



Una Voce News Letter

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA INC
P.O. BOX 452, ROSEVILLE NSW 2069
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No. 2, 1999 - June

Dear Member,

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

- The Newsletter itself with pages numbered *2*, *3*, *4*, etc totalling 36 pages.
- The Membership Address List together with the minutes of the 1999 AGM and the Financial Statement, with pages numbered 2, 3, 4, etc totalling 24 pages.

We hope this will assist you if you wish to retain sections for future reference.

CPI: The increase in the Consumer Price Index for the 12 months ending 31 March 1999 was 1.3%. At 31 March last year there was a decrease of -0.2%, however pensions remained the same. After adjustment for last year's loss, superannuation pensions will increase by 1.1% from the first pay period in July. ComSuper will be writing to individuals in early July to confirm this.

VISIT TO THE MOUNTAINS - ADVANCE NOTICE

This year the trip to the mountains will be on **Thursday 23 September** - a little earlier than last year so as to avoid the school holidays. Further details in the next issue.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Please note in your diary that the Christmas Luncheon will be on **Sunday 5 December**. (This function is always held on the first Sunday of December)

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A CHRISTMAS GIFT TO A GOOD FRIEND

You might have noticed over the years that a good friend of your PNG days has not yet got around to taking up ROAPNG membership and joining our close PNG network.

Why don't you send the name and address of a longtime PNG friend, together with a ten dollar cheque, to The Secretary, ROAPNG, PO Box 452 Roseville NSW 2069. We'll send him/her a year's membership of the Association with your compliments and Christmas wishes. This may bring a friend closer to former colleagues and strengthen old ties. The recipient then has the option to continue membership after your gift expires.

In case you are wondering why we are talking about Christmas in the middle of winter, it is to enable you to check the enclosed membership

list to make sure your friend is not already a member. To conform to the Association's Rules, membership will not become operative - even as a gift - until we receive the completed Application for Membership form which we will supply.

□ Harry West, President, ROAPNG

MASS FOR BLESSED PETER TO ROT

On Sunday 4 July at 12 noon, Mass (in pidgin) will be celebrated at St Martha's Church Strathfield for the Feast of Blessed Peter To Rot. The church is near Strathfield station on the corner of Homebush Road and Churchill Avenue.

Blessed Peter To Rot is considered the first Papua New Guinean born martyr of the Catholic Church. *A martir ure ra lotu.* (A martyr for the faith.) He was a catechist at Rakunai village (near Navuneram) and was imprisoned and later executed by the Japanese because he continued to perform his religious activities after having been forbidden from doing so. Pope John Paul beatified him on 17 January 1995 in Port Moresby. The beatification was to have taken place in Rabaul but because of the 1994 eruption was held in Port Moresby. Anybody interested is welcome to attend the Mass.

TO ANYONE WISHING TO PUBLISH A BOOK:

In the March issue (page 2) we said that if any member had written a book and was having trouble finding a publisher, we would assist with suitable contacts. (We are not able to take delivery of a manuscript and seek out a publisher ourselves.) Possible publishers are:

Wild & Woolley Pty Ltd, and its offshoot, **Fast Books**, both at 16 Darghan Street, Glebe NSW 2037 (they do runs from 10-10,000) Ph 02 9692 0166, Fax 02 9552 4320. They are set up to serve the self-publishing writer and will give advice on all aspects of publishing (fee \$150 - half of which is rebatable off the ultimate print price). They have a resource centre which stocks books dealing with writing and publishing, grammar and style. They also produce a newsletter for their clients.

Crawford House Publishing, PO Box 1484, Bathurst NSW 2795
Ph 02 6332 2677, Fax 02 6332 2654

Australian Military History Publications (AMHP)
13 Veronica Place, Loftus NSW 2232 Ph 015 284 760, Fax/ph 02 9521 6515

possibly **Millennium Books**, Unit 13, Perry Park, 33 Maddox St, Alexandria NSW 2015. Ph 02 9550 2355, Fax 02 9519 3218

NEWSLETTER RETURNED: Does anyone have information regarding:
Mrs M J Petersen of 31 Boundary Street, Roseville NSW 2069

OUR SECRETARY IN THE NEWS!

One day recently **Secretary Joe NITSCHKE** got up, collected the paper, had a casual read, and was just about to start the day when he glanced at *Column 8* (Sydney Morning Herald). His eyes popped - there, first item, was a story about where he and his family were going that night! This is the story: that night, 95 year-old **Flora NITSCHKE**, with her two children Joe and Gisela and their families were dining at Wharf No 4, Walsh Bay. There on the opposite side at No. 3, at 5am, exactly 50 years previously, the ship *Ugolino Vivaldi* arrived bringing Flora and her children from Europe. To meet them was Hugo Nitsche, Flora's husband, who as a German alien had been interned in Victoria during the war. Hugo had decided to remain in Australia after the war. A few months later he took an agricultural position at the DASF Experimental Station, Aiyura, in the PNG Highlands. Hugo died in 1965. Joe said they had a wonderful evening. The restaurant treated them like VIPs and the table decorations included lavish flowers and a whimsical model of the *Ugolino Vivaldi* with father Hugo waving from the 'wharf'. They enjoyed it so much they didn't get home till after midnight. (Joe's nephew alerted *Col 8*)

HAVE YOU HEARD???

Earlier this year **Laurie LE FEVRE** spent a few weeks in Sri Lanka working with the Ministry of Finance and Planning. He wrote, "I recently worked in Canberra on the Australian Youth Ambassadors for Development Program, which is an AusAID program. I invited **Morrie BROWN** (well-known former kiap) to one of our Friday afternoon wind-downs, as his program with ATSIC had a number of points in common with ours. Apart from the "any excuse for a get-together" reason, the afternoon was particularly interesting to Morrie and me because a senior government official (who has quite a lot to do with PNG today) was quite chuffed at having met a real kiap from the long white sox days. He particularly enjoyed the first-hand stories from the recent past - the types of stories that appear in *Una Voce* and the books written by national treasures like Jim Sinclair, Ian Downs and Bill Gammage. What's my point? Simply this: history needs to be protected from the revisionists. The only way this can occur is if we document and record. Paul Ryan's remarks about recording experiences must be heeded (see p.2, March '99 issue)."

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Congratulations are in order for **Mr Kila KARO**, PNG Consul-General, who has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's New Year Awards.

Sir William PRENTICE of Naremburn NSW wrote, "You might be interested to know that Vergil, son of **Bernard NAROKOBI** (Leader of the Opposition, PNG Parliament), having recently graduated LLB at the University of Papua New Guinea with First Class Honours in all subjects and the University Medal, has been given a scholarship to Cambridge University UK. His Dad is to go to a conference in Nigeria and then on to London. His son is to go down to London, pick up his Dad and take him up to show him his College! Rather nice. Despite all the corruption, some people are doing well academically and otherwise. Vergil regards me as his grandfather!!"

Rob ERSKINE-SMITH wrote to our secretary from Jakarta on 11 April: "... I am now located in sunny Jakarta. The press reports and TV coverage would have you believe that the place is burning down and everyone is being murdered. But it is really very pleasant here, and we are enjoying it thoroughly. The trouble spots are very real, but localised, and not affecting expats, nor people in Jakarta generally. You remember the reports about the tribal fighting when we were in PNG, and the panic-stricken phone calls from relatives in Oz? Similar situation.

The dimensions here are daunting, with a population of 200 million right on Australia's boundary. And Greater Jakarta has a population of 20 million, more than the whole of Oz... I am enjoying a challenging and complex job as the 'management expert' and Deputy Team Leader of a large (US\$1 billion) aid program sponsored under a Japanese loan. We have some 50,000 generally small projects in various stages of planning. We have around US\$450m in agricultural development projects alone - everything from irrigation schemes for rice to aquaculture for prawns. And all to be completed in two years. Perhaps." Rob added that, at Easter, he and Christine climbed Mt Bromo along with dozens of other tourists, mainly Indonesians. Located in the Highlands, Mt Bromo is well worth a visit, he said.

A special celebration took place on the 14th March 1999 at Holy Cross, Trinity Park, Cairns, when **Yvonne and Karel VAN HORCK** of Kihei, Hawaii (ex DASF Aiyura) celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, followed by a reception at the Yorkeys Knob Yacht Club. Both wore a lei of delicate roses created by their eldest granddaughter which took many hours to make. It was a weekend to remember, as, for the first time in many years, all their children and grandchildren were there for the occasion, namely Elsa also from Hawaii with Dahna and Mitchell, Paul and Stephanie from NSW with Jaric and Coby and Karel from Cairns with Karel and Joel. Also in attendance were Muriel Larnier, Eve Van Hecke, Willie Martin, Dennis Robbmond, Blanche van Horck, Joe Nitsche and Jan Booi.

Harvey BOOTH of Bundaberg Qld recently spent three weeks with a Rotary working group behind Aitape as part of an Australia-wide Rotary project helping to build aid posts and school buildings following the tsunami last year when over 2,500 people died and 20,000 were left homeless. This was Harvey's first return visit in 25 years - he had a good look at Port Moresby and flew into Nadzab, Goroka, Mt Hagen and Wewak. He wrote, "Lots of mixed feelings and disappointments in such places as Port Moresby city, though a trip out to the Anzac Day dawn service at Bomana was memorable. A big attendance and the incomparable Royal PNG Police Band were as impressive as ever as was the Pacific Island Regiment turnout. Despite some reservations the locals are the same friendly happy people in the back blocks. A memorable return visit."

Kit SLEE of Holland Park Qld, apologising for a late sub., wrote, "I had an accident and smashed my right arm, and still find it difficult to write. Unfortunately I am

NEWS FROM THE NORTHERN TERRITORY: Jim Toner writes, "Bob WELSH, ex-kiap, is no longer a Territorian. Said to be tired of near-40 degrees heat in Katherine, Darwin's bureaucracy, and the insurance industry's response to the Australia Day floods 1998, he has packed up his family and gone pinis. Mike Press, also ex-kiap, thought he was off to Queensland but obviously wasn't listening. The next thing heard was a phone call from Queenstown NZ. Rather different. But if it's a cooler climate Bob wants then midwinter beside Lake Wakatipu should make him really happy.

Before heading south Bob made a quick trip to Moresby and encountered many old faces at the Aviat Club which he described as something of a time warp. One of the leading warpers was my old mate Chris WARRILLOW, former kiap, now oil industry mandarin, with 39 years' service in PNG. Clearly the committee must have forgiven his introduction of a non-Olympic event to the club, ie hurling the cash register.

Maxwell HAYES will be pleased to have confirmation - not that we doubted him - regarding the unusual transportation of prisoners at Rabaul which he mentioned in the September issue. His reminiscence was read by a Tolai lawyer whose father was a taxi driver in the early Sixties and the old fellow recalls chauffeuring arrested inebriates from the Ascot Hotel up Mango Avenue to the Police Station.

That lapun had another story but it dates back to long before Hooky Morley was running the Post Office at Rabaul. It seems that when a ship arrived in port any mail for Kokopo was delivered by canoe. Halfway across Simpson Harbour it was met by a canoe from Kokopo carrying outwards mail and the two 'posties' would exchange mail bags.

On one occasion there was nothing for Kokopo and the canoeist had an empty bag. The result was a first class shouting match somewhere near Vulcan ("Yu humbug! Yu noken giamonim mi!") and the Kokopo canoe being paddled back with its contents. So there was one 'country boy' who wasn't going to be conned by a 'town spiv' into swapping a full bag for an empty one ...

After 14 years as Director of Batchelor College, the NT's main residential facility for the further education of Aborigines, John INGRAM is - in good PNG fashion - vacating his office in favour of an indigene. He first went to PNG as an AVA (Aust. Volunteers Abroad) tutoring at UPNG and moved on to the Education Department where he eventually became Principal of its External Teaching division with no less than 8,000 pupils on the roll.

John has revisited PNG from time to time as his wife, Paia, is from Gaba Gaba, Rigo Sub-District. John will occupy himself chairing a group intent on establishing an Asia-Pacific Cultural Village on a Darwin beach as a permanent exhibit and expects to have fun coordinating a dozen varieties of builders from Fijians to Filipinos.

Bob BLAIE, former Deputy District Commissioner, tells me that his son, William, was also one of those scions of kiaps who joined the RAAF (mentioned in the March issue). However William later transferred to the Army and is now a Major with that cruelly slandered but famously oxymoronic mob, Military Intelligence.

More than a few wantoks engaged personal servants in PNG who remained with them for many years. The bond between the parties was strengthened where they shared the hardships of field patrols. Neil DESAILLY, kiap and later magistrate, took on a teenager named Marise in 1951. He was from Iufa Iufa village outside Goroka to which he returned 19 years later when Neil left the Highlands.

Now retired in Killcare NSW, Neil was able to invite his old companion to visit before last Christmas. Arrangements were handled at the PNG end by Marise's son,

Peter, who is an accountant. Sydney came as something of a shock to the old fellow starting with the rail journey - the sudden dive by the train into the Woy Woy tunnel caused palpitations. The huge buildings convinced Marise that Sydney was a very dangerous place. "One good guria and they're all dead", was his verdict. Which raises a smile - until one thinks of Newcastle 1989 ..."

NEWS FROM PNG: Bet WHITTEN of Port Moresby wrote, "Life as a retiree is actually very pleasant (but expensive compared to Oz). Wonderful view here on 3m. Hill. Great weather always. A good haus boi, he's funny as well as being efficient. We've now had him for some thirty years. Only problem is he is aging faster, if possible, than we are - and at 49 in June we wonder how much longer we can expect him to work. We nurse him along hoping he'll outlast us."

Fr Frank MIHALIC SVD of the Divine Word University was due to leave PNG at the end of May after 51 years' service in PNG. He said his reason for leaving was a health one, but he also felt that at 82 he was becoming too old to be of any service. Fr Mihalic gave PNG its first comprehensive Tok Pisin dictionary. Because of his work on the standard grammar and dictionary of that language, he was chosen to start a Tok Pisin Catholic newspaper in PNG. The first edition of *Wantok* appeared in 1970. As self-government and independence approached, the Government used *Wantok* to get information across to all those who did not understand English, the grassroots. *The Independent* said, "Gradually, the idea of reading and not smoking a newspaper caught on. When *Wantok* niuspepa moved to Port Moresby at the end of 1976, the circulation was 9,000." Fr Mihalic taught Communication Arts at the Divine Word Institute (university) from 1988 to 1992. He said, "Collecting inspirational stories has been a hobby of mine since 1931. I presumed they would be useful to people. To date I have had 2,500 of them published."

The Independent 19-5-99

Meg TAYLOR, former diplomat and daughter of J L Taylor, kiap, explorer and coffee planter, has been appointed as the first compliance adviser to the International Finance Corporation which is a private arm of the World Bank. Ms Taylor will begin a three-year posting in July.

The Independent 14-5-99

Port Moresby's oldest building, the 109-year-old **ELA UNITED CHURCH**, will be preserved. It will be relocated to the car park and a new church will be erected in its place. It was built in 1890 to cater for the Protestant expat. community. *National* 24-5-99

THE 'ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE' IN PNG: Marian (Frank) CICHOCKI wrote, "We came across George Baker (the British High Commissioner in PNG in the 70s) and his wife Audrey at the "Alliance Française" or French Club where they were frequent visitors. None of us was aware of the distinguished career of the British High Commissioner. Probably not many expatriates in Port Moresby knew that such a club existed because it had no permanent venue. Meetings took place at various private homes. Apart from a few French, Belgian or Swiss Nationals, there was a number of Australians including Australian teachers who were interested in improving their French. Margaret EVERS of the Department of Education was one of the most active members and our evening meetings were always enjoyable. On one occasion crêpes Suzette were served. Various members were invited to demonstrate their juggler's dexterity which involved ... handling the frying pan in such a way as to toss the pancake into the air and catch it again with the pan on the reverse side. I cannot recollect one single case of an accident. After Independence we had our meetings at Boroko High School, where French movies were shown and we had discussions in French with tea and coffee served with sandwiches..."

ANZAC DAY 1999 - 'RABAUL STYLE'

Sunday, April the 25th, dawned bright and sunny in Rabaul and as an added bonus, the prevailing winds were easterly - we would not be 'ashed on' as had happened at each of our past Anzac Day celebrations since the 1994 eruptions! Matupit continued to huff and puff throughout the day, but did not affect us at all.

Paul Knapp, our Master of Ceremonies for the day, had done a sterling job - there was even a tent at The Cenotaph for the ladies and invited guests - an unheard-of luxury.



Front row, L to R, M Foley, J Copeland, R Chadwick - Kaivuna Hotel behind Cenotaph

The parade started on time at 10.45am (again unheard-of!), led proudly by 77 year old Matthew Bernard Foley MBE. Our numbers were boosted this year as HMPNGS *Dreger* was in port for repairs and maintenance. Captain Mossman led his party of men to the Cenotaph, along with a contingent of five policemen, on leave from duties in Bougainville, under the command of Sgt Andrew Pondo (an ex-B.R.A. hostage). The Police presented arms, whilst the Navy took care of the flags. Unfortunately, our Town Band and Boy Scouts failed to materialise, but in true Rabaul fashion, we managed - we did at least have a bugler present! The crowd of about fifty local residents, dressed in various versions of 'tropical formal', which stretched from Stubbies and thongs to ladies in hats, enthusiastically joined the Tolai choir in hymns and the Papua New Guinea and Australian National Anthems. Jim Copeland, the President of the Rabaul RSL spoke beautifully, as did Matthew Bernard Foley. Father Willie Voigt led the prayers and later led the charge to the bar!

The RSL was one of the many buildings almost totally destroyed in 1994 and since then, we have continued festivities at Rabaul's premier watering hole, The Kaivuna Hotel. Our hosts, Brian and Bev Martin, had once again organised things to a tee. The drinks flowed freely, courtesy of the RSL, and the food was super. There was a barbecue lunch in the garden beside the sparkling pool and a more formal lunch for RSL members and invited guests in the dining room. At the conclusion of lunch, Jim Copeland gave a short speech, making special mention of deceased members, Harry Croyden and Eremas Tolik. Jim also spoke of the much-deserved MBE awarded to Matt. Foley in this year's Honours List.

The formalities all but over, we adjourned to the two-up pit in the gardens, ably supervised by Paul Knapp and Ray Chadwick. What was lacking in numbers was more than made up for with enthusiasm from the crowd. Last year's big winner, Alan Jameson, could not pull a trick but Michael Chan could not go wrong and was a clear winner. In the true spirit of the day, Michael donated a good portion of his winnings to the RSL.

The day progressed, with many an old yarn and some new ones, told in the bar and around the pool. By seven o'clock, all but the stragglers (some of whom had wisely booked into The Kaivuna) had left.

Another Anzac Day had passed in Rabaul - still, against the odds, 'the best little town in the Pacific!'

□ **Julie Cohen - Rabaul**

Julie is the daughter-in-law of Florence Cohen, who was a long-time resident of Rabaul.

DISPLAY DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA CAMPAIGN 1942-45 - ARMY/NAVY/AIRFORCE/PNG PEOPLE.

Doug Franklin of Closeburn Qld wrote that on the days leading up to ANZAC Day this year the NGVR and PNGVR Ex Members Association put on a very good display of memorabilia at the PNG Consulate and AirNiugini office building in Brisbane city. There were all sorts of equipment and relics from the war and especially the Kokoda campaign, also dozens of very good photographs taken during the war, and a video movie going in a little theatre.

THE TEACHING OF TOK PISIN AND MOTU IN AUSTRALIA

Laurie Le Fevre of Mawson ACT wrote "...while working on the Youth Ambassadors Program (an AusAID program) I was reminded that the languages of our closest neighbour, the country that receives the majority of Australia's foreign aid, aren't widely taught in Australia relative to the languages of China and Indonesia. To many Australians, a reference to Tok Pisin or Motu would be a mystery that would raise a quizzical eyebrow in a way that would not occur if the reference were to Bahasa, Cantonese or Mandarin. While the Australian universities are turning out hundreds of graduates who are proficient in Asian languages, I don't know of one that is teaching Tok Pisin or Motu. As Professor Sumner Miller used to ask, 'Why is this thus?'"

From **Don Drover**, a member of our Editorial Sub-Committee: "The editor of *Una Voce* has asked me to reply to your question of why Tok Pisin and Motu are not taught in our universities. At the outset I am aware that Tok Pisin has been a valuable lingua franca in PNG and beyond and that its use predates colonisation. Further, I have taught in an African university (5 years) and the University of Papua New Guinea (15 years)

In the days of the British Empire, English was widely understood within those colonies. Just imagine what India would be like today without the English language. Languages such as Tok Pisin and Motu have no historical written literature whereas both Cantonese and Mandarin have.

In my opinion encouraging Tok Pisin was a mistake in PNG. It would have been to the country's advantage to learn English right from the start. As a chemistry teacher, I shall give you an example. At the University of PNG we found that students could not distinguish between yellow and orange, the basis of a particular chemical reaction.

Even textbooks written in a sophisticated language such as Arabic have a large number of English phrases and names of things which do not exist in the Arabic world simply because most science concepts were conceived in European languages and thought.

I hope the above is useful.

Sincerely, Donald P Drover."

TOURISM IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

by Peter Barter

For more than 30 years I have been involved with the promotion and development of tourism in PNG. As many of you know, tourism was never taken seriously by the former Administration or for that matter the successive Governments since Independence. I recall the late Sir John Guise stating on one occasion, "I do not want my people viewed as objects of curiosity". To a large extent this statement was taken very seriously, many people assuming that once PNG was 'discovered', we would be flooded with tourists. This of course never happened.

Just prior to Independence, we did begin to see steady increases in tourist arrivals. There was a lack of statistical information categorising 'bonafide' tourists, but an estimated 16,000 tourists arrived annually between 1970-74.

Shortly before Independence, Air Niugini was born out of the remains of Ansett and TAA and Dennis Buchanan sold Talco to myself. Around about this time, tourism began to decline. From the time Qantas began to serve PNG after Independence, it has done nothing to really promote the destination. Initially Air Niugini did nothing, but later they established marketing and tour divisions and in many respects did well in promoting PNG, particularly in the USA. Various forms of tourist offices came and went. Most were totally underfunded and the industry itself was fragmented, basically because there was not enough business to go around. This resulted in some companies in PNG soliciting business away from other established companies, which did nothing to improve communication.

In 1992 a fair estimate of 'bonafide' tourists had shrunk to around 10,000, perhaps less but not more. Although today we read in the media about substantial increases in tourism, the figures being quoted are artificially inflated. The fact is that many, I could say most, visitors abuse the easy Tourist Visa system which is more accessible and less expensive than other categories of visas. The 1997 total of all arrivals was shown at 67,000. In 1998 it was 68,000, 42,000 of which came from Australia. I cannot argue with the actual totals but I can assure you that there were not 42,000 Australian tourists visiting PNG. This year, I predict we will have a decrease in bonafide tourist arrivals, excluding cruise ships passengers.

It would be easy to blame crime for the decrease in tourist arrivals, and I have no doubt it could be a contributing factor, but it probably has more to do with the fact that PNG does not have a tourist image. We are just one of numerous small countries fighting for the tourists and most other destinations have been working on it consistently for many years.

Australia is our nearest market and certainly the one with the most potential, yet we fail miserably in attracting any volume of bonafide tourists. Each potential market is different. In Australia, for instance, the promotion of outbound tourism is 'controlled' by the larger companies or franchises ie Jetset, Traveland, Harvey World Travel and the airlines themselves who are directly or indirectly involved with the in-house tour operations. Qantas does not even have a poster on PNG, let alone a tour included in its Qantas Vacations program or its associated companies' programs. Air Niugini does have sales offices in Cairns, Brisbane and Sydney but financial constraints make it very difficult to promote PNG with any degree of success. More recently Flight West has begun operating to PNG from Cairns and Brisbane. Obviously this will help, but until Qantas takes on marketing PNG as a destination I predict we will have difficulty in making inroads into Australia.

Let me return to the crime situation. First of all I do not want to be quoted as saying that crime does not exist in PNG - it does. There have been some horrific incidents

that would frighten off the hardest of visitors. But at the same time, the crime situation is NOT general. 99% of PNG remains as safe as it was before Independence - the places tourists want to visit are in remote, rural areas and in reality they are the safest. When we plan itineraries, where possible we avoid Port Moresby. We try to bring tourists in through Mt Hagen but even if they do arrive in Port Moresby, there is minimal risk providing simple instructions are followed.

At a recent tourist conference in Madang, I suggested that we place unsafe areas off limits to tourists - just how this would be done, I do not know. Another suggestion is to have Tourist Police to ensure the safety of visitors but I believe the most sensible solution is for operators like ourselves to simply ensure that tourists visit areas we know are safe.

It may come as a surprise to many that over a 30-year period, no tourist of ours has ever been involved in an incident. We do not employ any security staff, nor have we called on the police for any assistance at any time. This record is not a coincidence, it is because we operate in areas that are perfectly safe, we have wide respect from the people, and we make sure that itineraries are planned to minimise the exposure to criminal activities.

If I can just make a small mention of the Melanesian Foundation which was established by our Company for the purpose of providing assistance to the people where our clients visit: for ten years the Foundation has been supplying and delivering around 1,000 school desks a year. At present we are constructing ten medical aid posts and have reintroduced the National Health Radio Network in Madang and some other provinces, as well as conducting other projects. Two books edited by Mary Mennis were funded by the Melanesian Foundation and distributed to all schools in Madang.*

Even though there has been a decline in tourism, I am the eternal optimist. We all know that PNG has enormous tourist potential. I am confident that before long our political system will stabilise and that one day tourism will play an important role in the economy of PNG.

Our best ambassadors are those people who know PNG. Residents who have returned to Australia can make a big difference to the image of PNG. Let me assure you that the people have not changed, they remain as friendly as ever. Visitors are welcome and safe, but you do not have to take my word. Come and visit us and see for yourself. My Company is happy to provide a 50% discount to ex-PNG residents on cruises aboard the Melanesian Discoverer when space is available (which is most of the time), also at Madang Resort and at the Malagan Lodge in Kavieng (again subject to availability) as a means of restoring the image of PNG.

* (a) *Archipelago of the Contented People?* - a fascinating description of the Astrolabe Bay area, its people and their customs, originally published in 1888, in German, as Ch. 3 of a book written by Otto Finsch, ethnographer and ornithologist, while on an expedition aboard the *Samoa*. After being translated, edited and annotated, it was printed by Kristen Pres, Madang, in 1996.

(b) *The Story of Kain, Friend of Maclay* - based on stories told by the old chiefs of the villages near Madang and on the diaries of Miklouho-Maclay, the Russian scientist who befriended Kain, one of the headmen in Bilibil Village. Kristen Pres 1996.

Peter Barter went to PNG as a pilot for the Franciscan Mission at Aitape. Later he joined TAL based in Goroka and started Talco Tours. In 1975 he bought Talco, changing the name to Melanesian Tourist Services. He has been based in Madang ever since. In 1992 he was elected Regional Member for Madang, in 1994 he became National Minister for Health, in 1996 the first Governor of Madang and in 1997 the Minister for Provincial and Local Government Affairs. Peter continues his involvement in community affairs as well as being Managing Director of Melanesian Tourist Services and Chairman of the Melanesian Foundation.

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THE BIG JUDGE KNOWS BEST
by Adrian Geyle

The best physical feature of the Western Province of Papua New Guinea is the Fly River. It is mighty. Tidal for 300 km. upstream, navigable for approximately 720 km., it is about 80 km. wide at the delta. When the tide runs out, the river can supply fresh water to sailors 80 km. out into the gulf of Papua, it has been claimed.

Lake Murray is a notable feature too, linked to the Fly through swamps and waterways and also to the Strickland River which runs into the Fly. The Strickland connection to the lake is via the Herbert River. When the Fly runs high, the swamps and waterways rise, and when the Strickland too runs high, water backs up the Herbert to further heighten these swamplands and the lake itself. Water, water everywhere (see p.13 of Mar. '98 issue for map. Lake Murray is situated between the Fly & Strickland Rivers).

Sixty kilometres long, the lake is a generous provider for man, beasts (notably reptiles), birds and fish alike. Larger-than-canoe vessels enter it via the Herbert. Government vessels supplied all Western District (now Western Province) outstations, and Lake Murray Patrol Post at Mava received one about every 14 weeks.

On my first posting, in January 1952, I proceeded upstream from Daru (on the coast) on the MV *Seamist*, with my Patrol Officer boss Dave Calder and about fifty Papuan passengers and boatscrew. Painfully slow against tides and current, our journey lasted eight days.

Initial impressions are indelible on my mind. The river was so wide and brown, contrasting with its walls of towering green trees interlaced with cordons of crimson flowering vines over dark entrances to creeks, and little green grassy places with lean-tos and hamlets where gardens grew. Hour after hour on deck the days were filled with dull routine for the crew and impatient boredom among the passengers. People returning from Daru (and sometimes beyond) such as ex-patients and court witnesses brought all sorts of knick-knacks and paraphernalia with them, crowding the passengers on deck into strange sleeping postures on bags and between drums and boxes.

One item was a handsome red rooster which heralded everything, not just the dawn! For about half of the first day his raucous, ear-splitting crowing woke anyone lucky enough to be grabbing some sleep. A boatscrew placed a bucket of river water near the bird's wire gauze cage and loudly granted all passengers open licence to douse our unpopular resident chanticleer with a solid wall of water every time he crowed or looked like he was going to. A crash course in communal-manners-for-close-living did the trick - in modern economics terminology, the chook was put on a fast learning curve!

Somnolence prevailed, after dousing the chook guaranteed it, until the boat slowed

down each evening, looking for a safe mooring place to spend the night. A kind of panic took over then. Mosquitoes filled the air in Suki country along the Middle Fly, and a black cloud of them following only metres behind the slowing vessel swarmed around us when it stopped. The immediate surrounds of any overnight mooring had to provide dead wood for all-night fires, and hopefully plenty of dry leaves to create a huge blaze and billows of smoke, quick. People scrambled ashore flaying themselves with grass, leaves, anything, as they headed for the smoke and heavenly relief from the voracious attackers.

A huge fire was a must before people could attend to anything else. Smoke subdued those Suki-class, monster mosquitoes as the bucket of water did the chook. We all wondered whose blood those marauders 'drank' before we came along! Their persistence had an upside - it was the butt of much wry humour, even at the height of the confusion. The boat's skipper, a Kiwai seaman of both river and open sea experience, warned Dave and me to get under our mosquito nets before we were 'carried away'. Our cookboy wasn't going to get caught, neither below deck in the galley nor on deck, when the boat stopped. He shot us a cold meal of sliced bully beef and biscuits under our nets as mosquitoes fastened on to the thick slices like mud to a blanket, joining us for a meal under our nets. They were as thick on the meat as space would allow, as thick as the proverbial angels who cram to dance - for musing odd-ball mortals - on the point of a pin.

The two vessels *Seamist* and *Urunga* left Daru more times than they arrived at Lake Murray with their cargoes - they sometimes broke down on the way. Their ETAs were given more 'tongue-in-cheek' than with conviction. Both mechanical breakdowns and damage to the propeller screws and shafts played havoc with supply timetables and with our patrol plans for the sub-district. Patrols were then of necessity planned around boats' actual arrivals, not estimates.

The arrival of a boat - any boat - was an exciting occasion. Court witnesses, native police going on or returning from leave, medical cases and their carers, and general itinerants - all had to be received or despatched and accounted for. Stores had to be tallied and taken into storage. Official and private mail, library books and magazines, groceries and grog all contributed to the excitement we all enjoyed whenever a boat arrived at Mava, our patrol post on the lake.

THE BIG JUDGE KNOWS BEST - PART II

Incorporating all of the above into a story concerning the wise judgements of a judge may seem superfluous and irrelevant. The boat journey from Daru, however, often kept together for at least eight days ex-courtroom players antagonistic towards each other and impatient with 'outside' interference - trouble for them in the form of a foreign legal system they didn't understand. The relevance of the above will become clear from what follows.

Resentments simmered away, suppressed, on the long journey upriver, and then tended to boil over when the boat discharged her human cargo at Lake Murray. The arrival of the *Seamist* some six months after it brought Dave and me to Mava saw another disembarkation of another set of weary arrivals. After being deck-bound for over a week they were assailed with questions from their 'wantoks' as they came ashore. Some went home immediately in various canoes, others went to the station hospital wards where they could wait to be picked up by relatives later.

A rowdy conversation developed as people arranged temporary bedding for the night at the hospital about fifty metres from the house Dave and I shared. It turned into a vaudeville-type oratory of one-liners like those our stand-up comedians give. It filled the night air and the level of laughter grew with each line. It was too much for Dave who was trying to read letters from home. He exploded, "Listen to that bastard. I'll stop him".

He stormed out of the house and headed for the hospital. The cause of all the levity was one man claiming, at the top of his voice, that Dave had been overruled by the 'big judge' in the Supreme Court at Daru and was no longer worth listening to. He was suddenly silenced, summarily, right there before his bemused, and no doubt confused, audience. Dave delivered his riposte non-verbally.

Dave had a short fuse and he was the first to admit it, and this diatribe was beyond the pale. It was physical violence of a higher degree that was the precursor to the trouble this man was causing now. He had just been tried in the Supreme Court at Daru on a charge of inflicting grievous bodily harm on his wife. This raucous Mava scene now, and Dave's direct action to end it, was the culmination of so much wasted work, involving months of frustration getting people and legal depositions in place for his trial. This Lake Murray man had, by our Western standards, committed a serious crime - one of causing grievous bodily harm. He had deliberately shot his wife in the leg with an arrow as she was running from him. Under the Criminal Code of Queensland, Adopted, such an offence could bring up to seven years in gaol with hard labour. Dave had sent this man and his wife/victim and all witnesses to Daru by the MV *Seamist* three months after it had brought us up. Transport and police escort, food and accommodation - the costs behind every Supreme Court hearing were substantial, in terms of time for preparation particularly.

On this occasion the court found the accused guilty. The 'big judge' had sentenced him to 'the rising of the court', in consideration of the time he had been held in custody. In the mind of the judge the accused had done enough 'time', but in the mind of the guilty one the sentence delivered was no sentence; and there he was - free, and it was because this big judge had overruled Kip Dave.

The complexities of our legal processes could never have been adequately explained to a Lake Murray villager by any court meting out a sentence, back then. This Suki man had returned home believing he had not been found guilty and that he had 'won the court'. This was his mantra - that he had 'won the court', repeated over and over again to a ward full of patients and their carers and others just off the *Seamist* (court witnesses among them); and interspersed with personal insults about Dave and challenges to his authority. Learning later what it was that riled Dave (my Police Motu was pretty poor at the time), I think he got off lightly.

The physical ruckus at Lake Murray could be seen as a necessary corollary: Dave arresting this man and inflicting some sort of punishment where the big judge's ruling had inadvertently left a hole that had to be filled. The Native Regulation Ordinance 1908-1952 provided for Magistrates of Native Matters (such as Dave was then) to gaol a person for assault in such a case as this, since this offence in Papua at that time was - if deliberate and controlled - an accepted form of punishment and never much more. A resultant injury, to the thigh mostly, was not seen as grievous in our meaning of the word. Custom gave it legitimacy.

Action and reaction are a comfortable coupling that all traditional cultures have learnt to deal with, especially in their institutions of retribution and reciprocity. An arrow in the thigh for settling a grievance was an acceptable coupling to a Lake Murray man in 1952, a traditional 'square off'. It probably still is.

The Supreme Court judge later conveyed to us his preferred way of dealing with cases such as this one: 'hot and on the spot' (to paraphrase what he said) record the offence as an assault, and sentence the offender to the maximum gaol term under the Native Regulation Ordinance: 4 months. That way justice could be seen to be done.



L to R: **Dorrie HEALEY** with **Graham**; **Jimmy HODGKISS**, the oldest PO in NG; **Fred EICHHORN**, Sepik gold miner; a Bulolo recruiter, name unknown; **Bill SKITCH**, Bulolo recruiter; **Ralph ORMSBY**, Assist. Dist. Officer; **Bernie GOBLE**, EMA from up-river at Marui, **Jack LANG**, station carpenter. Back row: **Rhys HEALEY**, EMA Angoram, **Ludwig SCHMIDT** Sepik gold miner

FIFTY YEARS AGO - ANGORAM, SEPIK RIVER

This photograph was taken by Ken Gorringer (Dept. of Agric. Stock & Fisheries) at Angoram, Christmas 1947. Ken was staying with Rhys Healey, the local Medical Assistant and his wife Dorrie who was postmistress and office typist. Rhys was discharged from ANGAU in early 1946 and posted to Angoram. Dorrie joined him there in July that year after obtaining special permission from Canberra to travel under Army movements. She was flown in from Wewak by Johnny Rose, Mandated Airlines Pilot. Dorrie wrote, "On arrival had a tremendous welcome from Rhys, together with all Admin. Staff. Ralph Ormsby ADO, Peter Maloney PO, Bill MacGregor PO, Fred Eichhorn, Native Labour, Jack Lang, Labour. Ralph also had the Police and Doctor Bois lining the airstrip - a great reception, I was most impressed. Naturally I was spoilt with all these men on the station but I settled into tropical life relatively easily although must admit it was a completely different lifestyle from working in an office in Sydney ... still I loved it, it was a challenge. I also worked in the office as at that time there were hundreds of War Claims to be typed - I learned a lot from that job about the war years in New Guinea. I have many wonderful memories of our eight years living in the Sepik area."

Graham, their first child, was the first European baby to be born in the area - the event caused much interest and speculation with people betting on the arrival date and sex of the baby. The family was constantly on the move with Rhys opening many outstation hospitals. While at Lumi Rhys was invited by the Sissano Franciscan Mission to take photos of the nuns at work (to be used in a brochure to encourage nuns to the order). Dorrie wrote, "Mother Agnella was the youngest Mother to be posted out of Ireland, and she had two nuns on the mission with her, Sisters Mary Rose and Mary Margaret. It certainly was educational to see how dedicated the nuns were in teaching and nursing the locals who were particularly eager to learn... a wonderful place, Sissano... We were extremely upset when we heard about the tidal wave in the area last year."

Dorrie concluded, "I could reminisce forever of our amazing and marvellous years on the Sepik, made many many friends over those years. As I always say, PNG friends are friends for life."



Sr Mary Margaret and Sr Mary Rose of Sissano Franciscan Mission, Sissano Lagoon, June 1950.

POLOM ANTIPAS KASI - CARRIER, SCOUT, FARMER AND SEAFARER

Ross and Kathy Wilson sent us the life story of Kathy's father, Polom Antipas Kasi, who was born between the wars. It is unusual for us to receive the life story of Papua New Guineans unless they have achieved high office. It might interest members to read how one person adapted to the changes which took place during his lifetime.

Polom (Porom or Paul) Antipas Kasi was born in the coastal village of E'ec near Bukawa, Morobe Province, around 1922 and died in 1993. He was a son of Eliasa Kasi and Kapua Tisoc. Polom's older brother Yalu lives at Busong near E'ec. Two sisters died as children. Polom's parents also cared for nine nieces and nephews who had lost their parents. Polom's mother devoted her life to caring for the children and gardening. She read the Bible and travelled with the missionaries making 'passa', bread, for the Eucharist.

Polom attended the German Lutheran Yabim tok ples school at E'ec, after which he was involved in gold mining, and worked as a guide and coastal trader. He led missionaries up the Markham Valley from Lae to Menyamya. He went to Wau/Bulolo goldfields in a Junkers aircraft from Salamaua and worked at the Bulolo sawmill. He was a Captain and Chief Mate of traditional trading canoes with large mat sails made in Buingim and E'ec. He traded between Finschhafen, Tami Island, Salamaua and the Morobe coast, transporting cargo, evangelists and teachers. He traded in fish (from Siassi and Tami), taro and sac sac (from E'ec), clay pots (from Morobe), mats, pul pul (grass skirts from Siassi and Tami) and canoes. He had a great knowledge of fish and the sea and was a great tuna and red emperor fisherman.

When the Japanese invaded Lae in March 1942, the people saw the bombers and moved inland. In September 1943, along with three brothers (cousins), Polom was recruited by an Australian officer who spoke Pidgin, probably Lt. Col. 'Bluey' Allen who had been a gold miner at Bulolo. The young men in the village had to lift up their arms and those with hair were recruited. He marched with Australian soldiers from Bukawa. He saw action with Australian and American forces at Finschhafen, Sattelberg and Song River (Sept-Dec 1943). As a carrier and scout he supported battalions of the Ninth and Fifth

Australian Divisions and the Pacific Islands Battalion, pursuing the Japanese to Sialum, Sio and Saidor. He carried mortar bombs and other equipment and assisted with beach landings along the Huon Gulf and Rai Coast.

In January 1944 he became very sick with dysentery. The army's sulphur drugs were of no use. His brother Tisoc (one of the cousins he grew up with) carried his equipment and saved him with traditional medicine made from a leaf found along the coast heated with sea water and coconut milk. Polom later met up with the Americans. He sailed on RAN or US Navy ships or barges - one of the captains gave him a turn at the wheel. He sailed to Kar Kar, Ambon and Manus Islands.

In 1992, Polom's brother Tisoc recalled some of the events of 1943/44: "Finschhafen emi fullup long Japan. Na tok I kam, wampela Australian emi savi tok pisin, I kisim mipela long ples (E'ec/Buingim). Mipela go fight long Finschhafen nau. Australia na America I winim Japan. Japan ol igo down long Sio, Kwara River na Saidor. Mipela behainim igo. Mipela lusim Sio nau Polom kisim sik nogut tru. Em I lusim han bom bilong en wantaim bag bilong en na mi karim. Mi karim four pela bomb bilong putim long mortar, na sutim na rausim Japan. Polom I givim me bomb bilong en na mi karim eight pela olgeta na bag bilong en." (*When Polom became sick, Tisoc carried Polom's four mortar bombs and Polom's bag, plus his own four bombs.*)

Polom (Porom) Kasi was one of the 55,000 PNG carriers and scouts who fought alongside the Australians and Americans in WWII and who helped stem the tide of the Japanese invasion. Without the hardiness, agility, and local knowledge of the PNG nationals the war may have taken a different turn. Polom was almost certainly No. 235 Acting Sergeant Porom of the 1st New Guinea Infantry Battalion who enlisted at Finschhafen on 26 April 1944. He was promoted to Acting Sergeant on 10 December 1944. He was Mentioned in Despatches and awarded the 1939/45 Star and the Pacific Star.

For several years after the war Polom travelled on Administration patrols in Papua. He acted as a translator, 'tanim tok', in the English, Melanesian Pidgin, Bukawa, Kote and Motu languages; he was involved in road-making at Port Moresby, Sogeri, Gailala, Kikori and Garaina; he walked the Kokoda Trail to Popondetta; he travelled by compass, finding gold at Kiunga and oil at Daru; he patrolled Mount Lamington volcano after the eruption in 1951. In the early 50s he drove Holden, Ford and Peugeot taxis at Rabaul, Wewak and Kieta. He stayed in Madang with his cousin, Tasup Owiai, a doctor at Yagaum Lutheran Hospital. Magwaleo Yata from Buingim, who was promised to Polom, came to stay at Madang. Polom and Magwaleo were married in 1955 at the same time as his poromen*, Wara and Ouni. A big sing sing was held with a pig given by his mother, Kapua (baim meri). Polom worked from time to time with Burns Philp coastal shipping and Robert Laurie, Customs Agents, carrying copra and other cargo - this occasional work spanned a period of 35 years from 1950-85. His wife accompanied him on some voyages. In 1956 Polom returned to E'ec to raise his family of eight children and follow gardening, fishing, hunting and seafaring pursuits. He served on village council and school committees. In his later years he raised chickens. Villagers speak of his hospitality and how they loved hearing him recount stories from 'taim bilong tumbuna' (earlier times) and from his own adventurous youth. Like his mother, he read the Bible daily and often led in devotions and prayers. He visited his daughter, Kathy, and grandchildren Robert and Louise, at Lae, Bumayong and Sogeri.

Polom Antipas Kasi took an active part in the momentous changes which occurred in his lifetime. He was a fine man and is missed greatly by his family.

* If anyone can add any details to the life story of Polom Kasi please write to Kathy Wilson, 3 Daley Street, Alstonville NSW 2477.

* Poroman - Best friend or mate, and sometimes brother or brother-in-law.

SUPPER AT SOHANO

The last pages of each *Una Voce* convey sad but inevitable news. A decade ago some members queried whether obituaries should be omitted. The Editor canvassed opinion and found a positive wish by wantoks to remember their colleagues. Last year I was disturbed to read of the passing of Barney Madden but that news also made me recollect what a likeable fellow he was.

At the time I knew him the British TV show "Men Behaving Badly" had not been made. If asked to comment on it recently Barney would probably have taken the high moral ground. "Disgusting," he would have chuckled. "Those Brits."

In the early Sixties the late Dr Madden was District Education Officer, Bougainville and I spent a night at his residence on Sohano, then District Headquarters. He considered it his duty to take me to the Club that evening and by the time we returned Mrs Madden had retired. We tiptoed to our rooms and at that point I was attacked by fierce pangs of hunger. Creeping in the dark to the kitchen I found a half consumed hambone about a foot long in the *bokis ais*. Having decided that fumbling around for a plate and knife, then slicing off some meat would be too noisy, I simply took the whole bone back to my room. Climbing into bed, I had a good gnaw at it, shoved it under my pillow, and promptly fell fast asleep.

Awakened at 6 am I was in a panic having scarcely thirty minutes before the bomb scow left. (The airstrip was, of course, on Small Buka and one had to be ferried across the passage from Sohano Island.) Halfway across I remembered the hambone. "Oh Lord," I moaned. Well, at least I would be in the air on the way to Rabaul before, as it were, the ham hit the fan.

At the strip, news was received that the aircraft had shed a tyre in the Solomons and would not reach Buka until the afternoon. So Barney cordially invited me back to his house. "Oh dear Lord" I thought, "What if I am confronted by Mais Madden waving the hambone at me?" Fortunately when I got there the *haus-meri* had not reached my bedroom and I went straight to the pillow. 'It' was still concealed. The next thing was to get it back into the fridge before anyone saw it. So I lurked, watched, dashed to the kitchen when it was empty, and did the deed.

A cherub on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel could not have radiated more innocence than Toner did in the next few hours until he could wave goodbye to Bougainville.

Not a lot gets past dear Mais Madden, former nursing sister with an eagle eye, so I did wonder whether her *hauskuk* had been subjected to the rounds of the kitchen once the bareness of the bone had been noticed. All I can offer her four decades later as excuse for Behaving Badly is that, at the time, I was indeed a Brit.

□ Jim Toner

At the first meeting of the Committee after the AGM, it was decided that the Sub-Committees for 1999 would be as follows: (Names underlined are the conveners.)

| | |
|------------------|---|
| <u>Editorial</u> | <u>Marie Bassett</u> , Doug Parrish, Pamela Foley, Ross Johnson, Don Drover |
| <u>Social</u> | <u>Joe Nitsche</u> , Pamela Foley, Pat Hopper |
| <u>Finance</u> | <u>Ross Johnson</u> , Elma Holmes, Doug Parrish, Joe Nitsche, Ian Reardon |
| <u>Legal</u> | <u>Doug Parrish</u> , Peter Kaad, Bill Johnston, Don Drover, Ross Johnson |
| <u>Caring</u> | <u>Pat Hopper</u> , Frank Smith, Roma Bates, Marie Day, Alison Marsh |

" 10 "

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE! — — — — — ➤

Chips Mackellar's story, "Kiaps on Bikes", in our December issue prompted **Don BARNES** of Mitcham SA to send us these two photos - see opposite page: same people, same BSA Bantam, however one was taken in Lae in 1953, the other at Mitcham SA in 1995, 42 years apart!

Don said that Chips' bike and his own were the same make and model and added that a motor cycle journal dated 1954 had said that over half a million Bantams must have been built since the commencement of production in 1948.

Don wrote, "If they were maintained correctly they were very reliable, and were cheap to buy and cheap to maintain. I rode my Bantam to Wau and back several times (from Lae) and the bike did 120 miles to the gallon. My Bantam was imported into PNG through Madang and I bought it in Lae in August 1952 for £75 and they were the best 75 pounds I ever spent. It served me well, as my going-to-work vehicle, for use during working hours and as my recreational vehicle, until we left Lae in March 1976. The only real trouble was a new ignition coil and a new rear wheel. On excursions when the track was very steep, mostly out of creeks, I put the bike in bottom gear and walked beside it. The top photo was taken in our back yard, 10th Street, Lae in late 1953. The bottom photo was taken in our back yard at Mitcham, a suburb of Adelaide at Christmas 1995, as the bike had been restored. The three 'young men' are the same in both photos, being Terry, myself and Ray. Our dog Kiri was also a member of the family in 1953.

Regarding freight back to Australia: my employer, being the PNG Government, would pay freight for a car, a boat and a trailer, but not for a car and a motor cycle. I pulled mine to pieces, put the pieces into cartons and correctly marked them 'motor vehicle parts'."

On receiving an advance copy of this article, Don commented, "the difference between the first and second photos is very marked - deterioration in one subject and a marked improvement in the other ..."

SOGERI REUNION 1999, Sunshine Coast, October 1-3: The organisers have chosen the Maroochy River Holiday Resort Coach House for the third Sogeri reunion. The cost is \$167 for two persons for two days - this includes all accommodation and meals (except Sat. lunch); single occupancy supplement \$8 per day. The Coach House is not far from the town centre and 5 mins. from the Maroochy Airport. Participants are encouraged to arrive on Friday to take advantage of the whole weekend deal. There will be free time around the middle of Saturday for sightseeing. Payment is required by 1 Sept. as the organisers are required to pay costs in advance. For a booking form/further info. please contact Marjorie Walker, 31 Josephine Ave, Mount Waverley Vic 3149 Ph 03 9803 9071 or Cleo Pashen, 15 Petrel Street, Peregrine Beach Qld 4573 Ph 07 5448 1587 or John Stolz, 4 Cyclamen Court, Currimundi Qld 4551 Ph 07 5493 7028

NEW IRELAND REUNION 1999, Gold Coast, October 23-24: The organisers are calling for ideas. A golf game has been suggested, perhaps a dinner dance on Saturday night with the Sunday Luncheon to be the main event - some may choose just to come to the Sunday luncheon. If you wish to attend, please register your interest by sending \$5 to Tony Thomas (address below). Further details and suggested places to stay will be posted to you. Please pass this information on to anyone who might be interested or who missed the reunion four years ago. Contacts are: Tony Thomas, 41 Cashmere Place, Morayfield Qld 4506, email: champers@one.net.au Ph 07 5497 8058 or 0418 156 414 George & Joelze Man, 114 Pennant Hills Rd, Normanhurst NSW 2076, Ph 02 9487 3297 Michael Kenny, 16 Oleander Avenue, Bogangar NSW 2488, Ph 02 6676 1082

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|----------------------|--|
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| BASSETT Mrs M | 11 The Scarp, CASTLE CRAG NSW 2068 |
| BATES Mrs R | 38 Dixon Avenue, DULWICH HILL NSW 2203 |
| BATES Mr C D | 9 Rival Street, KAREELA NSW 2232 |
| BATHO Mrs J | 3 Steinwedel Street, FARRER ACT 2607 |
| BATT Mrs G. | 5 Kingfish Court, PALM BEACH QLD 4221 |
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| BAWDEN Mr D | "Grantham", Moston Street, PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444 |
| BEIL Mr B J | 24 Point Halloran Road, VICTORIA POINT QLD 4165 |
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| BELL Mr R | 6 Parker Close, BEECROFT NSW 2119 |
| BELL Mrs E | 3 Hawter Road, GLEN FORREST WA 6071 |
| BELL Mr D | 10 Mabb Street, KENMORE QLD 4069 |
| BELTZ Mr C | 56 Blackwood Road, HOLDER ACT 2611 |
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| BENSON Mr J W | 6 Andrew Close, BOAT HARBOUR NSW 2316 |
| BENSTED Mr D E | Lot 26 Traling Road, GLASSHOUSE MOUNTAINS QLD 4518 |
| BENSTED Mrs P C | Eventide Nursing Home Dolphin House 1 West, Beaconsfield Terrace BRIGHTON QLD 4017 |
| BEST Mr P V | 20 Djerral Avenue, BURLEIGH HEADS QLD 4220 |
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| BONNETT Mr K M | 6/62 Karbunya Street, MERMAID WATERS QLD 4218 |
| BONNICK MR. R. | 11 Morehead St, CURTIN ACT 2605 |
| BOOIJ Mr J | 2 Panoramic Place, WHITFIELD QLD 4870 |
| BOOTH Mr H O | 3 Chapman Street, BUNDABERG QLD 4670 |
| BOSWELL Mr P A K | 38 Rosedale Avenue, FAIRLIGHT NSW 2094 |
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| BOWMAN Mrs M E | 141 Markeri Street, MERMAID WATERS QLD 4218 |
| BOYLE Mr H M | 174 Albert St., CRANBROOK QLD 4814 |
| BOYS Mrs P | 9 Holt Avenue Torbay, AUCKLAND 10 NZ |
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 BRERETON Mr M Rahanga, 2175 Mickleham Road , MICKLEHAM VIC 3064
 BRETHERTON Mr D P O Box 353, MORUYA NSW 2537
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 BROMLEY Mrs J P O Box 187, MUDGEERABA QLD 4213
 BROMLEY Mr H P.O. Box 183, HERBERTON QLD 4872
 BROOKS Mrs P C 36 Bertana Drive , MUDGEERABA QLD 4213
 BROUGHTON Mr J 93 Stonehaven Crescent , DEAKIN ACT 2600
 BROWN Mr W T 3 The Serpentine , BILGOLA NSW 2107
 BROWN Mr K A 6 Woodlawn Drive , BUDGEWOI NSW 2263
 BROWN Mrs M K 20 Berry Avenue , GREEN POINT NSW 2251
 BROWNE Mr R C 61 Henry Parry Drive , GOSFORD NSW 2250
 BROWNIE Mrs G N 102 Benelong Road , CREMORNE NSW 2090
 BRUCE Miss E M 13/83 Queen Street , SOUTHPORT QLD 4215
 BRUCKNER Mr L 96 Esplanade , WOODGATE QLD 4660
 BRUYERES Mrs G 10 Winterhaven Key , MIAMI KEYS QLD 4218
 BRYANT Mr R R 1055 Henry Kendall Village Maidens Brush Rd, WYOMING NSW 2250
 BUCHANAN Sir Dennis 27 Boston Street , CLAYFIELD QLD 4011
 BULL Mr J 179/61 Karalya Road , ERINA NSW 2250
 BULL Mrs B A 179/61 Karalya Road , ERINA NSW 2250
 BUNTING Mrs N 14 Patterson Place , PARADISE POINT KEYS QLD 4215
 BUNTING Mrs G E 10/31 Elamang Avenue , KIRIBILLI NSW 2061
 BURFOOT Mr G R P.O. Box 4 , TYALGUM NSW 2484
 BURKE Mrs O 89 Priam Street , CHESTER HILL NSW 2162
 BURLEY Mrs G M Nazaref Village, Vincent Street , BELMONT NSW 2280
 BURNET Mr I D Goldies Lane , PORT FAIRY VIC 3284
 BURNOG Mrs L 32 Nancarrow Street , DUBBO NSW 2830
 BURNS Mrs B 3/38 Burlington Street , MONTEREY NSW 2217
 BUTHMANN Mr H P O Box 388 , TWEED HEADS NSW 2485
 BUTLER Mr L 2/18 Porter Street , MOAMA NSW 2731
 BUTLER Mrs A E 3/6 Salvado St , COTTESLOE WA 6011
 BYRNE Mrs C M 7/6-8 Longueville Road , LANE COVE NSW 2066
 BYWORTH Mr A E 132 The Esplanade , PARADISE POINT QLD 4216
 CADDEN Mrs E G 2/6 Alan Street , CAMMERAY NSW 2062
 CADDEN Mrs.B. 21 Barona Road , CHURCH POINT NSW 2105
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 CAPP Mr D P O Box 40 , MACLEAN NSW 2463
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 CARNE Mr R S & Mrs J 22 Sunburst Avenue , BALWYN NORTH VIC 3104
 CARROLL Mr L J 3 Asher Street , COOGEE NSW 2034
 CARROLL Mr. M.F. P.O. Box 845 , GRAFTON NSW 2460

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 CHAMPNESS Dr L 5 North Valley Road , HIGHTON VIC 3216
 CHAN Mr G 89 Panorama Road , TAMWORTH NSW 2340
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 CLARIDGE Mr R M 30 Sunninghill Avenue , BURRADOO NSW 2576
 CLARINGBOULD Mrs J 118 Hawken Drive , ST. LUCIA QLD 4067
 CLARK Mr N 1 Monument Street , RAVENSHOE QLD 4872
 CLARK Mrs M 24/70-72 Marine Parade , SOUTHPORT QLD 4215
 CLARKE Mr E D 5/14 Drane Street , CLAYFIELD QLD 4011
 CLAY Mr P J 14 O'rourke Street , WEETANGERA ACT 2614
 CLELAND Dame Rachel 2/24 Richardson Avenue , CLAREMONT WA 6010
 CLELAND Mr R D M 83 Bielby Road , KENMORE HILLS QLD 4069
 CLELLAND AM (Ret.) Grp 23 Ethel Street , CAMP HILL QLD 4152
 Cpt R C
 CLEMENTS Mrs M 100a Huntriss Road , KARRINYUP WA 6018
 CLIFTON Mrs M 21 Valda Street , WEST PENNANT HILLS NSW 2120
 CLOUT Mrs D 3/47 Josling Street , TOOWONG QLD 4066
 CLUER Mrs O 17 Bambery Street , FINGAL HEAD NSW 2487
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 COLEMAN Mr F R 116 Fullers Road , CHATSWOOD NSW 2067
 COLLETT Mr G G "Lahara", Grafton Road Mail , GLEN INNES NSW 2370
 COLLINS Mr. E.D. M/S 1575 , MALANDA QLD 4885
 COLLINS Mr R W P O Box 524 , DALBY QLD 4405
 COLLINS Mrs A 398 Old Northern Road , GLENHAVEN NSW 2156
 COLLIS Mr E G 31/24 Mcdonald Street , BRIBIE ISLAND QLD 4507
 COLMAN Mr J P O Box 6320 , GOLD COAST MAIL CENTRE QLD 4217
 COLWELL Mrs D J P O Box 666 , NOOSA HEADS QLD 4567
 COLWELL Mr J Port Moresby National High P.O. Box 1004, WAIGANI N.C.P. PNG 131

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 CONROY Mr W L 16 Patrick Street, AVALON BEACH NSW 2107
 COOK Mr G M 27 Pinewood Street, REDCLIFFE QLD 4020
 COOK OBE Mr F J P O Box 245, LAE M.P. PNG 411
 COOTE Mr P R Rosebank Road, ROSEBANK NSW 2480
 CORDER Mr H 236 North Road, BRIGHTON EAST VIC 3187
 CORDUKES Mr P 309 NOOSA SPRINGS DRIVE, NOOSA HEADS QLD 4567
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 COSTELLOE Mr J L P O Box 2090, CAIRNS QLD 4870
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 COTTLE Mr R W 1 Alkodie Street, CLONTARF QLD 4019
 COTTON Mrs E 20 William Street, KALAMUNDA WA 6076
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 COX Mrs T 3 Muirfield Place, ROBINA QLD 4226
 COX Mr J I RSD 1485, UPPER NATONE TAS 7321
 COX Mrs P E P O Box 794, CAMDEN NSW 2567
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 CURTIS Mr R E P O Box 156, LANE COVE NSW 2066
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 DAVY Mrs J 2 Dommert Street, KENMORE QLD 4069
 DAW Mr T E 31 Margaret Street, WATERMAN WA 6020
 DAWE Mrs A M 19 Whytecliffe Parade, WOODY POINT QLD 4019
 DAY Miss M 12/30 Meadow Crescent, MEADOWBANK NSW 2114
 DAY Mrs G 12 Blaxland Avenue, SILVER BRIDLE QLD 4214
 de DERKA Dr C Flat 7, TUMBLING BAY COURT HENRY ROAD, OXFORD OX2 OPE
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| ERSKINE-SMITH Mr R B | 1205A GOLFHILL TERRACES JL METRO KENCANA IV, PONDOK INDAH JAKARTA INDONESIA | |

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 FOSTER Capt. C D 184 Channel Highway , TAROONA TAS 7053
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 GASCOIGNE Mr K R 13 Boucaut Place , CURTIN ACT 2605
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 GEYLE Mr A M P.O. Box 42 , BALLINA NSW 2478
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 GIBBES Mr R 11a Beach Road , COLLAROY NSW 2097
 GIDDINGS Mr R J The Barracks , PONTVILLE TAS 7030
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 GILHAM Mrs C 240 North Road , EAST BRIGHTON VIC 3187
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 GOAD (Jnr) Mr J C P O Box 1266 , POTTS POINT NSW 2011
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| GOULD Mr J W | 60 Albert Avenue , BORONIA VIC 3155 | |
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| GRANT Mrs C D | 7 Marnoo Place , BELROSE NSW 2085 | |
| GRAY Mr G M P | 7 John Street , MOUNT LAWLEY WA 6050 | |
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 10 Dalkeith Street , CHERMSIDE QLD 4032
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 14/118 Fisher Rd , DEEWHY NSW 2099
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 221 Vincent Street , CESSNOCK NSW 2325
 54 Doris Avenue , WOONONA NSW 2517
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 17 Park Avenue , BROADBEACH WATERS QLD 4218
 32/1 Lauderdale Avenue , FAIRLIGHT NSW 2094
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| FINTER Miss S | 2/142 Liverpool Street, EAST SYDNEY NSW 2010 |
| VON LEIXNER Mrs J | 47 Matingara Street, CHAPEL HILL QLD 4069 |

MINUTES OF ROAPNG FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE MANDARIN CLUB, SYDNEY, on 2 MAY 1999

Meeting opened: 11.36am.

Present: Alison Marsh, David Bates, Roma Bates, Joe Nitsche, Margaret Clarence, Frank Smith, Betty Smith, Clarrie James, Albert Speer, Ross Johnson, Patricia Johnson, Don Drover, Graham Munkley, Nancy Johnston, William Johnston, Les Williams, Margaret Williams, Gabriel Keleny, Barbara Burns, Ian Reardon, Marie Clifton-Bassett, Lloyd Hurrell, Margaret Hurrell, Ian Downs, Alan Johnston, Jean Mulholland, Adrian Leyden, Pamela Foley, Harry West, Ivy Stanmore, Peter Stanmore, Jeanette Leahy, Gwen Bunting, Linda Evans, Hede Farrell, Harold Quinton, Jan Saave, Barbara Sherwood (Smythe), Elaine Kimmorley.

Apologies: Michael Duffy, Gloria Chalmers, Bill Wright, Ken Jones, Madge Ormsby, Ron Carne, Joan Carne, Charlie de Kantzow, Rob Stott, Patsi Weaver, Marie Day, Paul Ryan, Elma Holmes, Flora Nitsche, Len Bailey.

Minutes of the 47th AGM held 26-4-98 were confirmed on the motion proposed by Don Drover, seconded Marie Clifton-Bassett. Carried.

The President, Mr West, presented his report:

"At our last meeting the committee requested that the AGM, particularly the president's report, be kept as brief as possible to allow more time for socialisation at this gathering and I have no problem with this, particularly as members are kept informed of what is going on in the Association through the quarterly newsletter.

Apart from the foundation object of our Association, right back in the early fifties - the safeguarding of superannuation rights of retired officers - our main purpose of friendly association has been pursued throughout the year and we continue to attract new members to replace inevitable losses through the aging process. Current membership is 1091, which I think is the highest number we have had. The common interest bond of former residents of PNG is reflected in the large number of successful reunions held in various places in 1998 and most of these were publicised or reported in our newsletter.

I suppose the last year can be described as stable and a time of consolidation, as far as the Association is concerned, following the close look at our constitution at the time of incorporation in 1996. A landmark was the comprehensive computerisation of our financial records by the new treasurer, Ross Johnson. We have been fortunate in recent years in having the onerous treasurer's position filled very competently by Bill Johnston and Elma Holmes and fortunately Ross Johnson has moved in with his extensive accounting and computer skills to completely modernise our system.

The core activities of our organisation remain the two annual lunches here at the Mandarin Club, where members and friends have the opportunity to keep in touch, and of course the production and distribution of the quarterly newsletter, *Una Voce*. We encourage this publication to be an open forum where members can seek or offer information as a means of keeping in touch and contribute articles

pertinent to PNG, either current or past.

Our Association is kept afloat by a hard working committee functioning through five sub-committees - editorial, social, finance, legal and caring - these people are all well known to you all and most of them have been on the job for years - Pam Foley, Elma Holmes, Roma Bates, Marie Bassett, Marie Day, Pat Hopper, the late Isabel Ireland, Freddie Kaad, Doug Parrish, Joe Nitsche, Bill Johnston, Don Drover, Frank Smith, Paul Ryan and Ross Johnson. Regrettably Isabel Ireland passed away last January, and Alison Marsh was co-opted to fill her position.

I thank all the committee for their unstinted time and work during the year and the manner in which they have cooperated and worked as a team to utilise everyone's talent to the full.

I remain a candidate for the president's job with some reluctance. I would very much like to see vice-president Pam Foley in the position, but while those of us on the committee realise that she could do my job on her ear, there is no way that I could do her second job as assistant secretary, where computer and stenographic skills are essential - this is how the committee works - everyone utilised to the full according to their skills.

Finally I would like to sincerely thank Len Bailey for fulfilling the onerous task of honorary auditor for so many years and to say how glad I am that our patron, Les Williams and his lovely wife Margarette, are here with us today. Thank you."

The Financial Statement, duly audited, was presented by the Treasurer, Mr Johnson, and distributed. Motion to receive the Financial Statement proposed by Mr Speer, seconded by Mr James. Carried.

Correspondence: The Secretary, Mr Nitsche, reported as follows:

"Most of the correspondence received was of a routine nature, membership fees, function payments and items for the Editor, President and Treasurer. Our correspondence is constantly increasing, year by year, and I received 1,246 items and posted 464. Individual welcome letters are written to all our new members and we had 109 of them this year. I ask all our members to be precise when they send cheques, changes of address and so on, as it becomes a guessing game as to whom the details belong, and a lot of unnecessary time is wasted, and extra correspondence has to be written.

I express my special thanks to Pamela Foley, our Deputy President and Assistant Secretary, who dedicates a tremendous amount of her time to the Association, and without her input we would not be able to function as the Retired Officers Association of Papua New Guinea Inc."

Motion to accept the Correspondence was proposed by Roma Bates, seconded by Jean Mulholland.

Carried.

Election of Officers: All positions on the Committee having been declared vacant, nominations had been received and been accepted. Mr Paul Ryan had resigned as he expects to be overseas for a period, and Miss Isabel Ireland had passed away. These positions had been filled by Mrs Alison Marsh and Mr Ian Reardon, thus the Committee will be as follows:

President: Harry West, **Secretary:** Joe Nitsche, **Treasurer:** Ross Johnson,

Deputy President & Assistant Secretary: Pamela Foley,

Editor Una Voce: Marie Clifton-Bassett, **Patron:** Les Williams.

Frank Smith, Pat Hopper, Marie Day, Bill Johnston, Roma Bates, Don Drover, Doug Parrish, Elma Holmes, Freddie Kaad, Alison Marsh, Ian Reardon.

Motion to confirm these positions proposed by Clarrie James, seconded by Albert Speer. Carried.

Mr Johnson proposed a motion, seconded by Mr James, to confirm Mr Len Bailey in the position of Honorary Auditor. Carried.

The Patron rose to offer his thanks to the Committee for the work done during the year.

It was resolved that Mr J. J. Nitsche and Mr E.R. Johnson be authorised to sign on behalf of this Association the annual statement for the Department of Fair Trading.

Motion proposed by Ian Reardon, seconded by Don Drover. Carried.

Other business:

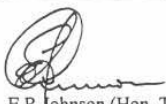
Albert Speer said he was pleased to see the article in the March *Una Voce* concerning the exhibition about F.E. Williams, Government Anthropologist, currently on display at the Australian Museum, College Street, Sydney, and he presented advertising 'flyers' to the meeting.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 12 noon, with thanks to the management of the Mandarin Club, and members adjourned for lunch.

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RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA INC.

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 December 1998

| | Notes | 1998 (\$) | 1997 (\$) |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|
| Current Assets | | | |
| Cash at Bank and on hand | | 7,769.76 | 8,319.73 |
| Stock - Flags & Stationery | | 939.67 | 1,794.70 |
| | | 8,709.43 | 10,114.43 |
| Investments | | | |
| Colonial First State Cash M'ment Trust | 1 | 8,007.00 | 8,007.00 |
| Police Credit Union - Shares | | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| Police Credit Union - Term Deposits | | 20018.47 | 20018.40 |
| | | 28,035.47 | 28035.40 |
| Fixed Assets | 2 | | |
| Written-down value - 31 December | | 2,852.19 | 840.50 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | 39,597.09 | 38,990.33 |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Prepayments (Advertising) | 3 | 75.00 | |
| Subscriptions in Advance | 4 | 7,750.00 | 20,572.50 |
| | | 7,825.00 | 20,572.50 |
| Long Term Liabilities | | | |
| Subscriptions in Advance | 4 | 6,456.00 | |
| Reserves and Provisions | | | |
| General Reserve | 4 | 7,102.50 | |
| Provision for Income Tax | 5 | 382.32 | 624.60 |
| | | 7,484.82 | 624.60 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | 21,765.82 | 21,197.10 |
| NET ASSETS | | 17,831.27 | 17,793.23 |
| Members Funds | | | |
| Balance forward from previous year | | 17,793.23 | 16,759.24 |
| Net Surplus (Deficit) for Year | | 38.04 | 1,033.99 |
| TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS | | 17,831.27 | 17,793.23 |



E R Johnson (Hon. Treasurer)

Explanatory Notes to Accompany Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1998

- This investment was previously with Colonial Investment Funds Limited - transferred to First State Fund Managers Limited on 1 November 1998.
- Fixed Assets comprise an assortment of Computer and Facsimile equipment. The following schedule lists the equipment, together with accumulated depreciation and where applicable, any loss on disposal of the equipment (items marked with an * show estimated original cost) -

| Item | Original Cost | Accumulated Depreciation | W.D.V | Comment |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| #1 Computer & Printer * | 2288.50 | 2257.83 | 0.00 | Written off 17/5/98 - loss \$30.67 |
| #2 Computer & Printer * | 2257.30 | 2158.90 | 0.00 | Written off 17/5/98 - loss \$98.40 |
| #Printer * | 699.00 | 483.86 | 215.14 | Purchase date not known |
| #Printer Components * | 1204.09 | 1091.52 | 112.57 | Purchase date not known |
| Facsimile (Editor) * | 630.00 | 509.12 | 120.88 | Purchase date not known |
| Pentium 200 & Printer | 2130.00 | 641.92 | 1488.08 | Purchased 1/4/98 |
| Facsimile (Asst. Sec.) | 598.00 | 140.24 | 457.76 | Purchased 1/6/98 |
| Facsimile (Sec.) | 598.00 | 140.24 | 457.76 | Purchased 1/6/98 |
| | 10404.89 | 7423.63 | 2852.19 | Ctd. over |

- 3 Prepayments relate to Advertising in the 1999 issues of Una Voce
- 4 Subscriptions in Advance - An exhaustive analysis of all advance subscriptions was made with those paid in advance of 1999 being classified as 'Long Term' whilst those for the ensuing year (1999) were classified as 'Current'. The difference between the 1997 'Accounts' advance subscriptions and the 'Actual' advance subscriptions was treated as a General Reserve.
- 5 Provision for Income Tax - Investment (ie. Interest) income less minor related expenses is subject to income tax at the current company tax rate (36%).

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1998**

| INCOME | 1998 (\$) | 1997 (\$) |
|--|-----------|------------------|
| Advertising | | 1,75.00 |
| Functions | | 4,728.00 |
| AGM Luncheon | 1,430.00 | |
| Christmas Luncheon | 3,298.00 | 4,850.00 |
| Interest Received | | 1,544.41 |
| Donations | | 130.60 |
| Incidentals: Raffles | | 330.80 |
| Membership Subscriptions - 1998 | | 10,202.00 |
| Video sales | | 90.00 |
| | | 30.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 17,200.81 |
| | | 17,280.58 |
| EXPENDITURE | | |
| Una Voce Expenses | | 7,924.65 |
| Printing & Stationery | 5,799.48 | |
| Postage | 2,110.17 | 6,079.00 |
| Other | 15.00 | 2,448.56 |
| Incidentals | | |
| Raffle Expenses | | 53.85 |
| Caring Committee Expenses | | 100.00 |
| Computer Allowance | | 300.00 |
| Functions | | 4,205.35 |
| AGM Luncheon | 1,289.00 | |
| Christmas Luncheon | 2,916.35 | 4,913.25 |
| Admin Expenses | | 2,167.19 |
| Bank Charges inc. FID/GDT | 46.47 | 39.49 |
| Computer Maintenance | | 256.70 |
| General Postage | 533.85 | 508.70 |
| General Printing | 420.50 | 95.89 |
| Incorporation Expenses | 35.00 | 230.70 |
| Insurance (Liability) | 200.70 | |
| Photocopying | 78.85 | 28.93 |
| PO Box Rental | 44.00 | 44.00 |
| Stationery | 449.41 | 221.15 |
| Telephone/Facsimile | 358.41 | 296.46 |
| Software Purchase | | 768.95 |
| Loss on Disposal Fixed Assets | | 129.07 |
| Depreciation of Fixed Assets | | 1,185.24 |
| Provision for Income Tax (1998 taxable income) | | 382.32 |
| | | 624.60 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | 17,162.77 |
| | | 16,246.59 |
| Surplus (Deficit) transferred to Members Funds | | 38.04 |
| | | 1,033.99 |
| | | 17,200.81 |
| | | 17,280.58 |

AUDIT OPINION

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act of New South Wales and other mandatory professional report requirements the financial position of the Retired Officers Association of Papua New Guinea Incorporated as at 31 December, 1998 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended.



L W Bailey CPA

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE (see p.18 opposite)



MISSING WARTIME WIRRAWAY FOUND IN NEW GUINEA

An Australian reconnaissance aircraft which disappeared in New Guinea in 1944 has been found by an American scientist high in the New Guinea mountains. In late 1988 Will Betz, an anthropologist from Seattle in Washington, was shown the wreckage by local people while he was studying marsupials and tree climbing kangaroos in the Finisterre Ranges.

On advice from well-known PNG pilot Richard Leahy, Betz returned to the crash site and carefully re-examined the wreckage for a more positive identification and to plot its exact position with a hand held GPS (a "ground, positioning, satellite" instrument. It establishes your exact position from overhead satellites). The number "A20-480" was found and photographed. Another wartime mystery had been solved.

The crash site was visited again a short time later, this time by helicopter, when Betz, accompanied by Richard Leahy, showed the site to Squadron Leader Ian Honey of the Australian Embassy in Port Moresby. A helipad had already been established only ten minutes from the crash site, which was at 6,300 feet in the bottom of a canyon. The cockpit was described as still relatively intact, especially the rear one, and it was unusual in that it appeared that the wheels were down at the time of impact. Did the men parachute clear, survive the accident and then fail to walk to safety? The more likely possibility is that local people buried them beside the wreckage.

Wirraway A20-480, of No 5 Squadron RAAF, was last seen departing No 2 Strip at Gusap with Flight Lieutenant D J Unkles (pilot) in the front cockpit and Lieutenant John Fetherstonehaugh (an army officer) in the rear at 8 am on 15 April 1944. Both men were rural Victorians and they and their aircraft from that point just simply disappeared.

The flight plan of the aircraft, which was also marked with the letters "QE-M", was a tactical reconnaissance between Gusap and Wantoat. The nature of the country consisted firstly of open valleys covered with kunai grass, then merging into precipitous mountains covered with dense jungle. At the time Australian troops were based at Wantoat for defence of the village as small groups of Japanese were known to still be in the area.

Australia built over 750 Wirraway aircraft for our air force during the war. They served with 15 squadrons as fighters, trainers, light bombers and army co-operation and communication "hacks". Several restored models are still flying in the country today.

The rugged 13,000 feet Finisterre Ranges of New Guinea are littered with crashed and missing aircraft. Other discoveries and identifications of 1998 included the American B-25 Mitchell bomber of Lieutenant Richard Hurst, with crew of four and four passengers, and a P-47 Thunderbolt fighter of Colonel Gaffney. Both disappeared on a flight from Saidor to Nadzab, over these ranges, and have been found in dense jungle at high altitude, probably victims of weather and rock studded clouds.

About 500 enemy and allied aircraft are still missing in New Guinea and the South West Pacific. With the rapid improvement in communication and education in the region, as well as current exploration, many wartime aviation mysteries are now being solved.

At least five missing aircraft and crews are discovered and reported to Australian, United States and Japanese authorities each year. With each discovery comes the unique and difficult but crucial work of relocating wives, children and other next of kin, many of whom have remarried or moved to new addresses and new lives. Suddenly relatives are confronted by the realisation that a tragic loss, which was just a distant memory, has returned to be resolved and finally put to rest.

□ BOB PIPER

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SNAPSHOTS FROM THE EARLY '50s Series 3

by Paul J Quinlivan

These articles were given limited publication more than 45 years ago, so they give to the present generation a true 'snapshot' of the wonderful contribution made by their parents and grandparents. In the case of kiaps, their 'Stud Book' date is given because of the allegation that only the inexperienced defended cases. Two or more years should be added if the date is 1946 or '47 because these men joined because they had fallen in love with PNG while serving in the Army.

No 5 - Stiffly Starched White Coats. And Other Differences

The coats on all the men in the photo on the middle pages of the last *Una Voce* remind me of an essential difference between the early 50s and, say, the 60s. As did the sight, on TV recently, of an English judge asking for a red bonnet to wear because, he said, judicial robes were inappropriate for the trial he was conducting into Nazi War Crimes but he wanted people to know who he was. For my first six months in TPNG I did not realise just how entrenched the 'white coats' mentality was because, apart from the first week (when people kindly lent me a coat to wear to Government House etc), I was constantly on circuit with Monte Phillips who always travelled in shorts and long socks because of his gammy knee. Since we always stayed in people's homes, there was no 'dressing up' and, if luggage went astray, Monte would borrow a piece of red material and drape it over his shoulders to show that, whereas Kiaps were 'judge' when on the Bench, he was 'the judge who wore the red cloth'.

It was not until June 1952 when Monte gave a luncheon party at his home for all the lawyers of the Territory, to discuss the formation of a Local Law Society, that I realised that slavery to white coats was total. By then, of course, I had had one made by a Rabaul tailor but Joe Lynch, who arrived the same day as I did, had to borrow one for the luncheon and he, together with lawyers who had flown in from Rabaul and Lae, were seated at a drop-side table. It was the finest meal I ever had in the Territory but it failed to overcome local jealousies because, during the very first course, Joe knocked the leg of the table and his side collapsed, covering him and Harold James (their white coats, to be precise) in vichyssoise soup. Since neither Joe nor Harold (from Rabaul) could get a replacement coat, Monte gave the order 'Remove Coats' and the ironclad rule was broken. So was the spell which Monte had woven, at great personal expense, because although everyone paid due attention to his speech about 'dangers ahead', they went away with something else to talk about. The rule about coats was, of course, not a great burden to carry but, some months later, I was asked to do the first Price Control prosecutions and

I discovered that each Magistrates' court had a rack of discarded coats which Europeans who were suddenly called to give evidence had to put on to be 'properly dressed'. Filthy and stiff with mildew, they added nothing to The Law and it was one of my earliest victories to have the compulsory straight-jacketing of witnesses abolished.

On the credit side there were many attractions. The Territory was the safest place on earth for a white person (we shall see several illustrations of this), largely because we had protected land rights, interfered only where existing systems prevented people moving freely, and we never imposed *corvée*, the compulsory (semi-slave) labour traditional in other 'colonial' countries. This non-interference meant that the cost, to Australia, of running the country had been minimal but it imposed special burdens on those working in the field, burdens which quickly sorted out the competent from the loud-mouth who owed his job to 'friends back home'. It was not uncommon to find that the quiet unassuming man standing next to you was a hero who had done great deeds behind Japanese lines if you could only get him to talk. To illustrate this I would mention Ivan Champion who, on 9 April 1942, sailed *Laurabada* to Palimal, New Britain, and rescued 150 Australian troops from under the noses of the Japanese, bringing them safely back to Moresby. He told me, "Everyone with the right spirit can find this a very satisfying place."

To turn to the less attractive side: Monte's abortive luncheon was excellent, as I have said, but that was because he had flown in all the ingredients. The meat, fruit and vegetables normally available in the shops were very sub-standard. The soup which splattered over Joe's and Harold's coats is made from potatoes, a basic staple. But supplies only came from Australia and were so often rotten when they arrived that most people kept tinned potatoes in stock as a standby. This nearly led to a riot when - or so the story goes - an enterprising entrepreneur called "B the BB" bought up all the tins he could with the idea of making a killing when the next consignment of potatoes turned out to be rotten. Unfortunately, he was an Admin. Officer and, since commercial firms were in the habit of putting pressure on the Admin. (until the Anton Rucker Case put an end to it), he had to disgorge. Coming from a State where the policy was to send only the very best produce to Singapore, so that WA could capture the market, this palming off of rubbish was very hard to forgive.

The situation regarding beer was worse. We could never get Australian beer so we had to rely on imports from Germany, the Philippines and God-knows where. You could never get used to one taste unless you drank Becks, and the New Guinea Club had a showcase displaying varieties we had to contend with: Revolver, Pistol, Power, Big Gun, Big Girl, Blue Girl, St Pauli Girl, Three Girls, Three Elephants, Three Castles, Three Clouds and so on. And on. They stopped at 57 in homage to Mr Heinz but there were hundreds. Why?

This was not an academic question because, apart from a hole, called The Bombhole, in the dead reef which covered all of Ela Beach, where one could swim, and tennis courts at Ela Beach and 4 Mile, there was nowhere one could go, in Port Moresby, for leisure time activities except the Snake Pit at the Bottom Pub or a club, and the same applied everywhere else. Before the war there had been a swimming baths inside the harbour and a golf course at Konedobu (Judge Gore was now rebuilding one on Scratchley Road) but, since everybody kept telling me how important it was to get an 'outside activity', this was a worrying situation. Luckily, Joe Lynch, Andy O'Driscoll and I at the Legal Officers' Quarters (a tarred-paper donga in Hunter Street where ANG House now is) had to cater for ourselves so, when I asked our *major domo*, Aitau, why he always served freezer steak when fresh fish should be available, he took me 100 yards, through the Fire Station, and out onto a little jetty opposite. He then pulled on the rope there and

the barge which took water to the Gemo Island Leper Hospital loomed out of the darkness. When we were on the barge he shoved against the jetty and we gently floated out into the harbour and he said, "You want fish? You catch fish! This is best place." So, for years, I often spent the evening there, opposite the Fire Station, and my catches were very welcome both at LOQ and when I was invited out.

No 6 - Bill Burford and Weekends at Brown River

Everyone agreed that you had to get an outside interest but nobody told you how. Monte Phillips had started the Port Moresby Music Society which put on musical comedies, and Ruth Carter, the librarian at Ela Beach, ran "Thursday Evening Discussion Groups" which became the Port Moresby Historical Society (we will see some of these discussions in later issues) but, apart from these and Bill Burford's effort, there was nothing. It was Bill's contribution to my sanity which I featured in my speech to the Old Boys Association when I went on leave in 1953. Ours was a Marist Brothers College at New Norcia Aboriginal Mission, and when I was demobbed in 1945 the brothers invited me, and my mate Norm Monk, back to the college for a week to recuperate. They gave us each a .22 with plenty of ammo and left us to ourselves. It was precisely what was needed. And so was Bill Burford's invitation to join his shooting party for the weekend when he found that my first circuit was delayed. He was the clerk at the Crown Law Office (CLO) and he insisted on one rule: I had to guarantee that I would not bring any grog. I went pillion on a motorbike because there was no road (the Brown River Bridge did not exist) and when we got to the camp I discovered the reason for the 'no grog' rule. The two Papuan clerks from CLO - one later became a bishop and the other vice-president of the Public Service Association - were part of the party of eight, not as servants, 'beaters' or guides, but as full and equal participants. And, since it was illegal for them to drink, none of us drank either. I remember, with great affection, many other picnic-type excursions - picnics at Watta Plantation, Col and Margaret O'Loughlen's famous Esky of beer and sandwiches in the Botanical Gardens at Lae or at Voco Point - but it was the fact that the Papuan clerks were part of those shooting weekends (in which none of us shot much, but we enjoyed the freedom of the jungle) which I remember most because it showed that, because of the experiences of the war, a feeling of equality existed which was sadly missing in later years. Thanks, Bill!

No 7 - Wonderful Detective Work - by Various People

The Queen against LAPAE was a wilful murder trial at Rabaul on 4 and 5 March 1952. It was so important that I immediately wrote a full report to Crown Law and it was circulated to all Kiaps and Police. It was later circulated to Law Students. The Defending Officer was Tom Leabeater (joined 10 June 1947) but before dealing with the case I should mention a peculiar background which is relevant. Admin. Departments had found that there was often no guarantee that monies allocated to them would arrive - for example, in one simple instance which I found particularly horrifying, somebody in Canberra had got rid of an importuning English doctor by giving her the Crown Law Library vote to print her lavishly illustrated paper on eye diseases in the Northern Territory. The result was that an unofficial agreement had come into existence whereby, in return for an understanding that they would get funds in five or six years time, the Judges went without Associates, official cars and other expensive trappings of office and the money saved helped Dr. Gunther's project of bringing in DP doctors (Displaced Persons - highly qualified medicos who were refugees from the Nazi Occupation of their own countries) and setting them up in places like Saidor which, normally, would never get a doctor.

One result was that Monte drove his own car, *Betsy* - a Model A Ford which had gone through the Rabaul Eruption and which Des Sullivan, the Official Secretary (Government House), loved to race when Monte was on circuit. In return, Des (Distinguished Flying Cross and Bar) got pilots to carry judges' mail by hand. Thus Monte received the January 25 1952 issue of *Australian Law Journal (ALJ)* by 'express post' and gave it to me before the circuit opened on 12 February because it contained the result of the appeal lodged by a famous radio announcer, named Kerr, against his conviction, on confession evidence, for killing a girl on a beach in Victoria. The case made headlines Australia-wide and, because of the publicity, Kerr refused to read what the police had recorded when they took his confession, saying they 'already had more than enough'. The Appeal Court had now overturned the conviction because Kerr had not actually read the record made of his confession. Because the murder which I was charging LAPAE with had caused widespread outrage, it was vitally important that he be convicted but, as Monte pointed out in his speech of 12 February, I also had a duty to assist Defending Officers in any way I could so I gave the *ALJ* report to each Defending Officer. None of them used it in the 11 cases between 12 February and 4 March simply because I had never relied on a confession. I had always been able to produce plenty of other evidence.

In those days, Kiaps investigated all alleged offences 'outside' a town and the Police investigated 'town' offences, and Lapae's case started in town despite the fact the body had been washed ashore at Mailiwan Village. This was because the Tultul recognised the body as that of Iapilomon, 16 year old daughter of Tovua, a highly respected Tultul and Catholic Catechist and, believing that she would not have drowned, he bailed up the first vehicle to come by and asked the driver if he would take him, and the stinking body, to the Native Hospital in Rabaul. The driver, a European, agreed - I regret that I did not record his name but he managed a local plantation - and, when they got to the hospital the Tultul told Dr Saave that he wanted an autopsy done, which Saave did and then he (Saave) called in Sub Inspector Brian Holloway who started the investigation. I have also forgotten the Tultul's name but he was most impressive. Perhaps Brian or Jan can remember his name, and that of the planter?

At the trial Tom Leabeater objected to the written confession which Holloway, in accordance with existing practice, wanted to give as evidence so a legal argument ensued and Monte upheld Leabeater's argument. This radically changed the way the law was to be administered because, until then, everyone had produced a record in English, a practice justified by *The Judges' Rules*. The point of Leabeater's strategy was obvious but I got over it by getting Holloway to give oral testimony of what had been said. Leabeater, however, had a second purpose. He had spoken to his client (as all Kiaps had been trained to do) so he asked Holloway questions about his conversation with a man called Turan, who was to be later defended by a senior lawyer flown in from Sydney. This showed that TURAN masterminded the whole crime - which had originally been rape but IAPILOMON died so he ordered LAPAE to tow the body out to sea so that people would think she had drowned. Thus LAPAE was only a tool and warranted a lesser sentence.

Leabeater was complimented by the Chief Justice both in the case itself and, inferentially, in the Turan case where he said that 'had I not given a sentence of only seven years in Lapae's case I would now be imposing a far greater sentence on Turan'. Possibly this was because he was 'having a go at' the Sydney lawyer for letting people know that, being from Sydney, he was somehow superior, despite the fact he knew nothing about Kerr's case, but one cannot be sure. It could also be that he felt that Counsel from Sydney had not taken the time to adequately discuss the case with his client and this, in Monte's book was 'letting The Law down'.

I should also mention that Monte went out of his way to praise the work of Dr. Saave saying, "One could say that Accused was 'unfortunate' that his attempt to pass off a dead body as 'drowned' was wrecked by the care and thought given at the autopsy by a DP doctor, Dr. Jan Jerszy Saave, who proved conclusively that Deceased had been asphyxiated before immersion in the water and that she had been a virgin who had been raped immediately prior to that immersion."

HOW THE LAND BOARD GOT ITS 'CUPPA'

In the early sixties I was carrying out a survey in Sabama. John Macartney, who was one of the best surveyors in PNG, had left it to me to design and to peg out a subdivision of Government land in Sabama which was partly occupied by squatters. Higher authorities had decided to allocate the various allotments to PNG Nationals who were part of the workforce with secure employment. The subdivision would be roughly equivalent to what is classified as a medium density area in Australia. On completion of the survey a road was formed running right to the top of the hill and along its ridge. A water main was laid with water taps installed on each allotment. It would not have occurred to me in my wildest dreams that one of the Sabama youngsters I used to come across would become a Prime Minister of PNG. When the moment arrived for the Land Board to interview applicants for the various allotments, Les Clout who was the Chairman, decided that the most practical way to conduct the interview would be to do it on the spot at Sabama.

I had never had anything to do with the Land Board, but on this occasion it was left to me to arrange for the tables and chairs to be placed at the bottom of the Sabama hill and also to be present in order to show to the applicants the location of the various allotments. It was a very hot day and there was not a shady spot anywhere near. Les Clout, Kevin VanShill and the other members of the Board soon arrived. There was a big crowd of applicants. Les Clout was the most senior member of the Administration. He arrived in PNG many years before the war. I admired his expertise in the way he questioned the applicants in order to establish their credentials to qualify for a grant of land.

After several hours the members of the Board started to look tired. They were thirsty. Les Clout suggested I make a quick trip to Konedobu to get some tea. In Konedobu, it was usually a girl-secretary who was in charge of supervising the provision of the morning and afternoon tea which was purchased with money collected from the various employees in each particular section of the Department. So I sped with my car through Scratchley Road, Badili, then with extreme care through Koki and via Lawes Road to Konedobu. Since most of the time I was working in the field, I knew nothing about girl-secretaries, their little jealousies and least of all that some of them considered themselves to be more important than their bosses. And it was here that I hit the wall. The first one I approached flatly refused: "Why should I provide them with a cup of tea? - Go and try the others!" The second one was out and could not be found anywhere. The third one was interminably chatting on the telephone. I was stuck there with a problem. The only solution was to go to my house in Boroko, make the tea and get back to Sabama. It took some time. I returned via Korobosea, Gavamani Road and arrived at Sabama with a thermos flask of tea and some cups. On arrival I was greeted with the question why it took so long. "Flat tyre", I replied with a smile. It was not until many years later in Sydney when I occasionally came across Les Clout at the Institution of Surveyors of NSW where he was the Executive Officer, that I had a chance to tell him what really happened.

□ Marlan (Frank) Cichocki

BOOK NEWS AND REVIEWS

KULA - Myth and Magic in the Trobriand Islands by Jutta Malnic. *Cowrie Books, 1998 (222pp, index, glossary, maps; 140 col. photos; hardcover). Available from: 58 Fox Valley Rd, Wahroonga NSW 2076. Ph/fax 02 9489 1542. Price for ROAPNG members \$50 + \$8 p&p (\$50 if collected personally)* **Reviewed by Marie Bassett**

With the permission and encouragement of Chief Nalubutau, Jutta Malnic, author and photographer, studied and recorded the Kula system and the culture of the Trobriand Islanders. The book is the result of fifteen years of effort which included travel, research and extensive discussions. It describes the people's mythological and magical beliefs and the driving-force behind the system of exchange. The book is a testament to the author's insight, patience and extreme dedication, and her willingness to immerse herself in her work (though I am sure she would not have regarded it as 'work'). I found some of the magic/myths very involved and needed to read those sections with care.

The Kula exchange system has existed for several hundred years, possibly much longer. It was brought to world attention early this century by the Polish anthropologist Malinowski. Now, seventy years later, Jutta Malnic has produced an extremely detailed and finely illustrated account of the system as she experienced it. In the company of John Kasaipwalova, noted Papuan author and successor to Chief Nalubutau, she went on three Kula expeditions, meeting and talking at length to the participants. On each of these occasions she and John were in the company of a renowned Trobriand chief, therefore there was never any problem obtaining information wherever they landed.

One learns that Kula is not, as the casual observer might think, simply a ritual exchange of shell armbands and necklets of no particular value in themselves, or a complex self-improvement practice, but a way of gaining power and self-knowledge - it is a training ground for physical and mental excellence. It gave people a vision of man's ability to achieve great personal heights and offered a process for achieving this. Power is won or lost through intricate negotiation. Kula brought a sense of purpose and achievement to those men and women who participated. John Kasaipwalova said, "Kula can be practised by *anybody* and *everybody*... Eventually, what is given comes back and enriches the first person again."

At John's urging, Jutta prepared herself for one of the journeys by making her own *mwasila*, ie good feelings (how this was done is described in detail). Having done this, she wrote, "...but I am certain I also gave something of myself to my companions, to all those who so enthusiastically included me in their adventures. After that Kula, the people of our clan started to address me with *Numwaya*, ie Woman of Rank, instead of the colonial *Sinebada*." Jutta travelled with a pack, put up her little tent near the rest of the group (often on a beach), ate the local food - and listened, watched, photographed and recorded. When nothing much was happening, she made herself useful by rolling innumerable cigarettes for her companions, and holding 'Menicine hours' when she would dress cuts, scratches and ulcerated wounds..

The photographs are a delight. They give the reader a feel for the islands, the people, the canoes and their symbols, the ritual, dances, decorations and handcrafts. The book is a gift to the Trobriand Island people. (Produced by Halstead Press, it is self-published.)

KULA is the legacy of Chief Nalubutau who wanted this centuries-old way of life - as it existed in the late 20th century - recorded, before the modern world swept it away. *KULA* should appeal to people with an interest in PNG generally, and the Milne Bay Province in particular, as well as to those with an anthropological bent.

A PAPUA NEW GUINEA POLITICAL CHRONICLE 1967-1991, Editors Clive Moore and Mary Kooyman. *Crawford House Publishing, PO Box 1484, Bathurst NSW, 644pp \$49-95 (This is not a hard-cover book).* **Reviewed by Ian Downs**

The PNG Chronicle 1967-91 is a book by academics for academics and people with a particular interest in PNG politics. An excellent summary of PNG history from 1800 is followed by a political chronicle by ten authors covering ten political periods. This Chronicle has already been published in the Australian Journal of Politics and History from January 1967 to 1991. A chronicle of the period 1964 to January 1967 (which would have included most of the first House of Assembly) is not included. The Chronicle is a detailed account by the authors of political activity in the Papua New Guinea parliament accompanied by a chronology of the colonial period to 1975 and a list of House of Assembly members 1964-1997. The general index is a comprehensive and painstaking reference for people, places, events, institutions, districts, activities, government and public servants etc. etc. For example, if you want CRIME you will find it under Crime, Social Change and Urban and then subdivided into all sorts of crime.

The authors and editors with their considerable academic qualifications are acknowledged with details of their adult careers. They include Stephen Pokawin an MA from McGill, Canada and BA UPNG who was Premier of Manus Province. Papua New Guinea is fortunate to have attracted research by talented historians from Australia and overseas. This publication was made possible by a grant from the History Department, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University.

KPM 1888-1967 - A Most Remarkable Shipping Company by Lieuwe Pronk 1998 (150 pp A4, section-sewn, illus, map, lists of ships.)\$35, incl. postage in Australia from: Lieuwe Pronk, 54/28 Curagal Road, Turrumurra NSW 2074

Lieuwe Pronk said, "I wrote most of this five years ago - just for my family. When I discovered recently that there is virtually no record here in Australia - in English - of the contribution the KPM ships, their officers and crews made to the Allied war effort during WWII, I decided to publish it." He included his personal recollections of the exploits of some 30 KPM ships involved in the New Guinea campaign in the South West Pacific area, as these were operated by KPM's Sydney office, where he was based throughout the war. Lieuwe read up on the history of the Spice Islands, early explorers, old trade routes etc and so was able to put the last 100 years into context for readers. Bill Lunney, author of *Forgotten Fleet* (see below) wrote, "Pearl Harbour, Singapore, the Battle of the Java Sea, the fall of the Dutch East Indies on 7 March 1942 and the Japanese landings ... left Australia in a critical situation. The Dutch KPM ships arrived in Australia at the eleventh hour. They provided the lifeline to Australian and US forces in New Guinea. Without these KPM Ships, which delivered 1,000,000 tons of supplies and some 100,000 troops, New Guinea would have been lost and the Japanese would have invaded Australia.... [this book] presents a history of the founding of the KPM company and the colonisation of the Netherlands East Indies, more than 100 years ago. ... Lieuwe's book affords us personal glimpses of a remarkable family as well as a remarkable shipping company."

FORGOTTEN FLEET A History of the Part Played by Australian Men and Ships in the U.S. Army Small Ships Section in New Guinea, 1942-1945 by Bill Lunney and Frank Finch, Forfleet Publishing, 7 Wade Close, Medowie NSW 2318 (200pp A4, over 100 photographs, maps, illus, list of ships) \$40 incl postage in Aust. Ph 02 4982 8437

The *Forgotten Fleet* was assembled at a time of crisis. In 1942 Japanese forces were on our doorstep and little ships were desperately needed to supply the Australian and American troops in New Guinea. From around the Australian coast they came - trawlers

and schooners, tug boats and ferry boats, even an ancient paddle-wheeler. 3,000 Australians volunteered to serve with the US Army Small Ships Section in New Guinea. Many were unable to join the regular forces, or had been medically discharged after service. The role of these Australians was crucial, their efforts often heroic. They faced reef and storm and enemy attack. They sailed, unescorted, through poorly charted waters.

Historian CD Gibson of Maine US wrote, "The authors both served on small ships in PNG. They, together with other Australians of that group, share their recollections and experience in an anecdotal format. These make enjoyable and often fascinating reading. Many are highly humorous, relating the chaos to be expected with such a hurriedly put together force."

Further Information on 'SELL-OUT IN MANUS 1946-48' **printed in the December 1998 Issue, p.23**

Paul Quinlivan advised as follows, "Peter Grimshaw, son of Colonel John Grimshaw, has written pointing out that his father played a very important part in the activities which led to the successful prosecution of **Chow Hung Ching and Si Pao Kung** in Manus in 1948. Members will remember that, because the High Court report of the case deals with it from a purely Australian point of view, I had to summarise the sworn testimony from Monte's notebooks to bring to the fore the good work done by people in TPNG. And, since that testimony only mentioned Colonel Grimshaw in passing I said (*Una Voce*, Dec 1998 p.23) that his role was very minor. It now transpires that he played a major role.

The facts are that, in March 1948, the Acting Administrator was Monte Phillips who came to the Territory in 1925 as a Stipendiary Magistrate. He ordered that a special "Showing the Flag" Expeditionary Force be flown to Manus in two Catalina long-range flying-boats, one from the RAAF, the other chartered from W.R. Carpenter's. Knowing Monte well, I can imagine the relish with which he would have acted because he had served the war years as No. 2 in the RAAF in London with the rank of Wing Commander/Acting Group Captain! That Special Expeditionary Force was commanded by Colonel Grimshaw (former champion boxer and wrestler, King's Cup rower, awarded the MC for gallantry in Greece in 1941 and served on the Kokoda Track before joining in 1947. He was Commissioner of Police.) and it consisted of himself, Sub-Inspector Carr (who became posted to Manus), Assistant Sub-Inspector Day (who spoke Cantonese) and 50 NCOs and Other Ranks of the RPNGC. The two aircraft arrived in Manus, simultaneously, on 24 March 1948 and, had the Force not been sent - and had it not done its job effectively - it is probable that the stalemate which, up until that time, had prevented The Law taking its proper course, would not have been broken.

Information that this Special Expeditionary Force was sent is an invaluable addition to our 'deposit of knowledge' and I think it is wonderful that, even at this late stage, we are able to find out about events which are an important part of Australia's history but which, because people have not written from the perspective of those who loved the Territory, have been buried. If an event as spectacular as this unique tactical operation can be hidden the question arises: How many other subjects can we revitalise by bringing forward new and important information?"

HELP WANTED: Bob Blaikie of Mount Gravatt Qld asks if anyone knows anything of **Marie CATHCART** - was she Australian or American and where is she now? Bob is researching the family history and his family has a link to Cathcarts. Please write to Bob at PO Box 362, Mount Gravatt Qld 4122, Ph 07 3714 4400, Fax 07 3875 7888, Email: R.Blaikie@mailbox.gu.edu.au or Mobile 0418 870511.

MADAN COFFEE ESTATE

by John Colman

John Colman of Mount Hagen wrote that he recently had to do an information sheet for an American buyer who wanted to do a special promotion and added that as he rarely puts pen to paper he thought he would send us a copy. This is the story of Madan.

At an altitude of 5,200 feet in the picturesque and world famous Waghi Valley, Madan Estate is ideally situated for producing some of the finest washed and sun dried Arabica coffees. Out of a Stone Age culture, news of which was first reported to the outside world in 1933, has grown an industry which now directly or indirectly supports a population of 1.2 million people or one-third of the population of Papua New Guinea. These valleys are also the home of the brilliant Birds of Paradise, such as the red Raggiana (*Paradisaea raggiana*) and the yellow Greater Bird of Paradise (*Paradisaea apoda*), used as adornments for the participants in the many colourful ceremonies (sing sings) which were part of their cultural heritage. Now with coffee as a cash income there is less pressure on these wonderful birds, which are now protected under Government regulations.

It is recorded that in 1929 high quality mountain coffee from Jamaica and Coffee *Stenophylla*, a highland variety from Sierra Leone, were introduced to a research station at Wau, which is situated on the edge of the Highlands of Papua New Guinea as they are known today. No doubt our coffee came from this original stock.

Let us continue to travel back in time - in actual fact to the Stone Age. Nowhere else in the world was there such a large number of people 'locked away', thinking that they were the only people on this planet, as in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. We are talking about a 'living history'.

In March 1933 one of our early aviators flew over the now known Waghi Valley as part of an aerial survey (to be followed later by a ground party), and if I can borrow his words "the suddenness with which the vastness and beauty of this sunlit, brilliantly green valley, edged with billowing white clouds, burst upon the pilot and navigators left them, but not for long, silent. Then everything seemed to happen - there were exclamations from the other people in the aircraft (a Junkers W34 monoplane) - 'Gold! Gold!' and other people yelled 'Cattle! Cattle!'" Little did they know that subsequently there was no gold (until very much later) but there was to be another 'gold' - 'green gold' - coffee. Continuing with their excitement - "There it was, a glorious valley of grass lost in the western horizon - through which ran a big river (Waghi) fed by innumerable creeks from either side." (Our estate is bordered by the Pin and Kora creeks and lies to the south of the Waghi River).

During April 1933 the explorers' ground party entered the Waghi Valley and were met by "thousands of big, excited, well armed (with bows and arrows and long spears), colourful tribesmen" - their first contact with the outside world. Today the sons and daughters of these tribesmen have their own coffee gardens and are involved in the whole industry from growing, processing, supervision and control, research and the exporting of this very important commodity.

In PNG for a person outside the tribal system to develop land they must obtain an Agricultural Lease from the Government (normally for 99 years). This land is initially purchased from the local tribe or clan by the Government and then leased to an applicant who must develop the land within a certain period of time and pay an annual rent. We are surrounded by these clans which sold their land to the Government and they rely on our development to assist them with an infrastructure such as roads, schools and medical centres. These people provide most of our labour, particularly in the harvesting period from March to August and live in their own villages near the Estate.

Only 3% of the total land mass of PNG is allocated under a Government Lease - the remainder is held under the clan or village system.

I arrived in Papua New Guinea from Australia in 1953 and enlisted in the Government Service as a Patrol Officer (known in the Pidgin English trading language as a Kiap). After participating in a number of contact and exploratory patrols in the Highlands, I left the Service and in 1964 applied for and was granted an Agricultural Lease known as 'Madan' (which refers to the local name for the only small round hill on the Estate). The land consists of 660 acres and, although flat, had to be drained and narrow roads built so that the real work of planting coffee could begin - it was real pioneering in the 20th Century, something that had to be done in America two centuries previously. While we were hand digging over 40 miles of drains we uncovered many stone implements, mainly axe and club heads, some only three feet below the surface, telling us that people had cultivated this land in 'recent' times but that they had abandoned the area because of tribal fights and shifting agriculture methods. Today the descendants of those people are our neighbours and have settled back on the surrounding land because tribal fights have ceased and our drainage system has allowed over 2,000 acres of their land to be again suitable for agriculture.

It has taken 34 years for our family to develop this Estate, initially slowly as funds became available, until today we have Arabica coffee, mainly Tipica and Bourbon, well established on 350 acres with plans in hand to add new plantings of 25 acres a year until we reach our target of 500 acres. We are the only family owned and operated medium-sized plantation in the Highlands and although I am from Australia, my son Peter is a citizen of PNG.

In 1960 my fiancée, Joan, who had just completed her training as a nurse arrived in PNG and we were married at Minj which is a small town not far from Mount Hagen and we began our life together, optimistic about the opportunities available in this very young country - I was 30 and Joan 21. Subsequently Jo-Anne, Robert and Peter were born in Goroka, which is in the next valley east of the Waghi and had the only hospital at the time. In the early days all goods had to be flown in DC3 air charters as there was no road to the coast at Lae. Today we have daily Jet air services and a road to Lae which carries over a thousand containers of coffee to the coast each year - progress - and all because of COFFEE. (Each container averages 300 bags, at 60kg per bag, ie 18 tonnes)

Papua New Guinea today is only a young country politically (it became independent in 1975), however people have lived here for over 10,000 years and with nearly 700 language groups it must be one of the most diverse areas in the world. It is obvious that it has been at the crossroads of various migrating groups from Asia and the Pacific over the centuries. Not only are there many different languages, there are also many diverse cultures as shown in their ceremonies and songs. Our national airline Air Niugini has an advertising slogan, "THE LAND OF THE UNEXPECTED".

Although Papua New Guinea produces only 1% of the world coffee production we are one of the few exporters of the washed Arabica variety grown at altitude relative to the equator - truly a cup flavoured by old volcanic soils and nurtured by cool nights with sunny days and an abundant rainfall - A CUP OF THE UNEXPECTED.

HELP WANTED: Frits Pannekoek is trying to find **Bill MORLEY**, or his descendants. Bill was with the post office in Rabaul in the mid 60s and sadly lost his wife Colleen in childbirth in 1966. At that time I was married to Colleen's sister Kerry. He and his two children left Rabaul not long after that. Frits is at 72 Telfer Road, Castle Hill NSW 2154. Ph 02 9634 7211 b.h.

VALE

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

Mrs Joan HAY (4 April 1999, aged 84 years)

Joan Hay passed away after a short illness. She was the wife of Dr Arthur Hay who was captured in Rabaul and went down on the *Montevideo Maru*. She lived in Mudgeeraba Qld near her daughter Mrs Margaret Young of Robina. Information provided by Heather Seale.

Mr John BROOKS (28 March 1999, aged 73 years)

John Brooks was the second husband of Pamela Brooks, known in PNG as Pamela Barrie. John was a journalist with News Ltd and retired about 13 years ago. He spent a large part of his working life in New Zealand. Information provided by Pamela Brooks.

Mr Craig Robert FYSON (2 March 1999, aged 66 years)

Craig held various clerical positions with the Public Service Commission and the Department of Agriculture Stock and Fisheries in Port Moresby and Rabaul from 1958 to 1969. He then returned to live in his home in Canberra. In 1986 he married Fay, and the couple retired to Hobart in 1994. Craig always enjoyed visits from old friends from his PNG days and these contacts gave Fay an insight ('slight', according to her) into the time he spent in PNG.

Craig is survived by his wife Kay. Information provided by Kay Fyson.

Mr Harry GAYWOOD (12 December 1998)

Harry Gaywood came from Western Australia. During the war he became a prisoner of the Japanese at Changi. He joined the Administration in 1946 as a Patrol Officer and attended the second Long Course at ASOPA. He served in Manus, the Western District and at Headquarters in Port Moresby. He was very prominent in the Labor Party in Port Moresby.

Information provided by Max Orken.

Mrs Grace HARTLEY

Grace was the wife of the late Grafton Hartley, Medical Assistant. Her husband served in many parts of the Territory, mainly on the New Guinea side, for 23 years, departing in 1957. For much of that time Grace and their four children had to remain in Queensland due to serious illness. For many years Grace lived at Ormiston Qld. She was always very generous to this organisation. From ROAPNG records.

Mr Paul COX (12 April, 1999, aged approx. 68 years)

Paul Cox, a journalist in PNG from the early 70s, died in Port Moresby General Hospital after a long illness. His first position was with the Department of Information and Extension Services in Rabaul where he was manager of Radio Rabaul when the Mataungan Association was most active. Luke Sela of the *Post Courier* wrote that Paul played a major role in the Tolai Warwagira festival which helped unite the groups on the Gazelle Peninsula and encouraged the Tolai people to keep their traditions. Following this, Paul worked for various Government ministers including Sir Julius Chan, and later for *Niugini Nius* and Word Publishing. He compiled the 'Price Watch' column for the *Post-Courier* for several years and wrote the 'James Pinder' column in *The Times*, the forerunner of *The Independent*. One of our PNG members wrote, "We will miss him in PNG. He talked straight and wasn't afraid to hit hard when needed." Paul is survived by his wife and two daughters. Information from *Post Courier*, 14-4-99, and Bet Whitten.

Mr Len COOPER (11 March 1999)

Len died suddenly of a heart attack. For many years he was Engineering Manager of TAA and AIR NIUGINI in Lae and Moresby. He is survived by his wife Eda at Woodburn NSW.

Mr Alexander John ZWECK (2 January 1999, aged 78 years)

Alex joined the Administration in 1946 and rose from Patrol Officer to Acting District Commissioner. He served in the Sepik, Central, Morobe and Bougainville Districts and was a District Commissioner of the Southern Highlands and Manus Districts. His last position was as Town Planner in Port Moresby. In 1973 he and his wife Mary retired to live in Western Australia. When Mary passed away he moved to Henty NSW. From ROAPNG records.

Mr Guy Bryden BLACK MC (25 December 1998, aged 84 years)

Guy Black attended Toowoomba Grammar School along with Colin Hooper, Malcolm Wright and Lou Searle. (All went to PNG and all became Coastwatchers.) Guy trained as an accountant and joined the Administration in 1936 - he was posted to Salamaua as a clerk. He served in Lae, Madang, Wewak and finally Rabaul where he joined the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles. He left with the first contingent, his number, NGX55. Most became 6th Division serving in Africa, Greece, Crete, Palestine and Syria. He came back to Australia to undertake special training to become a coastwatcher. He and three others, named 'Locust Party', were then sent to the Aitape area which Guy was familiar with. Guy recalled, "We marched up and down New Guinea for 950 miles, eating dry mince and dry veges and when that didn't arrive by airdrop we ate the local yams, taro, coconuts and sago. We did it for a year in continual rain with sodden boots and no dry firewood." In 1943 Guy married Jane, a schoolteacher/artist. The following year Guy and a team of 23 trained locals were dropped off by a US motor torpedo boat to 'chase Japs in New Britain'. Guy was awarded the Military Cross. Later he was commandant of the Z, M and Commando staging post at Milton Tennis Courts in Brisbane.

After the war Guy returned to Treasury, Rabaul. In about 1947 he resigned and started an Accountancy, Customs and Forwarding Agency, and also a limited company of five investors to build the Palms Theatre. The theatre was built using a Quonset hut Guy bought in Manus together with local materials for the front, office and refreshment stall. Guy and machines were not compatible but his good friend Ernie Smith was a wizard. He not only operated the machines but kept them in first class order. In about 1952 Guy had a Sydney architect design a new modern theatre. The new theatre was well on its way when Guy discovered he was to have opposition. There was not room for another theatre so in 1956 the theatre was sold.

In about 1947/48, in partnership with his friend Colin Hooper, Guy bought *Marau* Plantation from Oscar Rondahl. Colin built a house of native materials on it but the loneliness was too much for him and he 'went South'. Colin and Guy agreed to sell the plantation later on when they had management problems. When the theatre was sold Guy bought Noel Barry's Trade Store. This he sold in 1959 when he and Jane left for Australia. They settled in NSW where Guy raised fat lambs and Murray Grey stud cattle very successfully.

In 1979 Guy and Jane returned to Queensland, and settled on the Sunshine Coast. Guy died at home in Buderim. He is survived by his wife Jane, son Ian, daughter-in-law Judy and grandchildren Rebecca and Paul. Information sent to us by Guy's wife Jane and Helen Smith.

Mrs Betty (Bros) GILLMAN (28 April 1999, aged 81 years)

Betty (Bros) first went to Port Moresby during the war as an Army nurse. She returned to Moresby in November 1955 and nursed at the old European Hospital and was Matron at the old native hospital at Ela Beach. In 1957 Betty married Jim (Finance). After a honeymoon at Wau the couple were transferred to Rabaul where Betty worked at Don Clark's pharmacy prior to the birth of their daughter in 1959. Early in 1961 Jim and Bet returned to Port Moresby where their son was born in May that year. Once the children went to school, Bet worked for Tommy Johnson's pharmacy at Boroko and later for the Electricity Commission at Boroko. Betty returned to Brisbane in 1974. For the last two years she has been a patient at the Canossa Hospital in Brisbane suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

Betty is survived by her husband Jim, daughter Elizabeth, son Anthony and grandsons Benjamin and Jake. Information provided by Jim Gillman.

Mr Norman James MORTON-FOLKES (31 January 1999, aged 72 years)

Jimmy was born in Sydney in 1926. He was 16 years of age when his father went missing in action in Singapore in 1942. Devastated by his father's loss, he left Sydney High School and joined the American Small Ships Fleet which was set up to protect and supply 'Bird Watchers' along the isolated Australian and New Guinea coastlines. After spending nearly two years dodging bullets and gunboats and being twice wounded, Jimmy was 'called up' by the Australian defence Forces only to be told by his mother that he was already at war. The Defence Force Military Police escorted him back to Australia (in handcuffs) to do his 'Rookies' and it was at this point that he joined the RAAF where he met and courted his wife of 50 years, Jean.

Discharged in 1947, Jimmy returned to PNG spending time as a Plantation Overseer in the Madang Province and then moved to Samarai where he celebrated his 21st birthday. After a further year in PNG he returned to Australia and worked with Australian National Airlines, later Ansett-ANA. He married Jean in 1949 and the couple settled in Sydney. Ten years later, now with two daughters, Jimmy accepted a three-year transfer to Port Moresby - but stayed there for 17 years. Jimmy and Jean opened the town's first licensed restaurant, *The Hibiscus Room*, with Jean running the restaurant for several years. Next project was the *Outrigger Motel* which Jimmy built on a block of land he purchased soon after arriving in Port Moresby. Eventually it was time to 'go South'. After a few years of semi-retirement in Brisbane, Jimmy and Jean retired to Mt Tamborine Qld. Jimmy passed away after a severe heart attack. He is survived by his wife Jean, daughters Jennie and Susan, grandchildren Jody, Lincoln, Sarah and Amy and great grandchild Jacob. *Jean is at Room 11, Orchid House, Earle Haven, 62 Lawrence Drive, Nerang Qld 4211 Ph 07 5596 7004.*

Information provided by Jimmy's daughter Jennifer

Mrs Nan WATKINS (18 February 1999, aged 84 years)

Nan grew up in Perth WA and did a Stenography/Office Management course. She married Wally Watkins in 1940 and the couple settled in Perth. However in 1946 wanderlust set in with Wally from the war days and he applied for and won the position of Legal Officer for Papua & New Guinea. After 'doing it rough' waiting for accommodation, the couple eventually moved into a 3 bedroom 'R' type house, constructed on the side of Tuaguba Hill, Port Moresby - with a beautiful view. Nan settled down to CWA work where she became International Officer and then National President. Then the ABC approached her to become a relieving announcer on Radio 9PA which broadcast throughout PNG. Nan was well known as the 'Sinabada with the dog'. When she was on duty she always took *Barter* (a nondescript medium size brown dog of unknown origin) with her. She would always get him to say good morning to the listeners by barking at the microphone - it was hilarious. Nan's success on 9PA led to her appointment as Women's Affairs Controller for the ABC, covering both European and Papua New Guinean women. In the meantime Wally had been appointed head of the Crown Law Department. Nan led a busy life both at Station 9PA, and at home entertaining visiting dignitaries in her position as wife of the head of Crown Law.

After leaving PNG in 1969 Wally and Nan lived Sydney, and then in 1979 they moved to the Gold Coast; Wally passed away in 1984. Nan then moved to Surfers Paradise and in 1992 to Island Quays where she lived until moving to Alexandra Lodge in 1996.

Information provided by David Houghton.

Mr Charles William (Bill) CRISP (mid-May 1999, aged 69 years)

Bill Crisp of the Grange Qld worked in PNG and Telecom Australia. He passed away suddenly. No further details available.

Mrs Heather E. M. ALCORN-FROST (late February 1999, aged 79 years)

Heather Alcorn-Frost lived in PNG from 1955 to 1983. She was involved in Maternal and Child Health clinics and the Dental College, and was involved in Psychiatric Social Work. She served in Manus, Lae and Port Moresby. She is survived by her husband John, her daughter Heatherbell and two grandchildren.

From ROAPNG records.

Mr Sydney Raymond SPREAG (5 April 1999, aged 83 years)

Ray Spreag was born in Liverpool, England and left school at 14 to work as a clerk with British Railways. At the outbreak of war he won entry to Sandhurst Royal Military College and on graduation was seconded to the Royal Armoured Corp. He took part in the D-Day landing, distinguishing himself commanding tanks in battle and earning the rank of Major. In 1947 Ray left England for Australia and PNG, and became well-known for his journeys into the Highlands and as a coastal trader in his own vessel. He married Mary in PNG and the couple settled on their plantation in the Markham Valley. They and their son Roland eventually left PNG for Norfolk Island in 1971. Ray loved the life at Norfolk and was always ready to support the local community and its institutions. He passed away in Sydney after a short illness. Ray is survived by his wife Mary, son Roland, and grandchildren Joshua, Roxanne, Alanah and James and families.

If anyone would like to contact Mary, her address is: PO Box 331, NORFOLK ISLAND 2899, South Pacific. Ph 672.3.22183. Provided by Paul Bolger and Pam Nobbs (Vicary).

Mrs Norma (Gemma) McPHERSON (1997)

'Mac' McPherson wrote that he has not been well for some time and was not able to advise the Association of the passing of his wife Norma (nick-named 'Gemma') at Nambour, Qld, in 1997. He sent his best wishes to all members who might recall his family.

Norma and her husband 'Mac' (Wallace James) lived in Port Moresby from 1946 to 1960. Before going to PNG, Norma worked in the Press Gallery in Canberra. In Moresby, Norma worked for some years with solicitor Norman White while Mac was with Posts and Telegraphs. Mac said that whenever he had new Postal staff arriving from Australia, he would collect them from the Qantas terminal and take them home where a hot breakfast prepared by Norma would be awaiting them. Norma had many friends scattered throughout PNG.

Norma is survived by her husband Mac, sons Jim and Gordon, two grandsons and one granddaughter. Information provided by Norma's husband, Mac.

Mr Ted FITZGERALD (18 April 1999, aged 82 years)

Ted Fitzgerald, one of the pioneers of postwar education in Papua New Guinea died recently in Brisbane, just a few days short of his 83rd birthday. Ted had trained as a teacher after war service in the Middle East and PNG. In the army he had risen to the rank of Major in the Intelligence Corps. Ted with Vin McNamara was responsible for starting the Education Centre at Nganalaka, East New Britain, in the early 1950s. He was responsible for the teacher training project there. He then taught at Telefomin when Ron Neville was Assistant District Officer. Ted became an assistant Inspector and Inspector of schools serving in Milne Bay and Madang provinces. He was Principal of Goroka Teachers' College in the early 1960s when it trained primary teachers. He then transferred to Education headquarters in Port Moresby when he became Inspector of Teachers' Colleges, covering both government and mission colleges. He worked with people such as Lisle Newby, Graham Munkley, Pam Quartermaine and Geoff Gibson and with people who had been his ex-students and protégés Sir Alkan Tololo, Sir Paulias Matane, the late Sir Vincent Eri and Betuel Peril. He retired from the Department of Education in 1971. He stayed on in PNG and became the first Registrar of the National Arts School. Later he took up a lectureship at the Bomana Police College. In 1980 he retired to Australia, living in Brisbane and then in Sydney, returning to spend his last years in Sunnybank Hills, Brisbane. Maurice Wilson, a member of the Association, gave the eulogy at Ted's memorial Mass.

The foregoing was written by John Howard.

Mrs Rita Florence WOLSTENHOLME (6 March 1999)

Rita and her husband Jack (Lofty) ran the business Papuan Electrical, where Rita was Secretary/bookkeeper. Rita also opened a boutique selling ladies and children's clothing as well as records. She sent consignments to Samarai, Wau, Daru, Wewak and many outstations. In 1967 the couple retired to the Sunshine Coast where, with her daughter, she established and ran Fuchsia Boutique for 11 years. She is survived by Lofty, two children and two grandchildren.

Ms Dorothy GRAY (late April 1999)

Dorothy Gray was a long-serving Seventh Day Adventist Missionary. No further details available.

Mrs Olga Eileen BLISS (19 May 1999, aged 93 years)

Olga was very special ... warm, witty, a sparkling personality and her engaging (sometimes wicked) sense of humour was always a joy. She first went to New Guinea in 1936 to marry Geoffrey Bliss. From the comfort of her home in Melbourne and the position of responsibility she held in the legal world of Melbourne, Olga flew to Wau - which was a rough and tough gold mining town in those days. After a short honeymoon they journeyed to Edie Creek where, pending house completion, they lived in two tents - like most of the miners in those days - one tent for day use and the other for sleeping. Olga learnt to cook over an open fire of perpetually wet firewood, with two four-gallon kerosene tins for saucepans. But this didn't faze her unduly ... she coped - as she always coped with everything that happened to her. They eventually moved to Rabaul where Geoffrey took a position with the Department of Agriculture, and they lived in one of those so-called 'aeroplane' bungalows ... son William was born in Rabaul early in 1937.

I first met Olga in May 1937 when residents were evacuated from Rabaul to Kokopo during the eruptions of the volcanoes Matupi and Vulcan. Olga with baby William and I with two year old Patricia, were billeted at Tokua Plantation outside Kokopo where we shared the same bedroom. One soon gets to know a person under such circumstances. Olga and I were very compatible which was fortunate as the conditions under which we were existing would have been intolerable otherwise. We have been firm friends ever since, mutual confidantes with our various worries, especially so during the war years which were terrible for both of us because the whereabouts of our husbands were unknown and we had no letters from them or news of any kind. The lack of contact and information was really alarming, but Olga did not lose her optimism although I know she had long sleepless nights of anxiety as we all had.

During this period Olga joined the New Guinea Women's Association in Melbourne. The group met monthly at the homes of various members but more often at Olga's when she became Secretary. Money was raised to provide scholarships for some Australian children born in New Guinea to further their studies in Australia. The Association was broken up after the war when many of the women returned to New Guinea.

After the war Olga joined Geoffrey who managed Dylup Plantation in the Madang District and son William was at school in Melbourne. They were happy years for them both; nevertheless they decided to return to Australia and in the late 50s purchased a house in Caulfield Vic. In 1964 William and Sandy were married - a great joy for Geoffrey and Olga. Geoffrey died in 1969. Losing Geoffrey was a devastating blow for Olga but with characteristic determination she managed to come to grips with her huge loss. Eventually she returned to the legal firm she had enjoyed working for in earlier years - she continued her legal work until she retired at age 77.

In recent years Olga moved to Berwick to be closer to her family. Although Olga and I were often far apart, we did see and stay with each other from time to time and our friendship of 60 odd years became very precious. All who knew Olga will sorely miss her support, her pithy comments, advice and her often ribald sense of humour - she was a great role model for us all.

Olga is survived by her son William, daughter-in-law Sandy, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Compiled by Roma Bates.

Mr Donald H MacLEAN (27 November 1998)

Don spent many years on Tavanakus Plantation and also spent some time in Rabaul and Madang. Don's first wife Sonia (née Maxwell) passed away in 1975. In 1977 he married Cecile after he had settled in Sydney to be near his children and grandchildren. From *Garamut*.

Mrs Kathleen (Kit) Mabel HYDE (2 February 1999, aged 90 years)

In 1927, at the age of 19, Kit went to PNG on a holiday. There she met Arthur Hyde - known as Bob - and they married in 1928. Bob was with the Administration and the family lived in Rabaul, Wau, Madang and Wewak. Kit worked for the Administration and for BP's - she also wrote for the *South Pacific Post*. She left in October 1941. Kit is survived by a son and daughter.

Mrs Helen Rose COX (23 May 1999, aged 90 years)

Helen was born at Leyton England and was originally married to Horace Collins who died during the blitz on London in WWII. She married William Cox in Sydney in 1956. Helen spent most of her working life as a legal secretary. Among those for whom she worked were Claude Prentice (brother of ex Chief Justice PNG Sir William Prentice) in Sydney, Dudley Jones in Rabaul and myself as Deputy Crown Solicitor (Rabaul) in the late sixties. Bill spent many years with CPL in Rabaul. Despite total blindness just before Bill's death four years ago, and other afflictions of age, Helen never complained and retained a sense of humour right to the end. Written by Norris Pratt.

Mrs Joan Stoddard HAY (4 April 1999, aged 84 years)

Joan Hay was the wife of the late Arthur Hay. No further details available.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: For full addresses please see June 1999 Membership List

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| BARTER, Mr P | MADANG PNG | MALNIC, Mrs J | WAHROONGA NSW |
| BONNICK, Mr R | CURTIN ACT | NELSON, Mr K J | DAISY HILL QLD |
| CORRIGAN, Mr K | MERMAID WATERS Q | RADFORD, Mrs R | TORRENS PARK SA |
| CROPP, Mr H E A | BAY OF ISLANDS, NZ | SMITH, Mr P M | MINYAMA QLD |
| FRASER Mr I | NASHUA NSW | UECHTRITZ, Mr A M P | INNISFAIL QLD |
| HARRIS, Ms N | COLLINGWOOD PK Q | VAN HECKE, Mrs E | RED BANK PLAINS Q |
| HOLLAND, Mrs M T | OXLEY QLD | WATTS, Mr J H | NOWRA NSW |
| HOSSACK, Mr I | PICTON NSW | WILSON, Mrs K | ALSTONVILLE NSW |

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

The following members have moved. Please see Membership List with this issue for new address

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| AITCHISON, Mr T G | HAYES, Mr M R | PORTER, Mr J G |
| BENSTED, Mrs P C | KELLIHER, Mr T M | RUDD, Mr J |
| CORDUKES, Mr P | MITCHELL, Mr B C | SHEEKEY, Mr D P |
| de DERKA, Dr C | NEVILLE, Mrs C | SINCLAIR, Mr A M |
| DOOLAN, Mr L J | NOBBS, Mr K | WILLIAMS, Mr A L |
| ERSKINE-SMITH, Mr R B | ORMSBY, Mrs M | |

UNFINANCIAL MEMBERS

The following members are unfinancial. If you know any of these people and think they may have forgotten to renew, please jog their memories.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| *ALCORN, Mrs N | TOOWONG QLD | KIMMORLEY, Miss M | HERITAGE GDNS QLD |
| *ANDERSEN, Mrs P | MOLLYMOOK NSW | LENEHAN, Mrs I V | CARINGBAH NSW |
| ARMSTRONG, Mr J S | HUNTERS HILL NSW | LYLE, Mr J W | COOKTOWN QLD |
| BLYTH, Mr J R | WILLOUGHBY NSW | MANSFIELD, Mr L R | RIO VISTA QLD |
| BOWERS, Mr J E | HORNSBY HTS NSW | McCOSKER-BUCKLEY, Mrs W A M, MALENY Q | |
| CAMPBELL, Dr C H | MANLY NSW | McLACHLAN, Mrs J T | EAST IVANHOE VIC |
| CAVANAGH, Mr N J | WAVELL HEIGHTS Q | MURTY, Mr D P | ANNANDALE NSW |
| COYLE, Mr J J | TUGUN QLD | MUSKENS, Mr W H | KILCOY QLD |
| DAGGE, Mr J | TARRAGINDI QLD | NEWELL, Mr B P | LANE COVE NSW |
| DOYLE, Mrs G | MERMAID BEACH QLD | NICHOLAS, Mrs G | MERMAID WATERS Q |
| FISK, Mr J | DAISY HILL QLD | PETERSEN, Mrs M J | ROSEVILLE NSW |
| FOLEY, Ms C A | WILLOUGHBY NSW | POPLE, Mr G | BOROKO NCP PNG |
| FOSTER, Mr L R | BOROKO NCP PNG | ROSS, Mr K J | CHIFLEY ACT |
| *GALLEN, Mr M R | MALANDA QLD | SCHWASS, Mr C | GORDONVALE QLD |
| GORDON, Mrs E H | MANLY NSW | SHACKLADY, Mr T | DURACK QLD |
| HEINSOHN, Mr T E | MITCHELL ACT | SHARP, Mr E S | LANE COVE NSW |
| HENNESSY, Mrs C | BEACON HILL NSW | VAGG, Mr A | ELWOOD VIC |
| HILL, Mrs M C | BONNELLS BAY NSW | VIRTUE, Mr G P | TURRAMURRA NSW |
| HUNT, Mr B | NOOSA VALLEY QLD | VIRTUE, Mrs P | TURRAMURRA NSW |
| JAMIESON, Mr W C | EAST SUSSEX UK | WILSON, Mr L A | FORESTVILLE NSW |
| KEMELFIELD, Mr R J | KENSINGTON NSW | | |

* NOW FINANCIAL