



Una Voce News Letter

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA
P.O. BOX 452, ROSEVILLE NSW 2069
Print Post Approved PP224987/00025

President:	Harry West	(02.418.8793)
Deputy President:	Freddie Kaad	(02.969.7217)
Secretary:	Joe Nitsche	(02.451.2475)
Assistant Secretary:	Pamela Foley	(02.428.2078)
Editor Newsletter:	Doug Parrish	(02.488.9693)
Treasurer:	Elma Holmes	(02.958.4996)
Caring Committee:	Pat Hopper	(02.953.7061)

No. 2, 1994 - June

Dear Member,

This issue of the Newsletter is divided into two parts as follows:

- (1) The Newsletter itself with pages numbered *2*, *3*, *4*, etc.
- (2) Membership Address List with pages numbered 2, 3, 4, etc.

This is done to enable members to lift out the Address List and file it separately.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Please note in your diary that the 1994 Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Mandarin Club on 4 December 1994. (For future reference, this function is always held on the first Sunday in December each year.)

CPI ADJUSTMENT TO SUPERANNUATION

The increase in the Consumer Price Index for the twelve months from 1 April 1993 to 31 March 1994 was 1.4%. This means that our superannuation pensions should increase by that percentage from the first pay period in July, i.e. 14 July 1994.

Members are reminded that ComSuper* will endeavour to forward Group Certificates with their notification concerning the pension increase. But, as they are dependent upon another government department to enable them to do this, it is not always possible. Group Certificates will be posted to those concerned as soon as the Office receives them, so please do not pester the Office staff if you do not receive your Group Certificate with your notice re pension increase. Be patient, it has not been overlooked and will arrive in due course. (Change of name for The Office of the Commissioner for Superannuation, see following pages.)

VISIT TO BLUE MOUNTAINS

The May trip to the Blue Mountains was most successful with 18 members participating and, although numbers were down with a number of members who regularly attend away, lunch at the Grandview Hotel was very pleasant.

It is hoped to make another trip to the mountains in October 94 and the date will be advised in the September 94 issue of the Newsletter. The mountain gardens at this time of the year are very attractive and with most of us able to avail ourselves of the \$2.00 return rail fare, it is an inexpensive outing.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

I regret to advise that, as at 10 June, there were some thirty six unfinancial members and a list of these appears later in the Newsletter under the heading of "LAPSED MEMBERSHIPS".

Members are always reminded in each issue of the December and March issues of the Newsletter that membership contributions are due on 1st January each year.

It is then economically impossible for the Association to continue sending copies of the Newsletter to members who are unfinancial. They will have already received a copy of the March issue for which they have not paid.

By publishing the "Lapsed Memberships" list it is hoped that financial members will jog the memory of those they see are unfinancial. Many of us are getting on in years and I believe that it is purely an oversight in most cases that members have not forwarded their subscriptions.

AGM MINUTES & BALANCE SHEET ETC

We very much regret that these will have to be deferred until the next issue of the Newsletter because of space limitations.

RBO CHANGES ITS NAME

The Retirement Benefits Office (RBO for short) has been renamed Commonwealth Superannuation Administration. It will operate under the business name ComSuper. Members might see the old name around for a while because ComSuper will continue to use existing stocks of stationery and publications until they run out.

Phone Access to ComSuper.

As most members would know, the RBO maintained a small staff to respond personally on a 008 telephone number. That system is being changed as part of what ComSuper calls "a transformation to a more client-focused service organisation".

The new system allows you to leave a recorded message to notify changes of address or bank account or taxation details; to notify the death of a pensioner; or to ask for a statement of earnings. It also allows access to recorded information on various topics.

Designed to minimise delays and leave staff free to deal with more complex enquiries, this new system allows recorded messages to be left at any hour - 24 hours a day.

The telephone number for the Pensioner Enquiry Service is 008 020 080.

A recorded voice tells you to press various buttons (or dial the numbers) on your phone to access the subject you want. If you don't want to leave a message but want to speak directly to one of the ComSuper staff, you can still do so during Canberra business hours. The recorded message tells you how to do that.

It sounds a bit complicated but SCOA *Super Time* has tested it a number of times and found that it works. Before you phone, be prepared for these things:

- ▶ you will need to let them know that you belong to the PNG superannuation scheme.
- ▶ have your superannuation number ready.
- ▶ have a pen and paper ready; and

(continued next page)

RBO CHANGES ITS NAME (continued)

- always leave your own telephone number so that, if they need to, ComSuper staff can call you back.

ComSuper says that very few pensioners are having any problems using the new system. If you do have problems, you can phone Wayne Delahoy on (06) 22 6878 during Canberra business hours. But please note that this is not a free call and you will be billed at normal STD rates if you call from outside Canberra.

CLAIM YOUR PENSION

Aged and service pensions increased from 20 March 1994 following the latest 0.6 percent increase in the CPI.

A full age pension is now \$323.60 a fortnight (\$8413.60 p.a.) for a single person and \$535.80 \$13930.80 p.a.) combined for a married couple. These figures include the Pharmaceutical Allowance of \$5.20 per fortnight.

The full pension is paid if your separate income from superannuation and any other sources does not exceed \$88 per fortnight if single or \$152 per fortnight (combined) if married.

Anyone who gets even the smallest part pension now gets the concession card so if you qualify for any part pension at all, claim it!

To be eligible for any part pension, males must be at least 65 and females 60. You must pass BOTH of the following tests:

- income: if married, a combined income under \$1223.60 per fortnight (equivalent to \$31,813 p.a.); if single, under \$734.60 per fortnight (\$19,099 p.a.);
- assets: if married and a home owner, combined assets under \$339,500 or for non-home-owner couples assets under \$420,000; if a single home owner, assets under \$220,750 or for single non-home-owner assets under \$301,250.

Pensioners paying rent can qualify for rent assistance if their rent exceeds \$101.40 per fortnight if married or for singles, \$60.80 per fortnight.

Those paying rent for government housing are not eligible for rent assistance. Special rules apply for those paying board and lodgings and also those living in retirement homes.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Members who have dealings with the Department of Veterans' Affairs and who live outside the capital cities should make a note of the new telephone number. You can make a free call to Veterans' Affairs on 1800 113304.

NEW CONCESSION CARD

It is five years since SCOA representations to have the pensioner health benefit concession card extended to all part age pensioners and all super-annuants of age pension age was rejected out of hand as being too costly.

To the Government's credit, since then it has progressively extended the card, first to all part pensioners and now to some people on low incomes but unable to claim a pension because of the assets test. SCOA still wants it extended to all superannuation pensioners.

(continued next page)

NEW CONCESSION CARD (continued)

From 1 July 1994 the Commonwealth "Seniors Health Card" will be available to people of Age pension age (65 males; 60 females) who do not get an age or service pension but whose income is below the cut-off point for those pensions. It is only available to Australian residents.

More information is available from the Dept. of Social Security free TeleService number 13 2300.

NURSING HOMES

When the need for someone to move into a nursing home or hostel is emerging, there are many questions on our minds about them.

The Commonwealth Department of Health and Human Services has staff teams who monitor all nursing homes and hostels which receive any Commonwealth funding. The teams look into a range of matters, including the standards of health care, privacy and dignity, social independence etc.

Reports are made after each inspection of an individual nursing home or hostel and those reports are made available to the public.

The numbers to call are:

NSW	008 048 998	TAS	008 005 119
VIC	008 133 374	S A	008 188 098
QLD	008 177 099	W A	008 198 008
	008 019 030	N T	008 019 122
	(for Nth Qld)	ACT	008 020 102

The R.O.A. & P.N.G. HISTORY

by W. E. Tomasetti

Fellow members will recall that this matter was the subject of a note (written by me) on page 4 of the March 1993 issue of *Una Voce*.

Subsequently, Peter Cahill mentioned it again in a note published on page 23 of the September 1993 issue of the Newsletter.

I am now happy to be able to write that, after much sweat - the result of many hours with my nose glued to the computer screen - the study is complete. As foreshadowed by Peter Cahill, I wrote it to test my earlier suggestion that the case study format would be a practical one for such ventures in writing up one's work experiences. I think it has, but not all might agree. The study is entitled "Modifications to Land Alienation Practice in the Eastern Highlands District - A Case Study", and is about 6,500 words in length. To Peter's foreshadowings I add that it is written by a lay person (in land matters) for other lay persons. I would welcome comments on the text from any members who read it.

In accordance with its adoption of and support for the idea, the ROA Executive has decided that the Editor of *Una Voce* will provide a gratis copy to any member who wishes to read it. Those interested could arrange a copy by contacting Jo Nitsche, the Secretary, or Doug Parrish, the Editor of *Una Voce*, whichever is the most convenient.

And may I add that I hope the study will stimulate other members to write their own and there is a vast need for them.

HAVE YOU HEARD???

A letter from Betty SANDERSON with the news that she has now bought a unit in Albury NSW following the sale of her house after Clive died, and she went on to say "Clive was very interested in everything to do with PNG and over the 30 years of a very different lifestyle, farming beef cattle, also fat lambs and wool production, he found time to read books and articles about PNG.

"It wasn't until we retired to Mollymook that he joined the ROA, attended the Christmas Luncheon in 1992, and enjoyed meeting many old friends from the Madang area. Clive and I had hoped to attend more such functions last year, but it wasn't to be. I am looking forward to receiving "Una Voce" and reading the many interesting articles, also news of old friends."

Ian GIBBINS of Bristol, U.K. has joined the Association and has written to say that "attending the Christmas Luncheon gave me so much pleasure - in meeting up with old colleagues who I had not seen for so many years as well as the legendary figures whom I knew all about but had never met, as they were on the 'other side' - names such as Sir Horrie Niall, Bobby Gibbes come to mind. I now look forward to receiving the Newsletter which no doubt will cover the Reunion. Over here in the U.K. I am Treasurer of the Britain-Australia Society so am doing my bit to keep the Aussie flag flying, and attend most of the official functions at Australia House."

Harvey BOOTH of Bundaberg Qld reported that although he and Valmai got to Sydney last year to see 'Phantom of the Opera' they haven't spent time there for years - and he doesn't know the one-way streets anymore! He went on to say "we have just got back from a week in Katoomba. Ah memories! One day we drove down to Sutherland to visit the cemetery. Of course a picnic lunch. Last time I drove down there it was a dirt road."

Excerpts of a letter from Jim HUXLEY of Carlton NSW, written after the funeral, paid tribute to Sir Horace Niall, saying: "Horrie's service was worthy of a great man - a man who I admired greatly. It was a pity, however, that the PNG government wasn't better represented."

"My first association with Horrie was in the early NGVR days on the Salamaua track. He was in charge of the lines of communication. I then served with him again after the fall of Lae. He was ANGAU's officer-in-charge and I was one of the Medical Assistants at the Malahang hospital. At the end of the war, I was Medical Assistant in-charge at the Wewak Native Hospital at Moem. Horrie came to Wewak as the Civil Administration first post-war D.O., taking over from John Milligan. Harry Erskine, ex Wau before the war, replaced me as EMA and Horrie, with a big grin, informed me he had arranged for me to be attached to Civil Admin and then posted me to Maprik for a few months. I worked there with ADO John Wakefield, who had previously done a six weeks patrol into the Wantoat, and we became very good friends."

"Then, of course, I served in the Administration under Horrie in Lae post-war until I resigned and worked for South Pacific Post Ltd full time. When I was appointed editor of New Guinea Times Courier and Niugini Toktok, Horrie was always helpful and supportive both as District Commissioner and President of the Morobe District Advisory Council. During this time I built up a good relationship with him and when I decided to move my family to Australia in 1965 Horrie wrote me a most appreciated reference."

"It was good to see Lois again. I hadn't seen her since about 1964. Here she is now with a grown and handsome family. I recall her as a pretty, blonde teenager when she came to Lae on her school holidays. I knew Horrie's first wife, Alison, well but I met Lady Una only once. I always found Alison a most likeable and co-operative person. I felt it an honour to be able to join with Horrie's family and friends today."

(continued next page)

HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

A letter from Cedric INKSTER of Blair Athol SA provided the following information : "Just a line or two to let you know that with the aid of the medical profession I am doing my best to keep going. I am not allowed to do any heavy work. But I still manage to do the odd spot of cooking - biscuits, cake and feijoa jelly. Quince jelly is off because quinces are finished.

"Being on my own I find a bit lonesome. A Vietnamese friend from down the street knows I would like a companion. One evening when I took the family a Feijoa Cake, he said 'Cedric, you don't need a wife when you can cook like that.' I said 'I want a companion.'

"Girls, don't wear your eyes out looking in recipe books for Feijoa Cake because you won't find one, unless someone has pinched my recipe.

"I appreciate receiving 'Una' so all concerned - keep up the good work!"

George ANDERSON of Mollmook NSW has commented in a recent letter on that item about a grog ration at Milne Bay. "Geoff Baskett is quite right. I was at Ese Ala when it came through. Gerry Pentland (Great War I air ace) was in charge of Air Rescue Sqdn and actually put we ANGAU chaps on his ration list! We got very little from Gerry but we did get our ANGAU ration!")

(George, if you are in touch with David Wren please give him our regards and suggest that he might like to become a member. Ed.)

Esme JOHNSON of Lawnton Qld has been interested in perusing copies of the 'Papuan Times' which evolved into the 'Papuan Courier' to extract items relating to her father, W.A. Bock, and other members of her family. She also mentioned an article in the Brisbane Sunday Mail by Ken Blanch which was accompanied by a photo of Port Moresby in the early 1920s "from a different angle to the usual - it is from the Paga side of Musgrave St. looking up towards Tuaguba Hill with Douglas St. on the left and St. Johns on the right - would you like a copy of the article plus photo?"

(Esme, we would appreciate a copy of the article plus photo and I am sure Peter Cahill would be most interested in seeing the copies of the Papuan Times and Papuan Courier. Ed.)

"From Arthur WILLIAMS of Townsville has come the following: "I don't know if anyone else has contacted you re the whereabouts of Hec McKenzie as per the note in March's Una Voce but just in case no one else has popped up - on my way north last weekend to visit my son and family in Millaa Millaa I called in at 17 Marine Parade Cardwell, and found another family moving in. I asked them about Hec and they said he had moved to Kangaroo Island but they did not know his address. I went round to the estate agent who had handled the sale, but although I explained why I wished to get in touch, or the Association did, he would not give me the address, however he did part with the contact phone number. (extracted)

"I thought of ringing Hec so as to send you the address but I do not know him nor have ever met him, besides which it occurred to me that it would be easier for you to contact him from Sydney than I from the wilds of North Queensland (in spite of what Telecom may say), particularly from Millaa Millaa where the Spanish Moss hangs in festoons from the power lines, where the clouds sit wetly on one's shoulders and toadstools come creeping up through the pavements as you watch.

"My wife and I have just about decided that it was our last trip that far north; Connie is fond of the old world charm of Bongaree, Bribe Island, and I have come to agree with her so we will be moving there probably towards the end of July (D.V.)."

(Arthur, many thanks for your efforts with respect to Hec and I am pleased to report that we have found him again. Ed.) (continued next page)

HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

Sydney Preston SAVILLE (DipEd '52, BScAgr '51) of Burpengary Qld is congratulated on receiving the University of Sydney 1993 Alumni Award. The citation reads: "Syd Saville worked as an agricultural officer in the Madang Province of Papua New Guinea for 25 years and played a vital role in the introduction of post-war agricultural programs there. He was instrumental in the establishment of several agricultural colleges and was appointed Principal of the Vudal Agricultural College in 1964. He became the Regional Controller then Deputy Secretary of the Department of Primary Industry in PNG. In 1979 he moved to the Northern Territory as Regional Director of the Department of Health. He became Secretary of the Department of Education, then Secretary of the Department of Primary Production, and later Public Service Commissioner and Secretary of the Department of Labour and Administrative Services in Darwin."

Fred and Marjorie KLECKHAM of Seaforth Qld recently reported: "...93 was fairly mobile for us - a few months in Vanuatu with Fred Jnr. - a couple of months in USA (with Marj's sister) and UK with my rellies.

"A scuba diving festival at Heron Island and for 94 so far a month with daughters Betty and Marjorie. Marjorie is a true islander now, she lives on Scotland Island! Betty at present in Australia after some years overseas.

"Barry Johnston, retired now, has just left us after two weeks headed south, beware!"

C. T. COGHLAM of Buderim Qld has been recovering from a mitral valve repair operation and has been working hard to get fit enough to once again be able to work his way around a golf course. CT we hope that by the time you receive this you will once again be pounding that little white ball down the fairways. All the best for a speedy and complete recovery, enjoy your golf.

Joe SHAW of Mackenzie Qld recently advised: "I was away for ten months last year with the squash coaching of my International Squads in England, Europe and finished in Brasil for three months.

Margaret has pulled the plug and refuses to travel anymore and although Brazil wants us back it was too dangerous in Copacabana, Rio de Janiro, where we lived.

So I have to stay home all this year and attend to my Australian group, sending my internationals cassette tapes for their coaching and training programs.

My only trip will be to New Zealand on 23 July to coach Brasil in the World Junior Titles.

Then in September I will be in the World Masters Games in Brisbane, so that should be fun."

Brian CORRIGAN of Tweed Heads NSW recently wrote saying that *Una Voce* "continues to remind me of the colourful little island on which we had known great happiness and of course, happiness too. But that is part of the past now, it remains a memory and not a maguth."

With the reports one receives now, Brian, I sometimes do wonder if the wonderful country we tend to remember was a dream and not reality.

Ken WIGGINS of Brighton NSW, late last year commented in similar vein "I get a great deal of pleasure from reading the Newsletter - it brings back fond memories of the 16 happiest years of my life. Last weekend I attended a Madang reunion on Bribie Island- great to see old mates again."

Many of our members, Ken, I am certain feel the same way about PNG.

Bert WESTON of Milsons Point NSW, an apology to you for referring to you as "Bruce" on page 5 of the last issue.

(continued next page)

HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

Col and Fay WHEATLEY of Brisbane were off last month to France for the D-Day celebrations. Col served for some years in PNG at Madang and other places as a Meteorological Officer with Department of Civil Aviation.

During W.W.II Col was a rear gunner in the R.A.A.F on a Lancaster Bomber which took part in the D-Day operations and was looking forward to the journey to Normandy, which this time would be by ferry from England in daylight.

Col's first trip to England was as a member of the R.A.A.F., seconded to the R.A.F. under the Air Training Scheme, which was set up in 1940.

Lesley DAVIS of Stirling ACT had a rough time last year with two hip replacements, one in June and one in December. It has taken her a while to get back to normality but we sincerely hope, Lesley, that by now it is all a thing of the past and you are fighting fit again. Our very best wishes for a life of renewed activity.

Pauline and Jim GOULD of Boronia Vic. are giving us a good plug by Pauline reporting: "I keep on meeting people who have spent time in PNG when I am working in my job for the Stats Bureau and I sing the praises of the magazine and the pleasure both Jim and I get out of reading it."

Keep up the good work and we appreciate your comments.

Pat WINKLE of West Tweed Heads NSW is planning a trip to Canada, USA and Alaska in July and Pat we wish you Bon Voyage and have a great holiday.

Jeannette and Tom FOX of Lemon Tree Passage NSW disappeared last year when they moved from Avalon but they have finally touched base again and Jeannette reports: "...the Post Office, although paid, rarely forwarded our mail, or it was lost enroute. We have moved twice in the last two years!

"We are now happily installed at Lemon Tree Passage in the Port Stephen's Shire, a delightful spot, as yet unexploited by tourists. We have a small sandy beach opposite the house and koalas in the front garden with wild flowers in abundance.

Our son, Mark, is busy with his wholesale nursery, 20 minutes drive from here and we are presently very involved with preparations for his wedding to Kathy Benson on 11th June at Paterson in the Hunter Valley. A very hectic but exciting time.....

I enjoy the newsletters immensely and Pat Hopper's return to Rabaul was of immense interest to our family....

The Cockburns (Margaret and Mike) are at Stroud, not far from here, and we catch up occasionally."

Our very best wishes to Mark and Kathy on their marriage and we envy you what sounds like an idyllic place to live. Our warmest regards to you both.

Heather SHARP of Sylvania NSW is another one who earlier this year had a hip replacement, her second, and reports that she is now making good progress. Our very best wishes, Heather, for a very speedy and complete recovery.

Merle BOWMAN of Mermaid Waters Qld reports that she: "tried living in a Villa, to cut down work, but paying high body corporate fees, and not having sufficient to do, I have bought a house, as I love pottering around my own property."

(continued next page)

HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

Gwen JONES of Beverly Hills NSW who was in PNG from 1947 to 1966 and spent a number of years as Secretary to the Supreme Court Registrar and some of the judges in Port Moresby is now totally blind and her nephew, Warwick Kelly advises: "Gwen wishes to receive your excellent *Una Voce* Newsletter at her address from now on, because there are folk who can read it to her.....

"Gwen welcomes phone calls from friends who help her to keep in touch with the world."

So all those members who knew Gwen please give her a call, the phone number is (02) 584 9522.

Jack PAGE of Linden Park SA recently advised: "Living in the back-woods of SA there are very few we do see from PNG, though we do have Craig and Lyn Symons as near neighbours and see a lot of them."

Pam Foley and Freddie Kaad join with me in reciprocating your kind regards and good wishes.

John HUON DE MAVRANCOURT of Atherton Qld, who received in 1985 the Queensland Migrant Service Award, nominated the first ever PNG lady, Mrs. Stella GREEN of Atherton for the Multi-Ethnic Award. Mrs. Green, mother of four, is from the Highlands Region. Her husband, David, was injured a few years ago by pirates outside Port Moresby. He was an engineer on a ship and his captain, from Papua, was killed.

Very active in social work and cultural events, Stella Green organised for the last "Maize Festival" in the Tablelands the participation of a Women's Club from Lae. She received her Silver Medal from the hands of Mr. Wayne Goss, Premier of Queensland, at a ceremony in Brisbane." On behalf of the Association we extend to Stella our heartiest congratulations.

John, your query about Herbert Walsh's daughter, Maria, the action taken by the Super people was correct.

Jim CAVANAUGH of Surfers Paradise Qld recently advised: "We live in a high rise on the 37th floor and enjoy the lifestyle very much, we don't intend to move out and back to the earth."

"We don't travel much any more, last year we went to the USA to see some of my old clients and this year we will also visit the USA for a reunion with them, if all goes well."

"The local club is bounding along and we enjoy our regular meeting over lunch every second month, all organised by Ira Halliday the one and the only evergreen."

Thelma PRICE of Figtree Pocket Qld has not been well as reported by her granddaughter, Anna, and we wish her a very rapid recovery from her illness. Kindest regards, Thelma, from all your friends down this way.

Lucy MOORHOUSE of Cleveland Qld recently returned from a holiday in Tasmania and regrets that she is so far from Sydney and unable to attend our Christmas Luncheons. We also very much regret that she cannot be with us on such occasions.

She reports: "Mrs. Hartley, who lived in PNG before the war, is still active and I often see her shopping in Cleveland. It is very interesting to read of former members who have passed on. I was in PNG from 1958 to 1973 and knew quite a number of folk."

Lucy, we do hope that one of these days you are able to make it to one of our functions because we would love to see you.

NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

Jim Toner (Northern Territory)

This month's general election for the NT Legislative Assembly saw three candidates with PNG backgrounds representing the ALP. At odds of 13-8 to become the next Chief Minister was Brian Ede. He spent 12 years in PNG which he left as Assistant Commissioner for Local Government (Finance) after serving as a kiap in the Central, Morobe and Southern Highlands districts.

Seeking to step up the political ladder was the Mayor of Palmerston, Kevin Diflo. A Headmaster in PNG schools, he was a lucky survivor of the Twin Otter crash at Kainantu in 1970. John Tobin B.Ag.Sci. (Qld), M.Ec. (UNE) spent two years in PNG as a Volunteer Abroad. He packed down for the Kumuls in their victorious Rugby League test against France in 1977. Like many others he found his wife in PNG and his father-in-law is Geoff Littler, long time kiap and LEGCO member.

Bob Welsh, who uniquely served as a patrol officer in both the NT and PNG, has left ATSIC for a commercial post in Darwin's Trade Development Zone. He is Marketing Director (Special Security Risks) and expects to spend some of his time on PNG consultancies. From what one reads, he should have plenty of scope.

The NT Rugby League Union fielded an unusual request from the South Darwin club on a recent weekend. It wanted the name of its match-winning try scorer in C grade changed. The reluctant hero was Graeme Hockey, formerly of DASF Vudal, Kagua and Popondetta. It seems that his better half Philippa (nee Coote of Rabaul) took a dim view of rugby for 47 years-old didimans and had been led to believe that Graeme played lawn bowls on Saturday afternoons. So apparently our hero would leave home in whites before making a swift detour to wherever he had secreted his football gear.

His club in its beneficence wanted the try credited to a second rower who had not scored points since William Webb Ellis was a boy. This caused the incident to get into the newspaper with consequent reverberations at Haus Hockey. "O, what a tangled web we weave....."

Doug Franklin (Brisbane)

Ian Downs, former pre-war kiap, Coastwatcher, R.A.N. Fairmile C.O., District Commissioner and Member of the House of Assembly, attended the Fairmile Association lunch at Tweed Heads on 3rd May. Ian told Doug, who also served in Fairmiles (Patrol Boats) in wartime New Guinea, New Britain and the Solomons, that he had moved from his property in the Murwillumbah district to Chevron Island on the Gold Coast. It was good to see Ian, who is 79, and to be able to reminisce with someone with Ian's wealth of knowledge and PNG experience.

Colleen Neville was seriously injured in a car accident in New Zealand in March. She was having a catch up holiday with her sister when the accident happened. Colleen, who was not driving, sustained several broken bones and was in hospital in New Zealand and Brisbane for eight weeks. She said the seat belt saved her life. Colleen is well but still undergoing further physio etc.

Tim Neville, one of Colleen and Ron Neville's sons, is the current M.P. for Milne Bay and Minister for Forests in PNG. He was interviewed at length on the A.B.C. Four Corners program during May on the subject of Malaysia involvement in extracting large volumes of timber from PNG forests. Tim had recently had an interview in Washington with Al Gore, Vice President of the United States, on seeking U.S. support in the funding of a K20 million ground

(continued next page)

NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS (continued)

inventory of PNG's timber resources to be carried out by satellite survey. Mr Gore had promised to assist with this project and had been invited to visit PNG in the next 12 months. As it is, PNG is one of the last countries in the world with substantial virgin rain forest and does not want to see this resource exploited.

A big gathering was held at the Royal Pines Resort, Gold Coast, in May for a 100-strong PNG business delegation and representatives from 400 Queensland companies. Prime Minister Pias Wingti was present to mark the conference designed to promote closer cooperation between Queensland and PNG. A newspaper report said there was hardly a dry eye among the many Australians present who had served in PNG when the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra struck up the PNG national anthem. Sir Timothy Ward, who lives on the Gold Coast was among the latter. The evening was topped off with a cocktail party with SP beer, Kurumul tea, Goroka coffee New Guinea coconuts, brightly coloured bilums and red, yellow and black PNG flags.

The story is around that Fred Kleckham of Seaforth, Queensland, is getting organised for his 80th birthday. Good on you Fred, and all your family. Well done and many more of them.

Geoff Masters (Bribie Island)

Cheap (as against cost of passport) travel documents are available for people who only want to go to PNG and/or New Zealand and a few other places. These documents, called Document of Identity or Certificate of Identity, are available at the low cost of \$20.00 (last year it was \$13) and are in fact almost identical to a passport but brown in colour and do not have the page requesting a foreign government free and unhindered travel through a particular country.

They are of course of interest to older people who want to travel to N.Z. etc. for a one off trip and do not want to go to the cost of a passport - members could be interested. Application is made on standard Passport form but words 'passport' are crossed out and D.O.I. inserted. The government has not made these details public no doubt due to revenue drop.

Re Leigh Vial - in case you haven't seen the story by one Sqd. Ldr. Church (deceased) I will enclose a reprint. As you will see it has Vial marching off into the jungle from up around Sogeri - now as you are aware there was no way a person on his own could carry a 3BZ let alone battery charger and of course food.

I re-read Feldt's story which I would accept as correct and it states that Vial was flown into Salamaua only days before the Jap landing and walked with native carriers to his look-out post - he had with him a bag of marks (1/- pieces) to hand to locals for payment for services.

I also re-read "Private War of the Spotters" and it is noted that a spotter named Ross Kirkwood was also placed in the area at the same time and it appears that the two did have some contact, either physical or via radio. Incidentally it was from Kirkwood's position - and not from Vial's - that Damien Parer filmed the Jap movements on and around Salamaua. Unbeknown to Parer, who was filming, the Japs also were filming Parer for it appears they saw the sun flash on the lens - the next day the whole ridge was machine gunned from the air. Interesting.

Someone has posted me a paragraph from a paper in respect of lawlessness in PNG - so what's new? It suggests high level of personal security and awareness be taken.

Called to see Cec and Betty Weldon and they have slowed down a lot of their charity activities. Their adopted daughter (a New Guinean) presented

(continued next page)

NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS (continued)

them with a grandchild some time ago and christening took place at the Greek Orthodox Church at Goulburn a month or so ago. Betty and Cec travelled down for the event.

The M.V. Russ is to do a PNG trip mid year calling at RB-MAD-LAE-ALOTAU-POM-CAIRNS-BRIS. Leigh Vial's daughter Lindy is doing the trip and proposed to leave the ship at Lae and spend a few days there - hopefully to get to Salamaua - and then fly over to POM to catch the boat back to Australia.

TOK PISIN

by F. X. Ryan

Reference to the Buna Memorial reminds me of a story I heard in Rabaul from one of the Tolai who were at Buna/Gona during the Blue.

This young lad explained, as did many other Tolai, that the Japs on arrival in Rabaul went overboard to be friendly with the locals. The Japs encouraged the locals to ride freely on Jap trucks, which were all over the Gazelle just driving about. Naturally, the trucks were all packed and supplied a much needed transportation to the Bung (market) each day. Groups of young men were particularly encouraged to ride about.

One day all trucks were diverted to a compound near Vulcan, where the loads were dropped off and sorted out. All the young men and older men too, Nason was one, were packed on transports and shipped as carriers to the New Guinea mainland.

During the Buna/Gona campaign the Tolais and other New Guinea natives decided that they had had enough. The Japs were copping a beating and were pushing the half-starved Tolai carriers to the limit. Local Papuans were very anti the New Guinea non Motu speakers and of course the Australians and Americans were the new order.

One group, consisting of Tolai and Madang natives, decided to "hole up" and, as the informant explained: "We were completely fed up and decided that from now on in, we would act as an independent group owing loyalty to no one except ourselves."

Taking over a well fortified bunker built by the Japs they decided: "The next group that comes up the road will be shot, no matter who they are, Natives, Jap, American or Australian. We had a heavy machine gun and plenty of other automatic weapons, as well as rifles and grenades, we were very angry!"

Later we noticed a small patrol on the road, single file, crouched on either side of the track, obviously a forward scout patrol. We watched them and said to the Madang native whom we called sargeant: "Shoot now?" He replied: "Wait pastaim". Now, one man came forward and we said to the sargeant: "Now!" But he said: "No, wait pastaim, let him get close." Time passed and the man, an Australian, came closer, then stood up in the middle of the road and shouted: "Yupela ol boi, oli mekim wanem?"

Nau mipela, bel bilong mi i wara, nau ai bilong mi i wara, taim mipela harim masta i tok boi - nau mipela i hamamas - mipela noken sut, mipela ol i hamamas tru - mipela isavi masta bilong mipela!

The group then joined the Australian unit and served with them to the end. I often wonder what would have happened, had the officer leading that patrol been a Motu speaker? I also wonder who he was!



Retired Officers' Association of Papua New Guinea

P.O. Box 452, Roseville NSW 2069

MINUTES OF THE 43RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 24 APRIL 1994 AT THE MANDARIN CLUB, SYDNEY

The Meeting opened at 11.15 am.

1. Present: Tom Aitchison, Margaret Barter, Marie Bassett, Roma Bates, Madge Blanden, Eileen Bulmer, Barbara Burns, Colleen Burrows, Eileen Dansey, June Dennis, Don Drover, Meg England, Linda Evans, Pamela Foley, Aileen Giles, Alan Gow, Elma Holmes, Pat Hopper, Lloyd Hurrell, Margaret Hurrell, Stuart Inder, Jo Inder, Isobel Ireland, Bill Johnston, Nancy Johnston, Ken Jones, Joan Jones, Gabriel Keleny, Elaine Kimmorley, Judy Latchford, Adrian Leyden, Neil Malone, Tod Malone, Alison Marsh, Noelle Mason, Geoff Masters, Jill McCully, Doug Parrish, Candy Parrish, Bob Pulsford, Mary Pulsford, Donald Ramsay, Ian Reardon, Jan Saave, Hazel Savage, Heather Seale, Sandy Sinclair, Pat Smith, Sydney Smith, Anne Sneddon, Bert Speer, Ross Swaddling, Amy Swaddling, Bill Tomasetti, Anna Tuza, Betty Washington, Doug Watkins, Marjorie Watkins, Harry West, Bert Weston, Ray White, Celia White, Nita Whiteley.

Visitors: Mrs Perpetua Haiveta, PNG Consulate, and Mr Joseph Bokuik.

Apologies: Sir Horace and Lady Niall, Joe Nitsche, Flora Nitsche, Andrew Redei, Doug Franklin, Dawn Levy, Adelaide Shanley, Dr Leslie Topham, Jack Page, Frank and Betty Smith, Les and Margarette Williams, Florence Cohen, Patricia Jones, Alex Zweck, Joan Stobo, John and Chris Downie, Anne-Marie Bakewell, Marie Day, Irene Schultz, Edna Maclean, Francis Ryan, Geoff Burfoot, Dim De Graaff, Bob Blaikie, Margaret Barker, Lloyd Yelland.
Apologies for the Luncheon: the Consul-General Mr William Nindim and Mrs Anna Nindim.

2. Confirmation of Minutes of previous AGM

The Minutes of the 42nd AGM having been circulated in *Una Voce* were confirmed on the motion proposed by Bert Speer, seconded Bob Pulsford. Carried.

3. Business arising from the Minutes

No business arose from the previous AGM.

4. President's Report

The President, Harry West, welcomed members and guests, especially those from outside the Sydney area and proceeded to present his report for the year, as follows:

'I am pleased to report a continuing good relationship with the Papua New Guinea Consulate staff, especially with the Consul General, Mr William Nindim, and the Consul, Mrs Perpetua Haiveta.

We have kept in contact with the office of the Commissioner for Superannuation in Canberra as necessary and have had good cooperation. Likewise we maintain a useful contact with the NSW Branch of the Superannuated Commonwealth Officers Association. As indicated last year, all our superannuants are eligible for membership of this organisation and membership at \$13 per year, tax deductible, is recommended. Their quarterly newsletters are full of useful information.

The 14 committee members have had a busy year and attendance at meetings held every ten weeks or so has been excellent. The five sub-committees set up to handle various aspects of the committee's responsibilities comprise an average of five members; so a number of people are on more than one committee. The sub-committees are (1) Social, (2) Editorial, (3) Finance, (4) Legal and Constitutional, (5) Caring. Some 900 letters were received by the Secretary for attention by himself or other committee members.

I would like to thank, on your behalf, the committee one and all for their contribution of time and energy and considerable personal expense in many ways, particularly in attending meetings and 'wrapping' days when *Una Voce* is prepared for distribution. The people I am talking about are Freddie Kaad, Joe Nitsche, Pamela Foley, Elma Holmes, Doug Parrish, Roma Bates, Bill Johnston, Bob Pulsford, Frank Smith, Pat Jones, Pat Hopper, Don Drover and Marie Bassett. Our usual special thanks to our Honorary Auditor, Len Bailey, and to Peter Clay and Neil Grant for advice on legal aspects. Inevitably someone will be forgotten, but Florence Cohen, Les Williams, Mary Pulsford, Lynda Evans, Heather Seale, Meg England and Anne-Marie Bakewell are names that come to mind for assistance to the committee.

Our current membership in 889, of whom 72 are unfinancial. The latter have been advised that they will receive no further copies of *Una Voce* unless they pay up, as, in spite of all the free labour input into *Una Voce*, it costs almost \$2 per copy to produce and post, that is \$8 per year - the total annual subscription to our organisation. For this reason, there may be a proposal to increase the annual subscription to \$10 at the next AGM.

Una Voce has expanded in size, content and scope under Doug Parrish's stewardship and his team, and congratulations and appreciation have been widespread.

Following amendments at the April 1993 AGM, the constitution has been reprinted and distributed to all members with a recent issue of *Una Voce*.

I would like to remind members that our next luncheon visit to the Blue Mountains is on Monday, 9 May.

Lastly it is with great sadness that I have to record the serious illness of two very wonderful and very special people, our patron Sir Horace Niall and Mrs June Kaad. Thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen.

5. Treasurer's Report

Elma Holmes tabled the audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expenditure to 31 December 1993. Adopted on the motion proposed by Doug Parrish, seconded by Don Drover. Carried.

6. Correspondence

In the absence of the Secretary, the President advised that all correspondence received was of a routine nature and was available for perusal if anyone wished to see it. Adopted on the motion proposed by Bill Johnston, seconded by Bert Weston. Carried.

7. Sub-Committee Reports

The President advised that information on the activities of the sub-committees had been circulated in *Una Voce* or was contained in his Report.

8. Election of Executive and Committee

The President advised that all of the existing committee have been re-nominated and seconded, and are prepared to serve again. He read out the list, as follows:

President:	Harry West
Deputy President:	Freddie Kaad
Secretary:	Joe Nitsche
Assistant Secretary:	Pamela Foley
Treasurer:	Elma Holmes
Editor <i>Una Voce</i> :	Doug Parrish
Honorary Auditor:	Len Bailey
Committee:	Don Drover, Frank Smith, Pat Jones, Bill Johnston, Roma Bates, Pat Hopper, Bob Pulsford, Marie Bassett

Bert Speer moved that those members be declared appointed as nominated. This was seconded by Gabriel Keleny. Carried.

9. Other Business

(i) *Colonists for a Day* - one-hour documentary dealing with Australia's involvement with Papua New Guinea over a period of 70 years and screened by the ABC in November 1993.

The President read out a letter from Les Williams arguing that this one-hour documentary was quite unbalanced and did not portray things as they were, ie that things were taken out of context.

The President then read out a motion by Bill Tomasetti, as follows:

'I move that the Retired Officers' Association of PNG resolve -

- (a) to inform the Australian Broadcasting Commission that it believes that the ABC has further seriously damaged its reputation for presenting accurate and interesting history by screening the feature *Colonists for a Day*.
- (b) to request the appropriate Commonwealth authority critically to review Film Australia's terms of reference, with a view to prevent it further wasting public money on any film such as *Colonists for a Day*. This film may reasonably be described as sensational and superficial, and presents a completely distorted depiction of its subject. It fits easily into an all too current common category of mindless material dealing with Papua New Guinea.
- (c) that the Executive offer the ROAPNG's congratulations to Peter Ryan for his excellent article on this topic reprinted (from *Quadrant*) in *Una Voce* in March 1994. In so resolving, the ROAPNG implies no criticism of those informants who are ROAPNG members whose good-faith appearance in and contributions to the film were grievously misrepresented in the editing of the film.'

This motion was seconded by Bob Pulsford. The matter was discussed at length, with all speakers displaying anger and disappointment at the way the editing was handled. Members reported that a number of expatriates of PNG had each spent considerable time providing the information requested but very little of what most of them said was included in the film and the film gave very little credit for what Australia accomplished. The possibility of a class action against the ABC for libel was raised.

The President pointed out that Peter Ryan's comments appeared in major newspapers Australia-wide, and recommended that the ROAPNG go ahead with what Les Williams and Bill Tomasetti suggested, and added that he was very hesitant regarding litigation.

The President read Mr Tomasetti's motion a second time, and it was carried unanimously.

Bill Johnston said that the people who contributed to the film, together with Peter Ryan, should be congratulated, and recommended that a sub-committee be formed to deal with the matter. He moved the following motion:

'The matter of *Colonists for a Day* should be the subject of a discussion by a special committee of this Association to determine the feasibility of a class action, representing all the members of this Association who are expatriate residents of PNG, for possible libel and slander, and that this matter be referred for legal advice as to the feasibility or otherwise of such an action.'

Gabriel Keleny pointed out that the proposals made by such a sub-committee should come back to a general meeting or an extraordinary meeting for approval. On this understanding, the motion was carried.

The President said that the Executive would consider the membership of the special sub-committee and asked anyone who would like to be on it to see him.

(2) Pat Hopper's article in March *Una Voce*. Bert Speer suggested this article be referred to a PNG newspaper for publication.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.30 pm and members adjourned for lunch.

ASSOCIATION SUB-COMMITTEES

Finance: Elma Holmes, Don Drover, Doug Parrish, Joe Nitsche, Pat Jones, Marie Baset.

Social: Harry West, Joe Nitsche, Pamela Foley, Pat Hopper.

Legal: Harry West, Doug Parrish, Freddie Kaad, Don Drover, Bill Johnston.

Caring: Pat Hopper, Frank Smith, Roma Bates, Florence Cohen and co-opting Isobel Ireland and Marie Day as necessary.

Editorial: Doug Parrish, Pamela Foley, Bob Pulsford, Pat Jones, Don Drover, Marie Bassett.

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER, 1993

	Notes	1993	1992
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash - Commonwealth Savings Bank		6231.42	4972.10
INVESTMENTS			
Colonial Mutual Funds		8007.00	8007.00
Police Credit Union Share		10.00	10.00
Police Credit Union		15019.61	15019.08
		23036.61	23036.08
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Computer and Printer	384.00		384.00
Less Provision Depreciation	138.24	245.76	-
Second Computer and Printer	1105.49		1105.49
Less Provision Depreciation	397.97	707.52	-
Components for Printer (March 1993)	1177.41		-
Less Provision Depreciation	317.90	859.51	-
		1812.79	1489.49
TOTAL ASSETS		\$31080.82	\$29497.67
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Subscriptions in Advance -			
B/forward	15467.87		13892.87
Less transfer current income	(1) 4216.00		2328.00
	11251.87		11564.87
Add advance subscriptions paid 1993	4649.00		3903.00
		15900.87	15467.87
Provision for Income Tax	(2)	504.24	778.44
TOTAL LIABILITIES		16405.11	16246.31
NET ASSETS		\$14675.71	\$13251.36
MEMBERS FUNDS			
Accumulated Balance B/Forward		13251.36	14217.49
Add Net Surplus for Year		1424.35	(966.13)
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS		\$14675.71	\$13251.36


E Holmes
Hon. Treasurer

29 March, 1994

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1993

	Notes	1993	1992
INCOME			
Subscriptions		2518.00	2616.00
Subscriptions in Advance Transferred	(1)	4216.00	2328.00
Donations		234.60	364.30
Incidentals: Raffle - Film Australia		432.70	202.70
AGM and Christmas Lunches		5780.00	5620.00
Interest: Commonwealth Bank		162.38	120.36
Colonial Mutual Funds		354.26	505.64
Police Credit Union		1226.65	1558.23
		<u>\$14924.59</u>	<u>\$13315.23</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Una Voce Costs: Printing & Stationery		3993.10	3413.85
Postage		1612.82	1446.05
Incidentals: Raffle Expenses		39.99	53.50
Freight on Books		47.60	0.00
Presentation		0.00	150.00
Refreshments		10.00	50.00
Caring Committee Expenses		24.78	55.00
AGM & Christmas Lunches		5554.00	5258.00
Administrative Expenses:			
Bank Charges/FID/GDT		33.28	25.92
Computer Repairs etc		0.00	1192.14
General Postage		241.00	227.42
General Printing		0.00	162.70
Photocopying		114.06	131.69
PO Box Rental		37.00	37.00
Stationery		243.89	136.24
Telephone		190.37	325.65
Depreciation of Non-Current Assets		854.11	837.76
Tax Payable on 1993 Income	(2)	504.24	778.44
		<u>13500.24</u>	<u>14281.36</u>
Income Surplus to Accumulated Funds		<u>1424.35</u>	<u>(966.13)</u>
		<u>\$14924.59</u>	<u>\$13315.23</u>


E Holmes
Hon. Treasurer

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

EXPLANATORY NOTES ON ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1993

- (1) These are subscriptions paid in previous years which relate to this year.
- (2) Income tax is payable on our investment income after deducting minor related expenses. Our tax liability has decreased this year due to a further drop in our investment income and also the tax rate for the Association decreasing from 39 per cent to 33 per cent.



E Holmes
Hon. Treasurer

AUDITORS REPORT

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly the position of the Retired Officers' Association of Papua New Guinea at 31 December, 1993 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.



L W Bailey CPA
Hon. Auditor

29 March, 1994

Pacific Book House

Bill & Patricia McGrath, Proprietors

Dealers in quality used and rare books, new and out-of-print books, mainly about the Pacific Islands, South-East Asia and Australia

– Established 1984 –

**17 PARK AVENUE, BROADBEACH WATERS, GOLD COAST
QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA 4218**

QUALITY BOOKS AT REASONABLE PRICES

The Pacific, Antarctic, Australia, Local History, Queensland, Indonesia, S.E. Asia, Melanesia and Micronesia, Pacific War, Militaria, Aviation and Railways

NEW GUINEA IS OUR SPECIALITY

"Recognised as the Pacific's leading specialist in new, out-of-print, used, scarce and rare books on the Pacific Islands, particularly New Guinea"

We search for out-of-print books. Your wants lists are always welcome – we will respond to your enquiries.

Catalogues on the above subjects are produced regularly. Ask to be placed on our mailing list for **free catalogues**. Specify your interests.

**Early (1930's and 1940's) copies of
Pacific Islands Monthly Magazine urgently required.**

Bookrooms by Prior Appointment only

All major credit cards accepted

TELEPHONE (075) 390 446

FAX (075) 384 114

International Telephone 6175 390 446 (all hours)

International Fax 6175 384 114 (all hours)

SIR HORACE NIALL

"Sir Horace Lionel Richard NIALL KB CBE MBE was a great Australian, who most ably represented his country whilst it was responsible for the administration of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea and later the Trust Territory of Papua New Guinea.

At the same time he gave great service to the the peoples of Papua New Guinea, spending most of his working life there, a period of more than 40 years, before, during and after World War II.

Sir Horace was always known to his friends as Horrie and as I was honoured to be one of those friends I will hereafter refer to him thus.

Horrie was born on 14 October 1904 at Coolah in N.S.W., was educated at Mudgee High School and later at Sydney University.

He joined the Administration of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea in 1927 as a Cadet Patrol Officer, arriving in Rabaul, New Britain, in April of that year. Rabaul, pre W.W.II, was the Administrative Capital of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea.

His first term was spent in New Britain at Kokopo, Talasea and Nakunai and he had a short spell in Rabaul. He went on leave early 1930 and spent that year at Sydney University studying Law and Anthropology.

Whilst in Sydney he married Alison Weir, whom he had previously met at Kokopo when she was visiting Jess Ross, a long time resident of Rabaul and now a member of our Association.

Accompanied by Alison, Horrie returned to New Guinea in 1931 and was posted to Gasmata located on an island on the south coast of New Britain. Subsequent postings were to Talasea, Kavieng in New Ireland, Aitape, which at that time was the most western Sub-district in the Sepik District and on the New Guinea mainland and then Wau in 1941. Sometime during this period, a daughter, Lois, was born and Horrie became a doting father. He was also promoted to Patrol Officer, Asst. District Officer and District Officer.

Prior to his posting to Wau, Horrie's postings had been to very isolated stations where there were very few, if any, amenities. Supplies were transported by sea and long periods elapsed between deliveries. There was no electricity and lighting was by kerosene or pressure lamps. Telephones and wireless communication, as we know it, were non existent. Cooking was mainly on a very basic type of fuel stove. Houses were not mosquito proofed and in all of these places the mosquitoes were very bad, which meant sleeping under mosquito nets.

Describing to me his posting to Gasmata, Horrie called it an "outlandish place" which had a rainfall of at least 300 inches a year and this all fell during a period of six months. He said: "You lived on an island and I got malaria. For those six months you just had to stick to the island because it was too wet, all the rivers were in flood, you could not go on patrol, so you just stayed there. My wife was the only white woman for hundreds of miles and she arrived there as a new bride. Her trousseau went mouldy because the first month it rained 60 inches and the next month it rained 65."

Of living conditions generally during these postings, Horrie said: "It was very difficult both in Talasea and Aitape and especially in Gasmata when all your foodstuffs had to come in tins and you lived on pigeons or fish. I learnt to cook pigeons 28 different ways. Otherwise you lived out of tins, tinned butter which you poured out, and no mail, no planes, waiting for something to happen, lots of boredom, but we all had an interest in what we were supposed to do, bring New Guinea into self-government. It looked like something that would not happen in my lifetime."

(continued next page)

SIR HORACE NIALL (continued)

At the outbreak of war in the Pacific, Horrie was still stationed at Wau and was there when the Japanese landed on the New Guinea mainland. The town was then burnt by the Army as part of a "scorched earth policy" and Horrie had a most difficult time maintaining law and order during this period.

In 1943, Horrie was appointed as a Major in the AIF and posted to the newly formed Australian New Guinea Administration Unit (ANGAU). That same year he was awarded the MBE (Military).

Whilst in the Army Horrie served mainly in the Morobe District at Wau and Lae, except for a six months period when he was attached to the American 6th Army at Finschhafen. ANGAU had a dual role being part of the Army with the additional responsibility of trying to administer the country in a civil sense.

When the war finished Horrie went to Sydney, was discharged and returned to New Guinea early 1946 as a civilian. He was posted to Wewak as District Officer in charge of the Sepik District which he said was in an unholly mess when he arrived. Wewak, however, he said was quite good, the old township had been bulldozed, levelled, roads had been constructed and there were two airstrips. They had electric light, freezers and later running water. He remained at Wewak for nearly four years and contributed substantially towards the settling down and rehabilitation of the District. At the end of 1949 he was posted to Lae as District Officer, Morobe District, and later District Commissioner when these positions were established.

Whilst at Lae, Horrie worked very hard to develop the District's infrastructure, concentrating on the development of roads, schools, hospitals etc. He was also very active in encouraging economic development of all kinds, particularly agriculture and animal husbandry.

He was a Member of the PNG Legislative Council from 1951 to 1963.

In the 1958 New Years Honour List he was awarded the CBE.

In 1961 he was PNG's delegate to the Pacific Commission in Noumea and in 1962 he was PNG's Special Representative to the United Nations Trusteeship Council.

Horrie's wife, Alison, died in 1964 and in the same year he retired as District Commissioner, Morobe District and from the PNG Administration.

Shortly after, in the first PNG general elections Horrie was elected the Member for the Open Electorate of Morobe in the House of Assembly. Following his election that House, by popular vote, appointed him the first Speaker of PNG's Parliament.

In that office, his innate leadership and ability to command fair play ensured a successful legislature culminating in the development of self-government and ultimately independence for PNG.

Horrie in 1966 married Una de Salis, whom he had met during the war years in Lae when she was a Nursing Sister in the Army. Una has been a tower of strength for him in his declining years.

During his working life, Horrie always expected the best or better from his staff, did not suffer fools gladly, he hated unpunctuality and abhorred waste, waste of anything, land, food, cash, whatever.

He had a great command of Pidgin English and his native police would do anything for him. Years later, they would turn up at the back door of Horrie's residence and call out: "Masta or Kiap, mi stap." Horrie would sit down with them, drinking tea, smoking and yarning of days of yore or a patrol of long ago.

He also always seemed to remember the children of his staff and asked after them.

(continued next page)

SIR HORACE NIALL (continued)

In 1972 he retired from the House of Assembly and in 1973 he and Una left PNG and retired to Palm Beach north of Sydney.

However, such was the esteem and respect for his work in the House of Assembly and in and for PNG for over forty years, it's government recommended to Her Majesty the Queen, Horrie's appointment as its first Knight. Knighthood was duly bestowed upon him in 1974, but in no way did it change his way of life, his humble and serene demeanour and his friendliness to all.

During his last years in PNG he lived in Lae and under his direction as President (and later as Patron) Lae Golf Club developed an 18 hole course which is on a par with the best to be seen in Australia to-day. On his retirement to Palm Beach he continued to play golf and with his wife, Una, also played bridge. As his mobility decreased more time was given to bridge, master points came their way and his consummate ability to play a hand was enjoyed and noted by all. On last Anzac Day, whilst listening to the Anzac Parade there was mention of Damien Parer, and he told my wife, Candy, who was with him, that Damien Parer's father had taught him bridge.

In fact, in all facets of life Horrie was held in high esteem, the recounting of his experiences in PNG from 1927 enraptured all those privileged to hear them. With children, particularly, his recital of "The Man from Snowy River" was heard in awe, communication lines were opened and hearts were won.

After returning to Australia, Horrie served for a number of years on the Committee of the Retired Officers' Association of Papua New Guinea and in 1986 became its Patron. When I asked him two weeks ago if he had read the March issue of the Association's Newsletter he replied: "Yes, it was like the Sydney Morning Herald." I understand from Una that it was the very last publication he read.

To those of us of more mature years, his passing is a sad loss and an even deeper appreciation of having known and enjoyed the company of one of the greatest servants of Papua New Guinea, a Knight of the British Commonwealth of Nations, a loving husband, brother, father, grandfather and dear friend.

Horrie is survived by his wife, Una, daughter and son-in-law, Lois and Frank Johnson, grandsons Niall and Jeremy and grand daughter-in-law, Ruth.

Horrie, mipela hamamas tumas long gutpela wok bilong yu, tasol bel bilong mipela ologeta i hewi tumas, gutbai masta gut bai pren."

(Eulogy delivered by Doug Parrish at Horrie's funeral on 3 May 1994.)

HELP REQUESTED:

"I have lost my copy of Dudley McCarthy's book 'The Fate of O'Lauchlan' and appeal to anyone who has a spare copy to contact me. I would gladly pay for a copy.

P.L. Tatterson
5 Wright Court
ROSEDALE VIC 3847

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the following please contact the Editor Tel. 02 488 9693 or Dr. Peter Cahill Tel. 07 371 4794:

Malcolm BAILEY, son of Cliff BAILEY ex-CPL Rabaul.
Mrs. Webster, a prewar resident of Papua.

BOOK REVIEW

BOUGAINVILLE CAMPAIGN DIARY by Yauka Aluambo Liria - Indra Publishing 1993, 199pp, ISBN 095 877 1847. Reviewed by Professor Hank Nelson, ANU.⁽¹⁾

In 1987 Yauka Liria and Sam Kauona were fellow officers in the Papua New Guinea Defence Force at Goldie River. Liria found Kauona a quiet, polite, religious man, more inclined to be in his room reading, writing letters to his fiancée, or playing his guitar and singing quietly, than joining the boisterous in late night boozing. He recommended that Kauona be sent to Australia to train as an Ammunitions Technical Officer. Not long after his return to PNG at the end of 1988, Kauona disappeared. At first Liria thought he might have gone to see his girlfriend.

Late one night in July 1989 near Panguna on Bougainville Liria talked to Kauona for three hours. Liria was not sure just where Kauona was, probably somewhere up on Guava Ridge where he used a radio captured from Bougainville Copper to break into the security network. Liria was now Intelligence Officer with the PNGDF, and Kauona was one of the leaders of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army. The two men talked about the old days when they had rafted on the Goldie River, exchanged news about mutual friends, and then discussed how the compensation claim against the mine had shifted to insurgency and demands for secession. When he spoke on the BRA Kauona was strident and uncompromising.

This is one of extraordinary encounters described by Liria. He has a deft sense of narrative, locating and defining his characters and unfolding the sequence of events with clear engaging language. Although mainly concerned with only a few months in 1989 - before the Namaliu government made its decision to withdraw all troops in March 1990 - Liria is still able to use specific incidents to illuminate much of the five year conflict. He is frank about inadequacies within the PNGDF: the army could not use small patrols as too many of the men lacked confidence in themselves and their weapons when separated from the group; action was curtailed by lack of appropriate equipment; the aim was never clear; and conflict between senior officers restricted the practical and moral support given to some field commanders. Liria himself came to believe that as soldiers they were often expected to find a military solution when in fact the only possible solution was political.

Born in Pangia in the Southern Highlands, Liria went to Ialibu High, then in 1979 to Sogeri National High before enlisting in the army in 1982. He graduated from the Defence Academy at Lae as a Second Lieutenant. It is significant that this young Southern Highlander thought of the Bougainvillians as his own people. He says of Peter Kove, leader of one of the dislocated hamlets near the mine: 'He reminded me so much of my father...'.

Liria has now left the army. He could not, of course, have written with such frankness from within, but the army could well do with his perceptiveness and his capacity for clear analysis.

A footnote about the Australian legacy: Liria refers to the ordinary Papua New Guinean soldier as the 'digger'.

⁽¹⁾ Professor Hank Nelson is with the Pacific and Asian History Department of the Research School of Social Sciences, The Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2601. Tel. (06) 249 5111.)

(The book is available from Indra Publications, 142 Ryans Road, Eltham North, Vic. 3095. \$17.95 plus postage; and Pacific Book House, 17 Park Avenue, Broadbeach Waters, Gold Coast Queensland 4218. Tel. (075) 390 446. \$17.95 plus \$4.50 postage.)

50th YEAR CELEBRATIONS OF SOGERI AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

The month of June 1994 marks the 50 years of Sogeri as an Educational Institution in Papua New Guinea. The Sogeri Campus known as Koitaki during World War 2, was the site of the Ewerogo 113 Convalescent Depot where injured soldiers from the Kokoda Track battles recuperated.

Two major events have already taken place to celebrate the occasion.

Firstly, during the last weekend of May, 64 past teachers, students, plantation people and friends spent a memorable 2 days at the Services Club Lake Resort at Mulwala, N.S.W. Many had not met up for several decades and the weekend was taken up with reminiscing and looking at memorabilia and story telling. The participants unanimously agreed to meet up again in several years time possibly with many more people. There were apologies from about 50 persons. Any past Sogeri folks who read this Newsletter who would like to link up with this ex-Sogeri Group in Australia please contact Ms. Marjorie Walker, 31 Josephine Avenue, Mt. Waverley, Vic. 3149. Tel. 03 803 9071 for details.

The charm of the setting of the Resort on Lake Mulwala on the Murray River and the welcoming and attentive hospitality of the Resort staff added to everyone's enjoyment.

Secondly, the special day to celebrate the 50 years was held for the present staff and students and past staff and students up on the Sogeri Plateau on Saturday June 4. Several ex-Teachers made the journey from Australia to be present for the celebrations and were delighted to meet up with past teaching colleagues and students, many of whom are now holding leading positions in Papua New Guinea. Of the well known ones, for example, Sir Alcan Tololo and Sir Paulius Matane send their best wishes to their many friends in Australia.

The programme for the day consisted of ceremonies, sport, tree planting, 50th souvenirs, displays of school work, photographs, art work, the school museum, singing the school song and a great opportunity to meet and talk to old friends.

MILNE BAY MEMORIAL PLAQUE

In a recent letter Geoff Masters enclosed a photo of the Milne Bay Memorial Plaque and said - "I still have to raise \$1000 to have it cast and to do this am having General Clowes report on the battle of Milne Bay photo-copied and made available to interested people for \$20 per copy, 30-odd pages. I hold one of the original copies of the report, which was sent to Bill Driver back in the 70s and who handed it on to me when he left - it will eventually go to either the library or the proposed museum via Chris Abel.

I am also going to be bold and make available video copies of my wartime newsreel and other footage in an effort to raise funds - 3 hrs of interesting items for \$20. Interested people can get in touch with me and I will send a catalogue or list of what is available."

The photograph of the proposed plaque will be reproduced in the next issue of the Newsletter.

* 18 *

NEWS FROM THE U.K.

Dr. Leslie J. Topham has written from England, saying: "We were sorry to hear of the passing of Mrs. V.W. Foldi and Marion Theodore of whom we have happy memories.

"We were particularly interested in Pat Hopper's article 'Return to Rabaul' where I was stationed from 1957-65. To leave it was my sorrow. Nonetheless I enjoyed better fortune in Queensland where I was consultant in Townsville until 1982. Your account Pat brings back nostalgic memories of Rabaul - its beauty, gardens, markets, its pebbles and black beaches - its romance and strife. In our home in England we have two pictures by Annie Kuster - the "Sunrise" and "Sunset". So Don Clarke Chemist still functions. I still have a good pair of binoculars bought from Chin Hoi Meen and a carved Rosewood base reading lamp from Johnnie Mankwong.

"We are so pleased to welcome Dr. Jan Saave into the fold of PNG retired officers. Well do I now recall a memorable meeting with Jan at the old Ascot Hotel where we enjoyed a drink and a never to be forgotten discussion. For some little time Jan was regional Medical Officer at Rabaul where we enjoyed a happy and peaceful relationship. This was before he was assigned the task of eradicating malaria - a feat nowhere so performed as yet world wide.

"It was as eye specialist to the Islands Region at Rabaul I met and entertained Dr. D.C. Gajdusek of New England, USA. It must be recalled that the elucidation of Kuru was effected by Dr. Gajdusek of USA and Dr. Vincent Zigas of Papua New Guinea.

"Vin Zigas' book "Auscultation of Two Worlds" is in my library here. It has a charm of its own and contains paragraphs of particular interest to many. I commend it to you and to Medical Officers especially. The study of Kuru and allied "prion" diseases assumes increasing importance when since 1986 100,000 cattle have died of Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis in the U.K. These diseases have both infectious and heritable components. When signs of degeneration of the nervous system occur, particular and correct diagnosis necessitates molecular evaluation. From clinical signs - to pathology, to biomolecular physics - how far do we go?

"When I left Queensland for a temporary visit here, I was unexpectedly asked to do a few consultations. These continued until finally in the summer of '93 I decided to terminate my work in neighbouring towns. I am now 80 but still undertake the odd session in the City of York. I intended to return to Queensland for the Australian Medical Association Centenary year but this has not proved possible in view of necessitated medical investigation. I have been a member of the British Medical Association and the Australian Medical Association for over 50 years and recently received a congratulatory message and invitation from the President of the Queensland branch of the AMA. Now I hope to come in November '94.

"I'm sorry I cannot help you Helen (Cox) in quest of news from Bernard Naracobi whom I cannot recall. I only know your address Helen as Woody Point, Q'ld and hope this is adequate for location when I come over.

"This summer we are expecting a visit from two old friends and one a patient from Townsville. About 20 years ago I operated for Glaucoma. She still retains good sight. They tell me they are bringing me "Chesty Bond" vests which I still wear, together with a new sealing ring for our Australian Namco pressure cooker.

"Again our thanks for your interesting Newsletter and our congratulations to all responsible for its production. We hope that Sir Horace Niall will make a good recovery. May the R.O.A.P.N.G. go from strength to strength."

(Leslie, it was great hearing from you and if you are here in November perhaps you could attend our Christmas Luncheon on Sunday 4 December 94. Ed.)

LIFE IN SUMATRA, INDONESIA

by Pauline Grundy

Life in northern Sumatra is very interesting but of course vastly different from city and suburban Australia. After almost 4 months of our 3 year term here, we are now happily settled into a house amongst friendly Indonesian neighbours.

The job Ian has taken on is a very challenging one, but working with his old friend Alan Cameron, the Australian way is already making its beneficial mark. On the home scene Camelina and Eka, my membantu, as househelp is called, are two nice girls who live-in and have almost total charge of the chores, although I do cook myself - at least for the present.

Banda Aceh is a small city really, rather cramped in the older areas, but full of life and ever on the move. Western influences are apparent, but the structure, from buildings to the cash economy, is pure S.E. Asian.

Beautiful fruit and vegetables abound in the markets, but western groceries and above all, meat and dairy goods etc. are not available, but we are fortunate to have joint British/Indonesian Club facilities out of town which supply these items as a service to staff. The Club is attached to a joint Brit/Indo Cement Factory Complex plus wharf which when built in 1982 housed some 60 British families. These days the expat number is down to 4 - (3 singles) - and I guess other European associate members from outside would total about 5 ladies and 15 men. The Club also runs a fun Harriers meet most Saturdays with a hard and also easy course, and nearby the little 9 hole golf course is in a jewel of a setting beside a salt water lake and the sea.

Now that the rainy season is with us the scene is one of vivid green as the planted up rice fields respond to the afternoon storms and sometimes deluges. At night the very tame cattle and calves lie resting together on the warm bitumen which makes night driving rather hazardous, but one does not travel very fast here as the roads are potholed and narrow, and let's not forget the bikes, m/cycles and vehicles without lights - its quite an obstacle course and oft times necessary to have a driver.

We have enjoyed a number of memorable eating and other experiences, one a dinner in a beautiful Indonesian home, of hot and spicy Acehnese food and another a formal dinner at the Provincial Governor's Residence to welcome the Indian Ambassador and his wife. The evening was quite special and the residence, built entirely of teak in the 1880s by the Dutch, a joy to behold from the vast sometimes ornately carved ceilings and beautiful hand woven tapestry wall hangings to the stained glass upper window panels and avenue of framed photographic portraits of former governors of the Province, including the Dutch.

We are slowly becoming more used to the 6 day working week, which I'm afraid leaves little time to sight-see beyond an hour or two's drive at the present time, but in the New Year we hope to be able to explore further afield. I don't find the days too long - Ian coming home for lunch most days makes a pleasant change. Before Christmas I will enjoy a trip to Singapore where I will meet up with my sister Jan for some 10 days of touring before both returning to Banda Aceh for Christmas/New Year. Jan flies home about Jan 11th.

Before our first leave in July/August '94 we should, we hope, have also welcomed more close family. Banda Aceh would not be one of your Bali-type tourist destinations but any intrepids who might venture this way will be made very welcome and no doubt discover more of what the Province has to offer. The Acehnese people, as we have found, are warm and hospitable. All that is asked of the tourists is to dress with decorum.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

A request has been received from member Mr K.R. DOHERTY of Cairns, as follows:

"The supplied list of financial members as at June of each year that indicates their respective postal address is a valuable item of information to enable members to keep in contact if they so desire.

If the phone number of each member could be added it would be a great help for members to keep in contact, particularly if one is travelling through the areas at future times. These days people are more inclined to keep in contact by telephone than by correspondence.

With the greatly reduced telephone charges within Australia on Sundays, telephone contacts can be kept up within affordable costs.

It is pleasing to note the regular intake of new members to replace sadly the loss of the ageing members.

Always looking forward to the next issue of the Newsletter with the many items of interest and happenings of our members, and trusting that the Association will remain active for many years ahead."

Jon BARTLETT of Narrandera NSW has made the following request:

"I am a new member with a failing (age, time, liquor) memory. I would be very grateful if when listing names, such as "new members", "change of address", "membership list", you used at least one given name (or a "nick" name if better known by that)."

We would very much like to comply with both your requests but, unfortunately, it is not possible. The Membership List enclosed in this issue consists of 16 pages and if we included christian names and/or telephone numbers each entry would require at least 2 lines, which would enlarge the List to 32 pages. This would mean that there would then be only 8 pages for news and information, or we would have to increase the size of this issue to some 72 pages which, at the current subscription rate we could not afford.

Currently, the cost of producing *Una Voce* is almost \$2.00 per issue, which means that members subscriptions are, in the main, used to produce the Newsletter. Postage has kept increasing over the years but we have been fortunate in that our Printer has not raised his charges for over four years now, however, we believe that he will have to increase his rates in the not too distant future. In addition, there is the cost of telephone calls and faxes obtaining and checking information, stationery and the running of the Association's computer.

Many hours are spent in the compilation and preparation of the Newsletter with a large percentage of the initial drafts of copy being typed by Pamela Foley, our Assistant Secretary on the Association's computer. The final editing, layout and printing of copy for our Printer is done on the Editor's own computer at no cost to the Association. The Printer uses this copy to offset print the final document.

The folding, stuffing and preparation of the Newsletter for posting is carried out by members of the Committee and other willing member helpers.

Finally, whilst members supply the Association with their telephone numbers, we do not believe that many of them would want the numbers included in the Membership List. With the address provided telephone numbers are easily obtained from Telecom Directory Assistance on 0175.

DAVID MONTGOMERY

(ex Didiman, PNG)

CHIPPING INTO OVERSEAS POTATO MARKETS

With David Montgomery's dedication to the potato industry and foresight of future trends he sees expansion into the international markets where, he said, Australia could be at the forefront.

Keeping at the forefront of technological change in the potato industry on a global basis and at the same time providing a strong foundation for local production into the years 2000 is the vision of Mr Montgomery.

As the Executive Director of the Crookwell Potato Association, Mr Montgomery recently received the Enterprise Award from the Rotary District 9/10 for his services to the potato industry, which is a \$1 million a year business for Crookwell.

Referring to the award, Mr Montgomery said you cannot do what you do without strong family support. "You have no hope of kicking any goals or scoring any tries unless you have a team," he said.

Mr Montgomery said there are ways Australia can, as a horticultural industry, be successful on a global basis.

Originally coming from the city, Mr Montgomery always had a yearning for the country, stemming from his father's involvement with rural Australia. After completing a diploma in Agriculture at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College and spending 10 years in Papua New Guinea, in 1965 the Montgomerys returned to Australia to take up a holding of land near Grabben Gullen.

"Conscious of the economic pressures of a small holding I knew it had to be a horticultural crop," Mr Montgomery said. "I saw an industry which was fragmented on a national, state and regional level and it seemed to me a food product where improvement could be made," he said.

Mr Montgomery and his family have lived on their 450 acre property, 'Kimbe' for 27 years and in that time he has revamped the marketing strategies of the seed potato industry in Crookwell, which is arguably the birthplace of the Australian potato industry.

(From "Town and Country Magazine" of the Goulburn Post, 11/4/94)

LAPSED MEMBERSHIPS

As the following memberships lapsed at the end of 1993 and we have not heard from the members concerned since then, we regret that we have had to delete their names from our mailing list:

ALLAN, MR. R.	(CLAYFIELD, QLD)	McMURRAY, MR. G.	(NORTH ROCKS, NSW)
BARNARD, REV. L.H.	(KANWAL, NSW)	McNAMARA, DR. V.D.	(KEW, VIC)
BLASKETT, MR. K.	(STRATHFIELDSAYE, VIC)	NEWTON, MRS. K.	(GYMPIE, QLD)
COLLETT, MR. G.G.	(GLEN INNES, NSW)	O'CONNOR, MR. T.	(BATHURST, NSW)
CORDUKES, MR. P.	(U.S.A.)	OVERDORF, MR. J.	(KAMBAH, ACT)
COYNE, MR. G.F.	(CANBERRA, ACT)	OUTRIDGE, BRIG.P.H.	(GYMPIE, QLD)
CRITTENDEN, DR. R.	(RIVETT, ACT)	PATTERSON, MRS.C.H.	(MARCUS BEACH, QLD)
DAWE, MR. A.L.	(MARGATE, QLD)	PLUMMER, MR. A.	(BATEMAN'S BAY, NSW)
FYFE, MR.D.	(KINGSTON, TAS)	PEARSON, MR. K.	(MOOR CREEK, NSW)
GRAY, MR. J.E.	(YARRALUMLA, ACT)	REECE, MR. D.	(HORNSBY, NSW)
HAGEMAN, MR. L.W.	(BONDI, NSW)	SAVAGE, MRS. J.D.	(PIALBA, QLD)
HARDING, PROF. T.	(U.S.A.)	SIPPO, MR. W.	(NOWRA, NSW)
ISLES, MR. T.	(NORTH BALWYN, VIC)	SPARK, MR. R.A.	(KEW, VIC)
JAMES, MR. B.	(TAREE, NSW)	TANG, MR. C.	(KILLARA, NSW)
KLOTZ, MRS. W.	(CHATSWOOD, NSW)	THOMAS, MRS. D.A.	(YERONGA, QLD)
LAWLER, MR. R.B.	(RENMARK, S.A.)	TOWNSEND, DR. D.	(ELWOOD, VIC)
MARTIN, MRS. L.	(WARNERS BAY, NSW)	WATKINS, MRS. N.	(NERANG, QLD)
MASON, MR. S.	(WOODY POINT, QLD)	WILLIAMSON, MR.G.K.	(MAROOCHYDORE, QLD)

VALE

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

Sir Horace Lionel Richard NIALL KB, CBE, MBE (30 April 94, aged 89 years)

The Eulogy given at Horrie's funeral is printed in full commencing on page — .

Mr. Noel Michael TOLHURST (6 April 94, aged 69 years)

After matriculating from Geelong Grammar School, Michael enlisted in the RAAF in 1943 and flew Spitfires in the New Guinea campaign until discharged in 1945 with the rank of Flight Lieutenant. He joined the PNG Administration early in 1947 as a Patrol Officer. He held appointments as Patrol Officer, Assistant District Officer, and Senior Administrative Officer. His postings included Samarai, Goroka and Port Moresby. He resigned in 1956. During the next seven years he worked with the Shell Group, covering all aspects of personnel and industrial administration. In 1966, following three years as a director of a personnel consultancy, Michael joined La Trobe University. He was Deputy Registrar and Head of Chisholm College when he retired in 1984. In 1973 he had graduated BA.

He married Elizabeth Dod in 1946. She and their four surviving children (Timothy, b.1949; Louise, b.1950; Nicholas, b.1955; and Meredith, b.1960) heard former vice-chancellor Prof. John Scott and others praise Michael's contribution to La Trobe University before a large crowd at the commemorative service held at the University on 15 April, 1994.

Mr. Robert (Bob) Ganasen RAMACHANDRAM (29 May 94)

Bob enchanted the main dining room at the Papua Hotel (the top pub) in Port Moresby for many years with his wonderful playing of the piano and electric organ.

Those who will remember him were astonished that he could sit and play the piano with one hand and the organ with the other, the two keyboards set at right angles to each other. Not only that, he sang while he played and accepted requests from the evening diners. One of his favourites was "Tie a yellow ribbon round the old oak tree".

He was able to make friends with his gentle manner and appreciated a beer to keep him going with his musical entertainment while patrons danced away the evening. He always made a night out at the top pub a happy and enjoyable one.

Sir Burton Gyrth BURTON-BRADLEY (31 January 94, aged 79 years)

Sir Burton died in Port Moresby and was a citizen of PNG having come originally from Sydney in 1959. He founded the Laloki Mental Hospital and was an internationally recognised psychiatrist. He was knighted by the Queen in 1990 in recognition of his services to mental health in PNG.

Mrs. Jeanie BRYANT (4 February 94)

Jeanie spent many years in PNG at Port Moresby and Wau when her late husband, Stan, was Mining Warden and Chief Draftsman in the PNG Department of Lands, Surveys and Mines. She is survived by three daughters.

Mr. Douglas (Arthur) DOYLE (26 December 93)

Arthur served in the A.I.F. in World War II and spent 3½ as a P.O.W. following the fall of Singapore.

After his discharge from the army he accepted a position in PNG and worked for many years for the Public Works Department in Port Moresby. I am sure that many ex-residents of Port Moresby will remember him.

He is survived by his wife Gwenda.

Mr. John ELMER MBE (26 January 94)

John was well known in PNG having spent some 25 years with Burns Philp, the latter years as Assistant General Manager and Company Secretary. He was President of the PNG Employers' Federation in 1974-76 and President of the Papua Club in 1979.

He is survived by his wife Wynne, daughter Lesley (Radomyski) and son Timothy.

Sir Tei ABAL (14 March 94, aged 60 years)

Died at his home at Keas Village in the Enga Province near Wabag. He had been ill since a stroke in 1981 left his speech and mobility impaired.

An Aid Post Orderly, he was elected Member for Wabag in the House of Assembly in 1964 and held that seat in Parliament until 1982.

Sir Tei co-founded the United Party and was Opposition Leader in the first government at Independence. He was Public Utilities Minister under Sir Michael Somare in 1978/79.

He is survived by his wife, three sons, three daughters and twelve grandchildren.

Mr. Kenneth Dan Jack O'DELL (31 March 94, aged 83 years)

Assistant Director PNG Public Works Department. (No further information available)

Mrs. Antoinette Cornelia EGGINK (9 April 94, aged 81 years)

Widow of Johannes Marinus Eggink who was a Senior Technician with the PNG Department of Public Works. (No further information available)

Mrs. June Walker KAAD (8 June 94)

June spent many years in PNG with husband, Freddie, and at the funeral service the church at Mosman overflowed with relatives and friends, a fitting tribute to a highly regarded lady. Full details next issue.

Survived by husband, Freddie, and daughters, Gaynor, Mandi and Debbie.

Mrs. Lucille Moira COYLE (26 March 94, aged 78 years)

Lucille was the wife of Jim Coyle who worked for the PNG Administration from 1960 to 1973 at Lae, Wewak and finally in Port Moresby with the Police Department.

Jim and Lucille were married for 47 years and Jim is finding it difficult coming to terms with his sad loss.

Lucille is survived by husband Jim and children Roy, John, Peter, Susan and Jayne .

Mrs. Elizabeth Em (Nicky) MURTY (nee Woods) (4 June 94)

Nicky was the wife of Don Murty and they spent many years in PNG whilst Don was the Chemist in the PNG Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries. Full details next issue.

Survived by husband Don and children Paul, Christine, Anne and David.

Mrs. Anne-Marie BROMAN (13 May 94)

Anne-Marie was the wife of Peter Broman who served in PNG from 1946 in District Services, Police and Official Secretary, Government House until 1972. Anne-Marie passed away unexpectedly and peacefully and is survived by husband Peter and children John, Christine and Sonja.

Mrs. Audrey DELBRIDGE (December 93)

Audrey was the wife of Bob Delbridge who served for some years with the PNG Department of Education. She died of cancer in New Zealand.

Bob and Audrey were serving in Chimbu when Laurie Doolan and Geoff Burfoot were stationed there. Audrey was also the sister of Colin De'Arth.

Dr. George RANDMAE (8 November 93, aged 76 years)

George was one of the first group of 15 Medical Officers recruited by Dr. Gunther from European Countries and went to PNG in 1949.

He served in a number of areas and in later years specialised in tuberculosis. Stationed in the Gazelle Peninsula for some five years, he was responsible for TB work in the island districts of New Britain, New Ireland and Bougainville.

Leaving PNG in the late sixties he worked in Sydney in the TB field for some four years before retiring. He was a keen photographer, philatelist and loved music.

Survived by daughters Emma and Tina.

Mr. Derek PALMER (April 94, aged 80 years)

In 1989, Derek and his wife Daphne donated 6,000 long-playing records to the Queensland State Library. Serious record collecting by the Palmers began when they were living in Papua New Guinea, with very few opportunities of hearing live performances, although Derek had gathered his first classical records while growing up in England.

The hobby continued when he came to Australia in 1935, working in isolated areas such as Mt Isa and Biloela.

After W.W.II the Palmers went to Papua New Guinea, where Derek worked as a government clerk. When he returned to Australia in 1960, there was the problem of getting through Customs with 7,000 records.

Derek is survived by wife, Daphne, and daughter Ruth Ryan and family.

Even though this issue is again much larger than usual, I am unable to include all the articles I currently have on hand because of the inclusion of the Membership List. All these articles should be included in the September and December issues. My very best wishes to you all.

Doug Parrish
Doug Parrish
Editor