



Una Voce

JOURNAL OF THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC
(formerly the Retired Officers Association of Papua New Guinea Inc)

Patrons: Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC (Retd)
Mrs Roma Bates; Mr Fred Kaad OBE

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON –

This year's Christmas Luncheon will be on **Sunday 06 December at the Killara Golf Club**, 556 Pacific Highway, Killara (Sydney, NSW). As usual there will be tables of 10 people, so please also think about organising a table of friends to come along. Free shuttle transport from rail station for those who need it. The December luncheon is a wonderful occasion to catch up with friends and we look forward to seeing you. Booking form in the September *Una Voce*. * * *

Membership List will be included in the September *Una Voce*.
* * *

NEW RULES APPROVED BY DEPT OF FAIR TRADING

Advice has been received from the NSW Office of Fair Trading that the Notice of Alteration of Objects or Rules for the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia has been accepted for registration and the amendments now form part of the association's records effective 1 May 2009.

VISIT TO THE MOUNTAINS

The annual spring visit to the Blue Mountains: **Thursday 15 October**. George and Edna Oakes at Woodford are kindly welcoming us back again this year. Full details in September issue. * * *

***for latest news, information and discussion, please visit the **forum**

at: www.pngaa.net

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**'UNA VOCE' IS THE JOURNAL OF
THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC**

Please send all correspondence to: **The Secretary, PNGAA, PO Box 1386, Mona Vale NSW 1660.** Items for *Una Voce* are welcome and should be marked 'For Attention: The Editor' or emailed to: editor@pngaa.net By submitting your article/story for publication, you agree that we may, after publication in *Una Voce*, republish it on the internet unless you advise us to the contrary.

Una Voce is published in March, June, September and December.

Advertising Rates: Please contact the Editor

Website: www.pngaa.net

Membership is available to any person having an interest in PNG. Annual subscription - \$20. The membership year corresponds to the calendar year and an application form is available from the Secretary at the above address or you can download one from our website.

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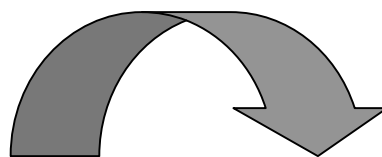
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Website Assistant

We would like a member to come forward to take on the role of website assistant. It is not necessary for this person to reside in Sydney. If you have expertise in this area and are interested in helping PNGAA with this particular area please contact Nick Booth on (02) 9868 2197 or at nick@nickbooth.id.au

Email Addresses

When you update your email address please send a test message to: admin@pngaa.net!!

Please also include your membership number.

Also, if you have a 'limit' on your mail box, it would help if you would please clear it at regular intervals.

Thank you to all those who do remember to send on their change of email address. This ensures you get timely notice of any breaking 'news'.

DISCLAIMER: *Una Voce* is produced for the information of members of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia Inc. It is written with care, in good faith, and from sources believed to be accurate. However, readers should not act, nor refrain from acting, solely on the basis of information in *Una Voce* about financial, taxation or any other matter. Having regard for their own particular circumstances, readers should consult the relevant authorities or other advisers with expertise in the particular field. Neither the PNGAA nor the editor accepts any responsibility for actions taken by readers. Also, the views expressed by any of the authors of articles or book reviews included in *Una Voce* are not necessarily those of the editor or the PNGAA.

In submitting articles, photographs or artwork, please send duplicate copies as, although all care is taken, the Editor or PNGAA cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 58th AGM of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Incorporated, will be held in Sydney on Sunday 28 June 2009 at the Killara Golf Club, 556 Pacific Highway, Killara, NSW, commencing at 2:00 pm. The AGM will be followed by a 'High Tea' at approximately 2:30 pm.

AGENDA

1. Members present and apologies.
2. Confirmation of the Minutes -
 - 2.1 Minutes of the 57th AGM (circulated as an attachment to the June 2008 *Una Voce*).
 - 2.2 Minutes of Special General Meeting held on 26 April 2009 [refer page 59 of this Journal].
3. Business arising from the Minutes.
 - 3.1 Ratification of the appointment of Mr Harry West as an Honorary Life Member carried by acclamation at the 2008 Annual General Meeting.
 - 3.2 Any other business.
4. President's Report.
5. Treasurer's Report and Receipt of Audited Financial Statements.
6. Certificate required by Section 27 (1)(b) of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984.
7. Correspondence.
8. Election of Honorary Auditor [Refer Rule 37 of the Constitution] Mr Len Bailey, CPA, a Life Member of the Association, offers himself for re-election.
9. Notification of the Results of the Postal Ballot conducted for the Election of the Management Committee [President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor and 6 Committee persons - Refer Rules 16 and 25(2)(c) of the Constitution].
10. General discussion.

Please note that alcoholic beverages will be available from a cash-only bar at the conclusion of the meeting. Members together with their families and friends are all welcome – but please let us know if you wish to come to the High Tea by completing the booking form and payment details on the separate yellow insert and returning it as soon as possible. You may indicate if you wish to sit with particular people or pre-arrange a table of 8 people. The High Tea will consist of sandwiches, mini pastries and mini muffins.

The cost is \$20.00 per person to be paid in advance – this does not include liquor or soft drinks. Advance payment enables us to plan the seating and confirm numbers with the House Manager, Killara Golf Club.

For those coming by train, take the exit on the western side of Killara station, walk along Marion Street, cross the Pacific Highway at the lights and turn left for 550m. Note that restoration work to Lindfield Station, including two lifts and a ramp, is scheduled for completion by August. Until then free return shuttle transport from Gordon Station, which has a lift and a taxi rank, is available. Please phone Harry West on 9418 8793 regarding transport or further information. Public transport information # 131500.

Cancellations advised to Ann Graham (02 9999 4490) by Wednesday 24 June 2009 will secure a full refund – after this date the Association must pay for those unable to attend. ■

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS

For the first time, this year, we are conducting a postal ballot of all members to determine the composition of our Management Committee for the next two year term: 2009 and 2010. This allows *all* our members to have a say! At the time of writing it appears that we will also be having our first contested election for the six positions on the general committee. Please take the time to complete your postal vote and return it in the reply paid envelope.

A significant challenge lies ahead – and it will confront the new Management Committee now that the reformed constitution is in place. It is important that those accepting nomination for the Management Committee have a reasonable understanding of the job ahead. The new constitution will require additional time, skills, knowledge and commitment.

This task looks exciting - it is also important. The overwhelming acceptance of the constitutional changes means that the PNGAA can make a significant contribution to the Australia-PNG relationship.

The Management Committee will now consist of 10 members, significantly reduced from what it was. Limiting the size of the Management Committee will ensure that the committee is maintained at a manageable size. Sub-committees will be established, where appropriate, at the discretion of the Management Committee to ensure a greater involvement of the wider membership. This sub-committee structure is important too, needing energetic and interested people to contribute to and support the Management Committee.

The role of PNGAA has had many different changes in direction and emphasis since it was formed nearly 60 years ago. Each of these changes built on the previous focus, allowing the association to grow and develop whilst still maintaining the traditional roles of social networking, welfare and a commitment to our superannuated members. Committee members therefore have an obligation to ensure that the tremendous work that has been done in the past by the many volunteers who served to advance the causes of this Association, is not lost.

We are fortunate that we now have many capable members willing to nominate for positions to lead your association. Please take the time to consider your vote and return it in the reply paid envelope so that it is received by the Secretary by 5pm on 26 June 2009. ■

Enclosed with this *Una Voce* is a ballot paper for the election of the Management Committee of the PNGAA. Also enclosed is a short bio of all nominated members together with voting instructions which you are asked to read carefully. A reply paid envelope is also included for the return of the ballot paper. **One ballot paper only is to be included in each envelope which must be received by the Secretary by last mail on Friday 26 June,** prior to the AGM on **Sunday 28 June 2009.** Two independent Returning Officers will oversee the ballot and the results will be announced at the AGM

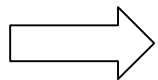
WEB SITE ASSISTANTS NEEDED

The PNGAA Webmaster, Nick Booth, will be going overseas for an extended holiday later this year. We need one or two assistants who can keep our web site running while he is away, and perhaps provide assistance at other times. There are two separate areas where assistance is needed.

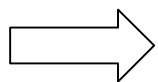
PNGAA Forum: The main task here is looking at requests for Forum membership, and rejecting those that come from people who want to post spam. It may also be necessary to edit or remove inappropriate posts. No knowledge of computing is needed, apart from an ability to use Internet Explorer or Firefox.

Web site management: This involves editing existing web pages or creating new ones, and transferring these pages to the web site. This does not require high level computer skills. The web pages are edited or created with a program similar to Microsoft Word; and the transfer of files requires only a few mouse clicks. Training could be provided, and should take no more than an hour.

If you are interested in helping in either of these ways, please contact Nick Booth on (02) 9868 2197 or at nick@nickbooth.id.au



An important feature of our website is the **PNGAA Forum**, (click on the second top item in the left hand menu bar on the home page) where members can add their comments on all facets of life in PNG. Anyone can look at the comments made on the Forum, but you have to register before you can add comments. Registration is very simple: just click on the “Register” button at the top of each Forum page.



If you would like to trial an electronic copy of *Una Voce* please email: admin@pngaa.net with your current email address and membership number.

The Challenge Cup trophy presented to Sir Hubert Murray in 1885 by the Marquess of Queensberry is on display at the National Library of Australia's *Treasures Gallery 2010: A Preview Exhibition*. The three month exhibition opened on 22 April.

Sir Hubert Murray was the last recorded winner of the heavyweight boxing championship run by the British Amateur Athletic Club.

The exhibition offers a sneak preview of the state-of-the-art Treasures Gallery which is a new permanent gallery scheduled to open in late 2010. The Treasures Gallery will change the objects every 16 weeks, showcasing the library's most prized possessions – Australian and international items collected over the past 100 years.

Information from The Canberra Times 25 April 2009

The New Guinea Volunteer Rifles and Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles Ex Members Association Inc. will be holding the annual **Montevideo Maru memorial service** at the memorial plaque in the Shrine of Memories, ANZAC Square, Brisbane followed by morning tea in adjoining RSL rooms on **Wednesday 1 July 2009 at 10.30am. Contact Phil Ainsworth email: p.ainsworth@kingco.com.au or phone 0418 730 348.**

NOTES FROM THE NORTHERN TERRITORY from Jim Toner

Mike PRESS came out of retirement for five months to take relieving managerial positions with the NT's recently established Central Desert Shire. After his accumulated experiences as kiap in 'colonial' PNG and as community liaison on its 21st century oilfields he found time spent at Ti Tree less than satisfying and has returned to Darwin. His ex-kiap colleague in Aboriginal Affairs when both were residents of Katherine, Bob WELCH, has quit New Zealand and is now on Thursday Island working for the Torres Straits Regional Authority.

Déjà vu all over again. Members may have noted that during April the journalist Sean DORNEY was expelled from Fiji thus repeating his PNG experience in 1984 when he was the ABC correspondent in Moresby. He had arrived in PNG during 1975 and become captain of the Kumuls in the following year this affording him access to many important contacts very useful for his work. Dorney returned after the 1984 contretemps finally departing in 1998 with a Walkley Award for his reporting on the Sepik tsunami. By that time he was able to author two books, an authoritative account of the Sandline Affair, and a very readable examination of post-Independence PNG. In 2005 he gave a seminar at Parliament House, Canberra the text of which is available on the web and well worth a glance from those still interested in the complexities of, and future for, an Australia-PNG relationship.

Most readers apart from dedicated followers of 'the greatest game of all' will know that the Rugby League team of the Bird of Paradise nation is known as the Kumuls. But few will be aware that the PNG snooker team which recently competed in the Oceania championships called themselves the Cuemuls. H'm.

Kevin MURPHY, a pikinini kiap in the late 60s who moved into education, commerce and became President of the PNG Rugby League has been in hospital in Cairns. Sadly, due to diabetes, he has had a leg amputated. This calamity may come as a surprise to ex-kiaps who recall a sprightly Kevin at their Kawana Waters reunion in 2007. His first emergence from hospital was to attend a barbecue for his beloved Kumuls who had travelled to play a Cairns team.

PNG's Under-19 cricket team the "Barramundis" having, as reported in the March issue, been successful in Malaysia flew to Argentina for the next qualifying round of their World Cup. They won four out of five matches and were prevented from advancing to the final qualifying round in South Africa by Uganda but only because of its superior run rate. Still, not too many Papua-Niuginians have ever had a look at Buenos Aires.

Perry KWAN who died in January had been elected as Kavieng's Member in the 3rd House of Assembly. In 1972 he cheerfully accepted the Speakership but soon realised that it was quite beyond his competence and stood down to the relief of all concerned. This allowed ex-kiap Barry HOLLOWAY to take the Chair and commence his

ascent to knighthood. I had never met Kwan until he arrived at a civic meeting in Rabaul with a book by a world renowned author under his arm. He commenced his speech by quoting wise words from it and I sat back thinking that what was to come would be intellectually interesting. However he immediately laid down the book and launched into an impassioned tirade about not being permitted to swim in the town pool. He was quite correct. It had been established under a pre-war Ordinance specifically as a "European Swimming Pool" and although the Sixties had arrived the 'winds of change' had yet to waft down Mango Avenue.

Of late Kwan had been living in modest circumstances in Moresby and I understand that the sole politician to attend his funeral there was his fellow New Irelander Sir Julius CHAN who in his eulogy made the interesting comment that "An honest politician will always be poor".

However here in the Noughties "the times they are a'changing". A clue to the emergence of numerous women in high positions within the PNG public service is that female undergraduates at UPNG now comprise 47% of the student population. Unfortunately the provision of suitable accommodation at Waigani has not yet caught up in what was formerly a male preserve.

Even more surprising to most of us is the prevalence of mobile phones in PNG as will be the facility being offered to superannuants from the Public Service. There are 120,000 members of NASFUND and they will at any time be able to use their phone to SMS the Fund to learn the balance of their current account...

The 'Siege at the Dagi River Bridge' in West New Britain was brought to my attention by Harry TOPHAM, loyal contributor to the Ex-Kiap website. It seems to have slipped under my radar in 1972 but Jim MOORE, who at the time was a PO at nearby Ewasse base camp, comments that there was 'a distinct lack of information passed on to those District field staff who were not involved'.

Apparently a group of settlers from the Nakanai oil palm estate decided to march on the District HQ at Kimbe in an effort to liberate wantoks arrested earlier. They were met on the bridge by Noel Fowler DDC and Colin Campbell DO accompanied by armed Police and an unnamed Inspector. The mob commenced a determined assault on the Administration party including an attack on the PO manning the radio car and shots had to be fired before the situation was brought under control.

Peter TURNER, by then a Sepik kiap, says that some four years after the event he was told that Fowler shot dead the Chimbu fight-leader which immediately cooled the enthusiasm of his followers. The perception was that this probably saved Kimbe from being razed to the ground. Knowledgeable readers might care to comment.

"Raising 34 children and managing 12 wives takes some doing" stated Kagul Koroka, a trader in the Nebilyer and sometime Governor of the Western Highlands. I believe I'll take his word for it. ■

PNG...IN THE NEWS

► **PNG Prime Minister Hon Sir Michael Somare visited Australia** in late April. In a joint news conference in Canberra with Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd it was revealed that discussion had occurred over historical problems with aid delivery. Rudd acknowledged that aid money to Papua New Guinea had been misspent on consultants rather than teachers and health services.

"Too much has been consumed by consultants and not enough delivered to essential assistance in teaching, in infrastructure, in health services on the ground in villages across Papua New Guinea," Mr Rudd said.

The effectiveness of aid to PNG needed to be tied to UN mandated Millennium Developments Goals, so outcomes from foreign aid spending could be measured.

The PNG government has allocated 980 million kina towards building education, health services and infrastructure in the villages, the largest amount since the nation was granted independence in 1975.

Info from Courier Mail News 28 April 2009

► **An estimated 55,000 Papua New Guineans** who supported Australian troops during World War II will receive commemorative medallions from the Australian Federal Government. These medallions will feature the familiar image of the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel helping a wounded Australian along the Kokoda Trail. They will be given to surviving 'angels' or their families.

Mr Rudd and his Papua New Guinea counterpart, Hon. Sir Michael Somare, announced the medallion in Canberra during the recent visit of Sir Michael to Australia.

"All of us in Australia know full well the enormous support, practical support and friendship extended to Australian diggers during the last war by the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels," the Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd said.

"We'll be issuing medallions ... to honour the service and the sacrifice of the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels who are so much part and parcel of our ability to prevail in the New Guinea campaign in the darkest days of World War II."

PNG citizens can apply for the medallions through the Australian High Commission in Port Moresby.

Info from SMH 29 April 2009

► **Bank of South Pacific plans to issue K100 million in Subordinated Notes** The notes, in denominations of K25,000 will carry a fixed rate of interest of 11%, payable half yearly in May and November of each year. The Notes will mature on 29 May 2019. "This issue is the first by BSP, the first for PNG and the first publicly listed debt raising in PNG capital markets."

Info from Bank South Pacific

► **Papua New Guinea is currently ranked 8th out of the top 10 best wall reefs to go diving.** It sits amongst good company...Palau, the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman and British Columbia are also on the list.

The most exciting marine species can be found whilst diving wall reefs - where deep water meets the shallow and where the open ocean is bordered with rampant reef. A coral wall is the junction between the shallow waters and the deep blue abyss, and a haven for all variety of corals and fish. Dive on wall reefs at Kavieng, Madang, Kimbe Bay and Milne Bay.

Info from Daily Scuba Diving

► **PAPUA New Guinea's national government** is expected to open a mission in Sydney in July 2009. Ms Pitiwin Tauvali will be appointed Consul. This will be a strategic and important development especially for investment and tourism.

► **THE Autonomous Bougainville Government** hopes to do all it can to avoid the Cocoa Pod Borer (CPB) from entering the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

A delegation from Bougainville consisting of stakeholders of the cocoa industry visited Rabaul in April 2009 to familiarise themselves with the cocoa pod borer which has ravaged the East New Britain Province. The delegation visited CCI National Headquarters in Keravat where they were briefed on defensive and prevention measures currently being taken to battle the disease in ENB.

Info from PNG Gossip Newsletter 26 April 2009

► **In 2008 the Edmund Rice Eye and Ear Clinic in Goroka** performed 2,917 eye surgeries, of which 2,577 were cataract surgeries, in an outreach program at Goroka Hospital. The eye unit has also been involved in the training of national registrar ophthalmologists.

Info from PNG Gossip Newsletter 26 April 2009

► **A crocodile over 4 m (13 feet) in length has been captured and killed** near Madang in early May. It was then tied to the front of a jeep and paraded through the town.

At least seven people have been known to have been killed by the croc. Fearing more fatalities, Madang businessman Samuel Aloï rallied a group of youths whose families had learned the art of capturing crocodiles from earlier generations. The crocodile had been seen in various parts of the Madang waterfront recently. People still needed to remain vigilant as the crocodile's mate was still at large.

Info from World News 11 May

► **An art exhibition by British contemporary artist Jeremy Millar will be hosted in the United Kingdom** by the National Maritime Museum from September 24 2009 to January 17 next year.

The exhibition, titled 'Given', will focus on Port Moresby, Goroka and the Trobriand Islands. The pioneering work in the Trobriand Islands of the late world renowned Polish anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski is the inspiration for the exhibition.

Dr Malinowski revolutionised modern anthropology and introduced new ethnographic fieldwork methods through "participant observation" during his two visits to the islands of Milne Bay in 1915-16 and 1917-1918.

"Jeremy's work on Dr Malinowski will showcase the Trobriand Islands and Papua New Guinea in the UK and globally, confirming PNG as the world's most culturally diverse nation which continues to attract the eye of academia since the time of Dr Malinowski," said British High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea, David Dunn.

Info from The National 16 May 2009

► **Vudal University is to be renamed the Papua New Guinea University of Natural Resources and Environment.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dick Doyle writes from the Witu's: Re Jim Toner's Notes from the Northern Territory, *Una Voce* No. 4 December 2008, regarding Bill Kelly -

In 1961 a few of us founded the RALUM CLUB in Kokopo which is still going strong. There was a need for a multi-racial club at this time and Bill Kelly was instrumental in helping us do this. Very instrumental. As was the then General Manager of Ravalien Plantation, Don Preston, who helped us acquire the building that became the club. Interestingly, as far as I can remember (I could be wrong) neither Bill or Don became members. Maybe a reader can correct me. I, too, am very impressed regarding Bill's WWII Liberator pilot history. Didn't know that. Bill and Don were good blokes.

* * *

Neville Threlfall writes in: I was interested to read in the March 2009 issue of *Una Voce* (p19, 20) all the information which readers supplied in response to the query in last September's issue. But none of them mentioned the epitaph which Carl Wilde ordered to be inscribed on her tombstone as a tribute. This was mentioned in *The Pacific Islands Monthly* many years ago. It was the first two lines of a German song, a soldier's tribute to a comrade:

Ich hatt einen kameraden
Einen besseren findest du nicht.

I would translate it as "I have a trusty comrade,
You could not find one better."

* * *

Max Hayes writes 'as a follow up to Neville Threlfall's excellent report on the deaths of the two volcanologists killed on Karkar on 8 March 1979, I send two photographs which you may be interested in showing readers of UV.

Erected by the PNG Geological Survey on a large basalt slab at the Rabaul Volcanological Observatory (*haus guria*) on the very edge of the caldera rim which surrounds most of Rabaul, it is a fitting tribute to two fine people who lost their lives doing their duty and with so much to offer in research of this phenomena so common in PNG.

Why was the George Cross (the British Commonwealth's highest civilian award for valour) not awarded to Cooke and Ravian? There was a precedent set in the hazards of volcanological dangers with the 1952 award of the George Cross, to George Anthony Morgan (Tony) Taylor for his work in relation to the 1951 Mount Lamington eruption and blast which literally blew out the side (instead



of the rim) with the pyroclastic flow and which killed an estimated 3,000+, wiped out the patrol post of Higaturu and spread over a wide area. Taylor (30.10.1917 to 1972) no doubt took an interest in explosions after a career during WW2 as a Warrant Officer, Class 1, in army ordnance units between 1942 to 1947.

David Ayling writes from South Australia:

I was saddened to read of the deaths of two former colleagues at the House of Assembly, David Speakman and Perry Kwan, in the [March 2009] issue of *Una Voce*. The piece about David Speakman is factually quite inaccurate, and I write to correct the details in fairness to several others.

I became Deputy Clerk of the House in 1967, after 10 years as a 'kiap' and three years in the Department of the Administrator. In 1969 I succeeded WPD (Percy) Smart as Clerk of the House, on his retirement.

David Speakman was then appointed Deputy Clerk, but left the House and the PNG Administration some time between 1969 and 1974. Tony Elly, a Papuan who had been Sergeant-at-Arms and Clerk Assistant, succeeded him. In 1974, following self-government and the year before independence, I took early retirement and Tony was appointed Clerk of the House. ...

In my view, Perry Kwan was rather more than a 'good artist'. One of my treasured possessions is a portrait in watercolours on paper which Perry painted as a farewell gift in 1974. I had it mounted and framed behind glass and 35 years later it has pride of place in the sunroom of our unit in the Langton Park retirement village.

EXOTIC FISH CROSSES INTO PNG by Donald Hook

An exotic fish, introduced to Indonesia's Papua Province, has crossed the border into Papua New Guinea and is affecting the diet of local village people.

The fish – the climbing perch – has driven the file water snake away from the vast lowland swamps of the Fly River Delta.

Professor Arthur Georges, of Canberra, who recently returned from PNG, says that when the file snake captures a climbing perch, the fish throws open its gill covers and four sharp spines embed in the throat of the snake. Both snake and fish die.

Professor Georges says the snake was a favoured food source for people living in the vast Suki-Aramba swamps, and is sorely missed.

Writing in the *Canberra Times*, he said: "Imagine this fish in our tropical rivers where its spread would be unstoppable. The risks of this happening are high."

Professor Georges, a professor in applied ecology with the Institute for Applied Ecology at the University of Canberra, said 22 of the 34 exotic fish in Australia's waterways have entered the country via the multimillion dollar ornamental fish industry.

He said there were 1,100 exotic ornamental fish species available in Australia of which only 481 species are permitted imports.

"Species smuggled in, or legally imported under previous legislation, are openly traded among hobbyists. Through one avenue or another, any exotic fish species sought is effectively available in Australia."

Climbing perch in Kakadu? – "maybe only a matter of time," according to Professor Georges. ■

SUPPORT FOR VICTORIAN BUSHFIRES

In February more than 200 people died in Victoria as a result of Australia's worst bushfire disaster in history. The fires destroyed homes, towns and forests in south-eastern Victoria. The hearts of all Australians went out to the victims and their families. Support flowed from PNG also...

In a touching gesture the people of the small town of Vanimu, in PNG's northwestern Sandaun Province, raised 10,000 kina (\$A5,567) to give to the Red Cross Victorian Bush Fire Appeal. Vanimu Hospital Chairman, Kevin Imba presented the cheque to Australia's High Commissioner to PNG, Chris Moraitis, in a small ceremony at the hospital.

In July 1998 a tsunami killed more than 2,000 villagers, mainly from Aitape, and made 10,000 people homeless. A medical team from Victoria's Monash Medical Centre were the first to help Vanimu's overstretched hospital. The people there have not forgotten.

And from Madang there was a wonderful World Youth Day 2008 response from pilgrims who had visited Sydney. A cheque for \$5535 was received from the Archdiocese of Madang (PNG) for the SVDP Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

The Rabaul community in East New Britain (ENB) also gathered together for a fund-raising event for the victims of the bush fires and raised K37000! (over AU\$19,000).

Joanne Seeto said: 'In the past month, the people of ENB have been watching news coverage of the tragic bush fires around Victoria, and have been moved to make a donation to the people of Victoria. Having experienced our own tragedy of the twin volcanic eruptions in 1994 with many losing their homes, people here feel keenly for the victims of the bush fires.

Business houses and banks around Rabaul and Kokopo town set up collection points at their premises for the Red Cross' Bush Fire Appeal. Collectively they raised a total of over K800. These same business houses came together to support a quiz night at the Ralum Club with all proceeds also going to the Red Cross' Bush Fire Appeal. Organised by Peter Lung, Dawn Tse and Sandra Lau, a sum of K15,000 was raised from the night.

The ENB Provincial Government, with Governor Hon Leo Deon, also stepped up and pledged K22,000. This really demonstrates the fact that the people of PNG appreciate our close relations with our Australian neighbours.

Sandra Lau said that this tremendous result came about because they wanted to show their appreciation for the 'help, love, care and constant assistance by the Australian Government to the people of Papua New Guinea...Everyone here feels for the victims'.

The PNG government gave \$2 million to bushfire and flood relief, while there were other local collections for the Red Cross appeal. ■

KIM BEAZLEY LENDS SUPPORT TO MONTEVIDEO MARU RECOGNITION

Australia's former Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister, Kim Beazley AC, has accepted a senior role in a new organisation established to achieve greater public recognition for Australia's worst maritime disaster.

On 22 June 1942, 1053 civilian and military prisoners interned by the Japanese invasion forces in Rabaul, Papua New Guinea, were transferred to the freighter, Montevideo Maru. Nine days later, on 1 July 1942, off the coast of the Philippines, the ship was torpedoed and sunk by the American submarine Sturgeon. All the prisoners died.

The Montevideo Maru Memorial Committee was established to gain official recognition of the sinking, to determine precisely who was on board at the time and to encourage further research into events in Rabaul that led to the tragedy. Mr Beazley has accepted the position of Patron of the Committee and Keith Jackson AM has been appointed Chairman.

Prof Beazley's uncle, the Rev Sydney Beazley, who resided in Rabaul at the time of the Japanese invasion, was just 33 when he was believed lost on the Montevideo Maru.

"The Montevideo Maru sinking is Australia's most devastating loss at sea," Prof Beazley said today, "but is a quiet part of public consciousness of World War II history.

"The military personnel lost in particular were a product of the first desperate efforts of the Australian Government to defend our immediate approaches.

"The Japanese occupation of Rabaul produced many heroic Australian efforts at resistance and escape and an enormous Australian tragedy, both from massacres on land and the huge loss of life at sea. Getting this story more firmly into our national consciousness is a noble effort," Prof Beazley said. ■

On Wednesday 1 July 2009 a plaque to commemorate the sinking of the *Montevideo Maru*, and honouring the men lost with her, will be unveiled at a ceremony at Subic Bay in the Philippines.

The plaque, sponsored by the NGVR & PNGVR Ex-members Association, 2 /22 Battalion Lark Force Association, PNG Association of Australia and Greenbank RSL, Queensland, is to be placed on an existing massive 'Hell Ships' Memorial erected by the US Navy. Subic Bay was up to 1992 a huge US Naval Base situated about 100km north of Manila. It is an appropriate location for such a memorial plaque, as it is less than 150 km south of the *Montevideo Maru's* resting place.

The Australian Ambassador to the Philippines has been invited to unveil the plaque. Whilst the ceremony will be low key, it is hoped that any relatives, friends and interested parties of those lost on the *Montevideo Maru* who would like to participate in this event, attend.

If you are interested, please contact Mr Clive Troy for further information as soon as possible on Email: clive.troy@bigpond.com.au or phone 02 98682123.

A PNG HANDOVER by Terry Turner

There's an interesting sidelight on PNG's history, probably not recorded at the time and long since forgotten by most involved.

During June 1952, Administrator J K Murray covered most of the country on a farewell tour prior to his retirement. On the morning of the 30th of that month he flew from Port Moresby in the Qantas Catalina to Kikori for a quick goodbye, planning to return in the afternoon for his official handover to Assistant Administrator D M Cleland.

The Administrator's plane arrived mid morning for a three hour visit. He inspected the station and then we all met at the District Commissioner's residence for luncheon. The plane was to return the Administrator to Port Moresby in mid afternoon but the fickle Kikori weather determined otherwise. The cloud cover suddenly increased and heavy rain set in without letup. There was no choice but to reschedule the flight for the following morning. This caused a legal problem about the handover of the Administrator's powers.

I was District Clerk in the Department of District Services and Native Affairs at Kikori at the time and one of my many duties was the operator of the daily radio 'sked'. So that night, in a special hook-up, I spent a few hours in the District Office sitting beside Administrator Murray. I operated the radio while he talked to the Chief Justice and Brigadier Cleland in Port Moresby. They would have gone to the Port Moresby radio centre as there was not the technology of telephone hook-ups. Between them they accomplished the official handover of Murray to Cleland on an old push-to-talk radio accompanied by plenty of static and fading.

I suppose it had been arranged for a somewhat more ceremonial handover in Port Moresby suitably witnessed by the Chief Justice and in the presence of other dignitaries. Inclement weather in PNG had a reputation for ignoring the 'best laid plans ...'.

Next morning, the passenger on the Catalina to Port Moresby was ordinary citizen J K Murray on his way back to Australia. ■

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Pre-war photographs featured in Ian Skinner Collection on PNGAA web site



A selection of photographs from the 1939 era taken in and around Chimbu by then cadet patrol officer Ian Skinner is a recent addition to the photography gallery on the PNGAA web site. Many of the black and white photographs were taken on various patrols in the Chimbu district including the 1939 Mairifutoika census patrol.



Numerous photographs portray the indigenous people and typical highland scenery of the time, and there are also several photographs of Lutheran missionaries including Felix and Hedwig Doering, and kiaps Bill Kyle, Leigh Vial and David McWilliam, all of whom were killed during World War II, and Skinner himself, the only field officer of the group to survive the war. After service in the Middle East, Ian Skinner was a Coastwatcher on New Britain in 1943-44, returning to New Guinea post-war to continue his career with the Administration. He was awarded the Military Cross for his coastwatching service and was honourably discharged from the AIF with the rank of Major. He went on to become a District Commissioner and retired from the Administration as Director of Civil Defence in 1971.



The collection of photographs on the web site, made available by courtesy of Peter Skinner and the Skinner Family, are predominantly pre-war but there are others from Kainantu and Mount Hagen post-war.

Peter Skinner said there are many photographs in his father's files that he will edit for future display on the PNGAA site, including a selection taken at the opening of the Coastwatchers' Memorial in Madang in 1959.

To see the Ian Skinner Collection, go to www.pngaa.net and click on Photo Gallery.



FURTHER PNG HONOURS for JIM SINCLAIR

By Stuart Inder

At an investiture held at Government House, Port Moresby, on 23 April, ex-kiap, PNG historian and longtime PNGAA member James Sinclair received the award of Companion of the Order of the Star of Melanesia from the hands of the Governor-General, Sir Paulias Matane.

The citation was "For service to the community through contributions to the understanding of Papua New Guinea, its history, culture and heritage, and to district administration in the period leading to Independence."

The Star of Melanesia (CSM) ranks in order of precedence immediately after the Grand Companion of Logohu (GCL), which is PNG's top award.

A Port Moresby report described the April investiture as "a very impressive occasion which followed the old colonial model" – that is, everyone was dressed up (including one Huli leader in full tribal array), the band of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary was on hand, and the Governor-General and Lady Matane were piped down the entry steps by four bagpipers.

Jim's wife, Jan, was present, as was their second son, Mike, who was born in Lae.



A past Prime Minister, Sir Rabbie Namaliu, received a GCL at the same investiture. Sir Rabbie said he was "thoroughly enjoying life" away from the frantic hurly-burly of PNG's politics. Former Aussie PM, Bob Hawke, was also awarded a GCL, but he sent his apologies for being unable to be present.

As a matter of interest, Jim was actually awarded his CSM in the New Year's Honours List *for 2007*! There was apparently some confusion over Jim's home address in Queensland, so in good old PNG fashion, he just wasn't advised of the award until a couple of months ago!

Jim already holds an OBE awarded by PNG in 1993 for his "services to the state and to literature", and an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters from the Australian National University in 1999 for "distinguished creative achievement as a scholar in the field of the study of the people and history of Australia and Papua New Guinea."

Jim's published **31** books, and, at 81, is still writing! A book he wrote 30 years ago, *Gavamani*, on the 1884-1906 period of British New Guinea, has finally been published and *Middle Kingdom*, a 365,000-word history of the Highlands will be out later this year or early next year.

A LIFE IN THE LAW by Jim Toner

Some members will remember Kevin EGAN who in 1979 was Director of Public Prosecutions for PNG. Then 29 years of age he had Mrs. Nahau Rooney, the Justice Minister, charged with contempt of the Supreme Court resulting in her being sentenced to eight months gaol with light labour. She had written to the Chief Justice (with copies to 45 of the most "issue conscious" people in the nation) informing him that the effective deportation of an American lecturer in politics at UPNG which had temporarily been halted by the Court was none of its business. She had phoned the NBC (successor to 9PA) news editor telling him that she had no confidence in the expatriate judges and told a Post Courier reporter that the judiciary was no longer doing justice. These comments were then broadcast and published.

In fact the American's lawyers had claimed that the Migration Act under which his entry permit to PNG had been revoked conflicted with the Constitution and this could only be resolved at the level of the Supreme Court hence the deferment. It was decided that it did not but after one day of captivity Mrs. Rooney was released on licence at the order of Chief Minister Somare whereupon Egan resigned (as did four of the judges) and went to Hong Kong. There he rose to become deputy Crown Counsel until in 1990 he was accused by the colony's Independent Commission against Corruption with assisting a friend charged with bribery. Later acquitted he resigned to go the private Bar where there was no shortage of work for criminal defence lawyers.

In 2006 Egan found himself on the wrong side of a sentencing. He was supposed to spend 2 yrs 6 mths in gaol for disclosing the identity of a protected witness in a case he was defending but was still free on bail when in March this year his conviction was overturned on appeal. Egan has been described as a colourful Queensland lawyer. Who would argue?

Moon Beam Albums – At our recent Special General Meeting in April a member living in Tasmania, **Greg Rheinberger**, generously donated two fine looking albums for use as raffle prizes. These were magnificently handcrafted using the veneer from the beauty of Tasmanian Timbers; minimising waste and helping conserve the forests. *Huon Pine* is the prized premier timber of Tasmania and occurs only in that state along river banks and other very wet areas of the West and South. It grows very slowly taking hundreds of years to mature. It is often used in ship building and fine furniture.

Sassafras timber is found in the cool, temperate rainforests of Tasmania, but preferring well drained areas. Quite often a tree will produce only light coloured timber, whilst others will have a distinctive and variegated *black heart* caused by fungi in the heartwood. The *black heart* timber is used in furniture and veneering.

The albums are hand made exclusively by Greg. Clearly a lot of hard work, they make a unique gift and were greatly appreciated as a donation for raffle prizes.

If anyone would like to know more, or even purchase one of the archival quality albums, please contact Greg through Email: rhein9@bigpond.com.

Harriet Troy

TENCH ISLAND

By © Jim Ridges

You would need to be a specialist in New Ireland names to even recognise the name Tench Island. The island is so small, perhaps 500 metres by 200, that on most maps it is not even shown, but it lies about 60 miles due north of Kavieng and 40 miles east of Emira Island. The name has become better known than its real name of Enusi. The small number of islanders, perhaps 60 living there, with the rest in Kavieng, have to stop and think, before saying Enusi Island.

It cannot be guessed why this tiny island, home to thousands of sea birds as well as the people, should have adopted and still use a name given to it on 17th May 1790 by Lieutenant King on the H.M.S *Supply*, who with Lieutenant Ball was passing by on their voyage from Sydney to Batavia in the Dutch East Indies, today Indonesia, to collect supplies. He described the people of Tench Island and estimated the population at about 1,000, which seems excessive for that time and the size of the island.

Lieutenant Philip Gidley King (1758-1806) was then Lieutenant-Governor of Norfolk Island and was carrying dispatches home to England. He later, 1800-1806, became the third Governor of New South Wales.

H.M.S *Supply* was one of the 11 sailing ships of the 'First Fleet' that left England on 13th May 1787 with over 1,000 people (759 of them convicts) to start the new Colony of New South Wales. They arrived at Botany Bay from 18th-20th January 1788 in what is today Australia. On the ships were convicts from England, sentenced to be deported for their crimes, often trivial by today's standards, with officials to create the new colony and Marines to maintain order and protect the Colony.

A Captain-Lieutenant of one of the four Companies of Marines, Watkin Tench, is the person after whom the island was called but, as far as is known, he returned to England in 1792 and he never saw the island. It must be assumed that he was perhaps a friend of Lieutenant King so that on that day the island was sighted, it was decided to honour Tench by naming the island after him.

Watkin Tench's only claim to fame (apart from an island bearing his name 200 years later) is that it was his 'A Narrative of the Expedition to Botany Bay', that was the very first published account (in London on 24th April 1789 by John Debrett of Piccadilly) of the voyage and safe arrival of the First Fleet from England, and the developments of the new colony up to 1st October 1788. It seemed as though all of England was waiting in anticipation. As the first, Tench's 'Narrative' beat other accounts contracted by other publishers to senior officials of the new colony and became a best seller. His second work 'A Complete Account of the Settlement at Port Jackson' was published in 1793, and described the infant colony for readers in England who could not learn enough of the new colony in the days of no telephones or TV, and ships that sailed for 8 months to deliver mail.

Watkin Tench was born in 1758 or 1759 to Fisher and Margaritta Tench who ran a dancing academy in Chester, England. He was well educated and joined the Marine corps when 16 years old. In 1778 he was captured in the American War of Independence. After returning from Australia he was again captured in the war against France during 1793-4 when his ship *Alexander* was captured by two

enemy ships, but the French lost 450 men compared with 40 from the *Alexander*. He married Anna Marie Sargent and, childless, adopted four of Anna's dead sister's children. He died a gentleman at Devonport in England on 7th May 1833.

NOTE

The following are some only of Lieutenant King's comments on Tench Island in "An historical journal of the transactions at Port Jackson and Norfolk Island." By John Hunter. London 1793.

'A great number of canoes were lying on the beach, and, from the number of natives we saw there, besides what were in the canoes, there cannot be less than a thousand inhabitants on the island'.

'no invitation or entreaty could prevail on them to come alongside; at length, two of the canoes, which had seven men in each, and two others, with two men in each came close under the stern, but none of them would venture on board, and, it was with great difficulty they were persuaded to come near enough to receive a string of beads which were let down over the stern; after this, they all paddled on shore'.

'Some of their beards reached as low as the navel and there was an appearance of much art being used in forming them into long ringlets; so that it should seem as if the prevailing fashion on this island was that of keeping the beard well combed, curled, and oiled. Two or three of the men had something like a bead or bone suspended to a string, which was fastened round the neck'.

'These canoes appeared to be made out of a large tree, and were well shaped, with a hook made of wood at each end, the use of which we could not possibly guess; the largest of them appeared to be about 28 feet long. Each canoe had a long outrigger, to prevent them from oversetting.'

'On the south point of the island, a man stood alone, with a long pole in his hand, which had something large at the end of it, and which he seemed to use as a signal to those in the canoes.'

Mystery solved...but just a little too late!

Chris Diercke's paternal great grandfather, Carl Diercke, founded the DIERCKE ATLAS in Germany 126 years ago. Chris' father, Rudi, became the sole heir to the vast fortune. When Carl died the German authorities attempted to contact Rudi...they knew he was somewhere in PNG but they couldn't locate him.

After the seven years statute of limitations Rudi was declared dead so the estate went to his aunts who, together, sold it to Westermann Publishers. When Rudi eventually found out it was too late - despite another court bringing him back to life! Consequently he ended up with personal items of his grandfather's, but no empire.

Last year Chris was invited to Germany by representatives of the German Government to the 125th anniversary, and in a dual role as a school principal, to dedicate a school to Carl outside Berlin. The Diercke Atlas is still used all over Germany.

CAPTAIN RR COLE MC by Bob Harvey-Hall RFD ED

I first met Bob Cole (then Commissioner of Police) when he became Honorary Colonel of the Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles: I was officer commanding A Company PNGVR at Lae and became involved in a small way with the design of the NGVR/PNGVR colours by producing a piece of the D'albertis creeper (Flame of the Forest) obtained from the Lae Botanical Gardens, for the designer of the unit Regimental Colours. Captain, Honorary Colonel, Robert Rothsay Cole MV was deeply involved in the 'fight' for approval from Northern Command for the use of the D'albertis as the appropriate surround for the PNGVR badge on the Regimental Colour: Northern Command was insisting that the surround must be wattle as for all other infantry battalion in the ADF. Those in the know in Area Command at Port Moresby, including the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Mal Bishop MM, were adamant the Flame of the Forest was the way to go, however the battle seemed to be lost until the Honorary Colonel became involved.

Bob Cole was adamant that Australian wattle had no relationship to PNG and that the D'albertis creeper flowers were the appropriate surround. There were many subsequent letters over a period of more than six months between Northern Command and PNGVR, however the Honorary Colonel did not waiver. Finally, Command asked for a sample of the creeper and fairly soon, with the blessing of Army Headquarters, the GOC Northern Command agreed to Bob Cole's proposal. The brilliant red flower makes a magnificent setting on the green background of the Regimental colour now housed, with the Queen's colour, in the Australian War Museum.



1968 Igam Barracks

L-R Capt Bob Cole wearing the rank of Colonel as Hon Col of PNGVR, Lt Col Don Ramsay CO 2 PIR, Brig Ian Hunter, Commander PNG Command, Lt Col Mal Bishop CO PNGVR

On a brilliant day in May 1969 at Igam Barracks outside Lae, the Administrator Colonel DO Hay CBE DSO, at a ceremonial parade of over 500 soldiers, presented the Queen's and Regimental colours to Lieutenant Colonel Bill Harrington MBE, the Commanding Officer of PNGVR. With the Battalion formed up on the Inspection Line, Captain RR Cole, OBE MC, Honorary Colonel Papua New Guinea Rifles, was received with

a General Salute. It was a fitting tribute to a fine soldier.

Bob Cole came to PNGVR with an impressive military record. He was one of the first persons from the Mandated Territory of New Guinea to enlist in the AIF and served in the Middle East. On return to Australia he became a member of the Far Eastern Liaison Office (FELO) with which he won his Military Cross. Later he joined ANGAU where he became a leading operational field officer servicing with distinction in the Aitape area. He served PNGVR well as their Honorary Colonel. A good bloke. ■

HISTORY OF THE HIGHLANDS FARMERS & SETTLERS ASSOCIATION

The Highlands Farmers & Settlers Association Inc (HFSA) is compiling a history and would like to hear from any past members, delegates, or executives of HFSA, Farmers & Settlers Marketing Cooperative Society, or Farmset Ltd.

The HFSA was established in 1955 with a Formal Charter in 1956 by farmers, planters, grazers, traders and other persons involved in business as their forum to address their concerns. Its first executives included legendary explorers (James (Jim) Luby Leahy and colonial administrators in Ian Fairley Graham Downs, George Greathead. Peter Maxtone-Graham, the father of current Parliamentarian for the seat of Anglimp South Waghi (Waghi Valley), (Hon. Jamie Maxtone-Graham, MBE), was tasked by his Committee to formulate the Charter.

In 1958, the all expatriate Association opened its doors to prominent local elite farmers: Sir Sinake Giregire, Bepi Moha, Soso Subi, Akunai Rovelie, Baito Heiro, Sir Akepa Miakwe and Sabumei Kofikai. Sir Sinake went on to represent the seat of Goroka in the first elections in 1964 and later Daulo (Asaro) from 1968 to 1982.

The HFSA is a legal entity incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act under the laws of Papua New Guinea. It has had branches in Goroka, Kainantu and Asaro (EHP); Wau and Finschhafen (Morobe), Madang (Madang), Simbu (Simbu), Minj, Banz and Mt. Hagen (WHP).

It was a major force in the development of the coffee industry through the importation of Professor Baron Goto (University of Hawaii), involvement in the 1961 Inquiry into Tariff on Coffee and Agriculture Symposium and other policy impact. The HFSA pressed for the direct export of coffee under the auspices of Papua New Guinea, not as a colony of Australia. It also established the Coffee Marketing Board (now CIC Ltd).

The HFSA was also instrumental in the establishment of Goroka Base Hospital, Goroka Show, Goroka Pony Club and the introduction of tea, passion-fruit, peanuts and fish fingerlings into the Highlands. It assisted in the formation of cooperatives, the notable being the Farmers & Settlers Cooperative Ltd now Farmset Ltd. It also represented Papua New Guinea as Member of Australian Farmers Federation and the International Federation of Agricultural Producers.

An Ian Downs Memorial Farmers Prize has been established in conjunction with Farmset Ltd. If you are able to help please contact Wilson Thompson, Secretary, at: HFSA PO Box 7134, Boroko, NCD, PNG or wilson_thompson@hotmail.com ▪

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MIVA in North Bougainville 1934 by Chris Diercke

By the 1930's the Catholic Marist missionaries were well established in the North Bougainville region. In 1929 a Fr Tonjes (ex WW1 German pilot) arrived in Kieta as a Marist missionary. He soon realized that an aeroplane (seaplane) would assist greatly with the Marists' work around Bougainville.

Tonjes contacted a friend in Germany, Fr Schulte (who started MIVA*) and



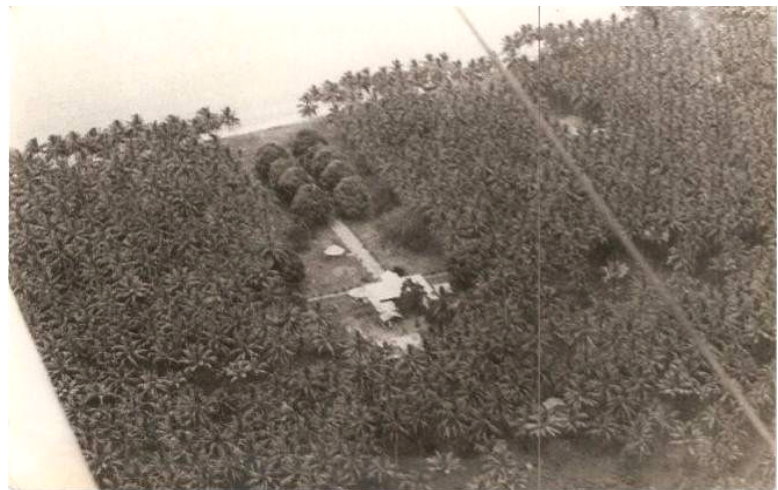
Rigu strip, N Bougainville 1934 L - R Johnny Sanson, Dr Kroning (of Toberoi Plantation) talking to Fr Tonjes, Rudi Diercke (of Woskawitz Plantation), Peter Berkenheier (camera man).

asked for the donation of an aeroplane. He was strongly supported by his superior Bishop Wade. MIVA agreed and in Sept 1934 a Flaming D1400 plane arrived at Kieta in packing crates aboard the Burns Philp vessel *MV Malaita*. All was ready to commence aviation history in Bougainville after two airstrips were built at Rigu and Tarlena, near Kieta.

However fate was to intervene.

The Australian government would not let the aviation operation happen. Anecdotes reveal that Australian authorities viewed the MIVA operation as a Nazi propaganda effort to re-establish potential German control in Bougainville. Bishop Wade managed to get a six week reprieve for negotiations. In this six week period a film crew arrived from Germany to film aviation history in

Bougainville. This proceeded and one photo shows the first aerial photo of Bougainville (Toboroi plantation, right). On one filming run the pilot made an error on approach to Rigu strip, landed on the beach and flipped the plane. No injuries or damage resulted.



The Australian government would not relent so the plane was dismantled, repacked and returned to Germany.

*MIVA The organization exists today as Diaspora MIVA. It aims to assist with pastoral care by providing transport aids. ■

Gordon Steege, DSO, DFC, wartime fighter ace, ex-kiap and RAAF Air Commodore, has sent us this article by his late wife Joan, published in Sydney's Daily Telegraph on 11 September 1947. Many thanks to Gordon (who is approaching 92), for finding it and sending it on. Joan died in 1984.

“Natuna, ‘E Come Quick!”

When my husband's motor launch called at the bay of Gwabe Gwabe, in the D'Entrecasteaux group of Eastern Papua, we spent a night in the resthouse. The resthouse had one room raised several feet from the ground. The walls were made of woven sago leaves. To get into the resthouse you had to climb up a sloping pole with notches for your feet.

In the morning, before the sun was too hot, we packed to leave. I was just putting the last oddments into my bag when the native medical orderly who was travelling with us asked casually about “the carpenter's wife.” When I had worked it out that he meant the young girl who had boarded our boat a few islands back and was travelling with us to our home islands, I nodded, and he said: “Close-up, she have natuna.”

This did not surprise me. Papuan women seem to have babies all the time. But as the orderly repeated several times that the baby was “close-up” I realised that the girl was about to have the baby there at Gwabe Gwabe. I told the native medical orderly that he would have to stay behind and look after the girl.

He protested vigorously. He said emphatically that he had never seen a baby born; that his training was only in the dressing of tropical ulcers and in injections for yaws; and, shaking his head severely, that it would be most improper for him to be present when a child was born.

The girl was across the beach in a *boi-haus*, which was just the same as the resthouse. I walked over to see her. Her name was Lina, and she was nursing a baby aged about 10 months who was sucking a yam. Although I have a child of my own, I knew nothing about delivering one, but I saw that I would have to do something about Lina right away.

There was another woman in the boat with us – Lily, the wife of our native mechanic. I told Lily that she would have to help me deliver the baby. She was reluctant, and said that she had never seen a baby born before. At least she could be the interpreter because Lina could not speak pidgin English.

I borrowed my husband's watch and told Lina that I was going to time her pains so that I could guess when the baby would be born. Lily translated this for me, but I could not be sure that either of them understood what I was doing. They seemed completely bewildered.

The timing plan was not a success, as Lina didn't want to tell me anything. She and Lily would hold long discussions in Goodenough Island dialect,

and then Lily would have nothing useful to report. After a while I would ask: “Hasn’t she had any pains yet?” Lily would reply cheerfully: “Oh, yes, *Sinabada*, plenty pains.”

I left Lily and went out to consult my husband. We could either send Lina back to the mission station farther up the coast, or remain where we were. We decided to stay. My husband settled down under a tree to read, and I sent back to the boat for the ship’s bucket, my sheets, and half a bottle of antiseptic I had in the locker. I looked in Lina’s basket for baby clothes, but found only a change of clothes for herself and a rice bowl half full of rice. I told the boys to clean out the rice, and put the bowl on the fire to boil.

The orderly produced a pair of scissors and a reel of white thread. These I put into the rice bowl and left to boil with a liberal dose of antiseptic. I tore up a sheet, collected a few pieces of cotton from the boys who had an extra *rami* (sarong), and washed the cotton in the bucket.

In the hut, Lina was lying on her back on the floor, pulling on a piece of calico tied to the wall. “Ask her if she has a big pain, Lily.” I said. Lina nodded and rolled her eyes. Lily translated excitedly: ‘She get big pain now, *Sinabada*.’

“Does she think the baby is coming?”

“Yes she thinks the baby is coming.”

I studied Lina carefully. She seemed to be well advanced in her labour, but as the pains passed she lay relaxed, staring unconcernedly at the ceiling as though nothing was happening.

“Tell her to cry out,” I told Lily. “It will help.”

“She says she no like cry when *Sinabada* is here.”

“Nonsense,” I said. “Tell her I had a baby and I know it hurts. She should cry.”

Lily translated, but Lina buttoned her mouth stubbornly. I asked Lily to wash her hands in antiseptic and bring in a bowl of hot water and two pieces of sheeting.

An hour and three-quarters had passed. I tried to recall all I had read about childbirth. How on earth did one cut the cord? I rushed out and asked my husband, who, surprisingly, told me to cut it in two places, an inch from the mother and an inch from the baby.

As we were talking there came a shriek from Lily: “*Sinabada*, come quick.” I ran to the hut.

“She say *natuna* ‘e come quick,” said Lily.

Lina was pulling hard on the calico, rolling her eyes and uttering very faint moans, more like the panting of someone who had been running hard.

“All right Lily, stand here and catch the baby when it comes,” I said. Lily began whimpering, “Oh, oh, where I catch ‘im, where I put ‘im?” Lina

looked despairingly at me from her dark, puppy-like eyes, and said, “Eeeeeeeek!”

My heart was pounding uncontrollably and the sweat was running off my forehead and dripping on my cheeks. “All right Lily, now!” I ordered. Lily took one look then screamed. As she darted through the doorway she cried, “No, no, me no like!”

I plunged my hands into the bowl of antiseptic and water. It was boiling hot. I put my burned and trembling hands under the emerging baby. It didn’t look like anything I had expected. The face had no shape and no features were apparent. In a second I was holding the tiny form in my hands, and as I looked down at it, fascinated and terrified, the face took shape and the baby opened its mouth and bleated.

“My God,” I shouted, “it’s alive!”

Lily came back to look. “It’s a boy!” she shouted to the men outside, and I heard the rustle of excited comments and chatter as the word passed among them. My husband’s grinning face appeared through a space in the wall, and the orderly poked his head around the blanket we had draped over the doorway.

Reaction was overwhelming me. I could hardly speak. I was trembling. “Bring me the cotton and scissors,” I said. I dropped the scissors onto the floor and had to wash them again.

“Where will I tie it?” I called. The cord was far longer than I had expected, and, now that the moment was over, I remembered that it had been around the baby’s neck when the baby was born and somehow I had disentangled it.

Following my husband’s instructions called through the space in the wall, I bound the cotton tightly around the cord a good inch from the baby and from the mother. Had I read somewhere that the pulse must stop before the cord is cut? I waited. The pulse stopped and I cut.

I had put the baby on a piece of snowy-white sheeting on the floor, and in this I picked it up and took it out to show it off to the men.

“*Ewah*,” my cook-boy exclaimed reverently, “*Sinabada savee too much*.” At that moment I felt I didn’t savee anything at all. Had I cut the cord too far away? Had the scissors been sterile? Had the baby’s head been hurt on the bare floor? Had my hands been clean?

“Don’t worry,” said my husband. “The natives probably cut the cord with an old shell, anyway,” and he handed me a stiff gin and lemon.

We washed the baby in coconut oil, then wrapped him in a clean piece of printed cotton. He looked very cute and quite as white as a European baby. He probably weighed between 8 and 9 lb.

Lina came back to our island a month later. The baby has some long native name, but its second and more popular one is “Mr Steege.” ■

PARADES and STATION MANAGEMENT by Paul Oates

(This is how I remember the TPNG outstation protocols. Other kiaps may have differing recollections.)

On a Patrol Post or Sub District Headquarters, the working day in the late 1960's and early 1970's would officially start at 0745 hrs. At that appointed time, the OIC or ADC would arrive for work and the morning parade would commence. A police bugle would be blown or the Station Bell (usually an empty gas bottle or an old artillery shell (either allied or Japanese), would be sounded (or hit in actual fact i.e. hence the command '*Paitim belo*') and the parade would be assembled. The Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) bugle calls were similar to those of the Australian Army although some were slightly altered. As the number of outstations grew, it presumably became difficult to provide trained buglers for each station and anyway, some kiaps didn't like the sound of a bugle.

Some kiaps (me included) tried to ensure we were suitably dressed and wore khaki short sleeve shirts and shorts with long socks and laughing sided boots or stout shoes. I was always taught to set an example to the 'troops' as you shouldn't expect people to be smartly dressed and proud of their calling if you, yourself didn't also display this standard in your manner and dress. I understand some Kiaps (especially on the Papuan side) didn't wear khakis however the principle was the same. I can remember meeting my first ADC and he wore whites however on the bush stations I was posted to we mainly wore khakis (shirt and shorts with long socks and - in my case walking shoes), when on day duty. I also wore an Akubra slouch hat and hiking boots when on patrol however this was also a personal thing. Some kiaps didn't bother to wear a hat on parade. This was because the RPNGC were the only Commonwealth uniformed body that were allowed to salute bareheaded, (as explained in our basic training, that if you didn't return the salute with your hand, (as in any other uniform service, where if you were bareheaded when given a salute you stood or sat to attention to return the salute), a policeman might think you had a stiff neck, etc.)

Anyway, back to the morning parade. The Police would be formed up in a squad



with the NCO in charge. On a Patrol Post this could be a Senior Constable (Corporal) but on a Sub District Headquarters, it was usually a Sergeant who often had medals and long service stars. Some had war medals as well. By the early 1970's, some Sub Districts had a uniformed Police Officer and they conducted their parades separately.

The police, while on duty at their station, wore a blue beret with a silver badge, a

blue shirt with epaulettes and blue lanyard with a silver whistle on the right shoulder, their number and any decorations on the left breast, a black leather belt with silver buckle and blue shorts. They had long blue socks with red flashes and black boots and black mud gaiters. When on patrol, the police mostly changed into light coloured khaki mufti to ensure their dress uniform did not get spoiled. They would then use their official belt and boots and gaiters with their khakis.

Once on parade, the other parts of the administration staff would be drawn up in squads. The warders, if there were some, would be out in front (they wore (wear) a khaki and maroon uniform, similar to the police, and the prisoners would be formed up behind the warders. On the stations I was at where there was a detention centre, the prisoners would (or should) be wearing only a bright red wrap around *laplap* which went from their waist to their mid calves, and had printed on it black broad arrows (the same as our original convicts used to wear). When a court case was heard and the offence proven, the instruction "*Givim laplap!*" was a signal for the police to take the now convicted prisoner away.

The labourers, called a 'bigline' at the stations I was at in New Guinea, would be drawn up under their *bosboi* (foreman). They would wear an assortment of shorts and shirts and went barefoot. They might have their equipment with them (bush knives, axes, sarifs, etc.) ready for use or these might be stacked to one side. The drivers and clerks might not actually take part in the parade however they would usually be standing around at the edge of the parade ground. Central to the parade ground would be the flag pole which in the late 1960's early 1970's, would have the Australian flag, either about to be raised, or if they knew how, ready to be broken out at the top of the flagpole.

The No1 kiap (unless he was away and the No2 took the parade) would then call the parade to order, ('Parade, Attention') and the flag would either be raised or broken out. Then the Parade would be ordered to salute ('Parade, Salute') and the flag would be saluted with the right hand in (usually) the Australian manner. Having conducted the salute, the parade would then be inspected for any sign of a problem (illness, physical discomfort, lack of respect? etc.) by the officer. Generally, a few words would be passed between the officer and the NCO and Warder in Charge and between the '*bosboi*' of the *biklain* (big line). The *biklain* would be given their work for the day for example.

Then the officer would return to the front of the parade and the parade would be called to order ('Parade, Attention'. Then 'Parade, Dismiss'.) The Police NCO would then salute the officer and his salute would be returned. Then everyone would then turn to their right and march off.

The police on duty would then report to the office and those off duty would go back to their houses and their interrupted time off. Depending on how many police were available, uniformed members worked a roster system to guard prisoners unless there were warders on station.

The senior police NCO on a patrol post was a very important position. He provided a go between the police and the officer. Many local problems would be brought to him rather than direct to the kiap. The kiap would often discuss problems with him and discuss possible alternatives, especially if the NCO was a senior man who had a lot of experience. For anyone who has served in the

services, it is the senior NCO who actually makes everything work. It was a little different on a smaller station (Patrol Post) where the senior NCO might only be a corporal (Senior Constable).

The senior Non Commissioned Officer (NCO), and on a large station with a large detachment, there might be a number of NCO's, was responsible for the good order and discipline of the detachment. On my first posting to a Sub District HQ after the morning parade, the Assistant District Commissioner (ADC) took me on his monthly inspection of the barracks and housing. All government employees who had government housing were required to have their houses cleaned and ready for inspection by the ADC. This was generally welcomed as it provided a reason to have any defects examined and work ordered to fix them up. (When this ADC left however, his replacement did not favour this practice.) The senior NCO would always accompany the kiap on these occasions. That meant that (by default) the senior NCO had quite a lot of implied authority, even over the other government employees.

After parade, the kiap or kiaps would then go to the government office to start the day with whatever work there was that required their attention. If the kiap (on a single kiap station) was on patrol, the clerk could conduct whatever minor business had to be done including operating the radio schedule, banking, preparing the mail and any associated paperwork. The daily rainfall would be recorded and the stores checked and issued. The mailbag would be prepared and sealed with a string and numbered lead seal for a government charter or the next aircraft. When the kiap arrived back on station, finance reconciliations were prepared, Patrol Reports were typed and a signal (telegram sent by wireless over the outstation schedule), to the District Headquarters sent advising the District Commissioner that the kiap had returned and the patrol completed.

All kiaps were on 24 hour, 7 day a week duty, no matter what their level. If there was a problem, you were responsible and you were only supposed to leave your station with the knowledge of your ADC and permission from the District Office. To my knowledge, no one ever requested or was ever paid overtime. ▪

Interstate Transport Concessions for Seniors Card holders

Seniors Cardholders around Australia are now able to receive public transport concessions when they travel interstate (except for Western Australian and Queensland) on the same basis as Seniors Card holders in that State or Territory. Previously, Seniors Cards usually only entitled the holder to public transport concessions in their home state or territory.

The Australian Government has offered almost \$50 million over four years to State and Territory Governments so that they can provide concessions to Seniors Cardholders when using public transport services outside their home state.

Negotiations are continuing between the Australian Government and Western Australia and Queensland who have not yet joined the scheme. In the mean time, Queensland is offering concessions on its urban public transport to interstate Seniors Cardholders.

For example, ACT Seniors Card holders travelling to NSW are now able to access seniors' fares on public transport including city and country trains and buses and the Sydney Harbour ferries.

Seniors can contact state transport authorities to obtain details of their new entitlements or to let the authorities know of any problems they may be having in getting their interstate card accepted.

Info from Superannuated Commonwealth Officers Association

IT'S A SMALL WORLD by Chris Read

Friday last week I was slam-dunking a few cold beers at Gazalay's Football Club with a couple of mates; along the bar a man was sipping away on a pot of beer, an amputee sitting in his motorized buggy. I looked at him and thought that I recognized him. After a short while I said hello, and the conversation went something like this:

'I know you from somewhere'

'Yeah, I know your face as well' (there are only a few possibilities of where I could have known this person and I run through them)

'Are you a member of the RSL?'

'No'

'Are you a veteran?'

'No'

'Have you been in PNG?'

'Yes I have' (his eyes are getting bigger)

'Whereabouts?'

'Port Moresby, all over the place'

'Rabaul?'

'Yes'

'What's your name?'

'Greg Piddocke'

'I've got you. You used to work for Steve Day up in the quarry.

A big smile - and his face lights up. 'That's right'

'And about seven days after the eruption in September 1994 you were out at the Tokua Airport, a C130 Hercules had landed with tents and water containers'

'That's right'

'It was announced that the C130 would evacuate anyone free of charge to Port Moresby'

'That's correct'

'You put your hand up and decided to take up the offer. Just after that you approached two guys at the airport, told them of your decision and mentioned that you had lost everything in the volcano, had no money and your total possessions were in a plastic bag you were holding'

'That's right, all I had was a couple of cans of corned beef'

'Those two guys were Roger Radford and myself - and we gave you all the money we had on us, which I think totalled about K50.00.'

'That's right, and who are you?'

'I'm Chris Read'

Well, you should have seen him, and from a small bum-bag tied around his waist he pulled out a shiny K1.00 coin and said:

'This is my lucky coin that I have kept since that day'.

And we shared a few more beers. ■

LET'S FORM A COMMITTEE by Denis Compston

For a number of years I was the manager of Potsdam Plantation, half way between Madang and Wewak. One of the biggest problems on the plantation was wild pigs. These pigs used to roam the plantation at night eating young cocoa trees, breaking open coconuts and enjoying a midnight snack in my bois' gardens.

Word went around the local villages that my labour line and I were fed-up with the pigs. I also had two of my bois gored in daylight by a pig – the injury is not a nice sight.

One day about 15 village elders came to see me. The discussion? Wild pigs! Their gardens were being ruined and there was concern someone would be badly hurt.

The local villages were a friendly lot and many worked for me. They recalled a past manager who had the same problem and organised that all the local villages: man, woman and children, surround the hundreds of acres of kunai grass in the neighbouring hills. At a given word they would make as much noise as possible and slowly close in. Men would surround the tracks coming out of the kunai and the cull would start.

For some reason a lot of responsibility fell on me. I kept thinking how dangerous this could be, but finally agreed, insisting that a lot of planning was to go into it.

'Let's form a committee and have regular *tok-toks* over the weeks ahead until the hunt or cull comes together.' All the local villages and my labour line could not wait for the big day. We had to work out a time, organise villages, find the outlets in the kunai where the pigs came out, organise how the culled pigs would be shared out, and how the young pigs were to be caught and domesticated. The list went on... Our committee all agreed on everything – there was no argument on any plan.

The big day came. I had a large first aid kit and my Jeep at the ready to take anyone injured to Bogia Hospital. You could feel the excitement. At mid-day I let off two shots with my shotgun as the start. The noise coming from the hills sounded like a huge SingSing. The day went so well and no-one was injured.

80 large pigs were culled and about 40 young pigs were caught. The dead pigs were loaded onto my old WWII Chev truck and taken to different villages. That night there was a massive singsing, with my bois joining in. This prompted a great friendship in the district.

A few days later 'The Committee' came to thank me for my support and could not wait to repeat it. No doubt a few pigs had escaped... And, yes...I had roast pork. A little different, strong in flavour and dark in the flesh but tasty!

The Fryer Library at the University of Queensland collects archival material on PNG (photographs, documents, maps and patrol reports). Dr Peter Cahill coordinates this – phone: 07-3371 4794 and email: p.cahill@uqconnect.net

PAPUA NEW GUINEA PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION

BRIEF ON WHO WE ARE

By Ilaita Gigimat

Tony Tore and I are members of the Papua New Guinea Pipe Band Association which is legally registered with IPA.

The objective of the association is to promote the performance of pipe band music in the country by way of encouraging young and old people alike to try to learn how to play this instrument as well as to encourage groups to form their own bands.



The PNG Pipe Band Association was officially launched by the Governor General Sir Paulias Matane at Parliament House on April 25 2007. The Patron of the Association is none other than Dame Carol Kidu.

The core members of the association are ex-members of the Pacific Islands Regiment Regimental Pipes and Drums of old. The reason these members have become involved is because of their years of experience. This contributes to the growth and development of the association. At the same time they can assist with tuition to interested new members who want to learn to play either pipes or drums.

The Scottish Pipes and Drums have an interesting history in PNG which has not been fully documented. Very briefly, pipe band music was introduced to PNG via the Australian Regular Army after the WWII.

The Regimental Pipes and Drums were founded in December 1952 by Pipe Major L. MacLennan MBE from Perth, Australia. In 1965, the PIR Pipes and Drums were divided into two regimental bands, one based at Taurama Barracks near Port Moresby and the other at Moem Barracks near Wewak. The bands have toured to Australia on many occasions.

Today, sad to say, the Regimental Pipes and Drums have lost all its glory days of the 60s, 70s and 80s. The regimental bands no longer exist to maintain the military traditions which Papua New Guinea had adopted from the colonial administration. Hopefully, this military tradition can be revived in the not too distant future.

Meanwhile, the Papua New Guinea Pipe Band Association will do its best to fill in the missing link and by doing so will hopefully echo a positive message to the Papua New Guinea Defence Force Authorities to seriously think about reviving a military tradition of the Force, which is the Regimental Pipes and Drums.

If you have any information that would help Ilaita document the history of pipe band music in PNG could you please forward this to him at:

PO Box 1850 Boroko NCD – Email: igigimat@iccc.gov.pg

With thanks to Dr Jon Ritchie for sending this to us.

▪

HELP WANTED

► Dr Peter Cahill would appreciate help with the following please:

1. Could anyone loan me photos for copying of the **Ambulance Brigade/Auxiliary formed by Rabaul Chinese ca.1940** after being refused admission to Australian defence forces in Rabaul; also photos of the **postwar Chinatown situated on the pre-war W.R. Carpenter plantation known as 'Matupi Farm'**.
2. Would anyone have a copy of Thomas J.Denham's "**New Guinea Notebook?**"
3. Jim MacGregor Dawson is looking for any records relating to a **Woodlark Mining company 1895-1917**.
4. Valerie Thornton is looking for a photo of the **old European Hospital on Touaguba Hill, Port Moresby, ca.1946ish**.

If you can assist with any of these, please contact: Dr Peter Cahill Phone: 07-3371 4794 or Email: p.cahill@uqconnect.net

* * *

► **Does anybody remember the crash of the Junker VH-BUW in Wau and my father (Jack Thick) taking the aircraft from Wau to Goroka by road?** The plane crashed in Wau on 21st March, 1957. Dad and Paul Raasch took two weeks in September, 1957 to take it back to Goroka via Lae. Any information or anecdotes on this incident or the trip would be much appreciated. **Pat Sommerfeld** (nee Thick/Edgar), 44 Gordon Pde, MANLY QLD 4179 E: noelpat@aanet.com.au



► **Charles Betteridge** attended this **special military funeral for seven (7) WWII airmen held at the Bomana War Cemetery near Port Moresby sometime in 1962.** The crashed WWII aircraft had only been discovered that year. Charles believes that all the personnel were Australians. Charles is asking if anyone knows the date of the military funeral or any other details about the aircraft which crashed. Please Email: charlesbetteridge@hotmail.com, phone (02) 66 282064, or write to: 7 Sunny Valley Place, Modanville, NSW, 2480.



Burial ceremony of
WWII airmen at
Bomana War
Cemetery 1962

► **Two sextants were recently found in Rabaul buried under the German tramway** which used to run from the original Rabaul wharf to the Governor's Residence on Namanula Hill. Both sextants were missing their telescopes, which had been unscrewed before burial indicating they were 'packed-up', possibly in 1914. A heart motif on one indicates they may not have been military issue. If anyone has any information on German sextants from this period, the Rabaul Historical Society would appreciate hearing from you. Please contact **Steve Saunders** at: Email: steve@global.net.pg or by mail to Steve at the Vulcanological Observatory, Rabaul.

► **Stan Carswell** is interested in copies of the tapes of **Insp. Mike Thomas' Pidgin lessons that were broadcast over 9PA** during the early morning breakfast session. If you can help Stan please contact him at: 25 Mazlin St, Edge Hill, QLD 4870. Ph: 07-4032 1495

BOOK NEWS

New Guinea Patrol by **Martin Kerr**, published as a CD-ROM by MaskiMedia, 2009, Ravenshoe, Queensland. ISBN 978-0-9804903-3-6 (CD-ROM). Price delivered within Australia \$28.

New Guinea Patrol, first published in 1973 by Robert Hale, London, and now revised and released in CD-ROM (PDF), promises all the excitement and frustration of a cadet's experience in PNG during the mid-1960s.

The CD also includes *Fragments of New Guinea – Reports & Narratives 1964* and a *Catalogue of Images 196*; 202 pages of copy-typed correspondence, patrol reports, journalistic articles, several short stories and research items; plus 323 images. To obtain *New Guinea Patrol* (CD-ROM) including *Fragments of New Guinea* send cheque or money order (\$28) to MaskiMedia, PO Box 757, Ravenshoe, Queensland 4888. ■

BRITISH NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA BOOKS WANTED TO BUY

Obsessive and compulsive collector wishes to purchase books, pamphlets and documents pertaining to British New Guinea and early Papua. Particularly interested in mission translations.

I am a genuine collector. Fair prices paid.

Contact - **Charlie Fletcher**

40 Franklin Rd, Doncaster East, Victoria, 3109.

Phone: 03 98421119

e-mail: blackadder007@dodo.com.au

REUNIONS

► **PNG get-together - BALLINA** RSL, Spinnakers Function Room, 1st Floor, 240 River Street, Ballina. **Sunday 6 September**, from 11.30am Cost: \$31.00/ 2 course lunch, tea and coffee. Drinks to be purchased individually. Lift access available. **RSVP:** 26 August to **Andrea Williams** Ph: 02-9449 4129/0409 031 889 24 Melaleuca Drive, St Ives NSW 2075 E: editor@pngaa.net

► **KIAP REUNION - Sunday, 8 November, 2009** for Kiaps, their families and friends. **Location:** Kawana Waters Hotel, Nicklin Way, Buddina, Sunshine Coast, Queensland (same venue as previous reunion), near Kawana Waters Shopping Centre, on the main road between Mooloolaba and Caloundra.

RSVP: 16 October 2009

The restaurant will be open from 11.30am. Informality will continue to be the order of the day. 'No speeches, everyone is too busy catching up with friends.' This format has proven the most popular so we will stick with it' say the organisers. Last time 262 were catered for. Information about accommodation in close proximity can be obtained by contacting the organisers, or viewing further information on the PNGAA Forum at: <http://pngaa.net/bb/viewtopic.php?t=217>.

We ask that you spread the word and pass on this invitation to those you feel would enjoy the day. There will be a small entrance fee to cover costs of mail etc.

Please ring, mail or email Denys/Helen or Bob/Heather confirming your intention to attend the reunion. Apologies will also be noted and recorded.

Denys/Helen Faithful, Ph: 07-54444484 E: denysfaithful@hotmail.com, 46 Tawarri Cres., Mooloolaba, QLD 4557

Bob/Heather Fayle, Ph. 07- 54447446 E: bobfayle@hotmail.com or 31 Moondarra Cres., Mooloolaba, QLD 4557

► **Lae-Markham Reunion 2009** - *Wanpela bikpela pati i kamap*.

Where: Broncos Leagues Club, Fulcher Road, Red Hill, Brisbane Qld, Ph: (07) 3858 9000, in the Auditorium. The venue is wheelchair-friendly, and there is plenty of parking on Sundays.

When: Sunday 4th October 2009 from 11 am - 6 pm. RSVP date 15 July 2009. Contact **Wendy Clarke** (nee Phillips) for your invitation.

Phone: (07) 3299 1290 (prefix 617 for overseas guests) Mobile: 0412 950 808

Email: wendyemc@optusnet.com.au

Admission Cost: \$35 per person includes substantial finger food. Drinks to be purchased individually. ■

PNGAA SA and PNGASA Gathering – Adelaide, Sunday 26 April

It seemed a good idea at the time but we – that is, Imelda Awine-Claridge, Elaine McNeill, Allan Jones, Peter Routley and I - really did not anticipate the impact and the friendships that would be renewed and created.

The *Welcome Gathering* held on a wet and wild, early winter's day at Thebarton in the inner western suburbs of Adelaide was a joint initiative of the PNGASA (PNG Association of South Australia) and PNGAA SA members. I will not even attempt to describe PNGAA, however PNGASA is a support group made up of Papua New Guineans living, visiting or studying in this state. Membership is open and over the years several PNGAA members have joined. The weather was appalling and should have ensured failure but the opposite occurred. About 50 attended with roughly equal numbers from each group.

The welcome speech by Imelda Awine-Claridge, President of PNGASA, who thanked us all for giving up part of our lives to help the people of Papua New Guinea was completely unexpected. It was a thank you, heavy with emotion and sincerity. Central to her comments was the vital role that education played in their own children's lives and in the future of PNG.

Supporting comments were provided by Peter Routley and Therese Kemelfield. Barry Craig alerted the gathering to the work being done with school children at the South Australian Museum by PNGASA member, Therese Kemelfield (from Bouganville). Also to the recent arrival of Dr Andrew Moutu (a Boiken from the Sepik coast) who has been appointed to a lectureship in Anthropology at the University of Adelaide.

Also included in the group was Daniel Leke from Pakau village, Kompam, in Enga province who is in the final year of his Doctor of Philosophy (Education – Research) at the University of Adelaide. Andrew Moutu received his PhD degree at Cambridge and has worked on exhibitions and lecturing there and in Ireland. Both Daniel and Andrew are proud graduates of the University of Papua New Guinea.

There was a common purpose. We were able to share memories of places and people or just sit and talk. It was Imelda who best summed up the afternoon: "Everyone mingled and networked, I thought that was fantastic. This is such a positive step for both our groups. Some people in PNGASA that did not come to this, got wind of what a fab event it was and have been inquiring about when the next one will be. Thanks so much to you for getting your people all together."

Jan Kleinig

The PNGAA collection can now be accessed through the **Fryer Library** home page, www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer. It appears as the 'Featured Collection', with a bright red heading, just a little further down the page from the 'Special Collections' information. The Collection may be consulted any time during Library opening hours. It is best to check the listing (on the internet) to identify which box/es you want to look at, then ask for these at the desk in the Fryer Library, or ring beforehand on 07-3365.6276.

DONATIONS TO THE PNGAA COLLECTION IN THE FRYER LIBRARY

Eric Ireland: photographs Malcolm Fraser, Andrew Peacock, Michael Somare, 1970s Ministerial Members; PNG Official Directory 1976; Chart: Structure of the PNG Government, 1977: Stencil “The Kokoda Trail (*sic*)” by R.I. Skinner, 1970; “The Kokoda Campaign” plus notes for walking the Track by A.A.Vanderkamp, ca. 1970; Maps: Port Moresby, n.d.; PNG 1988; dyeline map of Kokoda Trail (*sic*) from Kokoda to Owers Corner, n.d.; German Navy transparency Ninigo Group, 1913; Index of Australian Charts, Australia, northern portion 1973; PNG population densities 1970; notes for walkers on Myola Lake by Erik Linder; Atlas of Pilot Charts South Pacific & Indian Oceans, US Naval Oceanographic Office 1962; plus 190 Australian Topographic Maps in the series T601 & T683 Edition 1 of districts in Papua New Guinea. **Charles Betteridge*:** copious background material on the Second World War battles around Wewak including *Memories of the Second World War*, diagram of the attack on Wewak Point by the 2/4th Battalion 100545, photograph where Private Edward (Ted) Kenna won his Victoria Cross, an article on the aftermath of war; an extraordinary series of photos of Japanese armaments, artillery and wreckage of Betty bombers, Japanese motorcycle and sidecar (including a magnificent Harley Davidson (?Hog) liberated from Singapore), ammunition and bomb casings, anti-aircraft guns, army trucks, searchlights, entrance to Lt General Hatazo Adachi’s bunker on Wewak Hill (note: most of the armaments and equipment show weather exposure); *Return to Wewak* – record of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Japanese unconditional surrender September 1945, photographs of General Hatazo Adachi handing his sword to Australian Major General HCH Robertson; *A Pocket Guide to Papua New Guinea and the Solomons* prepared by the US Army 1944, and even an *Instruction Book (of) Driving and Maintenance for Trucks and Trailers!* Japanese occupation paper currency in Australian shilling equivalents. An eclectic and research-valuable collection of photographs and military ephemera. Also a copy of *When Nuns wore Soldiers’ Trousers* – how five Catholic nuns escaped the Japs by walking from the Sepik to Mt Hagen. **Marjorie Head:** CD of the memorial service for the Rev. Paul Parkin, first minister of the Boroko/Ela United Church, Port Moresby, 130776; *A Sacred Trust:* Resolutions of the (UN) General Assembly concerning PNG; *Progress in Copper* – pictorial story of Bougainville Copper Ltd ca.1973; Air Niugini *Paradise* magazine nos.1 July 1976, 22 March 1980, 73 March-April 1988. **Myra Kennedy Macey:** *Gemo: memories of a happy island in the sun* – story of leprosy and tuberculosis patients in PNG. **Chris Read:** updated (Rabaul) volcanoes CD containing Vol.1 volcano1994-1997, Vol.2 same with captions, Vol.3 1994-2008 all combined, Vol.4 volcano 2008, Vol.5 documentary – story of witnessed eruption/s. **Lucy (Hamilton) Reid** (courtesy Dr Pat Howell): CD group photos after delivering paper to the Royal Society, London; 1960s photos Port Moresby/Goroka/Kainantu; Eastern Highlands Kuru patients of Dr Carleton Gajdusek; **R.W. Blaikie:** scanned copies of kiap TPNG police warrant card, oath of office. **Pat Shea:** 1906 Samarai scenes: European men playing cricket, seven native men in finery (pig tusks, shells, beads), four members Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary, cottage among warehouses, street scene, footpath around Samarai, commemorative card for Soren Nelson lost at

sea 24th September 1907. **Peter Cahill***: copy of *Fred Archer, Man of the Islands* by Mary Archer Roberts (niece), privately published, 2006; photographs, General – Pacific Hotel, Rabaul, 1930, *matmat* on Queen Emma's Ralum plantation, steps to *Gunantambu* (her residence at Herbertshohe (Kokopo)), view of Salamaua 1933, S.S. *Mataram* at Peterhafen, Witu Islands ca.1922, Ralum Depot, Kuradui plantation house of Phebe and Richard Parkinson, coastal ships loading copra 1941, ox carts bringing mature coconuts for processing into copra, labourers cutting grass with sarifs. Photographs, Chinese – Chinese woman and child, unknown plantation, 1910, street scene Chinatown, Rabaul, 1930s, (following photos are Rabaul, 1930s) Miss Jessie May Jenkins, teacher, Methodist Overseas Mission, with two Chinese schoolgirls, (Methodist) Rev. Mo Pui Sam with Miss Jenkins and Chinese school children, Chinese family, Chinese/mixed race schoolboys and girls, Thomas Mow, head teacher, Mow leading school band with drums into Botanic Garden, Chinese boy and girl water-carriers; pork-seller's cart, Asian man selling ?sugar cane ?taro at roadside stall in Chinatown, Chinese returning home after 1937 eruption, Cosmopolitan and Pacific Hotels, Chinatown, first Kuomintang Hall about 1916, second Kuomintang Hall 1937 with archway to welcome Governor-General of Australia, St Teresa's Yang Ching School, first Overseas Chinese (Methodist Mission) school 1933, second Overseas Chinese school 1941, view from Namanula of Rabaul 1945, Dowsett Street, (now Ah Chee avenue) Matupi Farm Chinatown about 1946 showing squalid Chinese "temporary" accommodation, Chinese dragon, 1947; one 180x280cm photo of Treasury building, Rabaul, 1939, ditto of unidentified Treasury staff, Rabaul Harbour 1913 showing German cruisers including *Scharnhorst* at anchor, Government House, Rabaul, 1914, race meeting Rapindik pre-1942 with Australian servicemen; view of Chinatown 1937 showing Chee Joun Chee (Cosmopolitan) hotel ; one page of interior views of sparsely furnished former German-owned bungalow (furniture "liberated" by occupying Australians) (more photographs will be listed in subsequent issues of *Una Voce*). Incomplete sets of *Black & White – the Territory's Monthly Magazine*, and *Islands Newsbeat* 1968/1969/1970 postcard of Neu Lauenberg (Duke of York islands) views n.d. but obviously 1914; **Max Hayes**: colour sheet of Orders and Decorations of Papua New Guinea. **Karl Baumann** (courtesy Max Hayes): email attachment *The Biography of Bruno Mencke* (in German). **Don Fraser**: typescript of part 1 of *Don's Story* – experiences of an engineer in CRA's copper mine Bougainville late 1960s. **Henry and Diana (Coote) Martell**: photographs of Haus Rakaia, home of Burns Philp Manager Philip Coote and family, (former German staff quarters for Nord-deutsche Lloyd line) and guest house at Sulphur Creek, Rabaul, (subsequently used by Spensley family of Colyer Watson); the new Coote (post 1937) residence at Tavui Point, Rabaul.

*more in September *Una Voce*.

Donate to the PNGAA Collection in the Fryer Library of the University of Queensland via Dr Peter Cahill, 7 Wynyard Street, Indooroopilly, 4068.

Contact p.cahill@uqconnect.net or 07.3371.4794. Note that I will be overseas September/October. During this time please contact the Editor, *Una Voce*, if necessary.

ORO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT – An update

by John Kleinig

In April, a team of three teachers and a medical doctor visited and worked with schools and health centres throughout Oro Province.

It was also an opportunity to renew friendships from previous recent visits, establish new contacts and further concentrate on helping teachers to teach, empowering mothers to be the basic health providers and encouraging children to take a much greater interest in the village garden and agriculture in particular.

The aftermath of Cyclone Guba in November 2007 is still very real. Many of the large bridges on the main road from the provincial centre at Popondetta to Kokoda have been washed away and not replaced. Access across the major Kumusi River is limited to one person at a time in a motor vehicle tyre tube, towed by rope across the river for a fee of K20 one way. The lowland areas suffer from inadequate supplies of fresh water and there is evidence of the dislocation caused by the loss of complete villages.

The Australian Government emergency aid response to the cyclone was comprehensive and lasted for a fortnight. Various internal rebuilding agencies were established but progress has been agonisingly slow and further initiatives appear uncertain.

Despite the setbacks and the serious lack of basic services, there was nevertheless, amongst those that we met, a determination and optimism to overcome these and other problems. It became clear that they knew what they wanted to do, but they needed some help in getting there.

The schools are very basic and education as we know it, is erratic and in some places bizarre; at Eroro primary school the children had not been to school for eighteen months. The team spoke directly with the teachers, who were impressive and very enthusiastic but concerned about being able to effectively implement the new outcomes based curriculum.

Our teachers possess these skills, having endured the introduction of a new curriculum in NSW and are anxious to return and further assist the teachers in the schools, initially at Hohorita and Gona. The schools also lack curriculum related resources. All classes urgently require basic texts and school libraries are virtually non-existent. The project will be able to supply sufficient numbers of these resources to the teachers when a team revisits the province in October, thanks to the proceeds of the raffle supported by PNGAA members.

The concept of sustainability is a paramount test in determining the use of our limited funds. As we moved through the province there was too much evidence of well meaning assistance from elsewhere, that had failed to make a difference to the lives of the people.

The health situation is particularly serious. The hospitals and medical centres are only able to treat a limited number of patients because of the sparse facilities. Most people, who are sick, suffer at home, with the biggest threat being malaria and AIDS. Tuberculosis and typhoid are common. The maternal death rate is at unacceptably high levels with most births occurring at home.

However, it looks as though we may be able to make an immediate contribution. We are seeking to supply and facilitate the distribution of birth kits to 3,000 mothers in the province. We have also established a network across Oro which could distribute anti malaria nets. The use of these nets dramatically reduces malaria related deaths.

As well, the project plans to train teachers and Mothers Union members and supply materials to implement teeth cleaning and hand washing programs. To do this properly, sources of fresh, unpolluted water need to be identified. At the Gona school there is a need for two wells to be sunk.

The money raised by the PNGAA raffle will be invaluable in making impact on the lives of people in the nominated villages and beyond.

An excerpt from 'Flying With My Angel – surviving religion, sex and helicopters'

By © P. J. Latz 2009

Not long after returning to PNG, one afternoon I left my Chief Pilots desk in Mt Hagen to fly about a dozen troops and drop them adjacent to the border with Irian Jaya, in the area south of Vanimo, a rebel hot spot at the time. I was flying a twin engined, thirteen passenger Bell. Having positioned the lads in a jungle clearing, I took off with the Commander, an Indian colonel. He sat up front in the co-pilot's seat to scout the countryside with a view to deploying his troops.

I was flying fairly low and slow, with the border on his side when my passenger said, 'Phil, I think we should be turning right straight away. I see someone down there pointing is a rifle at us.'

Half a second later our belly was exposed to the gunman, quickly followed by our vanishing tail. Back at camp I landed and checked for bullet holes but didn't find any. If we had been shot at, no obvious damage ensued.

Late that day I flew back to Wewak by myself, having provisioned the troops. Earlier, large storms had crossed the Sepik Plains, leaving myriad pools of water dotted amongst the black, recently burnt grassland. Flying down the coast, I had the plains on my right and continuous towering, spark-ridden storm clouds out to sea on my left. It was not a time to venture offshore.

Gradually, the sun began to set, transforming the stark, bare countryside and forbidding weather over the sea. The pools of inland water became rubies set in black satin. Rainbows appeared, including a circular one just outside my windscreen. Storm clouds dressed themselves in ever changing red, pink, purple and violet hues for my pleasure. I was alone in a spectacular light show of huge dimensions. To my mind, these magical ever-changing sights cannot be truly captured by machines, fully described or reproduced in art; the scale is too grand. Human sentiment, 'soul' or 'spirit' is necessary to absorb and appreciate the spectacle.

I reluctantly returned to earth, thinking how fortunate I was to experience such wonders and beauty. The contrast between nature and man was hugely emphasized in that primitive, often cruel country where life could be so cheap.

Further details see www.phillatz.com

MYSTERY ON THE MANKO BY Captain Robert Scott

Bob Scott tells an interesting story about the Manko Maru, sitting in 120-ft in Simpson Harbour.'

'As Ian Short and I worked as buddies on all dives we often found ways of communicating with each other via talking through our mouthpieces. During an assessment dive on the Manko Maru, I lost a faithful diving knife and it was some hours later that I did a solo dive to locate the knife. Whilst swimming along the deck a voice called my name 'Bob' and I immediately swung around expecting my dive buddy to be alongside me. Of course he wasn't, and I was therefore a bit perturbed as I had heard my name clearly and distinctly. I swam on and into an open companionway which led into the interior of the superstructure. Inside it was very dark and gloomy so I swung the beam of my underwater torch around in an endeavour to familiarise myself with the interior.

'It was like being in a huge derelict hall as all the interior walls had rotted away and only electrical cables hung from the ceiling. I had to be careful not to disturb the sediment built up over thirty years otherwise I stood the chance of not finding a safe exit. I moved further on inside the vessel until I came upon a large square open hatchway with the remains of rotten stairs heading down to the next deck below. I went down into the gloom and shone my torch around – and got the shock of my life. There laid out in profusion but with some strange order were dozens of skeletons. After my initial recoil I sensed that something was quite unusual. I withdrew from the vessel, saddened by the thought of trapped sailors not getting on deck in time before the vessel sank.

'Skeletons on sunken ships in Rabaul were not unusual in those days, so I thought no more of it. We commenced preliminary work on removing the engine room components and I found that on this vessel and this vessel alone I would often hear my name called – just 'Bob' and nothing else. I mentioned this to Ian on several occasions and we often joked about it but I still found it disconcerting. Then one day, due to an ill placed underwater explosive charge, we ruptured a steam condenser unit and ended up with hundreds of brass tubes scattered like fiddlesticks all over the volcanic sand bottom. Retrieval procedure required that we lay out long wire slings on the bottom and hand place each and every tube across the slings ready for lifting. With both of us on each end we were placing tubes one upon another in a tedious effort when all suddenly, in the ship towering above us, the noise of a rusty steel door being opened stopped us dead in our work. Now let me divert a little. Ships under their own weight start to collapse after time and creek and groan and scream and bang as stresses are built up and released. It is nothing unusual for a diver to live with and sometimes to be scared of noises occurring, things falling, structures collapsing. What was different on this occasion was the noise of someone in steel boots walking along the deck, then opening and shutting another steel door. The same noises occurred again some five minutes later as the reverse of the doors opening and shutting and footsteps returning along the deck to another door opening and shutting put paid to the dive and we returned to the surface, Ian and I somewhat agitated.

'No more jokes about my name being called. We continued our work on the ship with no other strange events, and finally returned to the area where I had

found the skeletons. I then suddenly realised what had been so unusual about my first encounter with them – I had seen no skulls. Somewhat concerned, I removed a femur from one skeleton for medical examination by the Papuan Medical College in Port Moresby, and reported the find to the District Commissioner. The Medical College said that no country of origin (European or Japanese) could be given without a skull, and they asked if they could keep it for further study. To this I reluctantly agreed as it was my wish to return it to its rightful resting place. The District Commissioner passed on details of the number of skeletal remains within the ship to the War Graves Commission in Canberra.

‘So no more was thought of this until some six weeks later when a Roman Catholic priest called at my home and asked of the events of my discovery which had been passed on to him. The priest then told me of his capture by the Japanese when they invaded Rabaul and related a story that during his internment he witnessed the loading of over one hundred Australian prisoners-of-war onto the *Manko Maru* only hours prior to the bombing raid of US B-25s and the subsequent sinking of the small ship. Then he stunned me – he said there were no skulls down there. I was completely staggered. How did he know? He then told me that Japanese divers descended onto the wreck shortly after the sinking and beheaded the bodies. Shocked, I asked him why? He said, so they would never be identified. I found this very hard to believe. But two facts stuck out – there *were* no skulls down there, and the Papuan Medical College had stated that race of origin could not be conclusive without a skull.

‘Some months passed before I received a summons to see the District Commissioner. He told me of Canberra’s notification to the Japanese of remains on the *Manko Maru* and of their intention to send a diving team to Rabaul to remove all skeletons for retrieval back to Japan. When the District Commissioner heard my story he wired Canberra to tell the Japanese that the vessel had collapsed upon itself and no remains could now be removed. I then went out and on my last and final dive I blew in the superstructure and down-deck hatchways with high explosives so that all remains are sealed forever within the ship, be they Australian or Japanese. No-one has since called my name.

In 1993 a freighter dragged its anchor across the wreck of the *Manko Maru*, ripping out a section of the hull. Human bones were later recovered by divers – but no skulls.

* * *

As a postscript to this article I wish to add that on my very first descent to the bridge of the vessel, in the late 1960s, I found the remains of the helm (ships wheel) lying in the sediment along with the skeletal outline of the ships Captain. He was still dressed in uniform complete with binoculars and short Ceremonial Dress sword and tied to the ships wheel with short silk ropes. I can only remember him as a man of honour who wishes to stay with his ship and all within her.

Part of this article has previously been published in *Hostages to Freedom-The Fall of Rabaul* by Peter Stone, a highly acclaimed book and an outstandingly researched narrative about the invasion of Rabaul in January 1942 and the subsequent war years. It is available through Oceans Enterprises, 303 Commercial Road, Yarram, Vic 3971, Australia or [www: http://www.oceans.com.au/oehtf.html](http://www.oceans.com.au/oehtf.html)

With thanks to Captain Robert Scott for permission to publish. ■

SIR DANIEL LEAHY by Gordon Dick

I am grateful to Bob Curtis for his contribution on Sir Danny Leahy in the March 2009 *Una Voce* and feel I would like to add a little about Danny's life and status and the good works he achieved.

One might start from a trivial point in a life – the love of Rugby League. Danny's involvement in the game was passionate, and extended from his playing days (for Goroka, for New Guinea and for Papua New Guinea) to his years of supporting and developing the game, notably as PNG's President – in the only country in the world where Rugby League is acknowledged as the national game.

Danny started the hard way as Bob outlines. But as the Collins and Leahy success story unfolded the dynamism and unlimited ambitions reached into many fields. Some years ago I attended a meeting in Danny's office where Danny and a principal of Griffith-Salway (Accountants) measured off what they might bring to a joint timber enterprise. The size and scope of the Collins-and-Leahy-plus-Steamships businesses were breathtaking. Collins and Leahy were employing over 12000 Papua New Guineans in retail businesses alone. They had the second largest trucking fleet in the country, an airline with over thirty heavy lift helicopters plus some fixed wing aircraft, most of the coastal shipping fleet and key stevedoring operations. They also owned hotels and cattle and coffee interests.

The great story behind all this was the pro-Papua New Guinea nationalism which became a feature of Danny's life. Thirty years ago I doubt whether Meg Taylor and other outstanding Papua New Guineans would have viewed 'Collins and Leahy' with the goodwill they have come to. It was a frontier organisation in a rough and sometimes lawless world. It presented a tough, hard and impregnable face to the world and got on with making money and growing. Yet inside there was always integrity and fairness.

Danny Leahy's finest hour was in confronting the rioters – and there were thousands of them – pouring into Goroka in anger and bewilderment at the news of Iambaki Okuk's death. Almost certainly Goroka would have been destroyed that day. Danny's first move was to go to the District Office, but he got no help there. Staff were battenning down and many were leaving. Danny took a loud-hailer and drove as far as he could into the town centre. He climbed onto the roof of his Landcruiser, conscious of the target he offered and the fact that many in the mob were armed. He held forth in impassioned pidgin imploring the people not to throw away the gains they had made. He spoke of their coffee and small businesses, and how Okuk had supported them. He said that Goroka was not an Australian town – it belonged to the Eastern Highlands. He used his own life story as an example of starting in the fields planting coffee, and later working in a sawmill before going into business. The mood changed and sorrow replaced anger.

Although Danny's family remained based in Toowoomba his feelings for Papua New Guinea were very strong and he noted the changes and progress of the young nation. Once when he was returning from Hong Kong to Port Moresby he took a walk up to the flight deck and was surprised to find that all the crew were Papua New Guineans. He checked the cabin crew and they, too, were all indigenes. Danny was delighted. No wonder then that many of his Heavy Lift helicopters, deployed from Russia to New Zealand are piloted by Papua New Guineans.

PNG has lost an extraordinary man in Danny Leahy. We can only hope that the products of his life's work continue to contribute to its growth and prosperity. ■

The Katakatai Fermentary Incident

Maxwell R. Hayes

R.P.N.G.C.

Derek Bell's report concerning the murder of Jack Emanuel on 19 August 1971 and the trial of the accused (*Una Voce*, December 2008) reminded me of a previous occasion during the cocoa fermentary troubles on the Gazelle Peninsula during the late sixties and the early seventies during which the Mataungan Association (MA) formed in May 1969 by Oscar Tamur (died 1991) and John Kaputin sought to 'take over' several Chinese owned fermentaries.*

On the occasion which involved me I have referred to my personal diary for dates and recollections of the events as they unfolded in March 1971. For some months I was acting as the Chief Licensing Inspector and in early March was in Rabaul conducting applications for liquor licences at the Licensing Commission hearing and enjoying being back after nearly five years absence from this (then) lovely town.

Very early on Saturday morning 6th March I was awakened by a constable and told to report to the police station with my camera. Presumably my presence was required as a photographer, the other member at Rabaul with photographic experience, Inspector E. C. Miles, then being on leave.

With a large police party I left for the Katakatai fermentary at 4am arriving about an hour later to be joined with police riot squads from the Tomaringa Police Barracks. It was rather like a siege situation with police and native workers within the fermentary and a lot of angry Tolai Mataungan natives at the 'perimeter' threatening to take the fermentary by force. A terse situation remained for several hours, during which sling shots were fired and stones were thrown at police who retaliated with tear gas on several occasions. Around midday Oscar Tamur, one of the founders of the Mataungan Association, with a small group of other members made signs that they wanted to enter the fermentary. During the course of the morning's events I was continually taking photographs of the events as they unfolded.

The group of angry Mataungans was permitted to enter, after leaving any weapons outside the fermentary, and Oscar and the group confronted Jack Emanuel, the 'special duties' District Commissioner assigned to the East New Britain District. Oscar was '*bel hot tru*' (extremely angry and on the verge of being out of control). From a distance of some six feet, while taking photos, I saw Oscar with his right index finger physically jabbing Jack's nose as they faced each other. Oscar was ranting 'Jack, someone's going to get killed' over and over numerous times, with Jack saying 'Calm down Oscar, let's sort this matter out'. This very volatile situation continued for some 15 minutes or so during which Jack tried to calm Oscar down but met with no response. Oscar or one of the MA group may also have said 'Jack, you are going to be killed' but in Oscar's ranting and the general melee it was difficult to say. Eventually Oscar and his group of MA members left the fermentary and the remainder of the afternoon became a waiting game. Perhaps the MA felt that they had made their point with Jack and there was little action except for sporadic verbal threats. I was permitted to return to Rabaul about 6pm.

I was instructed to return to the fermentary at 6am on Sunday, the police riot squads, other officers and native police remaining at the fermentary overnight.

Sunday saw a completely different aspect as there was not a single Mataungan in sight so by 2.30pm I returned to Rabaul and processed the photographs in the police station dark room before returning to my duties with the Liquor Licensing Commission.

When I saw Jack at the fermentary it was the first time I had seen him in about four and a half years. He had lost some weight; his clothes seemed to hang loosely on him. He did not appear a well man to me, but was very pleased to see me again. He told me that he was not a happy man and was happy to confide in me how much he missed Alma, his wife who died on 18 June 1965. He had remarried before I saw him in 1971 and he discussed this with me. On a personal basis his first wife, Alma, and my late wife Betty, were nursing sisters together who gathered frequently at the New Britain Women's Club and we four all joined together for social events.



Jack, with Lord de Lisle, Governor General, and Ron Garrett (BP Plantations general manager?), QE2 Park, Rabaul 25.5.1964.

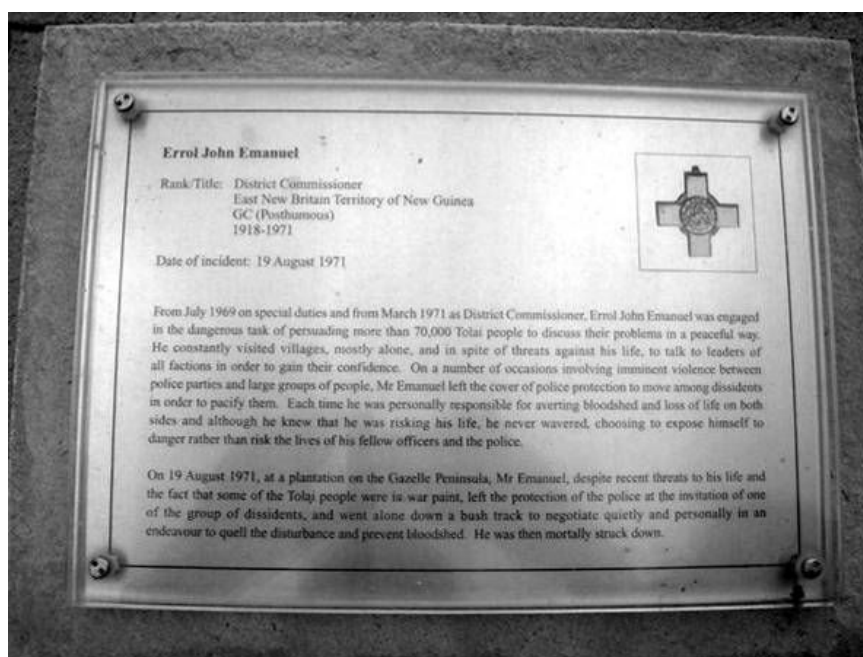
Photo: M Hayes

Jack, as a Deputy District Commissioner and later as a District Commissioner, enjoyed an especially good relationship with police which, due to strained relationships and rivalry existing between departmental heads and lesser ranks, was not always cordial.

Jack was born on 13 December 1918 and joined the Administration of TP& NG on 24 August 1946. Prior to going to the territory he had served, as far as I know, for around a year with the New South Wales Police Force, then joining the New South Wales Fire Brigade.

It is interesting to note in the records of the Rabaul European Cemetery the entry referring to Jack as 'Captain, ex-serviceman and District Commissioner'.

I have checked the Australian War Memorial nominal roll of those who served in World War II, but can find no entry for Errol John Emanuel. He was a particularly fine and highly principled dedicated member of the



George Cross Memorial, Blamey Cr, Campbell (Canberra)
Photo: Mike Cockburn

Administration and I am proud to have called him a friend. English authoress, Marion Hebblethwaite has published a complete 9 volume work on winners of the George Cross entitled 'One Step Further' and the events of August 1971 are recorded on five pages in volume 3. Jack also appears on a plaque in the names of George Cross winners in the George Cross Park, Blamey Crescent, Campbell, Canberra. As to the George Cross awarded posthumously, it is known that it was sold by his second wife in an English auction.

During the early 1960's, my late wife, Betty, was in charge of admissions and outpatients at the Nonga Base Hospital. On the many occasions on which I collected her after work, I often dialogued with William Taupa Tovarula her main clerk and the convicted principal offender in the murder. I often perused Taupa's personal responsibility, the very large admissions register entered by him in perfect copperplate writing. He also spoke and wrote some German and I suspect that he was older than the mid 40's age referred to by the trial judge. I am not aware as to why he was dismissed from the public service prior to subsequent events as I was not then in Rabaul.

* * *

*The history of the Tolai Cocoa Project (ably run by Ken Gorringe and George Dunn) which aimed to better the prices paid for cocoa beans to local Tolai cocoa producers, but in one small up front payment and a larger later payment when the forward cocoa price was declared, instead of one cash payment from non native owned fermentaries, is a matter which someone should write about. ■

THE TOYOTA SPORTS 800 by Charles Betteridge

Following my item in the last *Una Voce* about motor sports in Port Moresby and how my Toyota Sports 800 featured in some car club rallies and safaris I had a response from two previous owners of this very special car which was surprising and wonderful at the same time.

The two previous owners who contacted me were Robert and Misako Piper in Higgins in Canberra and Pat and Laurie Le Fevre of Croydon in Victoria. I am wondering if there are any other former owners of the Toyota Sports 800 amongst your *Una Voce* readers or who may know someone who once owned one. I would like to hear from them and they can contact me by email, charlesbetteridge@hotmail.com

or at my home phone number in Modanville in northern NSW at (02) 66 282064, or my postal address, 7 Sunny Valley Place, Modanville, NSW, 2480.

There were only about 25 of them sold in the period from 1966 to late 1969 in PNG. These special sports cars were never imported into Australia as they did not meet Australian Design Regulations (ADR).



Photo taken 14th April 1966 of me standing beside my 800 in Pascal Avenue, Badili, Port Moresby.

HOW AND WHEN NEW GUINEA WAS WON

By GPO HH Kemsley

These extracts were taken from the diary of Petty Officer Kemsley who was in Rabaul during the capture of the wireless station at Bitapaka and who took part in a search for AE1. In February 1915 he was awarded the Bronze Medallion and a Bar of the Royal Humane Society for saving lives at sea on two occasions. He served for 25 years with the RN and RAN. Thank you to Jim Kemsley for sending this in.

Aug. 1st 1914

- HMAS *Melbourne* arrived in Sydney 6.45 am. HMAS *Encounter* puts into Cockatoo Dock for engine repairs. Work all day unshipping yards etc.
- 2nd Very grave war rumours. *Encounter* leaves Dock for Farm Cove. Working all night, taking in War Stores. *Australia* coaling. HMAS *Melbourne* ditto.
- 3rd Coaling ship, shore labour; taking a long time. *Australia* and HMAS *Sydney* left for unknown destination.
- 4th Provisioning ship etc. Land all unnecessary gear. Turned in at 3pm.
- 5th Left Sydney at 5 am; start War routine at 12 noon.
- 6th At sea.
- 10th Sighted *Australia*, *Sydney* and Destroyers off New Guinea Coast. Proceeded single line ahead 10 miles apart.
- 11th 2 pm sighted SS *Westminster*. Held her up; finding she is a British ship allowed her to proceed.
- 12th Arrived off the coast of New Britain and New Ireland at 6am. German processions, Destroyer and *Sydney* went inside to destroy the Wireless Station whilst *Encounter* patrols outside with *Australia* and *Melbourne*. 10 am sight ship on the horizon. Thinking it a German Cruiser we cleared ship for action. All movable gear thrown overboard; we steamed full speed ahead to meet her only to find the British Merchantman, SS *Zambezi*. We sent a Boarding Party to search her. We find she is chartered to the Germans and is carrying a German spy with important dispatches for the Islands. He also has a complete set of wireless gear. Fetched him onboard as a prisoner; also take charge of the ship by putting a 'Prize Crew' on board to take her to Sydney.
- 13th Steaming with Destroyers.
- 14th Arrived off Rossel Island about 11am. *Melbourne* arrived with *Collier*. *Sydney* arrives at 3 pm and coals ship. We get orders to leave at full speed for Port Moresby but could not get outside the reef before dark, so could not go.
- 15th Departed 7 am.
- 16th Arrived Port Moresby at 1 pm. *Australia* inside coaling ship.
- 17th Coal ship;
- 18,19,20th Clean ship.
- 21st Leave at daybreak.
- 22nd At sea.
- 23 rd Arrived off Palm Island. About 9 am.
- 24th Troop Ship *Berrima* arrived.
- 31st Store Ship *Aorangi* arrived.

Sept. 2nd

- Two submarines arrive, AE 1 and AE 2. Left Palm Island with both vessels and submarines; head for Port Moresby.
- 3rd At sea.
- 4th Arrived Port Moresby with convoy.
- 5th Went alongside Troop Ship *Kanowna* to give her 40 tons of coal. 3 pm coal ship.
- 6th Clean ship.
- 7th We all left for unknown destination.
- 8th Stokers on SS *Kanowna* refuse to steam ship any further so she is sent back to Townsville.
- 9th Met *Australia* off Rossel Island. (I caught a shark.)
- 10th *Australia*, *Sydney* and Destroyers go on ahead leaving us to come on with the submarines and colliers.
- 11th Troops land from *Berrima* at Herbertshoe on Blanche Bay in the early hours of the morning to capture a Wireless Station that is inland. They found the place mined and armed natives shooting from coconut palms. The mines were found and destroyed. Our losses being two Officers and two men killed and eight wounded, but two have since died. The German losses are unknown. The Admiral asked the inhabitants to surrender or he would bombard.
- 12th No surrender. *Encounter* arrived and went up to Rabaul and anchored. *Berrima* leaves her first anchorage and came into Rabaul. She ties up alongside the pier. *Encounter* landed armed guard to watch the pier while *Berrima* ties up. The country looks very pretty and is well cultivated.
- 13th Coal ship. News came through from Herbertshoe that fighting was still going on. At 4 pm the British Flag was hoisted in Rabaul and all Officers ashore to witness the impressive ceremony. At about 6 pm about 400 troops boarded us from *Berrima* and we proceeded to Herbertshoe. Troops land from us about 8 pm. Everything seems quiet on the beach. Comdr. Beresford in charge of the Naval Brigade, reports that the enemy is entrenched about 4 miles inland, having been attacked and repulsed, Lieut. Spooner on the left wing in charge of Naval Patrols reported having the enemy under control and needs no assistance, but our two maxim guns and crews told off to be ready for landing.
- 14th 3am landed maxim guns in charge of Lieut. Seale. During early hours of the morning, the General in charge of the troops sent word to us of the exact position of the enemy's trenches and wishes us to bombard, as it was no use him advancing with his troops until the place was shelled. At 6.15 am we opened fire on the place with lyddite and common shells. 46 shells were fired sweeping a great area. 1 pm, no news of our firing or Landing Party yet received. *Sydney*, on hearing the firing came to us cleared for action and asked if we required assistance. 9 am the Landing Party returns on board with news from the General of our excellent firing, stating we had swept the trenches clear of the enemy, 10 pm leave again for Rabaul.
- 15th Left Rabaul at daybreak to look for submarine AE 1 which had not been seen since 3.30 pm on the 14th and was then on her way to Rabaul. Destroyers searched all night but couldn't find her. We steamed around the Islands (Duke of York Group), where she had been patrolling but could not track her at all. 12.30 pm we went back to Rabaul. The Destroyer Yarra

went aground and damaged her propellers. Our divers went down to fix her up. The French Warship *Montcalm* arrived. At 6 pm *Australia*, *Sydney* and *Melbourne* left for Sydney to convoy the Australian troops to England. We fixed up a small yacht with two 3 pounder guns to go up rivers etc. Rumours that AE 1 was sunk by the enemy.

16th No news of AE 1. Still searching. *Montcalm* coaling.

(94 years later the AE 1 still not found)

17th Large store found on the banks of a lagoon on the other side of the island, it was full of coal and stores for German Warships, also plenty of German beer. Left at 9 pm to search around island; strong rumour that German troops were landing from Fredrick Williams Haven.

18th Destroyers still searching the coast. Capture a small sailing boat with a crew of natives; they gave us information concerning a small German gun-boat; but did not put too much faith in them. (It was proved later the information was correct. After we had left Rabaul this gun-boat was very cleverly captured by Lieut. Jackson, who was then in command of a small former German boat named *Nusa*, on which our 3 pounder gun was mounted.) We went back to Rabaul, on the way we noticed a small boat on a reef so sent over our boat to see what it was. We found it had a gun-mounting on board, also a 2 inch empty cartridge. Strong belief that this was the boat that sunk AE.1. 6pm. *Australia* and *Sydney* recalled as enemy Cruisers reported to be in the Marshall Islands, about 200 miles from here. In harbour caught a 7 ft. shark.

22nd Left Rabaul with *Australia*, *Sydney* and *Berrima* for Fredrick Williams Haven in German New Guinea.

23rd At sea.

24th Arrived off Fredrick Williams Haven about 7am. Encounter hoists white flag, then proceeded to the entrance of the harbour; sent our steam-boat inside with Army Officers and an Interpreter with papers to show Acting German Governor that the German Governor had surrendered; hoisted the British Flag. Left again at 6 pm.

25th At sea.

26th Arrived at Rabaul 6 pm. Whilst we were away, Destroyers captured a small steamer hidden away up a creek with palm trees all round it.

27th Sunday. Coal ship.

Oct. 1st Left Rabaul to search for large German Cruisers.

2nd Received orders from Admiralty to return to Rabaul and await further orders as German ships were further south. Arrived 3 pm. And coaled

3rd *Australia*, *Sydney* and *Montcalm* left 11 pm for Fiji Islands.

4th *Encounter* with Destroyers and AE.2. leave with collier and store-ship for Fiji Islands. ■

The Montevideo Maru Foundation includes a section on the website about family histories. If you, or someone you know, lived and served in the New Britain/New Ireland region in WWII and was listed on the *Montevideo Maru*, please consider submitting a story and photograph of them to: www.montevideomaru.org ■

VARIETY IN A SLICE of LIFE by Lynore von der Borch

(Being an account of one day in the life of a house-wife at Wau, New Guinea)

Part One

“Whatever do you do all day?” is the question I have so frequently been asked since my return from New Guinea by those misguided individuals who seem to assume that women in the tropics have difficulty in filling in time! Furthermore, they conclude that life in Wau, because it is in New Guinea, necessarily implies intense heat, the amassing of great wealth, and limp forms reclining on cane lounges languidly waving fans and issuing peremptory orders to an efficient staff of native servants who would as soon put a knife in one’s back as comply with one’s requests!

In an endeavour to dispel at least some of these fantastic notions, I turned in desperation to my diary, and, having singled out one typical day, propose to describe it in some details, so that I may convey, from my own point of view the variety and interest in every day life at Wau, the centre of the Goldfields.

When it is fully realised that Wau and the adjacent goldfields had to “fly” lock, stock and barrel to their present situation, because of the formidable barrier of mountains that divides them from the coast, one can appreciate something of the colossal enterprise involved.

Wau, then, has appropriately been referred to as the town that “flew”. Its cranes, its derricks, its dredges, machinery of every kind, and in addition all that makes for comfort and convenience in modern communities, were transported in aeroplanes over the mountains and set down in their present picturesque surroundings – Wau itself being 3,500 feet above sea level, (at that time) and boasting probably the biggest freight aerodrome in the world. Edie Creek, where New Guinea Goldfields Ltd. are operating on the original reefs of gold, is more than twice that height and is connected with Wau by a narrow mountain road.

Impossible, then, to image that life in a town that had to “fly” before it was born could be anything but eventful and exciting, and I have certainly found it so. How could it be otherwise for one endowed with two characteristics essential to the enjoyment of such a life; ie an appreciation of the beauty of nature and a sense of humour!

But to proceed with my story. On a certain morning in March, 1936, I awoke as usual to the muffled hum of engines, and looked sleepily out through the bedroom doors to see which of the flock of ‘planes was astir so early. A thick blanket of mist, however, had blotted out the mountains and tucked itself snugly round the little town as though reluctant to admit the dawning of another day. Now there seemed to be two ‘planes speculating up there in the clouds, judging by the throb of the engines; both presumably had come in from the coast and were probing round noisily for a gap in the clouds that would reveal the aerodrome. The day before, the ‘Macdhui’ had arrived at Salamaua and there was much cargo to be transported.

I never failed to get a thrill of excitement out of the droning of these invisible planes in the early morning, and leapt out of bed to investigate further. Once on the verandah which faces the drome, I waited several minutes while the mist withdrew a little, and suddenly out of the filmy curtain of cloud shot a three-engined Ford ‘plane, which swooped down on to the drome and taxied up to Guinea Airways hangars and offices. Still more speculation on the part of the second plane – a fox-moth, before it too floated through the mist and took up a position behind the first, looking diminutive and fragile by comparison.

The mountain over which the 'planes had flown were now partially revealed in their purple splendour. The 'drome – an enormous green clearing lined by hangars, offices, work-shops and Pilots' houses – fell away in a gentle slope towards the thick timber closing in at its base. One or two planes crept out of these hangars, coughed and spluttered a little and droned off.

Wau was suddenly very much awake and apparently very much aware of the busy day that lay ahead! The boat was late. The stores and freezers were impatient for their cargo, there would be many passengers for Wau and there was a general atmosphere of bustle and unrest. Engines throbbed, coons in gay laplaps staggered about with cargo, drew 'planes from their haunts and stood by while the pilots started their engines which must be adequately warmed before the first morning flight. At signals from the pilots, blocks were withdrawn from the wheels of the undercarriages, and one by one the mechanical birds took the air, climbed high, and flew towards the so called 'Gap' in the mountains, which is the lowest part of the range, some fifteen miles from Wau, and a little less than half way to Salamaua. Wispy clouds hung suspended in blue valleys and the cool crisp air of morning coupled with the feeling of excitement inseparable from Mail Day filled me with a desire to be up and doing, but Vondy, who could never share my early morning enthusiasm for invisible planes, cloud-capped mountains and a prospect of mail, remained unmoved!

"It's not only the mail that excites me!" I argued, "But the prospect of new freezer cargo! Rump steak is becoming rather monotonous, and I am tired of thinking up new disguises for that uninspiring commodity. Besides, I've almost forgotten what an egg looks like, and it will be nice to have real butter again!"

The boat was already several days late, having run into monsoonal weather, and all freezer goods had dwindled accordingly, much to the chagrin of the house-wife. I fell to planning a small dinner party for that night to celebrate the fresh supplies of foodstuffs that were imminent, but resolved not to enlist Vondy's help in the matter till breakfast time, for he had already slipped back in to the land of dreams.

Calling to Korn, my 'Wash-Boy', I ordered him to 'Put 'im wash-wash!' and from an enclosure in the back premises I heard a muffled "Yessir!" followed by a splash of water and a clatter of cans as he filled two buckets from a copper of hot water he had in readiness. In due course he had padded into the bathroom, let down a large bucket with a shower-spray attached, filled it with hot water, hauled it up again, put towels and bath-mat in readiness and announced my bath!

Korn, skinny and rather sulky looking, looked strangely different this morning and I soon realised that I could ascribe the change in his appearance to the fact that his usually bleached mop of hair had taken on a decided bluish tint, and that his manner was more alert than usual; I recalled the fact that there was to be a Native 'singsing' that night and assumed Korn was eager to attend!

In the passage, I encountered Kamungi, Korn's wife and an important member of my staff who was busy arranging flowers. She had a bunch of pine stuck horizontally through a hole in her nose. These she had presumably picked up while sweeping the floors and had nonchalantly placed them temporarily in the convenient position mentioned, just as a clerk would place a pencil behind his ear! I made a mental note of the fact that afterwards I must whisk out some of those purple bougainvillea she was mingling with the scarlet hibiscus, for Kamungi's idea of colour schemes did not always coincide with my own! This fact was further borne out in the clothes she wore this morning, for her loose red tunic was worn over a gaudy yellow laplap that swathed the lower portion of her anatomy. I recalled that

she had begged me to make her a dress from the same material as the surgery curtains, a request which I had gently but firmly denied. Yet perhaps even that would have been preferable to these brilliant garments. Her tunic was obviously a recent purchase and would have been bought from one of the many Trade stores for tonight singsing.

Kamungi, thought an invaluable member of my staff, was paid nothing for her services, her husband drawing the customary 2/6 per week of which 1/3 only is given as 'hand money'. Kamungi also had a festive look about her and was tackling her jobs with a new vigour this morning. No doubt she would later ask permission to attend the singsing and I resolved in my present magnanimous mood to let her go early during the afternoon.

My shower over, I dressed hurriedly and went to visit Ramu, my cook-boy, in his sphere. Ramu had the big brown eyes of a faithful dog and a constant air of importance that invariably made me feel dubious about interfering in any way with the culinary processes, and that the 'house-cook' was his legitimate kingdom. His tight black curls were adorned this morning with a gay hibiscus flower and his initialed laplap was spotless white. His serious brown face was suddenly illuminated with genuine pleasure when I informed him that there would be a dinner party that night and he suspended operations on the stove to listen to my instructions. Here was his opportunity to display his prowess as 'cook-boy'! Let the other boys have the 'singsing' if they wished; he would prefer to cook for the master and 'missus'.

JUSTICE v THE LAW (or Everyone's a Winner) by Pat Dwyer

Sometime during 1962 I spotted a Karamui archer aiming at a chook. Good shot sir, right through the neck.

'O, sori. Kakaruk bilong Sergeant Anki.'

Donning my police hat: *'You're nicked.'*

Dissuaded the Sergeant from administering summary justice under Law 303 (the blunt end) *'Like me and Masta Bill Sili did during the war.'*

Magistrate's hat on. To trial. Accused pleaded not guilty. Court adjourned.

Friendly kiap's hat on: *'Why, my son?'*

'I don't want to go to gaol.'

'Most unlikely.' Plea changed to guilty and accused fined five bob plus five bob restitution for deceased chook.

'I have no money. I have never had money.'

Two options: inside for one week or cut grass on the airstrip for a few days. Second option taken. Archer given ten bob and signed for same with his X mark. 10 bob taken back in exchange for an official receipt. Five bob to revenue and five bob to Sergeant Anki. Sold one of my surplus laying hens to Anki for two shillings and sixpence, then handed that two and six to the archer for being such a good worker – he had cut quarter of the airstrip.

I know I should have disqualified myself from hearing the case seeing as I was the arresting officer, the judge, the jury and the only prosecution witness... and had another magistrate flown in at great expense. Then again, maybe I should have proceeded as I did and then lodged an appeal on behalf of the convicted one and waited until the Supreme Court overturned my decision.

Then again, what I did seemed like a good idea at the time.

Everyone was a winner.

KING KAM of KITAVA ©By Caroline L. CAMERON

Flying fish! Alongside the small open boat, these creatures that had captured my imagination as a child were skittering just above the surface for thirty metres or more before dropping back into the sparkling waters of the Solomon Sea. Excitedly I looked across the swell for the first sight of the island. We were nearing Kitava, the home of my grandfather's cousin, the legendary "King Kam", so-called because of his unconventional life on this obscure PNG island. Kam, or more appropriately Cam, was an enigmatic and rarely photographed man around whom a legend expanded during his lifetime. He died there in 1966, having gone to Papua around 1909. I wanted to uncover the facts of his life, as distinct from the legends.

Cam was born Cyril Barnevelt Cameron at *Bentley*, near the small village of Chudleigh in the farming district of Deloraine, in northern Tasmania, on 25 July 1885. The Camerons were a family of pastoralists, parliamentarians and soldiers. Cyril's great-grandfather, Dr. Donald Cameron, migrated from Scotland, arriving in Tasmania in 1821 and granted 1000 acres on the Nile River. Cyril's father, Donald Norman Cameron, the eldest of three sons, represented Tasmania in the first Federal House of Representatives, and was also a member of the Tasmanian Parliament for several terms. Donald's brother, Lt-Col Cyril St Clair Cameron, an outstanding soldier, was also a member of the first Federal Parliament. The third and youngest brother, Eustace, moved into *Mona Vale* at Ross in 1905. This grand sandstone mansion, completed in 1868, was known as 'The Calendar House' because it had seven outside doors, 12 chimneys, 52 rooms and 365 windows! The Duke of York, later King George VI following the abdication of Edward VIII, stayed at *Mona Vale* when he visited Tasmania in 1927.

Cam's father, Donald Norman Cameron, had a pugnacious reputation, and was inclined to mount law suits. One was over threepence exchange on a cheque. According to family legend, there was a terrible row between Cyril and his ill-tempered father during which an axe was flung. Whatever the truth, Cyril left Tasmania and never saw his father again.

In Papua, Cyril Cameron initially tried goldmining on Woodlark Island, east of Kitava. He started a plantation on Kitava around 1912, although it was a number of years before he embarked on the paperwork to officially secure it on a 99-year lease. Between 1916 and 1918, while waiting for the trees to come into production, Cameron was a patrol officer based at Lakekamu in the Gulf Province. The area was inhabited by the warrior tribe the Angu, also called the Kukukuku. Although the Angu averaged less than 1.5m (five feet) in height, they were hostile and murderous and were once regarded as the most feared people in the territories. In November 1916, Patrol Officer Cameron and his men were attacked. Stones were rolled on them when trapped on a narrow ledge. Later on the same patrol they were fired on by unseen bowmen. They were lucky to survive.

Nobody knows why he chose Kitava. It is the small easternmost island of the Trobriand group, about 30 km east of the largest island of the group, Kiriwina, and about 150 km west of Woodlark. Kitava is difficult to pinpoint on most maps as it's only about 7 km long and 5 km wide. The Trobriands were to gain their famous reputation as The Islands of Love through the published works of

the Polish anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski (1884-1942). His books, *Argonauts of the Western Pacific* (1922), *The Sexual Life of Savages* (1932) and *Coral Gardens and Their Magic* (1935) were the product of two trips he made to those islands between 1915 and 1918. Cameron wrote some notes directly into Malinowski's notebook soon after the latter arrived in Kiriwina in 1915. There is a photograph of the two standing together, showing Cameron as a very tall man, nearly 6 foot 3 inches in the old scale, with long legs and a very lean frame. He gave Malinowski one of that anthropologist's earliest accounts of the yam harvest festival, as well as anecdotes about Trobriand procreation beliefs and sexual behaviour. Malinowski never visited Kitava.



Bronislaw Malinowski and Cyril Cameron c1915-1918
Photo courtesy the Malinowski collection held at the London School of Economics. With thanks to the London School of Economics and Political Science for permission to publish.

Through Malinowski's writings, the sexual freedom permitted in Trobriand culture gained widespread publicity. The promiscuity of the pretty Trobriand girls with their radiant smiles, and the fact that Cameron was a single man living on a remote island, fuelled the myth that Cam had a harem. Cameron always strongly denied it. It

is certainly true that the girls would gather at his house. Ernie Evenett, who skippered a Burns Philp cargo boat, *M.V. Lakatoi*, became a friend of Cameron's, and wrote me a long letter describing what went on. [I'm keeping to his original spelling to preserve the flavour of his story]:

"About five p.m. there would be around 10 to fifteen young girls around 10 years to 13 all sitting around giggling and storeying to each other. Just before dark Cam would shoo them all out. Each was given a mintie and sent home. Then the older girls would come, arrive either dressed in calico skirts or grass skirts; around 10 of them. They were allowed to stay until late, around nine p.m. I would say goodnight and head off. He would tell me to pick two to keep me company for the night. They would take the hurricane lamp and escort me down to the beach. I would call for the whaleboat [there was no wharf]. The whaleboat would arrive, two crew paddeling. It was impossible to thank the girls and send them back. They would refuse to leave, saying the other girls would laugh and make fun of them. So the girls would come to the boat in the whaleboat. On deck they would look at me with grins on their teasing wanton lusterous promiscus faces. God's truth I turned my back on them. The crew quickly raced them off to the forecastle. At that stage I was newley married with two young daughters and in love with my wife living at home in Samarai. What a lovesick bloody idiot. I have kicked myself for forty five years."

The situation Evenett describes seems to be like the casual sex of groupies who hang around modern rock bands. Free love...call it what you like...rather than the formal arrangement of a harem of wives and concubines.

Cyril Cameron reputedly fathered three children, two boys and a girl, by three different women. The first, Tom Nevette, who was born in 1933, Cameron never acknowledged. According to Tom Nevette's son, Teddie, "The reason why Cyril never took my dad is because he never really married Gaewa (dad's mum). Gaewa was his housegirl but Cyril impregnated her and she gave birth to my dad. My dad was taken away to the village to live with the mother's parents and grew up, but he regularly visited his dad Cyril. Gaewa got married to a local man and both helped to raise my dad. Cyril never sent my dad to school or anywhere in terms of education but did only to Uncle Jack."

Tom Nevette's parentage can't now be verified because the colonial system of taking an annual census of villages, with a village book listing each family, ceased with PNG's independence in 1975. The village books were left in the villages and have long gone, disintegrating with mould and eaten by cockroaches. But Kitavans regarded Tom as Cameron's son, and Tom started using the Cameron surname.

The second child was a daughter named Norma. Her mother, Dowa, stole money from the store and Cameron told her to leave. But Cameron provided for Norma. She stayed at the house with him and later he sent her to school at Losuia, on Kiriwina. (Kitava's first elementary school was not founded until 1962.) Norma married and moved to Woodlark Island and later to Yanaba, a small and more remote island west of Woodlark. Although the islands are far apart, the Kula Ring connects them. This involves the ceremonial exchange between trading partners of red shell necklaces and white shell armlets. Recently a story surfaced that Cameron fathered a second daughter, somewhat romantically named Scodana (supposedly the Kilivilan derivation for 'Scotland'). Fortunately Scodana, who died in September 2008, had put the record straight. She was very clear about her parentage; Cameron was definitely not her father.

Cameron's third child, Jack, was born in 1936. According to Jack himself: "[Cyril] married Norma's mother first, then after she step down he married my mother, Kovararaki. Both were married in village ceremonies. Only mother had his bands (rings, one small gold ring and one large ring with her name engraved in)." Cameron sent Jack to Dogura, in Milne Bay Province on the mainland, to be educated at an Anglican mission school.

The fact that Cyril Cameron is still the subject of gossip reflects the notoriety he experienced in life. He lived on Kitava for over fifty years. He was the only white man there, and he did not encourage visitors. It seems to have been a quirk of the British to bestow royal titles on those who lived autocratic lives in isolated places of the Pacific. And the solitary existence of "King Kam of Kitava" (a title Cameron hated) fired the imagination of the press.

"A 77-year-old Australian adventurer is ruling as absolute monarch of a coral island full of the most bewitching women in the South Seas", began a story in Sydney's *Sunday Mirror* in 1965. "King of Paradise!" "Kitavan Belles find King Kam Irresistible" shouted other newspaper headlines. The stories were overtly sensational; some were unpleasantly salacious. Much was made of the grass-

skirted bare-breasted girls. Often the stories were merely vehicles for the paper to print photos of semi-naked women, whether Melanesian, Polynesian or Micronesian it didn't matter, as at times little attempt was made at authenticity. The stories were being rehashed long after Cameron's death. "Highland Chief ruled a Tropic Heaven" appeared in Sydney's afternoon *Sun* in 1982.

Fred Craig, whose grandfather was murdered along with his crew off Suvest by the men of Pana Tinani in 1886, was born in Samarai and lived there for over fifty years, said that Cameron was always a gentleman. He is adamant that although Cameron had "gone native" he was not, as some people think, ostracised by the Samarai community. Craig said that "in those days, everyone knew everyone and we were all friends." Although Cameron was "erratic" there were a lot more men like him living on their own with a native "wife" in the tropics. It was common practice amongst isolated traders and plantation owners.

Ernie Evenett, who knew him well, described Cameron's way of life. "I always tried to arrive Kitava late Friday and unload his cargo (trade store goods and his personal effects), load his copra, have Sunday there, dinner every night at Cam's house, leave early hours Monday morning. Afternoon around 5.30 he would send down two young girls to escort me to the house for a few drinks then dinner. Fresh fish, native vegetables, finish off with a variety of fruits. Cam had a personal servant. I think they called him Hidomo. Every afternoon he would make Cam's hot bath in a massive round tub. Cam would sit in it and Hidomo would scrub *Taubada* with a sea sponge and soap. I often sat in a kitchen chair and yarned with him while Hidomo scrubbed away. Hidomo was the only man allowed in the house."

Journalists seemed to dwell on the fact that Kitavan girls were allowed into the house but the men were not. The reason is very practical. Cameron kept a storeroom in his house and if the men had a chance, they would steal. However, most planters had padlocked storerooms with wire-meshed windows, located where an eye could be kept on them. Cameron's over-the-rail trading was idiosyncratic, as will be described.

Cam's house was a large Queenslander, built on cement posts two or three metres off the ground. There was plenty of veranda space for tropical living. The veranda had shutters that were propped open until the rain came, and then pulled shut. All that remains of the house now are the cement flights of steps which led up to the veranda front and back, and a derelict generator. After a respectful interval following Cameron's death, the islanders had dismantled the house and the timber and roofing iron were used to construct other buildings.

Continuing his account, Evenett explained that after leaving the house with the girls in the evening he would go back next morning for a cup of coffee. He would find Cameron busy unpacking the cargo he had just received. "Usually the whole island would have run out of everything," Evenett said. "All the men wanted was tobacco. There would be around a hundred men in the backyard below the veranda chanting 'Taubada, tobac- tobac', on and on. I saw Cam break a stick of twist tobacco in half and throw it down amongst them, looking at me with a mischievous grin while down below was complete and utter chaos. The winner would share the half stick of twist tobacco with as many as possible. There was no hard feeling amongst them. I think every man got a puff."

After sorting out his goods, Cameron would start trading. “He had a billy-can on a short string tied to a stick six or eight feet long,” Evenett said. “He would slack it down like a fishing rod. The customer would drop his money in the tin, look up at Cam and say ‘tobacco, Taubada’, or rice, sugar or whatever he wanted. Cam would hoist up the can, put the goods and the change inside and lower it down. This went on for hours. That was his method and everybody was happy.

“Every morning Cam would strap on his leg straps criss-cross from his feet to his knees. I never saw him leaving his house without them. They were like the British soldiers wore in World War I [that is, puttees]. He was always spotlessly clean and well dressed with his curved pipe in his mouth.” Evenett said Cameron habitually carried a knife of some sort tucked in his puttees, which he used to cut his trade twist tobacco into pieces small enough for his pipe.

Cameron had his critics. He was a product of his time and he has been called a colonialist and a racist. In his writing and conversation he used the term ‘nigger’. However, Michael Young, Malinowski’s biographer, says, “Nigger was certainly common usage then. Malinowski used it in his diary, and he and his wife-to-be, Elsie, use it in the shortened form (Niggs) in their letters. By today’s standards they were all racists, missionaries and government men alike – even Malinowski.”

Cameron is also accused of having exploited the workers and women. However, Evenett says that in Cameron’s backyard “there were about eight or ten houses where women lived. They were widows with children, abandoned wives with children, elderly women. Up to around 12 to 15 people in all. He fed the lot. In return they made copra for him.” Furthermore, in those days the village people had to pay head tax to the government, and on islands adjacent to Kitava if ‘taxable natives’ could not pay, they were arrested and taken to jail at Losuia, district headquarters. But it didn’t happen on Kitava. Evenett says, “If they could not pay their head tax, Cam would pay for them. In return they either paid him back by making copra or supplied him with yams which helped feed the families in his backyard.”

Island life was interrupted by World War Two. Cameron, along with other civilians, was evacuated from the Trobriands on 23 January 1942, the same day Rabaul fell to the Japanese. He reached Port Moresby via Samarai, and from there sailed to Australia. The Allies used Kiriwina as an airbase during the war. Kitava has a high central plateau, and in mid-1943 the Americans placed a radar station there to get early warning on low-flying enemy aircraft. Army spotters were stationed on the island for two years, taking full advantage of Cameron’s roomy house.

Soon after the war, Cameron now aged 60, returned to Kitava. One presumes there was nowhere else he wanted to be. From then on, he rarely left his island. About once a year he would go to Samarai to do his business with Burns Philp and the Bank of New South Wales. He made one brief trip to Sydney to have a hearing-aid fitted. But Craig said Cameron, though isolated, kept in touch with the outside world by two-way radio. He would be on it twice a day. Once he had concluded business transactions, he would discuss what was going on in Samarai and the world. As well as talking to skippers and other planters, Cameron had radio receivers that he tuned into world news broadcasts. He had a room on the back veranda which had at least ten or more radios. When one

broke down, he would buy a new one, never sending the broken one for repairs. Craig also says that Cameron was a great reader. Samarai had a public library, and books would circle from plantation to plantation.

One of the most intriguing stories about Cameron was that he owned an extremely old book, reputed to have been printed in 1670. Craig confirmed its existence, for once when he was staying on the island with Cameron he was shown it. Cameron told Craig that it was bound in human skin. How he came to be in possession of it is a mystery. It was kept in a safe of the Bank of New South Wales at Samarai in Cameron's last years. One source claimed that Cameron's will provided that it be given to the museum in Hobart, Tasmania, after his death. It has apparently disappeared.

The last time Cameron left Kitava was when he was admitted to hospital in Port Moresby just a couple of weeks before his death on 28 March 1966. Although an unhealed tropical ulcer troubled him, he died of a heart attack. Following his death, Myra Lumley, who was married to James Lumley, a member of the pioneering Lumley family who owned trade stores on Kiriwina, was concerned that nobody appeared to be arranging Cameron's funeral. Her husband was one of Cameron's few friends and would enjoy a conversation and a rum or two when visiting him. Myra phoned Burns Philp, who handled Cam's business, and they gave her the authority to organise things. A small aircraft was chartered to fly his body back to Kiriwina and then a government boat took him to Kitava. Jack Cameron, who was working in Port Moresby, accompanied his father home.

Myra Lumley says, "I found Cam to be a dignified old man and a gentleman at all times." Evenett said that the Kitavans respected and liked Cameron. For the more than thirty years Evenett interacted with them he never heard a bad word about Cameron. Evenett said: "His funeral was the biggest ever, the whole island attended all wailing and chanting his praise. Over two thousand. Man, what a sound! I have never heard anything like it before or since."

Cameron's grave is located up a steep path from the beach. He lies under a long concrete slab only a few yards from a cliff overlooking the blue sea and palm-covered Nuratu islet. On the headstone there is a plaque. On it are the names of eight people whose friendship he valued, including Myra Lumley and my grandmother, Cecilia Cameron. For years Cecilia received the weekly *Illustrated London News* which, when the household was finished with them, she would bundle up and mail to Cyril. My mother is convinced that Cecilia must have met and been charmed by Cyril, because of her reaction on the very rare occasion Cyril's name was mentioned. This is possible, as Cyril might have visited Tasmania when he was in Australia during the war. However, Cyril's contact with his family was virtually non-existent. Just once, from out of the blue, Ellen Cameron, daughter of Donald Keith Cameron, received a letter from her Uncle Cyril. Nobody knows what happened to Cyril's personal effects. Ellen's sister Sheila remembered that their father, Donald, who was widowed and living with Sheila, attempted to sort out his brother's affairs. She read the hostile letter he received from Burns Philp telling him to keep out of it. Donald Keith was old and in failing health, and didn't have the heart to persist. He died a year later.

Jack Cameron eventually received his father's spectacles, smoking pipe and walking stick, and Cyril's signet ring. Myra Lumley, who had made sure Cyril

had a decent burial, asked for the ring, and Jack gave it to her. Myra habitually wore it on her right hand and with her mother-in-law Amy Lumley's unpolished black opal ring, set in Bulolo gold, on her left. Amy Lumley, better known as 'Ma' Lumley, was a woman of renown in the Trobriands and highly-respected. Some years later, back in Australia, Myra's house was burgled. Her jewellery, including Cyril's signet ring, was stolen.

My journey to the Trobriands raised as many questions as it answered. Because of Cam's character and the speculation surrounding him, the stories presented the challenge of judging where the eccentricities ended and the nonsense began. There is confusion over simple things. For example, some writers said he was a Scottish Highlands chief, yet he and his father were both Tasmanian-born. Another story was that Cam was notorious "for making his rare appearances in Samarai clothed only in a burlap copra sack". This is a case of mistaken identity. Historian Hank Nelson agrees that Cam has been confused with 'Jumbo' Degan, who fossicked on the Misima goldfield. But mystery surrounds "the book" and what happened to it. And who was Miss Mary Macartney of Melbourne, between whom letters flowed for many years until his death, and whose name is on his headstone?

After Cameron's death, his Kitava lease was revoked, his plantation was bought by the PNG Administration and made available to Kitavans on a co-operative basis. It soon languished. In fact, little has changed on Kitava since Cameron's death. It remains a remote island only accessible by boat. Almost all the dwellings are built in traditional materials with palm frond roofs and woven pandanus walls. There are now elementary schools in the six villages, but many struggle to find the cash to pay the school fees. Most Kitavans continue to live as subsistence tropical gardeners, growing yams in their coral gardens. There is no running water or electricity. But the island is free of the plastic debris of modern western societies, and it is a clean and lovely place, where huge frangipanis fill the air and scarlet hibiscus grow wild.

"King Kam of Kitava" continues to fascinate. For he fits perfectly the role of the legendary colonial who for half a century ruled over a beautiful tropical, 'savage' island. I like to believe he had a happy life.

If anyone knew Cam or has any anecdotes, could you please contact the Editor or the author of the article, Louise Cameron at: Wild Horse Hill, Williams, Western Australia 6391. Many thanks. ■

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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PNGAA

HELD AT THE KILLARA GOLF CLUB, SYDNEY, ON 26 APRIL 2009

Meeting opened at 11.50 am

Members Present: 55 members

The Acting President, Pamela Foley, opened the meeting and welcomed members.

Apologies were received from Sister Valda Finlay, Bob and Jill Curtis, Neil Desailly

Special Resolution

The President read the special resolution which the meeting had been called to consider, that is: *To replace the document entitled Rules of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Inc. dated 1 December 2002 (the Old Rules), with the document entitled Rules of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia, Inc., dated 26 April 2009 (the New Rules)*

Voting

Ross Johnson, Treasurer and member of the Constitutional Review Sub-Committee, called on Dr Denis Chow and Mr Miles McKenna to act as independent returning officers. The counting of Proxy Votes and Postal Votes commenced.

While this was under way, Riley Warren, also a member of the Constitutional Review Sub-Committee, gave a detailed overview of the important changes proposed in the new Rules and the reasons why these changes had been recommended. In summing up, he explained that the changes to the Objects of the Association provided a more up-to-date and forward-looking set of Objects, and the changes to the Rules themselves provided a more efficient way of managing the Association.

Comments on the proposed New Rules were sought from the floor. One member suggested that a comma be inserted in item 2 (d) of the new Objects after the word 'Association', to read as follows: '... assistance to projects of benefit to Papua New Guinea as an Association, individually or in conjunction with other agencies;'

Agreed

Members made two suggestions for editorial improvements, which were taken on board.

There were no objections to voting on the resolution by a show of hands. (Note: voting was conducted in accordance with Rule 31 of the Old Rules which allows voting by a show of hands unless a poll is requested by the chairperson or by at least three members.)

The President then asked all those in favour of the special resolution to raise their hands - a large majority voted in favour, so she then asked those against to raise their hands - there were none voting against.

The President announced the overall result as follows:

Total Proxy Votes 183 of which 176 were in favour and 7 against

Total Floor Votes 55 - all in favour

Therefore of 238 'valid' votes, 231 were in favour and 7 against.

The President confirmed that the special resolution had been passed.

The President moved a vote of thanks to the returning officers and the meeting closed at 12.22 pm. This was followed by a buffet luncheon. ■

VALE – With deep regret we record the passing of the following members and friends

ROBERT STANLEY BELL (4 November 2008, aged 84 years)

Bob was born at Moore Park and he with his brothers and sisters grew up in the Eastern Suburbs and the St George District attending school at Sans Souci. His studies to qualify as an Accountant were interrupted by WWII when, at the age of 18, he joined the RAAF on Anzac Day 1942.

Following training as a pilot he saw service in New Guinea flying Beaufort Bombers in the Wewak area where he suffered a burst ear drum which had him repatriated to Concord Rehab Hospital for some six months receiving treatment. Bob was discharged from the Air Force in 1946 following which he decided a career in New Guinea would be far more satisfying than working as an accountant hemmed in by the four walls of an office. He attended No. 5 Short Course of ASOPA and subsequently took up a posting to Northern District and then to Kerema, Aitape and New Britain. A two year course at ASOPA followed in 1953-1954. During this latter period he met and married Barbara in Sydney in September 1954 and was posted to Tufi on return. Subsequent postings included, Kavieng, Namatanai, Erave, Wabag, Mt Hagen (where he supervised the building of the Showground), Manus Island, and Mendi.

At the time of Independence being granted Bob was DC of Enga District in the Western Highlands. In the early 1970s Bob brushed up on his flying and on qualifying bought a Cessna 172. Later he upgraded to a Cessna 182 as he was then serving in the Highlands and a larger engine was a wise provision. This also meant he could ferry the children back and forth from boarding school for vacation. Bob retired after 30 years in PNG, graduating from Patrol Officer to District Commissioner. Meadowbank became their home for 14 years and in 1991 they moved to Beecroft where Bob had many interests: gardening, renovating their home, the stock market and travelling (including cruises in the later years). Bob is survived by his wife Barbara, daughter Susan, sons Gordon and Allan and their respective families.

Barbara Bell

Anne Carlyle GARRETT, (February 6, 2009)

loved mother and mother-in-law of Tom and Kirsten, Simon, Jodie and Robert, Katie and Sean, loved grandie of Ben, Sally, Cameron, Jesse, Lucy, Ella, Tilla.

Loved great-grandmother of Lachlan and Kai.

Info from SMH

Kate MASON (20 January 2009, aged 91 years)

Passed away at Schongau, Germany. Her late husband Frank died 14 years ago and she missed him greatly. Frank worked for the Department of Education and was posted to various locations in PNG. Upon retirement they moved to live in Germany.

Joe Nitsche

John McKENZIE (14 May 2009)

Passed away in Scotland. Loved husband of Maymie and father of Susannah, David and John.

Jack HENDREN (20 March 2009)

Chris KRANS (16th September, 2008, aged 61 years)

Chris was born in Leiden, Holland on the 26th January, 1947, and came to Australia with his family when he was 3 years old. He grew up in rural Victoria and attended school and university obtaining a degree in Forestry, following in his Father's interests in horticulture and plant propagation. He also had a talent for music and languages and managed to glean a very useful knowledge of several.

Following his graduation from the Creswick Forestry College, Chris joined the Papua New Guinea Forest Department, and worked at the Bulolo Forestry Station from 1969 to 1974. At the end of 1974, Chris returned to Bulolo employed by Commonwealth New Guinea Timbers, returning to Australia in 1979. He gained a good knowledge of the local customs and practices, which led to his employment with Bunnings Forest Products in 1980, when they acquired the Vaimo sawmill in north-west Papua New Guinea. He moved to Perth to take up the position with Bunnings, and from there managed a number of projects both forestry and mining. In his working life he also acquired a practical legal, finance, engineering and weather knowledge.

Chris became an enthusiastic Hoo-Hoo international forestry and timber industry fellowship member and was president of the Perth club in 1988/89. He was seriously involved in various club schemes making timber toys for handicapped or disadvantaged children. The more recent projects included production of wooden toys and small furniture by club members of Santa's Workshop, but Chris also worked alone and produced a range and large quantities of small toys, jewellery boxes, and micro furniture for dolls houses. This occupied many hours of Chris's time when ill health forced his early retirement.

When he was very young he contracted polio, and while in New Guinea he had glandular fever. In the early 1990's he was advised that he had an enlarged heart, thought to be from a virus contracted in the tropics. This in turn caused other major health problems. He remained fiercely independent, surrounded by his art, thousands of books and music.

John Godlee

Hildegard (Hilde) Maria EDWARDS (nee HOERLER)

(18 November 2008 aged 75 years)

A rare beauty of noble descent (Swedish side), German, Polynesian and Tabar Island blood lines. Hilde was the second born of 10 children to Harry and Elsa Hoerler. The family survived internment by the Japanese at Ramale POW Camp, Kokopo area. Erich Joseph, Hilde's brother, did not survive. Hilde and Ernie were married for over 52 years and managed several properties: Mala Plantation (New Ireland), Mioko Trading Station Duke of York Islands, Stockholm Plantation in the Bainings area, Tokota Plantation Kokopo area, Langu Plantation in the Witu Islands off Talasea, Arawe Plantation on south coast of New Britain near Kandrian and lastly Manuan Plantation in the Duke of Yorks. We departed Rabaul for Brisbane on the second last trip of the Bulolo in 1967 and have resided in the Redcliffe/Deception Bay area ever since.

Hilde was the devoted and beloved wife of Ernie (eldest son of George Edwards), mother of Ernie jnr (deceased), Christopher (deceased), Errol and Lynette. Grandmother of 14 and Great Grandmother of 8.

Ernie Edwards

Ray CUPKA (21 February 2009, aged 65 years)

Ray went to PNG in 1967 where he was employed as a Traffic Officer with Ansett Mandated Airlines based in Wewak. Later he was transferred to Madang and then on to Brisbane with Ansett. On his retirement he moved to Cannonvale. Ray passed away in a Brisbane hospital after a battle with melanoma. He is survived by his wife Delia, his son Ben and his brother Des.

Norman Janke

David LOH O.L. (29th April 2009 – aged 66 years)

David Loh, long time *didiman* who died suddenly in Rabaul, had lived in PNG for a total of 46 years, almost 39 of these in the Keravat and Rabaul areas of East New Britain. He graduated from Gatton Agricultural College in 1962 and went to PNG in 1963. He worked in the Eastern and Southern Highlands, and in Popondetta, and in June 1970 he transferred to the Lowlands Agricultural Experiment Station (LAES) at Keravat. He was Officer-in-Charge of LAES for some years and organised the LAES 50th anniversary celebration. In 1989, he became a naturalised citizen and moved to Rabaul. He worked for the PNG Growers Association at Kokopo for many years. In 1992 he purchased the New Britain Lodge and had it operating just in time for the Lodge to be badly damaged in the 1994 volcanic eruption. David was active in many community organisations including the North Coast Sports Club at Keravat (which he ran), acting as a Councillor on the Rabaul Town Council and as a Board Member of the National Agricultural Research Institute. He was President of the East New Britain Chamber of Commerce and a committee member for the National Mask Festival, the Tourist Board and the Rabaul Market Trust. He was inducted as a Tolai 'dukduk' in 2004. He was made a 'Paul Harris Fellow' by Rotary International, was a recipient of the 25th PNG Anniversary Independence Medal in 2000 and was awarded the Order of Logohu by the PNG Governor General in 2007. The numerous prominent persons who gave testimonials at his funeral in Rabaul indicate the high regard in which he was held in the Rabaul area and by farmers in the region.

Susan Alexander (nee McGrade) and Mike Bourke

Margaret FERGUSON, formerly Wood (12th March 2009, aged 104 years)

Margaret travelled from New Zealand to Rabaul to marry Eric Percy Wood in December 1931. She and Eric lived on the north Baining coast of New Britain managing coconut plantations owned by W.R.Carpenter's; firstly at 'Neinduk', then 'Lilinakaia' before relieving at 'Nuguria' (Fead Islands) for Lew Carson. On returning to Rabaul Margaret and a friend, Jean Doyle, opened up the 'Coconut Tearooms' in Mango Avenue which operated until the time of the 1937 eruption. Margaret's six years in New Britain have been told in the self published book 'Coconuts and Tearooms' written by her daughter Pat Boys who was born in Rabaul in 1933.

Pat Boys

CG Adelaide SHANLEY (19 April 2009, aged 86 years)

Late of Balgowlah. Went to Rabaul in 1949 with her husband, Alexander (deceased) with the Department of Education. From 1964-1969 Adelaide was with the Overseas Telecommunications Commission, Port Moresby. The family left PNG in 1969.

Laurie STUBBS (14 April, 2009, age 77 years)

Died at home at Rosebank, NSW. Laurie arrived in Rabaul in 1956 working for Shell until 1963 when he was transferred to Melbourne. A lateral thinker and natural mechanic he first experimented with oil drying for cocoa and alternative ways to transport fuel. His interest in the islands continued and he eventually returned in 1986 sailing around the Solomons for 3 years.

He is survived by his daughters Elizabeth, Felicity and Virginia, seven grandchildren and his former wife Robin Moorhouse.

Arthur David PARKINSON 1935-2009

Always known as David rather than Arthur, his untimely death ends a life of service and dedication. He first came to Papua New Guinea in 1956 as a Medical Assistant or in the terminology of the time an EMA – European Medical Assistant. These young men and some not so young were the front line medical providers in much of PNG in those days. David did extensive medical patrols in the Sepik and the Highlands. He subsequently attended the University of Adelaide qualifying in Medicine and Surgery, and he returned to PNG working as a Medical Officer and eventually Assistant Director, Malaria Control. After leaving PNG in the late 1970s, he did post-graduate studies in the UK and afterwards worked for WHO in the Solomon Islands and Samoa. In Australia, he joined the army and worked in a Malaria Research Unit with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. For the last years of his life, he was in general practice in the Western Suburbs of Sydney. At his funeral service, Michael, his son, spoke of his father's humanity in a varied career of service to others. Over the years, David's contribution to the health of others has been immense. The people of PNG have particularly lost a true friend and benefactor.

David's first wife, Ruth, predeceased him and he is survived by their children, Michael, Fiona and Jamie. His wife, Vaiola and their children, Nathan, Ricky, Tanya, Corian and two grandchildren, Charley and Georgie survive him.

David Wall

Captain Charles FOSTER(24 December 2008, aged 94 years)

Charles went to PNG in 1955. For the first year or so he was relieving harbour masters in various ports before taking up the position of Harbour Master in Port Moresby in 1957. He was joined there by his wife, Catherine and children, Gillian and Graeme. He later became the Superintendent of Marine for PNG. He and his wife, Catherine, retired to Hobart in 1969. His son Graeme died in Brisbane in 1993 and his wife, Catherine, died in Hobart in 2003. He is survived by his daughter Gillian Foster (Hobart); granddaughters, Jacqueline Gates, Sian and Brie Foster and two great granddaughters, Ella and Taylor Gates.

Gillian Foster

John COLMAN (21 April 2009, aged 79 years)

Further details next issue.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mr Kevin BARTELS	PACOM PO Box 288, LAE MP, PNG,
Mr Barry BRINDLEY	82 Macquarie Street, CHIFLEY, NSW, 2036
Mrs M E CHANG	PO Box 400, WESTCOURT, QLD, 4870
Mr Geoff CHAPMAN	486 The Scenic Road, MACMASTERS BEACH, NSW, 2251
Mr C COADY	PO Box 2062, WELLINGTON POINT, QLD, 4160
Mr Bruce CRAWFORD	14 Bullard Street, GREENSLOPES, QLD, 4120
Mrs Gimanama CROWDY	61 Gwendolen Avenue, UMINA BEACH, NSW, 257
Mrs D CUPKA	38 Jones Road , CANNONVALE, QLD, 4802
Mr James DASH	49 Anyula Street, BORROLOOLA, NT, 0854
Mr W H DUTTON	PO Box 20, KIUNGA, W. P. 335, PNG
Mrs Barbara FRASER	6 Longview Crescent, O'HALLORAN HILL, SA, 5158
Mr J C W GORIN	228/2462 Albany Highway , GOSNELLS, WA, 6110
Mr Ilya GRIDNEFF	AAP PNG PO Box 211, PORT MORESBY NCDC, PNG
Ms Louise HOGG	PO Box 49, EUDLO, QLD, 4554
Mr G J JONES	16 Melba Street, ARMSTRONG BEACH, QLD, 4737
Mr Daniel LEKE	70 Lehunte Avenue, PROSPECT, SA, 5082
Mr G L LONGMORE	17 Lema Circuit, BRISBANE, QLD, 4112
Mr N G MCNAMARA	92/83 Whiteman Street, SOUTHBANK, VIC, 3006
Mr R G O'HARA	22 Sailors Gully Road, EAGLEHAWK, VIC, 3556
Ms Wendy PHILLIPS	69 Smith Road Woodridge, LOGAN, QLD, 4114
Mr J PICCLES	77/26 Kirketon Road, DARLINGHURST, NSW, 2010
Mr P RALFE	PO Box 1677, ALICE SPRINGS, NT, 0871
Mrs Gail ROWLAND (Nee Leabeater)	26 Charolaise Crescent, BENAWA WATERS, QLD, 4217
Mr K R STEBBINS	PO Box 682N , NORTH CAIRNS, QLD, 4870
Mr R E STENSHOLT	PO Box 226, ASHBURTON, VIC, 3146
Mr R WADE	Unit 1, 39-41 Kentwell Road, ALLAMBIE HEIGHTS, NSW, 2100
Mrs Pamela WARREN	PO Box 587, CAMDEN, NSW, 2520
Ms H WHITE-FARR	PO Box 133, PEMBERTON, WA, 6260
Mr L WILLIAMS	24 Melaleuca Drive, ST IVES, NSW, 2075
Mr K R YAXLEY	331/15 Albert Avenue, BROADBEACH, QLD, 4218

PLEASE NOTE

The Listing of Members that usually accompanies the June Una Voce will be deferred until the September 2009 edition and will include a listing of your new Management Committee

THE TREASURER'S CORNER

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If you want to renew your –

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2. Attend the AGM and “High Tea” on 28 June 2009, or
3. Purchase a copy (or copies) of the “Walk Into Paradise” DVD,

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NOTE: Method of Payment details are on the reverse side of this page

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I will attend the Annual General Meeting and will be accompanied by –

.....

		No.	Rate (\$)	Amount (\$)
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PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION OF
AUSTRALIA, Inc.

BALLOT PAPER

SIX Ordinary Members of the 2009-2010 Management Committee to be Elected

Notes:

- 1 Explanatory Notes accompanying this ballot-paper contain a short biographical summary of all candidates.
- 2 You may vote for up to six (6) Candidates. If more than six candidates are selected, your vote will be invalid.
- 3 You **MUST** complete the Member Identification Panel on the reverse of this Ballot-Paper. If not completed your Vote will not be counted.
- 4 Re-fold your completed Ballot-Paper so that the Member Identification Panel is uppermost before placing it in the Reply Paid envelope provided.
- 5 Only the Ballot-Paper should be placed in the Reply Paid envelope. Do **NOT** include any other material.
- 6 The Ballot Paper must be received by the Returning Officers by 5.00pm 26th June 2009
- 7 The outcome of the postal ballot will be determined by Independent Honorary Returning Officers appointed by the Management Committee.

Place a \checkmark or X in the box to vote for up to six ordinary members of the Management Committee.

☐

Juli **ALLCORN**

☐

Terry **CHAPMAN**

☐

Gimanama **CROWDY**

☐

Chris **DIERCKE**

☐

Dennis **DOYLE**

☐

Pamela **FOLEY**

☐

Les **HARVEY**

☐

Colin **HUGGINS**

☐

Margaret **KOMAREK**

☐

Jacky **LAWES**

☐

Bernard **OBERLEUTER**

☐

Deveni **TEMU**

☐

Sue **WARD**

☐

David **WEEDEN**

*You must be a financial member to be eligible to vote. If the Una Voce envelope containing your address label has a red dot, you are currently **NOT** a financial member and you should renew your membership immediately. If in doubt please check with our outgoing Treasurer, Ross Johnson, on (02) 9876 6178 or email admin@pngaa.net.*

BALLOT PAPER

MEMBER IDENTIFICATION PANEL

(These details are required in order to validate and register your Vote)

Name:

Address :

..... Post Code

Signature: Membership No. (if known).....



PAPUA NEW GUINEA ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, Inc.

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE POSTAL BALLOT

For the first time we are conducting a postal ballot of all members to determine the composition of our Management Committee for the next two year term: 2009 and 2010. This allows *all* our members to have a say and we urge you to do so.

Nominations are now finalized and we thank all nominees for putting their names forward and being prepared to make a commitment to the association.

There are no contested elections for any of the four office-bearers of the association and, therefore, according to our rules, these people will be declared elected at the AGM:

President elect: Riley Warren
Secretary elect: Marie Clifton-Bassett
Treasurer elect: Will Muskens
Editor elect: Andrea Williams

With 14 nominations for the six ordinary committee positions available, we will also be having our first contested election for these members. Biographical summaries for all nominees are enclosed - we urge you to read and consider them. If you feel inclined, please ring and speak with the nominees too.

With the revised constitution (New Rules) in place the Management will face the challenges of beginning its implementation. It is important that those accepting nomination for the Management Committee have a reasonable understanding of the job ahead. The new constitution will require additional time, skills, knowledge and commitment.

This task looks exciting - it is also important. The overwhelming acceptance of the constitutional changes means that the PNGAA can make a significant contribution to the Australia-PNG relationship.

We are fortunate that we now have many capable members willing to nominate for positions to lead your association. Please take the time to complete your postal vote and return it in the reply paid envelope enclosed for this purpose.

One ballot paper only is to be included in each envelope which must be received by the Secretary by 5pm on 26 June 2009. Two independent Returning Officers will oversee the ballot and the results will be announced at the AGM.

Riley WARREN

President elect

Camden NSW

Phone: 02-4648 4470

Email: rwarren@ozemail.com.au

Current committee member

Riley and his wife Pam first went to Papua New Guinea in 1972. Their two sons, Andrew and Christopher were born in Goroka and Port Moresby respectively.

Riley attended ASOPA in 1970/71 and was posted to Goroka in 1972. He worked for seven years for the PNG Education Department serving also in Kainantu, Port Moresby and Lae before joining Headquarters in Konedobu/Waigani.

Upon returning to Australia he worked in the Northern Territory before returning to PNG as Headmaster of Lae International High School at the beginning of 1985. Four years later he was appointed Headmaster of Macarthur Anglican School at Camden in Sydney, and only recently retired from that position after twenty years.

Riley has served on the various peak bodies connected with independent education including chairing the Heads of Independent Co Educational Schools of NSW. He has also been an active member of a number of committees within the Anglican Church.

In 2002, he was admitted as a Fellow of the Australian College of Education and in 2006 was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Riley Warren is currently a member of the Management Committee and took an active part in the recent review of PNGAA's Constitution.

Marie CLIFTON-BASSETT

Secretary elect

Castlecrag, NSW

Phone: 02-9958 3408

Email: mariecba@bigpond.net.au

Current committee member

Marie spent almost 20 years in PNG accompanying her husband in his various postings in both highland and coastal areas. Later, in Australia, she worked in the Secretariat at the Australia Council for the Arts. She was editor of *Una Voce* from mid-1996 to end 2003 and has been the Minutes Secretary since May 2007.

Will MUSKENS

Treasurer elect

Bardon, QLD

Phone: 07 3261 1300(W) 07 3369 6807(H) Mob. 0419 658 494

Email: muskens@gmail.com

Will spent his earlier years in the Netherlands and Indonesia before his family migrated to Australia. Will was then recruited by the Department of

Territories as Cadet Patrol Officer in 1958, beginning a 20 year career in Papua New Guinea.

He served in the Madang district for three years, had a short stint in the Morobe district after attending ASOPA in 1961, spent eighteen months in the Sepik District followed by seven years in East New Britain and four years in Goroka.

In 1966 he specialised in Local Government and was serving as Council Clerk in Goroka before returning to Australia in 1975.

After being involved in a family operated small business (newsagencies) in Caloundra he was recruited back to Papua New Guinea in 1988 by the Eastern Highlands Provincial Government as Town Manager for the newly formed Goroka Town Authority.

Will returned again to Queensland in 1992 where he owned and operated a newsagency in rural Kilcoy until 2001 when he moved to Brisbane. Since then he has been operating a TAFE bookshop on-campus at Brisbane North Institute of TAFE.

Outside of work, Will enjoys family, travel, music and film arts, early morning running and fun runs (10km and ½ marathons), and hacking an impossibly small white ball around St Lucia Gold Course. Still celebrating St Kilda's sole premiership in 1966, hopelessly outnumbered by Magpie supporters in the Kokopo Sports Club.

Andrea WILLIAMS (nee Coote)

Editor elect

St Ives NSW

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Current committee member

Andrea has been the publisher and editor of *Una Voce* since 2004. Greatly appreciating the support of members she expects that *Una Voce* will continue to be a valuable contribution to PNG's social history. She was a member of the team which recently concluded an extensive review of PNGAA's Constitution.

Andrea has a long family connection with PNG spanning four generations - her grandparents moved to PNG in 1918. Andrea's earlier years were spent in the Witu Islands, before moving to Rabaul. Her husband, Laurie, worked in PNG for over 20 years and two daughters were born whilst living there.

Several years were spent working in the airline industry in Sydney before returning to Rabaul and managing a travel agency. Andrea returned to Australia in 1988 after spending time in Lae and Pt Moresby. In 2005 Andrea walked the Kokoda Track and in 2008 she returned to Rabaul with Laurie for the PNG National Gamefishing Titles. She is currently also a member of the Montevideo Maru Memorial Committee.

Andrea has been involved with many community based activities concerned with education, sport and the environment and enjoys social occasions with family and friends.

NOMINEES FOR COMMITTEE

We thank the following members for putting their names forward.

Julianne Ross ALLCORN

Roseville NSW

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Current committee member

Juli was born in Rabaul and spent her early years there before going to boarding school. Her parents, Ross and Barbara Jennings, lived in Rabaul from 1953-1971. Juli attended art and ballet school during her tertiary years and was Principal of two ballet schools from 1985-1996. In this capacity she spent many years putting on concerts, entering students into Eisteddfods and other public performances. Juli is currently a practising artist and art teacher in Sydney, running Imagination and Creation Art Classes for adults and children. As an exhibiting artist Juli co-ordinates art exhibitions with successful Opening Nights. Juli also takes artists on location to a sheep station for art workshops set back in time to 1861. These workshops are inspired by her times as the Squatter's wife on the ABC reality television 'Outback House.' Juli has been involved in various community activities, including the position of Convenor, on the School P&C. She has organised and run many large school functions as well as fund-raising events.

Juli has enjoyed being an active member of the Social Committee which has organised the PNGAA lunches.

Terry CHAPMAN OAM FACEL TPTC DipEd DC (UPNG)

Forster, NSW

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Terry graduated from ASOPA in 1961 and then began a thirteen year career in education in PNG that took him from teaching at Konemaia and Rabe (Milne Bay), Port Moresby and Goroka to lecturer at the Port Moresby Teachers' College; National Education Board member; District Inspector (Tari) and District Superintendent (Mendi) in the Southern Highlands.

In Australia he had a stint (1975-1978) with the Commonwealth Department of Works and the Australian Schools Commission before being appointed CEO of the Association of Independent Schools (AIS). His 25 years with this non profit body involved him in negotiation with governments, public servants, unions and the media. Roles included industrial relations, professional development, copyright, child protection, dispute resolution and mediation. His work with school Boards of Directors and other 'not for profit' committees was a major focus

Terry has served on numerous committees and boards. Those that live strong in his memory include: The Review of NSW Schools (Carrick Committee), the Commonwealth's New Schools, and Planning and Finance Committees, COAG's Copyright Taskforce and the Winston Churchill Scholarship (Education) Committee.

Terry's memories of PNG include the many people from whom he learned a great deal. Ben O'Farrell, Des Clancy, Syd Neilson, Mal Miller, Joe Nombri, Soso of Goroka, Reuben Taureka, Albert Maori Kiki and Father Kilage and John Yamai are amongst the many who bring back enjoyable memories.

In retirement Terry and Anita enjoy family, travel, fishing, golf and voluntary work.

Gimanama CROWDY

Umina Beach NSW

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Gimanama came from the Central Province villages of Irupara (near Hula) and Paramana (Aroma). Her husband, Denis, is Australian but born in Port Moresby. Both Gima and Denis were working at the University of PNG when they met. Gima worked as a Budget officer in the Finance Department there. After eight years of working at UPNG, Gima left to do voluntary work with the PNG Sports Commission. When the family moved to Sydney in 2000 Gima initially worked in customer service but left work after motherhood. Gima has a five year old daughter.

Currently, Gima is the President of the Sydney – PNG Wantok Club and through its activities has met a lot of Papua New Guineans living here as citizens, residents, studying or with families. Gima would like to join the committee of PNGAA to help build strong and stable links between the two organisations.

Gima's other interest lies in sports – particularly in Netball. Gima represented PNG in netball in many Pacific competitions. She also travelled to Birmingham, UK for the World Netball Championships. After leaving PNG she played a season in Christchurch, New Zealand, before joining the NSW State League competition. Coaching responsibilities have increased and have resulted in Gima being selected as Head Coach of the PNG Under 21 team to the Cook Islands in August 2009 for the World Youth Netball Cup.

Chris DIERCKE M.Spec.Ed, BA Dip Ed, Dip Sch Admin, JP

Garden Suburb NSW

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Chris was born at Vunapope, East New Britain, as a fourth generation direct descendant of the Queen Emma clan and lived around the Gazelle Peninsula (Induna, Reiven, Takubar, Rapopo Plantations). His work included both plantation management and teaching in Papua New Guinea.

Settling permanently in Australia in 1972, Chris spent 39 years in education, thirty of which as a school principal in NSW. In his retirement Chris lives in Newcastle, travelling regularly to Sydney.

Chris is an innovator. He co-founded and co-managed an innovative adolescent psychiatric ICU; founded an annual public speaking competition for students; and initiated training programs for NSW Sport & Recreation. As a result of these major achievements he was a recipient of Australian Council of Education award. Chris is involved in canoe marathons, is experienced in

Chris Diercke (cont.)

management matters, and has a firm grasp of IT.

Chris' recent initiatives include assisting with the establishment of the Lark Force Wilderness Track near Rabaul; PNG representative for International Porters' Protection Group, which includes Kokoda porters and guides; guide for Aurora Expeditions and a member of the Montevideo Maru Memorial Committee. He regularly presents the "Lark Force" story to service clubs and interested groups.

Chris maintains an active interest and involvement in PNG and has returned there several times in the roles of consultant, historian and liaison.

Dennis DOYLE BEc (Syd), CPA, FAICD, FACS

Avalon, NSW

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E-mail: dennis@doyle.name

Dennis' family has lived in PNG from the early 1930s. Dennis lived in Papua and then the Kokopo area before settling in Sydney to attend university. His brother, Dick, is resident in the Witu Islands group, West New Britain. Dennis lived in the UK for a period, has travelled widely and has been elected to international committees.

Dennis has an economics degree (Sydney), is a Certified Public Accountant, has been elected a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Fellow of the Australian Computer Society as well as serving on various international committees.

He has been the chief executive of Young Achievement Australia, CEO of Doyle Technology, Logica Pty Ltd, PRC Australia and was the founder and CEO of Lawdan, one of Australia's earliest software companies.

Dennis has an extensive background in senior management, international relations, IT, strategic planning and business development. He has served on advisory groups for federal and NSW governments and also variously as president, chairman, secretary, treasurer and other roles with a number of clubs.

Dennis has extensive experience in leadership of significant organisations in the not for profit sector, an example of which is his current non-executive directorship of the Sydney Community Foundation.

Dennis has been involved in rugby, rowing and track as participant and coach. All now replaced by four grandchildren and a daily swim.

Pamela FOLEY

Willoughby, NSW

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Current committee member

Pamela was transferred from the Concord Military Hospital in Sydney to the military hospital in Rabaul in 1946. Six months later she was offered accommodation and employment upon discharge from the Army. She continued to work in Rabaul at Liaison Group until her marriage to Patrol

Officer Michael Foley. They transferred to Gasmata on the south coast of New Britain until that station was moved to Kandrian, where they lived for the next two years. Their next move was to Talasea on the North Coast of New Britain, for a full term and subsequently to Kainantu in the Eastern Highlands. This was followed by a term at Mount Hagen in the Western Highlands. During this time a new District was formed at Chimbu and Michael became the District Commissioner at Kundiawa. Pamela and Michael later moved back to Mount Hagen for another term after which her husband was appointed District Commissioner in Lae.

While in Port Moresby waiting for a house in Lae to be made available Pamela's husband became ill during a session of the House of Assembly, of which he was a Government Member. After a short period in hospital he was transferred to hospital in Brisbane. Their son accompanied him to Brisbane whilst Pamela went to Lae to re-pack the family's personal effects for shipment to Australia.

After 27 years in PNG Pamela returned to Australia in 1973 and has been a member of PNGAA since 1977. Pamela has been Deputy President since 1996 to the present day; Assistant Secretary from 1979 to 2001; and Secretary from 2002 to 2006. She became a Life Member of PNGAA on 1 May 2005.

Les HARVEY

Wahroonga

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Les trained at ASOPA in 1970 and 1971. He was first posted to Brandi High School in Wewak. He was transferred to Port Moresby High School within weeks to fill a Mathematics vacancy.

At Port Moresby High School he distinguished himself as an outstanding Mathematics teacher. He stayed nine years in this school, being promoted from Teacher to Subject Master, Senior Subject Master (Mathematics) and finally Senior Master.

He was actively involved in the Girl Guide and Boy Scout movement acting as Honorary National Treasurer and Honorary National Secretary respectively. He was an active committee member of the Port Moresby Agricultural, Industrial and Cultural Society, especially in the cultural arena.

Since returning to Australia Les has taught at Knox Grammar School. He has served on a number of Independent Schools' Sports and Social Committees where his organisation skills have been much appreciated.

Les and Margaret Harvey have attended several PNGAA functions and greatly appreciate the work that goes into making them such successes. Les would particularly like to be able to assist in the social and function responsibilities of the PNGAA.

Colin HUGGINS**Albion** QLD**Phone:** 07- 3357 1883**Email:** huggibear@ourbrisbane.com

Colin was born in Sydney and educated at St Josephs College, Hunters Hill. After attending ASOPA as a Cadet Education Officer in 1962/63, he was posted to the Morobe District for six years and taught at several schools being Head Teacher at Wau A School and also at Gagidu, Kambili and Pindiu.

Upon returning to Australia in 1969 he joined the family hotel business at West Wyalong in NSW which led him into a career in the hospitality industry. He also moved to Queensland working for the Brisbane City Council for a number of years and was part of their electronic records project team.

Colin has been involved in community activities, most notably Rotary where he has held positions as President, Chair of the District City Exchange Program, Member of District Youth Study Exchange Program and International Delegate for the district to New Orleans in 1976. Now retired he sees 'retirement' as an opportunity to continue and extend his social networking pursuits.

Margaret KOMAREK**Lane Cove** (Sydney)**Phone:** 02-9428 5025**Email:** mkomarek@gmail.com

Margaret is a librarian and a researcher and has been a member of the PNGAA for two years, joining the committee in 2008. She has a degree in geography and a diploma in librarianship and currently works for a health planner and an engineering consultancy. She would like to use her research and librarianship skills while serving on the committee.

Margaret worked in PNG from 1969 to 1970 with the Department of District Administration and was initially based in Port Moresby, later transferring to Goroka where she worked as a graduate clerk. Her duties included accompanying official visitors and attending meetings of the District Advisory Boards and Councils. She travelled widely while living in the Territory. Margaret also has some historical connections to PNG as her grandfather worked in the goldfields in the 1930s and her uncle helped conduct the first census in the 1940s. She is married with three children and lives in Lane Cove.

Jacky LAWES**Balmain, NSW****Phone:** 02-9818 1669**Email:** jackylawes@tpg.com.au

Jacky was elected as a general member to the PNGAA Committee in 2008 and supports the changes underway to expand the role of the PNGAA in regard to PNG-Australian civic relations. She has been a member of the fledgling PNG-Australia Relations Sub-committee.

Jacky's connection to PNG is through her personal history being a great-granddaughter of the missionary WG Lawes who, together with his wife Fanny Lawes, lived and worked among the Papuan people in the Port Moresby area from 1876-1905. In 2006 Jacky travelled by boat via Daru with the Captains Tony and James Collins on MV 'Sepura' well up into the Fly River. This trip gave her much insight into the varying living conditions of many of the PNG people and informed her how much they welcome and seek out ongoing relations and support from Australia. These connections form the basis of my seeking re-election to PNGAA Committee.

Jacky is keenly committed to issues of environmental protection and sustainability, social justice and international relations by virtue of her professional skills and experience in Social Work, Horticulture and Conservation & Land Management.

Bernard OBERLEUTER**Clifton Beach QLD****Phone:** 07-3268 6985 Mob: 4059 0015**Email:** warupi@gmail.com

Born in Lae, Bernard's secondary and tertiary education was in Australia and overseas before commencing employment with the Department of Posts & Telegraphs. There, he rose to the rank of Manager of the Lae Telegraph Office. Following a transfer to Port Moresby Bernard joined the Public Services Commission as a Special projects Officer. He was then seconded to the Papua New Guinea Sydney Office as Consul (Administration) Recruitment with responsibilities associated with the secondment of Australian Public Service personnel to the Papua New Guinea Public Service through the Australian Development Assistance Bureau (ADAB). Recalled to Waigani Bernard assumed the position of Senior Inspector, Overseas Recruitment and was responsible for the coordination of recruitment campaigns for all government departments as required. Later Bernard moved to Lae as Provincial Planner and Principal Advisor to the Premier of the Morobe Province.

Granted permanent resident status in Australia, Bernard moved to Cairns in the early 80's, pursuing a career in hospitality and catering. He has been involved with family businesses and five star Hotels/Resorts in Australia and abroad. Bernard's main interests in semi-retirement lie in helping aborigines in remote communities to improve their quality of life, in partnership with Queensland Health.

Deveni TEMU

Garran, ACT

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Deveni was born and raised in a PNG coastal fishing village about 220 kilometres east of Port Moresby. He is a qualified English teacher with a BEd from UPNG.

Deveni was a member of the first group of professionally qualified PNG librarians, having completed a postgraduate diploma at the University of Wales and a Master's degree from Monash University. After a three-year contract with Armidale CAE, Deveni became the first Papua New Guinean to be appointed University Librarian at Unitech in Lae.

In 1993, he took up the post of Chief Librarian of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community based in Nouméa. Moving to Canberra in 1999 he became Library Manager of the Charles Sturt University School of Theology. He is currently the ANU Pacific Librarian based in the Menzies Library. Deveni has built up many library and academic contacts in Australia and the Pacific region.

Deveni also speaks Aroma, Hula, Motu, Tok Pisin and Roro. He maintains a very close connection with PNG which enables him to keep up to date with what is happening in the country at village, regional and national levels.

He is passionate about PNG art and culture and is a member of the Living Art project planned for 2013, supported by the National Museum of Australia. Together with a group of like-minded Papua New Guineans, Deveni participates actively in promoting PNG culture through song and dance in Canberra.

Sue WARD MSM, BA (Ed), AFAHRI, JP

Church Point, NSW

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Sue Ward is an ASOPA graduate and had a 20-year career in PNG. She held placements at several schools, Rabaul Teachers' College, and UPNG, and served on the first board of the International Education Agency, together with several selection and review boards. As President of the PNG Teachers Association, Sue was instrumental in enabling the promotion of married women teachers.

In a career change since returning to Australia, Sue worked under contract with the Reserve Bank of Australia, during the period of that organisation's restructure. Since then she has undertaken consultancy work with banks in Australia, the Pacific and Asia, as well as presenting residential Management courses for graduate students from the PNG Bankers' College. Sue has also conducted governance training for Boards and businesses in various parts of PNG.

Sue is presently the Board Deputy Chair of Australian Business Volunteers, whose mission is *'to contribute to sustainable growth in developing countries through the transfer of knowledge and workplace skills using volunteer expertise'*. This organization has developed a very strong relationship with PNG through its many projects carried out there.

David WEEDEN

Evatt ACT

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David has recently retired from the full time work force and is keen to be involved in the Association. His direct involvement with PNG was over a 12 year period from 1961-73, initially in recruitment, then at ASOPA (followed by teaching at Kila Kila High School) before becoming Executive Officer to the PNG National Education Board.

After returning to Australia in 1973, he completed an economics and government degree and resumed work in the Commonwealth Public Service in Canberra from which he retired in 2006. More recently he has been working in a small family-owned plumbing business.

For most of his career in the Public Service, he specialised in reviewing and implementing major changes to existing programs and creating new programs (e.g. Adult Migrant Education, rural and national medical workforce, medical registration, National Blood Authority and better health access for Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders). At various times, he managed large funding and research programs and worked as a senior adviser to the Minister. He has received several awards for excellence in public administration.

His interests are primarily in the health, education and welfare areas, developing and implementing new ideas, networking and stakeholder consultation.



2009-2010

President elect: Riley Warren

Secretary elect: Marie Clifton-Bassett

Treasurer elect: Will Muskens

Editor elect: Andrea Williams

Committee Nominees:

Julianne Allcorn

Terry Chapman

Gimanama Crowdy

Chris Diercke

Dennis Doyle

Pamela Foley

Les Harvey

Colin Huggins

Margaret Komarek

Jacky Lawes

Bernard Oberleuter

Deveni Temu

Sue Ward

David Weeden

May – June 2009