



# Una Voce News Letter

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
P.O. BOX 452, ROSEVILLE NSW 2069

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No. 1, 1993 - March

Dear Member,

The President and Committee have asked me to convey a very big thank you to all those members who sent Christmas and New Year Greetings. The kind words from many members with respect to the Newsletter were very much appreciated.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

OUR ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
AND LUNCHEON  
WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY 18 APRIL 1993  
AT THE MANDARIN CLUB

Full details about the meeting and luncheon are to be found in the centre pages.

Senior or incapacitated members, who would like to attend but would have difficulty because of transport problems, please contact our Secretary, Mr. Joe Nitsche, or our Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Pamela Foley, whose telephone numbers are shown above and they will endeavour to arrange transport.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that the 1993 annual subscription (\$8) became due and payable on 1 January 1993, unless, of course, you paid in advance.

To ascertain your financial standing, please check the address label on the wrapper from your current issue of *Una Voce*. At the bottom right hand corner of the address label is the year to which you have paid subscription/s, i.e., 1992, 1995, 2000, 2010 etc. If, on the label, the year shown is 1992, you were only financial until 31 December 1992 and we would appreciate you forwarding your 1993 subscription without delay.

Any member, who continues to be unfinancial as at 31 May 1993, will not receive the June 1993 issue of the Newsletter containing the Membership List nor any further issues of the Newsletter until subscriptions are paid.

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

This 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. Wives and other family members are invited to the luncheon and this enables wives to meet at least once each year.

The march and reunion this year will be on Sunday 25 April and not on Monday 26 April Public Holiday, as shown on many of this year's calendars.

Anyone requiring details should contact Adrian Leyden on 02.477.3795 or Alan Moore on 02.587.2982.

## THE NEW GUINEA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Reference is made to the article on pages 11 and 12 in the December 1992 issue of *Una Voce* and the following is a quote from a letter I subsequently received from Mrs. Olga Bliss. Ed.

"I was shattered to see that with the list of the "old timers" I omitted to include the original list that I had made some time ago. I had intended to attach this when writing to you. I can't think of how I forgot it but I did. I am particularly sad about this as it included some of my very old and very good friends. I apologise to all of them."

Olga provided the following list of names which should have been included in the original article:

Mrs. Betty Best	Mrs. Florence Rowe	Mrs. Tick Spensley
Mrs. Dixie Rigby	Mrs. Florence Brittain	Mrs. Kitty Smith
Mrs. Amy Gregory	Mrs. Edith Walker	Mrs. Freda Ellis
Mrs. Alan Green	Mrs. Dorrie Groves	Mrs. Joan Chambers
Mrs. Gracey Wright	Mrs. Roma Bates	Mrs. Grace Milligan
Mrs. Winnie Holland	Mrs. Bill Dix	Miss. Dorothy Stewart

## MEMBERS GONE MISSING

The December 1992 Newsletters addressed to the the following members were returned and it would be appreciated if any member knowing their current whereabouts would, either contact the Secretary Mr. Joe Nitsche, or ask the missing member to contact him:

Capt. G. W. O'Donoghue, 4/1 Wedd Street, CHELTENHAM, Vic. 3192.  
Mr. R. Sterland, 38A Stanley Road, CAMP HILL, Qld, 4151.  
Dr. D. Townsend, c/- Scott Furphy P.O.7083, ST KILDA RD PO, Vic, 3004  
Mr. R. Prior, P.O. Box 518, MALANDA, Qld, 4885.

## GOROKA REUNION

29 May 1993 in the Function Room, Eagle Farm Race Course, Ascot, Brisbane at 7 p.m. Details from Julie (Gibbes) Morse (07) 397.1968.

## HELP WANTED

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of John Hayes, formerly Asst. District Commissioner & Local Govt., or Vince and Billie O'Sullivan, with Burns Philp in Madang and Goroka in 1956-58, please contact Harry West.

### VISIT TO THE MOUNTAINS

The Mountains trip is planned for Thursday 13th May. Lunch at the Grandview Hotel, Wentworth Falls. Come and bring your friends! Those interested please ring Pamela Foley [02] 428 2078 or Ken Gorringer [047] 57 1488.

### AUSTRALIAN HONOURS

Peter Dillon, ex DASF in PNG and a member of our Association, is to be congratulated on being awarded an AM (Military Division) in the recent Australian Honours List, for distinguished chaplaincy services. He served in Vietnam and in Australia. He is about to retire from his position as Principal Chaplain (Brigadier), and will be looking for a parish in the Anglican Church in Australia. (Phone 06 290 1912)

### THE ASSOCIATION'S ARCHIVAL DATA BASE.

(Refer: Una Voce June and September 1992)

Peter Cahill and Doug Parrish are beginning to receive material in response to Peter's offer to create a database of valuable records held by members, and store potentially archival material, returning copies or originals to the owners if they desire it. The purpose of this is to make available for future scholars, data which preserves for the record our own achievements and the scene within which we worked.

If you have copies of patrol reports, diaries, pertinent correspondence, or things that you have written about PNG, register their existence on Peter's data base - as a matter of urgency - because we are all getting to the age when the sword of Damocles begins to swing! By co-operating in this plan you are entering into no obligation whatever except that someone may, in the case of material that is only registered, ask to see it, or in the case of records you send in for archival storage, that this may be used to record your fame! Therefore, in the interest of research and the creation of a truer picture of what happened in PNG, make a list of your precious documents and send it (the list) to Dr. Peter Cahill, 7 Wynyard St. Indooroopilly, Qld 4068 or phone him on [07] 371 4794.

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Eddie Allan STANTON, born Sydney 1915, went to Port Moresby in January 1942 to work as a clerk on the wharf. Almost immediately he became a member of ANGAU and spent much time in the Trobriands, other parts of Milne Bay and the Northern Division. He ended his service in Rabaul and left PNG in 1946. He died in Sydney in 1983.

I would like to contact people who knew Eddie Stanton.

Hank Nelson

Pacific and Asian History

Australian National University

PO Box 4

CANBERRA ACT 2601

### INCREASE IN INCOME THRESHOLD FOR ELIGIBILITY OF PART AGE PENSION

From 20 March, 1992 the income level for a part Age Pension (and hence to pharmaceutical benefits) was raised to \$591 per week (before tax) for couples and \$354 per week (before tax) for single people.

## **THE R.O.A. AND P.N.G. HISTORY**

by W.E.Tomasetti

I imagine that, for some decades, many of us have spent hours reading PNG history, and found that much may be learned from the mixed bag of material covered by the wide and growing range of books etc. available. Should members be writing as well as reading?

Without doubt the body of ex PNGers forming the membership of the ROA possesses a wealth of knowledge of and interest in PNG. Within this body literary talent is generously distributed, and it includes quite a few with experience in writing for scholarly journals etc. (This would apply also to those who could but have not joined the ROA.)

For some time now the Editor of *Una Voce* has been collecting from members, and publishing already written texts that deal with PNG's past. And the Editor believes that members have much more such material.

With the foregoing in mind, a meeting was called for 12 Feb 1993 at Harry West's place; it was attended by Harry West (02 418 8793), Doug Parrish (02 488 9693), Bob Pulsford (02 958 1846) and Bill Tomasetti (047 57 1086).

The possibility of expanding this *Una Voce* program by actively encouraging members to contribute to an ROA program of writing texts on PNG history was discussed. The meeting thought that members may be willing to write such texts by drawing on their experience in PNG and their personal records.

It was noted that this extended program could put the ROA in a position to arrange the publication of what could be a unique body of texts on the recent history of PNG, especially on many aspects of rural development work in the provinces.

After this discussion the meeting agreed:

(a) It was important that the aim should be to produce material suitable for offer to scholarly journals etc. for publication. To achieve this there would probably be need for (i) an editorial committee within the ROA; and (ii) the support of friendly academic historians (which could be sought) to act as general advisers and as readers for texts produced by members and referred to them by ROA; (b) The level of potential participation in and support for the proposal that there might be among members should be tested, and that Bill T. should draft an appropriate notice for publication in an early issue of *Una Voce*; (c) The proposal could lead to a quite useful extension of the ROA's functions.

The meeting observed that any member who wishes to join in the program may well want to decide her/his own format for the work. In this context it considered:- (a) In some situations a case study approach might well be helpful in focussing and patterning the material. (b) Two or more members who had worked together on the same project in PNG may well wish to work together on the writing up of it. (c) Professional and/or other advice could probably be arranged for members who felt it could be helpful.

Any member could ring any of the four persons mentioned above for further information. Also, would any member interested in the program kindly get in touch with the Editor, Doug Parrish, or the President, Harry West.

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## HAVE YOU HEARD???

Allan BOAG of Mapleton Qld recently wrote me a long letter and much of it is worthwhile quoting: "Since we have been at Mapleton we have met up with quite a few PNG bods - some we knew in the Territory and some we have met down here.

Of interest to Peter (Fred) KAAD are some of the original Saiho mob (and Popondetta) - Geoff LITTLER, Ian WISEMAN, Dick O'SULLIVAN, John FREW, Bill RACE, Peg FORD, Ken LAIDLAW.

Geoff and Pat were involved with avocados at Palmwoods but Geoff now involved with Local Govt. and into his second term as Councillor with the Maroochy Shire. Ian and Marg Wiseman live at Chambers Flat, south of Brisbane, and Ian travels for a stock food company. See Ian every so often when in the area, he generally stays with us. Ian still the same optimistic and confident self and holding his age well. Dick and Marie live on a hectare at Forest Glen, just south of Nambour. Dick still keeps his hand in with cars so long as they are not fitted with computers. Dick is a regular fishing companion and makes up the crew for our frequent houseboat trips to the Sandy Straits. John FREW - don't see much of him but John has the 4 Square supermarket at Maleny.

Bill RACE in Sunnybank and see Bill and Del occasionally if we have some "do" up here - such as the 40th anniversary of Lamington in Jan. last year.

Peg FORD lives on her own at Maroochy and see her every so often, she is keeping reasonably well. Ken LAIDLAW was a Didiman at Pop. for a short period in 1951 but came back to Palmwoods not long afterwards and has spent his life with pineapples.

Of course we still have Pat SEARLE living at Nambour - Clem died some 3 years ago and Pat is now involved in writing her memoirs of her life in the Territory, particularly at Awala. She is keeping very good health.

Living in Post Office Road, Mapleton is George BARRETT of Comworks and the cocoa project at Pop. Phyl died about 3 years ago and George regularly visits family at Burwah and near Toowoomba, and is in pretty good health. Maurice (Lands Dept) and Janet WHISH-WILSON have a small farm just north of Yandina, where they play around with Lychees and Custard Apples. Janet very involved with local wild life - particularly birds - and is the life of any party.

See a bit of Bill and Rosemary VANDENBIRK - they have acreage just out of Nambour growing few mangoes and bananas. Bill was with rubber at Sangara and down the coast from Moresby. Mike and Kay BURNABY have avocados next door to us at Mapleton but don't see much of them - the same with John BRADY (Didiman) in real estate and convenience store at Mapleton. Ran across John KEENAN on the bowling green at Nambour and went with him last year to Wellers Hill Bowls Day for ex PNG - only knew one there, Noel DONALD. Couldn't make the day this year, we were house-boating that week.

Ray (Didiman) and Joan MONTGOMERY retired and living in Gatton and we see them at least each year for the Annual Reunion of Gatton College past students at the College. Montie spends most of his time playing golf within the veterans association. Both would like to move to this area.

That is only a few of the ex-PNG bods in the area but may be of some interest to some of your readers.

Concerning ourselves, Win and I moved here 12 years ago from Bundaberg where we had a cane farm. Now have a few (200-odd) avocados, Kiwi fruit and stone fruit to look after, so long as it doesn't interfere too much with fishing, bowls and the occasional golf. Life treating us reasonably well, with 10 grandkids to keep us young (5 in the immediate area).

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## HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

Syd SAVILLE of Burpengary Qld recently reported: "I have been project director for the Cocoa Quality Improvement Project based in Rabaul, with Col BENTON and Jane BELFIELD as Team Leader and Extension Materials Adviser respectively. The project has an extension and a research component - Leon BRIDGLAND is the PNG based research man and he sends regards to all who knew him. With the planned legislation to form a Cocoa Industry Corporation then the project may expand to assist in the formation of an industry extension service.

This corporatisation has already taken place in the coffee industry and I was fortunate to be based in Goroka for three months in 1992, working with Terry QUINLAN, Dave WILLIS and Mick BELFIELD as advisers to the Coffee Industry Board, headed by Ricky MITIN with a staff of Didimen trained at Popondetta or Vudal. The AIDAB Coffee Project has been postponed for about five years and will be wound up at the end of March 1993.

Sorry we couldn't make the Christmas party - Heather had to enter hospital on 21/12 for major surgery on her back so travel was impossible. The surgery is over and she is making an excellent recovery.

Just missed seeing Harry West at the 90th birthday party for Mrs Parry (mother of Pam Brooks) at the Gold Coast.

Best wishes to Freddie, June and other members of the executive, for a successful 1993. Syd, your good wishes are reciprocated. Ed.

Joe SHAW of Mackenzie Qld also early in the year reported his current activities associated with the sport of Squash: "For the past six months I have been involved with coaching a young English player who wishes to advance his career and felt that no one in the U.K. could help him.

Since arriving with me this young lad named Nick CASS has defeated all the Aussie Juniors including those at the Australian Institute of Sport with Geoff HUNT and he finished third in the recent World Junior Championships.

He is at the time of writing playing in the British National Titles in England and I will leave to join him on 1st February. We will play in Switzerland, Portugal and Wales in February, then Denmark, Germany and of all places Budapest in Hungary in March. Then Cairo before the British Open in April.

This is the beginning of Nick's career in senior level so we start off in small playing tournaments to collect points to enable us to get admission into bigger tournaments. That is the reason for all of the travel to remote areas.

I have coached two previous Australian Junior Champions but never an English Junior Champion, now the challenge is to get Nick CASS up to the top in world rankings. Although now ranked first in Junior rankings Nick is not and has never achieved a senior ranking in the top fifty in England.

In the present British National Title Nick has caused some shocks. First round he beat Jon CLARKE ranked 28 in England, then Matthew OXLEY who is ranked 20, then lost in Quarter Finals. Not bad for a Junior not ranked in top 50 in England.

I leave on 1st February for Europe.

Ken and Val CONNOLLY of Concord, NSW, travelled to the Gold Coast last December to celebrate the wedding of their son Derek to Cheryl LEAHAM. The wedding ceremony took place on 6th December in the chapel of the Southport School (Derek's old school) and afterwards at the Marriott Resort Hotel.

Derek spent his early years in the Highlands, Daru and finally in Port Moresby, before going on to boarding school in Australia. Cheryl comes from the Sale district in Victoria. Strangely enough history is repeating itself,

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# HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

as the couple are living in Lae where Derek is Assistant Manager at the Melanesian Hotel. Cheryl reportedly likes it up there though can't move around unrestrictedly as we could during the period when most of us lived and worked in PNG.

At the time of writing the couple are in Madang where Derek is relieving Manager at the Smuggler Inn Hotel (a delightful spot as many of us will remember). They love Madang where there is apparently a very low risk factor enjoyed by the 150 strong expatriate population - unlike Lae. From all accounts there seems to be no lack of social life in these centres!

Gwen BRUYERES of Broadbeach Waters Qld, who spent many years at Goroka in PNG recently wrote as follows: "I had a busy year in 1992. I went for a wander around Australia firstly up to Townsville to see my daughter Anne, then flew to Alice Springs and did a 6 day camping trip around the Red Centre and then to an 11 day camping trip all through the Kimberley region of W.A. Flew over the Bungle Bungle range in a helicopter, my first in that mode of flying, and finished the trip in Darwin. Stayed with Jocelyn and Otto Alder, ex PNG. Jocelyn is Nan Primrose's daughter - met her grandchild (Nan's great granddaughter). I had a look around Kakadu and then took a bus to Perth where I stayed with Nan Primrose and visited other PNG friends. Had a good look around that part of W.A. and came home on the Indian Pacific Rail. It was the only major train trip that I had not travelled on in Australia.

I arrived home in time to greet my first grandchild on 29.9.92. My daughter Helen and her husband Greg had a son, Stephen James, in Toowoomba. So life is now getting back to normal."

Les AUCHETTL of Cairns, QLD, reports: "I have just returned from Bantry in South-west Ireland after six weeks holiday, my luck - with the worst winter weather ever seen in Ireland since 1860. The cool was nice for a while, but I'm happy to be once again back in North Qld's summer."

From Jack TREMBATH: "Kind regards and happy memories to all. Jodie and baby Jamie look after me when needed, and Jason and Jai are down permanently from Mareeba - makes me happy as I no longer drive, arthritis affects hands and steering."

Lindsay PASCOE of Umina NSW reports: "A pleasant and entertaining evening was held on Saturday, 12th September, in the Gosford Golf Club facility, to celebrate the 17th anniversary of PNG Independence. Traditional food items were served to the 180 ex-PNG residents, their families and friends, who attended on this historic occasion - the first such celebration ever held on the NSW Central Coast. The success was all the more pleasing as it was all organised within four weeks of the actual event.

Interest was maintained throughout by some excellent dances from PNG; by a graceful and exciting performance from an attractive group of visiting Raratongan dancers; and by a very spirited offering of traditional dances with drum accompaniment from a talented South African band.

VIPs who honoured us with their presence included the First Secretary to the PNG Consulate in Sydney, Mrs Perpetua Haweta and family; also Mr Barney Rangap, the PNG Consul-General to New Zealand and Western Samoa. The evening was a happy occasion much enjoyed by all.

Next year, the organising will commence a few months in advance, and promises even bigger and better things. Those people who are interested in attending the 1993 PNG Independence Celebrations may contact Mrs Hane Pascoe, phone (043) 244478 any time after June, 1993. It promises to be a great night of enjoyment, of friendship and a hint of nostalgia -- Don't miss it!"

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HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

Esme JOHNSON (Nee Bock) of Lawnton Qld recently joined the Association and with her application provided the following most interesting information about her father: "My father was Walter Alfred Bock who joined the service on 22nd November 1912 as Compositor in the Gov't Printing Office of Papua. He was appointed Gov't Printer in 1934. My mother and young brother, Walter, were evacuated in December 1941 and my father in February 1942 (as he was over the Army service age of 45), after he had printed alone the Announcement of the Cessation of the Papua Government. For the next 3 1/2 years he served with the Gov't Printing Office in Canberra and was amongst the first officers to return to Port Moresby and to print the Announcement of the Resumption of the Papuan Government in September 1945.

He officially retired on 11th July, 1951, having reached his 65 years, but resumed office on 13th July as an exempt officer, at the request of the Government. In the Queen's New Year Honours 1953/4 he was awarded the Imperial Service Medal for long and meritorious service. In 1958 he left the service to live in Caloundra, Qld. He died on 11th December 1962 and my mother died 20th March, 1977.

My husband, Eric Johnson, was an officer of the Bank of NSW and was with the Bank in Port Moresby from early 1938 to August 1940. He served 4 years with the AIF and returned to Port Moresby for a second term with the Bank in June 1948 to November 1950. We are living in our retirement in Lawnton, Qld.

John KEENAN of Nambour, Qld., towards the end of last year wrote to me as follows: "I was particularly interested in the Tol Massacre article. I had heard all about it, read a few bits and pieces but yours is the most comprehensive I have seen. I had a further interest in the personnel involved. Back in 1940 I was at Buka Passage where Alf Robinson was the clerk before he joined up. Then shortly after I went to Rabaul in 1948 word came up from Kandrian that he had been killed inland not far from the station. Being the ADO at Rabaul Keith McCarthy sent me off in a hurry. Mick and Pam Foley were on Kandrian at the time and Mick and I spent Christmas 1948 somewhere in the New Britain bush.

Robbie was doing some recruiting of labour at the time and he had spread out a lot of trade goods and one native considered he had a right to some of them. He hit Robbie over the head and disappeared.

On the front page of U/V I recognise six names on the committee and then usually the only other names I recognise appear in the section marked Vale. How time goes on. Incidentally, a lot of what Candy wrote about in her first couple of months of married life could have been Phyl when she first made her appearance in New Guinea at Finschhafen too."

(Pamela Foley after typing the above made the following comment: "Doug, I have some vivid memories of the above incident too! Being awakened by Mike in the 'small hours' who had walked back in the night hours to spend some part of the Christmas period with me, before going back out again. He told me that Robbie had suffered a number of blows from the people there - to spread the blame, it seemed. Subsequently we buried poor Robbie at Kandrian, the only suitable container being a refrigerator crate! Nevertheless all formality and respect was observed, and we kept the grave area enclosed and tended while we were there. Ed.)

Bob BLAIKIE of Mt Gravatt Qld reports: "I had two trips to Seoul in South Korea last year - ten days in May and again two weeks in November. Griffith University has the largest number of Australian undergraduates studying Korean than any other university in Australia. I have been fortunate enough to have visited Seoul six times over the last few years to formalise

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HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

relationships with Korean universities and to consolidate those relationships we have had for some time. Korea is now Australia's third largest trading partner and we see the relationship as being most important for Australia.

I have a few family movements to report. My eldest son, Ian, is still New Vehicle Sales Manager for Queensland's largest Holden dealer and my eldest daughter, Christine, teaches English and History at Ipswich Girls' Grammar School. My second daughter Jennifer returned before Christmas from Jeddah in Saudi Arabia where she has been nursing for fifteen months. She left again yesterday for Bahrain where she is taking up a new nursing appointment in a new cardio-thoracic unit. I am not overly happy about her being in that hot spot at the moment but she seems unconcerned. My youngest son, William, has spent the last two years at Defence Headquarters in Canberra but has just taken up a new posting to Toowoomba. It is nice to have him and his family a little closer.

I expect that quite a few of your members might remember my brother Bruce who, until he left Port Moresby about ten years ago was a director of Steamships. After he left Moresby Bruce spent some time in Kota Kinabalu in Sabah in East Malaysia and then he went to Mandalay in Burma where he was a director of an Australian aid project. After about four years in Mandalay he spent some time in his catamaran traversing France along the rivers and canals. At present he is in Cambodia where he is Finance Director of CARE Australia. CARE has the responsibility of repatriating hundreds of thousands of Cambodian refugees from Thailand. He seems to be enjoying his life in Phnom Penh. I expect that when he finishes his task in Cambodia he might go back to France to continue his voyage to the Mediterranean.

Nesta PEARSON of Mt Waverley Vic, as reported in the December 92 issue of the Newsletter, set out last September to go as far as Bundaberg Qld visiting friends on the way. Well, she did finally make it as follows: "I did continue on. Partly because that was why I left in the first place, and partly because I wanted to test the car and preferred NOT to be back in Melbourne when I found something wrong. As it happened, the mechanic kept his word, and apart from the driver's door not closing QUITE perfectly, I have only praise for the work.

I stopped off with Nan and Tas Sexton - ex accountant P & T - and also Olive and Jack Hull - Jack has done some beautiful wood working, lamps, three-legged tables, and even a two legged one. For explanation - ASK JACK. Had two visits with Marg and Phil Head, and made it to Cindy Lamb's place in Bundaberg in time to help her - with good advice, some of which she took, to put down the new lino in the living room. Back to Brisbane - visited Dan, Linda and Chloe each time of course - then on to Tenterfield to visit Claire and Russ Lamb (Cindy's parents) then through to Canberra to visit son Jim, Jill and their two, Joel and Toby, plus my brother Ray and family. Ray was in Lae on the barges ferrying across the Markham River during WW2.

I survived it quite well but I don't ever want to repeat that again - the accident side I mean. So very demoralising!! My ego will never be the same!!"

Peter THOMAS of Angaston SA is a new member and is an ex-Kiap who served in PNG from 1960 to 1976 in the Southern Highlands, Milne Bay, Northern and East New Britain Districts.

They run their own flower farm using hydroponics for most crops but even though times are difficult they are hanging in. Peter, a big welcome to our ranks and we sincerely hope that there is a brighter future ahead.

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HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

Olga CLUER of Fingal Heads NSW during January advised that she was about to undertake an 8 week contract in PNG based in Goroka, which had been her old stamping ground with the DASF from 1967 to 1970.

Olga, I do hope you will let us know what your impressions were of the current situation there. Ed.

Ray CARLAW of Washougal USA in January advised that he was working back in PNG, assisting the Government to strengthen the quality of their health services and would be there until the end of April. Ray, we would also like to hear from you about your stay in PNG.

Jack FLENTJE of Sunbury Vic (near the Tullarmarine Airport) has again advised that they would appreciate a visit from old acquaintances from PNG. Jack, any articles you can produce for the Newsletter would be very much appreciated.

Elaine BRUCE of Southport Qld in a recent letter commented: "The September issue was very enjoyable, particularly as I took a nostalgic trip on the second "Mikhail Shelakhov" 18 day cruise. Isobel Pert covered it very well."

Elaine, Pam Foley, Freddie Kaad, Pat Hopper and myself reciprocate your kind regards.

Joy DISHON of Moorooka Qld last month advised that she had been very ill and had only recently returned home from 4 months in hospital before, during and after Christmas, which was why she had been unable to send out any Christmas cards. Joy, all your friends down here send you their very best wishes and sincerely hope that you are by now well on the way to a full recovery.

Tom AITCHESON of Castle Hill NSW has advised that he is now living in the Anglican Retirement Village, where he has been since 10th July last year. He comments: "I find it comfortable and the food good. The only thing is that one becomes very lazy. I have a bed-sitting room with private facilities and tons of cupboard space. It is at ground level.

Kaye, Scott and Bonnie visit me at least once a week and are sure that I have a roast dinner at their home.

There is a well equipped gymnasium with a heated swimming pool and three physiotherapists; I attend two or three times a week. There are five villages set in parklands covering some hundred acres with well developed gardens including well kept barbecue areas and grazing land for horses, cattle and sheep."

Tom, all your friends on the Committee send you their very best wishes for a long and happy stay there. Ed.

John HUON de NAVRANCOURT of Atherton Qld, who had left Cairns with daughter Bianca last September, intending to spend a winter in France, returned during November rather disappointed with the conditions in his former homeland.

He prefers not to make any further comment but also had the unfortunate experience to witness the tragic flood in Vaison la Romaine which destroyed his cousin's restaurant.

On a more happy note, John, attending a Congress of former "Resistance Fighters" in Bordeaux, saw the Australian flag raised in his honour during a visit to a famous vineyard which is now English owned.

He also brought back Brigitte Bardot's autograph congratulating him for his conservationist campaigns.

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HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

Don HOSKING of Maleny Qld advised that he paid a brief visit last year to PNG and was met and shown around by Vin Smith. He comments: "To me seems the same old PNG - the more things change, the more they remain the same." Don, I only wish you were right! Ed.

Emerson MEISSNER of Rockhampton Qld advised that on 5 July last year at St. Christopher's Chapel at Nerimbera, near Rockhampton, he attended a Service of Remembrance with members of the American 41st Division on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Division's arrival in Australia. He commented: "The members I spoke with saw service in the Gona, Buna and Sanananda areas. There were approx. 150 Americans with their wives and about 1,000 others attending the very emotional service - well beyond the capacity of the Chapel.

The Australian Army directed traffic and parking before the service and hosted afternoon tea afterwards.

As far as I know I was the only ex-PNG Administration representative there. These events receive little publicity but are another link with PNG."

Brian DELANEY of North Rocks NSW, who retired from the Commonwealth Bank, advises that he works 4 months each year in PNG at various towns as an investigator with the Papua New Guinea Banking Corporation and would be back in PNG early this year. Brian, what about a line or two about PNG as you find it? Ed.

George GOUGH of Rochedale Qld, who has unfortunately had the big "C" for some time now, underwent a follow up operation late last year. George it is very hard to express our feelings under such circumstances, but all your friends down here send you their best wishes for a brighter future. A number of our members are in similar circumstances and I sincerely hope that you and they enjoy long reprieves from their condition.

Alex ZWECK of Henty NSW reports: "Returning from a 2/2 M G Bn reunion at Sawtell last June I stopped over at Port Macquarie and called on Margaret Ryan. She worked in the Post Office at Lae and was well known. Unfortunately Margaret is in a nursing home - Lourdes - and suffers from Alzheimers Disease. She looked well and is obviously well cared for.

Next to Forbes where I saw Kitty Potter - also an identity of Lae - Kitty worked for PHD - first as a dental nurse and then I think as receptionist. She is fit and well and lives in a retirement village in Forbes, Kitty's late husband Alf worked for PWD, also at Lae.

Just back from the Alamein Tobruk tour organised by Commonwealth Bank Travel Service. Brought back many memories - took in Cairo, El Alamein, Tel el Leisa-Matruh, Tobruk and other places in between. Also on the tour was Tony Newman - had not seen him since leaving the Territory. Also Bob and Jeannie Gibbes - they were on RSL tour - we met (i.e. Bob and I) outside the Commonwealth War Cemetery after the Memorial Service - chance in a million as there were crowds there. Had breakfast together at the Aida Beach Hotel next morning.

George ANDERSEN of Mollmook NSW in a note to us recently commented: "I seem to be the only B4 in the locality! Clive Sanderson is the only other member. Doug James and Brian Kricken-Beek are ex-Territory and Greg Godlonton was with NGVR. Many other Probians served in PNG during the war."

(continued next page)

HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

David EYRE of Urangan Qld reports: "For the past 3 1/2 years I have been in Hervey Bay working as the Test Pilot for the Seeker Project. The programme is almost completed and hopefully the Seabird Company will be in full production in February 1993. The plane is the most significant Australian designed and manufactured aircraft to be offered to the world markets for some 20 years." (David sent us a copy of the brochure about the aircraft and it looks and sounds terrific. Ed.)

Eve JOHNSTONE of Tewantin Qld in a note to us reported: "I have a new member about to join, A. Major, who was a bank teller in Moresby and Rabaul. He now has a unit almost opposite to mine so of course saw *Una Voce* and now wants to join.

A few days ago, Mrs. Serafini (Paul's mother) took a unit. We also have another man who fought at Shaggy Ridge."

Eve, Harry West, Fred Kaad, Jo Nitsche, Sir Horrie Niall and the remainder of the Committee reciprocate your kind regards.

Mary BALDWIN of Caloundra Qld became a senior senior citizen when she turned 90 last September and commented: "Of that age I spent 62 years in Papua and we loved living in Port Moresby."

Mary, the President and Committee plus all your friends down here send their congratulations and very best wishes for many more happy birthdays.

Beryl BENNETT of Tin Can Bay Qld recently wrote: "It is very interesting reading the Newsletter and sometimes getting information about people you have known in the past. It's amazing how reading a name will bring back memories of places and other people as well.

Last Saturday night we attended an RSL dinner here in Tin Can Bay. At the same table were a couple representing the Hervey Bay RSL. It was John Lewis and his wife, Mary. He happened to mention being in Port Moresby, so we ended up having a good yak about people we both knew, etc."

Ian WOOD of Sunnybank Qld, when forwarding his application to become a member wrote: "Doug Franklin gave you some details of my background and my recent visit to Bainyik which I was very flattered to read in a recent copy of *Una Voce*. My sister came to T.N.G to be bridesmaid at my wedding - in due course met my friend Mick Dwyer and married him at Wewak in 1941 and bore him four sons.

Whilst at Bainyik in 1938-41 I got the locals growing "upland rice" and was very pleased on my recent visit to see a shed there with over 1,000 tonnes stored and grown by local villagers."

Ian, a big welcome to our ranks, I am sure that you will enjoy your membership.

Ken HUMPHREYS of Caloundra Qld when forwarding his application to join wrote: "I recently visited Jim Sinclair and he recommended I consider joining the Association.....

Jim Sinclair showed me the Newsletter. Incidentally I am the world's foremost expert on the philately of British New Guinea, Papua and German New Guinea. Perhaps I could submit a short article on the early postal history to the editor - it would be somewhat different."

Ken, you sure don't hide your light under a bushel but such an article would be most welcome. Congratulations on joining our ranks and I am sure that you will find membership very rewarding. Ed.

## NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

### JIM TONER (Northern Territory)

An Australia-PNG Society get-together at the NT University staff club in early February was well attended. Stalwarts, the Alders and Battersbys were there, also Professor Marjorie Sullivan, a recent occupant of the chair of geography at UPNG. Sadly, not Roger Gleeson, struck down by cancer at only 50 years of age.

The function was a credit to the work of Tom Vigus, the Society secretary. He lectured at UTech Lae in the early '80s and is now with the Conservation Commission of the NT. Part rationale for the function was to welcome some 40 students from PNG who have been sent to the university and high schools in Darwin for a year under a new educational scheme.

Before Christmas, Darwin was blessed with a visit by Norm Wilson, ex-kiap and now with the Heritage Commission Canberra. This encouraged a gathering of the clans at the Hotel Darwin including Trevor Buising, a PO at Kainantu twenty years ago, but last year an undergraduate at NTU.

Also quaffing was Bob Welsh, fairly recently in Moresby, whose observation is that 'new chums' at the Aviat Club look on one Jim Jansen as a Lapun Klap Tru, step aside from the bar in respect when he appears, and so forth. Anyone recalling Jim as a shave-twice-a-week contract PO at Bereina c. 1972 will realise that time flies. One has to wonder how the Aviat members react to visits by the genuine article e.g. Vin Smith -- enquire the whereabouts of his white beard and two tablets of stone, perhaps?

### DOUG FRANKLIN (Brisbane)

We used to be amazed by the wantok system in PNG and how news travelled from village to village or from one side of the country to the other. But we ex Territorians have a pretty good wantok system too, which demonstrates a bond between us all. Not a week passes without a chance meeting or conversation with someone who speaks our 'language' - they know someone currently in PNG or more often than not, were themselves in the same town or same work as we were and helping to build a country. Jack Lamrock called us human engineers. Sadly we hear of the indisposition of a friend here at home or joyfully of the promotion of our Papua New Guinea wantoks.

Recently we had a phone call from PNG from one of my former PATI students and now a very successful businessman. He was coming to Brisbane to put his son into the Southport School. It was good to have been asked to help. Ian Wood also helped with transport and other support. On another occasion a strange car rolled up to our house at 7 a.m. We thought who on earth is this? Out jumped a senior National from Konedobu with a greeting "Hullo Doug - I've come for breakfast!" It made our day. These sort of experiences ensure that our faith in PNG's future never falters.

Laurie Doolan and Robin, ex DDA, are keeping fit and busy on their property at beautiful Maleny in the Sunshine Coast hinterland. He has become an expert in Avocado management and advises on the various aspects of cultivation and production. Their youngest daughter is graduating with a Doctorate in Science in May this year. She has been working on the vitally important research to produce a vaccine for Malaria. This is highlighted by the growing resistance to drugs like chloroquine which once kept the disease under control. After graduating she will go on to the USA for three years for further research work. Laurie said this is good but they will naturally miss her from home. On the local front Laurie says he sees Geoff Littler regularly. The latter is a Maroochy Shire Councillor living at Palmwoods near Nambour. They

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NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS (continued)

enjoy having a chat and catching up on recent happenings. Laurie mentioned that there was a huge gathering on the Gold Coast recently for the funerals of Ian Skinner and his wife who died two days later. Ian Downs read the eulogy.

Alex and Virginia Preo, who have an acreage block at Thornlands near Brisbane, hosted an excellent Christmas party for forty ex Territorians. Included were many Popondetta folk including Tony and Gwen Hunt, John, Lynda and Anne Swanston, Grahame Collett, Peter and Coral Thompson, Bill and Geraldine Heath, Frank and Annabel Sabben, Warren and Ros Pearson, Peter Barrett, Peter Room, Barry and Yvonne Swanson and others. Alex is a Manager for Nu-Steel Homes Australia and Virginia handles Real Estate business. In their 'spare time' they work a huge nursery supplying pot plants to large supermarkets.

John Swanston, ex DASF Popondetta, and his family are living at Wurtella in the Sunshine Coast hinterland. They are fit and well and enjoy retirement fishing and gardening. Keith De Lacy, another ex Didiman, is still the State M.P. for Cairns and Treasurer for the Goss Queensland Government. We see or hear Keith on TV or radio very often and look back on those challenging days in the Southern Highlands in the late sixties when he was in Mendi with Des and Margaret Clancy, John and Heather Wallis, George and Terry Greenwood, Brian and Jill Duffy and others. We remember the cricket matches with Keith showing how to bowl and bat. Well, he is still at it. The famous "Gabba" cricket ground is currently undergoing a multi-million dollar refit to bring its size up to that of the MCG. The former greyhound racing track round the outside of the cricket oval has been bulldozed and the Hon Keith started the work going. Yvonne and the girls (woops, young ladies now) are all fine.

Bruce Hoy, formerly DPI and PNG Museum, has taken up residence with his wife and family at Albany Creek, Brisbane. Bruce did sterling work for years in locating and charting the remains of wartime aircraft lost in PNG. Latterly Bruce worked under contract for the U.S. Army still researching information on individual crash sites. Once he found an aircraft which still had an inflated Goodyear tyre. Bruce tried for some time to have a special section set up at the PNG Museum for wartime aircraft to be housed for posterity. Paul Kysely, ex DASF Konedobu lives at Springwood, Brisbane and I ran into him recently. He looks very well and we had a lengthy chat on the street. We were at a fund raising do in little Samford the other night and Andrew Peacock was there. When I told him he was our Minister at one time he straight away said "Mi hamamas tok long yu." Not bad after about 20 years!

ISOBEL PERT (Noosa Heads, Qld)

The Bribie Is, November 92 reunion report (better late than never). We were delighted to welcome a big Chinese community for the day. Among those present - Steve and Nora Leong, Henry and Helana Mah and Andrew Yip, Mary Yee, Elizabeth Leong, Jean and John Mah (Bogia Hotel) Roger Chan, Jimmy Soo & Charlie and Kerry Mah. David Yee, Terry Lee, Alfred & Rose Lee and Kathy Mah & Hubert Chan, many with their families - grown up children and grandchildren. Lovely to see Trudi Diczbali and Joyce Caesar, now living in Brisbane. Henry and Marg Buthman, who brought along Helmut Berger from Seattle. Gisela and Cliff Batt, Peg Paxton (AWAR). Tanya Scott & family - Tanya home from the Middle East where she is air hosting for Gulf Air. Fulgers from Bundaberg, Jim & Olive Finter. Nice to see Lesley Hartman (McDade) and of course all the old stalwarts - a good day.

A 'Harvey Norman' furniture brochure I received yesterday included a "3 piece suite from Post and Rail. It reads "Post & Rail have spent 5 years on

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NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS (continued)

extensive research and testing a new alternative. COPRAWOOD from coconut palms. The new range features the beautiful grains and textures of the coconut palm. The timber is that of trees which are being replaced with hybrids and would otherwise be wasted". The picture indeed showed the lovely grained wood. I'm sure some of the old *bifor* plantation managers would appreciate the new "Coprawood". I remember Tom Briggs when in the furniture business bringing a piece of polished coconut palm down to Sydney & nobody had a clue what the timber was.

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**P.N.G. NEWS**

GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES PRICE SUPPORT FOR CASH CROPS FOR FIVE YEARS

The Paia Wingti Government has taken a significant step towards recognising the importance of agriculture. New prices for the country's main tree crops were made effective from 1st November 1992 as follows :-

Coffee	K2,300 per tonne FOB "Y" Grade
Cocoa	K1,200 per tonne Delivered Store
Copra	K250 per tonne at Depot (Smoked)
Oil Palm	K26 per tonne Fresh Fruits Bunch

In a February 1993 interview by Paul Murphy of S.B.S. TV program Dateline in Port Moresby, Mr Wingti said that his Government recognised that it was important to give farmers an incentive to plan ahead and for young people to accept that there is money to be made from agriculture. The urban areas could not employ all the population. The new price guarantees over a long period were proof of the Government's commitment to help farmers and rural areas.

NEW INVESTMENT PROMOTION BOARD

The Government has set up a Board to attract reputable and experienced foreign investors to help create jobs and boost economic development. PNG has "abundant natural resources which should be properly developed and utilised."

The Trade and Industry Minister, David Mai, said the strong private sector representation was a reflection of the Board's needs. Only the Chairman Robert Igara, Trade and Industry Secretary and Finance Secretary Gereia Apoi are public servants. The other Board Members are Managing Director, Nigel Agonia, Phil Franklin (Lae Chamber of Commerce President), Wally Lussick (Port Moresby Chamber of Commerce President), Mike Manning (Rural Industry Council), Francis Yegiora (Provincial Representative), Mosely Moramora (PNG Chamber of Mines) and Tin Tan (Businessman). Their alternates are Donal Manoa, John Dunlop, Roger Gilbanks, Greg Anderson, Luke Romaso and Steiner Sapu.

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## KAY COLE'S INTRODUCTION TO NEW GUINEA.

by R. R. (Bob) Cole

After reading the account of Candy Parrish's series of errors (or horrors) experienced during her first contact with New Guinea I thought members may also be interested to hear of my wife, Kay's, similar mix-up when she first arrived. Like Candy, and no doubt quite a few other girls, Kay had every reason to complain about the welcome she did not receive from the Territory when she first left Australia to join me. It also highlights the wonderful spirit and stamina of the outstation girls we talked into living with us in the bush.

Unfortunately Kay did not record her experiences (and we cannot get her to do so now because she passed away 3 years ago) but as I lived through part of it with her I feel that I can recall the details even though my own feelings may get more prominence than they should.

We were married in 1943, during the War, and after I had spent 3 years in the Middle East writing her letters. We married within a week of my return to Australia and only had 2 weeks together before I reported to Melbourne and then New Guinea 2 months later. These separations were the pattern until the end of 1943 when I was discharged. After the war we had a wonderful 10 months together before deciding that I should return to work, which meant New Guinea where the Provincial Government was in operation.

Bougainville was my posting and there being no married accommodation available I was not able to take Kay with me when I returned. I was required to build my own residence before a permit would be granted for Kay to join me and this did not worry me very much because I knew I could knock up a suitable house within a few weeks, and so off I went to get started, giving Kay an assurance that she would be with me within a week or two and that the Territory people would look after her all the way to me.

I landed at Sohano at the end of November 1946 and was sent to Buin where I arrived 2 weeks later, and where Jimmy Hodgekiss was in charge as ADO. Jimmy did not like crowded stations (we had a Patrol Officer, Jim Humphries, and an EMA, Alan Pinkerton) and now me, who intended bringing a woman to the station. This was too much for Jimmy so he went bush to start Boku and left me in charge at Buin to build the house for my wife.

The house was built by the end of December, native materials throughout except for the floor which was constructed from Japanese bed-boards salvaged from the huge overgrown Jap army camp in the bush nearby. These boards were better than limbum, but only just, because they were very thin and gave way frequently underfoot. Our furniture was patrol issue to start with, no refrigerator, and a camp stove salvaged from the same Jap camp. Upon completion I convinced Raleigh Farlow, the District Officer, that it was suitable as a married quarter and he notified Moresby to this effect and asked for approval for Kay to join me.

Passages to Papua New Guinea, on aircraft, were at a premium in 1946 and baggage allowances were very limited so when Kay did get a seat on 27th January 1947 she filled her handbag with cutlery and the allowable baggage space was used for linen in addition to her own clothing. I remember Treasury hit me for £10/13/6 to cover excess baggage, and duly collected it.

Her first stop on the DC3 was Townsville or Cairns where they spent the night and the next day to Port Moresby, Lae and Rabaul and this is where she expected to find me waiting for her. Buin to Rabaul is only a few hours trip now, and easily arranged, but in those days with very limited air traffic it could only be by sea and was a 1 to 2 week's journey if and when a vessel was available, and there were none available for me to get to Rabaul, so Kay was not met there.

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KAY COLE'S INTRODUCTION TO NEW GUINEA (continued)

My old friend Guy Black arranged to meet Kay and booked her into the Production Control Board Mess and kept an eye on her, although he had his Customs business to run and could not give her much time.

As mentioned above there was very little shipping between Rabaul and Bougainville in those days and Guy Black tried his best to get Kay a passage, but it turned out to be six weeks before he was successful and managed to get her as far as Sohano. Outstation people can appreciate how soul destroying it must have been for her, a newcomer (not a 'Before') spending six weeks early in 1947 in Rabaul at the P.C.B. Mess, and believe it or not, no-one except Guy invited her into their home. I fully expected Administration people, particularly D.N.A. people, to welcome the wife of any outstation officer stranded as Kay was, but no-one did during these six weeks. Rabaul was a small country town in those days and everyone noticed a stranger in town.

I did talk to Kay a few times by radio soon after she arrived in Rabaul but luck ran out when our set broke down and we lost all contact with Rabaul, Sohano and her. Then I had no idea what was happening, and neither did she, whilst Guy Black did the organising to get her to me, and after the 6 weeks she turned up at Sohano and the Farlows looked after her for the few days until, by luck, a British Solomon's vessel turned up at Sohano. Colin Allan the B.S.I.P. District Officer was on board and making a courtesy call on his opposite number, Raleigh Farlow, our District Officer. Knowing me, and the situation regarding Kay he willingly offered her a lift to Buin.

After our radio went off the air I had no idea of Kay's movements and had half convinced myself that she had got sick of us all and returned to Sydney. I couldn't blame her because everything in the Territory was chaotic at this time and transport was the most unpredictable. It must have been a most inhospitable atmosphere for anyone to find themselves in, but here was a young bride on her first trip outside Australia in a very war-torn town (Rabaul) -- blacks everywhere -- almost daily earth tremors -- the air reeking of sulphur and no-one other than Guy interested in her or her welfare, and wondering when, if ever, her husband would turn up to claim her. It must have been terrifying for her and she admitted to me later that for weeks her morale was as low as it could possibly be. She appeared to have no friends at all.

However eventually she arrived at Buin on the B.S.I.P. boat late on the 12th March 1947, but to find that again I was not there. I was on patrol and the only Europeans on the station were the two bachelors, Jim and Alan.

Appreciating this final jolt to Kay's morale, Colin Allan cursed me for being so inconsiderate, kindly suggested she remain on board overnight and face Buin, her destination, in the daylight. She agreed and moved ashore next morning where these two strangers, very embarrassed indeed, hovered around her trying to be helpful and making excuses for the absence of their boss, her husband.

The night before, Jimmy Humphries had despatched a Police Boy on a bicycle to find me and with orders to do so as quickly as possible - and not to worry about sleeping or eating until I was found.

Whilst the Police Boy was pedalling in search of me, the two bachelors continued to appear helpful but Kay, understandably, was browned off with New Guinea and everything associated with it, and this covered Jimmy and Alan. She was cross tumas!

Fortunately, earlier, I had employed a wonderful old couple to look after the house and the wife, Bienna, a lovely old lady, took over this young girl, Kay, and speaking English (Kay couldn't speak Pidgin) told her kindly, but firmly, when to eat, wash, sleep and dress for the three days until I turned up. She even slept on the floor alongside Kay's bed for those 2 nights

(continued next page)

**KAY COLE'S INTRODUCTION TO NEW GUINEA (continued)**

and explained the intricacies of bucket showers etc. She was a wonderful old lady and Kay grew to love her but at this early stage nothing was satisfactory and poor Bienna had a tough job.

The Police Boy found me on the second day with his message re Kay arriving, and I kicked him off the bicycle and hot-footed it back non-stop, arriving the next day and to a very browned off little wife. Nothing was right and I certainly could not, and did not, blame her for being cross. She had a lousy trip, with no assistance from me and the wonderful Territory friends I had told her about had not shown up either. Now she had arrived at a God-forsaken dump in the bush where there wasn't even a shop -- nothing fresh to eat except bananas and paw-paws, not even bread unless you cooked it yourself and the heat and mosquitoes were something else, whilst the same three men showed up each and every day. It was quite unbelievable and all this to a young girl fresh from Sydney and at the end of the most miserable six weeks she had ever experienced.

I was sure our marriage was on the rocks and/or my New Guinea career finished because Kay wanted nothing more than to return to Sydney and Mumma. It was a very ticklish time for both of us but fortunately whereas there was practically no transport in to Buin similarly there was no transport out. Nothing of any kind in or out of Buin for months and she simply had to make the best of it whilst waiting.

I can't recall how long it was before her attitude changed, but for sure she was cut out to be an outstation girl and she revelled in tackling the hardships she struck so often and soon forgot that heartbreaking introduction to New Guinea life. Buin was a very pleasant station and Kay loved it, especially when it grew a little bit bigger and she was joined by dear friends like the Jackson, Kelly and Tuza girls (they could probably tell a good tale too!).

Many of our girls had it tough at times but God bless them for the ways they handled it, and we blokes did a better job and the Territory was the better for them having been there.

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**SALAMAUA, PNG - PRE W.W.II**

by Bert Weston

With the largest proportion of our members having lived in Papua New Guinea since the end of the war they may be interested and surprised to be told of some of the conditions and way of life we experienced before 1940.

I arrived in the Mandated Territory, at Salamaua, at the beginning of 1928. With the first chill winds of the coming world depression starting to blow and with news of the rich gold finds at Edie Creek in the Morobe district of New Guinea it seemed the best place in which to find a fortune.

I travelled to Salamaua in the ten knot steamer "Montoro" which slowly made its way up the NSW coast close inshore in order to dodge the strong offshore southerly current. The voyage, at the fare of £28, took twenty three days to reach Salamaua calling en route at Brisbane, Cairns, Samarai, Rabaul, Kavieng, Manus, Wewak, Madang and Singaua plantation east of Lae. Ships did not reach Lae which at that time had a population of eighteen European males, all connected with the early days of air freighting.

Until the goldrush in the mid-1920s there was no township in the Morobe District (Province) and Administration was represented by a small Government post at Morobe, near the Papuan border. This was abandoned and moved to Salamaua eighteen miles south of Lae and built on a narrow isthmus on a fine

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That paragraph 10(b) be deleted and paragraphs, (c), (d), (e) and (f) thus become paragraphs (b), (c), (d) and (e).

9. Election of Executive Committee:

President, Vice-President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer,  
Asst. Secretary, Editor 'Una Voce', 5 Committee persons, Hon. Auditor.

Note:

Accompanying this notice is a Nomination Form for the election of Office Bearers and it would be appreciated if nominations (signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder) could be forwarded to: R.O.A.P.N.G. PO Box 452 Roseville 2069, or handed to Pamela Foley or Elma Holmes prior to the commencement of the Meeting. NO nominations will be accepted during the Meeting.

10. Any other business.

Members, Associate Members, their families and friends are all welcome - but **PLEASE** let us know you are coming by completing the booking form provided and returning it, with cheque, to R.O.A.P.N.G. PO BOX 452 ROSEVILLE NSW 2069 as soon as possible so that we may arrange seating and keep the Club advised of numbers. Cancellations advised to Elma Holmes (on (02) 958 4996) or Pamela Foley (on (02) 428 2078) by Friday 24th April will secure full refund, otherwise there will be no refund because the Association will have given the Club final numbers and will have to pay for those who have not advised of their inability to attend.

The cost for the luncheon following the Meeting will be \$20.00 per person, but this will **NOT** include liquor or soft drinks.

Parking is available at the Goulburn St. parking station (cnr Goulburn and Elizabeth Sts.) for \$4.00 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. The parking station is only 100 metres from the Club.

Any of our elder members who would come if they had transport supplied please contact our Secretary, Jo Nitsche (on (02) 451 2475), who will endeavour to arrange for them to be picked up and returned home after the luncheon.

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### LIFE BEGINS AT EIGHTY

I have good news for you. The first eighty years are the hardest. The second eighty are a succession of birthday parties: Once you're 80 years old everyone wants to carry your bags and help you up the steps. If you forget your own name, an appointment, a phone number, if you arrange to be in three places at the same time, just mention that you're 80 and no more will be said.

Being 80 is much better than being 70. At 70, folk get mad at you for just about everything; at 80 you have the perfect excuse, no matter what you do. 70 isn't fun - you are expected to retire to the Sunshine Coast and complain about your arthritis. But get to 80 and everyone's surprised that you've lived so long, in fact, they're surprised that you can still talk sensibly, or even walk. Try to reach 80 and have the time of your life, when people will forgive you for just about everything.

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FORM OF PROXY

I.....(please PRINT name) being a financial member of the Retired officers' Association of Papua New Guinea, hereby appoint:

\*.....\*.....to vote on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Sunday 18th April, 1993 or at any subsequent adjournment thereof.

(Signed)..... (Witness).....

\*NOTE: You can nominate the Chairman, President or any financial Member that you know will be attending the Meeting.

NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICE BEARERS, 1993 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
(See notice of Meeting, Agenda Item for details, etc)

I,.....(being a Financial Member) hereby nominate:

.....for the office of.....

I,.....(a Financial Member) second this nomination.

I,.....(a Financial Member) accept this nomination.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING LUNCHEON BOOKING

I,.....(block letters PLEASE) will be staying for the luncheon after the Annual General Meeting, and will be accompanied by:

.....  
(Name badge will be provided - please include Christian name [printed])

\*1. I have no preference with respect to seating; or

\*2. If possible I would like to be seated with .....

\* Please indicate option 1 OR 2.

NUMBER ATTENDING..... X \$20.00 = .....

\* Cheque herewith \$ ..... payable to Retired Officers' Association of PNG)

\* (Please post to: R O A P N G P O BOX 452 ROSEVILLE NSW 2069

Please assist by forwarding your cheques ahead of the day, as this will enable us to have receipts ready for you, thus avoiding much delay for members at arrival time. It is time-consuming collecting monies and writing receipts at the commencement of the function.

See note following the Agenda of the AGM Special Notice for information regarding cancellations.

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SALAMAU, PNG - PRE W.W.II (continued)

harbour and the closest land approach to Wau and the goldfields area. When I arrived there the new settlement was in a very primitive state consisting of a District Office, radio station, Burns Philp and Carpenter's stores, a bar, several Chinese trade stores and a cargo shed.

Apart from the stores which were of corrugated iron construction all other buildings including quarters for the small Administration staff and store employees were built of bush material.

There was no doctor apart from a European medical assistant and in fact the only doctor in the District was a German female at Finchhafen and Dr Dixon at Wau, employed by New Guinea Goldfields, regulations stipulating employing a medico when native labour reached one thousand. The only other doctor in the entire Mandated Territory mainland was Dr Holland at Madang.

Communication with the outside world was maintained by one radio operator who transmitted messages to Rabaul by Morse code from where they were relayed to Australia by similar means at one shilling per word. Radiotelephony was yet to come.

There was no freezer at Salamaua until 1930 and until that time everyone lived on tinned foods, which included Hellaby's and St. George assorted meats from New Zealand and fish. However during the two days spent discharging cargo on each six weekly visit of "Montoro" the ship supplied free evening meals to any residents who so wished. We all wished for a taste of fresh meat.

I gave up the idea of gold mining and established myself as the only building and general contractor in the township where over the next twelve years it grew into a busy prewar Administration, shipping, commercial centre with properly built stores, Government offices, residences, hospital, bank, hotel, busy airfield, court house, radio station, jetties, baths and sporting facilities.

There were initially only two airstrips in the whole of New Guinea, Lae and Wau, with Guinea Airways at Lae creating world records in tonnage carried in a fleet of two single engine Junkers planes, with a staff of nine, carrying cased foodstuffs, grog, picks and shovels, light mining machinery, roofing iron, explosives, native rations such as tinned beef and rice - and of course, people. By contrast Imperial Airways in England ran a bad second with a fleet of tri-motored airlines flying from London mainly to Paris with freight consisting of cut flowers, fashion goods, exotic foods, expensive perfumes, fine wines and aristocratic passengers.

Four years after my arrival at Salamaua most of the native built offices, stores and residences had been replaced with structures of conventional type, and an airfield had been built to which the various small flying concerns at Lae had moved, leaving Lae as a one company town. All cargo was still discharged at Salamaua and that consigned to Lae was ferried across daily in Guinea Airways large workboat. Staff had increased at Lae, bringing wives with them who, in the absence of a store there would come across to shop in Salamaua.

By the late 1930s the first overseas vessel to visit Lae was the American "Carisso" bringing drum aviation fuel and dredge parts. Later arrivals found it to be a bad anchorage as anchors became embedded in the muddy seabed and in some cases had to be abandoned. Ships then discharged cargo, while slowly cruising offshore, into several large steel barges which, together with a steam tug were kept at Salamaua until wanted.

One feature of the Morobe District which included the Huon Peninsula, Markham Valley, the coast down to the Papuan border and the Eastern Highlands was still very much a German Lutheran missionary preserve, with headquarters at Finchhafen and Lutheran manned stations at Malahang, Gabmatzung, Kaiapit,

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SALAMAUA, PNG - PRE W.W.II (continued)

Boana and Busama. There were no European schools anywhere and children had to be sent to Australian boarding schools. For that reason there was a period when I did not see my small daughter for over three years. Each of the mission centres above named had a large native school with German teachers and dozens of villages had a school run by a German trained "teacher boy".

The native labour situation was much different to that now existing. The indenture system was in force, new recruits had to make a three year contract as either labourers, domestics, or mining and carrying boys, the pay being six shillings per month and ten shillings for mine workers, with half being paid each month and the other half at the end of their contract. This amount was guaranteed either by lodgment of a lump sum in advance with the Administration or by a guarantee from the Yorkshire Insurance Co. which had an office in the town.

The Germans were still resentful about losing the war and being subject to the Australian Administration. Their large schooner "Bavaria" ex Finschhafen would often visit Salamaua, usually to meet a ship bringing mission staff back from leave or vice versa, also bringing a few men and women to do some shopping or transact business at the District Office. They seldom spoke to us residents.

When war broke out in 1939 some of the mission staff were taken to Australia for internment. The "Macdhui", in which my wife was a passenger, made a special call at Finschhafen to pick up those people for transport to Sydney under armed guard. As the ship left the wharf there was much exchange of Nazi salutes and cries of "Heil Hitler".

During all my prewar years in Morobe I never encountered a native who could read, write or speak English, none were ever employed other than as labourers or domestics. Clerks and shop assistants were always Europeans. Mail was always sorted by the use of any Patrol Officers who happened to be in town and even the District Officer would lend a hand.

For my at times large work force I preferred to recruit natives from the Markham Valley who were tall, arrogant but obedient, loyal and hard workers. Some came to me as teenagers and were with me for years until war separated us.

Our domestic staff consisted of a cook, a house servant who cleaned, made beds and waited on table, a laundry man, a gardener and usually a 'mankei' (youth) in training. There was little or no crime, iron bars to windows were unknown and bedroom doors a rarity.

In our house there was always beer in the ice box - we had no refrigerators - and wine and spirits in open view but never touched. On one occasion fifty cases of beer, four dozen to a case, was landed and stacked on the beach at Lae for over a week in perfect safety until taken up to the drome.

Strangely enough I have met people who served in New Guinea after the war who had no idea that Salamaua was at one time second only to Rabaul as the largest and most important township in the Mandated Territory. Most of the prewar District Officers (Commissioners) served there at various times and for newly appointed Cadet Patrol Officers it was their first posting and introduction to a sometimes hostile district, much of it still uncontrolled.

I knew them all including those who died at the hands of the Japanese. To me a visit back to Salamaua would bring back sad memories of patrol officers, gold miners, recruiters, tropical tramps and air pilots whose rough coffins I followed to the local cemetery, many of them having fallen victim to malaria, blackwater fever, scrub typhus, accident, malnutrition, heavy drinking. It was a way of life and an experience never likely to be repeated and yet one which I am glad to have lived through.

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## CABBAGE

by Chips Mackellar

Years ago I was stationed at Bogia on the Northern New Guinea coast. Bogia was a sub-district headquarters of the Madang District. It administered the lower reaches of the Ramu River, and a few off-shore islands. The largest of these was Manam Island, which then contained a population of some 5000 people.

During a routine patrol when we were camped in a remote inland village, I was buying local food for the police and carriers. One of the items offered for sale was a three day old bush piglet. It was emaciated, dehydrated, whimpering in misery, and nearly dead from hunger. It was so small, it fitted the palm of my hand.

"Where did you find this little pig?" I asked the child who offered it. "His mother was stealing our cabbages," the child explained, "and when we chased her away, he fell down a drain and could not run away with his mother."

I felt sorry for the piglet, so I bought it, not knowing at the time what to do with it, although the thought crossed my mind that if we could rear him he might make a good Christmas dinner back at Bogia. We revived the piglet with some powdered milk, and with much tender loving care a lot of attention he grew fat and healthy. Because he had been found in a cabbage patch we called him "CABBAGE".

Bush piglets normally follow their mothers for protection. Cabbage had no natural mother to follow, so he chose to follow me. When I left my house to go to the office or wherever, Cabbage followed. He would wait outside the office and then follow me when I came out. If I walked around the station he followed, and if I went to the club after work, or to another officer's house for dinner or drinks, Cabbage always followed. When he was young he was so cute and adorable that he was accepted everywhere, as people might accept a neighbour's dog, and any thought of him ever becoming Christmas dinner was totally abandoned.

Bogia had some good beaches nearby, and at weekends we often had beach picnics. People would bring their children, servants, and dogs, and of course Cabbage always came with me. His habit of following me turned him into a surfie. When I went into the water he would follow me in, and swim along beside me, and rest his front feet on my shoulders while we waited for a wave. When a good wave came, Cabbage would put his long snout on my shoulder between his front feet and we would body surf together.

But little pigs grow fast, and when Cabbage became too big for me to carry him like this we reversed the process. He would float around like a tub of lard, and when a good wave came I would hold on to him and ride him as though I were holding a surf board.

Cabbage was a constant source of entertainment at the beach parties, particularly after he learned how to carry children on his back. He learned this trick by himself, as a natural progression from the affection which was automatically bestowed upon him wherever he went. Children always cuddled him and hugged him, and crawled all over him, and one day when Cabbage was about knee high, one crawled onto his back and sat there astride him, like riding a pony, while his mother was feeding Cabbage. Thereafter, Cabbage associated carrying children with being fed, and at beach parties where there was always children and plenty to eat, Cabbage would squeal until a child crawled onto his back, and then he would continue to squeal until fed by the child's mother. When Cabbage was older and no longer needed to follow me, he would sometimes wander around the station without me. He became, in fact, the station mascot. The kids played with him, and their mothers fed him, and he

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CABBAGE (continued)

soon learned which mothers fed him the most, and which child belonged to which mother. As he grew bigger, he would carry more children, first two, then later three at the same time. For such feats of course, he demanded to be fed three times as much, and the more the mothers fed him, the more children he wanted to carry. Whilst he had seen other pigs from time to time during his life at Bogia, he disdained their company and preferred instead the company of humans. He was a very human pig.

Cabbage liked going on road patrol. Two police would sit in the front of the Landrover with me, and Cabbage would stand in the back. He was so big he nearly filled the back of the Landrover. But being an affectionate pig, he insisted on resting his head on my shoulder while I drove. The weight never bothered me, but his tusks did. His tusks were now four inches long, and one would rest against my cheek as I drove. I was always terrified that in a sudden lurch, bump or accident, the tusk would slit my throat.

Because of his tusks, size, bristles and general appearance, Cabbage was by now a ferocious sight to the uninitiated, and when he was on road patrol with me he would sometimes double as a police dog. For example, if we had to arrest someone, and then go about some other duty, Cabbage would guard the prisoner while we were away. I would put the startled prisoner in the back of the Landrover with Cabbage, and say "Stay here and don't move. If you move at all, the pig will bite you." Of course Cabbage was too tame to bite anyone, but an unknowing prisoner was not to know that, and no prisoner ever escaped when Cabbage was on guard duty.

As Cabbage grew bigger, he became a mild nuisance at Bogia. When not accompanying me, he would often blunder into somebody's back yard where he would eat the dog's food, or finish off the cat's milk, or root around among the gerberas and so on. So when it was time for me to go on leave, I was worried what would happen in my absence. One of the other kiaps suggested I leave him in the jail compound. It was a good idea because not even Cabbage could get through that perimeter fence, so it would be the safest place for him to stay. So, when I went on leave Cabbage went to jail.

When I returned from leave, I went down to the jail to bring Cabbage home. I discovered that during my absence he had been entered into the Prisoner's Nominal Roll as prisoner No. 1234; Name: Cabbage; Offence: Unlawfully on premises; Sentence: 3 months - the time I had been away. When I asked why Cabbage had been enrolled into the prison records the warders told me they had to do it so they could draw his rations. "You mean he has been eating Government rations?" I asked. "Why not," the warden said, "he's a Government pig isn't he?" And of course he was. Cabbage was Commonwealth Government property, and it was this status which would eventually decide his fate.

Fortunately while in jail, Cabbage was befriended by an old prisoner who came from Manam Island. The old prisoner had been assigned to me as a gardener, because he was too old for any other duties. In fact, he spent most of his time keeping Cabbage out of trouble.

Cabbage was now waist high, and although still a lovable pig, he was so huge and heavy that he could cause unintentional damage to flower gardens, fences and other property, simply by wandering around the station unattended. So when I was not with him, the old prisoner became Cabbage's constant companion. The old prisoner was alone in the world, his family had long ago grown up and gone away, and he became attached to Cabbage as any lonely old person might become attached to a pet. This was a good arrangement because sometimes when I was away in Madang on duty for weeks at a time, I could not take Cabbage with me. On such occasions the old man would continue to work in my garden during the day, and take Cabbage back to the jail with him at

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CABBAGE (continued)

night. During these absences of mine, Cabbage was entered into the Prisoner's Nominal Roll, as before.

One day during the Supreme Court circuit sittings at Bogia, the Chief Justice Sir Alan Mann decided to exercise his jurisdiction as visiting justice to prisons, and he inspected our jail records. While examining our Nominal Roll the judge said, "Your rehabilitation programme doesn't seem to be working too well, Mackellar."

"Why do you say that, Your Honour?" I asked, surprised. "This prisoner, Cabbage," the Chief Justice said, "has been in jail three times this year, and always for the same offence: Unlawfully on premises. What is he - a peeping tom?"

The warders struggled to keep straight faces, while I searched for an answer. "No, Your Honour," I said, "he is a scrounger. He goes looking for food." "Make sure his people look after him better," the Chief Justice said, "I don't want to see him back in jail again this year."

"Yes, Your Honour." I said, feeling stung by the rebuke, but it rang a lot truer than the judge had intended. Little pigs are funny, but a Government station was no place for a hugh wandering pig. Cabbage had outgrown us, and it was time for him to go.

Not long later, his fate was decided for him at a garden party at the ADO's residence. Cabbage came along with me as usual, and as usual, he was the life of the party. But in the midst of all the fun, Cabbage got carried away and began digging up the manicured lawns of the residency. In pre-independent Papua New Guinea, this rated at the worst kind of porcine indiscretion imaginable.

Next morning in the office, the silence was deafening. A staff conference was called to discuss the problem. It was clear Cabbage had outlived his welcome, but he was such a lovable old fool that no one wanted to see him end up in a cooking pot.

"That old prisoner from Manam Island is due for release next week," one of the kiaps said. "Why don't we let him take Cabbage as a rehabilitation project: a pig breeding programme for Manam Island." It was the best option. Cabbage's status as a Government pig would protect him, and I knew the old prisoner would look after him. Of course all the good food and attention Cabbage had received made him the best specimen of a native pig in Papua New Guinea. He was the best example of how good animal husbandry could improve the condition of the humble village pig, and he was an obvious choice for a pig breeding project.

As I was the officer closest to Cabbage, the arrangements were left to me. I said nothing until the old prisoner was released from custody, one hour before the government vessel departed for Manam Island. Cabbage was at that time tied by a leg rope to a stump of my house. After the old prisoner had been released and was preparing to board the vessel, he came to my house to say goodbye to Cabbage. The old man hugged Cabbage as if he were saying goodbye to a grandchild for the last time. I untied the lead end of the leg rope and passed it to the old man. "Take him." I said, "Cabbage is your rehabilitation programme; a pig breeding project for Manam Island."

The old man burst into sobs of joy, and clung to Cabbage as though he would never let go. "But there are conditions," I said. "Remember that Cabbage is a Government pig. He must never be confined in a pig pen. He must not be killed, and he must not be eaten. He must die a natural death. An when he does die, you must report his death to the police at Bogia, as you would report any other death."

The old prisoner nodded his agreement and still sobbing loudly, he slowly led Cabbage towards the wharf. The old man's sobs attracted everyone's

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CABBAGE (continued)

attention and within minutes the news had swept through Bogia like wildfire. Hundreds of people converged upon the wharf to say goodbye to Cabbage, because everybody loved him. I watched from a distance as the old man and Cabbage boarded the vessel for the journey to Manam Island .....and that was the last time I saw Cabbage.

But as the years rolled by and routine transfers saw me posted to different parts of Papua New Guinea, stories about Cabbage continued to reach me. Even in Port Moresby people would seek me out especially to tell me that Cabbage was still alive and well, and without doubt he became the best known pig in Papua New Guinea.

I was told that he continued to grow in size until he could carry five children on his back: I heard that his tusks were one foot long: I heard that although he had become even more fierce and fearsome in appearance, he was always kind to people, as people had always been kind to him. I also heard that as scrawny little village boars were no match for him, Cabbage quickly disposed of them, until he became top pig on Manam Island. And I heard that Cabbage fulfilled the pig breeding destiny which I had given him, by establishing on Manam Island a porcine dynasty which survives to this day.

The old prisoner was faithful to the end. He was over eighty years old when he sailed his outrigger canoe alone from Manam Island to make his report to the police at Bogia, as I had commanded him to do more than ten years previously. The news reached me in Port Moresby the following day.

Work had finished for the day at Ela Beach Court House, and I was talking with the police prosecutors in the car park. A police motorcycle dispatch rider rode up to the prosecutors, and without getting off his machine he handed them a message. There was a hushed conversation between them, then the senior prosecutor approached me and said, "Sir, a signal for you from COMCENTRE" it read:

Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary  
POLICE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE - KONEDOBU  
SIGNAL

From Police Commander: BOGIA

To police Commander: BOROKO CENTRAL

Relay to: PROSECUTIONS - ELA BEACH

Subject: CABBAGE

BEGINS: PLEASE PASS TO MACKELLAR. REGRET TO ADVISE THAT CABBAGE DIED LAST WEEK OF NATURAL CAUSES AND NOW LIES BURIED IN THE VILLAGE CEMETERY ON MANAM ISLAND. CONDOLENCES AND BEST WISHES: ENDS.

The police watched in silence as I read the signal, and a thousand memories came flooding back to me. I remembered Cabbage as a piglet in the palm of my hand; a surfing pig; a police dog; a prisoner, performer and pet..... but most of all, I remembered him as a friend.

I heard later that the old prisoner never made it back to Manam Island alive. I heard that after he had reported to the police, as I had commanded him, the old man walked back to the shore where his canoe was beached. He sat down in the sand with his back against a palm tree, and there in the fading twilight he quietly passed away. The night patrol later found his body there, staring out with sightless eyes across the sea to Manam Island, where Cabbage had been buried.

The police took the old man back to Manam Island next day, and buried him beside Cabbage. Those two old friends who had been together in life are to this day still together in death.

Faithful old prisoner, rest in peace on Manam Island. And you too, Cabbage, you silly old pig.



## PNG AGAIN REVISITED

by Eric and Shirley Flower

We have just returned from a trip on the BELLORUSSIIYA which called at Rabaul before going on to GUAM, JAPAN, KOREA, SHANGHAI, HONG KONG and SINGAPORE.

We had a whole day in Rabaul and had hoped to spend it with my old friend PAULIUS MATANE. We had been close friends in Moresby days - I introduced him to Rotary and he succeeded me as President of the Port Moresby Club in 1973. Now Sir Paulius, he has established the Sir Paulius Matane Foundation "for Integral Human Development." On 26th September former P.M. Rabbie Namaliu was to launch Paulius' 13th book, and he was expecting over 1000 guests. Unfortunately he was to be in the United States on the date we would be in Rabaul.

So on to Rabaul where we were met by Ron Gough who many may remember as Alan Morris' Service Manager of New Guinea Motors in Rabaul. He gave us the whole day in his air-conditioned 4 wheel drive and we toured to Kokopo, Bita Paka, up to Vunadidir (missed Ken Williamson or Col Liddle there !!!) then on to Kerevat and back along the North Coast Road. The new COOLUM RESORT right on the beach near Nordup is a magnificent watering hole and took a couple of hours toward the end of our day.

Roads are practically all sealed and very well maintained. I think the great sorrow was the overgrown Copra and Cocoa plantations throughout the Gazelle. Ron told us that practically all the owners have been forced to walk off their erstwhile immaculate plantations, mainly due to depressed prices. Government houses we had in Kokopo are still in good repair and I understand the old A.D.O's house there is now occupied by the Premier. Still regard it as the best site ever, overlooking as it does Blanche Bay and the Duke of York Islands. The old Chinese stores in Kokopo are still as ever, though nearly all the owners now live in Australia, we hear.

The old RALUM plantation house (Bill Rowe's has been converted to a Ralum Club with the Kokopo Golf Course (challenging!!) adjacent. Queen Emma's old house ruins are next to the Club, and we were informed that PNG has an overseas grant to rebuild the house as it was, as a tourist attraction. In the same area a War Museum has been established with the co-operation of all the citizens working on a voluntary basis, and they are now displaying an amazing range of restored wartime memorabilia. These include field guns, tanks, all types of firearms, documents and vehicles. The old Speaker's Chair from the old Parliament House in Canberra, donated to the Vunamami Local Government Council, is also on display.

Bita Paka War Cemetery is the show place it always was. The memorial, which used to be about half a km before the cemetery marking the place where the first Australians were killed in the First World War, has now been moved. It is standing just outside the gate of the War Cemetery.

The Vunadidir Local Government Centre, though closed on the day of our visit, is now a huge concern.

In Rabaul, Steamships appears to be the only operating large store. Buildings along the waterfront have been demolished and the area opened to parkland. The old "wreck" wharf is still in fulltime use for small ships. There are shady palms growing all over it. A new Post Office on a new site in Mango Avenue was opened just a month before our visit. The famous Rabaul markets are better organised than ever. Though we were there on a Monday, they were in full swing.

I was surprised to hear that there are only some 50 expats in Rabaul now, but law and order is good generally. We met quite a few old friendly faces.

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PNG AGAIN REVISITED (continued)

As is common on most ships a historian gave a Port lecture and all the details he could on each Port prior to our arrival. On our ship the position was filled by one, Jim Kemsley, who was an ANGAU Patrol Officer toward the end of the war in the Rabaul and Talasea areas and who transferred to become a Trawler Master in the early '50s. Some members may remember him - we struck up a firm friendship throughout the voyage and 'chewed over' old times and personalities.

Some, incidentally, may be interested that Harold Reeves' son Geoff, my son-in-law is now Regional Manager for all QANTAS Airports in Japan.

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A P.N.G. CONUNDRUM  
by Philip H. MacFarlane

How did an 1835 private Journal written during a  
Mediterranean cruise by the U.S. Ship 'John Adams'  
end up in a bombed cottage in Port Moresby in 1942?

Some background: The book came to me in 1964 among all my deceased father's writings and photos of Torres Strait after I returned from 6 years' teaching in Hong Kong. He was a missionary there from 1917 to 1933 (the "Wandering Missionary" of Ion Idriess's 'Drums of Mer' for which he wrote the foreword.) I was born at Thursday Island in 1924, went back after the war to teach on Moa Is. before heading off to Central America for three years, then Hong Kong. I was in New Guinea in 1944-45 as a Navigator-Wireless with RAAF 36 Squadron, based at Townsville. My last contacts were in 1964 on a study tour as Principal of the Australian Board of Missions Training College in Sydney 1964-69.

The book lay unexamined in a trunk until 1989 after I retired and processed my father's material for the Institute of Aboriginal and T.S. Island Studies in Canberra. It had no author's name but after three years' of off-and-on research I have established a great deal about him, his origins, family, career etc.

Lt. Edward M. VAIL, born France 1805, joined the U.S. Navy in 1821. American father and French mother. Was dismissed for drunkenness 1843 and, I believe, returned to France where he had married in 1837.

I have tried to contact all the VAILS in Australian phone directories with no success in finding a descendant although I have found one in Paris!

\*\*\* ??? Was the journal taken to Port Moresby by an Australian descendant before or during the war? e.g. a trader, missionary, miner, teacher, administration officer, planter? - by a U.S. serviceman? Not by Vail at all or even a relative but someone who had picked up the book in a secondhand shop? PNG Archives in 1990 said no electoral records were kept pre-war and they found no VAIL records of government officers. Perhaps the owner was killed in the air raid 1942, or perhaps he returned to Australia or the U.S.A.

Perhaps your Newsletter would dig up some facts/recollections/relative, or even the original owner. It was "souvenired" by a soldier, John Ireland, who gave it to his mate John Boardman who gave it to my brother who gave it to my father etc. (All this took much tracking down, after a lapse of 40-odd years!)

P.S. The Vail Journal now rests in the Archives of the Washington Naval Center.

[Anyone with information concerning the above please contact the Editor.]

## REPORT OF THE JAPANESE INVASION OF BUNA W.W.II

by F. A. (Alan) Champion

During the early afternoon of July 31st, 1942 at Buna Government Station the beach patrol reported the approach of aircraft, a few minutes later a Japanese single float seaplane circled the Station at tree-top height and fired several bursts of machine gun fire, apparently at some natives who were then in the vicinity. The plane then flew off in a S.E. direction.

I instructed the Cipher Clerk (Pte Harper) to code a message for H.Q. reporting the incident, while I went to ascertain if there were any casualties, fortunately there were none. Later in the afternoon the same plane returned, circled low, but did not fire any shots. This was repeated four times after the first visit. After the last reconnaissance the plane flew seawards in a N.E. direction.

At approximately 17.15 hrs. on the same day the beach patrol drew my attention to what appeared to be a strange formation of cloud, I went to the radio station for the binoculars and found that this object was a large destroyer or light cruiser heading in the direction of Gona, I then saw the stern of another vessel well in towards shore, the forward part being obscured by Cape Killerton. On sweeping the sea with the glasses I saw two more destroyers and two merchant vessels of approximately 5,000 to 8,000 tons heading towards Buna. Visibility was rather poor owing to a haze on the sea, but I estimated the distance of the ships to be about 8 to 10 miles from Buna.

I immediately instructed the Cipher Clerk to send a clear message (there not being time to code a message) on "X" frequency reporting the convoy off Buna. The Cipher Clerk was also instructed to stand by with native police in readiness to evacuate the radio equipment at a moment's notice.

At approximately 1730 hrs I heard what appeared to be gunfire, and mentioned to Lieut. Wurt of P.I.B. that the ships were shelling Gona.

I collected all codes, ciphers and defence papers together with a bag of cash from the office safe, and then one of my beach patrols from the Sanananda area came into report that troops were landing in that area, I immediately burnt all secret documents.

Planes then started coming in from the sea so I decided to evacuate the Station. On returning to the radio station I found the radio equipment destroyed and the spotter personnel having already evacuated. I immediately sent a runner after Pte. Harper to ascertain if he had transmitted any message to VIJ, Harper sent word back he had sent out the message eight times without getting any acknowledgment from Moeresby. Lieut. Wurt, Sgt. Bishop and myself then retired to GIRUNA village at the rear of Buna, we waited there until 1745 hrs and heard heavy explosions coming from the direction of Buna station.

Not having received any acknowledgment to my messages and fearing the possibility of being cut off by the enemy we decided to make for Awala, the nearest radio station, a distance of approximately 36 miles along the main Kokoda Road. A police runner was also despatched to Awala with a letter to the District Officer.

On arrival at Soputa a P.I.B. cpl caught up with us and reported that the Japs were coming ashore in barges, we had a short spell and then proceeded to Popondetta where we found the spotters with Capt. Austen (Cont.(?) Native Coffee Pltns.) Capt Austen gave us a meal and asked me if he could return to Sangara, collect some stores and retire into the mountains. I told him it would be far better if he came with us to Kokoda, but he complained about a bad leg and said he could never make the trip. I suggested we had him carried, but he said he would rather go into the hills, unfortunately I granted his request.

The party then consisted of Lieut. Wurt and Capt. Bishop of P.I.B.,

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REPORT OF THE JAPANESE INVASION OF BUNA W.W.II (continued)

Ptes. Harper, Hill, Glasbey and myself, we said goodbye to Capt. Austen and set off for Awala. We called in at the Sangara Rubber Plantation to warn Mr Mason, but his house was deserted, the party then proceeded to Esugahambo where W/O Bitmead made us all a very welcome cup of coffee. W/O Bitmead said he would await instructions from the D.O.

My party left Esugahambo at dawn and at 0715 hrs on the 22nd July we met the District Officer, Lieut. McKenna, and W/O Yeoman, the D.O. informed me that he was proceeding in the direction of Buna and instructed me to report to Major Watson on arrival at Awala. We then carried on arriving there at 0745 hrs where a very good breakfast was awaiting us and also the good news that my SOS of the previous evening had been heard.

On the morning of the 23rd Maj. Watson instructed me to proceed to Kokoda with all possible speed to instruct the O.C. 39th battn to make all haste to Awala.

I, with Sgt. Bishop left Awala at 0945 hrs for Kokoda, we met the advance party of the 39th on the Awala side of the K..... River, the main body were met at Wairopi. We proceeded on to Kokoda arriving at 2130 hrs. I then sent a message to H.Q. advising my arrival.

On the 24th and 25th July I spent supervising the extension of the 'drome and at 1630 hrs I left Kokoda with a line of rations for the (?) forward troops at OIYI, having handed over the rations to Maj. Watson I returned to Kokoda arriving at 2400 hrs.

On July 26th I received a message from H.Q. instructing me to report to Moresby immediately. Lt. Col. Owen told me to catch the next plane to Moresby, but no further planes arrived, so I, together with some sick troops, left Kokoda at 2330 hrs and I proceeded over the Owen Stanley Range to Moresby where, on arrival I reported to Major General Morris.

(This report was written by Alan Champion on 4 April 1943, when he was serving in the Australian Army with the rank of Captain attached to ANGAU (Australian New Guinea Administration Unit) and carrying out the duties of an ADO (Assistant District Officer) stationed in the Kokoda Sub-district, which was then part of what was known as the Mambare District of Papua. The report was kindly provided by Alan's widow, Emily Champion. Ed.)

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MONTEVIDEO MEMORIAL - RABAU

(In the September 1992 issue of *Una Voce* there was a detailed report by Diana Martell of the 50th Anniversary visit to Rabaul to commemorate those who were lost in the fall of that town when invaded by the Japanese during WWII. With respect to that visit Jack Goad of Griffin, Queensland, wrote to me as follows. Ed.)

"...re our recent 50th Anniversary fall of Rabaul trip. It was wonderful. I wonder, though whether Diana realised that the original memorial, to the folks who lost their lives in the Montevideo Maru, was situated on the Rabaul foreshore on approximately the spot where they boarded, or are said to have boarded, the ship. This area is now in use by coastal shipping and the memorial is a new one and on a new site. The brass plaque is off the original memorial and I understand credit must go to the R.S.L. Rabaul for attending to this.

The site is on the other side of the harbour coastal road near enough to the place we all knew as the Cosmo (Cosmopolitan) Hotel.

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## SIR PAUL HASLUCK KG GCMG GCVO KStJ

1 April 1905 - 9 January 1993

Paul Meernaa Caedwalla Hasluck was born in Fremantle on April 1, 1905. He was educated at Perth Modern School and the University of WA, where he studied journalism and gained the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts.

Sir Paul joined the *West Australian's* reporting staff in 1922 and eventually became a senior sub-editor and drama critic. He was twice winner of the prestigious Lovekin prize for journalism and travelled thousands of kilometres through WA's North to write influential articles on Aborigines.

In 1930 he became a UWA part-time lecturer in Australian history and the next year was granted a year's leave of absence from *The West Australian* to be a full-time history lecturer.

In March 1941 he was released from *The West Australian* at the request of the Department of External Affairs and moved to Canberra. He later travelled to Canada, the USA, New Zealand and Britain for the Federal Government.

He was appointed to head the Australian mission to the United Nations in New York in 1946 and later represented Australia on the UN Security Council.

After a policy disagreement with External Affairs Minister H.V. Evatt, he resigned from the department in June 1947 and returned to UWA as a reader in history. Two years later, he won for the Federal Liberal Party the Perth seat of Curtin, which he held until 1969.

In May 1951 under Prime Minister Robert Menzies, he was appointed Minister for Territories. He held the post for 12 years.

The following are some quotes about him with respect to his term as Minister for Territories:

"He [Hasluck] did not hold the proselytising faith of some of his colleagues in private enterprise. On more than one occasion he stated that the development of the resources of the country should not necessarily be dependent upon their ability to pass the test that a money-lender would apply." (Dr Robert Porter, in his PhD thesis, 1990)

"In some ways he [Hasluck] was a hard task master always expecting perfection, and with a singleness of purpose in pursuing government policies. He was fair in all his dealings and his integrity was beyond reproach. For his friendship and help over the period when I served under him I shall always be deeply grateful." (Sir Donald Cleland, a former Administrator of Papua New Guinea, n.d.)

"... it is quite frightening to think of the directions that P.N.G. could have taken had the Territories portfolio fallen into the hands of almost any of the possible contenders for the position in 1951, save Paul Hasluck or one or two others." (James P. Sinclair, a former District Commissioner in PNG, n.d.)

"I think it is one of the miracles of modern politics that in a Cabinet with the kind of political philosophy to which most of the members of this Government are addicted, we have a man [Hasluck] with such humanitarian outlook and tendencies in charge of such a great humanitarian work as the administration of our Territories." (Gordon Bryant, Opposition Member of Federal Parliament, 1959)

During the period I was in the Department of Labour in PNG, I met Paul Hasluck on a number of occasions, both in PNG and in Canberra. When in Canberra he insisted that I call on him if he was in town. When I did he

(continued next page)

SIR PAUL HASLUCK (*continued*)

would always arrange for me to brief the then Leader of the Opposition, Arthur Calwell, on labour matters in PNG, but he never once suggested what I should or should not discuss with Calwell. As a result of these discussions I believe that, behind the scenes, the Labor Party endorsed most of Hasluck's policies.

One day when lunching with him at Parliament House, I asked him, that considering the long hours he worked and his extensive travelling, what did he do for relaxation? He replied that when in Canberra or at home he tried to keep his weekends free, except when the most pressing Government business determined otherwise, and his greatest relaxation was to go horse riding. Whilst riding, he said, he was able to put work and politics right out of his mind and think of more pleasant things. This, I think, was part of the other side of him, the poet and historian.

In December 1963 he became Minister for Defence and by mid-1964, on the retirement of Sir Garfield Barwick to the High Court, became External Affairs Minister and set his mark on the development of Australian international relations by stepping closer to Asia.

When Prime Minister Harold Holt disappeared while swimming off Portsea in Victoria in 1967, Mr Hasluck was a candidate to replace him, eventually losing narrowly to then Victorian senator John Gorton.

The late Sir Paul Hasluck was subsequently often called "the best Prime Minister we never had".

The same year he travelled to many countries to extend Australia's involvement in international affairs outside the main areas of Britain, the US and Japan. As External Affairs Minister, he said: "Looking after external affairs is like sailing a boat -- you have to take into account the movements of wind and water. One lesson I keep telling my officials in the external affairs department is the need for flexibility."

In 1968, *The West Australian* said of Mr Hasluck: "If the public image of Mr Hasluck is somewhat colourless and slightly tinged with austerity, this is largely because he is a man who is completely without flamboyance, who shuns pomp and ceremony and personal publicity, as he shuns ministerial cars and VIP aircraft."

In 1969 he accepted the position of Governor-General, which he held until 1974, when Prime Minister Gough Whitlam appointed Sir John Kerr. He was knighted in 1969 and made a Knight of the Garter 10 years later.

After retirement he devoted himself to writing, including four books of poetry, a limited number of public addresses, often to small community groups grateful for the recognition. He also commented on current affairs in academic publications, wrote book reviews and wrote his autobiography and other books. He published his fourth book of poetry only two years ago.

Sir Paul Hasluck was also a very humane and caring person, beside his sometimes stern exterior, as my wife and I can testify because he went out of his way to help us when we suffered from a most unfortunate experience whilst on leave in Australia.

He is survived by his wife, Dame Alexandra Hasluck, an author and historian whom he married in 1932, his second son Nicholas and four grandchildren.

(The foregoing I compiled with the assistance of an article by Robert Reid in *The West Australian* 11/1/93 and the quotations were provided by Harry Jackman. Ed.)

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## VALE

*With deep regret we record the passing of the following members and friends. On behalf of the Association the Committee extends our deepest sympathy to their families.*

Mr. Richard Ian SKINNER (4 February 93, aged 78 years)

Born in Delungra NSW, Ian grew up in Grafton and was one of the region's outstanding athletes and footballers.

He trained as a patrol officer and in 1937 went to the Territory of New Guinea. He returned to Australia in 1940 and enlisted in the Australian Army, serving in the Middle East with the 2/4 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, 9th Division AIF. He fought at El Alamein and achieved the rank of Major.

Returning to Australia in 1943 he transferred to the Australian Coast Watching Service, operated behind Japanese lines in New Britain for almost a year and was awarded the Military Cross for outstanding bravery.

During his post-war career in PNG, Ian served in Talasea, Wewak, Lae, Madang, Mendi and Port Moresby. In 1955 he was appointed District Commissioner and served in that capacity in the Western and Southern Highlands.

In 1965 Ian was appointed Director of Civil Defence and Emergency Services for PNG, the office he held until he retired to Australia in 1971 at Grafton.

He eventually found his way to the Gold Coast and became very involved in Bowls. He joined the Southport Club in 1972 and was President of the Club in 1979/80. From 1980 to 1989 he was Southport's Publicity Officer and was made a Life Member of the Club in 1987. He was also Gold Coast-Tweed District publicity officer for many years.

Ian had the reputation of knowing everything there was to know about Bowls on the Gold Coast. If anyone had a query about the sport it was just a matter of giving Ian a ring and he would almost always come up with an answer.

He was survived by his wife Marie, sons David and Peter, daughter Julie-Marie and five grandchildren.

Mrs. Marie SKINNER (10 February, 1993 aged 78 years)

Marie was in every sense of the word, remarkable. She exuded great love, warmth, and sense of humour and within her family and friends there will be few who have not at some time received that love and warmth, and shared the fun and good humour.

Known to her school friends as Pledge (an abbreviation of her family surname, Pledger) Marie was later dubbed Little M by her family, a loving jibe at her height of about 5 feet. An while small in stature, Marie was anything but small in the way she approached life.

A brilliant student who was in the top of her State's high school leaving class, and an outstanding hockey and basketball player, Marie could have explored almost any career she chose. What she chose was the love of her life, Ian. Their life together was great love story - one of romance, adventure, hard times and wonderful times. And it was punctuated by long separations: the years Ian was in New Guinea before the war, the war years, and at various times after the war when Ian continued his career in PNG.

But Marie made the most of things and did everything within her power to be with Ian. A wonderful example was early in their marriage. She said goodbye to Ian, about two days after their wedding on September 20, 1937,

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when he headed off to New Guinea as a patrol officer. About two years later, annoyed at this long separation, she arrived by boat unannounced in Madang, determined not to be apart any longer.

War broke out in Europe the day she arrived in Madang and all civilians were ordered to board the M.V. Bulolo for Australia. Marie refused, paid a native to paddle her in a canoe to an island in the harbour, and hid until the Bulolo disappeared over the horizon. She then faced the ire of the District Officer, who had no choice but to send word to Ian, who was eight days' walk away in the bush, that his bride awaited him in Madang. Ian walked in to Madang in three days, a record that will never be eclipsed!

In so many ways Marie won a permanent place in the hearts of those she met. Her compassion for the natives of New Guinea and the respect she had for them were exemplary. And yet, while she endured the privations and loneliness of being a white woman in a primitive country to be with the man she loved, her heart was always in Australia, with her parents, her siblings, family, and friends, and later with her children at boarding school in Australia.

It was a feeling probably shared by many of her woman friends in New Guinea who, like Marie, made a valuable contribution to that country without the recognition they so fully deserved. The bonds of friendship, forged among all those great people who shared that pioneering era, were never broken.

Throughout her life Marie took a keen interest in politics, voicing strong opinions based on a clear understanding of the issues. While Ian did not always agree with those opinions, he certainly respected them. Marie also liked to have the occasional bet on horses, play bingo and cheer for our Aussie sportsmen and women as they strived for international honours.

Marie was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She loved life and people from all walks of life regardless of race or creed. Although plagued with illness for many years she courageously battled on, rarely complaining and always showing concern for others.

Above all things she loved her family and hated saying goodbye to any of them. She and Ian dreaded life without the other. Perhaps this is why they left less than a week apart, to be together for eternity.

Survived by sons David and Peter, daughter Julie-Marie and five grandchildren.

Mr. Roger Timothy GLEESON (2 January 93, aged 51 years)

Roger passed away peacefully at Royal Darwin Hospital after a two month battle with cancer. He grew up in Victoria on the family property and, after completing his education at St. Joseph's College, Geelong, he joined the Victorian Land Department.

He was recruited as a Cadet Patrol Officer in PNG in January 1963 and served in the Southern Highlands, the Western Highlands and Bougainville Districts.

In 1975 Roger and his family relocated in NSW with the National Parks, primarily prosecuting offenders of wild bird protection legislation.

In 1981 the family again relocated, this time to the Northern Territory when Roger was appointed as the Senior Ranger at ULURU (Ayers Rock).

In 1985 they again relocated to Darwin with the Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory. Roger was responsible for a number of firsts in Darwin; he established the crocodile management that is still used; he prepared a submission to the NT Cabinet to establish two new National Parks, the Gregory and Litchfield. Both of these are now major

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tourist attractions in the NT and regarded by many Territorians to be even better Parks than Kakadu.

Roger was still an active sportsman, particularly with the volleyball association in the NT. He was an official for the inaugural Arafura Sports Festival, a mini-olympics type event that attracted some 26 teams from nations throughout Asia and the Pacific to compete in Darwin.

Roger is survived by his wife Robyn, his daughters Niki, Carla, and Devina, all residing in Darwin.

Mrs. Ethel Maud McLAUGHLAN (28 December 1992, aged 91 years)

Ethel was born in Croyden, Nth Qld. and went to Port Moresby in September 1926 to marry Dave at the Ela Congregational Church. She had 2 children, David and Jean, both born in Port Moresby.

When war broke out she was evacuated with the other women and children in December 1941, spending Christmas on the boat. Dave stayed and joined ANGAU.

Ethel and Jean returned to Moresby in 1946 to live on Laws Road, young David came later after serving in Japan with the Occupation Forces. Dave Snr. worked for Government Stores in Moresby until his retirement.

Ethel was a founding member of the CWA, involved with the church and other community projects. One night a week was "fun" night at the McLaughlans (as at other homes) when the children were home on holidays from boarding school.

Dave and Ethel retired to Mermaid Beach in 1958 where both were foundation members of the Mermaid Beach Bowls Club. Ethel was a foundation member of the Mermaid Beach QCWA and president of the Uniting Church Women's Fellowship for 21 years. Dave died in 1978.

Ethel is survived by children, David and Jean, and two grandchildren.

Mrs. Maria Ilona HASZLER (24 October 92, aged 79 years)

Maria was born in Hungary on 26 February 1913 and her life was almost exactly centred in the 20th century - a century of great change for the world - and 80 years of great change for Maria.

During her life she moved from a fairly rural Hungary, to a still fairly rural Australia, and then to a primitive Papua New Guinea. And on that journey Maria lived in six countries, Hungary, Austria, Germany, Italy, Papua New Guinea and Australia. She spent more than half her life in Australia and she and her deceased husband, Charles, were glad to have migrated to Australia, they were honoured to become its citizens and, after both had survived two world wars in Europe, they were glad to commit their children, and grandchildren, to an Australian future.

They were also "boat People" in a way and met the difficulties that that involves. But whatever Maria thought about the Labor Party afterwards, she was always grateful for Arthur Calwell's invitation to post-war Reffos to come to Australia.

One of Maria's great assets and an asset to her family as a whole, was that she spoke the language of every country she lived in before she arrived in the country. That talent for languages certainly made adaptation to all the change much easier and helped her to make friends everywhere she went.

Maria was one of the last generation of western women for whom tertiary education and training for formal or paid employment was commonly thought a luxury or a matter of personal choice. She had talents nonetheless. She turned her language skills to good use in Austria in 1945 by getting a job as a translator with the French, who only a short while

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before had been the "enemy". Later on she turned her knowledge of English literature to a stint with the PNG library system. Somewhat later still, she became very much involved with the Hungarian Women's Association in Sydney, being foundation president, a position she held for many years. The Knightly Order of Vitez decorated her with "The Cross of Merit", thereby expressing the appreciation of the whole Hungarian community for the excellent work she had performed.

She is survived by son Henry, daughter Christine and five grandchildren.

Mr. Barry GRIFFIN (22 February 93)

Full report next issue. Survived by widow Joan.

Mr. Stanley Clifton CLARK (1 December 92)

Stan went to PNG pre-war and was for many years Manager of Koranga Gold Mining Co. at Wau until his retirement to Port Macquarie and later Sydney. Survived by widow Margary Phyllis (Phyl) and daughter Shirley.

Mr. Alexander Lionel MALCOLM (15 October 92, aged 87 years)

Alec went to PNG in the early 30's and spent a very large part of his life there including the war years with the N.G.V.R. He was well known in Salamaua, Lae and Wau where he was involved in gold mining and a coffee plantation.

He lived on the Gold Coast for many years and is survived by his son Douglas.

Mrs. Jean BAKER (8 November 92)

With her husband Kevin Jean spent time at Wewak, Salamaua, Lae and Wau. Post-war years were spent at Lae where Kevin was Chief Clerk in the District Office until returning to Australia in 1951.

Mr John Joseph (Jack) PINI (17 November 1992, aged 72 years)

Jack Pini went to Rabaul in 1953 with the Commonwealth Department of Works. He served Comworks for 20 years in administrative positions. When that Department was replaced he transferred to Civil Aviation for five years. Most of his long service was in Port Moresby. He retired in 1978.

Jack was closely involved in sport and sports administration. He was affectionately and justly known as Papa Bilong Sport. He recognised that organised and friendly sporting competition was the way to bring people together. It did not matter what sport it was - swimming, football, athletics or whatever, Jack was always ready to give a hand.

He returned to PNG as a sports adviser many times during his retirement at Dulong near Nambour on the Queensland Sunshine Coast. His most recent occasion was when he was one of the VIP invitees to the 9th South Pacific Games held in 1991. He presented medals in the swimming events.

Jack is survived by his wife Bette and six children, Janice, Kevin, Anne, David, Paul, Helen and their families.

Mr Alexander SHANLEY (8 March 1993, aged ? 80 years)

Alex was a Senior Inspector for Secondary Schools. He is survived by his wife Adelaide and daughter Hiliary. (Further details next issue).

Mr James Ronald MITCHELL (19 September, 1992, aged 73 years)

James Mitchell was born on 4/8/1919 at Hartlepool, England. Migrated to Australia in August 1926, and with his family lived in country areas including Childers and Beerburum. He joined the Naval Reserve in 1935 and when war broke out, the Navy in 1939. Served in all theatres of war including Mediterranean and Pacific on frigates and destroyers - two being the "NORMAN" and the "GLADSTONE". Demobilised in 1946 Jack went to PNG, working on Manus Is., then to Madang where he was associated with Bernie Porter, Ron & Brian Albert, Titch Woodland and Ted Buchanan. He joined Public Works in Madang and was later in Lae, Popondetta and Rabaul. He left PNG in 1974 and lived at Red Hill until his death.

Mr Kit ADAMS (1990, aged about 45 years. )

Kit Adams joined DASF as a Cadet in 1961. he became a good Didiman, serving in Bougainville, Northern Province (Tufi and PATI) and Goroka. He left PNG about 1975 and after several positions in Australia returned to PNG in 1990 in private enterprise. He suffered a fatal heart attack at Lae Golf Club and was buried at Lae.

Sir Albert Maori KIKI ( 13 March 1993)

No further details available.

Mr Christopher John COHEN

Eldest son of Florence and the late Bill Cohen of Rabaul. Further details in next issue.

Father Ivo RUITER (date of death not known)

A Divine Word Missionary, Father Ruiter was ordained in America in 1950 and qualified soon after as a pilot, coming to Australia a year later to do a conversion course to Australian regulations and several other short courses to assist him in servicing planes.

While in Sydney he was stationed in the Parishes of Beralá and Georges Hall.

He was appointed to the Diocese of Wewak in 1952 under the Flying Bishop Leo Arkfeld SVD.

Father Ivo, an active and skilful pilot, in 30 years flying, made more than 6,000 landings in all parts of New Guinea in rugged and primitive conditions and he serviced remote missions. There were many near misses, but Father Ruiter had no serious accidents.

A skilled engineer, his abilities were often used by other aircraft operators.

He was Parish Priest of Wewak and Vicar General of the Diocese.

Ill-health grounded him early in the 1980's, but he continued his missioning until he was forced to retire to America in 1988. Soon after his return he became stricken with Alzheimers' Disease and at a date unknown he passed away.

*Even though this issue is much larger than usual, I was unable to include all the articles I have on hand. My apologies to those contributors whose articles have not as yet been published, but please be patient as most of them will be included in subsequent issues.*

*My very best wishes to you all.*

*Doug Parrish*

Doug Parrish  
Editor

# WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

MR. A.P. BEALE	39 BILWARA AVE.	BILGOLA PLATEAU	NSW 2107
MR. J.E. BOWERS	3/138 RAGLAN ST.	MOSMAN	NSW 2088
MR. A.W. CHARLES	15 ASCA DRIVE	GREEN POINT	NSW 2251
MR. L. COVAN	P.O. BOX 463,	NORFOLK ISLAND	NSW 2899
MR. G.F. COYNE	40 KINSALE ST.,	RESERVOIR	VIC 3073
DR. C.A. DE DERKA	3 MACKINOLTY ST.	SCULLIN	ACT 2614
MR. K.R. GASCOIGNE	13 BOUCOUT PLACE	CURTIN	ACT 2605
MR. J.E. GRAY	56 WESTON ST.	YARRALUMLA	ACT 2600
MRS.E.M. GUNTHER	29 FLAUMONT AVE.	LANE COVE	NSW 2066
MR. B.D. HOY	7 ST. GEORGE CIRCUIT	ALBANY CREEK	QLD 4035
MR. K.W. HUMPHREYS	P O BOX 291	CALOUNDRA	QLD 4551
MRS.E.E. JOHNSON	12 NUTTAL ST.	LAWNTON	QLD 4501
MRS.K.A. MARCOUX	954 BELLS LINE OF ROAD	KURRAJONG HILLS	NSW 2758
MR. G.D. OAKES	35 WESSON RD.	WEST PENNANT HILLS	NSW 2125
MR. K.B. PARKES	RMB 5018	COBRAM	VIC 3644
MR. P. QUINLIVAN	61 BELLATA ST.	THE GAP	QLD 4061
COLONEL D. RAMSAY	121 EDGECLIFF RD.	WOOLLAHRA	NSW 2025
MRS.J.M. REEVE	2 WARROWA AVE.	PYMBLE	NSW 2073
MR. J.W. SCHOFIELD	"GOONHILLY", DUNOON RD.	DUNOON	NSW 2480
MR. R.B. SHAW	9 SHEOAK PLACE	ALFORDS POINT	NSW 2234
MRS.S.D. SHAW	9 SHEOAK PLACE	ALFORDS POINT	NSW 2234
MR. P. VELLACOTT	38 MORBRAY ST.	ALBERT PARK	VIC 3206
MR. D. VINCIN	23 HOCKING ST.	SOUTHPORT	QLD 4215
MR. K. WALLACE	16 JAIBARU ST.	WULAGI	N T 0812
MR. I.J. WOOD	10 WANA ST.	SUNNYBANK	QLD 4109

# CHANGES OF ADDRESS: TO -

MRS.E.P. ANGELL	2070 ALBANY ST.	MADDINGTON	W A 6109
MRS.E.F. BREMEN	11 TERRIGAL LODGE, MT GRAVATT RETIREMENT HOME		
	1748 LOGAN RD.	MT GRAVATT	QLD 4122
MRS.M.E. BOWMAN	UNIT 44 "DIAMOND COVE"16 CRESCENT AV.	MERMAID BEACH	QLD 4218
MR. D.J. COLWELL	P O BOX 666	NOOSA HEADS	QLD 4567
MR. M. HAMILTON	14 CROFT LANE, SEAFORD, EAST SUSSEX	BN25 ISA	ENGLAND
MR. D.N. HOUGHTON	18 SANTA CRUZ BOULEVARDE	ISLAND QUAYS	QLD 4226
MRS.E. JOHNSTONE	UNIT 23, DALVEEN LODGE, P.O.BOX 127	TEWANTIN	QLD 4565
MR. P.M. JONES	17 RENE ST.	CHAPMAN	ACT 2611
MS. N. LUTTON	3/4 BRUDENELL DRIVE	JERRABOMBERRA PARK	NSW 2619
MR. G. MASTERS	41 WILLOW GROVE,	KEW	VIC 3101
MR. W. McBRIDE	9 GRIFFITH RD.	SCARBOROUGH	QLD 4020
MR. B.A. McCONACHIE	GPO BOX 985	SYDNEY	NSW 2001
MR. A.B. NICHOLS	5 FAIRWAY CLOSE	MT COOLUM	QLD 4573
MR. D.J. OSBISTON	WESSEX COLLEGE, 55 REGENT ST.	CHIPPENDALE	NSW 2008
MRS.J. OTTLEY	P.O. BOX 55	BALGOWLAH	NSW 2093
MR. D.J. PARRISH	11/1208 PACIFIC HIGHWAY	PYMBLE	NSW 2073
MR. B.R. PORTER	2/49 VICTORIA TERRACE	GORDON PARK	QLD 4031
MR. D.O. SMITH	7 GRANDIS PLACE	BATEAU BAY	NSW 2261
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MR. C.A. SYMONS	P O BOX 237,	NTH ADELAIDE	S A 5006
MR. J. VANDERIET	UNIT 6, 1 GLENSIDE DRIVE	ROBINA	QLD 4226
MRS.J. ZIGAS	HOEFBLADLAAN 127, 2555 ED,	DEN HAAG	HOLLAND

# Correction:

MRS. A.C.EGGINK STUDIO 405, RETIREMENT VILLAGE, not UNIT 5.

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