



# Una Voce News Letter

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

P.O. BOX 452, ROSEVILLE NSW 2069

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No. 1, 1991 - March

Dear Member,

On behalf of the Committee I thank all those members who sent Christmas and New Year Greetings and provided comments with respect to the production of *Una Voce* and the operation of the Association. It is very rewarding to know that so many members are appreciative of our efforts on their behalf.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

Our Association's Annual General Meeting and Luncheon will be held on Sunday 7 April, 1991 at the Mandarin Club. Full details about the meeting and luncheon are to be found in the centre pages.

Any of our senior or incapacitated members who would like to attend but now have difficulty because of transport problems, please get in touch with our Secretary, Jo Nitsche, or our Assistant Secretary, Pamela Foley, whose telephone numbers are shown above, and they will endeavour to arrange transport to the Mandarin Club.

## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for 1991 of \$8.00 became due and payable on 1 January last and for those who have not as yet paid, or paid in advance, please send your subscriptions to:

The Treasurer  
R.O.A.P.N.G.  
P.O. Box 452  
ROSEVILLE NSW 2069

To ascertain your financial standing, please check the address wrapper from your current issue of *Una Voce*. At the right hand bottom corner of the address label is printed the year to which you have paid subscription/s, i.e., 1990, 1995, 2000, 2015 etc. If on your wrapper the year shown is 1990 you are financial until 31 December 1990 and we would appreciate you forwarding your 1991 subscription to the Treasurer without further delay.

It was with great regret that in June last year, 1990, we had to remove the names of 22 members from our address list because they had not paid their

1988 or 1989 subscriptions. Last September, we removed from the list a further 17 names of members who had not paid their 1990 subscription. At the time of writing there were still in excess of three hundred members who had not paid their 1991 subscriptions.

Because of the increasing costs of printing, postage etc., your Committee has decided that in future members who are unfinancial will have their names retained on the address list for Una Voce only until June each year. However, depending on the level of rising costs, we may have to decrease this period of grace even further in the future, so please pay your subscriptions when they are due.

#### ASSOCIATION CORRESPONDENCE

As from 1 January 1991 members were requested to forward all mail, including subscriptions, to our Roseville address and we would appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

#### NEW GUINEA VOLUNTEER RIFLES - ANGAU ASSOCIATION - ANZAC DAY MARCH

The above Association marches every Anzac Day in Sydney and after the March they have a reunion, Annual Meeting and Luncheon at the RSL War Memorial Club, Kensington, NSW. Some members cannot march so they join the marchers at Kensington. As members have heard the same old stories many times, for the last few years they have invited wives and other family members to join them at the luncheon and this enables wives to meet at least once each year.

There are many members of the above units living in Queensland, NSW and the other States, who have never made contact with the Association and they are invited to do so. There are no annual subscriptions, but they have to charge for the meal and drinks at the luncheon and this is kept to a bare minimum so that it just covers the cost.

Some members may wish to locate old mates and perhaps the Association has a record of them. They post out one circular each year, about the end of March, with details of the Anzac Day function. If you wish to be included in their mailing list, please write or phone:

Alan Moore, 3/7A Hamilton St., Carlton NSW 2218 Telephone (02)587.2982.

Adrian Leyden, 7 Belair Close, Hornsby NSW 2077 " (02)477.3795.

#### CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON.

Attendance at the Luncheon was a record with over 180 members and friends present. It was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. It was also very rewarding to your Committee to have a number of members phone or write expressing their appreciation.

#### SEATING AT LUNCHEONS

A great deal of time and effort goes into trying to ensure that anyone, who makes a request to be seated with certain people are able to do so. However, we are very often presented with the problem of anything up to 15 or more people wanting to be seated at the same table when we are restricted to a maximum of 10 per table.

In these situations we endeavour to seat the overflow at other tables with people with whom we feel they may be compatible. Occasionally we may make the wrong choice, so please forgive us if we do.

### VISIT TO CENTRAL COAST

The response was again most disappointing with only one member contacting me showing interest. I think we will forget about any further attempts to interest members in such a trip even though a number of members initially requested that we organise such an outing.

### VISIT TO BLUE MOUNTAINS

These have all been very well sponsored and enjoyed by all those who have attended, so we are planning another trip on Monday, 13 May 1991. For those who have senior citizens travel passes, the return fare by train still only costs \$2.00. Those persons interested in the proposed outing please contact Doug Parrish (02.416.8966) or Ken Gorringer (047.57.1488).

### MOUNT LAMINGTON ERUPTION

We wish to thank all those who responded to the article in the last edition of *Una Voce* about Mount Lamington and the eruption on 21 January 1951. The result of our research and your input will be published in a future issue. Special thanks are due to: Keith Tracy for a tape and a letter; to Bill Schleusener for a letter and photocopies of press and a Gold Coast Newsletter; to Ted Glover for a wealth of material, letters, press clippings, photographs, etc., which he provided; to George Allen for a very detailed letter; to Dave Marsh for a letter and valuable discussions; to Eileen Hanley who sent press clippings, an Anglican Mission Newsletter and photograph; to Marion Jensen, Del Normoyle and Chris Saunders for their letters; and to Len Bailey and Marie Perkins, who each made and sent photocopies of parts of the definitive article by the Volcanologist G.A.M. Taylor, from Bulletin No.38, Commonwealth Department of National Development, Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics - "The 1951 Eruption of Mount Lamington, Papua". Any further input would be very much appreciated.

### CONTRIBUTORS OF ARTICLES, STORIES ETC. FOR UNA VOCE

Many members have contributed stories, articles, reminiscences, etc. and I feel very badly that, due to the shortage of space, I have not been able to publish very many of them.

The June 1991 issue of *Una Voce* will be a special issue in which will be published as many of the stories etc. as possible of those we have so far received. If necessary, we will also make the September issue a special one, so please bear with us!

### MEMORY LANE

Marjorie Head from Gympie Qld. recently wrote as follows:

"I have been following some of the correspondence in your recent newsletters, especially those about people's memories and the importance of recording them. I heartily endorse these comments and would venture to take it a step further. Someone has already mentioned the contribution that European women made over the years and I feel that their contribution should be recorded. I am not sure that anything has been done in this area, or if anything is in the pipeline, but if not, I am prepared to set the ball rolling.

I would be prepared to compile/edit a collection of women's reminiscences and experiences of their time in Papua New Guinea. My own time there spanned 22 years, from 1954-76 and so much happened in that time. I went to Port Moresby direct from the UK to get married and left the year after independence. Like so many others I was privileged to be part of Papua New Guinea history, and

like to think I made some small contribution during that time. I am sure many other women feel likewise. I would be pleased to hear their views and am open to suggestions.

I think I know what I am letting myself in for as the last thing I did before we went overseas was to write the history of the Surface Hill Uniting Church in Gympie. Because this involved recording events and memories over the last one hundred years I have become aware of how easy it is to lose our history. European women made an unique contribution to Papua New Guinea and it would be a pity if it was lost."

(Marjorie, I refer you to Ron Galloway's article titled "Culture Contact - Culture Shock - Goilala" in the June 1990 issue of *Una Voce*. I suggest you two should communicate with each other. Ron's address is in the Membership List. The same applies to Penny Ingram, who apparently has similar aims, as evidenced by Isobel Pert's comments in her article titled "1990 Madang Reunion at Bribe Island" featured later in this issue. I think that you should also talk to Isobel. Ed.)

#### PACIFIC BOOK HOUSE

Bill McGrath, the proprietor, advises that his "*Pacific Region and New Guinea Catalogue No. 11 - 1990*" is available to members on request. His address is:

17 Park Avenue, Broadbeach Waters, GOLD COAST QLD 4218.

Telephone (075)39.0446 Fax (075)38.4114.

#### HELP WANTED

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the following please contact the Editor:

Mr. F. N. Harris previously of Jindalee Qld.

Ms. Elaine Evans, daughter of Capt. "Frog" Evans.

Also, has any member any knowledge of a Mr. P. Ryan or a Rev. K. R. Fitzgerald who were attached to RABAU POST OFFICE May 1937? If so, please contact Mr. N. L. Bowyer, P.O. Box 12, OWEN, S.A., 5460.

#### SUPERANNUATION

Some members may have seen an article in the SCOA (Superannuated Commonwealth Officers' Association) August 1990 Bulletin, announcing that "from 1 July 1990 superannuation payments to a surviving spouse will continue at the rate payable to the pensioner for a six full fortnights after the pensioner's death."

The legislation which brought this about, however, relates only to benefits paid under the *Commonwealth Superannuation Act 1976* and to the *Public Sector Superannuation Act 1990*.

Your Association would like our members to know that it is working to have this provision extended to cover a surviving spouse under our own superannuation scheme. We will keep you posted with respect to future developments.

#### FILM ON KIAPS BY FILM AUSTRALIA

Mark Worth is researching a film on the historical role of kiaps in PNG. Having recently checked Film Australia archives, he is currently looking for home movies shot by kiaps in 1930's, 40's, 50's and 60's. Patrol footage is preferable along with home movies of life in PNG with families etc. If interested in contributing, please send written description of material to Jane Benson, Film Australia, P.O. Box 46, LINDFIELD, NSW 2070.

### HAVE YOU HEARD???

Great to hear from Alex ZWECK, an ex-kiap with many years service in PNG, now at Henty, NSW. Quoting from Alex's letter "A suggestion re timing of AGM, if you held it during the Anzac Day week I think you may get a better attendance. I may go to Sydney for the Anzac Day march - my old mob the 2/2 MG's have a reunion on that date and if the AGM was about the same time would come along. ....Slowly adapting to life in a small country town, has lots of advantages, everyone knows everyone else if that is an advantage. Recently had a letter addressed "Henty", nothing else - no trouble, the postie knows everyone in town.

The local Lutheran Minister is a chap called Russell Weir - he spent a number of years in the Menyama area from about 1958 to, I think, around 75 and would probably be known to members who served in that area. Anyhow, I gave him the details of the stamp design competition as published in one of our newsletters. The result is shown in the attached cutting from the school news. Incidentally the school is "St. Paul's Lutheran School Henty".

The following is an extract from the school news: "In August Year 5-6 students tried an unusual art assignment: they were to design four postage stamps for Papua New Guinea based on the theme of transport. The project helped the students also in their social studies to gain a better appreciation of our neighbours. We are grateful to Pastor Weir for his information and interest. The project was a national competition, open to all Australian school children and organised by the Papua New Guinea Government. We are excited about the fact that two students are to be awarded prizes: Renee Stein (2nd) and Brent Piltz (3rd)." Alex, thanks for that and we will give serious consideration to your suggestion re AGM. Ed.

Barry JOHNSTON of Darwin NT dropped me a line and to quote from his letter: "I see a lot of Harry Coehn but Jim Toner infrequently. Jim seems to get his facts muddled when reporting about me. To set the record straight - I am an ex-Didiman, 1957-1979. Postings: Madang, Saidor, Rabaul (Taliligap), Popondetta and Konedobu (HQ). I am currently working in the Department of Lands & Housing in Darwin."

Thanks Barry for your info on Lamington and comments re 'lady boozers' which I do not think I should reproduce. It was great hearing from you and, even though there is a peculiar affinity amongst most people who served in PNG, I believe that there is even a greater one amongst people who spent any length of time in Madang. Candy and I were very fortunate to have spent some six years there. Your kind regards are reciprocated. Ed.

Ian McMAHON of Warwick Qld reported that he was leaving in January for a two year stint in Tonga as an Australian Volunteer Abroad and we wish him all the best in his new venture. Ian, you sure pick some great places to serve in! Ed.

Dorothy SEARLE of Southport Qld reported that a Memorial Service was held in the Chapel at their Villa La Salle Retirement Village on 21 January 91 for those who died in the Mt. Lamington disaster 40 years ago.

Brigadier P. R. DILLON, who is Principal Chaplain to the AMF, was installed as Archdeacon of the Anglican Church at a ceremony at Duntroon on 5 March. Peter and wife Elaine were with DASF in PNG at a number of postings including Manus and Popondetta.

Captain Todd VAIL is the new ADC to the Governor of New South Wales. He is the grandson of Ian MacLean, popular Dental Surgeon in Rabaul prewar, who was lost with his father on the Montevideo Maru.

Ron and Lillian PRIOR wrote an interesting letter to our Treasurer, Bill Johnston, commenting on the section 'In Defence of PNG' in our last issue. Many ex-PNG residents would know the Priors, particularly those who spent any time in or around Port Moresby or along the Papuan coast. They still live at Bootless Inlet and I like the following comment from their letter: "Personally, in my 73rd year, my thoughts are inclined towards the easier existence in Australia, except of course when it is observed that Hawke, Keating and associated clowns seem to be making a bigger mess of Australia than our locals are making of Papua New Guinea." Touche, Ron. Ed.

"Snowy" MIDDLETON of Nambour Qld reports that life is going along very nicely and he is managing to keep out of bother. Wally McPherson, whom he contacts frequently, has been having trouble with a knee replacement which has caused a lot of pain and inconvenience, but Norma, Wally's wife, is her usual bright self. (We do hope, Wally, that the knee has now come good and you are free of pain. Best wishes from your friends in Sydney for a speedy recovery. Ed.) Snowy says that he sees Jack and Phil Keenan at irregular intervals and they appear to be in 'good order', Billie Bourke, widow of Joe of Wau, he reports, is a real live wire and mixed up in all sorts of community efforts.

Mary BALDWIN of Caloundra Qld wrote me a letter and it was really great hearing from her. Mary is in her 89th year and wrote "Enjoy reading *Una Voce* and was interested to read about Phil and Nance Oakley. Phil was the pilot of the Grumman (A.P.C. Plane) in 1948 when I was a passenger together with another A.P.C. employee, who was being boarded out on medical grounds. Leaving Kariava on the Vailala River the plane had engine trouble and had to return to the River where we sat for three hours while repairs were effected. No worries really as we had an excellent pilot in Phil, only thought that crossed my mind was what would it be like "to smile at a crocodile", as the River is full of them." Best wishes, Mary, from all here at the Association. Ed.

Betty MacGOWAN from Darwin NT advised us that many ex-pupils of Port Moresby High School, mid to late 70's era, had a big reunion weekend at the Gold Coast, late November 1990. They had a great weekend and many friendships were renewed. Mr. Wells (Principal) and several teachers went along to check on past pupils, several having gone on to higher education and done very well for themselves.

Jim COX of Devonport Tasmania wrote "Your newsletter helps members to network, even in Tasmania. The December 90 issue alerted Dimmen and Pat de Graaff to my whereabouts in Tasmania and on a holiday to this holiday isle they called in and spent an enjoyable time with us. You might be interested to know there are parts of Tasmania which resemble parts of New Guinea. The island is very mountainous with over 60 peaks above 915m (3050 ft) and many mountain chains. In the southwest rainfall is around 1750mm (70 inches) where conditions of consistent humidity and freedom from fire support some magnificent rain forest. Trees such as myrtle, sassafras, leatherwood, King Billy pine, pencil pine, celery-top pine and of course the famous Huon? pine abound. Another area, Gunns Plains, is reminiscent of the highland valleys of N.G. with the low hanging cloud often present and enveloping the mountain tops either side of the valley. Also Port Davey and Bathurst Harbours have mountain sides rising straight from the waters edge resembling the D'Entrecasteaux Islands. ....My PNG days are well in the past, 1957-66, but not forgotten. I work with the DPI as a didiman and run a strawberry nursery as a sideline, selling plants all over Australia, well almost, with customers in WA, SA, Vic & Qld.



Marjorie HEAD of Gympie Qld, after they returned from their overseas trip wrote us a very interesting letter, part of which is included on page 3 under the heading 'MEMORY LANE'. The following is another part of the letter "Thank you for publishing the letter from our son Christopher, sometime last year. We had a fabulous five months overseas. We started in Vancouver, went across Canada, made a brief sortie into America, then to England, Ireland, Scotland and various places in Europe, including the Passion Play in Oberammergau, and returned via Malaysia.

In Canada we caught up with Dot Smythe, who was Guide Trainer in Moresby in the late fifties. Dot now lives in Calgary and recently received an award for 40 years of Guiding. In England we visited Ken and Diana Nizette, ex Lae, who were on the point of leaving their lovely Somerset village and moving into a retirement complex in London. We also saw Tim Scott, ex-PWD Moresby. Tim also lives in Somerset and was looking very well.

We did most of our travelling by public transport, including using a Euro-rail pass to see Scandinavia, and found it great. One day whilst waiting outside Woking station, a small town in Surrey, for a cousin of mine to pick us up, Neil Nicklason (ex Steamies slipway, Moresby) walked out of the phone box behind us! Neil just happened to have stopped to use that particular phone box whilst driving through. Its a small world.

We finished our holiday in Malaysia, which included three days in Kota Bharu, which we loved similar to Moresby, same climate, same vegetation, not too many tourists".

Terry TURNER of Minyama Waters Qld, another old Madangite, wrote "Jenny and I were lucky to spend this Christmas with our daughter Kate, who has returned to the fold after 5 years away - 2 1/2 in Perth and the last 2 1/2 years overseas. Kate, who was born in Madang in 1961, followed in her mother's footsteps and became a nursing sister. She was able to put this to great advantage during her overseas sojourn working at various nursing and social welfare positions in UK to finance travel throughout Europe, Asia, Middle East and Africa - all by backpack. Her adventures included a near ambush of the vehicle she was travelling in by bandits in Uganda which resulted in a military escort back to Entebbe. PNG born children do seem to have that extra adventurous streak". Candy and I reciprocate your kind regards. Ed.

Lady Yvonne MANN of Mt. Eliza Vic. wrote late last year saying that she was sorry she did not get to Sydney during 90 because she stayed in Queensland longer than expected but sent her regards to all her friends here. She reported, however, that "I got back in time to go to a BBQ of PNG bods at Parliament House, Melbourne, arranged by Harley Dickinson, recently. I had no idea that there were so many 'exes' in and around Melbourne. It was enormous fun - I've got pages full of names and addresses and am hopeful that many of them will carry out their "threats/promises" and descend upon me at Mount Eliza - of course that hope applies equally to any of you Sydneyites who might care to do likewise. (Yvonne, Candy and I return your good wishes and I will drop you a line after this issue goes to press. Ed.)

Martin and Joy MUNRO of Launching Place Vic. also advised they "attended a BBQ on a very cold and wet day arranged by Harley Dickinson, ex Kiap from the Sepik. We were forced to leave before it was over but I believe the plan was to form a Victorian Branch of the PNG Association. Met lots of old friends including Mrs. Jessie McGregor Dowsitt who is still as sharp as a tack".

Bette McLAUGHLIN of Camberwell Vic. was another member who attended the Parliament House BBQ and reported "I attended the Victorian PNG Reunion BBQ in Parliament House grounds late last year - unfortunately it was a very cool, very wet day (most unusual for Melbourne!), so the small marquee was very crowded. I did manage to talk to Marion and Don Groves, Ron Carne and the Champness's amongst others. To save the day we were taken on a tour of Parliament House, which was very interesting - but I guess you have heard this from the two MP's who organised the gathering - or other correspondents". No, Bette, the only information we have received is what is recorded here. Regards, Ed.

Lillian WHITCHURCH of Launceston Tas. wrote expressing her sorrow at the passing of Miss. Barbara McLaughlin reported in the Vale section of the last issue of *Una Voce*. She wrote "She was a person of integrity and understanding. I met her shortly after I arrived in PNG and was in contact with her over the next fifteen years, as she was in charge of Girl's education as well as other positions. She had a flair for putting people into their right settings and was very dedicated in her work. When the history of PNG is told, I think she should number with the greats of the post war pioneering period.

I enjoy getting the newsletter as I often find mention of people I have known. Mr. Robert Cole is often mentioned and I have great memories of the Coles' interest in the Brandi Girls' School. Another name mentioned was Denehy and I think Max Denehy was ADO at Kerema when I was there 1953-56".

Jim HUXLEY of Maroubra NSW, after an extended trip overseas, provided a most interesting resume as follows: "After visiting Alaska for ten days (a place I always wanted to visit and I wasn't disappointed), England for a month (from where I took in flying visits to Belgium and Ireland as well as Rugby League games, including the 1st and 2nd Tests at Wembley and Old Trafford). I spent four days in Egypt on my way home in late November and my main reason to visit Egypt was to pay respects to my brother Tom, who is buried in El Alamein War Cemetery. With guide and driver I went to Alexandria (250km from Cairo) and overnighted there before going on to Alamein (120km from Alexandria) the next morning. There I visited the cemetery which is well cared for by eight Egyptians and paid respects to Tom, who worked in Bulolo (1937-40). The town's main road is Huxley Street, named in Tom's honour. I was the first of my family to pay homage and did so after deciding some years ago I would, one day, make this pilgrimage. Tom died on November 7, 1942, from wounds received in the El Alamein battle. He is one of about 8,000 Allied Servicemen buried there. Across the road from the Cemetery is the El Alamein War Museum, which houses a great variety of guns, other arms, equipment, uniforms, maps, photographs and so on associated with the great desert battle.

Within 20 hours of returning home, I was in Prince Henry Hospital, suffering from pulmonary oedema and heart stress, but after a week I was given a clean bill of health and now feel 100%.

People are under the impression I am writing the history of the NGVR. This is not so. The book covers my 25 years in New Guinea (1940-65), including my experiences in the NGVR - not the whole doings of the unit". (Jim, we look forward to seeing you on Anzac Day if not before. Ed.)

Hildegard and Michael JACKUS of Narrabeen NSW advised that they were off to China again (their 4th visit) in December to last for six weeks. They were going to have Christmas in Shanghai and New Year in Nanking and they reckoned that the turkey would be replaced by Peking Duck. (Hildegard or Michael, what about a brief resume of your trip, I am sure members would be interested. Ed.)



Roma BATES of Dulwich Hill NSW recently had a lens implant which she advises me was most successful and in the not too distant future is off to Russia travelling the whole country from East to West, part of the way on the Trans Siberian Railway. For a person in her eighties, Roma is a truly remarkable woman. Two years ago she visited Europe and also went on Safari in Africa. Last year she extensively explored Alaska and provided me with one of the most fascinating stories about the country I have ever read. The place has always fascinated me and I enjoyed Roma's account of her visit as she has a real flare as a story teller. I hope in the next issue to share with you some of her story about the Alaskan visit. I would like to reproduce the whole lot but do not think that space would permit.

Roma also advises that Mary Symes (Melbourne), daughter of Dr. H. Champion Hosking of pre-war Rabaul, reports that her mother, Lorna, is a little better (has been in a nursing home for 2 years) and likes receiving letters but is unable to answer them. Ina Meares (widow of Clive Mears) is also in a nursing home and is not expected to return again to her home. Lorna Hosking, Ina Meares, Gladys Forsyth (Brisbane), who is now rising 94, and Roma were a very friendly quartet. Roma writes "we all had babies, rather a rare phenomenon in the 30's. I stayed with Gladys in November and although not quite as spry as my last visit, she still beat me walking up those hills in Taringa that grow steeper every year". In addition, Roma reported that Olga Bliss had advised her that the NG Women's Association in Melbourne has made a substantial donation to the War Veterans Homes in Frankston and is hoping that Olga Bliss will provide me with full details for the next issue. Olga, what about it? Ed.

QUEENSLAND PNG LADIES GROUP held a luncheon at David Jones in Brisbane last November, which was attended by Thelma Price, Gwen O'Brien, Eileen Cullen, R. Brown, Wendy O'Brien, Pat de Graaff, Shirley Wild, Anne Birman, Vera McKee, Dixie Bloink, Dot Louttit, Doreen Clout, Kath Crawley, Aileen Brazier, May Roscoe, Elizabeth Ross (nee Roscoe), Margaret Brazier, Eileen Clarke, Mary Baldwin, Robin Doolan, Kath Cottrell-Dormer, Kay Timperley and Sue Keap. A Christmas card signed by all these ladies was handed to me, as President, at our Christmas Luncheon. A gesture which was very much appreciated by the Committee, who reciprocate your Greetings and Good Wishes. I understand the Group will be holding another Luncheon in May and those interested should contact Mrs. Gwen O'Brien Tel. 07.266.8724.

Isobel PERT of Noosa Heads Qld advises that she is now an 'Honorary Ranger' and enjoys it even to picking up rubbish after tourists. She recently enjoyed nine days camped in the the NSW Warrumbungles with all the country very green at the time. Daughter Julie is home after 19 months overseas and she brought home a selection of French perfumes which Isobel is very pleased to have access to. Julie experiencing great difficulty in getting into an Australian University to do her Honours degree, but I am sure that she will eventually succeed in gaining entry into one of them. Son Allan left Selwyn Mine and went to the Woodcutters Mine, 80kms south of Darwin. After only two weeks there a rock fall occurred and the rod Allan was using jumped and tore into his upper right arm muscle. Doctors in Darwin used micro surgery to repair the damage, but it appears that the nerves have been affected because he has no feeling in the arm. It is healing well, however, so they are hoping that it will come good as he loves the mining work. Isobel was delighted to have both her children home for Christmas.

Des LARGE of Caloundra Qld wrote to our Secretary late last year advising that he and his wife were off to spend Christmas in Suva with their elder daughter, Valerie, whose her husband is First Secretary at the Australian Embassy there. (Des, looking forward to news of the Sunshine Coast. Ed.)

## A QUIET SUMMER DRIVE

by Frank Smith

Logically, one would not think of visiting Cairns in January, but an invitation from Betty and John Foulger (Mobil, Madang, Kavieng, Wewak) for us to attend the wedding of eldest daughter Helen on the 26th January tempted us and the fact that our son Michael lives in Cairns convinced us that we should head for North Queensland. We paid our bills, organised a house minder and departed at 6.20 am on Thursday Jan 17th, campervan well loaded with fuel, food and a lot of clothes we'd never use. Lunch at Tamworth with Noela and Arthur Mullan (ex A/MAL), thence via Tenterfield to Eidsvold on the Friday night then Proserpine for the third night. The roads around Rockhampton opened on Friday January 18 - roads very good considering the amount of rain and flooding. Arrived at Cairns at 4 pm on Sunday 20th - a good run all the way.

Stayed with Michael eight days, nice unit at Yorky's Knob, swimming pool which we used every day. Very hot and extremely humid, even the locals complained. Went sightseeing around Cairns, Port Douglas, Kuranda and Mareeba, country very lush and green. The Foulger wedding went off very well, the rain stayed away until all were in the Ramada Reef Resort for the reception.

Visited Chillago Monday 28th, bitumen road OK but the gravel stretches were badly affected by water. Only one cave open, they'd had 32 inches of rain for the 28 day period and two of the caves had 8 to 12 feet of water in them.

Departed Cairns on the 29th for Tolga on the Tablelands, had lunch with Pat and Ken Cahill (Meiro Plantation, Madang). Ken and son Clem have a plant nursery there. Through Atherton, Malanda and Millaa Millaa (had 8 months there in 1943) to Etty Bay for the night, nice caravan park on the beach. Next morning to Mourilyan Harbour to Ayr where we spent a very enjoyable night with "Donney" (E.M. Donnelly, Madang, Wewak & Moresby Hospitals), hospitality plus.

Thursday 31st to Rockhampton and Yepoon, deviating to Airlie Beach and Shute Harbour en route. Overnight in caravan park at Yepoon, where the rain thundered down all night, fine in the morning and we headed off to Bundaberg where we spent 3 restful nights with the Foulgers, visited Robyn Rutherford (ex A/MAL air hostess).

Monday 4th Feb. to Scarness, Hervey Bay, dropping in on Ruth and Frank Hoeter (PNG Police), then to Noosa for the night. Tuesday morning visited Moyna and Alan Camack (Dylup Plantation) for an hour or so then to Maroochydore to see Pat and Howard Andrews (Special Branch), then back to Coolool for the night. Surfing late in the afternoon was great!

Late start Wednesday 6th, short haul to Caloundra to spend the night with "Doc" Flynn (Admin. works, DCA Lae, Madang, Moresby), unfortunately wife Kathleen was away in Brisbane, great house on a canal. Thursday to the Etamooagah Pub, Glasshouse Mountains, Caboolture historical village, Bribie Island and a night at Ningai with Mavis, Debbie and Bill Ticehurst (Gibbes, A/MAL). Friday 8th to Brisbane to stay with Betty's sister at Thornside. Had dinner with Betty and Dick Glassey, saw Helen and Neale Keag, Audrey and Bruce Brearley and sons Robin and Andrew, spoke with Arch Murdoch and Bob Blakeley (all ex A/MAL). Visited Pat Cahill's mother Bridie Taylor, still going very well, and Judy and Ted Greer (ex ATC Wewak).

Departed Brisbane Friday 15th (fuel at 59.5c), lunched with John and Hilda Watson (Ferguson, Madang) at Runaway Bay - beautiful home - and overnights at Mermaid Beach, a 3km walk to the pub. Next morning visited Shirley O'Brien (Murrumbidgee Pltn. Madang) at Robina, John Downie (A/MAL) at Currumbin Waters - Chris away in Newcastle - and Rae & Jack Worcester (ex kiap) at South Tweed, then on to Yamba and NSW fuel prices. Three days at Yamba in a great caravan park, chasing the fish - caught a lot of small fry but only enough legal sized ones for one meal - great fun and very relaxing. Departed Yamba reluctantly on Wednesday 20th, a night at Smith's Lake and home on Thursday 21st - a great trip with no hassles!

## NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

### Northern Territory. (Jim Toner)

I have remarked on the heavy migration of former PNG personnel to the NT so it is unsurprising that two of the seven candidates in Darwin's recent Lord Mayoral election had Island experience. Ian MENZIES retired from the Army as major in 1972 and subsequently worked for the 3M company in Port Moresby until moving to Darwin in 1983. John ANTELLA was a land development officer in PNG before coming to Darwin in 1969 as Parks Superintendent for the NT Administration. He has been an Alderman since 1978 and is now Deputy Lord Mayor.

Another Alderman on the Council at Palmerston (Darwin's satellite town) is Bob ROBERTS. He may be recalled as a lively ABC announcer from Rabaul and Moresby in the Sixties. He is president of the Vietnam Veterans Association and is on air with the commercial radio station.

At a higher tier of government, Brian EDE has just become Leader of the Opposition in the NT Legislative Assembly. He went to PNG as a Patrol Officer in 1966 under the 6-year contract scheme and served in Central, Morobe and Southern Highlands districts before becoming an Assistant Commissioner in the Office of Local Government in Moresby. In 1978 Mr EDE came south and was appointed Director of the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress in Alice Springs. Still only 44, he has held a seat in the Assembly for the ALP since 1983. That relatively youthful vigour might win him government from a Country Liberal coalition which by the time of the next election will have been in power in the NT for twenty years. However, Mr EDE once wrote to a Minister about cattle which were supposedly turning blue as a result of high salinity levels in water they were drinking. Naturally, honourable members on the opposite benches will never let him forget his "blue cows".

### 1990 MADANG REUNION AT BRIBIE ISLAND (Isobel Pert)

The 1990 Madang Reunion was held on Armistice Day at Brennan Park on Bribie Island. Perfect weather, a gentle breeze blowing from Pumicestone Passage, a bit different from last year in June when we all just about froze. Brian COSTELLO welcomed all the visitors who numbered about 150, can't say for sure as a lot did not sign the book. Please make sure you do next year as it helps make contact. A very happy day. Great to see a lot of "new" folk who had never previously attended.

Graham LIGHTFOOT from Ipswich, Stan TYLER from Lennox Heads, Barbara STORM from Chapel Hill, Arthur and Ronnie SHAPER (ex Madang Workshops 55-60). Pat MCKENZIE from Bundaberg, staying with BRODIES as were Nancy and Bob McDADE. John LICCIARDO and Jessie HOLLIS combined their Bribie Holiday with the reunion. Ron & Dawn ALBERT (Dawn just returned from the British Isles), Ron from Cairns where he is building a house for son Greg now married with two small daughters. Dawn spoke of daughter Vicki, married to Brett MIDDLETON, and their 14mth. old son, who live at Dylup Pltn. Jack GORDON (ex Copra Marketing) attended and daughter June also. Val DOOLEY of Madang Hotel - remember Val, she was forever taking photos of folk - must have hundreds, now living in Redcliffe. Other first timers, Ron & Jan RUSCHEN (golfers 63-67) - three children: 22, 21 & 19, now at Whiteside. Ron CHRISTIANSEN (Harbours) from Sandgate. Audrey & Graham KRUGER with news of son Geoff Woodland touring the golf circuit.

Great to see Lee & Joe BERGER finished with Samoa and now at Elanora, Gold Coast. They haven't changed a bit. Henry & Helena MAH and Roger & Diane CHAN and families from Rochedale. Colleen (nursing sister Madang Hosp) & Robbie ROBINSON (Gov Stores 69-74) with photos of 3 children, son in Army at Wagga. Brian, Mary and daughter Joanne MENNIS with son John and new wife.

Congratulations John, and nice to see some of the younger members, which included Peter and Julie HEWITT, Julie PERT, Claudia BUTHMAN accompanied by parents Henry & Margaret from the Tweed.

Notice first timers Chris & John DOWNIE, retired at Currumbin, talking to Kay & Hans BEIER who along with John TULLOCH drove from Byron Bay. Chris and Kay were able to catch up on news as Kay was one of the first of three Grade 4 Bogia girls who entered Madang Girls School in 1959 with Grace Moore as teacher. Chris and Pat REARDON were later teachers there. Kay later married Hans BEIER who was at Asuramba Plntn. Their only daughter Kerry is doing 1st year Pharmacy at Uni. of Qld. Jimmy ARMSTRONG (ex Beeps) was present. Jan and John MAXIMAS with small grand-daughter along. And from the Land of the Long White Cloud, but now permanently residing at Warana, came none other than George & Doreen FARROW. George full of cheek & fun and Doreen bearing up very well. About four people (including Bob McDade, Ron Albert & Brian Costello) remarked they hardly recognised George as he actually had clothes on! Remember how he used to be always stripped to the waist in that boat of his up to Hec's island - enough said.

Darcy WILLIAMS being his usual effervescent self, PNG 58-77 not a real Madangite, but we let him in. Val CONDON (Hewitt), LEES, TICKNERS, EDWARDS, CRESES, AUSTINS, Gary & Lyn SCOTT, Gloria & Noel DONALD, Gwen & Ray FOSTER, Betty & John FOULGER (Shell or Vacuum?) - Betty was a sister at the Hospital. Penny INGRAM would like it known that she is anxious to receive any contributions from ex PNG women who would like to relate their personal thoughts or experiences. Phone 074 452195 after 4 pm. I am all for this - many excellent PNG books written from men's angles - few articles from women.

One real bifor, Owen BARRY, who in 53-58 was one of those "Comm Bank boys" from Angau Marine Hill, now at Development Bank Head Office Brisbane. He had rung me the previous day and was concerned he would not know anyone - not so. It did not take him long to renew acquaintance with yours truly, Hilda WATSON (Ferguson) & later with Hec LONGMORE discussing the long gone gambling nights held at the Banks messing quarters. I fully expected to see the pennies tossed any minute, and LAST BUT NOT LEAST, we were all thrilled to have Neil and Ellie GRIEVES along. Neil from Madang Slipways is in his 86th year and both he and Ellie in good health. Neil was his wonderful effervescent self and didn't stop smiling all day. A lot of memories these dear folk would have - can't someone get their stories down on paper or even taped? Please note this reunion is to be held annually at Bribie on 2nd Sunday of November every year, what about everyone bringing just one page along, preferably typed or neatly written and signed, of their memories of PNG, whether happy, sad, nostalgic, first impressions, living conditions or whatever. We could start a scrap book. It doesn't matter if it is only five lines. As PNG fades into the distance I realise more and more how different our thoughts and interpretations of the country are from individual to individual.

#### Western Australia (Margaret Clancy)

A note to apologise for no WA news for the next issue of Una Voce except that Des and I are leaving on Feb. 5th for two months overseas. We will spend two weeks in Greece where I have relatives, and Egypt where our son Stephen is working. Stephen is about to go to Uruguay, Peru and Chile for some time so Egypt is probably easier to visit at this stage. From the Mediterranean we will spend some time in Holland and Germany, two weeks with friends in France and three weeks in the UK before returning via Singapore where we'll spend a few days. Des retires this week from his job as Pastoral Director of the WA Pastoralists and Graziers Association but when we return he'll do some work for them as consultant.

Only one other thing, in the last letter I wrote I put Brian Heagney and Theo Bredmeyer as cousins. Brian assures me they are not! Humblest apologies!

Brisbane (Doug Franklin. TEL 07 289 4496)

Fred and Lettie Haynes and children Rebecca and Marcus enjoyed a well earned break at Burleigh Heads on the Gold Coast in January. Fred, former klap and Secretary for Dept. of Provincial Affairs, has been Manager Corporate Affairs for B.P. (PNG) Ltd. since 1987. Recently he was appointed a Director of the Company. Currently, Fred is responsible for the Hides Gas Field, named after Jack Hides, and the Kutubu Oil Project. Also for B.P. general exploration and drilling operations in PNG. He added that the main focus of exploration and drilling discovery activity is in the Southern Highlands, Gulf and Western Provinces. The Hides Gas Project, which is near Komo, is supplying all the energy requirement for the Porgera and Kutubu projects. Lettie is still PNG Manager for Cathay Pacific Airways. CPA have again discontinued their Port Moresby Service pro tem but will maintain their PNG office until the service is recommenced.

Doug asked Fred if Chris Warrilow is still in PNG. Very much so Fred said. He is the Petroleum Registrar in the Dept. of Minerals and Energy and still lives in the house above Ela Beach.

Jeanette Leahy, now in her seventies, is well and keeps busy at Zenag for much of the year. The poultry processing factory there now handles 1,700 birds an hour and the hatchery is being upgraded to produce 80,000 day-old chickens a week. Under Dr Phil Leahy's management, Zenag has grown to become one of PNG's top poultry farms and is making a considerable contribution to food production.

Ron Ford and Peter West-Newman (ex-DASF) were both at Prince Charles Chest Hospital Outpatients, Brisbane, for check-ups in November. Ron, of Coolangatta, had had a heart bypass operation last year. Peter, of Palmwoods, near Nambour, told me he had had rheumatic fever when he was a child and was just in for a routine check-up. He was in good form and it was great to see him again - the same old smiling Peter but with a big bushy beard.

The 40th anniversary of the Mt Lamington eruption was remembered at a ceremony held at Villa la Salle Retirement Village, Southport at 10am on 21/1/91, the exact time of the disaster. Among those present were Emilie Champion, Kev Sheeky and Bill and Madeleine Schleusener, who live at Runaway Bay. Bill recalled to Doug the terrible devastation caused by the eruption.

Keith Tracy, ex Dept. of Forests Konedobu 1950-60, is an active member of the RAN Corvettes Association, Queensland Branch. Thirty of the Queensland members meet each month at The Ship Inn, on the Expo site. Doug was talking to Keith over a beer with no previous knowledge that Keith had been in PNG. Surprise, surprise when he mentioned Jim Macadam, Bill Suttie, Don McIntosh, Kevin White and many other Foresters. Keith lives at Balmoral, Brisbane.

Heather and Syd Saville at Burpengary, Qld. have been a home away from home for Andre Millar, who has been a regular visitor from Thirlmere. In twelve months the Savilles have established a veritable botanical garden on their acreage block. When Andre is there, as you can imagine, there is no such thing as a siesta.

Other visitors to the Savilles and Andre included Jack and Betty Pini from Nambour (ex Com Works Rabaul 1950-59), Jack said he can still hear Bill Wilding bringing the "Bulolo" into Rabaul. He recalled his nickname Papa bilong sport following his long association with South Pacific and Commonwealth Games etc. Pam Brooks (previously Barry) and John. Pam was teaching at the Public Service Institute in the late 50s, which became ADCOL. She recalled Michael Somare and others at that time. She and John live at Mudgeeraba above the Gold Coast. Dorothy Shaw (ex DASF) was there and Doug had organised two coffee trees for a tree planting ceremony at Savilles but kept the identity of the trees a secret until the last minute, handing one to Dorothy and one to Andre to plant in the ready prepared holes. In a few

seconds Dorothy not only recognised the coffee but named it as Arabica Bourbon! Russ and Merile Stephenson *ex UPNG* were there. Russ is now OIC the DPI Nambour Horticulture Research Station. John Wicks (*ex ADCOL*) now runs his own Management Training Consultancy business based in Brisbane, and Ivan and Marie Barton *ex Keravat Senior High* and Vudal. Ivan is teaching in Brisbane while Marie is an Educator at Royal Womens' Hospital in Brisbane. Paul Blaney (*ex CPL Rabaul* and Shin Asa Higaw, Bialla, 1970-75) is the Post Master at Samford Qld, very ably assisted by his wife Robin. It is good to have a wantok looking after your mail.

Virginia and Alex Preo have a huge Christmas party to about 90 friends at their Thornlands (Brisbane) acreage home. Many former PNG residents were there including Val and Neville Thulborn, Bill and Geraldene Heath, Frank and Annabel Sabben, Barry and Bev Beil, Syd and Heather Saville, Peter and Coral Thompson, Tony and Gwen Hunt, Ted and Awa Koy and many others. A traditional mumu and spit roast was enjoyed by all.

#### BRIBIE ISLAND (Geoff Masters)

Late last year, a visitor from PNG was Father Jim Moore M.S.C., who was Parish Priest at Alotau in the 60s/70s and now runs the mission station at Budoya. Geoff writes: "I arranged for him to say Mass at the local church where he talked of his work at the station and it was well received.

...Turnbull's crashed P40 should now be in the Memorial Park and I am having a plaque made to go with it. ....Recently had a visit from Joe Shaw, who was Public Curator in PNG for many years and Rob Hoad from Port Moresby advises he has been given another two year contract."

### **LAW AND ORDER IN PNG**

The following is an article from the "Australian" newspaper, 12 February 1991:

#### "NAMALIU LIKENS CRIME TO CANCER

Escalating crime was like a cancer eating away at Papua New Guinea's political and economic stability, the Prime Minister, Mr Namaliu, said yesterday, and the breakdown in law and order, from the rascal gangs in the cities to tribal fighting in the highlands, was the greatest threat facing PNG.

'(Crime) has the potential to do more lasting and more severe damage to our country and our future than the Bougainville (secessionist uprising) crisis and the downturn in the commodity prices put together,' he said.

'Crime is like a cancer eating away at the very lifeblood of our society. Like a cancer, it can only be cured by the most effective surgery, and by the will of the patient to beat it. It may well be that the surgery needs to be radical, because sickness which is crime has spread to every corner of our country and every section of our community.'

However, Mr Namaliu ruled out imposing another state of emergency despite acknowledging the success of the 1985 state of emergency when crime was reduced by 75 per cent. He was opening a week-long national crime summit in Port Moresby. He said the country's leaders could not just demand and expect respect.

The Ombudsman Commission, PNG's political watchdog, said recently it was investigating 90 of the 109 members of the Parliament for alleged misdemeanours and misappropriation of funds.

'Our collective failure to efficiently deliver the benefits of development to the community is a real tragedy and a real cause of a lack of community confidence in authority and leadership today,' Mr Namaliu said.

'Our failure to set the right example and to exercise discipline has led to a break-down in police efficiency and performance and has created a widening and alarming division between the police and the law-abiding majority.'"



## SIR JOHN GUISE

On 1st March at Sydney's St. Andrew's Cathedral there was a Memorial Service to the late Sir John Guise, a former Governor-general of Papua New Guinea. At the service Canon Ian Stuart, long time rector of the Port Moresby Anglican Church, preached the sermon and Sir William Prentice, a former Chief Justice of PNG, delivered the Eulogy. In attendance were members of the PNG Consulate, and friends of John, both PNG nationals and Australians, among whom was Mr. Gough Whitlam. The material in this article is a summary of the Eulogy.

Sir John was born in 1914 near Dogura of mixed race parents. His grandfather had come to British New Guinea in the 1880's. His father was associated with the Anglican school till 1953, he himself entered school at the age of 8 or 9 and stayed till fourth grade when he got a job on the waterfront at Samarai and rose by 1942 to be one of BP's leading men. He resented racial discrimination, but was proud that at cricket he could knock Australian cricketers about on the playing field.

In 1942 he joined the Signals Section of ANGAU and felt encouraged by the more accepting attitudes of soldiers. He rose to Sergeant. At the war's end he joined the Royal PNG Constabulary as Sergeant and later he went to London as a member of the police contingent to Queen Elizabeth's Coronation. With Sergeant-Major's rank he retired from the force in 1957 and joined the Department of Native Affairs.

Through his mother and aunt he had associations with Wedau, and through his father, with Hula. He had two marriages, by the first were two children and with his second wife, Anuba, a Marshall Lagoon woman, he had seven. He honed his leadership qualities in the Kila Kila Cooperative Society and the Central District Advisory Council and later was President of the Port Moresby Mixed Race Society where he took the stand that members were Papuans and not Australians.

In 1961 he was elected a member of the Legislative Council where he was outspoken in favour of the formation of a University and for more Local Government Councils, he also advocated that all steps be taken to end racial discrimination. In addition, he called for a PNG flag and for increased opportunities for nationals to advance economically. In Council he mastered the procedures of debate enough to challenge European dominance there. In 1962 he was a representative at the South Pacific Conference at Pago Pago and an adviser to the Australian delegates to the United Nations Trusteeship Council.

In 1964 he was elected to the House of Assembly as the Member for Milne Bay and his career there was outstanding both in the House and the Pangu Party. In 1968 he was appointed Speaker, and in 1970 was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws by the UPNG. In 1975 he was knighted and elected Governor-General by the Parliament. With his soldierly bearing his was a dignified, commanding presence at the Independence ceremonies, and at the official lowering of the Australian ensign thereat those of us who had fought under it in three years of campaigning for the freedom of PNG and Australia from foreign domination were heart-warmed by his remark "*we are lowering it - not tearing it down....*"

In 1977 he resigned as Governor-General and re-entered politics. He wrote for the Times of PNG and from 1982 to his death on 7 February 1991 was chairman of the Copra Marketing Board.

"Sir John, Knight Grand Commander of St. Michael and St. George, Knight of the British Empire, Knight of St. John of Jerusalem, Doctor of Laws: we salute you as a great national leader and thinker."

## "ADVERSITY WAS A PART OF A LONG LIFE"

The following article appeared in the Tweed Heads "Daily News" on 29 October, 1990, under the above heading:

'Last week saw the passing of the last survivor of the second generation of one of the Tweed's earliest pioneering families when Elizabeth Catherine Fletcher died at Tweed District Hospital.

Mrs Fletcher was born the eldest daughter of Robert and Mary Quirk at Cudgen Scrubs. She grew up at Stotts Creek, attending the Cudgen School where she was taught by Mr & Mrs Rosenthal, the parents of that illustrious soldier Brigadier General Sir Charles Rosenthal. She later attended St. Hilda's, Southport, and was one of their first students. In her final year, in 1910, she won both the English and maths prizes.

In 1920 she married Harry (Dick) Fletcher, whose father had been police magistrate at Murwillumbah during World War I, and who at that time was growing cane on a soldier settlement block at Terranora.

Soon afterwards, she and Harry moved on to Al Arish in North Queensland to try cane growing there. In 1922 they moved to New Guinea, when Harry was invited to join the then New Guinea Military Administration as a Police Officer on the staff of Brigadier General Wisdom.

New Guinea in those early days presented an enormous challenge, not only to the officers of the administration, but also to their wives and children. They lived under extremes of remoteness, health services were largely non-existent, European foodstuffs were rare commodities and most of the country was described as "uncontrolled territory" where Europeans had not set foot before. Elizabeth met the challenge of living under such conditions; even to the extent of moving with Harry on patrols.

A notable example of her courage and fortitude is that, together with her baby son, Robert Edward, she accompanied her husband in performing the rather remarkable feat of walking from the upper Sepik river south down along the fringes of the Western Highlands into and up the Ramu valley, along the Finisterre Range, and back up the Maclay (Rai) coast to Madang - a good plod of some 900 kilometres, all through mainly uncontrolled and unexplored territory.

Later on, mainly with the funds raised from the sale of the El Arish property, they managed to acquire leases of the off-shore Bag-Bag, Piggig, Ellis and Long islands for coconut production, and later, in about 1928, they acquired Salami Plantation an ex-German coconut estate on Los Negros, Manus Island. Between managing the plantations Harry mined gold at Aitape. Through all these exploits Elizabeth contributed greatly in helping to manage the plantations and bring up their young family amid the hardships that beset planters in the 1920s and 30s in these lonely outposts.

Then there was the upheaval of the war, when Elizabeth and her young family were evacuated to Australia while Harry joined the New Guinea volunteers. Then again, she was later left to face the challenge of supporting and bringing up all her young family. She struggled and won in keeping the family intact.

The contributor, who provided the detail for this article, says she was well known as a kind, gentle and gracious person, public spirited and eager to assist others in need.

Tragedy and suffering were not new to her; she bore the sadness that came with outliving all her brothers: Robert, Richard and John Quirk and her sister Christian Mann. Then there was the more acute sadness of losing both her sons, who died at relatively early ages. Her elder son, Robert Edward Fletcher died at Tweed Heads in February 1981 aged 59 years and her second son, Alan Barrington (Barry) Fletcher died at Bowen in 1988, aged 62. Her only daughter is Kathrynann Dixon of Banora Point.' (Barry Fletcher worked for many years post-war in the PNG Dept. of Labour. Ed.)

## VALE

Mrs. Patricia Hazel **BRAMELL** (10 February 91, aged 70 years)

Pat was the wife of Jack ex Land Titles Commissioner in PNG. Theirs was the first civilian marriage in Port Moresby after W.W.II in early 1946, presided over by the Rev. Ure. Pat was a very friendly person and was popular in all the Districts to which they were posted. Prior to retirement from PNG Pat served as Secretary to the Chief Collector of Customs. She is survived by husband, Jack, and daughters, Shane, Reioni and Tina.

Mr. William John Graham **LAMBDEN** (24 December 90 aged 58 years)

Graham was born in Port Moresby and educated at Camberwell Grammar in Victoria. On leaving school he applied to become a Patrol Officer and "follow in the footsteps" of his late father, Bill Lambden, who had been, at the time of his death in 1947, District Officer, Eastern Division.

After completion of the course at ASOPA, Graham served in the Western, Gulf and Central Districts and then the Eastern Highlands. Prior to Independence, Graham was DDC of the Milne Bay District before leaving Papua New Guinea to live with his family in Southport, Queensland.

In 1955 Graham married Colleen Cowderoy, sister and sister-in-law of Marj and Royce Webb. Graham and Colleen have two sons, Bill and Ian.

After leaving PNG, Graham completed a Diploma Course of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators - he not only passed his exams with distinction, he topped students Australia wide for three consecutive years.

Graham was a quiet achiever and, as proved by his three year battle with cancer, a very brave man!

Mr. Stanley Guise **MIDDLETON** (19 February 91, aged 88 years)

Stan was born in Maryland, near Tenterfield in NSW and was educated at the Texas State School and Brisbane Technical College. He was employed in various jobs in Queensland before going to PNG in 1928 as Bookkeeper at Tahira Copper Mines. He joined the Papuan Administration in 1930 as a Patrol Officer and later became a Resident Magistrate serving in Ioma, Kerema, Kambisi, Gailala, Aiarra, Loloipa, Karuama and Port Moresby. During W.W.II, Stan was firstly a non-commissioned officer with 7th Signals A.I.F. and then a Flight-Lieutenant with the RAAF, serving in Australia and PNG.

Post-war Stan served as a District Officer at Abau, Misima and Samarai and then as Assistant Director of District Services and Native Affairs in Port Moresby. He retired to Australia and in 1948 was appointed Commissioner of Native Affairs and Native Welfare in Perth, Western Australia, retiring in 1962. He is survived by his wife Gladys and sons Owen, Trevor and Darrell.

Mr. Jim **HANLEY** (20 November 90, aged 71 years)

Jim was born at New Farm, Brisbane, the only child of Nell Isabell and James Michael Hanley. He was educated at St. Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace, Brisbane and in 1935 joined the Commonwealth Bank, staying with them until December, 1951, when he resigned at Lae PNG to join the PNG Administration.

Jim married his wife Eileen in 1956 and together they enjoyed postings to Rabaul, Samarai, Namatanai and Kavieng, Jim as Stores Supply Officer and later as Business Advisory Officer. His career with the PNG Administration lasted until 1972 when he and his wife retired to Australia and, except for twelve months in New Zealand and travelling north to Cairns a couple of times, they made their home state NSW.

After retirement, Jim concentrated on his painting, water colours at first but later pencil. He entered in various art exhibitions around the District where he lived and much of his work has been sold. After a long illness Jim died at Laurieton, NSW, and is survived by his widow, Eileen.

Mr. Dennis CLEMENTS (28 December 90, aged 69 years)

Dennis joined the Posts & Telegraphs Department in Port Moresby in 1951 and was joined by his family six months later.

In 1953, Dennis and his family moved to Madang where, as Area Foreman, Dennis maintained the telephone lines and cables in Wewak, Goroka and Madang. Ill health forced a transfer to Port Moresby in 1964 and his subsequent retirement in April 1965 to Western Australia. Dennis is survived by his wife Margaret, daughter Lesley and sons Phillip and Dennis.

Mr. Gerald William TOOGOOD (17 February 91, aged 77 years)

Gerry went to PNG during the 30's and worked at various jobs until he joined the Papuan Administration in 1937. Details of his PNG service and his activities after retiring to South Australia will be given in this section in the June 91 issue of *Una Voce*.

Mr. Geoff HODGSON (December 90, aged 60 years)

Geoff trained to be a Teacher at the South Australian Teachers' College and taught in Adelaide until 1952 when he travelled to England where he met and married his first wife, Mary, in 1956.

In 1964, Geoff and his family went to PNG to the Department of Education where he became the Inspector of the sea schools of the New Guinea Islands. In 1972, the Hodgsons left PNG and went to Darwin where Geoff started with what was then Casuarina High School. Soon after he was promoted to a senior position within the Northern Territory's education department.

Geoff and his family were in Darwin during Cyclone Tracy and, as the senior education officer, Geoff helped organise much of the evacuations and the high school was used as a shelter for the homeless. He was later made deputy director of education. His wife died in 1977 and he was left alone to care for five children.

Geoff met his second wife, Margaret Kiley, in 1983 and the pair married and moved to Indonesia, where Geoff was made the chief executive officer of the Indonesian Australian Language Foundation. He is survived by his wife Margaret and children Gary, Mick, Tim, Wendy and Chris.

Bob HALL (October 90, aged 76 years)

Bob was the magistrate at Rabaul PNG from the late 50's(?) until 1963 when he went to Alice Springs where he presided as Magistrate for 15 years from 1963 to 1978. For many years he was the only magistrate in the southern half of the Territory and was responsible for all circuit courts from the South Australian border to Tennant Creek and sometimes as far north as Katherine. He is survived by his wife Betty and sons Arthur and Robert.

Hector Edward BALDWIN (November(?) 90)

Hector was born in Port Moresby, but spent his early years in Australia. Returning as a teenager he joined Steamships Trading Company and for a number of years was Purser of the "Papuan Chief" plying the Papuan Coast between Samarai and Daru and all stops in between.

In the late 20's he joined Burns Philp and worked at various branches including Salamaua, Wau, Lae and Rabaul. He left Burns Philp in 1940 to join the RAAF and served continuously in North Africa for four and a half years rising to the rank of Flight Lieutenant.

After the war Hector did not return to PNG but joined Vacuum Oil Company in Sydney and on retirement worked for Queensland Insurance Company for a number of years. He then went to Caloundra for some years from whence he retired with his wife Alma to Sarah Claydon Retirement Village at Milton NSW. He is survived by his niece Ela Dickens, sister-in-law Mary Baldwin and nephews Ken and Derek Baldwin.

Mr. W. George BUICK (8 December 1990, aged 67 years)

George Buick was Foundation Librarian of the University of Papua New Guinea from 1966-1972. Formerly Associate University Librarian A.N.U. Canberra and Deputy State Librarian, State Library of South Australia, he started assembling the fledgling PNG University Library in Canberra.

A starting collection of 60,000 volumes and journals was needed to support teaching and research in a range of subjects. With limited funds, George Buick decided to appeal for support from interested Australians and others. Through the national press, learned societies and academics he asked for donations of books and journals, etc. The response was generous. For instance, recently retired Sir Mark Oliphant gave his Physics library; legal bodies gave basic Acts, Statutes. Worldwide collecting began, staff appointments made, equipment purchased, and building planning proceeded feverishly. In January 1967 they set up at Kriewold's building in Boroko, although teaching had begun 6 months before in the Showgrounds. Then they moved to the Administrative College, while the first University buildings were erected on the adjoining Waigani site. The elegant library building later won architectural awards.

As a result of George Buick's deliberate policy of arousing public interest and understanding of tertiary education, the Library became a tourist attraction, probably the only one in the world to be on a regular tour round. Artifacts, prints, tapes and records were part of the collection, and were available for loan. The New Guinea Collection was carefully built up from the books, letters, reports and documents of many individuals, institutions, missions and companies. Books and important articles from scholars have resulted.

Through his personal research interest in malacology, George Buick in his "spare time" collected molluscs, land snails and fossils to attempt to start a proper scientific record of PNG resources. This collection has been donated to the Western Australian Museum.

In 1972 he started another University Library at the new Murdoch University in Perth. However, he always looked back with affection and pleasure to a fulfilling, hard working and unforgettable time in PNG. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, who worked at the New Guinea Research Unit, and son Roger, a Harvard Geologist-Paleontologist; and Janet, a Librarian at the State Library of W.A.

Mr. Les WEBB (4 November 90)

Les spent some 17 years in PNG with the Public Health Department, much of it at Rabaul. He and his wife Ez returned to Australia and settled in Sydney, where Ez passed away in 1979.

Due to eyesight failure he eventually moved to Temora in NSW where he enjoyed the last three years of his life.

Mrs. Joan HOOPER (nee Hart) (September 90)

Joan was ex Police HQ in PNG but further details unknown.

Mrs. Mary Frances (Marie) SPENCE (nee Doyle) (November 90)

Further details unknown.

Mrs. Chere Nay Campbell BELL (16 October 90)

Widow of Robert Richard Bell formerly a Manager with DASF in PNG. Further details unknown.

Mrs. Jean Agnes STEPHENS (20 August 90)

Widow of William Herbert Frances Stephens who was a Foreman Storeman with the Treasury Department in PNG. Further details unknown.

Mr. Basil Brunker HAYES (15 January 91, aged 72 years)

Basil spent many years in PNG and details of his history and service will be given in the June 91 issue of *Una Voce*.

Mr. Athole Eric ROGERS (24 December 90, aged 68 years)

Athole went to PNG in 1948 to work for Wyatt's Store, then in the early 50s he joined Burns Philp and worked for them as Merchandise Manager until 1979 when he retired to Tasmania. He was one of BP's most popular managers and a great asset to the Company. I am sure that Athole will be fondly remembered by many ex residents of PNG.

Mr. Kilner Suttor SHEARD (27 February 91, aged 67 years)

Kil served as a patrol officer with Angau, mainly in the Morobe District. Post-war he worked for many years as an economist with Westpac until smitten with a crippling and debilitating disease from which he suffered for a number of years prior to his death. Before becoming ill Kil was also a Major in the C.M.F.

Mrs. Enid Pearlie YOUNG (21 February 91)

No details available except that she is survived by a daughter, Mrs. C. J. Humpries.

Ms. Tara MONAHAN (2 December 90, aged 54 years)

Tara, who was christened Joyce Higginbotham, went to PNG at a very early age with her parents as her father had gone there to work a plantation. She later took her grandmother's maiden name Monahan and the name Tara, it is said, she was given by the local people of Menyamya. She went to school in Australia, after which she returned to PNG and worked in various government departments and instrumentalities and private enterprise. Tara gained a name in many careers: as an adjunct patrol, interpreter, pilot, naturalist, wildlife advocate, museum curator, collector, tour organiser and lastly as the manager of Haus Poroman Lodge. She was the first woman to climb both Mt. Wilhelm and Mt. Otto.

Throughout the 70's and early 80's, Tara was an active member of the Eastern Highlands Travel Association, the Goroka Chamber of Commerce and the Eastern Highlands Show Committee. Amongst the many legacies she left is the J. K. McCarthy Museum in Goroka, of which she was one of the founding Directors. From the mid-80's onward she lived and worked in Mt. Hagen and when in 1987 she went to work at Haus Poroman as manager, she transformed the grounds into beautiful gardens, constructed and maintained a wildlife sanctuary and upgraded and expanded the lodge accommodation. The people of Kunguma, who lived and worked with Tara at Mt. Hagen, say that she was a tough boss, a task master with very high standards, who taught them a lot, but she had a warm generous heart. (The foregoing is condensed from an 'in memoriam' written by Nancy Sullivan and I feel that I have not done justice to Tara with my condensation, but I did not know the lady and space does not permit a lengthier and perhaps a more proper resume. My apologies! Ed.)

Mr. Ivor Alfred WOOD (25 September 90) (Reported in the December 90 issue)

Jack Bramell advises: "Ivor served with the RAAF in W.W.II and during 1942 was assigned to 11-20 Squadron as a navigator. He became a member of the nine man crew of a Catalina bomber aircraft of which I happened to be a pilot. His missions included many bombing raids on Japanese strongholds in the South Pacific, especially in the Bougainville area. Ivor's rank at that time was that of a Pilot Officer."

Readers, I have many more pages of news but, regretfully, I must call it a day! Sincerely, *Doug Parrish* Editor.