 1.05 pm.

Papua New Guinea Association of Australia

An Invitation to attend a talk by Philip Selth OAM about the COASTWATCHERS who played a vital role in the Pacific War



In his book *The Coast Watchers*, Eric Feldt, the Godfather of World War 2 Islands Coast Watching Service, tells us that the Coastwatchers 'played a part, in importance, far beyond their number and status, at the same time unorthodox and interesting. If they had not existed, Japan would have been defeated just the same, but later, and at a higher cost of life'.

Philip Selth OAM, the recently retired Executive Director of the New South Wales Bar Association and CEO of the Australian Bar Association, came across the former New Guinea Patrol Officer Captain John Joseph Murphy during his writing of a biography of Eric Miller QC, whose wife was Murphy's cousin. Miller QC represented Murphy when court martialled on charges of treacherously giving information to the Japanese after being landed on New Britain to set up a coast watching station. This story led to Philip spending what little spare time he had over the past five years researching the stories of the Coastwatchers. This research has led him to have hundreds of files locked away in Archives disinterred for the first time since they were put away at the end of the war, and to trace relatives who often had little, if any, idea of what their relative had really done during the war.

In his address, Philip will tell of the story of two Coastwatchers, Jack Read and Paul Mason, of whom Admiral Halsey said that the intelligence they signalled from Bougainville had saved Guadalcanal, and Guadalcanal had saved the South Pacific. He will also refer to the life of John Murphy. These stories need to be told.



In Brisbane this will be sponsored by the:
New Guinea Volunteer Rifles & Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles Association
National Servicemen's Association of Australia (QLD Branch) and
Papua New Guinea Association of Australia

THE COAST WATCHERS - JACK READ, PAUL MASON & JJ MURPHY BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND

Where: Everyman's Hut in the Wacol Military Heritage Precinct, 907 Boundary Road, Wacol, (Brisbane) 4076.

When: 10.30am Saturday 9 September 2017

Cost No charge – morning tea by PNGVR & NSAAQ; Wheelchair friendly venue

Parking: Onsite with nearby street parking available.

Public Transport: Richlands, Darra and Wacol Rail nearby with taxi ranks and Uber available

RSVP: 1 September 2017 See www.pngaa.net or E: admin@pngaa.net

THE COAST WATCHERS - JACK READ, PAUL MASON & JJ MURPHY MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

Where: Hampton RSL, 29 Holyrood Street, Hampton, VIC 3188

When: Saturday 14th October 2017 – Registration 11am

Cost: \$35 pp – includes nibbles on arrival and two course lunch

Payment to PNGAA: Bank CBA BSB 062 009 Account No: 00907724 using the following code: Your surname 1410. Please email admin@pngaa.net when payment is made.

Free Parking

RSVP: 6 October 2017

E: admin@pngaa.net

A Chalkie (Part 2)

By **Ben Scheelings**

CONTINUED FROM THE JUNE 2017 EDITION

After less than a year at Keravat I was transferred to Utu (Kavieng), a place that brings a tear to my eye when I think about it. I had to take stock, order fresh supplies, take delivery and delegate students their tasks for the day at morning parade (cooking duties, malaria spraying, grass cutting, etc.). Collecting old coral from the beach, burning it in a pit on the beach and then collecting the left-over calcium oxide, selling some to the local beetle-nut chewers as 'kamdan' and turning the rest into whitewash to paint the school walls was a six-monthly event. Any student not fit for duties was to report sick and was attended to by yours truly.

Having attended a Plantation Manager's Medical course, I had been supplied with vials of procaine penicillin, syringes and two boxes of No 20 needles with the instructions "if they become blunt sharpen them with sandpaper and sterilise them in boiling water and methylated spirits". The kit included sulphadimidine, sulphaguanidine and chloroquine tablets, magnoplasm, scarlet red ointment, bottles of eusol, etc. and the usual anti-malarial tablets with instructions on how to make magnoplasm if you run out (magnesium sulphate and glycerine). For obvious reasons procaine penicillin vials had to be kept in the fridge (kerosene fridge, by the way) and when retrieved cold had the viscosity of honey. Prior to use one needed to warm these up in one's pocket or one had no chance of getting

it into the syringe and giving the intramuscular injection. However, apart from malaria the biggest problem was tropical ulcers (TUs); these are quite nasty and extremely painful, don't heal by themselves, keep expanding by eating away good flesh, and could cost you a leg if you had an untreated TU on your shinbone. Filling a TU crater with gunpowder and setting it alight, the treatment given to our POWs on the Burma Railway due to lack of medicine, makes one shudder. As a 24-year old I was probably the youngest headmaster of a secondary boarding school in TPNG, but I was not the only one. Many teachers, patrol officers, plantation managers, didimen, etc. were in their early twenties with duties and responsibilities normally associated with people in Australia of a much senior age. Yet, in spite of their young age, they performed admirably under the most difficult circumstances with excellent results and few complaints.

To keep the expertise of traditional canoe building alive,

I had the students select a tree from the forest and, using traditional tools, build a native canoe from scratch, having 'old hands' supervise to ensure it was done in accordance with tradition. Then, after some months, the canoe was ready, launched and used thereafter to catch fish for the school communal kitchen.

Utu High School would have made a good venue as a Marine College as it had everything; various coral growths, shellfish (including the Gloria Mans), fish, turtles, etc., were close at hand for study. The classroom aquariums were continually filled with a change of fresh live fish from the reef which the students caught during their morning swims. The boys also caught larger fish from the rock pools by stunning them with some bush roots which were pounded and then tossed in the pool. The stunned fish floated to the top and, before they recovered and swam away, were grabbed and barbecued on the spot. Bush craft again.



New Ireland children – Photo: Peter Worsley

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE – PNG FLAG JUMP

CHRIS WARRILLOW

Soon after returning home from completing Year 12 at High School in Brisbane my daughter Melanie accepted a position, in 1995, as the first Supervisor of the Gold Club of the Lamana Hotel in Port Moresby.

After deciding to move to Australia Melanie remained friends with the General Manager of the Lamana Hotel, Yiannis Nicolaou. They both always caught up for a coffee on Melanie's several visits 'home' to Moresby. On one such visit in September, 2014 when taking a weekend break from her job as Manager of a Cairns tandem sky dive operation, Yiannis told Melanie that the Minister for Sports had asked him to organise the 40th Anniversary celebrations the following year.

Yiannis proposed the idea of the "flag jump" into the Sir John Guise Stadium as a spectacular highlight to the opening ceremonies and sought Melanie's assistance..

Upon returning to Cairns Melanie contacted an associate who assisted in securing one of Australia's top "skydivers" – Cameron Cooper ("Coops") a veteran of 16 years of jumping. Coops had won a number of state and national awards. He was one of a handful of expert parachutists in Australia who could manage the proposed jump with a large flag.

Melanie also contacted former Chief Instructor Glenn Bolton, one of only two accredited (for jump purposes) flag makers in Australia. With specifications worked out he commenced creating the 14.4 meters x 10.8 meters (155.5 square meters, or 1675 square feet) PNG flag weighing 20 kilograms.

Two smoke-bearers were also recruited for the event – Jeremy Roberts and Karl Eitrich. Meanwhile in Moresby Yiannis was liaising with the Defence Force to make available one of their few aircraft for the jump. He secured the services of a PNGDF Arava transport aircraft.

As usual, during September along the Papuan coast, the south-east trade winds were generally blowing a gale most afternoons. The Ground Crew Assistant, Pepe Scoffel, had his work cut out assessing the winds to ensure compliance with safety standards. These required that winds not exceed 25 knots for a jump with such a large, cumbersome banner. Several practise/rehearsal jumps were aborted due to the strong winds before one was finally achieved. A further complication was that the official programme had the jump scheduled for late afternoon. This put the timing close to official 'last-light', before which both the aircraft and the parachutists had to be back on the ground.

As the aircraft circled in position from where the jump would commence winds were still above 25 knots and gusting above 30 knots. Dusk was rapidly approaching with Coops and his team anxious not to disappoint the crowds that had made them feel so welcome and appreciative of their first exposure to PNG. The pilot announced one more circuit before the last-light equation forced his return to Jackson's and cautioned that winds were still above the limit but less than 30 knots.

The trio jumped!

The result and the reception as captured in the following video tell it all.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YW_qtRXbxaA&feature=youtu.be

With thanks to Coops' company – National Skydive Displays – which took the video and kindly gave permission for the PNGAA to put on its website.)



60 Years in PNG – reflections of a daughter on the life of Peter Richard Coote

By Andrea Williams

Early years

Peter was born in Samarai, PNG, in 1926 to Rhoda and Philip Coote. After a few years in Samarai the family moved to Rabaul where Philip became Company Manager of Burns Philp. Peter's older brother, Dion, was born in Port Moresby in 1919 and his younger sister, Diana, born in 1930 in Rabaul.

The family lived in an old German house named Haus Rakaia overlooking Rabaul, and Peter attended the local European Primary School. Just before he turned 11, Peter was sent to boarding school at Knox Grammar in Sydney, entering in Grade 5. Travelling by ship each way and stopping off at various ports in PNG and Australia meant that there was only one trip home a year – a boatload of school children! Other school holidays were spent with friends in country NSW, which he much enjoyed. Peter grew into a tall, handsome lad over 6 feet and was a good runner and rugby player.

The same year that he went to boarding school, in May – 80 years ago now – there was a twin volcanic eruption in Rabaul and their home, situated within a couple of kilometres of Tavurvur volcano, was smothered in volcanic dust and ash. A new house was built on a beach several kilometres out of Rabaul at Tavui. Little did they know

that it was on the edge of a massive underwater volcano which was only discovered about 15 years ago.

At the end of 1941 Peter was advised not to return home for the Christmas holidays. A decision to evacuate civilian European women and children was made and on 22 December 1941 his mother, sister Diana, and Hannah Hildebrandt¹ were evacuated with others from Rabaul to Australia, given only a few hours' notice and allowed only a 30-pound suitcase each. Boys 16 years and over were not evacuated and, as Peter was nearly 16, it was unlikely he would have survived. Two of his close friends were in Rabaul and were killed. He always remembered them.

The Japanese began aerial reconnaissance over Rabaul the day after Pearl Harbour and in early January 1942 started their 'softening up'. Peter's father, Philip, was lucky to survive the bombing of their Tavui Point home on 20 January 1942, three days before the invasion. The Japanese must have learned that the Australian Army wanted to use it as their Officers' Recreation home.

The most appalling and sickening part of Australian WWII history in the Pacific then occurred when the few men that escaped Rabaul told of mass murders and barbaric



executions by the Japanese invaders. Philip, was not heard of again. Over 1,000 men from the New Guinea Islands and the Australian Army simply disappeared.

After the end of WWII, nearly four years later, the family were told that Philip was taken prisoner by the Japanese along with other civilian European men in Rabaul and the majority of the Australian administration there.

At the same time, in late October 1945, the family was officially notified that Philip was presumed to be on the Japanese hellship MV Montevideo Maru and that the ship was torpedoed nearly three and a half years earlier by a US submarine on 1 July 1942 off the coast of the Philippines. The family were devastated.

A young man in PNG

After gaining his Intermediate Certificate, Peter joined Burns Philp for a year in Sydney. Then, as soon as he had turned 18 in 1944, he joined the Army and was sent to Cowra for basic infantry training. When the break-out occurred, Peter was sent to guard POWs who were still in their compound. Peter was offered a position in Intelligence but instead, he joined the Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit, ANGAU, and went to New Guinea. This suited as he then had a chance of getting back to Rabaul.

As an 18 year-old with ANGAU, Peter would go on patrol in the New Guinea Highlands often the only Australian with a long line of carriers and police boys. He patrolled the Boana area, east of Nadzab (up the Markham Valley area), spending time in Mt Hagen and Wabag, and Gembogle, at the foot of Mt Wilhelm, PNG's tallest mountain. It was at Hagen that Peter was in line to receive a commission when war ended. Peter often commented that all the Australians in that situation owed their lives to the police boys who were deserving of greater recognition than what they were given.

At war's end he was posted over to New Britain and Gasmata. Despite still being with the army his position was now Cadet Patrol Officer. Gasmata and surrounding area had been under Japanese occupation and devastated. The aim was to get the local economy back to normal as soon as possible.

Eventually Peter was sent to Sydney for discharge but, being

low on points, was sent to the Italian POW camp at Myanbat in the Hunter Valley. On discharge, he rejoined Burns Philp and requested a transfer to Rabaul where he ran the Qantas agency.

Then, when another war widow decided to sell her plantation 25 miles out of Rabaul, Peter's mother was keen to return to PNG to live, and decided to buy it, sight unseen. Peter, at 24 years old, went out on his own to inspect it. It had been terribly neglected during the war and was very overgrown with tall kunai grass and *lucaena glauca* trees. After his mother and sister returned to Rabaul in 1949, Peter resigned from Burns Philp and the three of them took over Vunapau Plantation, which was only planted 30% with cocoa at the time. There was a native-material house with a corrugated iron roof over the kitchen which provided the only water supply after rain. When they ran out of water they would go down to a creek running through a gully a distance from the house and collect water in buckets. It was sometime before the cocoa plantation was properly producing so Peter eventually took work on another plantation, Rainau, whilst supporting the family.

In 1952, Langu Plantation in the remote Witu Islands, 200 miles from Rabaul, was purchased. Peter and a friend, Reg Harris, sailed out there in the Burns Philp ship Katika. The plantation was overgrown with vine and bush and all they had was a 3 tonne ex-Army truck they found in the middle of the plantation, which they managed to get going again, and a malthoid -

tar paper - house built on the old German foundations. The skipper of the ship told them they'd be lucky to survive six weeks.

Building a family

Peter had met Margaret whilst working at Burns Philp in Sydney and they married in 1954. She had bravely agreed to go and live on this coconut plantation in the middle of the Bismarck Sea, a very brave move for a Sydney girl! What an adventure they shared together. A ship would bring supplies every couple of months, sometimes with longer gaps. There was no electricity, telephone or television. Their contact with the outside world was via 2-way short wave radio participating in the small ships sked to see when copra and food boats would arrive. They traded trochus shell with the locals and invested in a Ceylon hot air copra dryer from the UK. Peter's boating skills were honed when they bought the 38ft workboat, MV Langu, and he would have to negotiate the endless reefs of the Bismarck Sea to recruit labourers from New Britain. During this period on Langu Plantation, Andrea and Victoria were born.

Peter's careful management of the plantation ensured its success. Managing these outlying plantations included managing the food source for a large line of labourers (about 120) as well as attending to all their medical problems in the little hospital - from someone falling out of a coconut tree, to dreadful tropical ulcers and tropical skin conditions to malaria and colds!

After a number of years living in this isolated but beautiful spot, Peter and Margaret moved to Rabaul by 1960, where Robert was born.

Peter supervised the various Langu Plantation managers throughout his years in Rabaul. Dick Doyle remained for many years as manager, purchasing the plantation with others in 1985 and later, outright. Having extensive knowledge of copra, cocoa and agriculture generally, Peter set up Elvee Trading Pty Ltd in Rabaul, an agricultural supply store with a twist – Margaret's interest in sewing meant that the store also became the PNG Bernina centre for Swiss sewing machines. Peter and Margaret spent many hours working in and enjoying the magnificent garden in their Rabaul home, growing all colours of bougainvillea, ixoras, frangipani, hibiscus and, after Peter's trip to Malaysia/Thailand, growing the most exquisite tropical orchids.

For a time Peter took an interest in lapidary. He fostered an interest in stamps and as a family, we benefited with all the First Day Covers of the beautiful PNG stamps. A day sailer was bought from the UK and many years were spent racing Muntreste on Rabaul Harbour. On weekends the family would drive to outlying plantations where there were beautiful coral reefs to explore and nice white sandy beaches, contrasting with the black volcanic beaches closer to Rabaul.

Peter and the family remained in PNG after its Independence in 1975, with Peter and

Margaret finally leaving in 1985. In September 1983, the earthquakes increased in Rabaul and a Stage Two Alert was announced, meaning an eruption was expected within days to weeks. Preparations were made to evacuate at short notice, including setting up a food dump and ensuring there was a reliable water supply on the plantation 30 miles out, packing up the house and shipping the contents to Australia whilst keeping only basic items that could be lost.

Later years

Peter, with Margaret, spent 25 years at Rosebank in Northern NSW where they grew avocados, limes, custard apples, Nagami cumquats, coffee, and macadamia nuts - and bee hives produced honey. Many school holidays were spent there. One day Peter was showing his grandchildren how to use his rifle. 'Aim for the rain gauge' he suggested, thinking they would miss. But that was the end of the rain gauge at Rosebank!

Peter never ever complained about anything. Even when he was diagnosed with macular degeneration which eventually made reading, something he always enjoyed, impossible. He was later diagnosed with Parkinsons Disease. He would listen to CDs and radio; loving classical and easy listening music. Peter was a great source of news from the radio and could speak on a wide range of subjects. Being born in Samarai, then an Australian territory, later serving in WWII, and later on holding an Australian passport, it was a surprise at 84 years,

to receive a Commonwealth letter asking him to prove his Australian citizenship.

Peter always had an unfailing ability to be a gentleman – to pull out the chair for Margaret, to open doors, to ensure his family was safe. When people said, which they often did 'Your father is such a gentleman' it was clear that his integrity shone through.

Peter was always so grateful for everything anyone did around him. He was kind, dignified, humble, generous, hardworking, much respected, eternally patient, responsible and had a dry sense of humour. The family could always depend on him - and his sense of fun. He was a true gentleman and gentle man in every sense. He would always listen – and then make a thoughtful and sensitive reply. He never had a bad word to say about anyone.

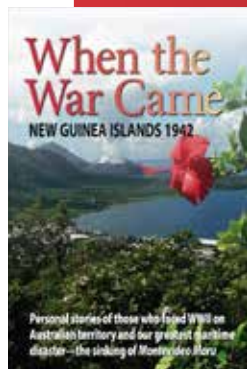
Peter was a wonderful and much loved father and grandfather and through him many extraordinary experiences were shared by the family.

He is survived by his wife Margaret, by his children Andrea, Victoria, and Robert and by his grandchildren Katie, Leilani, Chris and Rebekah.

By Andrea Williams nee Coote

(Endnotes)

- 1 Hannah had earlier been nursemaid to one of the Cilento children in Rabaul. When the Cilento's returned to Australia (Lady Cilento later became a well-respected physician in Australia), Hannah joined the Coote family as Diana's nursemaid and went on to become a special and much loved member of three generations of the Coote family.



LAUNCHED! The book produced by the PNGAA/Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Group

SEPTEMBER 2017

WHEN THE WAR CAME: New Guinea Islands 1942 **Andrea Williams**

'When the War Came - New Guinea Islands 1942',

compiled by Gayle Thwaites with editing by Jeanette Gilligan of Dragonwick, and self published by the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia Inc (PNGAA), was launched at the 75th Anniversary Commemorative Dinner at the Hotel Mercure, Canberra ACT on 1 July 2017 and is now available for purchase through the PNGAA..

This book is a collection of personal stories, memories and reflections that enhance the history of civilians and soldiers living in Rabaul, Kavieng and the New Guinea islands at the outbreak of World War II, who suffered a fate that is seldom acknowledge – when the Japanese bombed, and subsequently invaded Rabaul, the capital of New Guinea in January 1942. The stories also cover the largest maritime disaster in Australia's history, where 1053 prisoners of war and residents were loaded onto a Japanese merchant vessel, Montevideo Maru. All perished at sea when the unmarked boat was sunk by a US submarine on 1 July 2017 off the coast of the Philippines.

When the War Came, published to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of this period in the New Guinea islands, validates and brings into focus the actions and characters of young men

who left home to willingly serve their country, and then literally vanished off the face of the early; of nurses and missionaries who volunteered to stay to help both the war effort and the local people; and of civilians – both men and women – caught at home on WWII's Pacific front line. Alongside are incredulous stories of escape and survival in an environment that threw every obstacle in their path. Their journeys deserve to be heard, too.

For those of you that had family members or friends involved in this time of our history – or are just interested in Australia's past – When the War Came, with over 460 photographs and 540 large format pages, is an invaluable addition to your library. This is a vital chapter in a tragic conflict that should be better understood, and hopefully more deeply remembered.

The book includes a foreword by the Hon Peter Garrett AM, an introductory piece by Max Uechritz 'Our National Myopia: A History Forgotten', Table of Contents, Introduction, maps, 70th Anniversary Dedication of Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial 2012, Individual Memorials and a detailed Index. Pre-ordered books were packed and mailed out following the service in Canberra by members of our hard working Management Committee:

Some of the comments on email and facebook! Well done to everyone! It's a wonderful publication and I'm enjoying reading about my Dad's comrades.

- Many thanks to all involved, a job well done. I received my copy yesterday and spent the evening poring over the stories.
- Congratulations to the team! I have just finished reading the book cover to cover, what a fantastic collection, wow, the stories were all amazing and have shed so much light on the Rabaul and following incidents. So many names that I knew when I was only young, some of whom kept in touch with my mother long after my dad died, and some of their letters to mum I still have. I think that what this book has achieved for me is a greater sense of understanding of what these men endured.
- What a Rollercoaster of emotions! Anger at our government, sadness, some laughter at some of the antics, but at the end a sense of peace.
- Another thing is that I have found other relatives who were on the Montevideo Maru, this has helped with my genealogy enquiries tracing people.
- Such a wonderful book. Thank you so much for all the reading.
- Thank you very much to all involved, a good quality publication which I am enjoying reading - sometimes with a tear or two.
- Received mine and can't wait to stick my head in it!
- Maybe a follow up book for the people that missed out on getting their story's in?
- Excellent book - thank you all so much - especially enjoyed reading of my mate's great uncle Bill Box.

...And on the weekend generally:

- Congratulations for all your efforts in making the Anniversary celebrations such a success. The ceremony and dinner were perfect and it was great to see high level representation and interest in the Montevideo Maru tragedy and the fate of Lark Force garrison and civilian internees. Brendan Nelson was perfect for the occasional address and the singer and Salvation Army Band added that extra special touch.



Kalibobo Spirit Sepik Exhibition

27.12.2016 – 02.01.2017

Reflections by Dame Carol Kidu DBE Dr (Hons)

(Part two ...to be continued)

29th December 2016

Early morning on the 29th we raised anchor and passed Angoram District Headquarters. I had often heard of the mighty Sepik River but I already knew that it was an inadequate description and was adding adjectives to better reflect the reality of the Sepik at the beginning of the flood season – mighty, massive, monumental, majestic – you have to see it to even attempt to understand it and it is not peak flood time yet when the banks of the river will disappear and treetops will be used to define the main river and water will reach the top of the posts of the houses. I try to imagine how families prepare for this season – dry firewood, stored sago – everyone would have to work hard, very hard to be prepared for flood time.

The river truck is ready and we head off to visit Kambaramba Village No 1. Two wider barats were blocked with debris so Councilor Nelson whose house is on the main river joined us to guide us to the village. I add mind-blowing to my list of “M” words when we reach the entrance to take us to the village. It was blocked with logs and salvinia molesta weed but we were lucky that some village youth were in the area in their slender dugout canoes.

Combining with our crew, they use strength and skill to move logs and weed to provide a passage wide enough for our outboard motor as we inched our way to the lake beyond. For the first time in our expedition we also experienced swarms of mosquitoes to add to the drama. When we broke through to blocked barat the scene that unfolded was mind-blowing for me. In front of us was Kambaramba Village No1. – a village in a lake with just occasional small islands of land.

Quickly, seemingly from nowhere, dugouts appeared from all directions – women with babies, men, youth and small children – all ages – skillfully negotiating the water traffic as a floating market grew around us. Artefacts were handed from canoe to canoe in a co-operative effort to make sales on this rare occasion of visiting tourists, enthusiastic sellers but not aggressive as is experienced in some parts of the world. Their excitement and pleasure to have visitors for just a short time made the battle through the blocked barats all worthwhile.

Too soon we had to head back to the barat out of the lake just stopping to buy some gigantic freshwater prawns (Kindams) from an elderly lady.

Protein is certainly not an issue for the Sepik people – fish, prawns and shell fish are plentiful in the river, plus chickens and pigs on land. But we did not see any elusive crocodiles in our journey; the river is too high Sir Peter explained so the crocodiles are underwater or have moved inland to find some exposed banks to sun on. The people and animals live in harmony as they adapt to the rhythm of the river. It means that I must return again to see the Sepik in the dry season.

Once back to the main river we head upstream again to visit Moim Village on the river bank (nicknamed ‘Mosquitoville’ by some). Moim has a primary school but no clinic or Aid Post so for medical issues they rely on Angoram District station. A group of us learnt about the raw materials for making string bags and the natural dyes – brown is from the root of the noni tree was the limited knowledge I gained. We were also shown trees used for medicinal purposes – the young shoots of one are boiled and drunk for treating diarrhoea; others for treating fungus and so on. Some studies have been done of traditional medicines in PNG but much still remains unrecorded.

Some of us also spent some time watching a group of women weaving sago thatch panels for roofing for a new building and photographed an old woman demonstrating how the bridal headdress is worn. She said that traditionally the bridal headdress was made by all women but now the young girls no longer know how to weave the intricate headdress of natural twine interwoven with shells so the custom is dying out.

Village women pointed out a platform with newly woven decorations and explained that it was preparations for a peace ceremony to be held on the weekend to reconcile with another village after the killing of a young man. I did not enquire if the culprit had been arrested for the murder and, in some ways, it had little relevance compared with the importance of the peace ceremony to bring back normalcy to the two villages involved.

On the trip upstream to catch up with the Kalibobo Spirit we passed the base logging camp and with sadness saw the enormity of the logging industry in just one part of PNG.

After lunch, we were off on the river truck again, this time with Sir Peter to do some artefact shopping. Tambanum Village stretches along the bank of the river and is famous for its carvings – particularly intricately painted face masks. Tambanum village is the largest village on the Middle Sepik with a population of about 3000. An instant pathway appeared lined on each side by carvings

and masks of all descriptions. Choice dilemma faced all of us except Sir Peter who simply bought in bulk to resell at the Madang Resort to raise funds for the Melanesian Foundation which returns to the people in many ways – school desks, clinic equipment, medical supplies, school supplies and so on.

Some of us volunteered to have our own faces painted in a style of one of the masks which we then purchased. I lay on the bench in the Haus Tambaran (Spirit House) which allowed for female tourists to enter and looked at the roof while an elderly artist transformed my face. I pondered on the mysteries of the Sepik. Generations of elders had transferred their traditional knowledge to the young men under this same ancient roof – a roof blackened by years of smoke and laced with spider webs. The Sepik is a river full of mysteries for the outsider to ponder on.

The river truck left Tambanum loaded with artefacts but also with sadness that the decline in the tourist industry had impacted the economy of the village so much. It was a matter of concern voiced by so many craftspeople along the avenue of superb artefacts.

And the day was still not over for some of us because Dr Jo was interested to visit the Timbunki Mission Health Centre. We found the Sister in Charge, Anna Kupbamain, sweeping the lawn that was already immaculate and she pointed out the various buildings and their purposes.



Dame Carol exchanging face painting designs, Tambanum Village



Bossman & Tumbwan at Kanganaman Village

Only two in-patients were there because all others had been discharged for the Festive Season. One was a teenager who had been “bitten” by a buffalo when hunting for food. The wound which indicated being gorged rather than bitten was badly infected and his thigh was double the size of the other leg. The Muellers and I watched as Dr Jo examined his condition with some concern. She suggested lancing but the boy’s mother looked very concerned. I realised later that his timid mother possibly interpreted my talk about ‘cutting’ the wound (my pidgin version of ‘lance’) as amputating his leg – if so no wonder she looked concerned!! We left wishing him a speedy recovery as we headed off to



Aibom Pottery

visit the church and priests. The story of the 'buffalo boy' continues later in our journey.

There are presently two priests at Timbunki Catholic Mission – one from Poland and one from Indonesia and both had served in the Highlands region of PNG before being posted to Timbunki Mission. They proudly showed us around their church which combined traditional and western architecture and artwork. Before leaving we were contacted by Sir Peter to invite them to dinner on the Kalibobo Spirit with the Catholic Sisters from the Mission as well. Alaister confirmed that 29th December is the Polish Christmas – what a coincidence to be on the Sepik River having dinner with a Polish priest on the date of the Polish Christmas. A really good night was had by all and in typical Sir Peter style the Sisters returned to the Mission with a box of chocolates. What a day it had been! We all crashed to bed without realising that the next day would be even bigger!!

30th December 2016

Early on the morning of 30th December, the Kalibobo Spirit headed further upstream into the Middle Sepik. Sir Peter joined us

for this very special day that took us way beyond our expectations and in many ways beyond our understanding. By lunch we had reached our destination and headed off in the river truck soon after lunch.

The journey to Kanganaman village sped us through sago swamps and rainforest temporarily disturbing a variety of birdlife that added to the experience. As usual Sir Peter was greeted with great affection and respect. He had been the driving force to have their Haus Tambaran declared as National Cultural Property by the National Cultural Commission of Papua New Guinea. We first entered the mother Haus Tambaran and later proceeded to visit the son Haus Tambaran, welcomed by two masked dancers who danced backwards to the beat of the garamut beckoning us forward.

I was fascinated by the relationship of the Orator's Stool in the Haus Tambaran to the Speaker's Chair in our adopted Parliamentary form of government and felt very privileged to view hidden trophies of inter village warfare from the past kept hidden on the upper platform of the Haus Tambaran. As women from outside we were allowed to enter sacred places that the village women would never aspire to enter but I cannot pretend to understand the mystic atmosphere of these sacred places. No- one can be a one-day expert about generations of wisdom, custom and tradition. To visit the Haus Tambarans of Kanganaman village with Melanesian Tourist Services

should be on every serious tourist's bucket list.

From Kanganaman village we headed off again towards the Chambri Lakes. First stop was at Aibom Village to check for their famous pottery. It was with sadness that we found that there was very little pottery. There is no point in making traditional clay pots if nobody comes to the village to buy them. Bruce bought the only ornate pot available and I settled for some less ornate but useful pots for cooking while Sir Peter bought the only large (very large) pot available. We all encouraged the women to maintain the skill but would we maintain the skill in such circumstances?

After viewing an enclosure of young crocodiles in captivity, we headed off again to the Chambri Lakes – a massive inland sea dotted with islands. Cool breezes blowing from the lake made it very pleasant to walk around the village and admire the Aibom Pottery. Much was explained to us but I feel inadequate to transcribe in words the awesome splendour of both Haus Tambarans. How such structures could be erected without modern machinery defies my imagination. We learnt a little about skin cutting initiation from a cutter as we admired his artistry on the back, shoulders and chest of one of his young initiates, who wore his scarification with great pride – permanently marking his transition to adulthood.

TO BE CONTINUED

‘Gus’ Smales: an old journo mate sadly missed

RICHARD JONES, Bendigo, Victoria.

I worked with Gus Smales on and off in Port Moresby and Rabaul right through the 1960s and early 1970s. I was more of a sports writer than a politics scribe but even so Gus and I used to catch up semi-regularly in the old Moresby watering holes: the ‘top’ and the ‘bottom’ pubs in the city’s CBD. Along with other regulars we’d discuss how the new-ish polities were faring just up the hill in the House of Assembly, whether Paga or DCA or the Kone Tigers would win that Friday night in the Papuan Rugby League competition, and who’d separated or divorced or ‘gone finish’ from the expat community in and around the Moresby suburbs that particular month. There was never a shortage of gossip, and hard news for that matter, to mull over and chat about.

But my most enduring memory relates back to the Pacific Games of 1975 held in the then US Trust Territory of Micronesia. On Guam, to be exact. Full-time Post-Courier writer Tarcissius Bobola and I flew to Guam on a sumptuous, for the period, American regional airliner. We got there and set up in the capital Agana in a reasonably OK hotel—not as flash as the harbourside establishments frequented by hordes of Japanese newly-weds—and worked out how we were going to report on the ’75 Games. There were 14 sports, so Tarcissius opted for his seven

and I took the remaining seven. But how were we going to file daily reports back to Moresby or the next day’s Post-Courier?

And that’s where Gus Smales came in. He’d directed us to purchase US credit cards, I think they were American Express, and then told us to ring him direct back in Moresby charging the calls on the new cards. Back in Moresby Gus would sit by his typewriter, headphones on, and laboriously type up the sports stories as we read them out, line by line and sentence by sentence. It was a pretty laborious task but Monsieur Smales never faltered over the 10 or 12 days of competition. There was a set early evening time for this task each day so if there were night matches in basketball or softball or night boxing bouts, one of us would have to make a beeline for the sports event being contested. The other would be on the phone to Gus.

Now I have a sneaking suspicion that 42 years down the track that this telephoning gig might have been a tad illegal. I think we were supposed to send telexes or use whatever the smart technology of the day was. But Gus had worked it out with the managing editor of the Post-Courier that the phone-ins would cut costs and reduce errors as the reporter on the other end of the line could be queried if some portion of a story didn’t quite make

sense. So away we went on our telephoning routines, routines that also included detailed reports about the opening and closing ceremonies.

The Governor of Guam rambled on and on about his territory’s ‘liquid sunshine’ at the opening ceremony and everyone stood drenched as the tropical downpours unleashed on the out-in-the-open athletes and officials. Those reports mustn’t have met with critical acclaim back in Moresby because I recall returning to PNG and reading heavily sub-edited and slashed stories about the two ceremonies. Gus Smales had taken everything down, as he did on every occasion, only to have the sub-editors take the slasher to the content.

So, it was with some sadness I read the PNGAA e-mail notifying all of us of Gus’ passing. Unfortunately, because of family commitments in Melbourne we weren’t able to make it to Mount Martha for the funeral service but our thoughts will always be with the extended Smales family. Vale Gus: our old journo compatriot.

Note: I wrote for the South Pacific Post/PNG Post Courier and broadcast live boxing and rugby league on the ABC/NBC for many years. Those years formed the beginnings of my lifelong journalist career. RJ.



Montevideo Maru memorial service, Rabaul, 22 June 2017. Photos: Gideon Kakabin



Memorial News September 2017

75 years ago, in January 1942, Rabaul was Australia's front line in the Pacific war. This was a war fought on Australian soil against Australian people, both soldiers and civilians...a critical period in the history of both Australia and what was then the Australian Mandated Territory of New Guinea.

The resultant losses, close to 75% of the Australians in Rabaul and Kavieng at that time, accounted for 15% of all Australian POWs who died in captivity in WWII. This was just the first six months of the Pacific War and the figures do not include the local population who also suffered terribly.

Australia's history reflects over 1000 men drowned with the Montevideo Maru, about 160 were killed in the Tol and Waitavelo Massacres and around 250 died of illness, starvation or being taken out to sea whilst trying to escape. We remember all those involved in this terrible conflict.

Unlike other hellships there were no Australian survivors from the Montevideo Maru – yet the majority of the Japanese crew, about 100 of 120, survived the sinking, only to be killed by Filipino guerrillas after landing on the Philippines. And we remember that, in 2011, Japan

publicly offered apologies to some of the Australian prisoners-of-war who survived this dreadful time.

Max Uechtritz states in his LinkedIn article 'Death cries in a sea of indifference' the sinking of the Montevideo Maru was – and remains – Australia's greatest maritime catastrophe. 'The greatest loss of Australian lives at sea in war or peace.'

Significant funding is given to tell the stories and ensure living commemorations of many other theatres of Australians at war – yet, besides Kokoda, not for the vast story of Australia's front line and first battles of the Pacific War. Confusing – isn't it?

Listening to the Alan Jones interview with David Mearns who discovered the HMAS Sydney, we can sense the enormous relief and feeling of accomplishment at the huge achievement after finding the 'grave for 645 men'.

WHY is it that the wartime history for Australia in the pre-WWII New Guinea islands is not recognised better by our nation?

Where else would an Australian capital and community disappear without trace and be almost ignored?

The Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra is a significant place for relatives and friends to pause and reflect – and it's a tribute to all our members, past and present, that this was achieved. It was wonderful to see the enormous support for this very successful occasion this year with many family members and friends coming from all the Australian States.

Andrea Williams

Note: If anyone has photos of Kavieng or other islands please send in!

MEMORIAL NEWS

RABAU AND MONTEVIDEO MARU MEMORIAL NEWS



75th Anniversary New Guinea Islands and Montevideo Maru

The 75th Anniversary commemorations in Rabaul on 22 June 2017 and in Canberra on 1 July 2017 were special tributes remembering all those in the New Guinea Islands at the start of WWII. The services and the dinner were occasions which will be remembered by the many who attended. Older friendships were renewed and new friendships were made – together ensuring that the events of early 1942 in Rabaul, Kavieng and the surrounding islands will not be forgotten.

The PNGAA Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group, together with the Rabaul Hotel/ Rabaul Historical Society, commemorated the 75th anniversary of World War 2 at a service in Rabaul on Thursday 22 June 2017. The 25 visitors to Rabaul in June

had a wonderful few days there warmly welcomed on arrival with colourful frangipani leis and a singing group. An energetic tour program saw that the highlights of the Gazelle, both scenically and relating to WWII, were all experienced. Pre-dinners were spent with a kulau or cocktail around the pool with Kylie Adams-Collier on the guitar and Russ Shatford on the mouth organ. Post dinners, Gideon Kakabin shared more of the island's WWII history and Ian Sayers, returning after 50 years, explained the role of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles (NGVR).

On 22 June 2017, the day 75 years before that the men embarked Montevideo Maru, Australian High Commissioner to PNG, Bruce Davis AM gave an eloquent, thoughtful address to all those present - the Rabaul Lord Mayor, the PNG Head

of Australian Defence Staff Colonel Dave Buller (who later in the service said the Ode), the President of the NGVR/PNGVR Ex members Association Phillip Ainsworth, the 25 Australian visitors of the PNGAA/Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group to Rabaul, members of the Rabaul Historical Society, St Martins Primary School Choir and the Australian and Papua New Guinea residents who attended the service.



Australian High Commissioner to PNG Bruce Davis AM





Gideon Kakabin then gave a poignant address from the PNG perspective, speaking about the effect of WWII on local residents. Held as dusk approached, beside the Rabaul 1942-1945 Memorial and the Montevideo Maru Memorial, and between the harbour and the spectacular volcanoes, ensured the poignancy of the service. Fr Allen of St Francis Xavier parish led the service which included an inspiring, heart rending song by Australian country singer Kylie Adams-Collier, whose grandfather, Harry Adams, was on the Montevideo Maru. Long time Rabaul personality Gerry McGrade who participated in rebuilding the town after WWII, also attended. The service was organised by the Rabaul Historical Society



with Rob Rawlinson as MC. It was well attended by local Rabaul residents. St Martins Primary School Choir gave much pleasure with their melodious singing of the PNG and Australian Anthems which was greatly appreciated by all attending, as was the 'sek han' [shaking of hands] at the end of the service. Susie McGrade of the Rabaul Hotel – where the visitors stayed – was the key organiser of the event. Wreaths were laid by the Australian High Commissioner, the Head of Australian Defence, the President of the PNGAA, the President of the NGVR/PNGVR Ex members Association, guests as well as by the Rabaul Lord Mayor Hon Changol Manuai, the Baining people, leading members of the Rabaul community as well as visitors to Rabaul.

An excerpt of the keynote address by the Australian High Commissioner follows, with a link to the full address on the

Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial website:

'The sinking of the Montevideo Maru truly was one of the great tragedies of the war for Australia.

In this year of commemoration, as we mark 75 years since the New Guinea and Papuan campaigns, I also hope that we – as Australians – can cast our gaze wider than the traditional focal points of Kokoda and the Papuan battlefields to remember the trauma and sacrifice endured in other parts of this country.

...

I am also conscious that many people believe the historic failure by the Australian Government to commemorate adequately the fall of Rabaul–compared with the major commemorations surrounding the anniversaries of the fall of Singapore and the attacks on Darwin–represented a betrayal of the victims' memory.

...



Belinda Macartney, Judy and Gideon Kakabin and Andrea Williams



Ian Sayers



Kylie Adams-Collier

MEMORIAL NEWS

RABAU AND MONTEVIDEO MARU MEMORIAL NEWS



The loss of the Montevideo Maru and the atrocities which followed the fall of Rabaul were shocking and tragic events. As was the loss of thousands of Papua New Guineans in a war that was not their own. They are stories that should be told to every Australian and Papua New Guinea schoolchild.

I commend the sustained efforts of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia over many years for your dedicated leadership.'

The Australian High Commissioner's full speech can be found on the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru website at: <https://www.memorial.org.au/About/75Commem.html>

Photos of the tour can be found on the PNGAA website under the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial Photo Galleries – 75th Anniversary Rabaul and Montevideo Memorial Tour 2017.

75th Anniversary Commemorative Service, Australian War Memorial, Canberra 1 July 2017

On 1 July 2017 a 75th Anniversary service was commemorated at the Australian War Memorial, followed by the AWM Last Post Service at 5pm and then the 75th Anniversary Dinner at the Canberra Mercure Hotel.

Director of the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, Brendan Nelson AO, gave a powerful address to the approximately 300 people gathered for the 1pm service at the AWM to remember those who drowned with the sinking of the unmarked Montevideo Maru when it was torpedoed by the American submarine USS Sturgeon 75 years earlier, all those who died as a result of the Japanese invasion and occupation of the New Guinea islands, and to remember the few who managed to survive despite horrendous circumstances.

Lt Col Samuel Pho kindly provided the Prayers. The Salvation Army Crossfire





Ensemble provided prelude music as people arrived and music through the service including the National Anthem and during the wreath laying.

Kylie Adams-Collier gave a stirring performance of her song 'Montevideo Maru' which will feature on an album coming out in early 2018.

Don Hook said the Ode.

In his address, Dr Nelson said:

'Our comfortable 21st century lives breed easy indifference to sacrifices made in our name, devotion to duty and to our country. Neglectful indifference can allow the past to be a distant stranger.... Much that is precious was lost. But something precious was also gained. From their sacrifice and the anguished pain arising from it, we have gained a greater belief in ourselves and a deeper understanding of what it means to be Australian.'

Dr Nelson's full speech is on the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial website at:

<https://www.memorial.org.au/About/Nelson2017.html>

Andrea Williams, speaking on behalf of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia and the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Group said:

'75 years ago the Australian prisoners who embarked on the Montevideo Maru had no idea they would be making history: that their names would be listed in the worst maritime disaster the Australian nation has known, the only hellship with no allied survivors; a wartime disaster unknown for three and a half years.'

Hank Nelson once said: Of all the 23,000 Australians who had been taken prisoner-of-war, or interned by the Japanese, the ones Australians knew least about by August 1945 were those captured on Australian territory.

...

It is a sad fact that many younger Australians have no idea of the long and close connections Australia has had with Papua New Guinea. It is important to acknowledge the sacrifice of and remember

these men so present and future generations of Australians are aware of the contribution made towards making our nation what it is today.

The Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial at the AWM in Canberra is a special place for the relatives and friends of those with a connection to this part of Australian history and we thank Dr Brendan Nelson and the Australian War Memorial for their support.'

Andrea Williams' full speech is on the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial website at

<https://www.memorial.org.au/About/Williams2017.html>

Attending both the 75th Anniversary Service at the Australian War Memorial and attending both the 75th Anniversary Service at the Australian War Memorial and the 75th Anniversary Dinner were Minister Gordon Ramsay MLA, ACT Attorney General, Minister for the Arts and Community Events and Minister for Veterans and Seniors, Lt Col Samuel

MEMORIAL NEWS

RABAU AND MONTEVIDEO MARU MEMORIAL NEWS



ACT Minister for Veterans and Seniors, Gordon Ramsay, with Sara Turner

Pho National Secretary of the Salvation Army, together with PNG Acting High Commissioner Sakias Tameo and Mrs Mary Tameo and PNG Consul General Mr Sumasy Singin and Mrs Mary Singin; Phil Ainsworth, President of the NGVR/PNGVR Assn; Margaret and Ron Reeson attended the events on 1 July, having been asked to be the representatives of the President of Uniting Church In Australia Stuart Macmillan and the Director of Uniting World, Rob Floyd. Rev David Thiem, a UCA minister and Defence Force Chaplain based in Canberra also attended the Service of Commemoration.

Many of those visiting Canberra also attended the Last Post Ceremony which highlighted the Montevideo Maru.

A Commemorative Dinner was held at the Canberra Mercure Hotel on the evening of Saturday 1 July 2017 where the PNGAA/ Rabaul and Montevideo Maru book 'When the War Came: New Guinea Islands 1942' was launched for the 75th anniversary. The dinner was booked out well in advance with 140 people accepting and was a most enjoyable occasion, with thanks to Sara Turner for organising and ensuring everything ran smoothly on the night. Thanks go too, to Roger Carroll, Jane Turner and Kylie Adams Collier who assisted with book sales, the beautiful flowers on tables etc. Sara's thoughtful and humorous thank you to Minister Ramsay was much appreciated by all.

ACT Minister for Veterans and seniors, Gordon Ramsay, was a knowledgeable guest speaker at

the dinner having also written the foreword in Kathryn Spurling's recent book, *Abandoned and Sacrificed: The Tragedy of the Montevideo Maru*, also launched by him during the evening.

We were delighted that PNG Acting High Commissioner Tameo Sakias gave a powerful speech emphasising the common bonds between PNG and Australia – forged not least in the sacrifice during WWII.

The links for the official Australian War Memorial photos taken at the 75th Anniversary Commemorative Ceremony of Rabaul and the New Guinea Islands and in the sinking of the Montevideo Maru on Saturday at the AWM. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/australianwarmemorial/sets/72157682659278662/with/35552979381/>



L-R: NGVR and PNGVR Ex members Association President Phil Ainsworth, Andrea Williams, Director of the AWM, Canberra, Dr Brendan Nelson AO and Gillian Adamson.

With thanks to the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, for many of the photos relating to the 75th Anniversary service at the AWM, Canberra, and the Last Post.

Photos of the Last Post Ceremony can be found here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/australianwarmemorial/sets/72157683019963353>

The Last Post Ceremony at the AWM is live streamed and, after the initial 3m45s can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7PXvnY3fS0>

<https://www.flickr.com/.../australia.../albums/72157683019963353>

Thank you to those who did 'their bit' to remind the general population that we recently marked the 75th anniversary of the first six months of the Pacific War, culminating in the sinking of the Montevideo Maru.

Sometimes efforts to get it remembered were picked up, but more often, not. Regrettably the Australian media did not cover or acknowledge the beautiful commemorative services in either Rabaul or Canberra to mark this significant part of our Australian/PNG history.

For the Tokpisin speakers Radio Australia had an article on 22 June 2017 about the 75th Anniversary of the sinking of the Montevideo Maru highlighting that schools in both Australia and PNG could teach their students about this history.

<http://www.radioaustralia.net.au/tokpisin/2017-06-22/singaut-long-moa-luksave-long-ship-montevideo-maru-long-png-na-australia/1680658>

MEMORIAL NEWS

RABAU AND MONTEVIDEO MARU MEMORIAL NEWS

On 22 June 2017 Pacific Beat did an interview with Gideon Kakabin discussing reasons for the Rabaul Historical Society (in connection with the PNGAA/Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Group) holding a commemorative service that afternoon to remember the lives lost when the Japanese prison ship, the Montevideo Maru, was torpedoed 75 years ago. The point Gideon makes in the interview that many local PNGns lost beloved leaders and probably have no idea what happened to them ... to this day <http://www.abc.net.au/news/programs/pacific-beat/2017-06-22/east-new-britain-marks-75th-anniversary-of-the/8641646>

An article about the upcoming commemoration in Rabaul was included on 31 May 2017, written by Frankiy Kapin: <http://postcourier.com.pg/rabaul-mark-anniversaries/>

On 29 June 2017, the Northern Daily Leader published a letter from Walcha resident Judy Ireland 'Australia's Greatest Maritime Disaster'.

<http://www.northerndailyleader.com.au/story/4760178/letter-to-the-editor/>

On Thursday 29 June 2017 Andrea Williams was interviewed live by Kirsten Aiken on ABC News24 in the lead up to the 75th Anniversary.

In The Roar of 30 June 2017 Max Uechtritz wrote:

Remembering Wallaby "Mac" Ramsay – WW2 Hell Ship victim <http://www.theroar.com.au/2017/06/30/remembering-wallaby-mac-ramsay-ww2-hell-ship-victim/>

Kylie Adams-Collier was interviewed after her Rabaul trip on www.ozcmr.com at 10.30am 26 June 2017. Kylie Adams-Collier was also interviewed by Robert Bath on 99.9 Voice fm on 5 July 2017 at 11.10am.

Discussion included the 75th Anniversary of the sinking of the Montevideo Maru, my song "Montevideo Maru 1942" (released next year on Kross Kut Records) the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, the recent services and tour to Papua New Guinea and the "When the War Came" book launch.

Letter to Editor: *I have just finished a harrowing read of 'Abandoned and Sacrificed' by Kathryn Spurling. I got thinking about 2022 - and our 80th celebration. It would be great if this could feature a positive celebration and I fantasised about someone producing a film celebrating all the fine features exhibited by e.g. McCarthy, Holland, and Gladys Baker. I'm encouraged in this thought by the release of the film Dunkirk.*

Dr Les Drew

History Teachers' Association of Australia - National History Conference 2017

will be held at All Hallows' School, Brisbane, from 27-29 September 2017. The PNGAA/Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Group thanks Karen McPherson who will do a presentation and workshop on behalf of the association. A bus is being hired to take participants to the PNGVR Museum at Wacol for an afternoon excursion.

See further information on page 46



Rabaul, as visitors see it today, a small town with a big history.

Photo: Louie Apolos.



*S.S. Matarum at Kavieng wharf
1921 Photo Jim Twycross*

KAVIENG, NEW IRELAND, OVERSEAS WHARF IN 1917

© Jim Ridges, 2015

Prior to the Australian military occupation of German Neuguinea in September 1914, Kawieng in Neu Mecklenburg (as the Germans called New Ireland) was just a small, but very busy and increasingly important settlement and harbour.

The very first German official had only arrived, with his wife, 14 years earlier at the site of Kawieng on 30th June 1900, previously an area used by a few white traders from about 1880, living among the ‘wild’ New Irelanders.

That official, Franz Boluminski, was an energetic, hard but fair man determined to change New Ireland and drag it into the 20th century in the way his colonial government wanted.

In the 13 years before his death in Kawieng, remarkable progress had been made in transport communications and the plantation economy, along with improved health services and German justice that reduced tribal fighting, payback, sorcery and cannibalism—so that business could flourish.

A 165 kilometre long, wide road down the east coast had been built. Numerous plantations had been developed or were about

to come into full production, and in 1912 overseas vessels started a regular shipping service, in addition to the NG coastal service already established. All overseas cargo movement from ship to shore and back however, was done by lighters. Some coastal vessels were small enough to tie up at Boluminski's small ships wharf. After the Australian military occupation took control, and as Great Britain and its allies were at war with Germany, all shipping and trade with Germany was banned so that the Australian Burns Philp shipping company now provided all shipping services to and from New Guinea. This just about coincided with large increases in the copra produced in New Ireland and New Hanover at a time when demand and prices were good. It can only be assumed that Burns Philp, who had the ear of the Australian government, was quick to point out that loading facilities were non-existent in Kavieng, and the Administration would have seen the chance to levy fees for use of a wharf.

So, on 16th May 1916 the 'British Military Administrator' entered into an agreement with Frederick Arthur Smith, the planter and sawmiller on Tsoi Launung island, 'for the building of a wharf on a certain piece of land at Bagail being Block Number 26/5'. Smith also leased, and from early 1917, operated the wharf, collecting the charges gazetted on 15th April 1917.



On 14th June 1918 (gazetted 24.9.1918) he was relieved of those duties and lease 'in the events that happened the Administrator did re-possess and re-enter upon the said land and wharf'. Thereafter it was 'managed and carried on... as a government wharf'. What **'the events that happened'** causing the action to re-possess are not known, either ill health, skulduggery or a realisation that the wharf could be a 'good little earner' for the permanently cash strapped Administration. Smith died January 1924 and is buried at Pakail cemetery, Kavieng.

In the 1921-22 Australian annual report to the League of Nations it reported that the wharf at Kavieng could handle ships up to 5,000 tons and the 1927-28 report said that a new schooner wharf had been added, the approaches improved and the main wharf extended.

At the end of 1935 the 1935-36 report states 'extensive repairs and rebuilding to the Kavieng wharf'. The 1938-39 report says extensive addition to the main wharf is in hand requiring 70 piles. Berthage length will be 280 feet, draught would be 27 feet. A new cargo shed was complete, however the 1939-40 report says the extension to wharf was temporarily halted awaiting suitable superstructure timber. There are no later reports before the war and Japanese occupation on 23rd January 1942.

Photos taken soon after the end of the war in 1945 show Kavieng Wharf extensively damaged. This is hardly surprising as there was very heavy low-level USAF

B25 bomber 'softening up' bombing raids, particularly in February/March 1944, prior to the American landings on Emira island to establish an advanced airbase. As well, very heavy shelling of Kavieng town by a US fleet, including four heavy battleships, on the morning of the actual landings, had the airstrip, town and the wharf as major targets for destruction.

The substantial damage to Kavieng Wharf from the shelling and bombing did not prevent it being where the worst war crime in New Ireland was committed, probably that same evening. Convinced that the shelling preceded a US invasion, Japanese officers took the 32 or 33 surviving European civilian prisoners they held, led them individually blindfolded to the wharf, garrotted them all, went to sea and threw the bodies overboard with weights attached.

Current wharf has a length of 94 metres, width 12 metres, and a depth of 7 metres.

There were plans in the 1980's to build a new wharf, south of the original wharf, to take larger vessels and Bagail plantation was purchased from BP's to allow a fish cannery and wharf facilities to be built. A new road was built through the mangrove to the new site and in the 1990s the Deputy Prime Minister Chris Haiveta 'turned the first sod'. That however was the last that was heard of a new wharf so the 1917 wharf continues to serve, though few overseas vessels now visit Kavieng.

UV: This article initially uses the German name Kawieng, later changed to Kavieng.

The Wreck of the 'St. Paul'

by John Quinn

Through the strange by-ways of history, I recently came across a novel called *What became of the White Savage* by a Francois Garde, which was published in France in 2012 and which won a suite of French literary prizes before being translated into English and published in that language in 2015. This novel was a fictionalized account of a true story about a young French boy, Narcisse Pierre Pellatier, who had spent seventeen years with an Aboriginal tribe on the Cape York Peninsula before being found by Europeans and returned to 'civilization' — somewhat against his will, as he had been initiated into the tribe and was happy to live a tribal life. He later returned to France, marrying and settling down, of all things, to be a light-house keeper in that country!

The relevance to Papua New Guinea, you may well be asking?

Narcisse, as further research revealed, was a 12-year old cabin boy of a French ship wrecked off Rossel Island in the Louisiade Archipelago in the Milne Bay District in September, 1858. That wreck and its gruesome aftermath will be the subject of this true, but now almost forgotten, story.

The news of the incredible riches being dug out of the Australian gold-fields in the 1850s reached as far away as China, causing thousands of young Chinese men to flee their now war-torn and poverty-stricken Empire in the hope of striking it rich in what

they christened 'Dai Gum San' — the 'Big Gold Mountain'. So, a French registered sailing ship, the 'St Paul', under the command of a Captain Pennard, with a crew of 20 Europeans took on as passengers 327 young Chinese men and, leaving Hong-Kong, set sail on the long voyage down South. The Chinese passengers would have had their first sight of the ocean and, more than likely—the landlubbers that they were—have experienced their first bouts of sea-sickness!

These ships would normally have kept well out to sea on the route to Australia, but the 'St. Paul', beset by inclement weather and fog, sailed too close to the unknown Louisiades and crashed into a coral reef in the dead of night, 30/9/1858. Next morning, with the ship starting to break up in the pounding waves, the desperate passengers and crew scrambled onto a raised area of the coral reef. So, there they were, in those pre-radio days, with no means of communicating their plight and, in those pre-Titanic disaster days, with no lifeboats to get them to safety. To make things worse, only a few provisions could be salvaged.

Captain Pennard, jamming his crew and a few Chinese into the seven metre longboat, rowed across to Rossel Island, a kilometer or so away in a search for fresh water. They camped by a small stream overnight but suddenly, in the morning, were attacked by an overwhelming

force of islanders, which left eight of the Europeans and a number of Chinese dead. The remainder, including young Narcisse, who had been hit on the head by a stone, managed to get into the life-boat and made a desperate retreat to the coral islet, followed by canoes filled with yelling islanders, brandishing spears and clubs, who were only kept from pressing home their attack by musket fire.

Desperate times require desperate remedies and Captain Pennard decided to leave the Chinese with one European who knew how to fire a gun, embark all the remaining crew and make for Australia, nearly 1,500 kilometres away, in the hope of reaching some European settlement. In a remarkable trip, rivalling the far better-known voyage of Captain Bligh after the mutiny on 'HMS Bounty', the longboat avoided the unknown reefs and shoals of the now Milne Bay Province and the Great Barrier Reef to eventually make land near Cape Direction in the far north of Cape York. It should be noted that, in this two-week voyage, the only supplies available were water-soaked flour, a few tins and what seabirds or fish they could catch—all eaten raw and uncooked as there was no possibility of lighting a fire in the longboat.

And this is where young Narcisse, whether by accident or design, was left behind with a kindly Aboriginal tribe to

commence his own incredible journey of survival.

The longboat headed out to sea again where the Captain and his crew were sighted and rescued by a schooner, 'The Prince of Denmark', in the middle of October. It took yet another two months before French authorities in New Caledonia could be contacted and rescue efforts set in motion. The French steamer 'Styx' set off from Noumea with Captain Pennard and his crew as guides and sailed North-West towards Rossel Island, where it was not until the first week of January, 1859 that it located the actual reef on which the 'St. Paul' had been wrecked and sighted the tiny coral islet on which they expected to find the marooned survivors. But no living person could be found, only two Chinese bodies in a shallow grave. Steaming across to Rossel Island, they came across somebody frantically signaling to them from the surf. When rescued, he turned out to be a Chinese man who told the terrifying story of what had happened to his compatriots.

They had been left in peace for about a month, until the islanders again attacked in force, overpowering the one European who knew how to fire the musket. The unarmed Chinese were completely demoralised and gave themselves up to the mercy of their assailants, who suddenly became friendly and started providing canoes full of food and water. By signs and

gestures, the Rossel people then indicated that they would transfer the Chinese from their tiny, cramped outcrop across to the main island but, as their canoes were small, they could only take three or four at a time.

Little did the canoe passengers realise the horror of what was in store for them when they came ashore; each Chinese person was grabbed, stripped naked, had his traditional pigtail ripped from his head, was cooked and eaten. So, with each small group taken away, unknowing until their final moment of what was to happen to them, over 300 Chinese were slaughtered in about two months. The only ones to survive were five Chinese (including the one living witness) and the one European crew-member; I surmise that the only reason that they had been spared was, as common in other parts of PNG, they may have been recognised as the returned spirits of deceased islanders.

The 'Styx', puffing clouds of smoke and steam, must have appeared as something monstrous and alien to the islanders and they had taken to the hills with their captives, except for the one Chinese who had hidden himself until he was able to rush into the surf and attract his rescuers. The French spent a few days trying to locate and save the missing, but, under attack from the locals and with reprisal shootings and burning of villages, this proved impossible and the 'Styx' crew gave up the task and steamed for Sydney,

arriving at the end of January, 1859. The horrific massacre was headline news in many of the Australian newspapers of the time.

But this is not the end of the tale, for in 1865, two Chinese were rescued from an island in the Loyalty group, over 2,000km kilometres to the South of Rossel; they turned out to be 'St Paul' captives who had been traded for steel axes! The interesting thing about this story is the tremendous extent of the trading canoe voyages around these Coral Sea islands before the disruption caused by the white man and his artificial territorial boundaries.

Today the story of the wreck of the 'St. Paul' and the cannibalisation of 300 Chinese has morphed into legend on Rossel Island, though it is claimed that Chinese chants can be recognised in some of the island songs and Chinese coins of the period are incorporated into necklaces worn by the islanders.

Authorities: What became of the White Savage by Francois Garde - English reviews

The Saga of the 'St. Paul' by Col Davidson - from Academia. Com

Trove extracts from Sydney Morning Herald 1859 article on the massacre

Trove extracts from Darling Downs Gazette, February 1859 on the massacre

Encyclopedia articles on Narcisse Pierre Pellatier

Vudal and the Mataungans

by Gordon Dick



Instalment #6

Over several issues, we have enjoyed the recollections of Gordon Dick, Principal of Vudal Agricultural College in 1970. This is his final instalment.

Recollection Ten: Living with Tension

The October evictions were followed by a period of confusion and increasing tension. The establishment of a field base of police and Department of Administration officers in the Trans-Vudal area was obviously re-considered and it was withdrawn. The [male] Tolai population increased and more traditional “village elders” influence appeared. Threats and accusations were made against College personnel. My wife was surprised by a group emerging from the forest plantation beyond our house – where no-one was known to be living – and accusing her of having police living in our home. One of the accusers was the one-armed man named Todam, leader of the land-settlement group from the other side of the college lands. We had thought that we had established good relations with him and the settlers and Beverley was taken aback at his accusatory approach. [The issue of having police living with staff at the college had been raised a number of times, both with the staff themselves and from the Mataungans. I had advised against it, but made the point that each staff family paid rent on their house and could make

its own decisions about whom it accommodated]. So insistent were the accusations against my wife and me [I was absent] that Beverley simply invited the group in and took them through the house. They appeared convinced and left.

Nerrius Tiotam, a college staff member, who was from the local community, warned me of changes in the attitude of the Tolais, and that they were hearing talk of armed police coming against them and using live ammunition. I would have tried to counter this line of fear but two things happened which shook my confidence: first a tape recording [made by an A.B.C. staffer] was brought to me and played. It was a recording of a briefing by a South African accented officer at the distribution of ammunition to police officers. It was brutal. The second event was a visit by two fairly senior patrol officers. One I had known and worked with in the Highlands, the other was a newer acquaintance. They urged me to “toughen up” and “deal with reality”.

“Can’t you see,” said the ex-Highlands ADO “that this business will be all over as soon as a couple of them are kicking in the dust?”

At this time two Australian journalists got themselves into the Trans-Vudal and reported from there. Their headlines spelt out what appeared to be happening: “These people have gone back hundreds of years in a few days.” Traditional spiritualism and sorcery were being invoked against the fear of

the police. Ancient techniques in the area included the selection of young men for assassination missions. They were drugged with bush medicines and mesmerised with incantations then painted with blue dye. The dye rendered them “invisible” so that no-one would admit to having seen them nor what they did. One evening not a kilometre from the college I saw such young men. Nerrius, in great distress, begged me to turn back, which I did.

Late one afternoon Nerrius came to tell me that several groups of armed warriors were assembled at positions around the college boundary. They had heard that the police were preparing an attack on them. Nerrius feared the warriors would attack the college if the police came.

I drove to Keravat Lowlands Agricultural Experiment Station where the main body of police was encamped. Fortunately, the PNG officer on sentry knew me and directed me to the [European] duty officer. This officer was shocked that I had got past the boundary line. I assured him that it was properly done and that as a matter of urgency I wished to speak to the Commanding Officer. He told me that was impossible but I told him I would make serious complaints to the Administrator if I could not. At that he gave me directions to a house on the research station. The Commanding Officer was not at the house I was sent to, but I learned there that he was at the house of the Senior Agronomist [who was absent on leave].

I knew that house well and proceeded to it.

As I arrived I met the duty officer who had mis-directed me coming out. I said a few unfavourable things to him and to the Commanding Officer I said "I presume you have been forewarned of my visit." He said "Come in Mr. Dick. I would like to hear from you." I entered and in the next fifteen minutes came to appreciate something of one of the finest policemen I have met. He was in an invidious situation and was indeed awaiting orders. But those orders were coming from Canberra! His firearm was in its holster on the table. He stood up and buckled it on, saying "I don't feel ten feet tall when I wear this." We spoke of the issued weapons and ammunition, and the fact that the local people

were well informed on everything the police did. The prospect of another attack on them was not attractive. As for tonight? He said that in truth he could not rule it out. We walked out onto the veranda. It was dark and the clouds were thickening across the sky. I said it would be a dreadful night to attempt any action against the villagers. He agreed. He said again that he could not anticipate the orders which he might receive, but he could provide many reasons why tonight should not be the night. I said I would go back and tell the people that the police will not be coming tonight. He agreed that that would be a pretty safe step.

I returned to the college and told Nerrius that I had seen the Commanding Officer and that we could tell the villagers to go home and rest – at least for

tonight. I drove with Nerrius to several points on the college boundaries where he made contact with the warriors and told them there would be no police coming this night.

During this period of uncertainty those staff and their families who remained at the college were spending more time together, both during the day and gathering for joint meals and social support in the evenings. That evening I remember returning relieved and exhausted to the home of one of the lecturers where most staff had gathered. I told them briefly that the pressure was off for the night. I remember sitting down on the floor with my back against a wall. Someone brought me a plate of food and a drink, and I fell asleep.

Recollection Eleven: Visit of Sir Laurence MacIntyre

Later in the year I received a message from the Administrator's Department telling me that Sir Laurence MacIntyre, newly appointed Australian Ambassador to the United Nations, would be visiting the college and to "extend all courtesies."

On the appointed afternoon, I asked all staff to be at the staff room and proposed that we have afternoon tea and informal or formal discussions as might suit the visiting party. To my surprise Sir Laurence arrived on his own in a car driven by a local driver. He had afternoon tea with the staff, then asked me to show

him around. I asked whether he wanted a full tour of the facilities but he said no. He said he had come to visit Vudal because Bill Conroy told him that the best way for him to understand the Mataungan situation was to come and see the area and to discuss it with me. Sometimes Bill's faith in his staff was breathtaking. [I wondered how the senior layers of information assessment and policy formulation in Port Moresby and Canberra would react to this direct, simple approach].

Sir Laurence did not seem to have many questions. We toured the nearby village areas, met a few real-life village people and spoke with them. Later Sir Laurence expressed himself as being well satisfied with the visit.

Vudal 1970: Some moments of humour

On my first visit to Rabaul (Dec. 1959) a long-time resident told me of some of the attractive characteristics of the Tolai people. One was their love of music and their beautiful choirs ("when two babies cry in the village they harmonise"). Although young Tolai men could be fiery, there was no serious crime in the area. And the people often saw the humorous side of quite serious situations.

In the week following the first large scale attempt to clear the Tolais from the Trans-Vudal area, I was driving through Kerevat Agricultural Research Station where the police had established a large camp. There was a wide area of cleared land

on both sides of the road with some regrowth bush on it. Two European police officers were on the road shouting directions to a line of police extending out for some hundreds of metres on each side. The police were spaced out and using heavy batons to beat the bush as they moved forward. The implications for villagers scattered out to avoid tear-gas while claiming the land were obvious. I stopped my car and watched. An elderly villager came walking down the road. He saw me watching and as he came close I said: "Yu lukim?" ("You see it?"). "Mi Lukim, Masta," he replied. "Yu tink tink wonem?" ("What do you think?" I asked). "Ai tink I orait, Masta. Ai tink oli kam runim magani!" ("I think it's all right, sir. I think they've come to hunt wallabies!")

One of the ready explanations offered for the Mataungan movement and its interest in land by the unsympathetic expatriate community was that it was a new cargo cult. Ian Fardon was a Methodist missionary who had worked many years among the Tolai people and was fluent in their language. He was now living in Port Moresby. Distressed by the growing turmoil on the Gazelle he made a visit to Rabaul and came out to Vudal. Ken Witting introduced me to him and asked if it would be possible for Ian to visit the Trans-Vudal areas. I was making occasional visits with a Tolai college staff member, Nerrius Tiotam. Nerrius was invaluable as an adviser and interpreter.

On the day when Ian visited, the Administration had sent an aircraft over the area to drop hundreds of copies of a printed statement of the Administration's position and ordering the people off. The document was in Kuanua, the local language. Ian wanted a copy, but we had trouble finding

one that had not been desecrated – spattered with betel nut juice or made into a paper cap or with a stick stuck through it and erected as a flag. But an elderly man had carefully stored some in his house. He brought them out and gave Ian copies and said, grinning: "Long morning balus ikam na I raun na go back agin. Na long belo emi kambak na iraun na lusim dispel pipia long mipela na I go bak. Na mipela wait, wait, wait. Tasol I nogat cargo." ("This morning an aeroplane came and circled and went back. Then at midday it came back and circled and dropped this paper on us and went back. We waited and waited but there was no cargo.")

When, in October, the hundreds of Mataungan men were trucked out of the Trans-Vudal area and unloaded on the college lawns, the administration had ready a convoy of trucks loaded with equipment and pre-fabricated camping facilities which drove past the college and up into the contested area. One young Tolai watching said, "Now that's the way to go bush!"

On that day, which was completely unannounced, Eric Wilson, Regional Agricultural Officer, was on his way to his office in Rabaul when he heard of the police incursion. He feared for the college and for possible adverse reactions amongst the students. He said he turned on the spot and drove as hard as he could to Vudal. When he arrived, he could see considerable commotion and lots of people. And there among it all were students with butterfly nets chasing specimens for their collections.

One October afternoon, I drove out to Trans-Vudal to deliver mail to John Kaputin. There had been a considerable increase in male

numbers in the area and I felt my intrusion was not welcome. However the Administration inadvertently helped out by sending a helicopter to shadow my car (I had had helicopters following me a number of times prior to this). While I was talking to John, a small crowd gathered. The helicopter descended to a fairly low height and a youngster with a shanghai scored a hit on it. The group cheered. Kaputin said "We'll get him a Kalashnikov when he's fifteen."

Beverly and I visited Rabaul one afternoon each week – she to do the household shopping and me to consult with treasury and college suppliers etc. We became used to being harassed with police roadblocks and held up for considerable periods. We adjusted our departure times and carried reading material. One afternoon we were at the branch to Vunakanau and Rabaul leaving the Keravat–Kokopo road when we encountered a roadblock. We were directed to the roadside and left to wait. Other vehicles arrived and passed through; we waited.

The ABC – still the countrywide broadcaster at that time – was serialising Graham Green's *The Comedians*, and we were listening. The reader was saying "You could tell nothing from their faces: black, impassive, their eyes hidden behind dark glasses..." – and there they were, right in front of us. (I believe it was for this kind of harassment that senior officers of the former Administrator's Department apologised to me years later.) But at the time we were determined not to respond, though we did wonder if some adjustment of funds should have been made to the Department of Agriculture for the loss of time involved.

Memories of my time in TPNG

By Phil Willy.

The article in Una Voce, June 2017, which was “VALE – Bredmeyer, Theo...” written by Neville Threlfall, stirred memories of my time in TPNG.

Similar to Theo I too commenced work in TPNG, aged 21, in late 1964, and I also worked with the Land Titles Commission of the Department of Crown Law. Although I did not know Theo personally, I understand his position as one to whom I and my workmates could only have great respect. The work I contracted to for two years as Field Officer, commenced in Port Moresby around November 1964 under Commissioner Syd Smith. I underwent training in a drafting office, and field work under Syd and Senior F.O. Norm Oliver.

Early in 1965 I was transferred to Rabaul to commence field duties, joining an office headed by the much esteemed Jack Read, with Commissioners Smith and Kimmorley overseeing the work of 3 or 4 expatriate Field Officers. Our work entailed frequent short or long forays into the surrounding Gazelle Peninsula to obtain data and surveys of local property boundaries as described by local landholders who agreed to or opposed claims to freehold land title by neighbours, usually plantation owners. Plans prepared by F.O.'s were passed to Commissioners who then presented them as evidence in the Court to decide boundaries.

Theo seems likely to be the person who presided over the ultimate court decision-making process in the Land Titles Commission. Please feel free to correct me if I am wrong.

Field officers always worked with a gang of local labourers, translators, guides and a Govt driver. Learning in the field went both ways with F.O.s training chosen potential leaders on the job, and locals tried to teach me to make fire without matches, and of course there was always much to learn about the environment and people. It was satisfying work and rewarded me at the time with new friends, and knowledge of the area.

In April 1965 my fiancé Valerie from Broadmeadows, Victoria, arrived in Rabaul and we were married in the District Commissioners office by D.C. Harry W. West. Our two witnesses were Margaret Hamilton and David Jenkinson [teacher]. David was later sent to build a one teacher school at Tinputz, Bougainville, find his students, and commence classes.

As F.O. my work assignments took me to New Ireland and along the North coast of New Britain during the 2 years. After

2 years in TPNG, Valerie and I decided to return to Australia to commence a “normal” life where land, a house and family played a large part. Common belief at the time was, if you renewed your 2 year contract in TPNG two more times, i.e. 6 years total, you would never leave the place, as it would capture your heart.

Footnote: being a keen bushwalker from the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club, I joined a small group of bushwalkers in Port Moresby and we trained for and walked the Kokoda Trail in the Christmas to New Year break 1964. What great memories we have of those days. Our subsequent life together involved 2 children, careers in Civil Engineering and Occupational Therapy, Teaching, gallery operators, potters and sculptors on the Sunshine Coast, Qld to this day.



Photo supplied by Phil Willy

CREATIVE ARTS + BOOKS & REVIEWS

On the weekend of Papua New Guinea's (PNG) Independence...

Wantok Musik: Melanesian Showcase featuring George Telek | Redland Performing Arts Centre | Sunday, 17 September 2017

Prices: All tickets \$30

Food stalls and entertainment from 4pm.

Performance starts 6.30pm

Join us for a night of Melanesian music and dance when WANTOK Musik performs on the weekend of Papua New Guinea's (PNG) Independence. This showcase celebration is a partnership in community cultural development with the Quandamooka Festival and is an exciting opportunity to experience a coming together of Quandamooka and Melanesian communities, artists and musicians.



There will be a fabulous line-up of contemporary and traditional Melanesian musicians including George Telek (PNG), Charles Maimarosia (Solomon Islands) and Tio (Vanuatu), plus a number of other musicians from PNG and West Papua. They will be joined by local musicians and artists from Quandamooka Country.

Don't miss this coming together of Melanesian, Quandamooka and wider Redland communities.

Redland Performing Arts Centre Tel 07 3829 8131 Email boxoffice@rpac.com.au

When the War Came: New Guinea Islands 1942

ISBN: 9780 6480085-1-4 Compiled by Gayle Thwaites; Designed, edited and produced by Dragonwick; Published July 2017 by Papua New Guinea Association of Australia/Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Group. 543 large format pages; over 460 photographs; maps; 150 stories; 70th Anniversary; Introduction; Abbreviations; Index; Cost: \$55 plus \$20 postage within Australia

Available from the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia:

<https://pngaa.org/site/blog/2017/07/11/when-the-war-came-new-guinea-islands-1942-book-orders/>

Personal stories of those who face WWII on Australian territory and our greatest maritime disaster – the sinking of the Montevideo Maru.

In January 1942 Rabaul was Australia's front line in the Pacific war. This war was fought on Australian soil against Australian people. It was a critical time in the history of both Australia and what was then the Australian Mandated Territory of New Guinea.

This book is a collection of personal stories, memories and reflections that enhance the history

of civilians and soldiers living in Rabaul, Kavieng and the New Guinea islands at the outbreak of World War II, who suffered a fate that is seldom acknowledged— when the Japanese bombed, and subsequently invaded Rabaul, the capital of New Guinea, in January 1942. There are stories of evacuation, escape, massacres and prisoners of war. The stories also cover the largest maritime disaster in Australia's history, where 1,053 prisoners of war and civilian residents were loaded onto a Japanese merchant vessel, Montevideo Maru. All perished at sea when the unmarked boat was sunk by a US submarine on 1 July 1942 off the coast of the Philippines.

When the War Came, published to commemorate the 75th anniversary of this period in the New Guinea Islands, validates and brings into focus the actions and characters of young men, who left home to willingly serve their country, and then literally vanished off the face of the earth; of nurses and missionaries who volunteered to stay to help both the war effort and the local people; and of civilians— both men and women— caught at home on WWII's Pacific front line. Alongside are incredulous stories of escape and survival in an environment that threw every obstacle in their path. Their journeys deserve to be heard, too.

Abandoned and Sacrificed The Tragedy of the Montevideo Maru

Author: Kathryn Spurling

Publisher: New Holland Publishers

Year: 2017

ISBN: 9781742579092

Pages: 304

Soft or Hardback: Paperback 240 x 165 mm

Additional info: over 230 photographs, 8 maps, 15 sketches and documents (all black and white); references and footnotes

Category: History

Available from: <http://au.newhollandpublishers.com/quickview/index/view/id/2012>

Cost: \$29.99 from booksellers

Description:

Abandoned and Sacrificed The Tragedy of

the Montevideo Maru is the forgotten story of Australia's worst maritime disaster. Experienced maritime war historian Dr Kathryn Spurling tells how the victims came to perish on the Japanese hellship and reveals why the Australian Government continued to cover-up the details of the sinking long after the war.

Rabaul, New Guinea, is a tropical paradise, but between January and July 1942 it was a tragic and terrifying place. Hundreds of Australian defence force volunteers and civilians were massacred by the invading Japanese. Forced into the holds of the hellship Montevideo Maru, a further 1053 perished in Australia's worst maritime disaster. On 22 June 1942, 845 military POWs and over 200 civilian internees left Rabaul on the Montevideo Maru, a freighter requisitioned by the Japanese navy, for Hainan, off the southern coast of China. On 1 July this vessel was torpedoed and sunk by the submarine USS Sturgeon close to Luzon, resulting in the deaths of all prisoners and internees on board. Most were barely adults, still too young to vote. All were forsaken and sacrificed by Australia's government and military leaders. Decades of official denial and subterfuge have ensued, as families continue to fight for the truth and to understand why the Australian Government was so slow in admitting this ever happened. Having made contact with many families of civilian and military personnel who perished on the Maru, Dr Spurling's book uncovers the forgotten story ... how young and inexperienced the soldiers were who were sent to Rabaul in 1941; and the ensuing Government denial and cover-up (Australian Prime Minister Menzies noted that the matter should not be pursued because it might endanger post-war trade with Japan!) 22 June 2017 is the 75th Anniversary of the sinking of the Montevideo Maru ... a dark, relatively unknown chapter in Australian military history. Through working directly with the families and friends of the victims, Dr Kathryn Spurling has documented their history in time to have the book out for this anniversary. Whilst there have been several books written, particularly on the military personnel, Dr Spurling has written a book more focussed on the families and loved ones whose lives were greatly impacted by this event. The Foreword is written by Gordon Ramsay MLA and a Preface by Andrea Williams.

Ten Thousand Years of Cultivation at Kuk Swamp in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea (Terra Australis 46)

Edited by: Jack Golson, Tim Denham, Philip Hughes, Pamela Swadling and John Muke

ISBN (print): 9781760461157 **ISBN (online):** 9781760461164

Publication date: July 2017 Published by ANU Press 544pp 294 x 205mm

Download online for free or Purchase from Newsouth Books \$75.00 <https://www.newsouthbooks.com.au/books/ten-thousand-years-cultivation-kuk-swamp-highlands-papua-new-guinea-terra-australis-46/>

<http://press.anu.edu.au/publications/series/terra-australis/ten-thousand-years-cultivation-kuk-swamp-highlands-papua-new>

DOI:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.22459/TA46.07.2017>

Kuk is a settlement at c. 1600 m altitude in the upper Wahgi Valley of the Western Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea, near Mount Hagen, the provincial capital. The site forms part of the highland spine that runs for more than 2500 km from the western head of the island of New Guinea to the end of its eastern tail. Until the early 1930s, when the region was first explored by European outsiders, it was thought to be a single, uninhabited mountain chain. Instead, it was found to be a complex area of valleys and basins inhabited by large populations of people and pigs, supported by the intensive cultivation of the tropical American sweet potato on the slopes above swampy valley bottoms.

With the end of World War II, the area, with others, became a focus for the development of coffee and tea plantations, of which the establishment of Kuk Research Station was a result. Large-scale drainage of the swamps produced abundant evidence in the form of stone axes and preserved wooden digging sticks and spades for their past use in cultivation.

Investigations in 1966 at a tea plantation in the upper Wahgi Valley by a small team from The Australian National University yielded a date of over 2000 years ago for a wooden stick collected from the bottom of a prehistoric ditch.

The establishment of Kuk Research Station a few kilometres away shortly afterwards provided an ideal opportunity for a research project.



Help Wanted \$\$\$

Members are able to make payments for services and products from the PNGAA in essentially three different ways:

- Writing a cheque
- Using a credit card
- Making a direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer)

Cheques are slow and require a lot of manual processing.

Credit cards cost the PNGAA a fee of 2.5 – 3% for processing. We will soon be assessing a surcharge to cover the cost for using credit cards as we try to keep our costs to a minimum for our members.

Direct deposits are fast and efficient. But there is a danger that we may not be able to identify who made the payment or understand what the payment is for. Care must be taken when making such transactions through your bank to ensure that the relevant information is transmitted. And a follow-up confirmation e-mail to membership@pngaa.net is recommended.

We currently have a mystery deposit into our account that we cannot identify: June 1st Citibank CH \$35.00. If you can help us identify this payment please email membership@pngaa.net

Time Traveller

Contributions are sought by Air Niugini's Paradise magazine. If you have a photograph that would be suitable for the 'Time Traveller' section of this publication (published 6 times a year), please email paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com

PNGAA “Helpim Wantok” Project – UTS Furniture Donation



By Steven Gagau – Project Coordinator

By October 2017 the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) will have approximately 350 student tables and 750 chairs surplus to requirement after it receives its new supply of classroom furniture.

Through an agreement with the PNG Consulate in Sydney, UTS has kindly agreed to donate this second hand furniture to educational institutions in PNG on the provision that the furniture is collected from the UTS campus in Sydney “as is - where is”.

Because of the PNGAA connection with the PNG Consulate, we have taken on this project known as “Helpim Wantok”. The beneficiary will be the University of PNG through its Open College network of campuses and study centres throughout the country.

These donated chairs and tables must be picked up from UTS and delivered to the UPNG depot in Port Moresby. The

Project will involve the logistics management of collecting the furniture from the UTS campus in Sydney, packing everything into a shipping container and transporting it to the UPNG in Port Moresby including all the related costs. We are endeavouring to complete this undertaking at the lowest possible cost.

PNGAA will attempt to fund this project through potential business sponsors and donations from PNGAA members, businesses and other parties interested in the welfare of Papua New Guinea. We strongly believe that the education of Papua New Guineans is critical to the future of PNG, and success of this

project will assist in a small way towards this objective.

If you wish to assist in this project, you can make a contribution through the “Projects” page on our website or you can mail by cheque to our post office box. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Progress on this project will be updated on our website page as it materialises.

Any surplus monies collected will be retained in a fund for future projects for the benefit of Papua New Guineans. Full transparency and accounting for the project will be provided on the website page.



**Help
make this
happen by
donating
now.**

National History Teachers' Conference spread the word to all the teachers you know!



It is critical that the history of PNG is passed to our young citizens. Well-informed teachers are part of this important work. So please spread the word about this national conference,

**'Breaking Boundaries' -
History Teachers' Association
of Australia National**

History Conference 2017, 27-29 September

All Hallows School, Ann Street,
Brisbane

Rabaul and Montevideo Maru
presentation /workshop by Karen
McPherson

**Thursday 28 September 2017
from 1.45pm to 3.50pm**

**Supporting this workshop,
the PNGAA/RMvM is paying
for a bus to take attendees to
the PNGVR Museum at Wacol
as part of the afternoon
workshop with Karen.**

Visit: <http://qhta.com.au/htaa-conference-brisbane-27-29-sept-2017>

Rabaul BLOOMS again with the 2017 Frangipani Festival

Rabaul will soon come alive again like Tavurvur as planning is underway for the 2017 Frangipani Festival. Now in its 21st year, the event will commemorate the 23rd anniversary of the twin volcanic eruptions and the 80th Anniversary of the 1937 eruptions where 200 people lost their lives.

The Frangipani Festival is also a time to celebrate Papua New Guinea's 42nd year of independence. A team of dedicated volunteers is currently finalising an exciting two-day programme.

The Festival will kick off on Friday 15 September with the McGrade Family Cup TWO STONE Kanu Race, which will see local skippers circumnavigate the Beehives in a quest to be crowned winners on the day.

This will be followed by an Independence Anniversary programme supported by Rabaul Schools.

Once the sun sets crowds will be mesmerised by an Engini – the famous Baining Fire Dance, performed at Malaguna Secondary School.

On Saturday 16 September, be prepared to awake early to witness the spectacular Tolai Kinavai on the beautiful Simpson Harbour Rabaul Foreshore.

Then afterwards be prepared for the streets of Rabaul to be full of noise and colour as the Annual Float Parade makes its way through town. This year's theme, DANCE, DANCE, DANCE, KEEPING CULTURE ALIVE THROUGH DANCE, is sure to result in amazing displays of flair and creativity.

'The Frangipani Festival is a free public event' says Susie McGrade, member of the organising committee. 'We are very proud to be able to present ceremonies such as the Kinavai and Engini without charging any admission fees.'

The support of the community is vital to the event's success. 'The Festival would not be possible without the generosity of our sponsors' says McGrade. 'This year we have a number of sponsorship packages available and would love to hear from any businesses or organisations



interested in partnering with us. We are always grateful for any donations, no matter how small.'

Registration is also now open for the Annual FRANGIPANI Float Parade and prizes will be awarded for the most creative float, the most entertaining float, the best corporate float and the best community group / private float.

For further information, or to register for the float parade, please contact the organising committee via the Rabaul Hotel on 982 1999 or rabaulhotel@global.net.pg

Sing Sing - events and reunions

To meet the Members' interests, it is important to know who may interest you as prospective speakers for our organisation around the country. So, it would be great to hear from you with a suggested name and contact for people in your area to give talks to our members and friends. These potential speakers can then be approached, listed, and called on at an appropriate occasion.

Melbourne... here we come!

My aim along with the most capable Yana Pelikan, who resides in Melbourne, is to gradually develop a few more social and informative events in Victoria. We need to hear from you with the intention of getting a working party underway to achieve this. Enthusiasm and interest in PNG is all that's required. So, what's it to be, a movie night, speakers, hiking, garden stalls, dancing?

Yana coordinator@pngaa.net Sara events@pngaa.net
Mob. 0401 138 246

Sunday 28 May 2017. Gordon Golf Club

The speakers, Joy Benson, Jane Turner, Liz Corner, and Bennie Clarke were marvellous and shared their lives in PNG with depth, sensitivity and humour. Each person made the presentation their own and seemed very pleased to share these memories.

We had an unexpected speaker in Bennie Clarke, who stepped in to chat about her life when Liz Corner was late due to having to go to hospital. All very eventful to say the least!

The reaction from the audience was extremely positive and very encouraging for us to do this again. I would choose women from different aspects of life eg. plantation, missionary, kiap, agriculture etc.

The audience was mainly women with some very brave men joining us. Some were Members! Others had never lived in PNG or not had any other affiliation but being a friend. I did receive feedback from some members wondering if we could do it in Melbourne, Victoria.

Thank you everyone!

Sara

What is your connection to Rabaul and the Montevideo Maru?

Compiled by **Belinda Macartney**

It was my great honour to be part of the group who attended the 75th Anniversary commemorative service on Simpson Harbour, Rabaul, 22 June 2017. For the group, there was one unifying question; What is your connection to Rabaul and the Montevideo Maru?

Some of the party offered me their thoughts for sharing in Una Voce.



Name/s: Ross and Maxine Tucker

Dates in PNG: 19-24 June 2017

Connection to Rabaul:

I'm the nephew of Roy McPherson (my mother's brother). The tragedy of Montevideo Maru has been followed by our family ever since 1942 when we lived with my grandmother, Roy's mother, a widow who was supported by Roy for approximately 12 months when I was nine years old. During that time, I can remember the anguish and suffering that my mother and grandmother endured, not knowing the fate of Roy, and the subsequent years that followed.

Since then I have always been aware of any information connected to the ship. Together with my wife, Maxine, I attended the dedication ceremony of the Montevideo Maru memorial, Canberra. We have enjoyed the camaraderie of the group and the excellent program provided by Suzie*

*Susie McGrade and her father Gerry McGrade hosted the group at the Rabaul Hotel, Mango Avenue, Rabaul.





Name/s John Reeves and Carolyn Ledlie

Dates in PNG: 19-24 June 2017

Connection to Rabaul:

Our grandfather as a young man came to Rabaul in September 1914 with the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (ANMEF)*. On his retuning voyage to Sydney he wrote a book about his experiences. We came up in 2014 for the 100th anniversary and love the place and people (potholes and all). We have since got interested in the history of this place.

*During the late 1800s and early 1900s the Germans established a network of powerful wireless and telegraph stations in the south-west Pacific. These stations enabled them to communicate quickly with Germany and with German ships in the region. When Britain declared war on Germany, Australia was asked to destroy the radio stations and to occupy German New Guinea and the surrounding areas. A special force was raised for this task.



Name/s: Kylie Adams-Collier

Dates in PNG: 19-24 June 2017

Connection to Rabaul:

My father, Charles Meldrum Adams was born in Rabaul. My grandfather Harry Adams ran plantations in Papua New Guinea. Following the outbreak of WWI, Harry left England for Rabaul and became the owner/operator of the Pattangat Plantation. He was later joined by his sister, Edith Dorithy, and her husband Cyril John Gascoine. He also ran Notre-Mal Plantation, Baining mountains. After meeting Una Florence Wilson in Melbourne, Harry took Una back to Rabaul. They married and had three children: Rosemarie, John Henry, and Charles Meldrum. Marie and John went to boarding school in Australia. Una and Mel (Dad) were evacuated and Harry (Grandad) was captured when the Japanese invaded. Harry Adams died on the Montevideo Maru



Name/s: Russell Shatford

Dates in PNG: 1965–67

Connection to Rabaul:

In 1965, I was transferred up to PNG originally going to Madang; after approximately 4-5 months I was transferred to Rabaul. My reason for retuning was something within me—to return and revisit all the good memories that I have of the town. It unfortunately took 50 years, but being on the tour has opened my eyes to a multitude of stories that I was blind to, which has been a huge bonus. My trip down memory lane has been a success but my understanding of the Territory has been a history lesson in itself.

Sing Sing - events and reunions



Name/s: Mark Filan

Dates in PNG: 1967–1973

Connection to Rabaul:

My uncle, Septimus ('Sep') Henry Filan was a clerk in the Civil Administration when the Japanese invaded. He was interred but managed to send one letter home to the family in Murrumbidgee, NSW, in which he said he was happy to be given 'work' by the Japs. He was shipped on the Montevideo Maru and nothing was known of his fate for many years.

I also started as a clerk in the TPNG administration in 1967 but went into uniform as a Corrective Institutions Superintendent and was posted at Baisu, Mt Hagen. 'Sep' was the baby of my father's family, so his loss caused deep grief in the family.



Name/s: Craig Tilley

Dates in PNG: 19-24 June 2017

Connection to Rabaul:

My grandfather's cousin, Ernest George Carter, was a Private in the 2/22nd Battalion, who enlisted on 6th July, 1940 in Horsham as a 21-year-old farmer from Kariva, Victoria. After the Japanese invasion, Ernest retreated inland with the remnant of his unit. However, his feet gave out on him and he was unable to continue his journey. With 19 of his comrades, he was captured by the Japanese and ended up on the Montevideo Maru, and was never seen again. Let's not forget.



Finally, I'd like to thank Ally Martell (daughter of Diana Coote) for sharing her family's Rabaul experience – and our twin-share room at the Rabaul Hotel!

Frangipani Festival, Rabaul, 15/16 September 2017.

For further information, or to register for the float parade, please contact the organising committee via the Rabaul Hotel on 982 1999 or rabaulhotel@global.net.pg



Vale

BARNES OFM, Emeritus Archbishop Sir Brian 23 March 1933 – 9 May 2017 aged 84 years

Brian James Patrick Barnes was born at Wingham, NSW, to Arthur Keith Barnes and Eileen Barnes. He joined the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans) in 1951 and was first professed on 18 February 1952. He was ordained a priest on 12 July 1958.

As Father Brian Barnes, he was appointed to the mission of Papua New Guinea in October 1959. He served as Assistant Priest in Aitape when he first arrived in the PNG Missions. He then served as Headmaster at Seleo Island and as a parish priest in Monandin, Nuku, Wati, Ningil and Lumi from 1960 until 1968.



He was appointed as the first Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary Chaplain (rank Inspector 1/c) on 30.09.1968. During his Chaplaincy he visited the local police at every police station, patrol station or police post in PNG, delivering pastoral care to police and their families. Following PNG Independence on 16.9.1975, he was contracted by the PNG National Government to continue his position and retired from RPNGC on 23.3.1988 at rank of Chief Inspector (renamed). The RPNGC presented him with a farewell gift – a retired police dog which Brian named Top and took with him to Aitape. The dog was his great companion and even accompanied him to the altar.

Archbishop Brian Barnes was a man totally dedicated to the people and the church in Papua New Guinea. He became a citizen of Papua New Guinea in 1976 and fought long and hard for the integrity and stability of his adopted homeland.

He took on the cares and concerns of his people, spoke against corruption within the PNG government of his time, using his weekly radio address to reach his people, encourage goodness and challenge those who sought to do harm to his country. He was critical of the government when he needed to be, the first PNG religious leader to be so outspoken. His *Tok Pisin* radio broadcast *Katolik Insight* each

Sunday night was eagerly received throughout PNG.

Father Brian was appointed as Bishop of Aitape on 3 October 1987 and ordained bishop of that diocese on 10 February 1988. He served in Aitape from 1988 until his appointment as Archbishop of Port Moresby.

Bishop Brian was appointed as the seventh Ordinary and the fourth Archbishop of Port Moresby on 14 June 1997. He retired as the Archbishop of Port Moresby on 26 March 2008. Brian was president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference from 1993-96 until his appointment as Archbishop of Port Moresby in 1997. Archbishop Barnes was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1982 and a Knight of the British Empire (KBE) in 2003. Perhaps his highest civil honour was bestowed on him in 2011 when he was made Grand Chief Commander of the Order of Logohu (GCL) in a ceremony which took place at Star of the Sea Friary in Waverley NSW.

During his career, Brian represented the Catholic Church on various bodies such as the National Research Institute, the Chaplaincy Advisory Council, the Board of the Holy Spirit Seminary at Bomana, the Catholic Theological Institute Governing Council and the National Capital District Commission.

His honours included the Independence Medal in 1975, Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal in 1983; MBE in 1983, 10 year Independence Medal in 1985, RPNGC Centenary Medal 1988, Police Overseas Service Medal 2015, KBE in 2003 and GCL in 2011.

Archbishop Brian returned to Australia as a consequence of health concerns and lived for a number of years at Star of the Sea Friary in Waverley. In his last years, he was a resident of Our Lady of Consolation Nursing Home at Rooty Hill.

Archbishop Brian is survived by his two brothers, Michael Barnes and Denis Barnes, and his sister, Maureen Dingelstad.

Combined vale from Franciscan Friars, Rob Parer and MR Hayes

BEECH, John Roland died 19 Apr 2017, aged 94 years DOB Jan 1923

Chief Mechanical Engineer with Public Works Department (PWD) and went to Pt Moresby in April 1962 with PWD. He served for various times relieving engineers in Goroka, Rabaul and in his work visited most centres of PNG travelling quite extensively. All this he thoroughly enjoyed and met many people. After setting up workshops in every district prior to PNG Independence, his work was completed.

Grace M Beech

BOOTH, Tim (6 November 1970 - 2 July 2017, aged 46 years)

The eldest son of Nick and Lynne Booth, Tim occasionally assisted Nick with our founding website. When the PNGAA needed a search facility on the website, enabling a vast historical resource on PNG to be available to anyone interested, it was Tim who constructed it. We were grateful for his assistance and our thoughts go to the Booth family.

Andrea Williams

DUTTON Jim, D. 3.5.2017

DUTTON, Jim (James), Queen's Police Medal 1972, Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal 1971 passed away on 3.5.2017 after a long illness at Caboolture. Born at Caloundra on 8.2.1927, his early days were spent on a dairy farm. He held a position locally with USA forces before being appointed to the Queensland Police Force on 19.12.1947 and served until 28.11.1948. He was appointed to the Royal Papuan Constabulary and New Guinea Police Force (sic) on 28.12.1948. He separated in accordance with terms of the Permanent Officers Employment Security Scheme on 3.7.1975. at the rank of Superintendent (1/c) He served at Pt Moresby, Wau, Samarai, Police HQ, acting Commissioner, Special Branch, Public Relations,

Mt.Hagen, Bougainville and finally at Police Headquarters in 1974.

After the Mount Lamington volcanic explosion in January 1951 (which wiped out the patrol post at Higatura, along with an estimated 35 expats and some 3000 local Papua New Guineans), he was sent to Embi/Popondetta to assist in the recovery. Shortly after the Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles was formed in early 1951, he served as Cpl. s/n 159340 in Pt Moresby HQ Company for two years, contemporaneously with RPNGC. Early in his police career, with colleague, Vince Nielson, Jim was the owner of Ilimo chicken farm near Pt Moresby. Given the choice to be either a chicken farmer or a police officer by Commissioner Normoyle, he chose to be a police officer while Nielson kept the farm.

On returning to Australia, he served as court sheriff at Pomona, later publican at Minto, grew strawberries and owned "Sadies" Cleaning Service. He was one of the early police officers who spoke the lingua franca of Papua, Police Motu and also Hiri Motu. He was a foundation member of the Caloundra Surf Saving Club. He is survived by his widow, Joan, and six children.

MR Hayes RPNGC 1959-1974

SMALES MBE, Angus 'Gus' 10 July 2017. Aged 86 years

A Papua New Guinea journalistic doyen Angus "Gus" Smales MBE – former editor of the Rabaul Times and Pacific Islands Monthly – has died.

Mildura-born Smales moved to Rabaul in 1954 and fell in love with his adopted country. There was mutual respect from the leaders of the emerging nation with Smales being awarded an MBE and the Papua New Guinea Independence Medal (PNGIM).

Apart from his editing roles, for decades Gus kept Australia, the UK, Europe and the USA informed on the issues of TPNG and then PNG as correspondent for the Herald and Weekly Times and as a specialist freelance contributor to various media outlets. Gus Smales became close friends with many Papua New Guineans including Sir Michael Somare who hosted the farewell function for Gus and Betty Smales in Port Moresby in 1981.

His son Peter Smales wrote: "Dad might have been born and raised in Australia, but he was, as are Sue and I, proudly "Papua New Guinean", and, first and foremost, a Rabaulite."

Born 1929 in Mildura, Australia, Angus "Gus" Smales' illustrious career as a radio broadcaster, journalist / foreign correspondent, photographer, political advisor and media mentor kicked off in his early twenties when he moved to the

Central West Victorian town of Castlemaine to join the state's Sunraysia Daily as a cadet reporter. Following a Sunraysia posting to Sydney where he met his wife-to-be, Betty Cooper, in the offices of the city's Daily Telegraph, Gus in 1954 moved of his own volition to Rabaul, then capital of the Territory of New Guinea, to take his chances as an independent freelance journalist and radio news broadcaster. Culturally attuned and quickly earning a reputation as a clever writer and articulate broadcaster with a social conscience, sharp wit and powerful sense of humour, Gus was rewarded editorial control in 1957 of the Rabaul Times, at the same time free to continue his freelance reporting and broadcasting activity across the Pacific, UK/ Europe and North America. Amidst heightened local, Australian and international debate about the independent future of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea, Gus was provided more privileged access to and direct involvement in the political adjudication process. His commitment to honest but empathetic and ethical reporting earned the respect of his journalist peers, foreign dignitaries and the local political elite. This motivated Australia's Herald and Weekly Times newspaper to ask Gus in 1966 to move to Port Moresby for easier and more intimate interaction with the country's political leaders and legislators. This proved an astute move, his work during his time in the Capital rewarding Gus with a Member of the Most Excellent

Order of the British Empire (MBE) and a Papua New Guinea Independence Medal (PNGIM) in recognition by the country and its leaders of his services. Fifteen years later, in 1981, Papua New Guinea by then six-years an independent Commonwealth realm, Gus left Port Moresby to take editorial control in Sydney of Pacific Islands Monthly magazine. After 30+ years of immersion and intimate involvement in the reporting and political and socio-economic analysis of the affairs of Papua New Guinea and the Pacific, Gus in 1986 "retired" to Melbourne where he devoted another ten years of energetic and dedicated service to Business Review Weekly, one of his principle contributions being the compilation annually of the magazine's Australia Rich List. The world, journalism and the English language will be poorer for his passing.

Gus Smales, one of the Australia-Pacific region's most respected doyens of journalism died peacefully in Mt. Eliza, Victoria. Gus was the dearly loved husband of Betty (deceased 2015), much loved father of Peter and Sue, loved by daughter-in-law Patricia and treasured by his six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Max Uechtritz

WATTS, Lavah 4 June 2017

– UV hopes to have further information for December issue.

Mrs Watts was the Darwin Accommodation Services team senior supervisor for Helping People Achieve (HPA). HPA chief executive Tony Burns said Mrs Watts was a selfless person who put others first. “She was just an angel. She simply was. She was truly one of a kind,” he said.

HAVILAND, Margaret Gai 29th August 1938 – 11th May 2017

Gai was born in Leeton. Her parents, Nevis and Nellie Farrell, owned an orchard. Her father joined the AIF and her mother sold the orchard and moved to Sydney where Gai attended St Catherine’s School, Waverley.

She graduated from the Australian College of Physical Education and became a sports teacher, eventually in charge of sport at her old school, St Catherine’s.

We first met while we were at school. On my first leave after my cadetship in New Ireland we became engaged and on completion of the ASOPA No. 10 Certificate course in 1960, we married and were posted to Erave in the Southern Highlands District, under the tutelage of Ron and Colleen Neville.

Our daughter Shan was born in Sydney in 1962 and the family returned to Mendi. Gai was heavily involved with the preparation for the first general

elections in 1964; she trained interpreters to accompany the electoral patrols out of Mendi and led the only all women’s electoral team in the country. Gai also managed Ron Neville’s (Coecon) trade store in Mendi.

In June 1963, after assisting with the Southern Highlands exhibit at the Mt Hagen Show, she and Heather Jeffries, her children, Heather, Edin and Collin, plus Helen Kelly from Erave were the first women and children to drive from Mt Hagen to Mendi, via Tambul and the western slopes of Mt Giluwe. The journey, by two land rovers and the newly purchased Council tractor, was accomplished with the assistance of the 2,000 Mendi tribesmen who were the exhibit – there was not much else to show in 1963!

Our son, Robert, was born while on leave in 1964 and the family transferred to Pindiu in the Morobe District. The Agricultural Officer, the late Ian Rowels became a very close friend and his loss in an air crash out of Kabwum some years later was felt deeply. A transfer in 1967 saw the family at Kaiapit in the Markham Valley for the next four years. Gai taught her children by correspondence with the occasional intervention by “E” course teachers Mac Vines and Peter Beiseman. Helen Sleishman, Mac’s fiancé and later wife, lived with us and was a great help to her.

From 1971 until 1978 we were at Finschhafen. Gai was involved in the station life – the ‘Golf’ Club; Lae Game Fishing Club – she was the first woman to land a marlin and held records for Spanish mackerel and a bronze

whaler shark. When Jack Smith retired to Queensland, Gai managed his Finschhafen Kompani store. This involved the Post and Telegraph Office, general store, TAA and Ansett agencies, Shell Oil, an insurance company and a PMV. We thoroughly enjoyed the Independence experience in September 1975. The kids stayed home from boarding school and were drafted into some of the village celebration performances.

Gai loved Papua New Guinea. The people, the characters, the scenery, the colours and the lifestyle. She could adapt to any situation: weather reports for the Met office, mow the grass on the Pindiu airstrip to keep the strip open, she ran trade stores and the post office, she taught the Pindiu women’s club to use Singer hand-wheel sewing machines, and to play Netball—once they had made their uniforms.

About sixteen years ago, Gai was diagnosed with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. We had to carry an oxygen concentrator when we went on trips to give her oxygen at night; this became a 24-hour a day necessity. Eventually she could no longer travel and had spent much of the past two years in hospital. Gai passed away, in her sleep, comfortable and in no pain at 10:00 pm Thursday 11th May 2017. She is greatly missed, but we are so grateful she is no longer suffering.

Frank Haviland



SMITH, Cecily Sinclair Died. 14 March 2017.

Cecily Smith was born on 4th June 1920 in Walter Street, Claremont WA, the second of three daughters to Arthur Young (known as Jack) and Eileen Emilie Smith (nee Sinclair). Her sister Pat was two years older and Jacqueline four years younger. It was another era; her father worked throughout his life as an accountant with the West Australian Government Railways and her mother was a full-time housewife – two things almost unheard of in 2017. Her maternal grandparents lived nearby in Goldsworthy Road. Cecily attended Glenara Private School and Claremont Central School. She was nine years old at the start of the Great Depression and was always regretful that because of the Depression she was not able to go to Methodist Ladies College in Claremont, unlike her older sister Pat.

At the commencement of WW2, Cecily joined the Claremont Voluntary Aid Detachment [VAD], gaining skills as an assistant nurse, before enlisting as an “enlisted” VAD in November 1941. The years 1942/43 brought the introduction into the Australian Army of two Women’s Services: the AWAS [Australian Women’s Army Service] and the AAMWS [Australian Army Medical Women’s Service]. From the time of this amalgamation, all enlisted VAD’s and all later female medical enlistees served as members of AAMWS. Cecily was posted to 118th Australian General Hospital at Northam and to various camp hospitals around

Western Australia, eventually re-joining the 118th AGH in NSW and then moving to serve in Rabaul and New Britain until 1946. She was discharged in 1946 with the rank of Sergeant [X-Ray Technician].

Following her discharge, she went on a working holiday taking in countries such as New Guinea, the United Kingdom and East Africa, returning to Western Australia in 1953 to take up general nursing training at Royal Perth Hospital. There she remained until commencement of her Midwifery training at St Margaret’s Hospital for Women in Sydney in 1958. However, inclined toward Service Training, she joined the Reserve of Officers on completion of her general nursing training and was appointed Lieutenant in the Royal Australia Army Nursing Corps, Australian Military Citizen Forces in July 1957. In 1958 she was transferred to the regular Army and was posted to 3 Camp Hospital at Puckapunyal in Victoria for 6 months before a move to the British Military Hospital at Kamunting, Malaysia; she served there during the Malayan Emergency.

In 1966, as a Captain, she was posted to the 1st Battalion, Pacific Islands Regiment at Port Moresby for two years; this was the first occasion that nursing sisters had been assigned to an Australian infantry battalion. Further postings occurred within Australia between 1969 and 1971; there then followed a move to Singapore with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel to take up a position as Matron at the ANZUK Military Hospital at Changi.

Being the senior female ranking officer, her position required her presentation to Royalty, attending many ceremonial functions and prestigious events. This position was held until 1973 ending with a posting back to Australia as Matron of 1 Military Hospital, Yeronga, Queensland.

Cecily was appointed Matron-in-Chief and Director Nursing Service – Army on 4th March 1974 and, Queen’s Honorary Nursing Sister in August 1974 for the duration of her appointment as Matron-in-Chief. On 4th June 1976 she retired from the Regular Army having reached the prescribed age for her Corps. In December 1976, Cecily was mentioned in the Australian Honours list and was awarded the “Royal Red Cross”. She was also awarded the “National Medal” in May 1978.

Following her retirement in 1976, Cecily remained permanently in Perth living in Bicton, Kardinya and then in 1997 she moved to Bull Creek, Frederick Guest Village living in an independent unit. She lived a busy retired life with a wide variety of interests filling her waking hours. She recalls that it wasn’t really until her retirement that she began to cook, and as with all things she took to it with gusto. She became a keen gardener for the first time now that she was no longer living in military accommodation. She kept a close interest in military matters, relating both to her own experience and Australian military history in general. During the period 1981 - 1986 she was the Honorary Colonel and Representative Honorary Colonel

of RAANC. This appointment was a “Corps” not a “Command” appointment. She was in fact the representative in Australia of Princess Alice, wife of the Duke of Gloucester who was the Governor-General of Australia after the war from 1945 to 1947.

She developed a very strong interest in genealogy. Cecily was good with her hands. She always had a keen interest in the arts, and on retirement studied fine art at TAFE obtaining a diploma. She became an accomplished painter and ceramicist, and at one stage had a successful joint exhibition in Claremont with another artist. She also studied ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arranging. She studied calligraphy.

Cecily was a keen supporter of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society. She was always a very independent woman and the thought of having to move into a nursing home was not something she looked forward to. However, in June 2012 following a fall, and a series of earlier incidents associated with failing health, she was no longer capable of living independently. She reluctantly accepted and understood that it was necessary to move into a low care facility and forgo a lot of that independence. Cecily never married, though she came close a couple of times. In later years she very much depended upon her nephews, Peter and Stephen [sons of her sister Pat] and Trish [wife of Peter] for support

Peter Dennis

DICK, Gordon. D. 20 July 2017 aged 82 years

PETER DANIELS |
Port Macquarie News

GORDON Dick, who has died in Port Macquarie, lived a life consumed by learning and a willingness to push back the boundaries of acceptance.

His early schooling – with brother Wal – was with the St Agnes parish and it’s fair to say they were not the most popular of students. His family believes this was the birth of his lifelong aversion to authority figures.

By age 13 he joined the seminary at Springwood in the Blue Mountains. Eight years of study, sport, bush walking and bird watching followed. After obtaining a Commonwealth scholarship, he entered university to study agriculture or forestry. Three years later, in 1960, he graduated, married the girl from across the university benches and became an agricultural officer in the then Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

The expected two years in PNG rolled into 20. Daughter Merriane was born during a posting at Kerowagi in the Simbu. Gordon continued to study with distance education. His BA was followed by a MEd, studying the expansion of the coffee industry.

With his new qualification, Gordon entered the agricultural college system, just beginning in PNG. A study year in Australia saw Gordon’s son Rohan born and Gordon obtained qualifications in industrial psychology and rural sociology. A move to the

centre of government in Port Moresby followed as he became assistant secretary for education and training, a post he held until independence. The family returned to Australia where Gordon remained in education and training but hated living there.

The final years of Gordon’s working life sent him all over the developing world. He worked as a consultant advising mostly on agricultural education. He also had charge of groups visiting Australia, sometimes made up of a dozen nationalities who came to observe various aspects of industry.

With the constant travel taking its toll, Gordon began planning his final project: returning to his roots in Port Macquarie. Armed with his childhood knowledge of the land and water he began to look for a suitable place to attempt the cultivation of Christmas bells - a wildflower strongly associated with the area and not successfully farmed before. There followed the happiest 20 years of his life. Against all predictions of failure, the seeds germinated, the plants grew and flowered, and will continue to do so, we have to suppose, without his help.

UV: Please see this issue for the final instalment of Gordon’s story as Principal of the Vudal Agricultural College in 1970.

With thanks to Port News
<http://www.portnews.com.au/story/4814619/gordon-dick-his-aversion-to-authority-figures-started-early/>



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mr Peter CROKE	Regents Landing, Unit 18/19 Arwen St MAROOCHYDORE	QLD	4558
Mr Robert PORTER	1 Bradford Avenue KEW	VIC	3101
Mrs Prue CLARKE (nee Frank)	5 Woolrych Street HOLDER	ACT	2611
Mrs Patricia KILKEARY	6 Robinson Street CHATSWOOD	NSW	2067
Mr Paul GRIFFITHS	11 Herbert Street LEURA	NSW	2780
Mr William MUNTZ	37 Wappa Outlook Drive YANDINA	QLD	4561
Mr Geoffrey HANCOCK	57/85 Hester Ave, MERRIWA	WA	603
Mrs Grace BEECH	13 Haslemere Drive MT NASURA	WA	6112
Mr Alan CAPP	116 Kalgoorlie Cres FISHER	ACT	2611
Mr James NIGHTINGALE	74 Darug Avenue GLENMORE PARK	NSW	2745
Mr Andrew WILKINS	Level 2/31 Queen Street MELBOURNE	VIC	3000
Mr Gregory CORNER	15 Barrallier Way St CLAIR	NSW	2759
Mrs Margaret WOOD	1 Fay Avenue, New Lambton NEWCASTLE	NSW	2305
Ms Vicki LONG	16 Nunns Road MORNINGTON	VIC	3931
Mr Richard GREEN	P.O. Box 129 PEREGIAN BEACH	QLD	4573
Mr Tony GANLY	13 Frederick Street CROYDON	VIC	3036
Ms Kylie ADAMS-COLLIER	50 Victor Street DEE WHY	NSW	2099
Mr Brian ADAMS	3/9 Daley Street ELWOOD	VIC	3148

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr James COX	PO Box 3019 DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
Ms Denise DOOLAN	15 Satellite Street CLIFTON BEACH	QLD	4879
Mr Steven GAGAU	P.O. Box 291 UMINA BEACH	NSW	2257
Mr Edward GODDEN	PO Box 9333 GOLD COAST MC	QLD	9726
Mr Kevin HOWARD	106 Woods Road SHARON BUNDABERG	QLD	4670
Mr Jeremy LATTIN	88 Wakehurst Parkway NARRABEEN	NSW	2101
Mr Arch McARTHUR	P.O. Box 814 KURANDA	QLD	4881
Ms Rosylnn MEMBREY	149/50 Spinifex Avenue TEAGARDENS	NSW	2324
Mr Arnold NUNN	P.O.Box 2315 STRATHPINE	QLD	4500
Mrs Erice PIZER	Villa 3, Sanananda Retirement Village 2B Tura Beach Drive TURA BEACH	NSW	2548
Mr Patrick SOMERS	2/93 Progress Drive NIGHTCLIFF	NT	0810
Mr Darryl WARHURST	Unit 2/34 Goddard Street COOLAH	NSW	2843

Members will be able to contact other members through the new website coming soon and therefore it has been decided not to print the Membership Directory at this stage. If you require a hard copy of the Membership Directory, please write to the PNGAA or phone the Membership Officer (see p1)

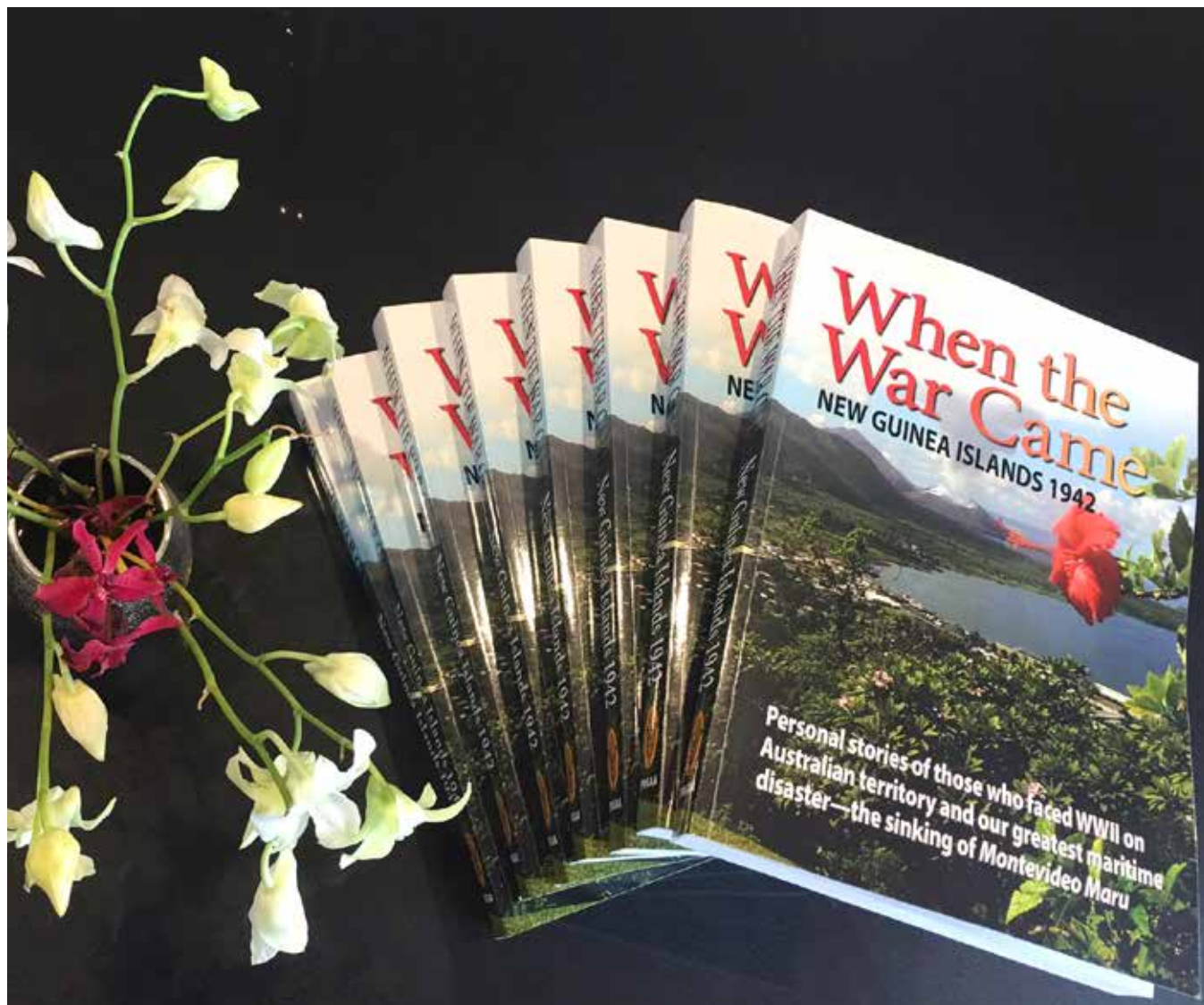
WEBSITE WALKABOUT

Our new website is up and running. Out of about 900 plus members who could access the website (e.g. are computer literate and have an e-mail address), only 199 have registered. That means we have only a 20% participation rate. Many members have had difficulty with the "Logging In" process. Generally this is caused by a temperamental web browser (Safari and Firefox are notorious) . . . or because the returning password gets lost in the members Spam bucket.

However, if you are having difficulty, please contact the Membership Officer and I can assist with the setting of your password. . . . and make it easy to log on.

There are over 1,000 articles and galleries on our website. These are mainly taken from the Una Voce publications and personal contributions over the past decades. Subjects of interest can be found by using the Search Window on the Home Page

Over the next few months e-mails will be sent out to Members highlighting some very interesting articles and galleries which can be found on our website.



75th Anniversary BOOK

**'When the War Came:
New Guinea Islands 1942'**

Available NOW!!

Visit www.pngaa.org

TREASURER'S CORNER – September 2017
Payments to – PNGAA, PO Box 453, ROSEVILLE, NSW, 2069

If you would like to:

1. Renew your **Membership** in the PNGAA;
2. Purchase the ***Walk into Paradise*** DVD;
3. Purchase the ***'Kiap – Stories Behind the Medal'*** DVD;
4. Attend **2017 Christmas Luncheon**
5. Purchase ***"When the War Came"*** - New Guinea Islands 1942"

Please **print** your name and address below and fill out the relevant parts of the order form overleaf.

Note that your address label indicates when your membership expires and also provides your membership number.

Membership number (if known) _____

Full name _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone _____ Mobile _____

E-mail address _____

☐ I would prefer to access a digital Una Voce via the website instead of receiving a hard copy (e.g. Digital Membership)

- * If you have an e-mail address, or have recently changed it, please let us know as it makes communication with members much quicker and more efficient and will facilitate access to the new web site.
- * Members are able convert to "Digital Membership" at a reduced rate and have access to a "digital copy" of the Una Voce instead of receiving a hard copy by post. The "digital" Una Voce will be accessed via our web site via a membership log-on. See membership rates overleaf.

Christmas LUNCHEON –

I will attend the Luncheon and will have as my guests:

If possible, I would like to be seated with _____

Number of vegetarian meals (if any)

Please feel free to make up your own table of Ten.

RSVP by 24 November

ORDER FORM	Quantity	\$
PNGAA Membership Renewal - (Members are able to Pay for up to two years in advance. All rates are on a Calendar year basis) (Code: MEMB)		
Resident in Australia 2017: \$35 2018: \$40 2019: \$40		
Resident in Asia/Pacific Postal Zone 2017: \$55 2018: \$60 2019: \$60		
Resident in Rest of World Postal Zone 2017: \$65 2018: \$70 2019: \$70		
Digital Membership only (e.g. No hard copy or postage costs) 2017: \$25 2018: \$25 2019: \$25		
Walk Into Paradise DVD Details on our website Price \$25 each (Code: WIP)		
'Kiap – Stories Behind the Medal' - DVD Details on our website Price \$30 each (Code: KIAP)		
Christmas Luncheon – Sunday 3 December 2017..... Price \$65.00 per person Venue: Killara Golf Club, 556 Pacific Hwy, Killara (Sydney) (Code: LUN)		
When the War Came – New Guinea Islands 1942 \$60 ea. + Postage (see overleaf) Story of the New Guinea Island war years - 540 pages and 460 photos (Code:WWC)		
TOTAL COST		

PAYMENT DETAILS

Please circle method of payment

Payment is accepted by cheque, EFT, bank draft, MasterCard, Visa.

Payment for all products can be made through our web site: www.pngaa.org/site

Note: Payments made with a Credit Card will be subject to a processing surcharge to cover the charges we incur from the credit card companies.

EFT payments can be made to: PNGAA
BSB 062-009 (CBA, Wynyard)
Account 0090 7724

Please ensure that sufficient information is provided with your payment to enable us to identify you and the product code (each item has a product code listed in the Order Form above). To be sure, please send a confirmation e-mail to membership@pngaa.net Most events/products can be purchased via our website.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

Type of card: MasterCard Visa Expiry date _____/_____/_____

Card number _____/_____/_____/_____

Security code (on
back of card)

Name on card (please print) _____

Signature of card holder _____ Date _____

All payments must be in Australian currency