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Una Voce

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



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Ford Tri-Motor arrives National Gallery Pt Moresby



Tol welcomes WWII relatives



Fred Kaad OBE, Ross Johnson, Peter Leyden, Ken Jones



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 \$35. 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.

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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 members 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 the Treasurer by email. Thank you!

Deadline for submissions to the September 2016 issue of Una Voce: 4 July 2016.

If you have any items from PNG for donation to the PNGAA Collection (photographs, diaries, letters, publications etc) please contact Steve Burns on Stephen.Burns@ghd.com. Phone (02) 9489 0824

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2016 AGM

– Sunday 15 May 2016

In late 2015 it was suggested that the Management Committee take part in a planning workshop to consider the future role and direction of the association and identify priorities for action. Whilst our social gatherings and our journal, *Una Voce*, are the backbone of the association, sustaining the association by appealing to younger members and growing the contemporary relationship between Australia and Papua New Guinea is considered vital.

One of the outcomes of this workshop highlighted the potential for PNGAA to act as an umbrella group for diversified affiliated organisations such as social, special interest and/or philanthropy. There is a need to better identify and build relationships with kindred organisations or groups who share similar objectives or have overlapping interests, in particular activities and projects.

One of the seven primary objectives of the PNGAA is 'to strengthen the civil relationship between the peoples of Australia and Papua New Guinea'. The PNGAA Management Committee has committed to engaging positively and proactively in the PNG/Australia relationship raising awareness especially amongst Australians and Papua New Guinea about our strong historic ties, roles and continuing relationships.

The Committee has been energetic in developing a project for the re-use of former ASOPA buildings at Middle Head, Mosman, NSW; a site with a long term association between Australia and PNG. I particularly thank Paul Munro for

the depth of background research he has put in to this proposal to assist the committee to date. The proposal is for a permanent memorial at the ASOPA site, along with a suitable living, interactive, tribute in the form of an Australian Community Centre for Pacific Nations - a focal point for the PNG/Australia/Pacific relationship. A place which could be used as a cultural, educational and resource centre. This project aims to engage our community of Australians and Papua New Guineans and it needs your help!

Providing those plans come to fruition, PNGAA will need to play a co-ordinating role with a wider group of organisations with similar objectives; to do that we need both physical support and active interest.

The PNGAA is a strong association with an established network and role. It has a relatively resourceful and experienced team of extraordinary volunteers and members from diverse backgrounds. It has a wide scope of activity and interests which are reflected in its social activities and its highly regarded journal '*Una Voce*'. It is no longer 'Sydney centric'. Its vast geographic demographic means that physical work falls to a small number of people and therefore any assistance our members can offer is vitally important.

In his latest book '*The Embarrassed Colonialist*', Sean Dorney highlights that Papua New Guineans know more about Australia than Australians know about Papua New Guinea. This needs changing. Papua New Guinea acknowledges



Australia's role in its history. But not many Australians recognise the role Australia played in PNG's history. As Max Uechtritz wrote recently, there is a 'historical blindness and ignorance' on Australia's part about Papua New Guinea.

Yet the Australian High Commission in Port Moresby has 360 staff, more than in the Washington DC embassy. Its population is almost twice that of New Zealand and heading to match ours by 2050. Australia provides \$500 million of aid a year to PNG, and Australian NGOs and churches inject many more resources through funds and in kind.

Reflecting on 2015 it is clear that the PNGAA has engaged in strengthening this civil relationship between the two countries but it needs even wider support to become truly successful.

The PNGAA again underpinned the publishing program of the 2016 Crocodile Prize which allowed nearly 350 copies of the Crocodile Prize Anthology 2015 to be printed and distributed throughout Papua New Guinea. The 400-page Anthology was handed out freely to libraries, schools, universities, hospitals, aid posts and other relevant places in the provinces and districts of Papua New Guinea. The Anthology contained the best stories, poetry, essays and journalism from the Crocodile Prize contest, every one of them written by a Papua New Guinean about Papua New Guinea. Traditionally Papua New Guineans are storytellers with a heritage handed down through generations of oral history. This needs nurturing and growing and we are pleased that some of the Croc Prize entries have appeared in *Una Voce*. It is hoped to continue this support in 2016.

The major project of 2015 was the PNGAA Art Exhibition, curated by Julianne Ross Allcorn and held in September. Celebrating 40 years since PNG Independence, this was a new and innovative project for the PNGAA. The exhibition attracted PNG artists and there was much optimism as workshops were planned for both children and adults. Regrettably the artists were unable to travel, when visas were unable to be issued in time and despite months of preparation by all concerned. It was an exciting opportunity to genuinely strengthen the civil relationship between people of both countries – whilst it was disappointing that the PNG artists could not make it, it highlighted potential opportunities. I thank Julianne Ross Allcorn for her extraordinary efforts which

contributed to the success of the exhibition. Juli has stepped back from the PNGAA Management Committee after seven years but we look forward to her creative ideas and contribution in the future. We thank Sara Turner for coming in to the role of Events Coordinator.

June 2015 saw the inaugural A4 colour issue of *Una Voce*, an exciting move which continues to be well received by members. I thank Editor Dianne Guy for her huge contribution with *Una Voce* and for developing the new format with Greg Leech. Growth and change are important to ensure any association remains relevant to its members and it is felt that this move has been positive. Technology makes it hard to escape the exposure to particularly bad news about PNG on public media, and bad news creates a bad impression. We need to counter this with inspiration and articles and deeds encouraging optimism to ensure that divisions are redressed and the future is cohesive for all. The PNGAA Management Committee welcomes Belinda Macartney into the role of Editor, commencing with the September 2016 issue.

The labelling and wrap days, held in Sydney, are happy, social events and all are welcome. Thanks to Roy Ranney and Murrrough and Joy Benson for organising these. A special thanks to the Chatswood Bowling Club for the generous donation of space to ensure these can occur.

The PNGAA had several social functions in various locations within Australia – eight lunches in Sydney, Adelaide, Perth, Ballina and Canberra... with thanks to all coordinators. The film *KIAP: Stories Behind the Medal* had a

highly entertaining belated launch and official viewing in June 2015 in Sydney, with film director, Greg Harris, speaking about his journey making the film. This was followed with a Q&A panel including Ross and Pat Johnson, Quentin and Jan Anthony and Mark Lynch, contributing to a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. The PNGAA was delighted when the film was also shown at the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra as part of the 40th anniversary of PNG Independence.

The PNGAA Collection is a wonderful resource of a unique time in PNG and it has been thanks to the persistence and expertise of Dr Peter Cahill, for almost 25 years, and the assistance of the Fryer Library, that this collection exists and continues for the future. It is critical that Australia's role in developing Papua New Guinea, and the continuing close relationship shared between our two countries, is properly recognised and celebrated.

Time and technology have moved on since the collection was started in 1992 and the collecting criteria of the Fryer Library has also been redefined. With a proposed new PNG/Australia/Melanesia centre, the PNGAA Management Committee now asks that any donations are directed to the PNGAA Management Committee in the first instance. It is imperative that items collected are digitised and easily available. Photos and some documents are a valuable resource for our journal, *Una Voce*, and also for the PNGAA photo gallery on the website. If you would like to donate items to the PNGAA Collection, please express your interest initially to Steve Burns,

who has recently joined the Management Committee. As the PNGAA Management Committee Coordinator, Steve is available to discuss donations and current options with you.

The Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group held its annual service and lunch in Canberra in late June 2015. Its education program, Project 150, is about giving secondary students the opportunity to learn an Australian perspective of the Pacific in WWII. History teachers can use resources linked to the Australian curriculum, especially Years 9 and 10. Lesson plans, background notes, worksheets, resources, all developed by teachers, and an educational copy of the DVD – Some Came Home are available for interested schools. The teaching supplement can also be used to link the two world wars, as a lead up to Kokoda as well as highlighting the effects of war on Australian POWs and civilian internees and their families. I thank Patrick Bourke for coordinating this and for his continual efforts in reaching out to schools. I know he would welcome further assistance!

A submission by Natalie Baker has been accepted at the 2016 National History Teachers Conference so she will be presenting this in late September, a valuable opportunity. You can read more about this in the June Una Voce under Memorial News. Work commenced on collecting stories for a book to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the fall of Rabaul and the New Guinea Islands in 2017, with thanks to Gayle Thwaites for coordinating and editing this. Gayle also regularly updates the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Facebook page (over 2000 members) with fascinating information. Keep an

eye on it! Phil Ainsworth continues to assist the PNGAA Management Committee in many areas but especially with the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group. In his role as President of the NGVR/ PNGVR Members' Association he brings strong links with an affiliated association, reflecting what is possible with others. He actively worked on the historic books produced by that association in 2015/16, contributing greatly to the historic documentation of Papua New Guinea.

Administration of the association continues to be an ongoing challenge to busy volunteers. We are fortunate that Doug Wood contributes his skills as PNGAA Treasurer and that his firm, Foster Raffan, supports the PNGAA so generously. Rebecca Hopper stepped back after two years supporting the PNGAA as Secretary, with Murrough Benson assisting with mail, before taking on the full Secretary's role. The roles of Membership Officer and Secretary are crucial and I thank both Roy Ranney and Murrough Benson for the enormous time and organisation they contribute to ensure the smooth running of the association and that our members are looked after.

The PNGAA has a constitutional requirement that the President has a four year term. I strongly support the fresh energy this process injects into an association and therefore members will urgently need to consider who their next President will be from the 2017 AGM, a voting year for the PNGAA.

As I reflect on 2015 it has been a great pleasure to work with the many people who directly help the committee in so many ways and I thank them all sincerely –

Murrough Benson, Ross Johnson, Nick Booth, Dr Peter Cahill, Tim Terrell, Kieran Nelson, Linda Manning, Marie Clifton-Bassett, Greg Harris, Jan Kleinig, Gayle Thwaites, Patrick Bourke, Jeff Baldwin, Charles Betteridge and I know there are more. Sadly we lost several of our greatest long term supporters in 2015 including former President Harry West OAM, Stuart Inder MBE and David Marsh OBE.

The 2015 PNGAA Management Committee is to be sincerely thanked for their commitment and dedication – Julianne Ross Allcorn, Doug Wood, Roy Ranney, Phil Ainsworth, Paul Munro, Rebecca Hopper, Dianne Guy, Jon Ritchie. As mentioned, some of the 2015 Management Committee have stepped back: Juli Allcorn, Rebecca Hopper, Dianne Guy and Jon Ritchie. In 2016 we warmly welcome Murrough Benson, Sara Turner, Steve Burns, Steven Gagau and Belinda Macartney.

The PNGAA Management Committee and subsidiary working groups, all volunteers, are an extraordinary group of people who each make an enormous contribution with vibrant, fresh ideas and sheer hard work! Central is the relationship between Australia and Papua New Guinea – how to acknowledge our joint history whilst working towards a collaborative future that we can all share and enjoy.

Andrea Williams

The Minutes from the AGM on 15 May 2016 are enclosed separately with this Una Voce. The 2015 Financial Statement and reports will be on the website shortly. If anyone would like a hard copy please contact admin@pngaa.net

Letters



Letters to the Editor

Following the June 2015 issue of Una Voce we received the following letter from Bruce Hoy. There was some follow up which resulted in a little delay, but it was thought of sufficient interest to publish it now.

I do hope that my letter is still left in the To Be Done tray as I feel that this should be brought out into the public arena. Incidentally, after 10 years with the National Museum the reason for my section of the Museum being removed was due to the land being required for a road! Having looked at the area on Google Earth, I cannot see the reason for this, and if there was one, I cannot understand why the Museum did not seek compensation and relocation costs.

Perhaps publicity through UNA VOCA may achieve something positive – even if it is an explanation as to what financial benefit was received by the Museum (if any) from whoever required this road access, and what the Museum intended doing with this financial benefit, if such was received.

In June 2015 Bruce Hoy wrote:

What a first-class job your editor and her team has carried out with Una Voce! Turning each page I was amazed what a difference a bit of colour has done to the journal/magazine!!

Then I came to page 24 [June 2015], and I was immediately transformed from a very happy person, to an extremely despondent, disappointed, nay, bitter person on seeing what the National Museum, through its “advisors” have done to the old Ford Tri-Motor – transformed it into a curiosity where its life has now been considerably shortened. I



would have thought during the past 28 years since my departure, something positive would have been done to bring "The Old Girl" under some form of cover to protect it from both the elements and human touch.

Then I recalled several conversations six months ago with a gentleman whose interests in the preservation of PNG's wartime history is paramount, and his concerns with the programme that is underway through a major Australian university, and I wonder now, was my 10 years there, trying to establish something for the benefit of Papua New Guinea really worth, not only my efforts, but the numerous volunteers who assisted me, and the expenditure the country incurred over that time. I think also of the cost the RAAF committed that saw the Ford recovered in 1979 and 1980.

Admittedly the photograph of the Ford Tri-Motor is very picturesque, but I have grave fears that this last surviving relic of the gold rush in the 1930s will simply be trashed and lost. I would like to know what has become of its wings?

I now also wonder what has become of the two Daimler cars I preserved on behalf of the nation of PNG – the first Prime Minister's first official car, a Daimler Sovereign and a Daimler Limousine, last used by the country's first Governor-General and the last Australian Administrator. These cars were slotted for auction and I managed to have them saved. It will be sad if my initiative has also been lost to future generations of Papua New Guineans.

However, regardless of my sadness expressed here, I am delighted with the New Look Una Voce, and wish you and your wonderful team all the very best for the forthcoming issues.

Bruce Hoy

(ex-Curator, Department of Modern History aka Aviation, Maritime and War Branch, National Museum and Art Gallery, Port Moresby)

Sir Peter Barter writes:

Just a note about Wanigela (December 2015 Una Voce p34): Mrs Cridland's first group was from Hemphill World Tours from LA; Lindblad Travel based in New York also used Mrs Crid's house and were welcomed by a glass of sherry and, each day, more sherry was served. I was a Pilot for TAL at the time and had established Talco Tours and coordinated both Hemphill and Lindblad Tours in PNG. Both Bert Hemphill and Lars Lindblad were pioneers to the development of tourism in PNG. Lindblad still operate under Lars Son Sven, still based in New York and they occasionally call at PNG aboard the Lindblad Explorer under National Geographic support.



Interested to read Jim VanderKamp's letter (March 2016 Una Voce p6). Just decided to clarify the reminiscences of the elephant at the Mt. Hagen Show. I can clarify that the year would have been 1973, as in 1971 I was working as a mechanic at the Admin workshops at Kieta, on Bougainville Island. In 1973 I was working as Assistant Manager/Mechanic at Roka Coffee Plantation, west of Goroka, and took a truckload of our workers in to Goroka when the truck transporting the elephant overnights at the Bird of Paradise Hotel there.

It was a lot of fun observing the wide eyed reactions of the village people as the elephant was feeding, and next day watching people who had seen it trying to describe to others

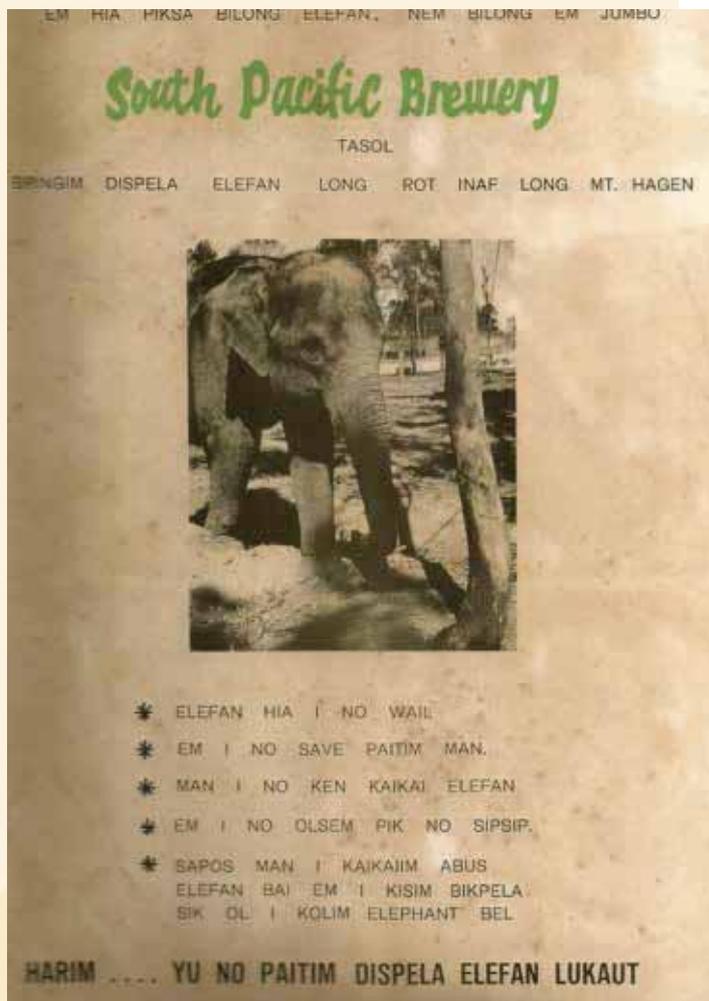


how it did so. The 'elephant keeper' told us that some village headmen had offered him money to give them some pieces of hair from the 'bikpela pik' so they could mix it with the feed of their village pigs and have them hopefully grow as huge also.

The following week when we knew the animal was on its way back down Daulo Pass, I took another truckload to the Patrol Post at Asaro at the foot of the pass, to see it on its way back to Lae. The sides of the truck were covered in, and only the head and trunk of the elephant could be seen. So all nearby trees were climbed by villagers wanting a better look. Luckily, I was able to record both instances on my Super 8 movie camera.

Alan Zwar.

Photos: Jan Barnes



Your email and interesting information about Sean Dorney's recent book noted with thanks.

Having come from a Plantation family background going back to the times of German Mandated Territory, I have been exposed since my early years growing up as a child in Port Moresby and ENB after the War, to a certain amount of those earlier times. As a child surrounded by adults overhearing conversation - and later as personal observations.

It was tragic that Independence was forced upon PNG so early with absolutely no understanding of the Country, the Cultures different dialects and tribes. We had many of

my Grandparents former plantation retainers seek them out after the War wanting to return to help rebuild the devastation. They remained with us all their lives and were treated with the respect they deserved, making the Plantation their permanent home. The bond between the surrounding Villages and our family were always strong and remained so until we severed all ties in the 80's. Even then gifts were bestowed such as wood carvings and Shell money. On my Grandmother's death in Switzerland, the villagers came from near and far and just stayed outside her house for days wailing in morning and grief. Respect was I guess the catalyst on both sides.

Jillian von Leixner

▶ What's on?

21 June

PNGAA Fashionable Fundraiser at Diana Ferrari – an exclusive night of fun, friends, complimentary drinks and canapes. Diana Ferrari will donate 20% of funds to the PNGAA's chosen charity - 6.30pm-9pm. 21 June 2016 - Cost: \$10 per person EFT to PNGAA BSB: 062 009 Acct No: 0090 7724 and email Sara Turner E: events@pngaa.net M: 0401 138 246 or 02 4930 7251 with your name and contact details'. Also contact Sara for further information.

1 July

PNGVR Montevideo Maru Annual Service Friday 1 July 2016, 10.00 am at Brisbane Cenotaph, followed by morning tea at Berkleys-on-Ann, Brisbane. All welcome. Please contact Phil Ainsworth if you would like to attend. M: 0418 730 348 Email: p.ainsworth@kingco.com.au

3 July

Rabaul and Montevideo Maru 74th annual commemoration – Canberra 3 July 2016. Please contact Andrea Williams for further information if you would like to attend. M: 0409 031 889 Email: andrea.williams@bigpond.com

23 July

The Oceanic Art Society's Tribal Art Fair Saturday 23 July, at the St. Matthias Church of England Hall, Oxford Street Paddington NSW; 10am - 3pm, Tables available: Full tables \$90 half tables \$50, Contact: secretary@oceanicartsociety.org.au, Telephone: 61 2 9332 3984

30 October

2016 PNGAA Adelaide, South Australia, reunion lunch will be held at the Public Schools Club on Sunday 30 October when the guest speaker will be Barry Taverner. Further information: Jan Kleinig Email: janis.kleinig@bigpond.com

11-13 November

Samarai and Milne Bay Reunion 2016 is Friday 11, Saturday 12, (Sunday 13) November 2016 in Wollongong. Further information: Dick and Liz Sanderman-Gay Email: rsandeman@bigpond.com

13 November

Perth, Western Australia – next lunch at RAAF Club, Bull Creek - Friday 4 November 2016 Email: lindam121@bigpond.com

4 December

PNGAA Christmas Lunch, Sydney – Sunday 4 December 2016 Email: events@pngaa.net

The Silly Hat's Luncheon at the RAAF Club in Perth on the 1st April turned out to be a lovely day. Twenty members came along to hear Murray Day speak on his time in PNG.

Brian Pearce was there. His house was the only home that survived in a street of 24 houses that were burnt to the ground in the Yarloop fires in January 2016 when 181 properties were lost and 69,000 ha were burnt.

Our next lunch will be on Friday 4 November 2016 at the RAAF Club Bull Creek WA.



Happy Men: Michael Lowe, Peter Worsley, Murray Day, Paul Linnane, Greg Leech, Kevin Lock, Trevor Muller.



Silly Hat Ladies: Margaret Bowden, Jill Worsley, Audrey Bredmeyer, Robyne Petricevic, Judita Lewis, Linda Cavanaugh Manning, Rose Lowe.

PNGAA 2015 ADELAIDE REUNION

In 2015 almost sixty PNGAA members and their friends attended the 15th annual PNGAA Adelaide reunion lunch at the Public Schools Club Adelaide on Sunday 25 October.

Master-of-Ceremonies Graham Taylor extended a warm welcome to all our members and their guests present. Graham paid tribute to Harry West OAM, retired District Commissioner East New Britain and past president of PNGAA, who died on 13 July 2015. Harry began his service with ANGAU in PNG during WW2 and following the end of hostilities became a widely experienced and highly respected administrator in Australia's administration of Papua New Guinea.

It was Harry who in 1999 strongly encouraged several of us to form a PNGAA Adelaide group to hold a reunion annually. This led to our first reunion lunch in October 2000 held at the Feathers Hotel Burnside. In 2004 we were delighted and honoured that Harry then PNGAA President accepted the invitation to be our special guest and speaker.

Our guest speaker at the 2015 reunion was Kym Rothe speaking on: 'Reflections on living and working in PNG'.

'Kym fell in love with PNG during his National Service in 1969-70 when his role was to teach PNG soldiers of the 2nd Pacific Islands Regiment to an upper primary school standard in Maths, English and Science. He was stationed at army bases

at both Wewak and Vanimo in the West Sepik Province. The soldiers were fine, motivated and proud young men who were very eager to learn. During this time he had opportunities to explore the highlands of PNG and travel along the mighty Sepik River.

On discharge from the Australian Army and with a lapse of one year, Kym returned to PNG for 6 years as a Primary School Principal in Australian Curriculum Schools (later to become International Schools). He spent the first 4 years in this role on Bougainville Island; in the north first at Buka Island followed by 3 years at Kieta. This was the time of the Bougainville Copper unrest, the coming of self government and eventually PNG's Independence in September 1975. All this occurred whilst living on a smouldering Bougainville. Kym taught a broad range of nationalities and he found it difficult to leave when his time was up.

Kym's final 2 years were in Lae, in 1976 and 77 as Principal of Taraka International School, serving mainly the children of the PNG University of Technology and nearby Igam Barracks and their staff. He shared many fond memories of these times, with his life being greatly enriched for having lived in such a wonderful country.'

Tony Morbey, patrol officer and didiman in West New Britain, introduced Kym and the vote-of-thanks was given by Therese Kemelfield who was born, educated and worked as a teacher and Principal in Bougainville.

We never cease to be amazed that each year more books about PNG are published. In 2015 the 'Panel of Authors' included:

The Musings of an Assistant Pig Keeper: Michael Dom
The Chronicle of a Peripatetic Teacher Peter Routley
A Kiap's Story: Graham Taylor
Man of the Moment: Ken Clezy
Stone Age Moon: James O Hunter
Scenery and Seismic in Papua New Guinea: Barry Taverner

The luncheon concluded with the drawing of the raffle. The generosity of our members in donating the prizes is always appreciated.

We are pleased to advise the 2016 PNGAA reunion lunch will be held at the Public Schools Club on Sunday 30 October when the guest speaker will be Barry Taverner.

Graham Taylor and Jan Kleinig



A Reunion from Jim Toner

It is axiomatic that anyone who has lived and worked in PNG never forgets it. As a consequence we *lapuns* in Australia hold reunions. There are the big ones every year – PNGAA in Killara, NSW and the Kiaps in Kawana Waters, Qld – but also informal gatherings of expatriates such as that in Perth shown in the accompanying photo. The stories of the three men are illustrative of the very mixed provenance of both government and private enterprise people who worked in the Territory before PNG Independence. On the left is Des Clancy from Sydney who was a Sergeant in the RAAF before becoming a member of that bunch of hard cases at ASOPA for the 1946 kiaps course. He spent the next three decades with Native Affairs and was written up in the papers as the patrol officer who discovered Shangri-La (the Lavani Valley in the Southern Highlands). Of more importance to him was his posting to Lae as DO Morobe where he met a school mistress who had

just completed a course at ASOPA. He and Margaret McDougall (in centre of photo) were married in Wewak.

As Independence loomed an interview with the Premier of Western Australia secured Des a super-kiap job (Gascoyne Regional Administrator) based at Carnarvon. Subsequently he moved to Perth as Director of the WA Pastoralists & Graziers Association. Margaret taught school in Perth and is still using her knowledge and ability to write plays and texts for young children.

Far right is Terry Daw, born Simla, India, a Captain, Gurkha Rifles during the War and Commander, Malaysian Police afterwards. On migrating his family to Perth he took a job as a prison warden, noticed a more attractive post (Assistant Superintendent) in PNG and moved to Bomana. Finally he found his true fit as Welfare Officer in Native Affairs and spent nearly twenty years in Rabaul before moving back to Perth.

In the rear is Jim Toner from Wembley, UK who after Army service with the RASC in Occupied Europe and then qualifying as a teacher went adventuring. After sailing to Melbourne as a *Ten Pound Pom* and conducting a tram up and down the St. Kilda Road he was interviewed by J.K. McCarthy, shortly to become Director Of Native Affairs, who despatched him to Mendi as District Office Clerk. Where he shared a 2-man donga with Mr Clancy. Later, promotion to Rabaul led him to meet Mr Daw (often at the Kombiu Club).

An interview with the future Vice-Chancellor, Australian National University led to Toner being made Field Manager of its New Guinea Research Unit. After being awarded a BEM for his work at Port Moresby he was sent to Darwin to assist establishment of a North Australia Research Unit where he remained for nineteen years. And has never been tempted to “go Down South”.

It was a happy afternoon in Claremont for the *wantoks*.

Report on Gender based violence in PNG

According to recent statistics from the Papua New Guinea National Department of Health, more than two thirds of women have experienced physical or sexual violence, one third were subjected to rape and 17% of sexual abuse involved girls between the ages 13 and 14. One of the world's leading humanitarian charities, Doctors Without Borders, claim that they are dealing with levels of gender violence normally only experienced in war zones.

The health consequences of family and sexual violence are significant, including but not limited to: serious injuries; unwanted pregnancy; unsafe abortion; sexually transmitted infections, including HIV; urinary tract infections; chronic pelvic pain; miscarriage; sexual dysfunction; infertility; increased vulnerability to disease; mental trauma; and even death.

Vlad Sorkin documents the daily struggles of women in PNG with a powerful photo series that is also available as a book. See:

<http://www.vladsokhin.com/work/crying-meri/>

Médecins Sans Frontières recently released a report on the failure to protect survivors of family and gender-based violence in Papua New Guinea. Off the back of this report, The Age, the Guardian and the Sydney Morning Herald have published pieces in March 2016 regarding domestic violence cases in PNG. The report can be read at:

<http://www.msf.org.au/sites/default/files/attachments/msf-pngreport-def-lrsingle.pdf>

One initiative that has emerged from people-to-people links between Australia and PNG to combat violence against women and girls is the Safe Public Transport Program and the Meri Seif Bus (Safe Bus) in Port Moresby. A study conducted by DFAT and UN Women revealed that 90% of women and girls have experienced some form of violence and/or harassment when using public transport. The Meri Seif Bus program now operates 2 women-only buses in Port Moresby. The purple buses operate daily, transporting more than 400 women during morning and afternoon peak times.

Sister Lorraine works at the Nazareth Rehabilitation Centre in Bougainville, which offers refuge and support to women in PNG who have fled abusive relationships and homes. This centre runs training and leadership courses

while supporting women and children who have escaped abusive relationships. Sister Lorraine says there is a great need for more resources and services going forward, in particular education assistance as the centre tries to place children back in school.

In a speech on 29 Feb 2016 Foreign Minister Julie Bishop launched a new strategy to promote women's empowerment as a priority for Australia's foreign aid program.

Ms Bishop has presided over lamentable cuts to the foreign aid budget, but she argues "our neighbourhood [is] where we believe we can make the biggest difference, where we believe we have a responsibility".

<http://www.theage.com.au/comment/the-age-editorial/australia-must-help-protect-women-in-png-20160302-gn8hc9.html>

New PNGAA Web site

Most members would be aware of the PNGAA web-site although some members utilise it more than others. Many of the articles appearing in the Una Voce also can be found in our web site. And, in fact, copies of all the old archived Una Voce journals can be found in the “members only” section of the web site.

But like all things, our old web site is about to give way to a new and more modern construct which will be available hopefully by early July this year. In transferring all the documents accumulated over the years in the old site - and there are thousands - it has been a challenge to maintain the same

access functionality. But we are doing the best we can to ensure that nothing will be lost.

The new website will deliver all news and event information, current and archived articles, photo galleries, updates from Facebook, and member information. You will be able to update your personal profile on the web site to let other members know your interests, see other member’s profiles, message them, and make contributions to the Una Voce. . . . all on-line. And it will be easier than ever to keep your membership up to date. All you will need to access the web site is an email address.

Further information on the web site will be provided in due course to members by e-mail given that only members with a

valid e-mail address will be able to access the site.

Therefore, it is important that you ensure that you have provided us with an up to date e-mail address. If you have any questions, please contact Roy Ranney at membership@pngaa.net or Andrea Williams at president@pngaa.net .

The PNGAA is looking for assistance with our new website – helping out the team in uploading material and general administration of the system. If you have some computer skills and a desire to become more active within the PNGAA, please contact us. E: membership@pngaa.net

Mr Bruce Davis, High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea

The PNGAA congratulates the new High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea, Mr Bruce Davis, on his appointment. Until recently, Mr Davis was Vice-President of the Asian Development Bank. He has also served overseas as Australian Ambassador to Ireland and as Deputy Secretary General of

the Pacific Islands Forum. Mr Davis was Director-General of the then Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) from 1999 until 2009.

Mr Davis holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from the University of

Queensland. He received the Public Service Medal in 2004 and became a Member of the Order of Australia in 2009 for service to international relations through leadership of AusAID and the development and reform of Australia’s overseas aid programs.



PNGAA project for adaptive re-use of former ASOPA buildings at Middle Head.

The President's page in the March 2016 *Una Voce* reported that the PNGAA Management Committee is working on a proposal for a permanent memorial at the ASOPA site in Mosman, along with a suitable living, interactive, tribute in the form of a Papua New Guinea / Australia 'Centre of Excellence' - a focal point for the PNG/Australia relationship.

PNGAA met informally with the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust management team in February. Since then a small group of volunteers has been working to put flesh on the idea. A project development session was held on May 9th in preparation for

providing feedback at an Open Day scheduled by SHFT and National Parks and Wildlife for end May 2016.

A start has been made on a concise outline of the depth of cultural association between the buildings and the people who taught or were taught there for the 51 years that ASOPA and its successors were on site. Assisting with this operation was former officer Marie Clifton-Bassett who worked at the main building from 1950-52. On a recent visit she explained the working layout of the campus at that time.

As the PNGAA shapes its project it has become clear that the best

prospects for a successful outcome depend upon our own capacity to adapt sufficiently to be able to form partnerships with, even operate as a hub for, other interest groups and potential sponsors of activities. There are a number who share our view that the values and principles that guided the ASOPA experience should be preserved, celebrated and fostered to bring about better relationships between Australia and its nearest neighbours.

Members with particular experience or memorabilia about ASOPA, the ITI or the CPAC should contact the Secretary with details. PNGAA needs all the help we can get.

PNGAA COLLECTION

Any items for the PNGAA Collection should now be directed to the PNGAA in the first instance. Please contact PNGAA Coordinator: Steve Burns E: Stephen.burns@ghd.com Ph: 02-9489 0824

One of the objectives of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia Inc (PNGAA) is: 'to encourage the preservation of documents, historical and cultural material related to Papua New Guinea; including the production and recording of oral and written histories'.

Members are encouraged to preserve significant heritage items that may have been accumulated as a result of their or their family's involvement in PNG both before and after independence, and, where appropriate, to consider donating or loaning it to the PNGAA where it can be safely stored, preserved and made available for the education and enjoyment of other members.

While the Fryer Library currently holds part of the PNGAA Collection

in Brisbane for material up to 1975 (UQFL387), all future donations of memorabilia should be sent to the PNGAA so that this Collection of historical items related to Papua New Guinea will be conserved, and eventually digitised, by the PNGAA as a resource for future generations interested in PNG.

Photos and some documents are a valuable resource for our journal, *Una Voce*, and also for the PNGAA photo gallery on the website. People, places and dates (close approximate is fine) need to be identified.

Growing this significant resource of archival material on PNG in the form of photographs, documents, maps and patrol reports, together with artefacts from before PNG Independence to the current day is important for maintaining the cultural heritage of, and strong links between, our two nations. It is critical that Australia's role in developing Papua New Guinea to become an independent nation

in 1975, and the continuing close relationship shared between our two countries, are properly recognised and celebrated.

All listings of donations to the PNGAA Collection will be progressively updated on our PNGAA website at: <http://pngaa.net/Fryer/June2016.htm>

The PNGAA Collection is a wonderful resource of a unique time in PNG and it has been thanks to former PNGAA President Doug Parrish, Dr Peter Cahill and the assistance of the Fryer Library that this collection exists and continues for the future.

The PNGAA - thanks the following donors who have recently contributed:

Margaret Cameron; Heather Andersen; Dr Peter Cahill; Eric Coote; Peter Harvey-Jackson; Winnifred Chittleborough, Bruce O'Reilly, Dr Sam Bateman, Derryck Thompson



CHRIS OVERLAND'S STORY about Baimuru and the giant canoe, Eiwo, brought back some memories.

I picture my sometime boss, the late Clarrie Healey, (at Beara, before I moved the post to Baimuru a year or so after Clarrie's departure) setting off in his own most-favoured government canoe, *Tillicum*, and heading off into blinding rain accompanied only by a single cop, a Sepik constable known far and wide as 'The Spider' for his long, lanky and predatory look.

The Spider pushed off from Gulf Traders wharf while I remained behind to follow to Beara in another canoe, "if the plane brings the mail."

Beara, established after World War II as a Patrol Post was uplifted to Sub District Office status as a parking-spot for Clarrie, now an Assistant District Officer after his demotion from District Officer status for habitual drunkenness and misbehaviour involving a Samoan pastor's wife. Beara was soon to become a Patrol Post again with this writer as OIC.

On that wet day we had, as was customary, ingested ale and rum in largish quantities with The Colonel at Gulf Traders establishment, known locally as The Palace Flophouse, a name bestowed by another memorable Gulfite of the time, the late Francis Xavier Ryan.

We were increasingly, doubtfully, waiting for the plane to come from Daru and Balimo with the mail and freezer from Port Moresby. Clarrie, who at home was 'on the dry', wanted to get back to his place not quite blind drunk so as to be able to pacify the much put-upon Mrs Healy.

He was inordinately fond of his skill as an 'outboard-whisperer' as applied to the heavy, often recalcitrant but durable Archimedes outboards which were supplied to us in those days. As expected, with one pull of the starting cord, the twin-opposed two-stroke engine burst into life, on full throttle, with a mini-Harley Davidson-like burst of thunder. Unaccountably unsteady in stance, Clarrie disappeared in a short arc over the transom. *Tillicum* surged away into the rain - the long, thin figure of The Spider gesturing frenziedly from the bow.

At an appropriate juncture after Clarrie had crawled up the ladder and had been fortified with further rum, a rescue was executed. Also at that time there existed a worthy ancestor to your big canoe, Chris.

It was that built by Col Ryman, late of Kaimare sawmill and Gulf Traders, business partner and co-front-of-ribaldry with Keith "The Colonel" Ledingham of Gulf Traders. Keith was also organiser and minder of Gulf Traders' HQ, the Flophouse, and its store and the Shell agency at the downstream end of the airstrip. This huge marine beast was endowed with a big, six-cylinder Chrysler Marine inboard engine and a normal motor launch shaft drive. Control was maintained from a small, ugly, rectangular wheelhouse at the stern.

This latter excrescence resulted in the beast being named "The Specialist" in honour of the once-famous book about a builder of fancy outhouses, or dead-drop dunnies as we knew them. [That book was written by one Chic Sale in case anyone decides to search for it.]

So, Chris, we had The Colonel, Col Ryman, Joe Stuart and, by that time far away at Koialahu on the eastern side of the Vailala, the late Bertie Counsel. Their antics and endless flow of yarns kept me from going completely mad in my memorable Gulf days which (madness in itself) lasted five years at one stretch. The Colonel, a refugee from civilisation, possessed some inherited money and a good, classical education from one of Sydney's GPS boarding-schools. He had an endless repertoire of stories featuring either a pompous Major Ponsonby or a sex-crazed travelling salesman.

The others all had similar talents. Bertie Counsel, ever cheerful, witty and source of so many good stories, was an accomplished pianist, as he demonstrated once on the only piano west of Kairuku at Kikori. But that's another story.

You may or may not have heard of the lingua franca known as King's Cross Motu. This, originated by The Colonel, was spoken by a small group of intellectuals, one or two of whom look at this blog from time to time. All of us were domiciled at Baimuru and at Ihu in those days of yore and endless rain.

In this era, succinct messages in Kings Cross Motu used to be left for other initiates in the famed New Guinea Book kept at Ushers Hotel in Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Messages such as *haraga ita mei botaia inisini* were left as insider invitations (English translation *let's hit the piss here soon*).

John Fowke

Anzac Day and Renovation Of Coastwatcher Memorial Lighthouse, Madang

The responsibility of the Coastwatchers Memorial Lighthouse was handed over to a local committee made up of the Interim Chair Carl Kamang from NMSA, the Town Council, Provincial Government, Leo Berka and Sir Peter Barter who will now be responsible to the maintenance of the actual memorial whilst the NMSA will continue to maintain the actual navigation aspects. The Madang Resort has maintained the grounds of the Lighthouse for more than 20 years.

This followed several years of negotiations with the Australian War Graves Commission, NMSA which resulted in the entire Lighthouse being cleaned back to its original white lime cement, all the plaques being removed and polished; ceramic tiles placed around both the lighthouse and the Coastwatchers Memorial and all flood lights replaced.

Sir Peter provided information received from Ross and Pat Johnson in providing the background at the official launch in August 1959. Sir Peter thanked all involved with the restoration of the Lighthouse as well as Ross and Pat Johnson, reassuring them that the information provided was now secure in the Noser Library of the Divine Word University.

The Madang Anzac Dawn Service is now the second largest in PNG after Bomana, with around 3000.

And a special Anzac Day tribute on facebook collated by Gayle Thwaites: <https://www.facebook.com/RabaulAndMontevideoMaruSociety/posts/1014394601986497>

Sydney Anzac Day March:



PNGAA Co Patron Fred Kaad OBE with Ross Johnson, Peter Leyden, and Ken Jones



Brisbane Anzac Day March:



Brisbane Anzac Day March – PNGVR

Address by Ex -Sergeant Jim Burrowes “M” Special Unit At Tidal River Memorial Service 15 November 2015

As guest speaker on this memorable occasion - I would like us to pay homage to the original commandos who trained here at Tidal River in the ‘Prom’ 74 years ago.

Before doing so, I wish to record the sincere appreciation of the few of us “as we who are left grow old” from the original Commando Association, for the care and attention of the second Commando Association generation, and particularly for the commemoration here at the Tidal Pilgrimage.

I was too young to train here at the Prom - being only 16 when the war started – and having to wait for 2 years before joining the A.I.F, I missed the gruelling exercises the troops were put through , but I would now like to dedicate this commemoration to them.

As a prologue - in the late 1940’s, based on the British Commandoes, the powers that be decided to establish eight independent companies, later to become the respective commando companies, with their role being to infiltrate, and operate in enemy held Territory , to report and attack on its movements.

Thus the 1st, 2nd and 3rd independent companies were initially formed in early 1941, and they lived and trained as the No. 7 Infantry Centre under Captain ‘Mad Mike’ Calvert , where our memorial now stands , and also on the Darby river close by. With no roads in those days, access was difficult in the rugged bush, and the troops were told to “dump your kit bags here” – and “there’s your tents to pitch“.

Exercises were taken out in full battle dress in the very rugged conditions, marching all day without food and water. Night excursions to climb Mount Oberon without warning and blankets were ordered at random readiness.

Lieutenant Mike Sheehan wrote that after a long hard exercise along the length of the prom , there was a truck waiting a few miles short of the camp, and the troops were asked “if any fellow is a bit knocked up , hop on the truck and we’ll take you back to camp”. Any takers were foolish, as on arrival at the camp, they were told to pack their kit-bags and they were banished back to where they came from. Any troops who failed to make it to the top of Oberon following surprise night-time orders to do so, also suffered the same fate. When I researched what those troops went through – I think I would have been on that truck!

The gruelling exercises were not without drama.

On rare occasions, a select few were allowed to go by truck into Fish Creek to the pub or pictures - on one voyage returning , Andy Pirie of the 2nd 5th reported that some NCO’s decided to simulate a surprise to scare them - by blowing up the convoy with an explosive charge by the side of the road. Unfortunately a trainee sergeant lit the fuse too early and it blew up



the group - killing a sergeant and maiming two others.

The story continues with the independent companies completing their training in mid-1941 , but in the meantime, some ten months before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbour, the government had formed a ‘Malay Barrier’ of protection from any Japanese threat , by deploying a series of ‘bird’ forces - to be located around the islands north of Australia. These contingents were named ‘Sparrow Force’ at Timor, ‘Gull Force’ at Ambon and ‘Lark Force’ in New Britain - to which the independent companies with other battalions were then transported in troop ships. These events were completely un-heralded, not even in post-war history recording .

Sadly, I now come to an epilogue of disaster.

The strategy proved to be totally futile, as Japanese invasions took

place with overwhelming odds to defeat and capture the token forces. The Japanese landed at Rabaul with 5,000 troops - a superiority over the 1,500 Australian contingent of over 3 to 1, and literally walked into Rabaul with very few casualties.

They also landed 3,000 troops at Kavieng on New Ireland, at more than 20 to 1 odds against the 1st independent company of 140 which had disembarked there in mid 1941. Following some token resistance, the independent company was forced to retreat to avoid capture, with a small force remaining at the airfield to blow up supply dumps and facilities.

They were able to obtain a disabled boat, the Induna Star, which they repaired and set off to reach Port Moresby. Unfortunately a lone Japanese aircraft spotted them and strafed them with much damage. The plane then contacted a destroyer which captured them and re-directed them to Rabaul, where they joined the other P.O.W.'s, and endured slave conditions un-loading ships and digging tunnels in those early months of captivity.

In the meantime, to the abject shame of the Australian government, it was communicated by Sir Earl Page that the Lark Force at Rabaul would be hostages of fortune (Ref: Anne McCosker, historian "What about Rabaul?") with no rescue nor reinforcements, ordering the force to fight to the end! Following this decree, the commanding officer Colonel Scanlon issued the infamous order of "every man for himself" which would be unique in the annals of warfare history. Thus, the troops were left with the total abandonment of their officers' responsibilities.

400 men of the Lark Force escaped into the jungle but with no caches of food supplies pre-arranged, suffered horrendous difficulties, eventually escaping in 2 boats. 160 were massacred at a Tol plantation after surrendering, and 853 - including the remaining 132 commandoes of Tidal River - were then part of the 1,053 men, including 200 civilians from Rabaul, who were transported in the Montevideo Maru prison ship which was sunk by an American submarine off the coast of Luzon on the 1st of July 1942. It was the largest Australian maritime disaster of the war, much larger than the HMAS Sydney's claimed fate of 645 sailors - and Rabaul was the largest military disaster.

One doesn't want to think about the last desperate minutes the prisoners went through before drowning, having suffered no food, no water nor latrines for the previous week, and knowing they were about to die. However, with my brother Bob of the 34th Royal Australian Engineers also on board, I take some solace that they didn't have to suffer three and a half years of misery and torture in the coal mines of Hainan.

A few of the 1st were lucky - they had been transferred south to Caledonia and the Solomons, and were repatriated back to Australia - where they joined the Coastwatchers. I got to know some of them, but with the 1st now wiped out, the company was disbanded.

The other independent companies from Tidal River served in Timor, New Guinea at Wau and Salamua, and Borneo with distinction.

That completes my story of the Tidal River heroes, and if anyone

has a relative or friend who went down on the Montevideo Maru, I'll be happy to have a chat over a cup of coffee in the hospitality tent later, as I have a list of all the victims with me.

I have been pleased to be accompanied today by my lovely wife Beryl, who served 3 years in the Women's Australian Air Force, and our two sons, Bob and Tom, who have carried on the names of their uncles who lost their lives at Rabaul, my twin brother Tom also going down in a Beaufort bomber on their first mission over Rabaul. Coincidentally, Rabaul was also my destiny as I spent 10 months in the Baining Mountains over-looking the Japanese air-strip at Rabaul as a coastwatcher signaller in the Malcolm English party, but I came home.

The prime role of the coastwatchers was to signal the details of Japanese bomber flights leaving Rabaul for the Guadalcanal and Port Moresby, for the allies to be up in the air ready to repel them. Admiral Halsey, Chief Commander of the USS fleet, declared that "without the coastwatchers the Pacific war would not have been won".

Thank you - (Followed on with the recital of the Ode - and a minute's silence).

*They shall grow not old, as we who
are left grow old*

*Age shall not weary them, nor the
years condemn*

*At the going down of the sun, and in
the morning*

We will remember them

- (the ghosts of Tidal River)

Limlimbur long Nambis

I was posted to Balupwine Primary School in the East Sepik in 1965. The oldest government school in the Sepik, it was built on river flats at the foot of the Prince Alexanders, an eastward extension of the Torricelli Range. From the time I first set eyes on the mountains behind the school I hankered to go up and over them to see what was beyond. I learnt that in pre-contact days, villagers from the local area used to go down to the sparsely populated part of the coast to our north to get salt. I was told that one or two of the pupils' relatives had actually made the journey themselves along this old salt route out of curiosity. The Australian army had used the crossing during WW2 too.

In my second year at Balupwine, I lined up a man who had made the trip to take a party of adults and older schoolchildren – and me – about fifteen of us in total, down to the coast. We judged the May school holidays the best time for such a scheme for by then the wet season would be over and the possibility of flooded rivers no longer a concern. Parents had given their approval for their children to go and we set out on the appointed day. We found the way gruelling, and though steep, one consolation was the ground underfoot was dry and leechless. I remember vividly a heart-breaking aspect of the expedition: that was coming to the end of an arduous climb when you were expecting glimpses of the coast, only to find all that was on offer was one more mountain. To cross this obstacle you needed of course to go down before you could start going up again. Like a child I couldn't

resist asking the occasional 'are-we-there-yet' type questions. Papua New Guineans are given to often telling the masta what he wants to hear. So in such situations you often hear 'klostu' (close to) as a response. This can be translated as anything from 'only a few hundred yards off' to 'a day and a half's journey away'. Experience teaches the expatriate to shut up, put his mind in neutral and just keep walking.

Mercifully there were sections where we simply followed the streams, thus eliminating for a while the relentless up-and-down. The drawback then was that my feet stayed wet and were affected by sharp pebbles. Rather than heavy boots, I was wearing sturdy fishermen's sandals with socks. The locals usually walked barefoot anyway so their tough feet weren't affected very much. Mine were. The soles of my feet presented a very strange appearance when exposed to view and although pitted and peculiar-looking, they weren't hurting.

We eventually had welcome glimpses of the sea as we made our way down to the coastal plain. I remember where we took shelter on our first night out after a good eight hours or more on the road. It was in a small village by a cool stream. In the failing light I bathed in its clear, gurgling waters while the others prepared dinner by roasting taro on the fire. It was a heartening end to the hard day, sitting in the firelight and with blackened lips, chewing on delicious lumps of sooty taro, and talking over our day's efforts. I tried to roll some brus – local tobacco – into the standard six-inch cheroot wrapped

in newspaper. My efforts as usual were a total failure and I had to rely on the men to fashion one for me. The distinctive smell and taste of these newspaper cheroots are etched into my memory; and very welcome they were then before tobacco's reputation hit rock bottom!

The village people had recently finished a haus pater (priest's house) for the priest when he visited to say Mass. I had brought along a fold-out banana chair to sleep on but at the villagers' insistence I put it aside and christened the new 'bed' intended for Father – a rock-hard, hand-hewn slab of hardwood on legs. They set up my mosquito net in such a way that it was impossible for me later to surreptitiously substitute my banana chair to ensure a more comfortable night. Father's bed was absolutely unyielding, but surprisingly I did manage to get off to sleep without too much difficulty and achieve some rest.

Next day we set out with a light heart knowing that there were no more mountains to climb or descend. Attentive to the sun's position, we struck out across a level sandy tract that was thick with eight foot high pitpit. Every so often we came across a scrubby tree that someone would climb to make sure that we weren't going round in circles. We had to cut through a lot of pitpit to maintain progress. The combination of airlessness and humidity in the seemingly never-ending vegetation, along with the near microscopic needles from the pitpit that lodged in our skin was very hard to take. We eventually reached the beach where we threw ourselves into the sea. Most of

the schoolkids had never seen the solwara[salt water] before and were boggle eyed at the waves and the unbelievable expanse of water before their eyes.

We then trudged on to Matapau village. The people were very interested in hearing about our trip and kindly opened some kulau (green coconuts) for us to drink. They spoke a language that was unrelated to that of their near neighbours. It is apparently linked to a language spoken across the West Papuan border and the explanation for this is that Matapau had been settled not many generations back by a canoe load of people from over the border who had taken to the sea and had been carried a great distance off course by unexpected currents.

Mid afternoon on the second day out we sighted the Catholic mission station of Suain along the beach. As we got nearer, Father Martin Shumacher, the resident Franciscan missionary along with a group of his parishioners came out to welcome us. Quite a number were wearing scarlet laplaps that seemed more like a kind of uniform than mere clothes. Father explained

that he suspected some kind of cult mentality was affecting his flock and he was currently busy trying to work out why scarlet cloth was in such great demand.

The village was expecting us. I stayed with Fr Martin and the rest of the group were led off to a comfortable house which they had use of during their stay. When I sat down, Father offered me a beer 'on the rocks' – unusual but very refreshing. He noticed how swollen my right ankle appeared and diagnosed tendonitis. It became quite painful after an hour or two of just sitting and I realised that I couldn't possibly walk back to Maprik. The village men in our group were quite comfortable with the idea of returning without me so I decided to fly back via Wewak. Next day, as well as speaking on the transmitter to mission HQ in Aitape, Fr Martin laid out an 'X' signal beside his airstrip with painted corrugated iron strips to indicate to the pilot of the mission plane that flew overhead regularly that there was a need for him to land. I readied my stuff and leaving the little group to enjoy their visit to the nambis (coast) I was soon sitting next to the pilot of a small

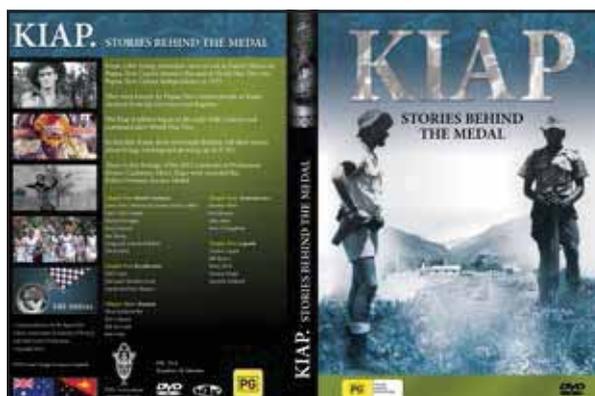
Franciscan Mission Cessna on my way to Wewak. Next day I flew out to Maprik and returned to Balupwine. It wasn't very long before the schoolkids returned with their guardians, full of enthusiastic reports of their experiences. In the next school holidays Fr Martin and some Suain men brought some of their children over to Balupwine to see for themselves how Maprik people lived. We were then able to repay their hospitality.

I went back to PNG in 2008 for a nostalgic holiday which included a visit to Balupwine school. A couple from the original group, now in late middle age, sat with me and we reminisced about those long gone but unforgettable days.

Paul Dennett

* Limlimbur long nambis = a walk to the coast.

'Limlimbur' is a sweet-sounding word that Pidgin has borrowed from Kuanua, the language of the Tolai. It translates as 'leisurely stroll' or 'walkabout'.



KIAP: Stories Behind the Medal DVD – For Sale

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

HOW TO ORDER?

www.pngaa.net or on enclosed Treasurer's Corner form.
 EFT to PNGAA BSB: 062 009 Account No. 0090 7724
 If paying by EFT please email membership@pngaa.net with contact details.

A short excerpt is available here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8C52NlcXD6I>

Friends of Rambutso building Furniture Without Nails, Popeu Village

In 2015, in partnership with the community of Popeu Village, Rambutso island in Manus and the Australian High Commission, Friends of Rambutso (FOR) helped complete the building of a haus studi.

A lack of furniture – and furniture making skills - In 2015, in partnership with the community of Popeu Village, Rambutso island in Manus and the Australian High Commission, Friends of Rambutso (FOR) helped complete the building of a haus studi.

A lack of furniture – and furniture making skills - inspired this project involving teaching young men to make furniture without nails. The idea was to teach young men skills to make desks that could be used for study, furniture for their homes (especially benefiting women who do the cooking with minimal furniture!) or for sale at market. My former woodworking teacher Richard Vaughan (Worksinwood.com.au) signed up for the adventure, bringing a world of experience and enthusiasm.

Learning of the limited availability of tools – and a total absence of vices – Richard realised the first activity would need to involve making shave horses. Without nails, of course.



The second challenge was the collection and freighting of tools. Richard reached out to his network of Australian woodworking community who threw their weight behind the project, sourcing an astounding 640kgs of donated and helping recondition tools. Transfield Services came to the rescue offering to freight the goods from Brisbane to Manus. The goods cleared customs mid-December just two weeks before Richard and I arrived on Rambutso.

Getting ready on Rambutso involved cutting timber, unpacking tools and briefing community leaders.

Getting down to business



The results



Next steps

Workshop participants were asked to share their new skills with other interested men in their villages. In 2 months' time if there is proof the skills have been widely shared, Friends of Rambutso has promised to distribute the bulk of the tools. These supplies become theirs to manage and retain for further woodworking courses.

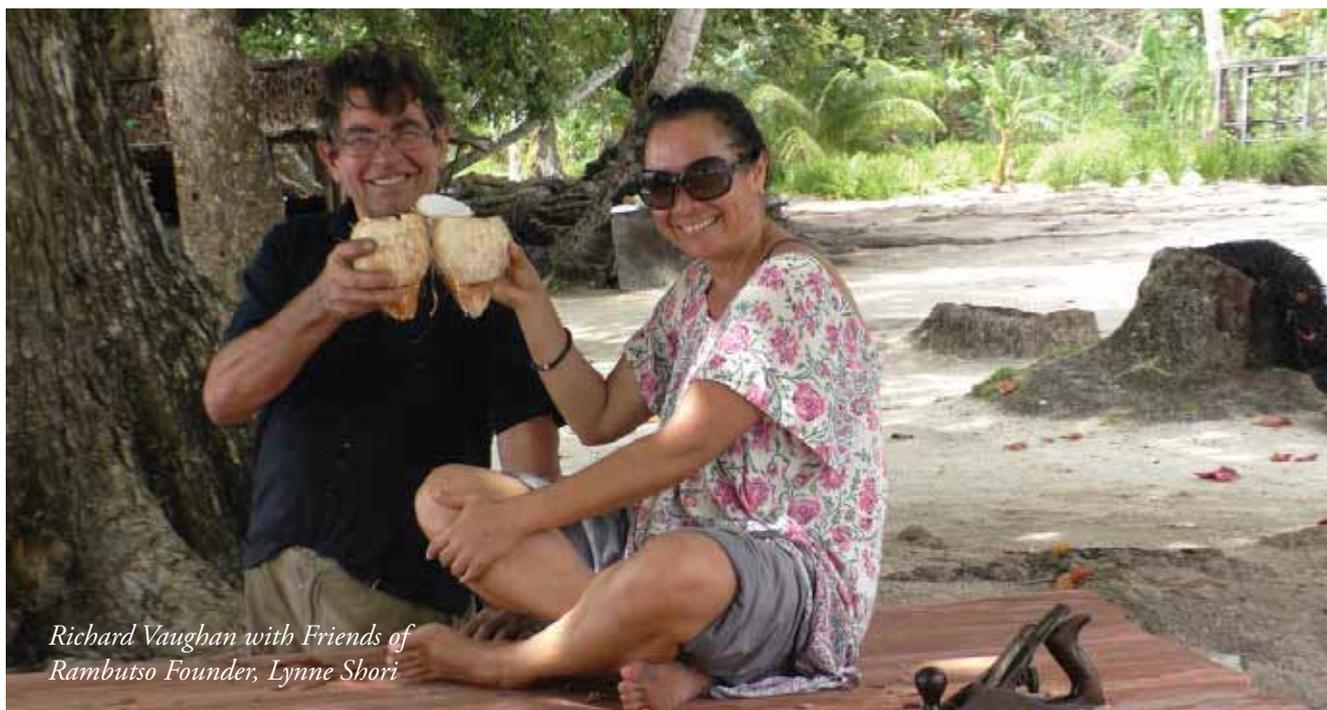
Supporting PNG and Manus goals

Engaging disaffected youth is a priority for PNG and the Manus Government. The Manus Government has already signalled their interest in combining efforts to roll this training out across the province using a train the trainer approach. In PNG getting anything done at a provincial level is a rare

occurrence. With genuine interest from Provincial Government, it could happen. If it does, it would a major feather in all our caps!

A team effort – if you get a chance to take a peak: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfRambutso/>

Lynne Shori



Richard Vaughan with Friends of Rambutso Founder, Lynne Shori

Steps leading home

There comes a time in adult life when one's childhood seems like a foreign country to be visited with a temporary access visa and some illustrated travel brochures. My childhood did indeed languish in a foreign country and, for me, the time had come to revisit. Accompanied by a handful of old photographs and a friend who had her own close connections, I returned to my old island home of Bougainville. What I found was nothing short of breath-taking. Step by step, this is my journey.

In the early 1950s my father, John Macartney, was lured away from his private practice as a surveyor in North Queensland to take up a contract with the (then) Australian Government in Papua New Guinea, working in the Department of Lands, Surveys and Mines. With his wife, Betty and two children—aged five and two years—their 15-year long PNG adventure began in Kieta, the main administrative post on Bougainville, the largest island of the North Solomons province.

My parents established life in a government house on the hill beside two other European families (those of the District Commissioner and the Doctor). The house was simple in design, on high stumps with louvered floor-to-ceiling walls for ventilation. Under the house there were two swings; crude wooden

seats on long ropes slung from the floor beams for us to play on in the cool. Tirelessly kicking our legs, we would skilfully arc higher and higher away from the much-loved mongrel dog that was desperate to join in the fun.

I also recall Wee Willy Winkie lamps that lit our way to bed, a kero fridge chilling beaten-up aluminium trays of ice cubes and jugs of Sunshine powdered milk, and a wood-fire stove. The rudimentary kitchen was not of immediate concern for children, but the occasional centipede that came in from the wood pile held us fascinated as black shiny bits kept going on their hundreds of legs long after the creature had been chopped into pieces. Similarly, we watched through laced fingers the 'dance of death' performed by a headless chook before it was plucked for the pot.

But back to the house.

From the house, a set of 69 steps hewn into the hillside led down to a small tidal beach. Photos show my brother and me standing at the top of these steps with towels around our necks like displaced young Nippers heading for a swim. When planning my trip, I was advised that there would be little of the township of Kieta left to see—almost certainly nothing of the house—but that the steps might still be there. So, clutching my passport and photos but with no such firmly-held expectations, I flew to Port Moresby, cleared customs, and transferred to the domestic terminal. Destination: the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

I got off the plane to be greeted by a freshly painted sign saying "Welcome to Kieta (Aropa) Airport" and I caught my breath. In the 50s, Aropa plantation was owned by the McKay family and clan members play an on-going part in my life. The airport had particular significance first having been surveyed by my father all those years ago. If I could have, I would have turned around then and got back on the plane. I had touched the holy grail. It was enough. But the smiling face of my host Christine materialised out of the shimmering light behind the security fence and her welcoming wave steadied my nerve. Inside the terminal a young Air Niugini representative invited me to sit down to wait for my single suitcase. This arrived soon enough on a trolley hauled across the steaming tarmac by strong young shoulders that doubled as a quasi-luggage carousel, dropping bags at our feet on the terminal floor.

Showing my identifying baggage chit and carefully juggling an allocation of duty-free gin, I tentatively stepped into the past, present, and future of my life on Bougainville.

Our vehicle was a hard-working Toyota 4X4 and we bounced around in the single, air-conditioned cab with my bag bouncing in sympathy behind us, tethered to the tray-back. From the minute we left the airport I was in familiar territory: palms growing horizontally towards the sea, glistening black rutile sands, short choppy waves lapping the pot-holed road, orchids growing low enough to pick, and a road-side fish market

shielded from the frying heat by palm fronds over a make-do stall.

In low gear, our vehicle climbed the hill looking down on the remnants of Kieta, taking us on to the town of Arawa. During my childhood, Arawa had been a plantation owned by the McKillop family. We used to walk over this same hill (now known as Premier's Hill given its spectacular vantage point looking out to sea) to be met by Kip McKillop in his small outboard to take us across the bay for welcome weekend stays with his family. It was a chance for the women to talk privately (not on the radio afternoon 'schedule') and the children to play endless group games like those sketched out in *A Boys'/Girls' Own Annual*. The Arawa township that I arrived at however in no way reflected these early memories.

Following the heady days of the Panguna Mine, and the ensuing tragedy of the civil war, Arawa is only a shell of the thriving place that many would remember. But this is not the time for me to interrogate the years between that happy childhood and now. In our family lore, my Father always referred to surveyors working on the roadside as 'survivors'. I like to believe today he'd think of Bougainville as surviving a complicated past and mapping out a self-determined future.

We arrived in Section 10 (sections replace suburbs in mining towns) to a comfortable house that was leased to my host for the duration of her contract with the Bougainville Peace Building Program. Vases of perfumed lilies, wild ginger, and exotic orchids spoke of a tropical welcome and that evening, with faded photos and warmish gin-and- tonics in

hand, we began stepping back into my childhood.

The two-week stay was highlighted by excursions with my host and the memories of those days will stay forever: international children's day at a mission school with a full program of dance and music, time spent at the Arawa High School library as the volunteer librarian aide, and an invitation to spend a day at the haus sik (hospital) in memory of my Mother, a biochemist. In addition, there were almost daily visits to the large fruit and vegetable markets where the mangoes, pineapples, and finger bananas have spoilt my taste buds for any others to follow.

A weekend visit to the nearby island of Pok Pok meant we needed to take a boat from the beach at Kieta. Now was my chance to see if I could find those steps. My fellow time-travellers clambered up the hill with me through old copra palms and untended cocoa plants to find what I believe to be the site of my childhood home. Whether it was the exact place or not does not matter. There was a view from the top of an over-grown set of steps that I could recognise from one small sepia print.

On Pok Pok, we met an older gentleman, Michael, who remembered one man from his village who had worked for the white families in Kieta. I showed him my few photographs; he smiled broadly and nodded in genuine understanding. Like C P Cavafy's *Ithaka*, Kieta "gave me the marvellous journey. Without her I wouldn't have set out. She has nothing left to give me now."

Returning into Kieta harbour by boat from Pok Pok, I caught my breath again as I'd done at the airport; un-checked emotion in

these moments of arrival. I looked over the prow of our outboard across a jade green sea to the shore of tangled jungle with a rusting copra lugger lying fallow at the jetty, wondering what my mother had thought more than half a century earlier as she saw that same view, standing on an oily deck with a child grasped in each hand. No doubt, like my father, she was on her own Ulyssian odyssey.

Between the island weekend and days in town, my host arranged for me to attend two district public reconciliation events planned by the Bougainville Peace Building Program. The rawness and fragility of this important community healing will never leave me. In the District of Siwai for one such event, I explained to the Minister for Education (also the local member) that my father had been a surveyor here in the 50s. He replied immediately "Oh yes. I've seen that name on many plans for this area".

My childhood was no longer a foreign country. There were people who could bear witness to that time on Bougainville. My time. And there were always the steps leading home.

Belinda Macartney,
January 2016 ©

Post Script

On returning to Brisbane, I visited the Asia Pacific Triennial (APT8) at the Gallery of Modern Art. As part of the exhibition, there were five large-scale, haunting photographs created by two inspiring young Bougainville artists, whom I was fortunate to meet. Sometime later over a dinner, questioning a friend about his family home, I was delighted to hear that his grandfather was a man from Buka! And so it continues. BM

Anzac Day Rabaul

30 relatives of the 2/22nd Battalion travelled to Rabaul and Tol for a moving Anzac Day this year. A Dawn Service was held at the Rabaul Cenotaph, followed by a gunfire breakfast at the Yacht Club. Later in the morning a service at Bitapaka was held. They were warmly welcomed at Tol with a haus win built and a large singsing.

Lt Col Shaun Fletcher gave the Anzac Day Address in Rabaul. He acknowledged the work of the Rabaul Historical Society and Susie McGrade of Rabaul Hotel. An excerpt from his address follows:

‘... it all started here at what has become known as the battle of Bitapaka on 11 September 1914. In terms of human losses, the battle was a modest event, but for Australia it was the start of four years of the most bloody war. And while a small battle in a global war, the strategic consequences of the Australian victory were enormous as not long after, New Britain became a Mandated Territory of Australia on September 17th.

Unfortunately, this victory was marred by the tragic loss of the Australian submarine AE1. To this day 35 young Australians remain somewhere in the waters close to where we now stand. Whilst 2016 commemorates the 102nd anniversary of these first world war actions, war was to come again to New Britain.

By 1939 Rabaul was a thriving township, but was unfortified. With war in Europe declared, and a north Asian threat looming, the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles were raised, and 1400 members of the 2/22 Battalion and other supporting units, despatched from Australia to Rabaul.

When a superior Japanese Force attacked on the 23rd of January 1942, these galant men and women had little chance. Some escaped, some were captured, some surrendered. Others were brutally massacred, notably at the nearby Tol Plantation.

These tragedies were soon followed by more crippling loss. On July 1st, Australia’s greatest maritime disaster occurred when the Japanese ship, *Montevideo Maru*, carrying captured Australian servicemen and civilians, was torpedoed and sunk by the US submarine *Sturgeon*. For the rest of the war, Rabaul was subjected to a prolonged Allied air campaign with Australian, American and New Zealand aircraft raiding

the township, harbour and other targets across New Britain.

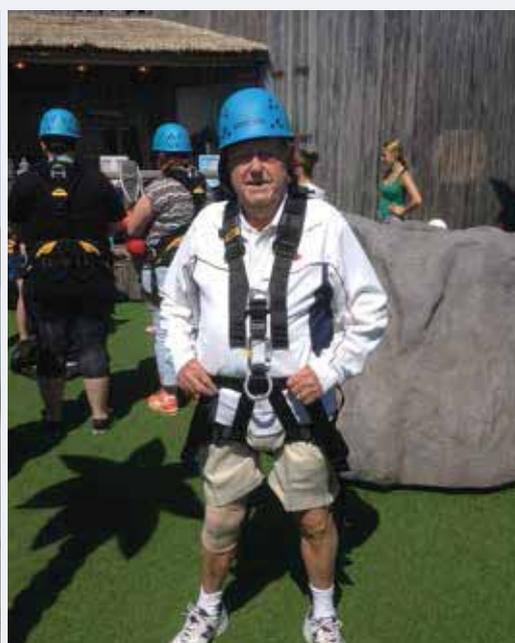
Many more losses occurred during these battles. I ask you all to pause and remember the Papuan and New Guinean contributions to freedom. Not only were units like the NGVR, and the Papuan and New Guinean Infantry Battalions involved in actions, nearly 50,000 Papua New Guineans were recruited as labour for the Allies between 1942 and 1945. These brave men and women were crucial to the Allied war effort, and contributed significantly to the final victory.



Jim Burrowes enjoyed a cruise on the new P&O ship, Pacific Eden, in February.

Determined to make the most of life and its adventures, Jim, at 92 years, established a record as the oldest participant on the flying fox (next was only a 'young' 75!)

In WWII Jim spent 10 months in the Baining Mountains over-looking the Japanese air-strip at Rabaul as a coastwatcher signaller in the Malcolm English party. His twin brother Tom went down in a Beaufort bomber on their first mission over Rabaul and Jim's other brother, Bob, lost his life with the *Montevideo Maru*.



Happy 100th Birthday to Patsy Weaver

PNGAA Member Patsy Weaver (néé Bryant) celebrated her centenary on 20 March 2016 at her son's home at Dural (Brian and Rosemary Weaver).

Patsy arrived in Rabaul in 1927 with her mother and older sister Roma (Bates) on the old 'Montoro'. Later, Patsy worked at the District Office and then in December 1937, she married Rodney Weaver at the St Georges Anglican Church, Rabaul. Leaving on the 'Malaita', Patsy returned to Sydney and now lives at Rowland Village, Galston. Half-sisters Barbara Morris and Leonie O'Donnell (who were both born in Rabaul) travelled from Melbourne and Darwin, respectively for the celebrations.

Overall, a large and happy family gathering of all ages with Patsy surrounded by great-grandchildren, great-nephews and nieces, the youngest being great-great-nephew Jack Toynton, aged 20 months.

With much pleasure the PNGAA welcomes two new Management Committee members.

Belinda Macartney, Editor

After a successful and varied career in education, post-graduate studies led me to a complementary career in communications. Now, twenty years' experience in communications profiles my skills across a wide range of contexts in marketing, promotions, writing and editorial roles for both public and private sectors.



My most recent full-time employment was as Education Manager, Programming Unit, Queensland Performing Arts Centre (I was there for a total of 15 years in various roles). Since leaving that position I've been working as a consultant for a number of organisations, including the Queensland Music Festival and Queensland Tourism and Events Outback Education. I have my own communications consultancy, and am an authorised Marriage Celebrant.

PERSONAL HISTORY

I spent 15 years as a young person living with my family in PNG from 1957- 1972. We began in Kieta, Bougainville and then moved to be based in Port Moresby. I was first schooled by my mother through correspondence, attended Primary school in Port Moresby, and finished Secondary school boarding in Brisbane. My memories of PNG are positive, having always been supported by my immediate family and extended friends with similar experiences. I have lived in various places in Australia and overseas and now I am happily settled in Brisbane.

The wonderful PNGAA network - Having studied together in the late 80s and after a gap of many years, Belinda and Ally Martell were delighted to catch up again through the March issue of Una Voce!

Steve Burns, Committee – PNGAA Collection

Steve is a pikinini tru bilong Papua Niugini. Born in Goroka in 1951, the first European to claim that distinction, his father was (then) Inspector Bill Burns, who was in charge of the fledgling RPNGC Police Training College there. Like many of that generation, Steve's family moved often and lived in several towns in PNG including Wau, Port Moresby and Rabaul, in addition to the early years of his life in Goroka.



Steve's primary school education was undertaken completely in PNG, culminating with the nuns in Port Moresby, before he went "south" to boarding school for his secondary education in the 1960s, and then to Sydney University where he graduated as a civil engineer in 1975. On University holidays, Steve often worked with the PNG Public Works Department in Port Moresby as an intern trainee engineer, posted for short assignments to several remote spots throughout PNG. Steve's career as a civil/structural engineer and project manager was spent primarily in Sydney, but did include stints in Brisbane, New Zealand and the Middle East. He retired in 2013.

Steve recently rejoined the Committee having been a member in the early 2000s prior to resigning when he and his wife Joan were relocated to Abu Dhabi in 2007 on a major development project with his consulting engineering company. His current interest on the Committee is assisting with the revised arrangements for the PNGAA Collection.

February 14th 1966 - 50 Years ago

Decimal Currency change over Day: Memories of this Pay Day return when I see an old 1 and 2 cent coin.

At the time of the changeover I was with Public Works Department (PWD) in charge of the construction of the new Kagamuga cross strip and holding bay with a cargo line of 30. They had all heard of the 'New Kind Money' but had, as yet, not seen it.

Pay Day arrived and all was well until the 2 cent and 1 cent coin appeared against the 'big pla penny' and the *lik lik* 1 cent coin and, as the wages usually wound up with small coins, they all had the same question. 'Masta lookim: Igat 12 bigpela

penny ego insait 1 shilling, na igat 5 pla bigpla lik lik cent ego insait new pla shilling; na igat 10 pla lik lik more 1 cent ego insait new pla shilling. Old pla halfpenny na threepence - emi go where?'

[Master look at this: 12 big penny's make up 1 shilling, and 5 bigger little cents make up the new shilling; and 10 of the little 1 cent pieces make up the new shilling. Where are the halfpennys and threepences?]

It was believed that if it's big it's better and when the penny is

compared with the 2 and 1 cent coins, same colour, same copper but a lot smaller – it was hard to convince them that the value was the same!

And for months afterwards you could not buy any vegies off the local *meris* with the new money. They would only take the one or two shilling so you would sing out 'Any one got a two bob?'

Bruce O'Reilly

Membership

PNGAA members receive four issues of *Una Voce* per year and have access to all parts of the website. They have the opportunity to search and access all archival issues of *Una Voce* and receive timely email notice of upcoming events.

To become a member follow the link:
<http://www.pngaa.net/Pages/about-m.htm>
OR

contact the Membership Officer, Roy Ranney at
membership@pngaa.net

OR
refer to the yellow Treasurer's Corner insert.
Annual membership is \$35



Passing of the last of a legend... Faole Bokoi (2 March 2016)

IN his continuing search for the more off-the-beaten-path in this world, David Ellis says the death in March of a villager named Faole Bokoi high up in the Owen Stanley Ranges of Papua New Guinea, would seemingly have little or no interest to anyone in this country.

But the off-the-beaten-path that Faole lived along was the famous Kokoda Track of Pacific War history – and Faole was the last surviving member of the Track’s legendary hundreds of wartime Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels.

Word of his death on the 2nd of this month flashed as fast as gunfire through many an RSL club, ex-services’ groups and amongst serving Army personnel across Australia, reigniting memories of the extraordinary efforts of the Angels in helping Australian troops during some of the bloodiest fighting against Japanese troops in 1942.

Its estimated Faole would have been in his late 80s or early 90s when he passed away, as he was a teenager when he joined fellow Fuzzy

Wuzzy Angels in assisting wounded and sick Australian troops escape along the 96km Kokoda Track to Owers’ Corner, and ultimately Port Moresby and Australia.

Many of them carried those Australians on their backs, and others on makeshift stretchers through the torturous terrain, along tracks of calf-deep mud, across rushing jungle rivers, and through steamy, vine entangled forests.

Over 160 Australians died during the Kokoda campaign, but officials said at the time it would have been many more times this had it not been for the efforts of the hundreds of Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels.

Faole Bokoi died peacefully in his village of Manari high in the Owen Stanley Ranges on March 2nd, surrounded by family and fellow villagers.

For more information about the Kokoda Track see Kokoda Track Foundation on www.ktf.ngo .

David Ellis



FAOLE Bokoi, last of the legendary Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels. (Kokoda Track Foundation)



ONE of the most famous Pacific wartime photos, Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel Raphael Oimbari assists Australian Digger, George “Dick” Whittington along the Kokoda Track in 1942. (Australian War Memorial)

Kokoda ...The Spirit Lives On: A documentary spanning 75 years of history

Author and broadcaster, Patrick Lindsay, and renowned cinematographer, Paul Croll, have started pre-production on a feature-length documentary, Kokoda ... the spirit lives, for completion in early 2017 to commemorate next year’s 75th

anniversary of the Kokoda campaign. Lindsay also announced plans to raise the film’s production costs by crowdfunding on Creative Partnerships Australia’s The Australian Cultural Fund online funding platform.

Crowdfunding now at: <https://australianculturalfund.org.au/projects/kokoda-the-spirit-lives/>

Background material: <http://www.flipsnack.com/limetreestudios/kokoda-the-spirit-lives-background-fdhnftkhw.html>

Brian Costello and Something about Low Flying

I was saddened to read in *Una Voce* of the passing of Brian Costello, an old colleague from my days as editor of the *Times Courier* in Lae in the mid 1960s. A genuine, generous character, full of such life it was the pleasure to have our paths cross on several occasions over the many years since.

In a recent book of mine *Taking to the Skies*, about Australian flying stories and some of the characters who were part of them, I made sure he received an honourable mention and I can do no better perhaps than quote directly from the chapter of the book titled:

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT LOW FLYING.

Lae, Papua New Guinea, early 1966.

The telephone rings in the New Guinea Times Courier office. Brian Costello, local manager for Ansett-ANA is on the line:

“There’s a Royal Air Force Hastings coming in from Honiara in the Solomons with hydraulic problems. He’s in for an emergency landing. You better get down here.”

Dusk is approaching as the vague outline of an aeroplane appears a long way to the south over Huon Gulf and gradually it takes the shape of our four engine Hastings, a type based in the British Solomon Islands for transport duties. This aircraft it turns out is on its way back to England at the end of the crew posting and word from the captain is he may have problems with his undercarriage.

He’s called for an emergency landing in case the gear doesn’t come down or collapses on landing.

Fire engines and an ambulance are standing by as he makes his final approach from over the water and onto the runway. Fortunately nothing untoward happens and the aircraft rolls to a stop and taxis to Lae airport’s hardstand parking area.

Ansett-ANA in Lae are charged with the handling of such itinerant aircraft so Costello and I walk out to greet the crew as they climb out of the aircraft. Costello is standing under the aircraft’s wing looking up as the captain, a flight lieutenant, comes around to join him.

“What happened, skipper?” says Costello, a quizzical look on his face.

“We had a bird strike and I think it may have fouled the hydraulics,” is the reply.

Costello, known locally for his quick wit, can’t help himself as he keeps staring up at branches and small twigs protruding from the leading edge of the wing and engine nacelles.

“Christ mate, were they still in the bloody trees?”

It hadn’t taken much to work out what had happened. The traditional low-flypast farewell had stayed a fraction too low for too long and cleaned up the tops of some trees at one end of Honiara’s airport.

The result would be easily fixed but presumably the flight lieutenant would have some explaining to do when he finally made it back to his squadron in the UK.

I couldn’t imagine the response of his commanding officer in the UK would have been quite as benign as our man Costello’s!

Jim Eames

Jack Read – Australian Dictionary of Biography

The Australian Dictionary of Biography has recently published articles on prominent contributors to PNG, both penned by PNGAA member Philip Selth:

William John (Jack) Read (1905-1992) <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/read-william-john-jack-19062>

Daniel Joseph Leahy (1912-1991) <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/leahy-daniel-joseph-dan-18370>

William John (Jack) Read (1905–1992), coastwatcher and public servant, was born on 18 September 1905 in Hobart, the only son of locally born parents William George Read, hairdresser, and his wife Eleanor Elfridine, née Absalom. After attending Hobart State High School, Jack worked as a bookkeeper for the Electrolytic Zinc Co. of Australasia Ltd. In December 1928 he successfully applied for a cadetship in the public service of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea. On 26 June 1929, the day before he left Tasmania, he married Gwenneth Ballantyne, a teacher, at the Holy Trinity Church, Hobart.

Arriving in Rabaul, Read was informed, probably by Harold Page, the government secretary, that his appointment would be cancelled because he was married. A subsequent investigation found that the job advertisement made no mention of a marriage bar and Read was allowed to remain. He initially served on New Britain under the district officer Ted Taylor. On patrols he was trained by, among others, Lance Corporal Ludwig Somare Sana, whose eldest son would become prime minister of Papua New Guinea. In 1931, together with two other cadets, he undertook a course in social

anthropology at the University of Sydney. Returning to Rabaul in February 1932, he was assigned to a single-officer's post '247 miles away up the dreaded outlandish Sepik River' (SLV MS 14503) and promoted to patrol officer. He moved to Madang, from where he established a new post at Bogia. Suffering amoebic dysentery, he took leave in Sydney in December 1933. Next year he returned to Bogia accompanied by Gwen. Elevated to assistant district officer in August 1936, he served at Madang, Wau, and Lae.

At the outbreak of World War II, Read took Italian and German gold miners into custody before their internment in Australia. On leave, in mid-1941 he went to Australia with his wife and four-year-old daughter, Judith; he returned to New Guinea alone. Refused release for military service, in November he was sent to Bougainville, attached to the Buka Passage sub-district. His duties included coastwatching under the command of Lieutenant Commander Eric Feldt. As a former district officer at Madang, Feldt knew Read well, describing him as being of medium height and wiry in build, with a deep and somewhat harsh voice and an explosive laugh. His manner was 'blunt and straightforward, with more firmness than tact in it' (1946, 119).

From March 1942 Japanese military forces occupied Buka and Bougainville. Although Read had been mobilised as a sergeant in the New Guinea Administrative Unit in February, he preferred to

go to Australia and enlist in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF). Feldt persuaded him to stay and on 2 April he was appointed as a lieutenant in the Royal Australian Naval Volunteer Reserve (RANVR). He quickly established a coastwatching network across Bougainville to provide information on enemy movements. On 8 August, the day after Allied forces had landed at Guadalcanal, he transmitted 'forty-five dive-bombers going south-east' (Feldt 1946, 144). His signals and those sent by a fellow coastwatcher, Paul Mason, gave the Allies time to disperse their ships and have the fighters fuelled and waiting. On 7 October Read and Mason were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (United States of America) for their extraordinary heroism.

On Bougainville the Japanese intensified their hunt for the coastwatchers with the support of some of the coastal people, and Read was lucky to escape alive from one attack. In late June 1943 he urged immediate evacuation. On 24 and 28 July the submarine USS *Guardfish* removed the coastwatchers, scouts and native police who had assisted them, military personnel, and civilians. Admiral William F. Halsey, the US Navy commander of the South Pacific Area, said that the intelligence forwarded from Bougainville had 'saved Guadalcanal and that Guadalcanal had saved the South Pacific' (NAA B3476, 68). Commissioned in the AIF in September

1944, Read was appointed as a major in the Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit and served as acting district officer on Bougainville. In May 1946 he joined the provisional administration of the Territory of Papua-New Guinea as assistant district officer and moved to Kavieng, New Ireland. He transferred to the Reserve of Officers on 26 July and was mentioned in despatches for exceptional service in the field. Having retained his RANVR commission, he was promoted to lieutenant commander in 1950 and would be placed on the Retired List in 1963.

On 3 May 1951 Read left the Territory of Papua and New Guinea's public service and took civilian employment with the Department of the Navy in Melbourne. Hating the winters, a year later he returned to a new position in the Territory as native land commissioner. In this role he investigated local histories of occupation and determined what land was the hereditary property of individuals or communities by customary right. Retiring in March 1975, he left for Australia soon after Papua New Guinea achieved independence. In Melbourne he continued his hobby of photography. After Gwen's death

in 1980, he moved with his ageing dog, 'Hawke,' to Ballarat to be closer to Judith. Survived by her, he died on 29 June 1992 at Ballarat and was cremated.

Biography and Additional Resources are included with the entry in Australian Dictionary of Biography.

With thanks to the National Centre of Biography and Australian Dictionary of Biography for permission to bring to readers of *Una Voce*.



First load of Ok Tedi Plant arriving Kiunga 1987



Kiunga

1980 – Plant and gear goes to Oktedi

Bechtel Mki (USA) won the contract for the Ok Tedi mine and called for big contracts to supply all plant and gear for the mine which would take months. This was won by Komatsu. A joint venture between Barkly Bros and Uni Group won the contract to supply trucks, front end loaders, bull dozers and graders to clear and construct internal roads for the new barge landing. Each company supplied a foreman and mechanic. I represented Uni Group. After some

months their gear arrived and all had to be serviced and ready for the trip to the mine sites.

A track had been pushed through to Tabubil a couple of years before and was in poor shape, but the mail had to get through as Bechtel had a target date to have the plant on the mine site.

After some weeks they had lined up a long convoy of dozers, graders, drilling equipment and plant - put them in gear and clatter clatter,

away they went. A long snake of yellow mining machines. The first of many for the 120km walk.

A friend of mine was the on-site Service Manager for Komatsu and was not impressed with the end result. There was extreme wear on the bull dozers track. If a machine broke down it was left on the side of the road...but they got there on the target date and everyone was happy.

Bruce O'Reilly

Contrasting Administration Styles

I recently watched the *Kiap* DVD with great pleasure. Among many things which sparked my interest was a photo of a Kiap (I think it was Bill Brown) on patrol, shirt off, sitting on a log having a smoke with a couple of his Papua New Guinean crew. Before going to PNG at the beginning of 1971, I worked as a British colonial civil servant in Fiji for three years. This image reminded me of the differences between the British administration style I experienced in Fiji and the Australian style in PNG. I thought it unlikely that a senior British authority figure in Fiji would have behaved like Bill. I should admit that I lived in Moresby for the seven years I spent in PNG, though I got around the country quite a bit, and in Fiji I lived in the capital Suva. So these comments are based on experience of town rather than outstation life.

I was only in these countries a few years before their independence and there were obviously great differences between them. Fiji is small and one can walk across the biggest islands in a few days, so there was no need for the long patrols the PNG kiaps had to mount. These would have been ideal environments for the development of the type of camaraderie obviously enjoyed by Bill and his local colleagues. In Fiji most of the people lived near the coast and had a long history of contact with the outside world and most spoke some English. There was also a form of government already in place when Britain took control a hundred years before independence.

Fiji, like Britain, had a class system and people seemed ready to accept government or other authority. Australia styles itself as egalitarian, as do Papua New Guineans who

in general seem more challenging to rule. When I arrived in Fiji, the district administration work such as carried out by kiaps was fully localised. Certainly in the Fijian community there was a long established system of indirect rule. There were fewer expatriate civil servants than in PNG in the lead up to independence. Fijians had widespread access to education for far longer than their PNG counterparts at the time of independence and the presence of the ethnic Indian community made localisation less of a challenge.

These differences, as well as differences between English and Australian societies, resulted in a different style of administration. Communications in the British system were more formal. For example important outgoing letters had to be signed 'I am, Sir, your obedient servant', something I avoided by flicking such letters back to my boss for signature.

These differences also extended to the rest of society, with the possible exclusion of the agricultural sector. One would never see a white man doing manual work in Fiji but in PNG there were plenty of formerly white men, often tanned to about the same colour as their PNG colleagues, working out of doors on building sites, driving trucks etc.

In Fiji few of the wives of administration officers worked and indeed few expatriate women in general worked and then it was usually in professional level positions. Stay at home wives played a lot of bridge.

In PNG, most wives who had the opportunity worked and in all sorts of roles including secretarial and

retail jobs. One of our Fijian friends who went to New Zealand to finish high school was not met as arranged on arrival and didn't eat or drink until found by his hosts because, although he had money and could speak good English, he could not bring himself to ask one of the white women working in the cafes to serve him food or drink. That would have been unthinkable in Fiji.

Rank in the civil service was important socially in Fiji and people, including wives, tended to mix with people of similar rank. Rank was published annually in a document called the Civil List which detailed position, salary and other details. Rank was also important in PNG, but seemed less important away from work. The civil service structure in Fiji had plenty of capable and experienced lower level functionaries such as messengers, tea boys and drivers so that professional officers never had to drive themselves or do menial things like photocopying or making a cup of coffee. In PNG we tended to look after ourselves much more.

There were also important differences in the recruitment and training of civil servants in Australia and Britain. Britain had a long history as a colonial power and therefore plenty of training grounds. Many of the British civil servants in Fiji at the time of independence had worked in Africa and moved to Fiji as they were no longer needed when the African colonies gained independence. The more senior British officers had a university education, usually a classical M.A. Oxon. Hence they were usually well into their twenties when they arrived in the colonies. Their head office, the Ministry of Overseas Development,

also had vast experience in colonial administration compared to that of Australia's Department of External Territories.

Before World War II it had no training grounds or pool of experienced colonisers to draw on and with the pressure to establish a system of government throughout PNG it needed many people quickly. Men who had served with ANGAU during the war provided a high quality core. However, of necessity, Australia opted to recruit promising young men often not long out of school. They were provided with intensive but brief training and to a large extent *thrown in at the deep end*, relying on on-the-job training to further develop their skills. Many undertook university studies by correspondence and most did the ASOPA course as opportunities arose, so the level of tertiary education increased over time. But the remarkable achievements of some of these young and inexperienced officers in remote outposts reflected their ability and character, and that of their senior officers, rather than careful preparation for the job. Of course it is debatable how much use an M.A. Oxon or any other degree would be when the arrows were raining down in some inaccessible place.

Socialising in Fiji, like the civil service, tended to be more formal. Dinner parties usually involved dining at table, with house staff preparing and serving food. Occasionally bells were rung to alert staff to clear the table, bring the next course or whatever. In PNG the barbecue was more common, usually involving male cooks, or a meal was prepared by the hostess. The after work Friday swill, which I enjoyed very much, was very similar in PNG to that in Australia, mostly at a club and even including chook raffles. How many of us were assaulted by spouses with frozen chooks after mistakenly thinking they were adequate peace offerings for arriving home too late on Friday night? Fiji had clubs too but they were more formal with drinking to excess frowned upon more severely. Among the Fijians, drinking alcohol was also somewhat more restrained than among Papua New Guineans with inebriated and out of line Fijians likely to be pulled into line by other Fijians. Many Fijians drank kava socially as well as alcohol and they drew the distinction between getting 'quiet drunk' on kava or 'noisy drunk' on alcohol.

The expatriate population in Fiji was generally older than that in PNG and as a result their participation in sport was more restricted. I played rugby for the

three years I was there, but was one of very few expatriates to do so. When I was leaving the country, an older expatriate sportsman told me that in his day, no expatriates played rugby because they thought the Fijians would be too rough on them. They even had a small whites-only competition at one stage. I cannot remember any white women playing body contact sport in Fiji. But in PNG, brown and white people of both sexes bashed each other around indiscriminately and mostly happily in all manner of body contact sports.

To a large extent, society in Fiji and PNG reflected the societies of their administrators. I suspect that by coincidence some of these differences already existed, but if so, they were reinforced. Both countries have now been independent for over 40 years and have had the chance to chart their own courses. The chiefly class system in Fiji was based on land ownership and village living. It is becoming less prominent as a result of increasing urbanisation and, more recently, by legislative change and coups. PNG seems to be egalitarian in outlook but, while there are plenty of people at the bottom of the pile, a very rich minority is emerging. Does this sound a little bit like Australia?

Ken Woodward



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A Didiman's Diary

A continuing story of people, places and patrols in the life of agricultural Extension Officer (Didiman) in the Territory of Papua New Guinea from 1956.
(Part 3 appeared in Una Voce, March 2016)

19 November 1957 – Departed Kundiawa for Goroka by landrover reflecting on what would be the future of the Chimbu people and that of their neighbours. The Australian press had been reporting “Coffee is Gold” on front page stories and coffee tree planting was the principal topic of conversation in the Highlands. Value of coffee, as a cash crop, was quickly grasped by the European settlers and the indigenous farmers. As I mentioned previously in an early edition of *Una Voce*, “The Money Tree” by James Sinclair 1995 tells the whole story.

And so to Lae, in the Morobe District, for a week of briefing on coastal cropping and agricultural developments in the Finschhafen sub-district.

3 December 1957. An extract from my letter home 8 December.

“Up at 5 am and made my way to the wharf to find the MV Kauri. Well what a shock: no wharf; just an oily wartime smelly beach and a dirty little vessel. Departed 7 am and arrived at Finschhafen at 3 pm after sundry stops to let the passengers off. The trip along the coast was beautiful – truly tropical”.

Little did I realize at that time the splendor of the area; the surrounding islands and the pleasure I would have working with the people in this sub-district.

There could have been no greater

contrast to my previous posting. An area that was, up to WW11, under the influence of European missionaries for well over 90 years and then suddenly thrust into the forefront of the Pacific Campaign. It didn't seem possible that the area I had just left had less than twenty years of civil administration. A new challenge for me, moving from the perpetual spring of the Highlands and an undeveloped coffee industry to the very tropical coastal lowlands growing cacao, rice, coconuts, peanuts and too, an established upland coffee industry. To add to the mix there was the developing Finschhafen Marketing and Development Society and the prospect of a commercial Tuna fishing operation.

Finschhafen was a complete town; airstrip; roads; deep water port at pretty Dregerhaven; tennis court and club house; lighted swimming pool and occasionally open air movies. Nearby at Butaweng was a lovely, natural, fresh water pool. European staff numbered somewhere in the 50's, about 30 single men, married couples and single girls.

Station life and community activity between official duties was an important part of living in TPNG.

A feature event, apart from the Annual Golf Championships, was the Finschhafen Show, which naturally had a strong agricultural bias. Displays of coffee, rice,

peanuts, kiln dried copra, fruits and vegetables all professionally displayed. Dregahaven Primary School had a strong presence

The Show Ball was held on the Saturday night – a grand affair with the Administrator Dr John Gunther and Mr Horrie Niall (later Sir Horraine) as guests of honour and a special friend visiting from Lae for the weekend.

Reading this diary, and perhaps the previous editions, would suggest my life was one paid grand social tourist trip! In fact extensive patrolling into the Hube, Dedua, Yabim and Kotte Census Divisions occupied a large amount of the time away from the Station. On a six week patrol into the Hube Census Division contact was made with 58 villagers. Discussions on coffee production, processing and marketing were the principal objectives. A census and record of coffee plantings was undertaken by the Fieldworkers under the supervision of the senior Fieldworker Salaen. Social issues, land ownership, general welfare and nutrition was noted and reported. There were many notable events and observations when patrolling.

On a dark night, sitting on the grass near the Rest House, village officials and villagers gathered around. We were talking about our respective lives when one of the men pointed to a light above the horizon and exclaimed – “emi

wanem masta - balus no gat, mipela no savvi?" In silence we studied this object moving horizontally across the sky. It dawned on me it would be Sputnik 1, 2 or 3! How do you explain the space age to an unsophisticated incredulous audience? I tried.

On the arrival at each village the patrol was met by the village officials who, ceremoniously, presented a beautifully made bilum, a small parcel of raw, dried coffee beans wrapped in a banana leaf sachet and fresh fruit and vegetables for all the patrol personnel – often with a chook thrown in. The bilums were taken to Australia on my first leave, 40 or so, and given to Sister Bromwell at the Margaret Reid Orthopaedic Hospital for sale at their annual fete

The patrol commenced and finished at Yungzain, a new patrol post established by the resident Patrol Officer Ken Laughlin (Sept '58). I said to Ken as I left, "I have two cans of beer in the fridge to drink on my return" With great anticipation, as I walked up to the Patrol Post, after six weeks, I was welcomed back by Ken who said "I have some bad news for you", "what?" I replied, somewhat apprehensively "I drank your beer"!!

The agricultural Station at Finschhafen was well developed. Among other training and extension aids there were rice and peanut hulling machines and equipment to process coffee to the dried bean stage. Thirty or so native agricultural trainees and three Fieldworkers – who had had some formal and practical training in tropical agriculture – were on the staff. These people were invaluable in assisting the areas agricultural potential.

The patrolling was both land based (walking!) and by water transport in various forms; trawlers, government and private, outboard motors and native canoes with a variable degree of risk travelling in the Vitiaz Straits.

A letter to my parents of 24 January describes a patrol to an off shore Island group. Field Officer's Journal entry at the start of the patrol sets the scene.

Thursday 10 January 1957.

Organized equipment and materials on board the MV Morobe at Wasu for the Siassi Island patrol. Trainees for Aiyura, Rabaul and Wau to wait at Finschhafen. Boys for Siassi to join MV Morobe Tuesday. Departed per Cessna to Wasu Patrol Post. A location as pretty as a picture, an airstrip 800 yards long and a resident Patrol Officer.

"Dear Mum, Dad and family,

Yesterday afternoon I arrived back from the SIASSI patrol and what a glorious ten days it was too. After leaving SIO I returned by canoe to WASU Patrol Post which will be marked on your map as DORFER bay. On the Tuesday morning (the 15th) the MV Morobe arrived and about 9 am we departed for SAKAR Island – no TOLAKIWA Island the first of the SIASSI group. The trip across was quite pleasant-had breakfast about 10 am and were anchored for lunch about 2 pm. Not sick. That afternoon I inspected some coconut plantings with Ron Green who was doing a census patrol. That night we slept on board and at 8 am Ron went ashore and we departed (Geof Hall was the Captain) for BUNSIL. We arrived here about 1 pm

and with the help of the agricultural boys, threw over the side 200 bags of seed coconuts (4,000 nuts) and

26 empty 44 gallon drums. There was a strong inshore wind blowing and the coconuts floated to the shore (about 200 yards) with the drums, six of which sank. I had lunch then with essential personal cargo canoed ashore. The next 3 hours were spent in the surf with the boys collecting together the odd drums and bags that had floated down the coast. By the time I had climbed the 200 ft. up to the rest house I was completely exhausted. That night I had fresh fish for tea and then yarned to the local lads about the war days-most of them having seen active service. The next morning I walked to OPAI (3 hours) had a terrific swim in a natural waterhole and then spent the afternoon discussing with the villagers the construction of copra dryers in the area and the extending of their coconut plantations. This village was the cleanest and happiest I have been in over 15 months-wonderful people to work for and really keen to get on. They decided to buy about 200 coconuts (at 3' each) and build a copra dryer (hot air) with the drums. The rest of the coconuts will be distributed throughout the Islands as required; by canoes. After tea I sat down with the school boys (they go to a government school at BUNSIL and are from 8-12 years old) and sang "London Bridge, "3 blind mice", ""Ten Green Bottles", "Onward Christian Soldiers" etc etc. which the Government native teachers had taught them. They (the school boys) were wide eyed to think that a "white man" knew "their" school songs! On the strength of this the old Headman decided to put on a Sing Sing in my honour so I was up 'till midnight sipping hot milo and watching a terrific exhibition of native dancing.

The next morning I left OPAI to walk to the other side of the island—the name of this island by the way is UMBOI. I arrived at a place called AUPWELL at 6 pm really “done in” after 8 hours walking through real jungle country. The leaches nearly drove me crazy and each half hour or so I would stop to pull off never less than 5 so you can imagine the mess my legs looked when I arrived. That night I chatted to the villagers for several hours and then collapsed into bed.

The next morning Sunday it poured raining for 2 hours which delayed my departure ‘till 10 o’clock. At 12.30 I arrived at LAB-LAB harbor and joined the MV Morobe

which had arrived about 10 am after picking up Ron Green from TOLAKIWA. The rest of the day was spent sunbaking and sleeping with a delicious bottle of cold beer in the afternoon.”

The patrol continued by trawler to take in the Islands of Sakar, Tuam, Mandok and Aromot Islands. Discussions with village officials revolved around the distribution of the seed coconuts and the construction of hot air dryers for copra production.

The next day was a near death experience. We departed Aromot Island at 8.30 am. Conditions deteriorated, the seas were

mountainous; frightening; enormous huge walls of water about to swallow us and the trawler. Our skipper, Geoff, “drove” the boat like a truck up the sand hills in a desert to find another towering sand hill over the crest! Arrived Finschhafen 4.30 pm pleased to step onto dry land.

There will be a few more Finsch highlights and hopefully a few 1958 photos for the next Journal.

Editors Note: Any reference to a “V/O” is the government appointed village official; and the Luluai and Tultul are likewise who generally wore their badge of appointment on their forehead

Outreach to Western Province

PNGAA members Doug and Annette Robbins recently travelled on the YWAM medical ship outreach to Western Province. Whilst there was the odd mosquito, crocodile and some mud, Doug said it was ‘quite an amazing experience’. The ship had 9 clinic days over 22 villages.

Photo shows Doug and Nigel registering dental patients on the iPad before they went to the Clinic inside. ‘We comforted them when they came out with numb and sore mouths, before returning to their villages.’

‘Earlier during the Outreach I asked Nigel where his village is and he replied “Ioma”. Knowing Ioma is a Patrol Post and not a village as such, I said I know Ioma having gone on my very first Patrol from there in 1970 walking eight hours straight through waist high swamp north to Nindewari on the Gira River almost on the Morobe border.’ He replied ‘That’s my village.’ Small world!

Here are two links of interest. The video has a glimpse of Doug in Dental and Annette cutting vegetables in the Galley.

https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/helicopterpatrol?source=feed_text&story_id=10153876011733780

<https://ywamships.org.au/helicopter-rescueman-transported-daru-serious-condition/>



Discover the Sepik River aboard the Kalibobo Spirit with Dame Carol Kidu

Dame Carol Kidu has had a long term ambition to cruise the Sepik River, witness the live culture and art of the Sepik people and share the unique wildlife in one of the most interesting regions in PNG. Leading a small group of like-minded people aboard the Kalibobo Spirit, Dame Carol Kidu invites you to join her. This special trip will be captained by Sir Peter Barter who has spent 40 years along the river.

The Sepik River is one of the world's great rivers and home for 70,000 river dwellers who have retained their culture, traditions and art.

This expedition is limited to just 12, travelling with Dame Carol Kidu one of PNG's most respected citizens who will give you an insight to the social life in PNG - and Captained by Sir Peter Barter, who has more than 40 years' experience on the Sepik River.

The expedition begins in Madang on the North coast of PNG in the mid afternoon and travels through the Madang Lagoon and out into the Bismarck Ocean passing the volcanic island of Kar Kar, Manam and Boisa before entering the mouth of the Sepik at Kopar in the early morning.

The next five nights are spent cruising through the lower Sepik, then into the Middle Sepik where you can see magnificent Haus Tambarans and the prolific art of the people known as Iatmul, visiting many of the villages, tributaries and backwaters by the ship's fast river trucks. The

journey will hopefully provide an opportunity to view cultural performances and purchase valuable artefacts.

Guests will enjoy the air conditioned comfort of the Kalibobo Spirit, fine meals, information provided by Dame Carol and Sir Peter coupled with a well-stocked library and documentaries.

Time will permit you to relax between excursions and view the scenery along the river, watch passing canoes, floating islands and glorious sunsets.

Six nights are spent on board the Kalibobo Spirit along the Sepik and Chambri Lakes. In Madang for 3 nights, guests will visit the newly opened Town Markets, see the Coastwatchers Memorial Lighthouse and stop at the Haus Tumbuna (Museum). A visit will also be made to the DWU Campus to view one of the greatest cultural shows in PNG featuring songs, dances and sing sings from all 22 provinces in PNG – a spectacle you will never forget!

The Kalibobo Spirit is a custom built luxury 30m motoryacht that can accommodate up to 16 in air-conditioned cabins all with ensuite, satellite telephone and TV. A dining room serving delicious meals, a lounge and covered upper decks where you can relax. Zodiacs and a river truck enable you to visit remote waterways off the main river. A helipad is available for optional helicopter excursions.

The Kalibobo Spirit is the only surveyed vessel operating along the Sepik River manned by qualified and experienced crew with more than 40 years' experience. The vessel is equipped with the latest navigational equipment that meets both Queensland and PNG survey requirements.

In addition to Sepik River expeditions, the Kalibobo Spirit is available for private charters throughout PNG including the Trobriand Islands



AN INVITATION

It has been my long term ambition to cruise the Sepik River and witness the live culture & art of the Sepik people and share the unique wildlife in one of the most interesting regions in PNG. I will lead a small group of like minded people aboard the Kalibobo Spirit, Captained by Sir Peter Barter who has spent 40 years along the river. I invite you to contact MTS or myself for further information. –

Dame Carol Kidu, DBE, Dr (Hons)

Discover the SEPIK RIVER Papua New Guinea



The SEPIK

The Sepik River is one of the world's great rivers and home for 70,000 river dwellers who have retained their culture, traditions and art.

This expedition is limited to just 12, travelling with Dame Carol Kidu one of PNG's most respected ex politician & citizens who will give you an insight to the social life in PNG and Captained by Sir Peter Barter, also a retired politician with more than 40 years experience on the Sepik River.

The expedition begins in Madang on the North coast of PNG in the mid afternoon and travels through the Madang Lagoon and out into the Bismarck Ocean passing the volcanic island of Kar Kar, Manam & Boisa before entering the mouth of the Sepik at Kopar in the early morning.

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You enjoy the air conditioned comfort of the Kalibobo Spirit, fine meals, information provided by Dame Carol and Sir Peter coupled with a well stocked library and documentaries.

Time will permit you to relax between excursions and view the scenery along the river, watch passing canoes, floating islands and glorious sunsets.

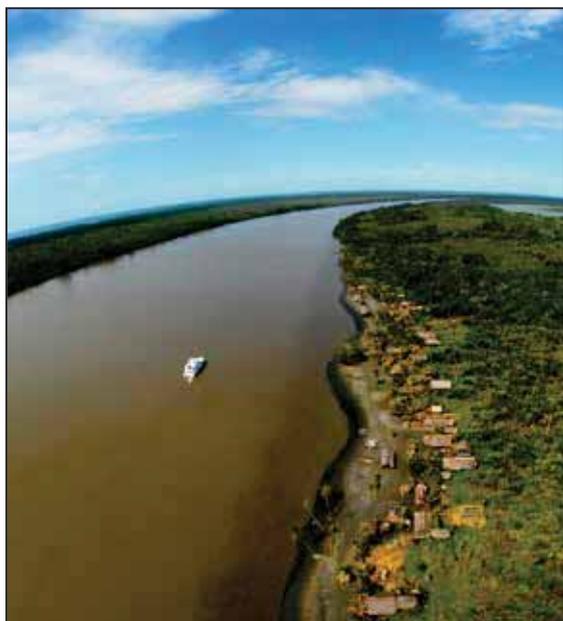


The KALIBOBO SPIRIT

The Kalibobo Spirit is a custom built luxury 30m motoryacht that can accommodate up to 16 in air conditioned cabins all with ensembles, satellite telephones and TV. A dining room serving delicious meals, a lounge and covered upper decks where you can relax. Zodiacs and a river truck that enables you to visit remote waterways off the main river. A helipad is available for optional helicopter excursions.

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In addition to Sepik River expeditions, the Kalibobo Spirit is available for private charters throughout PNG including the Trobriand Islands.



The PROPOSED ITINERARY

Friday Aug 12 | Arrive Madang

Arrive Madang, meet MTS staff and transfer to your hotel. Balance of day free. In the evening Welcome Dinner at the Haus Win Restaurant to meet Dame Carol and Sir Peter. Madang Resort (D)

Saturday Aug 13 | Madang—Sepik

0900 Depart from the Resort, visit the new recently opened Town Markets where you will see a diverse range of vegetables, fish, handicraft and artefacts being displayed. You then proceed to Bilbil Village past the Coastwatchers Memorial Lighthouse and make a stop at the Haus Tumbuna (Museum) before returning to the Resort.

1400 transfer to the Marina to board Kalibobo Spirit to commence your 6 nights cruise of the Sepik River as you sail through the Madang and the Sek Harbours. - **Kalibobo Spirit (BLD)**

Sunday Aug 14—Fri Aug 19 | Sepik River

Begin your expedition early in the morning up the Mighty Sepik River. Conditions permitting you will cruise through the



Lower and Middle Sepik to visit Mendam and Karau Villages in the Murik Lakes, Bien, Taway, Angoram, Timbunke, Tamnunum, Kamindimbit and villages of Aibom and Wombun in the Chambri Lakes. At Parembei and Kanganamn you will see the magnificent Haus Tambarans (Spirit Houses) before returning down river making further visits to villages villages. You may be lucky enough to see a "sing sing", village demonstrations and purchase valuable carvings. If time permits, a further stop will be made at Boisa or Manam Island off the mouth of the Sepik River, **Kalibobo Spirit (BLD)**

Sat Aug 15 | Madang

Arrive Madang, transfer back to the Madang Resort Hotel then depart for the DWU Campus to witness one of the greatest cultural shows in PNG featuring songs, dances and sing sings from all 22 provinces in PNG in a kaleidoscope of colour—a photographers dream and a spectacle you will never forget! In the afternoon enjoy the Resorts facilities. – **Madang Resort (BLD)**

Sun Aug 21—Depart Madang

Depart Madang, (B)

Optional Extension to the Highlands:

MTS offer an extension to the Eastern & Western Highlands, Simbu and Jiwaka Provinces along the Ramu & Highlands Highway. With an overnight in Goroka and Mt Hagen. You will be guided by the legendary "Bus Bee Kudjip" the best known guide in PNG who will provide you with information on all the places you visit

Cost: Extension AUD\$ 1500. (Min 5) per person, twin share, includes all meals, village fees, transport in air conditioned vehicle. Excludes airfares.



Dame Carol Kidu

Dame Carol, formerly a teacher in PNG was married to the late Sir Buri Kidu, Chief Justice of PNG, a 3 term member of National Parliament during which time she held Minister of Community Development, Shadow Minister for Social Development, Leader of the Opposition. Dame Carol continues her work with communities and participates with many domestic and international organisations. She is now a self employed consultant and resides at Tutu Beach near Port Moresby. Dame Carol is amongst the most respected citizens in PNG and loved by millions. She is a PNG Citizen formerly an Australian from Brisbane & Caloundra in Queensland..

COST: Australian Dollars, per person

Tour Cost, Twin share per person \$ 7900.00

Single Supplement \$5500.00

Includes: Twin share with all meals, sightseeing tours, transfers in Madang, entrance fees and cultural performances. **Excludes:** domestic and international airfares, cost of visas, items of a personal nature.



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MEMORIAL NEWS

RABAU and MONTEVIDEO MARU MEMORIAL NEWS

Exciting news was received when Natalie Baker's proposal to give a 50 minute presentation at the 2016 History Teachers Association of Australia National Conference in Sydney during 28-30 September was accepted.

Please encourage your schools to participate in the conference and hear this fresh approach to this extraordinary story. Attending the conference would provide an opportunity for teachers to see how they can teach this story to their students.

A must during the Anzac Centenary and with the 75th anniversary in 2017!

Patrick Bourke has organised for the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru group to have an information booth at the 2016 History Teachers Association of Australia National Conference with information packs in conference showbags to give away, greatly aiding awareness of this historical disaster.

Project 150 - 115 schools have been contacted to let them know about Project 150, the classroom project with worksheets appropriate for the curriculum of Years 9 and 10. This is a time consuming role for a small number on the committee and we need your help!

See: www.memorial.org.au/Education/index.htm

Please contact Patrick Bourke, the Project Coordinator, for more information if you can help with a school in your area. Patrick Bourke patrickbourke58@bigpond.com Tel : (02) 9523 2871

See: Anzac Day Tributes at: <https://www.facebook.com/RabaulAndMontevideoMaruSociety/>

Seen by over 4000 people!

Designer of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, James Parrett, recently won the prestigious 2016 Montalto Sculpture Prize. His work M-Twentyfour (Biggest) will join the other 26 permanent pieces in the Montalto Sculpture Collection, including the 13 previous Prize winners.

<http://montalto.com.au/sculpture/2016-montalto-sculpture-prize/>

Henry Ashley-Brown writes: I think I have been successful along with many others in getting some recognition for the people who went down in the Montevideo Maru. More recently the plaques that were removed after a fire at the Homebush RSL have been restored and relocated. I was startled that a junior reporter thought I could tell her about WW1. Glad I was able to move my uncle into a correct date and place in history and reassure a member of the RSL that my uncle hadn't been sent to fight in a place called Monte Video in South America.

Murray House, Geelong Legacy Building, named for Norman Murray

With much work being done to ensure the 75th anniversary of the Montevideo Maru is remembered next year, do members know about the Norman Murray memorial in Geelong?

'The Charles Moore Memorial Plaque article in the March 2014 Una Voce reminded me of another, perhaps the earliest, very substantial memorial to one of those from the 1st Independence Company of commandos posted to Kavieng who died on the Montevideo Maru, though the ship is not mentioned.

182 Ryrie Street in the centre of Geelong is called Murray House, and is the Geelong Legacy building. A plaque on the wall outside reads

'Murray House On March 12th 1946, this building was presented to Geelong Legacy by Miss Florence Craig as a tribute to the memory of her nephew Norman Joseph Murray 1st Independent Company, Australian Commandos who died on service 1st July, 1942.'

Whether Miss Craig knew at that early date the story of the Japanese ship Montevideo Maru and the large loss of life, or not, is not known but it is not mentioned. Inside, in the hall at the rear of the building, is a framed story of Norman Murray and the Montevideo Maru, with photographs, but I am not sure whether this dates from the March 1946 presentation or later.

I will attach photos and perhaps you could ensure that anyone who may be interested is notified.

Jim Ridges

NX 37550 Gnr M Brown – Lost on the Montevideo Maru – A Postscript

Following on from an email received from a Mr Henry Ashley-Brown relating to the transfer of his membership from the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society to the PNGAA, which said in part –

‘Thank you for your email. I think I have been successful along with many others in getting some recognition for the people who went down in the Montevideo Maru. More recently the plaques that were removed after a fire at the Homebush RSL have been restored and relocated. I was startled that a junior reporter thought I could tell her about WW1. Glad I was able to move my uncle into a correct date and place in history and reassure a member of the RSL that my uncle hadn't been sent to fight in a place called Monte Video in South America. A photograph of my young uncle ... now sits on my desk to celebrate his memory. I'm glad I could do this for him. Several cousins who were post-war arrivals came for the ceremony. A second cousin is compiling an album of family photographs that includes my uncle. But as I am now pushing eighty I am saying thank you ... to the PNGAA and wishing you the very best for the future of the group and your continuing preservation of our history.’

it was felt that the story behind the restoration of the plaques should be researched and told and in this respect the following statement by the Hon. Craig Laundry MP, Federal Member for Reid, is both relevant and pertinent –

‘On Sunday morning [8 November 2015] I attended a special Remembrance Day in Davey Square, Strathfield. Of course Remembrance Day is a solemn and important occasion every year, but this ceremony was special, because it involved the official unveiling of two projects from Reid's Anzac centenary grants program. The first was the refurbishment of the Davey

Square Memorial. Originally located on a corner in Homebush, the memorial was relocated to Davey Square in 1978 and is an integral part of how Strathfield residents commemorate our service men and women, both past and present. Across the road from the memorial now stands a new memorial wall, and on Sunday we unveiled the memorial and rededicated 339 plaques commemorating local Strathfield servicemen who fought in World War 1, World War II and the Korean War campaigns.

*It has been a long journey for these plaques. Originally on display in the now-demolished Homebush-Strathfield RSL, the plaques have been in the safe care of Marlene Doran OAM for years, kept hidden under a bed. On Sunday we had with us relatives of many of the men named on the plaques. Some had travelled across the country to take part in the rededication ceremony. On behalf of all the residents and families, I would like to thank my Anzac committee—Dr Abdurrahman, Allan Chapple, Marlene Doran, Colin Hodges, Alice Kang, Robert Ridge, Bob Turner and Harry Withers—for all their hard work. Without their friendship and support, we could not have achieved the results we have for Reid. To our service men and women: *lest we forget.*’ (Hansard, Thursday 12 November 2015)*

Also relevant are two articles published in ‘Ourstrathfield.com.au’ which is a community website for the residents of Strathfield, NSW and complements the new local newspaper Strathfield Scene. The two articles can be found at –
<http://ourstrathfield.com.au/article/peace-last-strathfields-war-heroes> and
<http://www.ourstrathfield.com.au/article/scores-turn-out-honour-strathfields-heroes-new-memorial-wall>.

There is also a photo gallery at - https://www.facebook.com/ourstrathfield/photos_stream?tab=photos_stream. To view, scroll down to the 2015 series, and the photos (uncaptioned) 1-13 relate to the events of 8 November. Photo 2 in the series is particularly relevant as it shows the family members of NX37550 Gnr. M Brown referred to by Henry Ashley-Brown in his email.

A recent visit to Davey Square by one of our members produced the following photographs –



Return to Panguna - *August 2015*

We left Panguna and the island of Bougainville in January 1990. The crisis and blockade impacted heavily on the Bougainvillians as well as the expats living and working there, with the loss of an estimated 20,000 lives.

I was the Principal of Panguna International Primary School from 1984 to 1990 and my wife, Marian, was the sister in charge of the Panguna Medical Clinic from 1987 to 1990. To say that we were relieved to leave due to the crisis is not quite accurate. It was some years before I, in particular, accepted that we would not be returning to Bougainville and PNG, where we had lived and worked, where three of our children were born and where we had close friendships with many Papua New Guineans.

Our final 12 months at Panguna were extremely challenging. When a state of emergency was declared the school was taken over by the PNG Defence Force and stress levels intensified with the ever-present gunfire, curfews and the thudding Iroquois helicopters overhead. The school commanded a strategic view of the mine and Panguna and the classrooms, assembly hall and indoor cricket centre provided accommodation for soldiers.

Neither Marian nor I had planned a trip to Bougainville in 2015. The idea came from our daughter, Katy, who was planning to travel in Asia with her husband, Emil. She wanted to end her trip in Bougainville and New Ireland with us. Katy and her brother and sisters share happy, idyllic memories of their childhood there.

Arthur Perry and Philip Lugg, friends and ex Bougainville Copper employees, joined us. Arthur and his wife, a wonderful lady from Tamtame on Petats, together with Marie Menyweather, from Buka, proved invaluable in providing contacts.

We flew directly to Buka from Port Moresby, then travelled by road to Kung village and by boat to Tamtame. The next day we headed to Arawa. The road was sealed in sections and there were 15 bridges (built by the Japanese) across the rivers. In spite of the white coronus dust it was a scenic drive along a road fringed with coconut trees, thatched villages and glimpses of the ocean, reef and cloud capped mountains. As we passed fallen pylons now reclaimed and overgrown with vegetation, the first of the memories began flooding back.

We still needed to finalise the arrangements for our trip to Panguna which wasn't guaranteed. It could cost K400 for each non Bougainvillian to pass through the blockade near Birempa.

We were anxious to contact Stewart Clason who was vital for our negotiations but he had not returned our calls since we arrived on Bougainville. Consequently we headed towards Loloho and spent an hour sightseeing. We were quite disorientated by the physical changes caused by the thick vegetation which concealed the roads but we eventually found a village where the villagers led us through some gardens to the beach.

The offshore first, second and third islands looked as picturesque as

ever but the beach looked quite different due to erosion and the lack of recognisable buildings. To Katy's delight the one recognisable object was a giant rain tree that leant out over the water. So many children had climbed, played and been photographed on it.

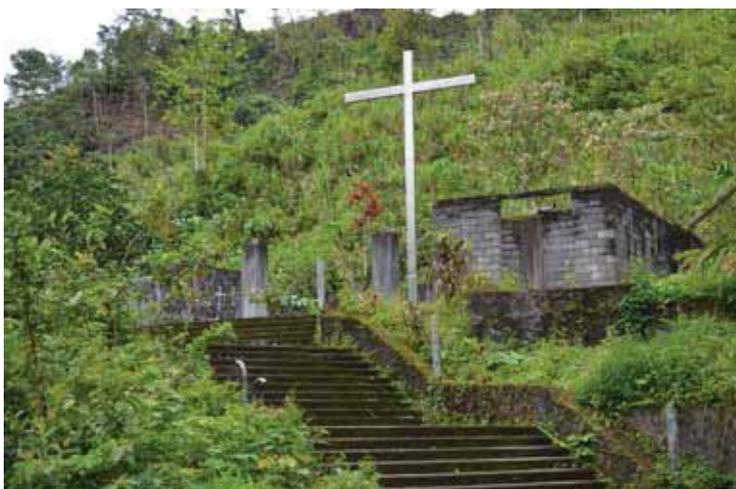
We passed the jungle-encased ruins of the power station with its three shining silver stacks still towering above the greenery. We stopped at what had been the Coastal Club and Arthur and Philip walked around animatedly pointing out the overgrown car park and the location of the bar, storage and dining areas in the ruined shell of the building. The Aquatic Club was further down the road but seemed much closer than I remembered. The boat ramp and weigh-in area for the fishing club were recognisable but small dwellings had been erected. Children played and cocoa dried in the sun on the concrete leading to the boat ramp. We returned to the cars, drove past what was once the Golf Club and into Arawa.

We drove past the ruins of the Arawa Squash Club, Bank, Supermarket and Chemist. Many of the houses were still standing and occupied. They were well maintained although the town appeared run down, with litter and occasional groups of young men who appeared 'sparked' or drunk. Eventually we arrived at our accommodation, *Arawa Transit*. Although it was basic and expensive, it was clean and friendly. Apparently even dignitaries such as Julie Bishop had stayed there.

Arthur phoned one of his old friends, Robert Mokosi, who was



Our House Buiro Ave Panguna



Panguna Church



Panguna Swimming Pool



Panning for Gold in creek Panguna

thrilled to see him and showed us where Stewart Clason's brother lived. Stewart's mother, Maggie a landowner, had worked with Marian at the Panguna Medical Clinic. She had been a good friend to Marian during the crisis. She was concerned about our safety and often risked herself by warning Marian of possible attacks on the township by BRA militants. Sadly Maggie had died earlier in the year and Marian was keen to visit her mat mat (grave) at Pakia.

We made contact with Stewart who told us he would speak to people at the roadblock and phone us in the morning with instructions.

The next morning we drove to the blockade boom gate at Birempa to meet Stewart. As we slowed down a huge fellow in shorts and white t-shirt nodded at us. It was Stewart! We hugged and shook our heads in disbelief. Stewart was now not only a huge presence but also a successful and respected businessman. Maggie would have been so proud of him.

Stewart's role was paramount in enabling us to gain access to Panguna and, because of him, the K400 per person was waived. Marian's relationship with Maggie and the fact that I had been Stewart's teacher and school principal were certainly contributing factors.

Once the formalities were completed and our names recorded the boom gate was raised. Emil observed a machine gun in the sentry box near the boom gate. We proceeded quickly, unsure of what to expect.

Stewart pointed out landmarks along the way, including the overgrown and totally unrecognisable ruins of the Arawa Little Theatre at Birempa, a theatre that had been the scene of the production of four quality and professional productions a year.

The road to Panguna seemed little changed and was in good condition except where it was blocked by landslides. As we neared Pakia we were blanketed in the unforgettable misty cloud and cooler climate of the mountain. We drove up the steep dirt road through the jungle to Stewart's newly built house surrounded by picturesque hills and jungle. His mother's grave was a short distance below the house, protected by a secure wall made from metal containers which he intends to replace with glass walls.

Marian was absorbed in her private thoughts and memories of Maggie as she placed the bouquet of silk roses she had bought from Australia on Maggie's grave.

From Stewart's house we went to Pakia Gap and commenced the decent to Panguna. Panguna International Primary School was built on a site known as Camp 10 and some of the original buildings had been retained and upgraded to create an assembly hall and gym which became the indoor cricket centre. We drove up the overgrown entrance, past a burnt out BCL bus and as we rounded the bend the remains of the school were easily recognisable.

It was surreal; a scene from an apocalyptic movie. We walked up the ramp and past the adventure playground and monkey bars and just stared. I wandered around identifying the walls of what had been classrooms, the remains of my office and the staffroom. Then we stood together under the rusty framework of what had been the 'round house' assembly area and held the first assembly at the school for 25 years. We sang the National Anthem as we did every morning of school days, all those years ago.

As we walked down the steps towards the oval and basketball courts some quite unpleasant memories flooded back. On more than one occasion I had seen body bags behind the handball wall waiting to be transported to Arawa by Iroquois. I remembered the red chairs from our assembly hall which the soldiers lounged on or used as a place to clean their weapons. I recalled classrooms that were used as dormitories with weapons leaning against walls, ammunition clips on the carpet and the smell of gun oil. I remembered the young Papuan Captain who sat quietly in my office

holding two lead sinkers connected by a short piece of fishing string, that had been part of a homemade cartridge that had killed one of his men. And there was my office with photos of BRA suspects pinned to the notice board and the smashed toilets, a result of interrogations. These things were best left alone.

But it wasn't all negative thoughts. There were memories of the excitement of building and moving to the new school, the official opening and school fete, the Indoor cricket centre that provided income for the school, school assemblies and our final end of year concert, *The wizard of Oz*, the red velvet curtains ordered from Australia for our hall, the mist that drifted through the school some days and enveloped the buildings and the large black swallow tail moths (*Lyssa macleayi*) that became our school symbol. and, of course, the students themselves, their parents and the teaching staff. It was very special ... and remains to me, arguably, what had been the best primary school in the South Pacific.

We drove from the school to what was known as *The Pink Palace*, an administrative area and offices for the General Manager and senior managers. It was destroyed by fire in the early days of the crisis but the remains of computers and the metal casings were still piled up outside the ruins.

The next stop was the Panguna Medical Clinic. Like everything else we had seen it was a ruin, stripped bare. It had become a military hospital during the crisis.

Directly opposite the medical clinic were the workshops where Arthur had worked. To his obvious delight he even found his old locker and the silhouettes of his rigging tools that he had painted on a wall. The steps of the Cricket Club which had

once been the social hub of Panguna remained, along with the metal gates. The Panguna Gym and Squash Courts were gutted but surprisingly the red line markings remained peeking out shyly from behind the undergrowth and vegetation.

The swimming pool was probably the most recognisable structure because of its size. Many children learnt to swim in that pool or had been part of the Panguna Swimming Club over the years. Panguna International Primary always hosted the annual swimming carnival for the three International primary schools, Panguna, Bovo and Toniva.

Everywhere there were skeletons of what had been the four storey buildings that had accommodated BCL employees. The cinema, supermarket, banks and even the church were all gutted and in ruins. The large single cross of the church remained standing as a silent symbol above the ruins of the township.

We wandered around trying to find the locations where our houses had once been but the jungle and the lack of recognisable structures made it hard to be certain. We took photos of what we thought was our house on Buiro Avenue. The Bailey Bridge towards the end of Kupei Road was still intact although I am not sure what weight it would support these days.

We had promised Mike Crowe that we would try to find a piece of his Hornby train set and Christmas decorations that had been stored in the roof of their house but we could only locate the remains of their mesh gate. Everything else had been devoured and buried under metres of jungle. The walls and roofing and often the metal supports as well had been removed from most houses. The Panguna water tower, at the end of Kupei Road, was still standing

and a small but simple hydro system was now in place; the skills learned from BCL were clearly evident.

Arthur and Philip made their way to the concentrator and crusher sites while Stewart took the rest of us to the pit area and then to the Jaba River where the tailings were dispersed. I am not a chemist or soil scientist but I am convinced the Jaba will not recover for many generations to come.

The pit was and remains an amazing piece of mining engineering. In fact the whole Panguna mine was an amazing piece of engineering. It is huge but now quiet without the rumble of 170 haul trucks 24 hours a day and the 1pm siren warning of blasting. The only machinery were the remains of three haul trucks partially buried in the base of the pit. Copper sulphate leached from parts of the sloping walls of the pit and a small turquoise lake in the crater seemed unchanged from photos I had seen. Stewart pointed out the squatter huts in the area where people were panning for gold. After posing for photos we made our way to the Concentrator and the Crusher to catch up with Arthur and Philip.

The stock pile was still huge and contains millions of dollars worth of ore, including gold and silver. But it needs complete refining having solidified after sitting uncovered for years. Apparently there were five ball mills to crush the ore but, to Arthur's surprise, three had been totally dismantled. According to Stewart they were removed along with other materials by Chinese, South Africans and Australians with a small Filipino labour force. They evidently brought in all the equipment needed to dismantle and remove the equipment easily and efficiently.

While waiting for Arthur we watched and photographed a young mother using a simple sluice with a PVC pipe directing water over soil in a small cradle that contained nylon floor mats to trap the alluvial gold dust. Large amounts of alluvial gold are evidently being collected using this simple method. We were told that 15 gms or more a day was a reasonable average return.

The trip back to the road block was quiet as we were all suffering from visual and emotional overload. Due to cloud Mt Bagana wasn't visible but there was a clear view of the off shore islands from Policeman's Corner. After passing through the boom gate at the road block we said our farewells to Stewart whose friendship and generosity had made our journey to Panguna possible.

It has taken quite a while to get our heads around our experience but I suppose the underlying feelings I have are of bewilderment, deep sorrow and frustration at the huge loss of life, the complete and utter waste due to the destruction of infrastructure and resources, further compounded by the lack of education for a whole generation of young Bougainvillians.

Bougainville wants to be independent (a referendum will be held in five years) but they will need an economy to support this ideal. Squatters, who are not land owners, are now living on and near the mine and prospecting for gold. This is only one of many complicated hurdles to be negotiated.

Peter Comerford

DVD FOR SALE

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**covering the luncheon of 30 June 2012 and the
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This DVD is a moving tribute featuring all the significant aspects of these two historic commemorative events – the informative speeches, the flypast, the beautiful anthem from Ramale especially composed for the Salvation Army Band for this occasion from the original score.



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Please ensure you email: membership@pngaa.net to advise what it is for and your contact details.

Help Wanted

On 13 May 1942 several Qantas DH-86 aircraft, under the command of Captain Orme Denny and other Qantas pilots, began airlifting around 70 to 80 military and civilian personnel from Mt Hagen back to Horne Island.

Those concerned had managed to reach Mt Hagen overland from as far afield as New Britain to escape the Japanese advance. Authorities in Australia had been alerted to their plight by Father John Glover who had made a remarkable dash to army headquarters in Melbourne to raise the alarm. Qantas was then asked to bring them out.

I am currently researching a book on Qantas in World War 2, one chapter of which will cover this and other emergency airlifts operated by Qantas aircraft, including our flying boats, which played a major role in support of evacuations and military missions in Papua New Guinea during the war. I would be grateful if any has any information, accounts from relatives etc which may recall some of these events.

Jim Eames M: 0402220793 Email: Eames.jim@gmail.com

My mother, Betty Cole, one of six children is the last remaining member of her family and I am appealing to anyone who can help us find the lost graves of her brothers, Alan and Dick Reilly please. I had several uncles in PNG during and after the Second World War. Brian and Alan served in New Guinea with the 7th Australian Engineers.

One of them, Dick Reilly, together with some Papua New Guinean staff rescued a helicopter in heavily timbered country, saving the pilot, who survived. My mother had a newspaper article

regarding this. Dick and his wife Ethel lived at Keravat and were due to return to Cairns but unfortunately he passed away in 1976 from a heart attack before leaving PNG and was buried in Vunapope Cemetery beside his brother Alan who had died August 11th 1970 age 50 years.

She would dearly love to know their burial plot numbers and whether the grave sites are being cared for and whether there is any further information that could possibly be offered. As both her and her family have exhausted every other avenue (military/religious/RSL club/Births, Deaths and Marriages) we are asking if anyone has any further information.

I found you through researching Ethel Reilly who was Dick's wife. They had no children. His brother Allan never married and also had no children. My mother's only sister, Cassy Hetherington, visited her brothers in PNG for a holiday before their passing. My grandmother, and mother to Dick and Alan, also lived in PNG but returned to Australia after PNG Independence. Her name was Kathleen Reilly. If there is any way you can help us or direct us on to those who can help, we would be eternally grateful. Please write to: Mrs Betty Cole (nee Reilly), 25 Kitchener Street, HUGHES ACT 2605, AUSTRALIA or phone Margaret Lees M: 0438728381 Gerringong NSW

Searching for any information on Col. Harold Eustace Woodman who was a Patrol Officer in New Guinea between WW1 and 2. Please contact David Bowen at dbowen3110@gmail.com. Address: 2 Grange Cr, Cambridge Gardens 0409 243 833.

If anyone has copies of the ARAWA BULLETIN, it would be appreciated if you could contact Bill McGrath, Post Office Box 1072, BURLEIGH HEADS, Gold Coast QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA 4220 Within Australia Phone 07 55224110; From Overseas Phone +61 755224110;

If you can identify the people in the photo please contact Geoffrey Luck at

Email: goluck@iinet.net.au. More photos will be placed on the PNGAA website soon and any assistance would be appreciated.



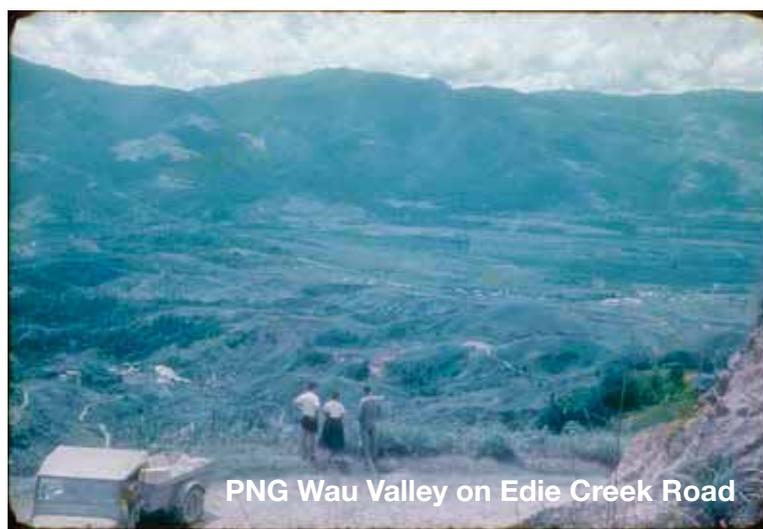
**Highlands Highway inspection
– do you recognise anyone?**



Wau residents



PNG Wau gold panned



PNG Wau Valley on Edie Creek Road



**Highlands Highway
construction**

BOOK NEWS & REVIEWS

The Embarrassed Colonialist by Sean Dorney,

9780143573951 published by Penguin Australia 2016 Paperback, 160 pages; Cost \$9.99 from bookstores.

In 'The Embarrassed Colonialist' Sean argues that too many Australians know too little about Papua New Guinea. Further information:

<https://www.penguin.com.au/products/9780143573951/embarrassed-colonialist-penguin-special>

<http://auspng.lowyinstitute.org/publications/australia-papua-new-guinea-embarrassed-colonialist#.VuqXL8ihcsc.email>

There has been much discussion and several reviews have been written. Here are some excerpts:

I have written *The Embarrassed Colonialist*, a Lowy Institute Paper, published by Penguin Australia, in an attempt to draw some attention to how Australia seems almost desperate to ignore its nearest neighbour, PNG, except when it can be used as a dumping ground for asylum seekers. And I also question why we don't want our children to know about our role in creating the largest of all the Pacific Island countries out of our former colony. PNG now has a population approaching nine million. Why is our colonial tutelage not part of the school curriculum? The only mention in the national history curriculum about PNG at the moment is the Kokoda Trail.

Sean Dorney

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/comment/why-is-australia-so-desperate-to-ignore-its-nearest-neighbour-20160218-gmxgmw.html>

<http://www.lowyinterpreter.org/post/2016/03/10/Preaching-to-the-converted.aspx>

Ian Kemish – former Australian High Commissioner to PNG – writes:

Sean Dorney is right when he says that Australians should take a stronger interest in Papua New Guinea. Sean is a consistent advocate of this cause. He is one of the leaders of a special Australian 'tribe'; those who have been touched by PNG, and who will have it in their blood forever. This 'tribe' constitutes a significant Australian constituency for PNG. Yet PNG is a blind spot for so many other Australians. As Sean says, Australian media interest is superficial, and national literacy about our nearest neighbour is limited. In the absence of real knowledge, negativity often prevails.

Why should Australians care more? Sean emphasises the theme of responsibility. There's no silver bullet, though, and while Australians can help, it's for Papua New Guineans, nobody else, to 'fix' PNG.

Remaining a constructive and relevant partner for PNG will require Australians to continue questioning long-held assumptions, and to embrace change in the relationship. In the end, though, our approach to our nearest neighbour should always appreciate

that greater prosperity, security and stability for Papua New Guineans is also in the interests of Australians.

Ian Kemish was Australian High Commissioner to PNG from 2010 to 2013

<http://www.lowyinterpreter.org/post/2016/02/23/PNG-is-changing-and-we-need-to-keep-up.aspx>

Alan Bird writes:

On a personal level, most Australians I have met have a very warm attitude to Papua New Guineans but I find that, at the government level, things are not so warm. There is plenty of scope to improve the bonds between people and government. I recall one discussion I had with some of Australia's top minds on foreign development when DFAT was scrapping an Agricultural empowerment program in PNG, one that had run very successfully for five years. I asked the Australian representatives why they were dumping the program despite its success. The response was 'Well agriculture is not a PNG government priority. We only fund PNG government priority programs. In addition, it is not in Australia's interest to keep the program going'. With 85% of PNG's population dependent agriculture, that statement dumbfounded me.

If the current population growth rate persists, by 2030 there will be more than 20 million Papua New Guineans living within swimming distance of Australia. Is it not in Australia's interest to find ways

of making sure those citizens live happily in their country? Or would Australia prefer to deal with thousands of people arriving in speed boats to improve their lives in your country? Papua New Guineans need empowerment, not handouts.

To all Australians, I echo Sean's plea to reset this important relationship. Come on; give us a fair shake. It's in your interest to do so.

<http://www.lowyinterpreter.org/post/2016/03/03/PNG-Australias-foreign-policy-priorities-should-be-closer-to-home.aspx>

Max Uechtritz writes:

Sean Dorney's *The Embarrassed Colonialist* should be mandatory reading for every influential Australian media executive and newsroom leader. Because when it comes to Papua New Guinea, we are the myopic media. Historical blindness and ignorance is an underlying theme of Dorney's excellent treatise of what is an emblematic tropical sore for Australia and Australians. Overcoming this ignorance is the healing balm he proffers – and the media, pardon the image, is the bleeding obvious place to start.

There are wonderful individual exceptions, of course: Journalists who would swim the four kilometres from our most northern Torres Strait islands to PNG to report on this vibrant and vexed nation of eight million, so inextricably linked to our past and so critical to our future. And there are editors and news directors who would, and do, battle internal obstacles to ensure coverage of our biggest, nearest neighbour.

But institutional apathy started soon after PNG Independence in 1975. Dorney notes that when he first arrived in Port Moresby for the ABC in 1974, there were six Australian journalists based there.

But then Fairfax (1980) and the Herald and Weekly Times (1981) pulled their journalists out when there was none of the chaos and mayhem that many had predicted for independent PNG. Since the AAP ended a 60-year-tradition by closing its bureau in 2013, we've been left with one reporter for the ABC.

Dorney writes of a conversation he had with the last newspaper correspondent months before that reporter was recalled:

We had a discussion on news values and he told me he knew what the subeditors at the Melbourne Herald wanted. 'They want raskols, plane crashes and tribal fights! And that's what I'm giving them'.

Millions of Australians are related to those generations who worked, lived, pioneered, made and lost fortunes and fought and died there (more Australians were killed in PNG in WWII than anywhere else).

There's give and take, and share, like most ex-colonists. We give \$500 million of aid a year to PNG, and our NGOs and churches inject many more millions. Thousands of volunteers donate slabs of their lives to helping our neighbour's poor, needy and sick. Our companies, especially in mining and energy, take resources worth billions of dollars from PNG soil, waters and forests. We dump our refugees there. We take few PNG immigrants.

Our High Commission in Port Moresby has 360 staff, more than in our Washington DC embassy. It's said PNG's population might match ours by 2050.

It's all a rich stew of personal history and impersonal stark reality. The security and prosperity of PNG, as Dorney emphasises, is hugely important to Australia. He [Dorney] explores the good, the bad and the ugly of the relationship and, yes, some is embarrassing; for both countries. ...Dorney deftly weaves sledgehammer facts and figures with the vivid frustrations and passion of both Papua New Guinean and Australian identities.

One staggering comparison rams home our attitude to our former colony: more Cook Islanders live in Australia than Papua New Guineans, even though the population of the Cooks is 430 times smaller than that of PNG.

China and Indonesia beckon PNG. Australia needs to review and renew its PNG relationship. Otherwise its six decades of colonial rule and a century of deep, genuine bonds will be a mere footnote in history.

<http://www.lowyinterpreter.org/post/2016/02/24/Plenty-of-great-stories-still-to-be-mined-in-Papua-New-Guinea.aspx>

War Trophies or Curios? the War Museum collection in Museum Victoria 1915-1920

War Trophies or Curios? the War Museum collection in Museum Victoria 1915-1920 by Barry Craig, Ron Vanderwal

and Christine Winter ISBN: 978 1 921833 34 2 Published 2016 Museum Victoria Publishing, 292pp, Softcover; Bibliography, Photographs (colour / b&w), Maps, Index, references, endnotes, appendices; Non-fiction, Papua New Guinea, WW1, German New Guinea, ethnology, anthropology, history Available from: Museum Victoria Publishing, Email publications@museum.vic.gov.au

Or, Phone 8341 7536 – please advise name, postal address, contact phone number and number of copies. Members will be sent their book/s, with the invoice sent separately.

Special Members only price rrp\$70.00 includes postage for June 2016 only. RRP \$80

The seizure of wireless stations by Australian soldiers in German New Guinea was the first overseas action by the Australian navy and military forces during WW1. The former German colony was then occupied by Australian military until civil administration commenced in May 1921. Between 1915 and 1920 both soldiers and officers collected 'native curios' in response to a request for 'war trophies' for a planned War Museum. Over six hundred objects from German New Guinea were sent to the Department of Defence in Melbourne, then the national capital. But by 1925, no longer considered 'trophies', these 'native curios' were instead transferred to the National Museum of Victoria (now Museum Victoria).

Keepers of the Gate, Personal Stories by NGVR Soldiers, New Guinea Volunteer Rifles 1939-43

Keepers of the Gate, Personal Stories by NGVR Soldiers, New Guinea Volunteer Rifles 1939-43 by Major Francis James 'Bob' Collins RFD (Retired) ISBN: 978-0-9925855-7- 0 Published 2016 NGVR & PNGVR Ex-members Association Inc. Softback 400pp A4 Includes: Overview, 37 personal stories, 13 Maps, 79 Photographs (6 colour,73 b&w), Important Dates, List of Abbreviations, General Index.

Available from: NGVR & PNGVR Ex-Members Association, PO Box 885, Park Ridge, QLD, 4125. Pay by cheque to NGVR & PNGVR Ex-Members Association, or by electronic bank transfer to NGVR & PNGVR Ex-Members Association, BSB: 064006 A/C: 10001126 giving identifying details.

If paid by EFT please send email to pngvr@optusnet.com.au so the payment may be tracked.

Cost: \$50 plus \$20 postage Australia-wide. Overseas purchasers will pay extra for postage.

Who were the Keepers of the Gate? The New Guinea Volunteer Rifles (NGVR), whose number never exceeded 500, was one of the few Allied military units engaging the Japanese in New Guinea in early 1942. A company of NGVR, as part of Lark Force, participated in the ill-fated defence of Rabaul and New Guinea islands, suffering 70% casualties. NGVR, from the start of the Pacific War until early 1943, with aggressive patrolling and reconnaissance kept the gate to the New Guinea Goldfields and central range south to Port Moresby and Australia closed to the enemy.

Armed with WWI light infantry weapons, no air or artillery support, few rations, minimal ammunition

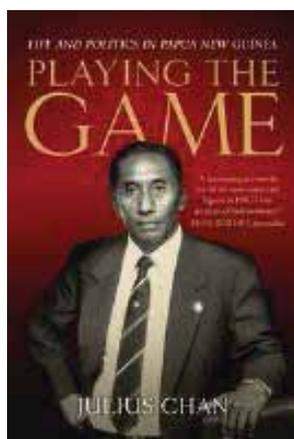
supply, meagre medical services and limited communications, this poorly-trained militia force was used to exhaustion and disbanded. Many of the men never served again due to the deprivations suffered; others, after rest returned to New Guinea and served in the Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit (ANGAU) and units which needed their PNG knowledge and experience.

This book is not a history of NGVR. The 37 stories are told from different perspectives as the men were civilians drawn from different states of Australia with different educational backgrounds and skills, which reflect the economic and social strata levels of the pre-war depression years in Australia. Their motivations to be in New Guinea are explained and their thoughts about the place are reflected. Their wartime experiences were intense, varied and in many cases lonely, and to most life changing. Their post war lives in New Guinea and Australia give glimpses into how they were affected by these experiences. This book is a vibrant social history as well as a history of the time.

For anyone interested in the social history of that time or this phase of the Pacific War in New Guinea in which NGVR was involved, the Keepers of the Gate is a must read. It is also a treasure book of stories to be kept for your children and grand-children.

These stories are a legacy this small band of courageous and adventurous men, the Keepers of the Gate, our front line of the early part of the Pacific War, deserve.

Phil Ainsworth



Playing the Game: Life and Politics in Papua New Guinea by Julius Chan

Playing the Game: Life and Politics in Papua New Guinea by Julius Chan, ISBN: 9780702253973 Paperback, 256 pages Published University of Queensland Press, 2016, Cost \$32.95 from bookstores. Also available on Kindle.

Sir Julius Chan has a lot to write about. After all, he's spent almost half a century in PNG politics. He's been prime minister twice and deputy four times as well as finance minister at the time of independence. In the 1970s he and Michael Somare were a formidable pair.

Chan's book "Playing the Game: Life and Politics in Papua New Guinea" is sure to attract interest for many reasons, especially his handling of the civil war on Bougainville and the Sandline crisis.

He also provides details of his childhood in the PNG Islands, an interest he continues today as Governor of New Ireland.

Don Hook

Ed note: There is an additional review on this book by Phil Fitzpatrick on the new PNGAA website coming soon.

Monica's War

Monica's War by John McMahon ISBN: 9781925236453

Published 2016 by Boolarong Press, PO Box 113, Moorooka, QLD 4105 Ph: 07-3373 7855

E: publish@boolarongpress.com.au
284pp, Paperback

Available from: Boolarong Press, 1/655 Toohey Road, Salisbury, QLD 4107

Cost: \$29.99 <http://www.boolarongpress.com.au/content/bookstore/bookDetails.asp?bookid=956>

An Australian Army Matron in Australia, New Guinea and Japan

Monica joined the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS) and in late 1941 became the matron of an Australian military hospital at Puckapunyal. She was a matron on a hospital ship, 11 other Australian military hospitals, a camp hospital at Koitaki, New Guinea, and the 130th Australian General Hospital at Eta Jima Island, Japan. *Monica's War* highlights male orderlies and doctors' medical work at the life threatening front-line Kokoda Track. In rear based hospitals, Monica and her AANS sisters coordinated the patient care of servicemen suffering from malaria and scrub typhus, other tropical diseases, facial wounds and post-traumatic stress disorders. Monica developed a skin disease at Koitake and was evacuated from the 47th Camp Hospital. Monica fought a gender war against male attempts to prevent AANS

members from nursing soldiers with venereal diseases, and bans on her nurses teaching some Japanese nurses aspects of patient care for Japanese civilians suffering from the effects of atomic radiation at Hiroshima. *Monica's War* depicts other Australian matrons and AANS members as compassionate, resourceful and self-sacrificing women, especially during the Japanese massacre of some members at Banka Island, Malaysia.

<https://www.penguin.com.au/products/9780143573951/embarrassed-colonialist-penguin-special>

Mick A Life of Randolph Stow

MICK: A LIFE OF RANDOLPH STOW by Suzanne Falkiner ISBN 978-1-74258-660-1

Published 2016 University of Western Australia Publishing 890pp Hardcover Bibliographies, Colour Photographs, Index etc Cost: \$50

Available from: <http://uwap.uwa.edu.au/products/mick-a-life-of-randolph-stow>

Randolph Stow was one of the great Australian writers of his generation. His novel *To the Islands* – written in his early twenties after living on a remote Aboriginal mission – won the Miles Franklin Award for 1958. In later life, after publishing seven remarkable novels and several collections of poetry, Stow's literary output slowed. This biography examines the productive period as well as his long periods of publishing silence.

In *Mick: A Life of Randolph Stow*, Suzanne Falkiner unravels the reasons behind Randolph Stow's

quiet retreat from Australia and the wider literary world. Meticulously researched, insightful and at times deeply moving, Falkiner's biography pieces together an intriguing story based on Stow's personal letters, diaries, and interviews with the people who knew him best. And many of her tales – from Stow's beginnings in idyllic rural Australia, to his critical turning point in Papua New Guinea, and his final years in Essex, England – provide us with keys to unlock the meaning of Stow's rich and introspective works. UWAP

A review from the Sydney Morning Herald is at:

<http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/books/suzanne-falkiners-biography-of-novelist-and-poet-randolph-stow-reveals-and-conceals-20160321-gnmxl0.html>

Randolph Stowe's Trobriand islands: <http://www.sydneyreviewofbooks.com/randolph-stows-trobriand-islands/>

Saidor Story: A Memoir of New Guinea by Norma Griffin

Saidor Story: A Memoir of New Guinea by Norma Griffin, edited by Anne Griffin, Pukup Publications, 228 pages, including maps and photographs, 2016, ISBN-13: 978-1522721987, Paperback US\$10 plus postage from Amazon Books.

<http://www.amazon.com/Saidor-Story-Norma-Griffin/dp/1522721983>

A New Guinea initiation story told with humour & verve

AN interesting situation awaits the bride from Ballarat as she sails to the Territory of New Guinea in

1947 to begin married life with her patrol officer husband.

The Pacific war has left much of her new land in ruins; much of the country is still unmapped or uncontrolled. Japanese soldiers remain in the mountains. Sorcerers and spirits rule the native people, and a cargo cult is creating unrest in her husband's district on the Rai Coast.

In Saidor Story, we accompany bride Norma Griffin as she tries to negotiate this harsh, sometimes hostile, frontier world. We get to know a very diverse station community; we explore the minutiae of domestic life on a remote outpost in the Pacific; we participate in adventures unimaginable to suburban Australia. Norma tells her story with humour and verve. Her distinctive style and her photographs bring to life a vanished and almost forgotten time, place and people.

Anne Griffin was born in the Territory of New Guinea during her parents' posting to Kaiapit, in the Morobe District. Norma entrusted her manuscript and her photographs to her New Guinea child in the hope that the story of one kiap's wife would be shared. This is that story.

Phil Fitzpatrick

Forever yours, stories of wartime love & friendship

Forever yours, stories of wartime love & friendship, produced by the Australian War Memorial (AWM), can now be downloaded from the AWM website at https://www.awm.gov.au/sites/default/files/forever_yours.pdf.

The 2/22nd Battalion (Lark Force) regimental band is featured on page 30. Only one band member, Fred Kollmorgen, survived the war. He is interviewed about war on the DVD, Some Came Home.

The bombing of Darwin is mentioned on page 50 but unfortunately not the first bombing of an Australian Territory, Rabaul.

Splinters - documentary on PNG surfing

SPLINTERS is the first feature length documentary film about the evolution of indigenous surfing in the developing nation of Papua New Guinea. In the 1980s an intrepid Australian pilot left behind a surfboard in the seaside village of Vanimo. Twenty years on, surfing is not only a pillar of village life but a means to prestige. With no access to economic or educational advancement, let alone running water and power, village life is hermetic. A spot on the Papua New Guinea national surfing team is the way to see the wider world; the only way. Watch the film here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdddwpZZzd4>

Official Opening of Yemin (Yamil) Airstrip Sepik District 1938

Official Opening of Yemin (Yamil) Airstrip Sepik District 1938

The Administrator Sir Walter McNicholl and some of his staff were picked up by Kevin Parer in his twin engine Dragon at Rabaul and flown via Talasea to the new airstrip at Yamil in East Sepik 1938

for the official opening. In this clip we can see hundreds of Tribal Leaders - Tultuls and Luluais with their official caps.

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

WWII in PNG: Home Movie

In 1981, NARA, in the US, was fortunate to receive Lt. Col. Ken Gerrish's unique home movie of the time he spent on Papua New Guinea between 1942 and 1944. It is an amateur made wartime 16MM Kodachrome film.

Lt Col Gerrish, an engineering officer, was trading a bottle of gin or whisky for 4 rolls of Kodachrome movie film held at the military supply stores. In combat zones in Milne Bay, Lae, Cape Gloucester and in central New Guinea, he was in a unique vantage point from which to observe preparations, take part in observation and rescue work. One Aussie pilot is rescued by Catalina and there are movies of a PNG war party.

Milne Bay is mispronounced as Milney Bay.

<http://blogs.archives.gov/unwritten-record/2014/11/03/home-movies-from-the-war-front-the-first-fighters-in-new-guinea/>

On the Pacific War with Bruce Petty: <http://voicesfromthepacificwar.com/>
Story and photos on the post war civil airline - GIBBS SEPIK AIRWAYS in PNG and its founder Bobby Gibbs, DSO DFC and Bar OAM.

<http://www.qvag.org/GibbesSepikAirways.html>

Interested to know which are the top 100 Papua New Guinea businesses? See:

<http://www.businessadvantagepng.com/papua-new-guinea-top-100-companies/>

AIM – PNGAA SOCIAL EVENTS

Gain direction from members' interests
Offer more get-togethers on a social & relaxed level
Encourage younger participants

- Please send in any suggestions
- I would be happy to consider your ideas
- What interests you?
- If you would like to organize an event in your area, please let me know!
- How can an event be organized that will bring you enjoyment

Please contact Sara Turner
Events Coordinator events@pngaa.net

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE IDEAS?

- Golf day
- Dianna Ferrari Evening of shopping
- Fashion Parade/Design making
- Attend the Mark Vincent with the Serenade Orchestra (Dee why RSL-June 11th)
- Youth Creative Day
- Trivia Night
- Bilum Making & Basket Weaving
- Book/Plant Sale Day

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mr Dennis BURNS	15 Yuruga Ave, CARINGAH	NSW	2229
Vivien BURNS	21 Ingle Court, BLI BLI	QLD	4560
Sir Henry CHOW	2 Daymar Place, CASTLE COVE	NSW	2069
Mr Ian CHOW	2 Daymar Place, CASTLE COVE	NSW	2069
Mrs Rosemary COLLINS	8 Petrel Place, Waitakere, AUCKLAND	NZ	0614
Ms Donna HARVEY-HALL	51 Courageous Court, NEWPORT	QLD	4020
Mr John Robert HORDER	41 B Craigmont Street TARRAGINDI	QLD	4121
Mr Michael LACEY	15 Bayu Close, REDLYNCH	QLD	4870
Lady Aileen Margaret LEAHY	Aroka, 844 Preston Boundary Road PRESTON	QLD	4352
Mr Ron MASON	4 Belgravia street, ALEXANDRA HILLS	QLD	4161
Mr & Mrs Anna & Jim MIDDLETON	P O Box 1464, BYRON BAY	NSW	2481
Professor William MITCHELL	100 Mitchell Lane, WOLCOTT, VERMONT	USA	05680
Ms Jane Munro	20B Redan Street, MOSSMAN	NSW	2088
Mr William PARSONS	138 Perth Street, SOUTH TOOWOOMBA	QLD	4350
Mr Arthur Gilbert SMEDLEY	25 Trevallyn Road, LAUNCESTON	TAS	7250
Mr Leigh Francis TEASDALE	Rosedale Station, ROSEDALE	QLD	4674

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Lt Col Kelvin ALLEY	The Salvation Army National Secretariat, PO BOX 1323, BOROKO	PNG	NCD
Dr Kirstie BARRY	PO Box U174 Charles Darwin University, DARWIN	NT	0815
Mr John BULL	235 Maundrell Terrace, APSLEY	QLD	2154
Mr Trevor CONNELL	93 Lyttleton Cres, COOK	ACT	2614
Mr Hugh CORDER	236 North Road, BRIGHTON EAST	VIC	3187
Mr Neil DESAILLY	1427 Rye Park Road, BOOROWA	NSW	2257
Mr Peter DRYDEN	1 Riverview Way, MILDURA	VIC	3500
Mrs Joan DWYER	149 Peppertree Drive, JIMBOOMBA	QLD	4280
Mr Phillip FRAME	27 Masters Court, PORT DOUGLAS	QLD	4877
Mr Graham HARDY	PO Box 287, CLAYFIELD	QLD	4011
Major Bernard HAYES	19 Emma Drive, KEARNEYS SPRING	QLD	4350
Mr Brian HUGHES	18 High Street, EBBW BAILE	QLD	4304
Dr Graeme HUMBLE	PO Box 1094, WAHROONGA	NSW	2076
Brother Barry LOUISSON	Little Sisters of the Poor Aged Care NZ Ltd, PO Box 47 276, PONSONBY	NZ	1144
Mr Alan MAHER	70 Southerland Street, KILMORE	VIC	3764
Senator Anne McEWEN	PO BOX 55, TORRENSVILLE PLAZA	SA	5031
Mr Ifor OWEN	14 CWRT SANT TUDNO Clarence Road, LLANDUDNO	UK	LL30 1BZ
Mr Alan PADGETT	120 Curand Promenade, BEDFORD	WA	6052
Mr William PAGE	21055 NE 37 AVE #2701, AVENTURA	USA	33180
Mrs Kerry PRITCHARD (Orr-Harper)	41 Dixon Ave Great Grimsby, NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE	UK	DN32 0AJ
Mr Peter SALMON	PO Box 3230, LOGANHOLME	QLD	4129
Mrs Mary Louise UECHTRITZ	Brigidine House. Room 8 P.O. Box 41, ST PAUL'S	NSW	2031
Ms Thea VISSER	7 Makin court, BAYFORD	WA	6149

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 p2) by 30 June and it will be sent to you with the September 2016 Una Voce.

Vales

Geoffrey Alan Kenney (24 January 2016, aged 74 years)

Geoff gained fulltime employment in the Department of Customs and Excise and moved to Port Moresby in 1961, as a clerk with Public Health. While in PNG, Geoff enlisted in the PNG Volunteer Rifles. He soon met Lucy Chow who worked as an infant child and health worker and they married in Sydney, 30 December 1964, making many close friends in PNG. Geoff and Lucy left PNG in 1975, moving to the Gold Coast.

Geoff set up his own business with a few ex-PNG mates, and the Gold Coast was a perfect location for this. In 1978, Geoff exited the business venture and joined the Association of Professional Engineers, Australia, working back in the industrial relations sector.

As a family man he was always there to lend a hand, to provide encouragement, to support; always happy and great company. He was never judgmental but, rather, balanced, dignified and such a gentleman.

Geoff enjoyed fishing. He loved to travel – something that was instilled in him at an early age. His cancer therapies made beer taste ‘not so good’, but Geoff still gave it a nudge on occasion.

He was a great storyteller, and loved detail. He was widely read. He loved his family; he loved history (especially war and political history) and he had a soft spot for PNG. He started documenting the history of our family including the extensive Chow family from PNG.

Geoff is survived by Lucy, Simone and Justin

Simone and Justin Kenney

Faole Bokoi (2 March 2016)

– see information on page 28

John Edgar NORTON (20th April 2016, aged 87 years)

– more information next issue

Allan Thomas McDONALD 3 September 2014, aged 79

Allan was born on 24 July 1935 in Heathcote, Victoria, to Hilda and Allan (Busty) McDonald. He received his early education at Heathcote Primary School and later at Bendigo School of Mines. He qualified as an A Grade electrician and served his apprenticeship at the Ordnance Factory in Bendigo. In 1957 he moved to PNG, having accepted a position as an electrician with APC, an oil company. In 1960 he joined the Public Health Department (PHD) as an X-Ray technician. While working with PHD Allan travelled to various locations in PNG, Madang and Rabaul being two of his favourite places. During this time he met his future wife Noreen, a nursing sister, at Taurama General Hospital in Port Moresby. They were married on 12 June 1965 at the Lutheran Church, Pt Moresby. The couple settled in Pt Moresby and in 1966 Allan joined the Commonwealth Department of Works (CDW) as an electrical works supervisor. He remained with CDW in Pt Moresby until receiving a transfer to Wagga Wagga in 1973. He retired from CDW in 1989 and joined the Department of Health in Wagga where he worked in maintenance for several more years. Allan passed away a year after being diagnosed with an aggressive cancer. He thoroughly enjoyed his years in PNG and loved

to recount numerous stories of his time spent there. He always wished to return to PNG but ill health prevented this. He is survived by his wife Noreen, daughters Julie-Anne and Lisa, their partners and grandchildren Oliver and Lucy.

Julie-Anne McDonald

Pauline RAYMENT nee GLUYAS (5 January 2016, aged 81 years)

Pauline was born in Rabaul in 1934. Her father, Arthur Gluyas, was a police officer who served in Rabaul, Madang, Manus and Wau. Together with her mother and sister, Barbara-Anne Laver, Pauline was evacuated from Wau on 20 December 1941. They first travelled by Junkers to Port Moresby and then on the Katoomba to Australia. Returned to Lae after WWII in June 1946 but then returned to Australia December 1946 due to ill health. Pauline had five children - Laurence, Donald, Bruce, Alan, Elizabeth.

Barbara-Anne Laver

Norma WARHURST, (6 February 2016, aged 84 years)

Norma was born on 12 July 1931 and went to live in PNG in 1954 for thirty years until 1984. Norma and Darryl lived in Bulolo before managing plantations in New Ireland, New Britain, the Bainings (New Massawa Plantation), then Matakus Plantation in Bougainville and Karula Plantation in Buka.

Upon returning to Australia in 1984 Norma and Darryl resided in Leadville, NSW, to enjoy the quiet life until the sudden recent death



of Norma. Norma and Darryl were married for 62 years and have 7 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Norma is survived by Darryl and daughters Peta, Meghan, Rebecca (deceased) and Amanda.

Geoffrey BASKETT MBE

PNG: 1933-90; Kwato Mission - Milne Bay, Port Moresby, Wewak, Banz, Lae. Founder and Manager Kristen Radio.

Geoff served in many roles in PNG for 56 years. He was a W/O in ANGAU and is



author of the much loved hymn Islands and Mountains which is also the name of his biography.

In a life of achievements, he is most famously known in PNG for being the composer of well-known songs such as 'Papua New Guinea' (which might have become the national anthem), 'Islands and Mountains (known internationally as The Song of Kwaro)' and 'We Are Free'.

Rea OBERG (5 January 2016 aged 91 years)

Anyone who lived in Wewak in the late 40s, Lae in the early 50s -70s or Port Moresby in the 70s may have heard the name Walter Rea Oberg who preferred to be known as Rea.

In 1930, Rea's family moved to Wollongong where Rea attended the public school then Wollongong Technical College. Little did he realise then but technical education was to play a major role in his adult life. After finishing college, Rea began an apprenticeship at the Wollongong Steelworks as a Pattern Maker. His work colleagues convinced him to join the Port

Kembla Rover Scouts. This would be a fortuitous decision – the Scouts becoming some of Rea and Lois' most treasured memories and the setting for some of the happiest stories he would tell his family regarding his youth. The Scouts would also be where he crossed paths with a 17 year old lady Cub Master named Lois. Lois was told she would never catch that Rover from Port Kembla because Rea and his friends were confirmed bachelors. But with her own agenda in mind she did catch him! Their courtship would last four years during which time Rea applied and was accepted for a position in Port Moresby. Rea's first job was making coffins and later the chairs and tables for the new Parliament in Port Moresby. He also coached indigenous children – the beginning of a very long career in technical education in PNG.

He returned to Wollongong in 1948 and proposed to Lois. Together they returned to Wewak where Rea built their first home. He was also directed by headquarters to build a school in Wewak which he did with help from the local people. They had a daughter, Karen in 1951.

In 1953 the Education Department gave Rea a promotion to Trades Instructor at Iduabada Technical College in Port Moresby but he did not share the enthusiasm of his seniors at the thought of this appointment and they knew it. The next morning, Horace Niall, the District Commissioner, summoned Rea to a meeting. He was told that the appointment to Iduabada had been cancelled and that his next job

would be in Lae. Mr Niall told Rea he wanted him to build a technical college in Lae!! He gave Rea a considerable amount of funds for the task and married accommodation was supplied in Lae for his family.

Whilst completing this building task for the Education Department, Rea and Lois enjoyed the happiest years of their married life. Kerry was born in 1953 and sadly, a year and a half later they lost their eldest daughter Karen, leaving both parents devastated. It would be over three years before their third daughter, Tiggy arrived in 1957. This completed their family. Rea and Lois raised their daughters on the grounds of the Technical College. Kerry and Tiggy can recount endless stories of camping, boating, swimming in rivers and riding on the back of their father's motorbike on his rounds of the College. Rea continued his education studying both Building and Teaching passing with Distinctions in all disciplines.

Rea and Lois also played a major role in the Boy Scout movement in the town – Rea assisting in the building of the Scout Hall where many evenings were spent singing around camp fires.

Rea was also a member of Rotary in Lae and his College made numerous contributions to community projects which Rea regarded as practical experience for his students.

In 1973 the family moved to Port Moresby before Rea and Lois returned to Australia in 1976. Their daughters remained in PNG. Rea took a part-time job at Wollongong Technical College in the Store. It did not take long for his colleagues and teachers to realise his hidden talents and Rea was engaged to do 'foreign jobs' for various members of staff. Rea loved technical education and was happy to assist.

In 1985 Rea and Lois moved to Country Qld to be closer to their daughters who had both married



Queenslanders they met in Port Moresby. Rea loved roses and cultivated a beautiful garden. He had a workshop the envy of any handyman. Five years ago Rea lost his leg to an infection complicated by undiagnosed diabetes. He faced this challenge in the same way as all his challenges – with dignity and a fierce grace that was inspirational to his family and friends. His family miss him terribly and we are all grateful for the indelible mark he made on all our lives.

He left behind his wife of 67 years, Lois and his two daughters Kerry and Cheryl (Tiggy) and Granddaughter Tahnee.

Ed note: A tribute by Aub Shulstaad is included on the longer vale on the PNGAA website.

Gavin Sydney DALE (30 May 2015)

Gavin's three uncles - Sidney, Dudley and Daryl Turner – were with the 1 Independent Company and subsequently said to be on the Montevideo Maru.

Stanley John MARSH (5 January 2016, aged 77 years)

John died at Birkdale, Queensland. He served in the Royal Australian Engineers between January 1955 and January 1964, following which he joined Victoria Police Force on 10.1.1964 resigning on 31.10.1967. On the following day he was appointed as a Sub-Inspector of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary.

After initial induction to RPNGC at Port Moresby, he was posted to Rabaul. During his service at Rabaul, he was OIC of one of the riot squads during the Tolai Matanguan crisis and also served as a traffic officer and assisted with lecturing to members of the RPNGC Reserve Constabulary. He was posted to Lae in early 1970 and resigned from the Constabulary

on 17.03.1971 following which the family returned to Australia. For some years John was involved in Road safety, and driver training with the Queensland Department of Transport for which he was awarded a Churchill Fellowship in USA and also worked with the RACQ. Later the family purchased a printing business and was involved with strata unit management.

He is survived by Del and a son

Michael Anthony CORCORAN

Michael Anthony CORCORAN (24 March 2016 aged 83 years) at Kimbe, West New Britain. Michael was appointed to RPNGC on 14.4.1958 as Sub-Inspector (FIRE). On 12.1.1961, with the creation of a separate branch of TPNG administration, together with about five others he was appointed Station Officer, Fire brigade Branch, at Port Moresby where he subsequently became Chief Officer following the retirement of the legendary Tom Donnelly. He remained in PNG in charge of Fire Services until retirement in 1977. Following this he returned to Australia where for 24 years he was a publican at Geraldton, W.A. In recent years his son Dennis (a RPNGC Reserve Sgt) has been employed at Kimbe and Michael chose to return there.

Max Hayes

Norm Webster (17 April 2016, aged 87 years)

Norm was born in Queensland on the 26th of October 1928. He was not a kiap but he knew all of our many and varied foibles from his various postings in the 1950's with Treasury, Department of Health and many years at Regional Local Government Office, Madang. Madang as Local Government auditor travelling to Councils throughout New Guinea Mainland Region. He could wield the auditor's green pen with precise and terrifying efficiency. His visits

to outstations were always welcome and refreshing. Always precise and well organised. Somebody at Regloc Madang once asked what they would like to have with them in the event of a disaster - the rapid response was "Norm's briefcase" knowing that all of the survival essentials would be neatly arranged within.

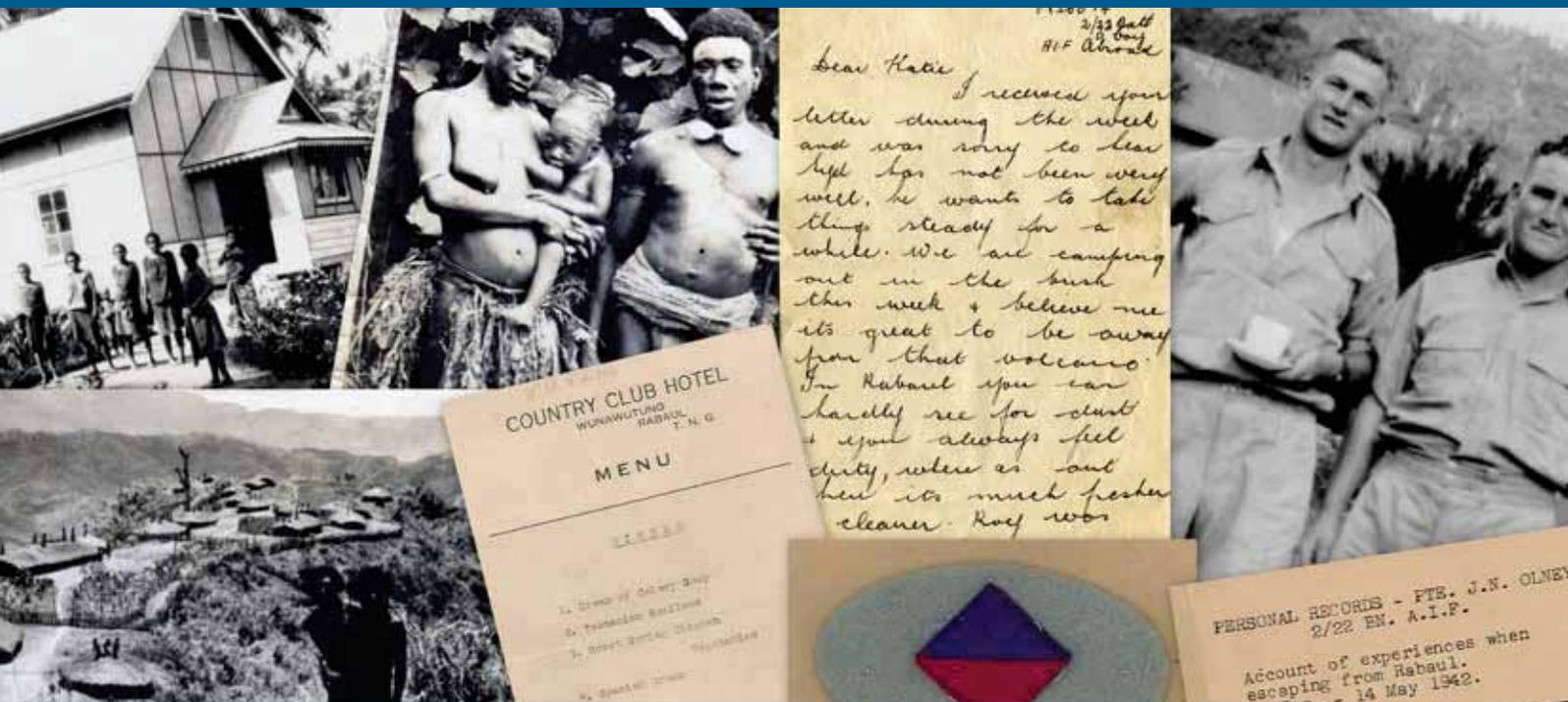
His wife, Patricia, predeceased him. He is survived by children Margaret and Michael and their families.

Harvey Mack - Ex Kiaps' website

Peter HILL (29 May 2016)

Peter Hill was born in New Zealand. His Father was a coal miner. His mother insisted that all her five children, four boys and one girl had a trade. After Peter's apprenticeship, he arrived in Port Moresby to work for John Stubbs. In 1963 he moved to Madang and worked for Madang Contractors where he has remained for the best part with Maureen his beloved wife whom he married in 1969. When Madang Contractors closed he bought Jomba Plumbing his well respected trade until 2012 when he was diagnosed with cancer. Peter was a popular member of the Madang Community, he served 3 terms as the President of the Madang Town Council and was an active member of the Madang Chamber of Commerce. He was a mate to everyone, especially those who frequented the Madang Country Club – he was never a big drinker but I am told he could keep up with the best. He was a foundation member and President of the Madang Lions Club until it ceased to exist at which time Maureen joined the Madang Rotary Club and he continued to support Maureen in all the community work she has done for so many over 46 years in Madang. Peter was buried at sea in Astrolabe Bay in accordance with his wishes. 170 passengers boarded the Kalibobo Spirit to witness his burial at sea.

Sir Peter Barter



Commemorating the 75th Anniversary – 2017 Montevideo Maru and the New Guinea Islands

WE NEED YOUR STORIES! STORIES ABOUT THE 'LOST BATTALION', STORIES ABOUT CIVILIANS WHO REMAINED BEHIND AND WERE NEVER SEEN AGAIN. STORIES ABOUT ESCAPE, STORIES ABOUT EVACUATION, STORIES ABOUT THOSE WHO LATER RETURNED TO NEW GUINEA ISLANDS AND STORIES ABOUT HOW WWII IN THE NEW GUINEA ISLANDS AFFECTED YOUR FAMILY AND LIVES DURING AND AFTER WWII.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

To acknowledge the '75th Commemorative Anniversary of the sinking of the Montevideo Maru and the fall of the New Guinea islands', we are collecting short stories including photographs, by the families & friends of the men, which will be published as a book for the 75th Anniversary in 2017. The book will be about both the soldiers of the 2/22nd Battalion - Lark Force & the 1st Independent Company as well as the Civilians at Rabaul and New Guinea islands during WW2. We are looking for engaging and well-researched stories using a creative non-fiction technique rather than a 'facts and figures' story that links to the soldiers and civilians to their home communities, including their family life prior.

The book is to give families the opportunity to tell their story and to let others know the tragic loss that both Australia and the New Guinea Islands suffered by the disappearance of these special men onboard the Montevideo Maru as well as those that never left the New Guinea islands, and those that managed to make extraordinary escapes home.



FOR SUBMISSION CONDITIONS please contact Gayle Thwaites
 Email: stories@memorial.org.au or Dropbox : Gayle Thwaites
 Postal Address: Mrs G. Thwaites, PO Box 153, Lilydale, Victoria, 3140
 Stay up to date with the project via Facebook at www.facebook.com/RabaulandMontevideoMaruSociety



MINUTES OF THE 65th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PNGAA HELD AT THE KILLARA GOLF CLUB, SYDNEY, ON 15 May 2016

*MEETING opened at 11.37 am
The President, Andrea Williams presided*

Members Present and Apologies: (Members present as per Attendance Book noted to constitute quorum): Andrea Williams, Sara Turner, Doug Wood, Phil Ainsworth, George Oakes, Edna Oakes, Paul Munro, Jane Munro, Clive Troy, Harriet Troy, Belinda Macartney, Ally Martell, Alan Pierce, Quentin Anthony, Steve Burns, Stephen Gagau, Phil van der Eyk, Jacky Lawes, Marie Clifton-Bassett, Judith Waterer, Jan Dykgraaff, Bob Daubenspeck, Jane Hickson, Marie Yaru, Patrick Bourke, John Copland, Deirdre Johnson, Fred Kaad, Lindsay Tau, Patricia Bestic
Apologies: Murrough Benson, Roy Ranney, Neil Harvey, Ross Johnson, Pat Johnson, Pamela Virtue, Ken Nobbs, Ian Sayers, Dr Marian May, Peter Broadhurst, Peter Williamson, Bev Melrose, Don Hook, John Dewdney, Janet Palfreyman, John Egerton, Barbara Jennings, Margaret Dunlop, Bob Hallahan, Terry Chapman, Mark Lynch, Jo Tangye, Frank van Kolck, Harry Bert, Robert Webb, Jean Lowe, Ken McGregor, Mark Lynch, Evan Cleland, Jeff Baldwin

2. Confirmation of Minutes of 64th AGM (*circulated as supplement to June 2015 Una Voce*).
MOTION: *that these Minutes be confirmed. Moved: George Oakes, seconded Phil Ainsworth*
CARRIED.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes:

Paul Munro spoke to motions foreshadowed in the 2015 AGM minutes proposing that Marie Clifton_ Bassett and Andrea Williams be each appointed as an Honorary Life Member pursuant to subrule 4.5 of the PNGAA Rules. He reminded members that the condition established by that subrule is that those on whom the AGM can confer Honorary Life Membership must have rendered outstanding service to the Association. No one with more than minimal acquaintance with PNGAA's history and activity would be other than aware of the major contributions made by Marie and Andrea respectively. Marie had served as Assistant Secretary, then as Secretary; each had served as Editor of Una Voce: Marie Between 1997 and 2003; Andrea from 2004 to 2012 and in Andrea's case she had served also for approaching 5 years as President (one as Acting President). So well established was the service of each that the meeting could be confident of support for each being appointed by carrying a joint motion.

MOTION: *That Marie Clifton-Bassett and Andrea Williams each be appointed an Honorary Life Member of the PNGAA Association. Moved Paul Munro. Seconded Quentin Anthony and George Oakes.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, followed by acclamation.

4. President's Report: The President spoke to her report covering the activities and priority matters of the year and projected actions. The report was received with acclamation (reprinted at the end of these Minutes)

MOTION: *that the report be accepted. Moved Doug Wood, seconded George Oakes*

CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report and adoption of Audited Financial Statements: Doug Wood presented the financial report for the year ended 31 December 2015, 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 a copy of which is also reprinted at the end of the President's report.

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 2015; and that the Treasurer be instructed to complete and lodge the Annual return (Form A12) with NSW Fair Trading.*

Moved Paul Munro. Seconded Steve Burns

CARRIED

7. Correspondence: Paul Munro reported that correspondence generally had declined in the sense that much of the contact with the PNGAA was now channelled by email. Roy Ranney and Murrrough Benson had coped commendably well as Membership Officer and Secretary respectively with most matters and questions that arose concerning membership, misdirected mailouts and financial status. Murrrough had reinstated past practice of labelling for Committee meetings the more important correspondence transactions. An important part of the exchange of correspondence over the past year had been contact between the President, the Prime Minister Mr Abbot, Parliamentary Under-Secretary Baldwin and the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust promoting the PNGAA proposal for better signage and adaptive re-use of the Ten Terminal and ASOPA precinct buildings at Middle Head.

MOTION: *That the correspondence report be received and adopted.* Moved George Oakes; seconded: Doug Wood.

CARRIED

8. Election of Honorary Auditor: Doug Wood reported that in 2015 Len Bailey, who has been our Hon. Auditor for many years, had indicated he would like to take his leave. Doug indicated the PNGAA's thanks to Len for the work he had done over many years. Doug spoke to securing a replacement.

MOTION: *That Phil Williams of Carbonara Business advisors, Chatswood, a chartered Accountant, be appointed as Honorary Auditor under Rule 37 of the PNGAA Rules.* Moved Paul Munro; Seconded George Oakes. CARRIED

9. General discussion: The meeting discussed the indication in the President's Report of the need to ensure that a quorum of 20 financial members should be in attendance at AGM's. With an aging membership profile and modern patterns of attendance at meetings, the size of quorum represented a burden that may not be necessary to ensure democratic control. The Model rules issued by Fair Trading specify that a quorum may be as low as five (5) members. A consensus view was that 10 members should be an appropriate figure. There was general agreement that the Management Committee be asked by the AGM to bring forward a Special Resolution to alter the Rules to provide for a quorum of 10 at AGMs for consideration at the 2017 AGM.

The meeting closed at approx. 12.18 pm.

Note: After circulating the unaudited 2015 Financial Statement with the March 2016, UNA VOCE the Audited Financial Statement was subsequently presented to and approved at the Annual General Meeting on 15 May 2016. It is not reattached here however the Treasurer's presentation is available by phoning the Secretary or email: admin@pngaa.net

www.pngaa.net

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

AGM PNGAA Treasurer's Report 15 May 2016

Thank you Andrea,

Fellow Members,

The unaudited financials were included with the March Una Voce magazine to enable members time to read and review 2015 at their leisure. These accounts were produced in late January 2016 and disclosed a before tax profit of \$3,271 for the year.

Prior to submission to our new auditor Killara Golf Club chased us for settlement of the 7 Dec Christmas lunch invoice totalling \$6,820. This invoice had never been issued by them to us (much to their embarrassment) and on receipt was paid by us on the 7 March. In the haste to finalise the draft accounts for Una Voce printing I also had forgotten to accrue for the cost of this Lunch. As a result the accounts tabled today on page 3 disclose a before tax loss of \$ 3,549 — the difference of \$6,820 being the Killara invoice.

This small loss does not detract from the active and successful year 2015 was — the Kiap DVD launch at Screen Australia and the 40th anniversary art show being the highlights for me. Revenue totalled \$62k only half of 2014 due to the successful inaugural Symposium held in Sept 2014 and Expenses \$66k. The major cost being Una Voce \$35k being double 2014 due to migration to A4 colour — an increase of \$16k.

I hope all members find the new layout far more enjoyable a read. The migration to soft copy is a challenge for us in the future as we balance the needs of older members with the demands of the internet generation.

Our net assets of \$155k is fully reflected in our cash at bank and on deposit. At year end as set out in Note 8 (page 9) we had \$147k on short term deposit earning 2.6 % and 3.05%. On maturity in Feb and March we have reinvested these deposits and topped them up by \$10k and \$7k respectively. Currently we have three deposits earning rather unsatisfactory interest returns \$62,500 at 2.5% maturing in April 17, \$23,200 at 2.35% maturing in March 17 and \$78,100 at 2.5% also maturing in April 2017 .A total of \$163,800 earing \$4k a year.

One matter I wish to highlight to members' is included in Note 2 — Sales of DVDs. During the production of Kiap — Story Behind the Medal, Greg Harris absorbed \$9,112 of costs which were agreed recoverable based on the success of the sales achieved. Of the 1,000 copies produced we have sold/ distributed 67% with 326 still on hand at year end. These sales have raised \$18k for the Association. Of the costs absorbed the accounts reflect in trade creditors \$5,000 agreed by the Board to be paid to Greg (Paid on 3 Feb 2016). This \$5k is the major component of the \$7.7k disclosed as cost of sales for the 2015 year in Note 2.

I would now like to call for any questions on the 2015 financial statements.

Can I now move a motion that the audited financial statements be adopted as a true reflection of the state of affairs for the year ended 31 December 2015 and I be instructed to complete and lodge the Annual return (Form A12) with NSW Fair Trading.

G D Wood , FCA
Treasurer PNGAA

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

ABN: 35 027 362 171



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 DECEMBER 2015

PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.**

Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia Inc., which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2015, and the statement of income and expenditure for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Committee's declaration as set out on pages 2 to 9.

The Responsibility of the Committee for the Financial Report

The Committee of the Association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Committee of the Association, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting obligations under the constitution. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

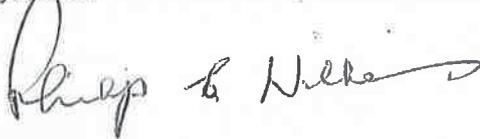
I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting the audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional accounting bodies.

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia Inc. as of 31 December 2015 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.



P.C. Williams
Registered Company Auditor #3261
Partner

11/4/16 Chatswood, NSW, 2067.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA Inc.

(Formerly the Retired Officers' Association of Papua New Guinea, Inc.)
Incorporated in New South Wales - ABN 35 027 362 171

STATEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee:-

- (i) the accompanying financial statements, as set out on pages 3 to 9, of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia Inc. present a true and fair view of the financial position for the year ended 31 December, 2015, and
- (ii) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

President.....*Andrea Williams*.....

Andrea Williams

Treasurer.....*Doug Wood*.....

Doug Wood

Dated this 11th day of April, 2016.

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

**Statement of Income and Expenditure
For the year ended 31 December 2015**

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
INCOME			
Donations		415	1,278
DVD sales	2	2,555	5,464
Functions	3	18,059	66,135
Interest		3,236	2,702
Membership	4	38,096	42,641
Raffles		<u>-</u>	<u>6,015</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>62,361</u>	<u>124,235</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Administration	5	5,991	7,118
Donations – Croc Prize		5,000	7,000
Functions	3	17,106	66,470
Storage		2,554	2,337
Una Voce	6	35,081	18,431
Website		<u>178</u>	<u>2,482</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>65,910</u>	<u>103,838</u>
(LOSS)/SURPLUS for the year		<u>(3,549)</u>	<u>20,397</u>
Less: Income tax	7	<u>(713)</u>	<u>(1,096)</u>
Operating (loss)/profit for the year		<u>(\$4,262)</u>	<u>\$19,301</u>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes attached

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

**Statement of Financial Position
For the year ended 31 December 2015**

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	195,556	190,439
Inventories	9	<u>8,835</u>	<u>8,410</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>204,391</u>	<u>198,849</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>204,391</u>	<u>198,849</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provision for audit		550	350
Provision for income tax	7	85	1,096
Subscriptions in advance	10	24,750	24,513
Trade creditors		<u>12,192</u>	<u>730</u>
Total Current Liabilities		<u>37,577</u>	<u>26,689</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Subscriptions in advance	10	<u>12,068</u>	<u>13,152</u>
Total Non-current Liabilities		<u>12,068</u>	<u>13,152</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>49,645</u>	<u>39,841</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>\$154,746</u>	<u>\$159,008</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
General Reserve		27,267	27,267
Historical Preservation Reserve		12,361	11,041
Rabaul & Montevideo Maru Reserve		78,144	77,051
Retained earnings		<u>36,974</u>	<u>43,649</u>
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		<u>\$154,746</u>	<u>\$159,008</u>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes attached

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

**Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 31 December 2015**

	General Reserve	Historical Pres. Rve	RMvM Reserve	Retained Earnings	Total
Balance - 1 January 2014	27,267	11,041	82,473	18,926	139,707
Operating profit for 2014	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,422)</u>	<u>24,723</u>	<u>19,301</u>
Balance - 31 Dec. 2014	27,267	11,041	77,051	43,649	159,008
Operating (loss)/profit for 2015	<u>-</u>	<u>1,320</u>	<u>1,093</u>	<u>(6,675)</u>	<u>(4,262)</u>
Balance - 31 Dec. 2015	<u>27,267</u>	<u>12,361</u>	<u>78,144</u>	<u>36,974</u>	<u>154,746</u>

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

**Statement of Cashflows
For the year ended 31 December 2015**

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cash inflows/(outflows) from operating activities			
DVD sales	2	10,818	12,030
Subscriptions		23,666	38,049
Function receipts	3	18,059	66,135
Interest received		840	1,114
Donations received		415	1,278
Donations paid		(5,000)	(7,000)
Function expenses	3	(10,286)	(66,470)
Payments to suppliers		(31,671)	(38,387)
Income tax paid	6	(1,724)	(628)
Net inflow for the year		5,117	6,121
Cash – 1 January 2015		<u>190,439</u>	<u>184,318</u>
Cash – 31 December 2015	8	<u>\$195,556</u>	<u>\$190,439</u>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes attached

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

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2015**

Note 1 - Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements contained in this report have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and the limited range of accounting standards applicable to a non-reporting entity.

The financial statements contained in this report have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, current valuation of non-current assets.

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Note 2 - Sales of DVDs		
Kiap – Story Behind the Medal	8,678	9,345
Walk Into Paradise/other	<u>2,140</u>	<u>2,685</u>
	10,818	12,030
Less:		
- Royalties WIP	(563)	(284)
- Cost of goods sold	<u>(7,700)</u>	<u>(6,282)</u>
	<u>2,555</u>	<u>5,464</u>
Note 3 - Functions		
Symposium – Income	_____ -	51,486
Symposium – Expenses	_____ -	<u>(54,223)</u>
	_____ -	<u>(2,737)</u>
Art Exhibition – Income	4,000	-
Art Exhibition – Expenses	<u>(2,618)</u>	_____ -
	<u>1,382</u>	_____ -
Other – Income – KIAP launch/Ballina/Xmas/AGM	14,059	14,649
Other – Expenses	<u>(14,488)</u>	<u>(12,247)</u>
	<u>(429)</u>	<u>2,402</u>
Total function income	18,059	66,135
Total function expenses	<u>(17,106)</u>	<u>(66,470)</u>
Surplus/(Loss) for the year	<u>953</u>	<u>(335)</u>

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

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2015 (continued)**

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Note 4 - Membership Subscriptions		
Brought Forward re 2015 (note 10)	24,513	28,361
Collected in year	<u>13,583</u>	<u>14,280</u>
	<u>38,096</u>	<u>42,641</u>
 Note 5 – Administration		
Audit	550	350
Bank/Merchant Fees	640	1,116
General Postage	-	1,965
General Printing and Office supplies	1,190	2,100
Insurance – Offices & Directors	1,260	1,257
Insurance – Public Liability	891	-
Membership List	1,330	330
Subscriptions	<u>130</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>5,991</u>	<u>7,118</u>
 Note 6 - Una Voce		
Printing costs – migration to A4 colour	25,239	9,519
Postage	8,661	7,220
Stationery	2,100	2,096
Less: International postage surcharge receipts	<u>(919)</u>	<u>(404)</u>
	<u>35,081</u>	<u>18,431</u>
 Note 7 – Income Tax		
DVD sales – non members (25%/2014 - 50%)	639	2,732
Interest	<u>3,236</u>	<u>2,702</u>
Total Income	3,875	5,434
Less Deduction 25% Admin expenses	<u>(1,498)</u>	<u>(1,780)</u>
Taxable income	<u>2,377</u>	<u>3,654</u>
Tax at 30%	713	1,096
Less tax instalment paid	<u>(628)</u>	<u>-</u>
Payable	<u>85</u>	<u>1,096</u>

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

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2015 (continued)**

	2015	2014
Note 8 - Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$	\$
Cash at bank – CBA	41,697	39,800
Cash at bank - RMvM A/C	7,069	77,051
CBA - Term Deposits (16 March + 10 Feb 16)	75,715	73,588
CBA – RMvM Term Deposit (11 Feb 16)	<u>71,075</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>195,556</u>	<u>190,439</u>

Note 9 – Inventory

Kiap DVDs	3,260	6,060
Other DVDs	<u>5,575</u>	<u>2,350</u>
	<u>8,835</u>	<u>8,410</u>

At 31 December, 2015 the Association held 326 copies of Kiap, The Story Behind the Medal DVDs valued at \$10 each and 1,115 other DVDs (Walk in Paradise 324; Some Come Home 435 and R&MvM Tragedy 356) valued at \$5 each.

Note 10 – Subscriptions in Advance

Current – 2016	24,750	24,513
Non-Current – 2017 to 2020	<u>12,068</u>	<u>13,152</u>
	<u>36,818</u>	<u>37,665</u>