



Una Voce News Letter

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

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

No. 2, 1993 - June

Dear Member,

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

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

This is done to enable members to lift out the Address List and file it separately, if they so desire.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Please note in your diary that the 1993 Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Mandarin Club on 5 December 1993. (For future reference, this function is always held on the first Sunday in December each year.)

CPI ADJUSTMENT TO SUPERANNUATION

The increase in the Consumer Price Index for the twelve months from 1 April 1992 to 31 March 1993 was 1.2%. This means that our superannuation pensions should increase by that percentage from the first pay period in July, i.e. 8 July 1993.

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

VISIT TO BLUE MOUNTAINS

The May trip to the Blue Mountains was most successful with 29 members participating.

Lunch at the Grandview Hotel was very pleasant and coffee and port afterwards at the Tomasettis topped off a most enjoyable day with Bill and Friedegard being excellent hosts.

It is hoped to make another trip to the mountains in October 93 and the date will be advised in the September 93 issue of the Newsletter.

A MEMBER THE RECIPIENT OF A LITERARY AWARD

Each year since 1987 the Queensland Ex-Service Literary, Art & Craft Association has produced an Anthology of winning entries in a competition conducted in the following categories: True War Stories; True Life Stories; Fiction Stories; and Poetry.

In the 1991 competition there were some 300 entries and H. E. (Lyn) Clark of Southport Queensland, one of our members, received 1st PRIZE in the category "True War Stories" with his contribution titled "Private William Cook". This story was included in the December 1992 issue of *Una Voce*.

Lyn, our heartiest congratulations on an excellent story, which must have entailed a great amount of time consuming research. We sincerely hope that we will be honoured to receive for inclusion in the Newsletter any story you produce in the future that would be of interest to our members.

My very sincere apology for not recording the above with your story in the December 92 Newsletter. I had intended to and only realised that I had not done so, when I recently had cause to refer again to that issue.

Kindest regards and best wishes, Ed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

I regret to advise that, as at 12 June, there was a large number of unfinancial members and a list of these appears later in the Newsletter under the heading of "LAPSED MEMBERSHIPS".

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

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

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

AGM MINUTES & BALANCE SHEET ETC

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

CONSTITUTION

Amended copies of our Constitution are now available and members desirous of obtaining a copy please contact the Secretary.

In future all new members will receive a copy when they join and copies will be available at the Christmas Luncheon.

MEMBERS GONE MISSING

The March 1993 Newsletters addressed to the following members were returned and it would be appreciated if any member knowing their current whereabouts would either contact the Secretary or ask the missing member to contact him:

Capt. G. W. O'Donoghue, 4/1 Wedd Street, CHELTENHAM, Vic. 3192.

Mr. R. Sterland, 38A Stanley Road, CAMP HILL, Qld, 4151.

Dr. D. Townsend, c/- Scott Furphy P.O.7083, ST KILDA RD PO, Vic, 3004

ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT RETIREES INC.

A new Association has been established in Australia for the specific purpose of serving the interest of self-funded retirees, being those who depend upon income from superannuation, invested savings etc. to cover a major part of their costs of living in retirement.

Titled the Association of Independent Retirees Inc., it already has branches in every state and membership exceeding 15,000. Membership is open to all Australian retired or semi-retired persons except those in receipt of a full, publicly-funded Age Pension.

The Association is non-party political and not a commercial or social organisation. The elected officers are all unpaid volunteers.

The initial objective is to secure for Australian self-funded retirees the income tax and other benefits the income tax and other benefits available to public-funded Age Pensioners. Interested persons can secure information by writing to:

The Secretary,
Association of Independent Retirees Inc.
PO Box 537
MOOLOOLABA QLD 4575

PENSIONER CONCESSIONS

Following a meeting of the Council of Australian Governments (previously called the Premiers Conference) the Commonwealth Government announced that the Council had agreed that from 1 April 1993, everyone who gets any age pension at all will be eligible for the full range of State/Territory fringe benefits.

In March 1993 all part age pensioners and equivalent Veterans Affairs pensioners should have been issued with a Pensioner Health Benefit Card. Any part age pensioner who did not get one should contact Social Security or Veterans' Affairs, whichever is appropriate.

That card makes all age pensioners eligible for the full range of Commonwealth benefits including reduced cost of medicines etc on doctors' prescriptions; free hearing aids together with a cheap arrangement for batteries and maintenance; telephone allowance; concessions on National Rail (i.e. the Commonwealth Railways); and some Australia Post discounts.

It will also provide some State/Territory Government discounts on such items as rates, electricity, car registration, drivers licence. As these vary from one State to another, it is advisable to consult the appropriate State/Territory Government authority. In some cases the discounts are not automatic but are subject to prior application.

NURSING HOME COSTS

The "statutory resident contribution" for residents in Nursing Homes has been increased to \$23.70 per day, or \$166.90 per week from 25 March 1993 for persons in receipt of pensions from the Department of Social Security and for other nursing home residents.

The new rate represents 87.5% of the total of the standard rate pension plus rent assistance.

Contributions for Department of Veterans' Affairs beneficiaries will increase to the same amount from 1 April 1993.

CLAIM YOUR PENSION

The figures published below were valid from 20 March 1993.

Age: Women must be aged 60 or over; men must be aged 65 or over.

Income: A single person must have income of less than \$720.60 per fortnight (18,735 per year); a married couple must have a combined income of less than \$1203.60 per fortnight (\$31,293 per year);

Assets: If you own your home, your other assets must be less than \$192,000 for a single person or less than \$291,500 combined for a married couple; if you do not own your home, those asset limits increase to \$272,500 for a single person and \$372,000 combined for a married couple.

If you passed all of those tests, you might be eligible for some age pension and should contact a Social Security office. The amounts involved can change as often as quarterly, so if you don't quite qualify at present, keep an eye on it. Even a few dollars of age pension can provide eligibility for a range of discounts and other benefits. Refer article on previous page.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

When comparing these figures with their own total incomes, members should keep in mind that the average weekly earnings figures are before tax. It is also useful to keep in mind that somewhere around two thirds of full time workers get less than the averaged weekly wages.

According to figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics relating to November 1992, the average weekly "ordinary time" earnings of adults in full time employment were \$586.80 (equivalent to an annual rate of \$30,514).

The separate averages for males and females were:

Males: \$623.90 (equivalent to \$32,443 p.a.)

Females: \$520.70 (equivalent to \$27,076 p.a.)

In the twelve months since November 1992:

- ▶ average earnings by males increased by 1.9% while females increased by 1.1%;
- ▶ average earnings in the public sector rose by 3.2% while the private sector rose by only 0.3%

HELP WANTED

"Randolph Stow was an assistant to Charles Julius, Government Anthropologist in 1959. Most of their patrols would seem to have been in the Trobriands Sub-District administered by the Assistant District Officer at Losuia. I have been told by PNG National Archives that the Patrol Reports for Losuia in 1959 are not held there, and as yet I have been unable to locate them elsewhere.. Any assistance in this regard would be much appreciated. However, I am also informed that the Government Anthropologist, instead of submitting patrol reports to the Assistant District Officer, generally submitted special reports directly to the Director of District Services and Native Affairs. These reports should cover visits to Omara-kana, Toboada, Marshall Bennetts, Iwa, Kitava and Vakuta and possibly other destinations also. In any case, I have not found any of these either, and again any advice would be welcome. Finally, I would be pleased to hear from anyone who remembers Mr Stow from 1959 - or who is able to comment on the historical background to his novel pertaining to that period, *Visitants*." Contact: Dr. Russell McDougall, Department of English and Communication Studies, University of New England, Armidale, NSW, 2351. Phone: 067 732 036, or Fax 067 732 623.

HAVE YOU HEARD???

Laurie LEFEVRE of Mawson, ACT, after a recent visit to Tassie wrote: "We couldn't make it to the AGM last weekend as we were still on leave (in Hobart), but in a sense I feel that we had our own meeting anyway! The number of former residents of PNG I run into (in Australia and overseas) never ceases to amaze me. In Canberra there is a demographic sub-group called BINGS. The acronym means 'been in New Guinea', and a large number of the local population qualifies for membership. Indeed, I would suggest that in terms of numbers of BINGS per square kilometre, the ACT probably has a greater population of former residents of PNG than any other state or territory. Helen McNeil from Adelaide recently described Canberra to me as "Australia's Konedobu", so the numbers of former PNG residents here shouldn't be a surprise at all!

Tasmania would have to be runner-up though, also having large numbers of BINGS per square kilometre. Among the several people I ran into this time was John Jansen (ex Police in the 60s and 70s), who has migrated south from Queensland to acquire a pub in Hobart. It is the Marquis of Hastings, at 209 Brisbane Street in Hobart. It is a hotel, motel and bistro, with a magnificent view of the harbour.

I can attest to the quality of John's hospitality, wine list, and food - the "chocolate indulgence" has to be experienced to be believed.

Other former residents in the burgeoning hospitality industry in Tasmania are Ric Giddings, who has colonial accommodation at Pontville, and David Fitzgibbon, who has the Derwent Bridge hotel.

See you soon. Roy Andrews was asking after you and sends his best wishes." (Roy Andrews, your good wishes are reciprocated. Ed.)

Bette McLAUGHLIN of Camberwell, Victoria, recently wrote: "I related to Bob Cole's story of Kay's trials and tribulations on arrival in the Territory in 1947, very closely. Conditions weren't that much improved when I arrived there in 1948 with a baby son, just at the crawling stage. We waited five weeks, from memory, in the Rabaul pub for transport to Bougainville and anyone who stayed there during that time will appreciate what that was like. The fact that the walls were literally paper-thin ensured that all the residents listened to the overnight broadcasts of the test cricket from England as well as other 'fun 'n games'. Eventually we boarded the M.V. Kokoka, a 300 tonner, which took the long way round to Kieta where we were to be stationed. A call at Torokina did little to dispel my fears about the lack of absolutely everything in this island of Buka. My memory of Torokina is a wasteland with half-dismantled buildings and miles 'n miles of arc mesh on the ground. Thank goodness for Kay Cole, who transformed the scene for me when we reached Buin. Her house was a haven and she was so warm and friendly to strangers. I don't think I realised that she had arrived so recently herself because her home was so well organised and she fitted so well into her environment. Buin itself was a pleasant contrast to previous ports of call and gave me hope for Kieta, which did prove to be a beautiful place to live. So thank you Kay and thank you Bob - that friendliness from you both did so much for me."

Bob TEBBLE of Redland Bay Qld, for many years at Police HQ in PNG recently wrote: "We moved to a new house overlooking part of Moreton Bay on 31 December 1992, and can say honestly that we awoke the following year! Maybe it is just coincidence - or maybe the PNG Constabulary is keeping an eye on us - whatever the reason our house at Daisy Hill was purchased by Glyn Johns (formerly of CID) and one of the adjoining blocks to our new abode is owned by Adam Hunter (formerly of Kila Kila Police Depot). I worked as a clerk in the Police Department for about four years so perhaps I acted suspiciously during that time."

(continued next page)

HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

We do appreciate the work performed by the Association's Committee and other voluntary helpers and it is comforting to know that the interests of members in superannuation benefits etc. is monitored by competent people. It is all too easy to fall victim to high-handed government cost-cutting action. My father served in the AIF in what is referred to as the Great War (1914-1918) and was among the ANZAC forces involved in the landing and fighting at Gallipoli. Subsequently, he served in France where he was wounded and gassed. For the remainder of his life he suffered from the effects of being gassed and was awarded a service pension (a small one I believe). He returned to England in the early 1920s and, as the Depression began to bite, the then Australian government revoked his pension (together with that of many other ex-service-men). Although his doctor strongly advised him to fight the decision, my father showed, I believe, the proud ANZAC spirit by ignoring the injustice despite its disadvantage to him."

Regards to Freddie who may think he has the fastest wheelchair in NSW but he'd better watch out if I ever come that way."

(Freddie accepts your challenge and sends his kind regards likewise Candy and I. Ed.)

Pam FOLEY reports hearing from Dawn LEVY (ex Port Moresby and Western Highlands). Dawn and daughter Gayle are on holiday in Ireland, driving themselves around and "having a ball".

A postcard from Florence COHEN indicates that she is thoroughly enjoying her travels in the United States. She will stay with Georgina Shand in New York before going on to Canada.

Peter FOLDI of Calwell ACT recently wrote to our President, Harry West, with news of his mother, Vera. Quoting from Peter's letter about Vera: "She had a fall and broke the neck of her left femur. The anaesthesia for the operation to pin the leg nearly killed her. It was touch and go for a time.Vera has now recovered from the operation and has regained physical health but unfortunately now suffers almost total memory loss for events of the last thirty or so years. She remembers June and I because we visit regularly....."

The doctor tells us that the *warfran* Vera was taking to thin her blood following a thrombosis in her leg at Gosford some time ago contributed to literally hundreds of small strokes that damaged the front of her brain thus affecting her memory.

In summary, Vera could be described as a "happy dementia". All her needs are looked after by a caring and overworked nursing staff and the family." (Since receiving the above, I have spoken to Peter and Vera is now in a nursing home in Canberra, where she is happy and well looked after. Anyone enquiring after her should contact Peter or June on Tel. 06 291 7034, or by writing to them at 61 Fidge Street, CALWELL ACT 2905. Ed.)

Elizabeth SOWERBY of Burleigh Heads Qld recently wrote and reported: "I enjoy reading *Una Voce*. I'm still in my own home and had my 89th Birthday in February. Have a lot of home help and see a few N.G. people, especially Bob Cole. Kay was a dear friend and I still miss her."

(Elizabeth, kindest regards from Candy and I and all your many friends here in Sydney. Ed.)

(continued next page)

HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

Sister MARYANGELA of the Holy Spirit Sisters at Goroka PNG, who is a very dear friend, wrote to us in April and the following are some quotes from her letter: "I do enjoy the Newsletter and it has been so full recently of the war years. Tomorrow, 18 April there is a big celebration in Port Moresby to commemorate the 50 anniversary of the massacre of so many PNG missionaries. We lost 50 sisters in all and the only survivor is a sister in Brisbane. She was unable to return to PNG. Our oldest survivor, Sr Arsenia, died in February aged 96 and over 60 years in PNG she never once returned to her home country, Germany. Maria Kramer of Alexishafen, whom you know, will receive one of the 14 commemoration medals. She was on the Dorish Maru and survived to raise with Henry ten children.

.....I am presently in Hagen still on my gypsy life but hopefully mid-May I will be finished here and after a spell once again in Alexishafen in June I hope to settle in Goroka and stay put there. Since my return in May last year I have really been a vagabond. Hagen is very much a kalibus town as all businesses are well fortified with heavy security bars. The former freedom of moving around at leisure has gone and that I find painful. However, in time I hope and pray that a more peaceful atmosphere will prevail. But when looking at the world at large and the conflicts I think we are relatively well off.

I must tell you how much I enjoyed your stolen article in the Newsletter Candy. I surely did have a good laugh and I shared this article with many who likewise enjoyed it as was certainly TRUE TO LIFE."

(Sister Maryangela, kindest regards and best wishes from Candy, Craig and I and all your very good friends down here. Ed.)

Francis X. RYAN of Dora Creek NSW in a letter recently commented: "On war stories, there are some excellent stories from Tolais, who were taken to Buna Gona during the war as forced carriers - their experiences, particularly in making their way home, through hostile country, after the Buna Gona campaign make real adventure stories."

Francis, I am sure you are right and I wonder if any of our members have any such stories that they would like to pass on to us. Great hearing from you, kindest regards and best wishes. Ed.

Jean CAREY of Wangaratta Vic in a brief note said: "I really enjoyed the reunion last year - but couldn't catch up with everyone.

Last month I went to a 2 day nurses reunion - saw friends I had not seen in 50 years, wonderful weekend. Such pleasures keep us "young" and happy." Nice hearing from you, Jean, our very best regards.

Lady Yvonne MANN of Mt. Eliza Vic recently reported: "I recently had a chain of 'happenings' - such as a car prang, house struck by lightning (fortunately it didn't burn), burst water pipes etc. Electricians, plumbers etc. hurtling around for days are not conducive to clear thinking!"

Yvonne, we sincerely hope that by the time you receive this everything will back to normal. Best wishes from all your friends up here.

Doug FRANKLIN, our Brisbane correspondent, commenting on the last issue of the Newsletter said: "The story of Cabbage touched us with a mixture of good laughs and almost tears. I think that one would have to have been in PNG and been on a patrol in a village to fully appreciate how small pigs follow their adopted guardians. In Chimbu small runt pigs like Cabbage are still nursed by a mother with her child on one breast and the orphan piglet on the other." How true, Doug, I have seen this myself on a number of occasions!

(continued next page)

HAVE YOU HEARD??? (continued)

June KAAD of Mosman NSW, by the time members read this, will be in the Mater Hospital, North Sydney, recuperating from a hip replacement operation.

June, we all wish that the op is an outstanding success and hope you have a very speedy recovery.

Reg Collins of Dalby Qld was also in hospital recently having a melanoma removed from his back leaving a 15" scar, which had to be stitched up a second time. He does not believe in doing things "in a small way" and Reg, we sincerely hope that you are now fighting fit again and the wound has properly healed.

Geoff BASKETT of Castle Hill NSW has suggested that we have the Annual Christmas Luncheon in the "Sizzler" style. He writes: "I think that a buffet style meal would give folk a better chance of mixing round and meeting more of their friends in the somewhat limited time....." (Geoff, we have tried this in the past, but the problem was finding a suitable venue readily accessible to members in all weathers plus the right caterer and it was not successful. Perhaps other members would like to comment. Ed.)

HELP WANTED

Les McMahon of Boroko PNG recently wrote to the Editor as follows:

"I do a bit of writing as a hobby and amongst other things I write a weekly satirical article for the *Post Courier*. Actually while I do it completely honorary I keep telling the editor that at least the bastards could invite me to their Xmas party.

Whilst my directors suffer the weekly ramblings they prefer that I do not use my own name in the Articles and they are written under the nom de plume of 'The Sardine Man'. (It is another story how I acquired this name in the early eighties).

Anyway the Articles have been going for a couple of years and have a very wide acceptance from both the Nationals and Expats. At one stage the Editor of the paper remarked that they get more mail about the Sardine than they do about the Prime Minister.

Because of repeated requests for copies of past articles and the numerous letters I receive I know that each Friday that Fax machines around the country work overtime as Expats in particular Fax copies of them overseas to their wantoks. I have enclosed a couple of the recent articles to give you an indication of the style and content.

PNG has been very good to me and my family and for some time I have felt that I would like to do something for some of the many underprivileged in the country, even if it is only in a small way. What I intend to do is to select 40 or 50 articles and get them printed in paperback as selection of the ramblings of the Sardine in PNG and the proceeds would go to a deserving local organisation, say something like Cheshire Homes.

To do it reasonably professionally I thought that they would have more appeal if they could be accompanied by relevant cartoons and it is in this regard that I am seeking your advice or assistance.

Amongst your many members would you have someone who does cartooning as a hobby and who would be interested in joining me in such a project. This would have to be on a voluntary basis because as I have said I would like to donate the proceeds to the needy in a country which has given me so much."

Anyone interested please contact Les McMahon, P.O. Box 2735, BOROKO.

PNG.

NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

Doug Franklin (Brisbane)

Ross Crilly, former Head Teacher at Korobosea International Primary School to 1984 and now on the staff of Somerset College, Mudgeeraba, Gold Coast hinterland, celebrated the big 50 birthday recently. A good crowd of former PNG residents were there including Jim Gemmell, ex kiap and Valuer General. Jim left PNG in 1978 after 25 years service. He has been on consultancy work overseas in the Philippines and Thailand recently. Others present were Chris and Terry McInerney, Taxation Dept; Chris and Bob Hilderbrand, PNG Motors; Marg Taylor, Inspector of Schools; Laurie and Marie Mills, Daikin Air Conditioning; Ken and Trish Parker, Southern Cross Machinery; Thea Wilson, Getaway Hotel, and John and Marie Coates, Kutubu Exploration. Ross' wife Liz, formerly teaching at Murray School Moresby, caused some merriment by telling a story about her husband perhaps common to many of us. He lost his car in a Gold Coast multi-story car park. The car was definitely not where he left it so he rang the police to report its theft. They came and took statements and description of the car etc. Ross phoned his wife and asked her to pick him up. Later, at home the phone rang summoning him back to the car park. "Is this not where you left your car??!!."

Jim Toner (Northern Territory & Vanuatu)

Since Independence not a few of the PNG expatriate family have gone looking for other islands. Michael Grey, wife Lee, and two sons recently landed in Sydney after nine years in Port Vila. An economist, initially he was with the Vanuatu Department of Agriculture and then its National Planning Office. He assures me that "Melanesian Way" is alive and well in the government of the old condominium. Mike went to Kundiawa as a cadet PO in 1960 sharing his recreational periods with such memorable junior kiaps as Jon Biltris and Patrick Virgil Dwyer. After gaining his degree at Melbourne he joined the Co-ops Registry for field work in Maprik, etc. followed by economic think-tankery at Waigani. His other islands have included Tonga and Java for pleasant sojourns under contract.

Wantoks to have passed through Port Vila include Dan van Claassen who was ADO Vanimo in 1972 but is now a specialist in remote sensing, and Bat Batho of Co-ops. Some who stayed for a time include Gerald (Jex) Nissen, a figure in PNG law circles, who became Public Solicitor before departing to grow roses commercially in South Queensland. David Schupp, a former DO (Lands) at Mt. Hagen, son-in-law to Mr T.W. Ellis, was an accountant with the Vanuatu Treasury in 1991.

A Darwin girl married an aircraft mechanic in 1984 and went off to PNG with him. Returning to her home last April as a member of the PNG softball team competing in the Arafura Games she told the local press that her Port Moresby house is inside a compound containing more than 100 Air New Guinea staff homes protected by barbed wire fences. She said "We've got security guards on 24 hours a day and we all have bars on our windows. If we go out it is normally in a big group for safety." However, she added that "nothing bad has ever happened to me in my nine years in PNG". May it be ever so.

Geoff Masters

In recent issue of American Legion mag. there is a story of their involvement in Buna - to read it you would swear blind they were the only ones there - but wait for it, they were not afraid of the Japs, no sir, it was

(continued next page)

NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS (continued)

THOSE FEROCIOUS LIONS, TIGERS AND MAN EATING CROCODILES, not to mention the BIGGEST SNAKES YOU EVER SAW. I could not resist writing back to the editor to tell him that perhaps the Americans were fighting elsewhere for there were no lions and tigers in PNG and that any self-respecting snake and croc would have been miles from any action.

Law and order in PNG appears to be completely out of control and it has now reached Milne Bay with piracy on the high seas, although we did not have a problem.

The problems in Oro Province are very bad - no reporters there to tell of it - police riot squad (200) in area whilst we were there, burning down villages. To me this does nothing, for the rascals scatter either prior to the raid or during and therefore live to carry out more criminal activities at a later stage - a very sorry state of affairs.

Lae is also bad - corruption within Provincial Government has probably caused some of this and one has to be on guard all the time, but once again I walked alone all around town and no problems, but others have been attacked and robbed. It's a pity to see all the beggars on the streets of Lae with signs saying 'deaf and dumb' or 'blind' with tin in front for money. Kids on street begging for a few toea.

Fred Cook is attempting to re-start the R.S.L. Club in Lae but I think its a waste of time. Locals would not be able to pay fees and besides not enough real interest in it. The old Lae airstrip is about to be carved up for housing, offices and supermarkets - had a look at plans which are impressive - at present the strip looks like it did in 1943, DC3 wrecks everywhere left over from PNGDF.

Last month in company with Brian Costello (ex Ansett PNG, Air NG and Compass) and Mick Scott (ex P.M.F., Tutt Bryant) we visited George Gough and spent a delightful four hours with him. It was nice to catch up with George again as he is a wonderful bloke.

The launch of the book "Snake Road" by author, Lance Taylor, took place at Highway Gallery at Mt. Waverley Vic. on 6 June 93. The launch was conducted by Tim Bowden of "Taim Bilong Masta" fame and amongst the guests were Roy and Dara Andrews, ex Alotau, Ross Mellor, ex Sogerit High, John Dench, ex Police, and others too numerous to mention.

I hope to be back on Bribie next month. R.S.L. Maroochydore is holding a special ANZAC Day PNG style and have invited Sir Cecil Abel along as guest of honour.

GOODENOUGH VETERANS REVISIT CAMPAIGN SCENES

Seven Australian World War II veterans made a trip down memory lane recently. They flew into Alotau on March 17 and began a boat trip next day to places they served at in the Milne Bay and Oro Provinces. The places they visited were Goodenough Island, Wanigela, Tufi, Oro Bay, Buna and Gona.

Before leaving on the trip the group presented a brass plaque to Bishop Desmond Moore of the Catholic Diocese of Milne Bay. The plaque commemorates the efforts of the Australian troops of Milne Force, like the 2/12 Battalion, that chased the Japanese out of Milne Bay onto Goodenough Island.

For one of the veterans, Paul Hope, formerly of the 2/12 Battalion, it was his second trip. He came here last year in September with a larger group of war veterans, all from various Australian units in Milne Force to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Milne Bay.

Another veteran, Jack Holton of Adelaide in South Australia, recalled how he was in Milne Bay briefly then moved on to the Oro Province with his

(continued next page)

GOODENOUGH VETERANS ETC. (continued)

unit. Young Jack Holton was with the 7 Division, Royal Australian Engineers when they established storage transfer depots for ammunition, food and supplies for the infantry units fighting along the Oro Province's coastline. He was later detached to the Combined Operation Service Command, which consisted of Allied units from the Land and sea like the engineers, commandos, American troops and the Navy Survey units. He recalled the navy having three corvettes at that time that surveyed the coastline for safe passage of other vessels, and also a group of American PT boats operating out of Tufi. They were the Polaris, Stella and Waiyalla.

The group was led by Mr. Geoff Masters who also planned the group visit in September, and travelled on board the MV Morning Star 2. Mr. Masters told *The Eastern Star* he will be organising another return trip to PNG for other war veterans who took part in the New Guinea Campaign in WW2 when the largest parachute drop was made by the Allied Forces on Nadzab in the Morobe Province. That trip is planned for September.

(Extract of article in *The Eastern Star*, Alotau, March 93.)

PNG MEMORIES

by Stan and Vi Pike

At last I am putting 'pen' to paper after threatening to do so for a long time. I was spurred into action by the mention of Mary Baldwin and Ken Humphreys of Caloundra as well as Jack Goad.

Vi and I pass Mary's house four or five times a week. Next time we are in Suller St we won't pass it. We knew a dentist named Baldwin in Rabaul - maybe he is related to Mary! Anyway we will soon know now.

I had some difficulty deciding whether I should write to you or Harry whom we knew personally. However, since much of the correspondence seems to pass through your hands I decided to make you the recipient and to rely on you to give Harry our best wishes.

Harry took over as District Commissioner of East New Britain whilst I was Principal of Malaguna Technical College, after the unfortunate Mataungan incident of the murder of the then District Commissioner, Jack Emanuel.

Jack Goad was Officer-in-Charge Customs (I've forgotten the exact nomenclature) in Rabaul, when we first arrived in 1963. Inter alia, our social lives crossed many times. A very nice gentleman.

Vi used to work as company secretary for Mac McGee of New Guinea Lumber.

Before I forget, I must compliment you on your diligence and efficiency in producing UV. It must be very time-consuming and, no doubt, onerous. The March copy kept me reading for hours and racking my brains for memories. Many names and faces now elude me, whilst many are recalled by various items in UV.

From time to time we have read with sadness of the passing of old friends.

The article by Eric Flower, with whom I, periodically, had contact in Rabaul, was most interesting, particularly his information on Rabaul and environs. We have travelled the Kokopo, Bitu Paka, Vunadidir and North Coast road many times, visiting, in particular, Ulapia Seminary, and Keravat and Vunamami High 'schools. On one occasion Vi and I and the two sons of Ian Hamilton - one of my staff members - were travelling towards Rabaul on the North Coast road when a tropical storm hit. I believe we were close to Lung Lunga and the run-off from the land adjacent to that village was immense. Not knowing all the rises and falls in the road we ran into what appeared to be

(continued next page)

PNG MEMORIES (continued)

a shallow section of the water running off. Too late! I was in it and the car was lifted and commenced to drift towards a fall into the, by then, turbulent sea. We were saved by some very alert youngsters from a nearby village on the seaward side of the road, further along.

They raced up to us, waist deep in water, and steered us away from the edge into their village. Most of the way we were water-borne. The storm passed and the water subsided but there was no life left in our poor old Volkswagon. We managed to persuade the Tolai driver of a passing truck to call in to Maltech to send the College vehicle to pick us up. Meanwhile we sat talking to our new-found friends and expressing our gratitude many times over.

I recall when the Kokopo road was thick pumice dust and the drive to K was indeed an adventure. The construction and sealing of that road was a boon - no more swallowing the dust of cars going to the Show and no more slithering and sliding to and fro.

I guess that much of what I have said of little interest but, at least, I have communicated.

My news would not be anywhere nearly as interesting as some of the yarns spun by earlier residents of PNG but, as I have already said, I've written and broken the ice. We would like to come down to one of the Christmas gatherings, sometime in the not-too-distant future, to renew some old friendships. Why aren't any of my fellow teachers members of the Association? We still communicate with two or three of them and I will encourage them to make application to join.

Vi and I are enjoying our retirement to the full. We are in good health and visit our married sons and daughter in Emu Plains and Canberra every second year and one of their families visits us on the alternate years. By the way, we now have seven grandchildren and we are not expecting any more. Presently I am writing the story of my life. I am not yet halfway through it and have just topped 20,000 words. One of our daughters-in-law is putting it all on computer and printing it. It's amazing what you remember AFTER you have passed a particular era in the story - thank God for the computer!

Well Doug, maybe not too many folk remember us but to those who do and to those who don't we send our kindest regards. May the world be kind to all of us.

(Stan and Vi, many thanks for your contribution and I do hope that it will help, together with other reminiscences I have included from time to time in *Una Voce*, to encourage more people to relate similar stories about PNG in the good old days we all like to remember. Ed.)

PNG NEWS - GURNEY AIRPORT UPGRADE

The reconstruction of the Gurney Airport has been designed in a way that if there was the need to bring in aircraft larger than the F28, such as the Air Bus, all that would be needed would be the lengthening of the runway.

The Regional Member for Milne Bay and Minister for Civil Aviation and Forestry, Mr Tim Neville, told local business leaders about Gurney and other development projects that are planned to take place during this year, when he was guest speaker at the first meeting of the Milne Bay Chamber of Commerce for 1993.

Mr Neville said the immediate upgrading of the Gurney Airport would include widening and lengthening sections of the runway so as to enable it to accommodate F28 type aircraft.



Retired Officers' Association of Papua New Guinea

P.O. Box 452, Roseville NSW 2069

MINUTES OF THE 42ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 18TH APRIL 1993 AT THE MANDARIN CLUB, SYDNEY.

The Meeting opened at 11.20 a.m.

Present:

Roma Bates, Madge Blanden, Barbara Burns, Anne Collins, Maria & John Craineau, Marie Day, June Dennis, Linda Evans, Pamela Foley, Alan Gow, Neil Grant, Louise & Christine Harkness, Elma Holmes, Pat Hopper, Isobel Ireland, Stuart & Jo Inder, Brian & Rhonda Jinks, Bill & Nancy Johnston, Elaine Kimmorley, Gabriel Keleny, Judy Latchford, Adrian Leyden, Edna Maclean, Zillah McLerie, Marjorie Marr, Alison Marsh, Noelle Mason, Lisle Newby, Sir Horace & Lady Niall, Jacqueline Ottley, Doug & Candy Parrish, Anna Phillips, Donald Ramsay, Ian Reardon, Jim Rudge, Heather Seale, Robert & Susan Shaw, Sandy Sinclair, Anne Sneddon, Frank & Betty Smith, Pat Smith, Syd Smith, Ross & Amy Swaddling, Harry West, Stan Wigley. Les Williams, Margarette Williams.

Apologies:

Joe Nitsche, Flora Nitsche, Jette Zigas, Clarissa De Derka, Andrew Rede, Vi Bignold, Doug Franklin, Don Drover, Bette McLaughlin, Frank Tuza, Joy Henderson, Bruce & Grace Digby, Maria Szent-Ivany, Jim Keegan, Joan Stobo, Fred Kaad, Marie Bassett, Grace & Harry Jackman, Ken Connolly, Francis Ryan, Tony Baker, Irene Schultz, Florence Cohen, Ann-Marie Bakewell, Gordon Linsley, Ron Carne, Lillian Whitchurch, Jess Ross, Bill Kelly, J. Janousek, Bob Pulsford.

The Minutes of the 41st AGM having been circulated in "Una Voce" were confirmed on the motion proposed by Les Williams, seconded Gabriel Keleny. Carried.

No business arose from the previous AGM. The President, Harry West, proceeded to present his report for the year, as follows:

"I welcome our Patron, Sir Horace Niall, members and guests, especially those beyond the Sydney area.

I place on record the excellent relationship that continues with the PNG Consul General in Sydney, Mr William Nindim, and his staff - and our ongoing link with the Commissioner for Superannuation in Canberra, which has been cordial and mutually helpful.

Our important link with the NSW Branch of the Superannuated Commonwealth Officers Association is maintained. This organisation, SCOA for short, is recognised by the Commonwealth Government to represent the interests of all retired Commonwealth officers, and their widows, with superannuation rights. They monitor policies and legislative programs, do valuable research and conduct a comprehensive advisory service for members in the complex area of superannuation and related matters, and issue in-depth and informative bulletins. All of our superannuants are eligible for membership at \$13.00 per year, tax deductible, and we strongly recommend they join SCOA. More information will be provided in the next "Una Voce".

The quality and scope of "Una Voce" is a big factor in the growing interest in our organisation. Membership of the Association is currently over 880. More and more interesting items for the Newsletter are being contributed by members.

.../2

In a similar vein, the request for donations of material such as diaries, photographs, manuscripts and so on, to be put on a data base by Dr. Peter Cahill, which got off to a slow start, is gaining momentum. The possibility of expanding this program is dealt with in a thoughtful article by Bill Tomasetti "The R.O.A. and P.N.G. History" in the March '93 issue of *Una Voce*, and a worthwhile response is urged.

Our Committee of 13 has met regularly throughout the year in a co-operative and willing spirit, and attendance has been excellent. Each member serves on at least two of the sub-committees - these are Caring, Legal & Constitutional, Social, Finance and Editorial. I am sure you will join with me in thanking the Committee one and all for the time and talent they have contributed to our organisation in the last year - Bill Johnston, Doug Parrish, Gordon Linsley, Pat Hopper, Roma Bates, Pamela Foley, Bob Pulsford, Joe Nitsche, Elma Holmes, Pat Jones, Frank Smith and Fred Kaad. Everyone has done everything asked of them, but I am sure the others will not mind me singling out for special recognition Doug Parrish, Pam Foley, Elma Holmes and Joe Nitsche, whose offices on the committee have been particularly demanding. Nor can I heap too much praise on our Honorary Auditor, Len Bailey, for his valuable advice and services.

Unfortunately I have to end on a note of sadness in recording the death since our last meeting of one of our Patrons, and a very dear friend to many of us, Bill Seale. Thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen."

5. Treasurer's Report

Elma Holmes tabled audited Balance Sheet & Statement of Income and Expenditure to 31.12.91.

Adopted on the motion proposed by Doug Parrish, seconded by Sir Horace Niall.

6. Correspondence

In the absence of the Secretary Pamela Foley advised that all correspondence received was of a routine nature and was being dealt with.

Adopted on the Motion proposed by Frank Smith, seconded Bill Johnston.

Carried.

7. Sub-Committee Reports

Doug Parrish advised that the legal Sub-Committee were dealing with some matters for which members had requested assistance. He also spoke in connection with Editorial matters, advising it was possible that production costs for *Una Voce* could rise in future as a postage increase had been foreshadowed. Alternative methods of enclosing *Una Voce* for posting are being investigated with a view to conserving costs.

Before going on to the next item the President observed that on this occasion there were some books on display and the authors (all members) were present. These were Anna Phillips ("As The Catalina Flies"); Robert Shaw ("Island in the Sky"); also Chris and Louise Harkness ("Take Necessary Action").

8. Proposed Amendments to the Constitution, as published in the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting:

Each of the following proposed amendments were read to the Meeting.

"That the paragraph defining "Statutory Authority" be deleted.

.../3

That Clause 3(b) be deleted and replaced by the following Clause 3(b):
"to promote friendly association among all members and associate members."

That Clause 4(a) 2) be deleted and replaced by the following Clause 4(a)2): "Associate Member - A former resident of Papua New Guinea or other person subscribing to the objects of the Association."

That Clause 4(d) be amended to read as follows:
"Membership shall cease or lapse upon written resignation served on the Honorary Secretary or automatically on non-payment of any subscription which is more than six months in arrears."

That Clause 5(d) be deleted, and Clause 5(e) become Clause 5(d).

That Clause 6(b) be amended to read, after the words 'Editor of the Newsletter', the following: "and five Committee persons or such number as shall be determined by an Annual General Meeting."

That Clause 6(j) be amended to read, after the words 'in numbers exceed', the following: "50% of the total strength of the Committee."

That Clause 7(e) shall be amended to read, after the words 'All monies received shall be banked', the following: "Committee members nominated by the Committee shall be signatories for withdrawals and cheques, any two of whom shall sign all cheques and withdrawals."

That Clause 10(a) be amended to read: "All financial members shall be qualified to exercise a vote at any meeting of the Association, but an Associate Member shall not be eligible to vote at any such meeting on any matter affecting superannuation or superannuants."

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

Motion proposed by Sir Horace Niall and seconded by Gabriel Keleny that these amendments to the Constitution be adopted. Carried.

9. Election of Executive and Committee

Mr West advised that the following members had been nominated and seconded:

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


Mr Parrish moved that those members be declared appointed as nominated. This was seconded by Jim Rudge. Carried.

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

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER, 1992

	Notes	1992	1991
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash - Commonwealth Savings Bank		4972.10	2881.54
INVESTMENTS			
Colonial Mutual Funds		8007.00	8007.00
Police Credit Union Share		10.00	10.00
Police Credit Union		15019.08	15614.26
		<u>23036.08</u>	<u>23631.26</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Computer and Printer	599.97		599.97
Less Provision Depreciation	215.97		
		<u>384.00</u>	-
Second Computer	1089.28		1089.28
Less Provision Depreciation	392.11		
		<u>697.17</u>	
New Printer	638.00		638.00
Less Provision Depreciation	229.68		
		<u>408.32</u>	
		<u>1489.49</u>	<u>2327.25</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>29497.67</u>	<u>28840.05</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Subscriptions in Advance -			
B/forward	13892.87		13892.87
Less transfer current income	(2) 2328.00		
	<u>11564.87</u>		
Add advance subscriptions paid 1992	3903.00		
	<u>15467.87</u>		
Provision for Income Tax	(3) 778.44		729.69
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>16246.31</u>	<u>14622.56</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>\$13251.36</u>	<u>\$14217.49</u>
MEMBERS FUNDS			
Accumulated Balance B/Forward		14217.49	27814.00
Less Net Loss For Year		(966.13)	(656.51)
		<u>13251.36</u>	<u>27157.49</u>
Less Transfers			
- Subscriptions to current income		-	3176.00
- Advance subscriptions to reserve		-	9764.00
		<u>-</u>	<u>12940.00</u>
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS		<u>\$13251.36</u>	<u>\$14217.49</u>



E Holmes
Hon. Treasurer

25 March, 1993

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1992

	Notes	1992	1991
INCOME			
Subscriptions		2616.00	3434.10
Subscriptions in Advance Transferred	(2)	2328.00	3176.00
Donations		364.30	395.20
Incidentals: Raffles		202.70	280.00
AGM and Christmas Lunches		5620.00	5220.00
Interest: Commonwealth Bank		120.36	57.13
Colonial Mutual Funds		505.64	848.86
Police Credit Union		1558.23	1247.09
Advertising (Una Voce)		-	150.00
		<u>\$13315.23</u>	<u>\$14808.38</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Una Voce Costs: Printing & Stationery		3413.85	2984.70
Postage incl Reg. Publ'n Fee		1446.05	1305.08
Incidentals: Raffle Expenses		53.50	172.50
Presentation		150.00	-
Refreshments		50.00	-
Petty cash			11.34
Caring Committee Expenses		55.00	61.60
AGM & Christmas Lunches		5258.00	4939.95
Administrative Expenses:			
Bank Charges/FID/GDT		25.92	29.87
Computer Repairs etc		1192.14	384.90
General Postage		227.42	335.92
General Printing		162.70	145.52
Photocopying		131.69	62.56
PO Box Rental		37.00	35.00
Stationery		136.24	382.81
Telephone		325.65	331.08
Depreciation of Non-Current Assets		837.76	2301.25
Tax Payable on 1992 Income	(3)	778.44	729.69
Tax Paid 1990		-	1251.12
		<u>14281.36</u>	<u>15464.89</u>
Income Shortfall to Accumulated Funds		<u>(966.13)</u>	<u>(656.51)</u>
		<u>\$13315.23</u>	<u>\$14808.38</u>


E Holmes
Hon. Treasurer

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

EXPLANATORY NOTES ON ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1992

- (1) As can be seen from the Statement of Income and Expenditure our income for 1992 has not quite matched our expenditure. This situation will be at least the same for the current 1993 year as investment income will be less and expenditure at least similar to the 1992 year.
- (2) These are subscriptions paid in previous years which relate to this year.
- (3) Income tax is payable on our investment income after deducting minor related expenses. This is our estimated liability for this year.



E Holmes
Hon. Treasurer

AUDITORS REPORT

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly the position of the Retired Officers' Association of Papua New Guinea at 31 December, 1992 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.



L W Bailey CPA
Hon. Auditor

25 March, 1993

BOOK REVIEWS & BOOK NEWS

COCONUTS and TEAROOMS by Pat Boys.

A personal story of Margaret and Eric Wood who travelled from New Zealand to New Guinea in the early 1930's.

Most of their six years there were spent living on coconut plantations near Rabaul, New Britain.

Eric was a keen photographer and this soft-covered book of 142 pages contains approximately 70 black and white photos of those early days. Several maps are included, plus End Notes and an Index.

Pat, Margaret and Eric's daughter, was born in Rabaul in 1933, but was only a small girl when leaving New Guinea.

Over recent years Margaret wrote down the memories of her life in New Britain and Pat has enlarged on this, both with her mother's help and through research in New Zealand and Australia for background material and history.

So many personal records were destroyed during the Japanese occupation of New Guinea in W.W.II that these memories of the times before 1942 go to help make up New Guinea's lost past.

The cost of the book is \$A20.00, which includes packaging and postage. (Australian personal cheques or Australian Notes are acceptable).

It is obtainable from:

Mrs Pat Boys
9 Holt Avenue
Torbay
AUCKLAND 10
New Zealand

BOOK REVIEW by Geoff Masters

PAPUAN CAMPAIGN AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT IN BUNA-SANANANDA-GONA Nov-Jan 1942/43.

This book has been reprinted by U.S. War Department to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their involvement.

Whilst as Australians we will not agree with the writings (and I have written pointing out just a few of the inaccuracies in the book), but they do give a different outlook on the action.

The forward is worth quoting - in the thick of battle the soldier is busy doing his job. He has the knowledge and confidence that his job is part of a unified plan to defeat the enemy, but he does not have time to survey the campaign from a foxhole. If he is wounded and removed behind lines, he may have even less opportunity to learn what place he and his unit had in the fight.

The book starts with the background of threat to Australia on to the allied counter offensive and then on to Buna under dates of operations and then to Sanananda. The maps are excellent - what a pity they were not available in 1942. The photos are good and most never seen before.

A book all veterans should have on the shelf. Obtainable from Geoff Masters, 41 Willow Grove, North Kew, Vic. 3101. Tel (03) 859 6594.

Est Cost \$35 including postage.

BOOK REVIEWS & BOOK NEWS (continued)

PAUL HASLACK: A Political Biography, by Robert Porter.
352 pages, 240x165mm, cloth bound, ISBN 1875560 20 3, RRP \$39.95.

Humane, intelligent, principled and committed to social improvement, Hasluck deserves to be remembered as an eminent Australian who made a valuable and unique contribution to all of the main facets of Australian government.

Sir Paul Hasluck died in January 1993 at the age of eighty-seven. His extraordinary career saw him as journalist, historian, academic, author, poet, public servant, diplomat, parliamentarian, Minister of the Crown, contender for the prime ministership, and Governor-General. Throughout he maintained a clear and consistent set of principles, including intellectual truth, probity, integrity and a strong sense of public duty. Because of this he did not fit the mould of a contemporary politician.

Robert Porter traces Hasluck's remarkable career and, in doing so, evaluates his contribution to and effectiveness in government. Porter highlights Hasluck's prodigious, almost legendary capacity for hard work; his strong intellectual capability and penetrating, and enquiring mind; his clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of government, his strong and enduring sense of duty; and his commitment to serving his country's interests in a selfless and dedicated manner. This book is a thoroughly researched and well-crafted study of the political career of one of Australia's most important, yet underrated, post-war political figures.

The author:

Robert Porter is aged 36. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with honours from Flinders University in South Australia, a Master of Science degree with distinction from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and a Doctor of Philosophy from Macquarie University in New South Wales.

Robert has worked in the private sector in the areas of government relations, corporate relations and marketing. This is Robert's first published book, although he has written and published articles on the roles and responsibility of government, Aboriginal policy and gardening.

(For members of our Association copies can be made available as follows: \$30.00 per copy (mail order only))

Plus packaging and postage: NSW \$5.00; Other States \$7.00. (A lower postage rate will apply for bulk orders, with the appropriate amount reimbursed with the return of the books.)

Cheques to be made payable to Robert Porter (money orders also accepted - no cash please).

Send orders and payment plus name, address and telephone number, to:

Robert Porter
PO Box 782
NEUTRAL BAY NSW 2089

Allow 2 to 3 weeks for delivery but copies can be collected in Sydney (without the posting and packaging cost) if a telephone number is provided.

Copies can be signed by the author if required.")

BOOKS REVIEWS & BOOK NEWS

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Colonial passages 1920-1960. Chilla Bulbeck. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1992, xii, 327 pp., illus., bibliography, \$45. Review by Dr. Peter Cahill⁽¹⁾.

A check with APAIS (Australian Public Affairs Information Service) reveals that Bulbeck is a prolific authoress, albeit in a specific field. As she is an academic, one might anticipate a well-balanced, accurate report of Australian women in Papua New Guinea. One would soon be disillusioned.

What of the Australian women of the period this book purports to discuss? Of the twenty (a remarkably small sample for such a topic) shown in the Biographical Notes, one is German, one was (presumably) an English missionary in the Gulf District, one spent five years in Bougainville and the Solomon Islands, and one is Czechoslovakian. Their inclusion as "Australian" women might seem tenuous; "European" might be a better word, and was certainly more commonly used in Papua New Guinea. No mention is made of women such as "Ma" Stewart of goldfields and Hotel Cecil fame whose daughter, Ela Birrell, lives on the Gold Coast; Phyllis Abel of Kwato Mission who turned raw Papuan girls into 'young ladies'; Sister Pascal of the Badili Catholic Maternity Hospital; Mary Fox of the Port Moresby YWCA; Dr Marie Janousek who conducted infant welfare clinics in the Port Moresby and Sogeri areas; Mrs Eva Standen of the Mission in the mud; Mrs Rhoda Coote who sold kaukau in the Rabaul market postwar to help re-establish the family plantation; Mrs Marjorie Blake, now of Ascot, Brisbane, who has pre- and post-war experience of the Gazelle Peninsula; Mrs Ruth Sefton of Itikinumu plantation, Sogeri; or Mrs Elizabeth Fletcher of Salamo plantation, Manus District, whose daughter, Kathryn Ann Dixon, lives at Banora Point. What about the Tolai, mixed-race and Chinese women who live in Brisbane? Did Bulbeck contact any of them? Did she contact members of the Brisbane, Sunshine and Gold Coasts, and Sydney, former Papua New Guinea residents associations? Has she read Mary Cath Togolo's thesis on Australia's beneficent rule? Or Lulu Miller's "Reminiscences"? Or Reg Beazley's New Guinea adventures 1921-1930 plus? There are personal memoirs, as well as many potential informants, available within a hundred miles of Brisbane which would have been a rich and diverse source of information. Why didn't she mention the European women who guided native women in rudimentary hygiene and child care? Caring for babies speaks a universal language. The women who provided schooling facilities for village and plantation children from whatever resources they could scrounge? Those who gave grooming and dress advice to the wives of Papua New Guinean politicians and public servants accompanying their husbands to receptions at District Residences or Government House, Port Moresby? Why limit her range to Australian women talking about Australian women? There is not a single quote in Bulbeck's book attributed to a Chinese woman, a mixed-race woman or a native woman. She admits little success in speaking with native women (p.3); other researchers seeking oral information have overcome this diffidence. It is not stated in the book how much time Bulbeck spent researching in New Guinea; although there is a fleeting reference to interviews in New Ireland (p.3).

In her review of Bulbeck's book in *The Age* (?January 1993) Martha McIntyre makes the valid comparison between Australian women in Papua New Guinea, and outback Australia. Isolation, fear of medical emergencies and the necessity to be self-sufficient (as Mrs Irene Robinson shows in Penelope Hope's excellent book) were common to both groups. Experiences such as

(continued next page)

BOOK REVIEWS & BOOK NEWS (continued)

those written by Mrs Candy Parrish and Mr Bob Cole (on behalf of his wife, Kay) in recent issues of *Una Voce* highlight these points. As for McIntyre's comment about "Confidence in the superiority of their own culture" - this was not always obvious among Australians in pre-war New Guinea. Many desperately followed English customs and mannerisms and spoke wistfully of England as "home".

There is a fashionable arrogance in the book which infers that tribal mores should have been adjusted to thrust native women into prominence. Even the missions, in their thirst for souls, realised they had to hasten slowly. There is no doubt that native women, by Western values, lived miserably under the domination of native men. As with so many critics of a colonial regime Bulbeck uses current values to denigrate 1920s/1930s colonial attitudes. In those periods the actions and attitudes so bitterly criticised were the norm; there was little stirring of nationalism in Papua New Guinea until well after World War 2. The Atlantic Charter signalled the end of colonialism and encouraged movements for independence; but this had little impact or effect in Papua New Guinea. In her tirade against colonialism, and male colonialists in particular, Bulbeck overlooks the words spoken by the first Governor-General (a male, naturally!) of Papua New Guinea at the Independence Day ceremony in Port Moresby.

Bulbeck dwells on the distance most Europeans kept between themselves and native people. There are some acceptable reasons for this. Australia had yet to come of age when it commenced civil administration of New Guinea in 1921; it had no pool of experienced colonial administrators to draw on and those appointed felt their way cautiously in native affairs. Frequent transfers in, and between, Papua and New Guinea made it almost impossible for public servants to learn a native dialect (and the hundreds of these didn't help). The adaptability of Police Motu and Pidgin English brought their own problems - for example, I would only speak Motu until I was seven years old which made visits to Australian relatives interesting. There were other European children like me. I remember being deeply envious of the breadth and richness of a four year old European girl's Pidgin as she rounded on a Morobe man trying to steal her towel at the Moresby Gofton swimming pool!

Bulbeck has searched writings on former colonies for material which, dotted with remarks from her informants, is used to attack Australian colonialism and champion women's rights; fashionable topics among academics. She mocks European women wearing gloves and hats to receptions in postwar Papua New Guinea (Dr Joan Refshauge - one of her sources - wore these daily) yet a glance at women's magazines of the period will show this was standard female dress in Australia. Equating the European "social" lifestyle in Papua New Guinea with that of the British Raj in India is risible. Has she ever been inside that modest bungalow known as Government House, Port Moresby? Or a District Residency? She is incensed by the "lining" of labour: has she never seen a factory pay-line? Stood at a supermarket checkout? Watched university students queuing for student identity cards? As for that horror of horrors - the black ram and the white ewe - she has been under-informed. In Rabaul in the 1960s there were at least two Australian women, widows managing their businesses, who had congress with selected native partners. They were quite open about it. The first official Tolai man/Australian woman marriage in Port Moresby excited little attention beyond the prurient; it was seen as their business. German women also took their pleasure with native men ("Mi puspup long Missus, bai sodawara i kamup") but this did not excite male German outrage.

(continued next page)

BOOK REVIEWS & BOOK NEWS (continued)

Apart from this there are extraordinary errors in the text. On p.9 Emma Coe/Forsayth/Kolbe is referred to by her sister's married surname (see p.91). This error is repeated at p.325 of the Index. On p.15 ADO Horrie Niall (a former postwar District Commissioner of the Morobe District, and subsequently Sir Horace Niall, first Speaker of the Papua New Guinea House of Assembly) is referred to as "Horrie Nile". Maprik, in northern New Guinea (see map, p.x) is transported to "the Highlands" on p.245.

Mis-spellings are rife: "Grillie" on p.11 should be "Grille"; "Malakuna", also on p.11, should more properly be "Malaguna" although there is continuing argument about the interchangeable "k" and "g" in the Kuanua dialect. On p.15 Kukakukas should be Kukukukus. On p.16, possibly the most famous World War 2 shipwreck in Papua New Guinea waters (in Fairfax Harbour, Port Moresby) is called the MacDui. The Macdhuil was one of Burns, Philp's most popular pre-war ships on the Australia-New Guinea run. More spelling mistakes occur: the Neptune on p.20 should be the Neptuna; Heather Searle on p.58 should be Heather Seale; Kontaki on the same page should be Koitaki; Kimidan on p.70 should be Kimadan; Moari Kiki on p.187 should be Maori Kiki; Mrs Lauden on p.209 should be Mrs Loudon. The list goes on. Clearly, Bulbeck has not checked place and personal names mentioned in oral/written sources before publishing. Undergraduate fumbblings like these distract an informed reader's attention and detract from academic authority.

Spelling mistakes also appear in the Bibliography. On p.317 Rev. Ralph Wiltgenen should be Wiltgen (see also text p.61), Stephen Windsor Reed on p.315 should be Stephen Winsor Reed. Confusion with names from oral sources may, possibly, be understandable; from published sources it is inexcusable.

There are factual mistakes as well. On p.42 Bulbeck states "Until 1951 the Papuan Administration was undertaken by the Lieutenant-Governor ...". This contains several errors. The title of Lieutenant-Governor in Papua lapsed on the death of Sir Hubert Murray. His successor, (his nephew, Leonard Murray) appointed in February 1940, was designated Administrator as were all subsequent postwar appointments. Under the Papua New Guinea Provisional Administration Act 1945 Papua and New Guinea were administered as separate entities; civil government achieved permanent form under the Papua and New Guinea Act 1949 by which Papua and New Guinea were administered as an entity by the Administrator located in Port Moresby, Papua. There was no separate "Papuan Administration" in 1951. This is a most confusing paragraph. The date mentioned is 1951, yet actions taken by the Lieutenant-Governor of Papua and the Administrator of New Guinea deal with pre-1942 issues. This inter-mixing of periods and places is a constant irritant. For example, on p.146 (comments by MacArthur and Monckton) the text leaps from New Guinea in the 1930s to Papua in the 1890s - which stretches comparative credibility.

On p.91 reference is made to the 1921 census in Papua. Further on, in 1928, 14% of the total female population (black and white, presumably) are called breadwinners. Surely all native women in the Port Moresby area, the "breadwinners" in native society, whose main task was to garden and fish for their families, could not be included in such a modest percentage? In the same paragraph we read of an assortment of European women bravely undertaking customary male occupations in pre-1942 (?1930s) New Guinea. The text then reverts to the 1890s and Emma Forsayth. Why infer males were hogging the captaincy of steamships and "running" plantations then? Emma Forsayth was a hard-headed business woman (repeat, woman) whose employees were, generally, the best available regardless of their

(continued next page)

BOOK REVIEWS & BOOK NEWS (continued)

sex. What proof can Bulbeck offer that women unsuccessfully sought these positions? Petulant aggression towards males permeates the entire book and distorts the impact of her informants. I wonder how many of these winced when they saw how their comments had been used (not all can understand the book).

Apart from errors in spelling and fact, there are frequent silly editorial mistakes. On p.43 Courier Mail should be The Courier Mail; also on p.43 it should have been emphasised that John Murphy and six Americans survived a prisoner of war camp in Rabaul township - there were also camps at Ramale, Vunakambi and Ratongor in the Rabaul area to name just three; on p.110 District Administrator should be District Commissioner; on p.160 Mr (not Sir) Paul Hasluck (he was knighted in 1969) was the third postwar Minister responsible for Australian Territories, not the first; on p.213 the Ogelbeng Lutheran Mission is in New Guinea, not Papua; and Bulbeck should read p.261 of Reed's book before commenting on emasculation (p.214). Finally, I was interested to see on p.231 a reference to Alice Wedega MBE in 1952. She received that honour some twenty years later (see "My Life", p.106).

It is important that the experiences of European former residents of Papua New Guinea (including the dreaded B4s) now living in Australia are recorded. The concept of recording the contribution - or otherwise - made by European women in particular to the development of Papua New Guinea is excellent, and deserves publication. I look forward to reading the book.

Note:

(1) Dr. Peter Cahill is particularly well qualified to undertake this review, having been born in PNG and spending most of his life there, except when studying in Australia. His family connections in Papua date back to 1907. He also has significant academic qualifications having obtained his B.A. from Queensland University, his M.A. from UPNG and his Ph.D. also from Qld. Uni. In addition he holds a Graduate Diploma in Library Science.

He has held positions as diverse as Actg. Official Secretary to the Administrator and Project Officer in the Department of the Chief Minister.

AS THE CATALINA FLIES - A HUNGARIAN GIRL GROWING UP IN BOUGAINVILLE.

by Anna Phillips. Butterfly Books 1993. ISBN 0 947333 49 5 Paperback 200pp. \$14.95. Reviewed by Gabriel Keleny.

One of the bold initiatives of Dr John Gunther, Director of Public Health in post-war Papua New Guinea, was to recruit a number of continental medical practitioners - despite opposition from the Australian medical establishment - to build up a professional medical and hospital service in the Territory. One of these doctors was Dr. Frank Tuza, who was forced to leave Hungary at the end of the second world war. After an induction course at ASOPA in Sydney, 36 European doctors left for port Moresby on 16th April 1950. After further briefings, Dr. Tuza was posted to Buin in Bougainville. As was the case with most officers who went to outstations in those years, a house had to be built - of native materials - before his family could join him.

So, Anna, aged 5, and her mother flew in June 1950 from Sydney to Port Moresby, then by Catalina flying boat to Rabaul and Buin. She remained in Bougainville (mainly in Buin but later in Sohano) for five years until at the age of 10 she was sent to a boarding school in Sydney, a

(continued next page)

BOOK REVIEWS & BOOK NOTES (continued)

common fate in those days of most children of expatriate parents.

In her book "*As the Catalina Flies*" Anna describes her experiences and observations during those five formative years of her life in Bougainville. Years full of new impressions, of a strange new environment which became her home and playground and to which she feels an affinity to this day. She still feels she would like to return to Buin - if only in her dreams. Despite her youth at the time and the relatively short period she spent in Bougainville, the book gives an excellent picture of life at an outstation. She demonstrates a remarkable memory for details - not only of the environment, but also of her personal feelings, and a recall of these events after so many years. It is also a highly personal recollection, as she modestly states in her introduction: "Because I was five years old when I arrived and ten when I left, my memories tend to be sepia-tinted and sometimes blurred around the edges..... Some things are probably incorrect because my memory is hazy or because I didn't grasp certain facts at the time. I could have researched the subject..... but then it would not have portrayed how I felt my world to be." The absence of background research is not evident, in fact is an advantage. It highlights the power of observation of the author, transplanted to a new life in Bougainville.

Some interesting additional material on the life and work of a medical officer at an outstation is provided by a few chapters contributed by her father, interspaced in her account, e.g. the polio epidemic which suddenly arrived in Buin from the Solomon Islands, or Dr Tuza's pioneering work on the control of yaws by penicillin.

The reader is most impressed by the powerful impact of Papua New Guinea, the country and its people, on the life of the author who has spent her early years there. Impressions which are still vivid more than 30 years later. The book revives many fond memories of former residents of their own life and experiences in PNG - it is of considerable interest to all former territorians. It is particularly hoped that the book will encourage the younger generation of ex-territorians, who grew up in the post-war years, to write down their memories and recollections of their early years in that country and of a lifestyle that has by now disappeared in the mist of recent developments. A collection of such essays would make an interesting and worthwhile anthology of growing up in a country which they once called home. Perhaps Anna's interesting and enjoyable book will bear such rich fruits and will be the forerunner of further accounts of "growing up in New Guinea".

'Onward Boy Soldiers' - The Battle for Milne Bay, 1942 by James Henderson.
Reviewed by Geoff Masters.

This book has been some 10 years in its coming. Henderson has gone to extraordinary lengths to firstly give a background of the Japanese that our troops were to fight - in Japan he interviewed a lot of their veterans to piece together the full story, and a most interesting story it is.

He then goes on to tell something of his own early life - which reads much the same as your life and mine in pre-war Australia - and then its off to war for the boy soldiers. Henderson, like a number of his unit - Milne Force Sigs - was a little over 16 when he went away. He then tells the story of the battle from both sides.

After reading it one can say thank goodness for Japanese bungling, for had the Force landed where they were supposed to then it could well have been a different ending. A very interesting and informative book.

LAPSED MEMBERSHIPS

As the following memberships lapsed at the end of 1992 and we have not heard from the members concerned since then, we regret that we have had to delete their names from our mailing list:

ANDERSON, Mrs. V.M.	(Southport Q)	HURNER, Mr. R.I.	(Carseldine Q)
ANDREWS, Mr.H.W.	(Maroochydhore Q)	HUXLEY, Mr. R.J.	(Maroubra NSW)
BAKER, Mr. J.C.	(Bribie Is. Q)	KAPP, Mrs. P.	(Mona Vale NSW)
BALLARD, Mr. C.	(Canberra ACT)	LAPTHORNE, Mr. G.	(Toowoomba Q.)
BEECH, Mr. J.R.	(Bickley W.A.)	LOCK, Mr. K.A.	(Bicton W.A.)
BELFIELD, Mrs. J.	(Rabaul, PNG)	LOGAN, Mrs. G.	(Woody Point Q)
BELL, Mr. J.B.	(Carins Q)	LYNCH, Sr. A.	(Deagon Q)
BENTINCK-PITT, Mrs.I	(Heidelberg Vic)	MACKELLAR, Mr. M.	(Kariong NSW)
BINNIE, Mrs. L.	(Bribie Is. Q)	MASON, Mr. J.P.	(Point Vernon Q)
BLADEN, Mr. T.P.	(Jindalee Q)	MAYOH, Mr. C.	(Hemmant Q)
BLANCH, Mr.G.	(Mooloolaba Q)	McBRIDE, Mr. W.	(Scarborough Q)
BOLGER, Mr. P.	(Bray Park Q)	McCLENAHAN, Mrs.P.	(Turramurra NSW)
BOOTH, Mr. H.O.	(Bundaberg Q)	McCONKEY, Mr. J.E.	(Drummoyne NSW)
BRIGG, Mr. P.	(Atherton Q)	McLACHLAN, J.T.Mrs.	(E.Ivanhoe Vic)
BROWN, Mr. R.C.	(Carina Q)	MACKAY, Mr. R.	(Paluma Q)
BROWN, Mr. W.T.	(Bilgola NSW)	MILLS, Mr. G.	(Forster NSW)
BRUTNALL, Mr. H.	(Pialba Q)	MORGAN, Mrs. J.F.	(Strathpine Q)
BURGERS, Mrs. A.A.	(Ebbw Vale Q)	O'MALLEY, Mr. F.R.	(Dianella W.A.)
BURT, Mrs. N.	(North Haven S.A.)	O'MALLEY, Mrs. V.	(Killarney Hgts)
CASHMAN, Mr. J.	(C/- Air Niugini)	OGDEN Mr. A.	(Turramurra NSW)
CAUDWELL, Mrs. L.I.	(Albion Q)	PEISLEY, Mrs. B.	(Manly NSW)
CHANDLER, Mrs. J.	(Mt. Pleasant W.A)	PETTIFER, Mrs. D.	(Byron Bay NSW)
COLLINS, Mr. P.	(Cairns Q)	PIPER, Mr. R.K.	(Higgins ACT)
CONRON, Mr. E.	(Acacia Ridge Q)	RALPH, Mrs. J.	(Bowral)
CORCORAN, Mr. M.A.	(Geraldton W.A.)	ROCHFORD, Mr. P.	(Balmain)
CUMMINGS, Miss C.	(Windsor Q)	ROSSER, Mrs. E.T.	(Gosford NSW)
CUTLER, Mrs. J.	(Heathmont Vic)	RYAN Mr. P.	(Flemington Vic)
DABB, Mr. G.	(Narabundah ACT)	SAUNDERS, Mr. C.J.	(Mundaring W.A.)
DAVIDSON, Mrs. D.	(East Brighton Vic)	SEETO, Mr. R.	(Beachmere Q)
DIFLO, Mr. K.	(Palmerston N.T.)	SKELLETT, Mr. I.	(Pymble NSW)
DONALDSON, Mr. P.	(Nth Narrabeen NSW)	SMITH, Mr. J.R.	(Nambour Q)
DOWNES, Mr. T.	(West Sepik, PNG)	SPENCE, Mr. R.A.	(Miranda NSW)
DWYER, Mr. P.	(Craigie W.A.)	STANFIELD, Mr. J.	(Norwood S.A.)
EDWARDS, Mr. A.H.	(Broadbeach Waters Q)	STANFORD, Mr. A.	(Narraweena NSW)
FARDON, Mrs. G.	(Armidale NSW)	STOKES Mr. J.	(Spring Hill Q)
FLYNN, Mrs. Y.C.	(Scarness Q)	SUBBARAMAN, Mr N.	(Castle Cove N)
FORD, Mrs. P.E.	(Maroochydhore Q)	SZENT-IVANY, Mrs.M	(Athelstone SA)
FRAWLEY, Ms. K.	(Narrabeen NSW)	TEEK, Mrs. C.	(Tallangatta V)
GAZZARD, Mr.A.E.	(St. Ives NSW)	TERRY Mr. A.	(McGraths Hill)
GIBBES, Mr. R.	(Collaroy NSW)	TRACY Mrs. D.	(Manly NSW)
GIBBES, Mrs. J.	(Collaroy NSW)	VAN DER WAAG, Mr L	(Albany W.A.)
GRUNDY, Mr. I.	(Carseldine Q)	WALLIS, Mr. B.J.	(Morley W.A.)
HAYES, Mr. E.	(Glenroy Vic)	WEIER, Pastor E.	(Henty NSW)
HERBERT, Mr. J.	(Indooroopilly Q)	WEISE, Mr. W.A.	(Broadbeach Q)
HUBBARD, Mr. T.J.	(Seville Vic)	WETHERELL, Dr. D.	(Wauran Ponds V)
HUGHES, Mrs. J.A.	(Hervey Bay Q)	WORTH, Mr. M.	(Coogee NSW)
HULLS, Mr. R.	(Gundagai NSW)	YUILL, Mrs. B.	(Esperance W.A.)

PNG NEWS

PNG ECONOMY CLOSES TALAIR

Millionaire airline operator, Sir Dennis Buchanan, 60, has closed down his Papua New Guinea airline TALAIR, after 40 years' operating in the world's most difficult terrain. He blames the downturn of the PNG economy.

"Over the last 12 months here it has become serious," Sir Dennis said. "People can't afford to fly."

There had been a lack of co-operation from Air Niugini which had adopted the US Gabriel reservations systems which linked US travel agents, the South Pacific, Asia and Australasia and excluded his airline which was on the non-compatible QUANTAM system used by Qantas.

TALAIR had been operating at a \$1.45m per month loss and had debts of \$8.7m.

"TALAIR'S closure marks the end of the colonial era and a lot of people here will be happy to see the colonial association go," Sir Dennis said from his Goroka home. "PNG is divorcing itself from Australia to some extent, and embracing Indonesia and Malaysia."

The closure has cost the jobs of 400 staff, including 70 pilots. The airline handled more than 100 routes and last year carried 230,000 passengers.

"Airlines like Milne Bay Air, North Coast Aviation and South West Air will take over many of the routes," Sir Dennis said. TALAIR provided services from the major airports to rural areas, many of which will now be without scheduled flights.

Sir Dennis, who has large financial interests in Papua New Guinea, said he would remain there until he was 65 and would then retire in Australia. He said it would be a relief not to hear the phone go in the middle of the night and to fear the worst.

"We have flown in very difficult conditions," he said. "Australia is by contrast a very flat country and doesn't have the problems we have up here. We have recently rationalised our fleet. We have had our accidents, which I would rather not think about. Many have been human error, which is out of our control."

Over 41 years TALAIR has pushed into what were believed to be inaccessible mountain areas.

Sir Dennis is also the owner of the Queensland outback and coastal airline, Flight West. An outspoken man, he has made political enemies in PNG over the years, but said he had mended relationships with the present government.

(From: "The Sunday Mail" May 30, 1993.)

GOODWILL TOWARDS PNG

The question of law and order in Papua New Guinea has been raised again. PNG Prime Minister Sir Julius Chan said (C-M April 15) Australia was hardly in a position to criticise other countries.

Indeed, the weird and tragic Waco affair, the situation in South Africa and the bloody events in former Yugoslavia underlie the sad state of the rule of law and order in other parts of the world, most of which have a far longer recorded history than PNG.

I spent 27 years in PNG, retiring as the last white district commissioner of the Eastern Highlands at independence. I met my wife in PNG and my children were born there. I am the author of more than 20 books on PNG, I am thus biased. However, in defence of PNG, certain facts should be emphasised.

Australia, undoubtedly, derived considerable commercial advantage from

(continued next page)

PNG NEWS (continued)

its association with PNG, particularly between the wars. The emphasis after 1945, however, was on developing it to be ready to assume responsibility for its own destiny.

It cannot be denied that PNG has a serious law and order problem, but much of the responsibility lies with Australia. We pulled out of PNG long before it was ready to handle its affairs. We fiddled about with such things as village courts and area authorities at the very end of the colonial era and left PNG to try and cope with the results.

It would help if Australians occasionally read something positive about PNG in the newspapers instead of the endless stream of negative reports that currently appear. A little goodwill would not go amiss.

(James Sinclair, "The Courier Mail" April 22, 1993).

PNG SALES AND SERVICES TAX (SST)

The following are some examples of this tax recently enacted by the National Capital District Commission:

3. TAX RATES ON SALES AND SERVICES TAX

- 3.1. in respect of the sale of taxable goods, the following rates of sales tax shall apply:
 - 3.1.1. in relation to all petroleum products for use in motor vehicles and machinery of any type whatsoever.
 - (i) motor spirit (gasoline) - 3% of sale value.
 - (ii) distillate - 3% of sale value
 - 3.1.2. in relation to all alcoholic beverages -
 - (i) beer - 3% of sale value.
 - (ii) wines, fortified wines, spirits and any containing alcohol - 3% of sale value.
 - 3.1.3. in relation to motor vehicles - 3% of sale value.
 - 3.1.4. in relation to motor vehicle tyres - 3% of sale value
 - 3.1.5. in relation to all cigarettes and tobacco - 5% (2.5% wholesale level) (2.5% retail level).
 - 3.1.6. in relation to all other taxable goods - 2.5% of sale value.

3.2 SERVICES TAX

- in respect of the sale of taxable services the following rates of services tax shall apply:
- 3.2.1. in relation to all medical and dental services - 2.5% of sale value.
 - 3.2.2. in relation to all accountancy and audit services - 2.5% of sale value.
 - 3.2.3. in relation to all legal services - 2.5% of sale value.
 - 3.2.4. in relation to consultancy services of any kind whatsoever - 2.5% of sale value. ...etc., etc.

A BOOST FOR TOURISM

A newly formed company set up to provide tourist services has brought two new luxury tourist boats to Milne Bay in a bid to develop momentum in the industry. The two boats brought from Australia are reliable for deep sea diving and fishing. The bigger one has the capacity to carry up to 36 tourists with sleeping accommodation for 12 persons and the crew.

The Managing Director of Pappora Pty Ltd, Mr Peter Neville, said that there are airport developments and other activities going on in the province so the boats are in line with plans to attract more tourists and to develop better accommodation for the industry, but Alotau still needs better tourist accommodation.

"We would like to see better services happen in Milne Bay Province by encouraging people from outer islands to organise and set up better tourist accommodation, especially in a traditional perspective," Mr Neville said.

VALE

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

Mr. Barry Francis GRIFFIN (22 February 93, aged 65 years)

Barry was born in Glebe NSW in 1927. His schooling at De La Salle, Marrickville was described in the 1944 Green and Gold Year Book as a "brilliant college career". Captain and Dux of his school, he received almost every academic and sporting honour handed out.

He spent one year in Naval Training before starting Languages at Sydney University. Tempted by some friends he travelled to Papua New Guinea in 1950 where, having fallen in love with the place, he spent the next twenty-six years of his life.

His satisfying work as a Patrol Officer was captured in print and on film by David Attenborough and in print by Gavin Souter. He spent ten years in the Western District, Madang, Aiome and the Jimi Valley. Tabibuga was his own creation and his glamour spot. In the 50s he supervised the building of the Jimi Airstrip. Barry also has the distinction of belonging to that exclusive club of people who have survived an air crash in Papua New Guinea.

Marrying in 1959, the next term was spent as Assistant District Officer in Mount Hagen. In 1962 he was seconded to Port Moresby as Project Officer in the Administrator's Department. From there he held various other positions until he became Secretary of the Police Department where he worked with five different Police Commissioners. When Pius Kerepia took over as Police Commissioner Barry became Executive Officer of the Planning and Co-ordination Unit of the Papua New Guinea Police Force.

Throughout his working life Barry had the honourable reputation for being meticulously thorough, talented and dedicated to his work, with little tolerance for mediocrity.

He became quite ill in 1976 and so 1977 saw him pack up and leave PNG to join his family who had left PNG in 1974 for schooling reasons.

With progressive breathlessness and the inability to continue working Barry learned to accept fully his illness and its consequences. He then devoted his time and effort completely to his family. Over the last few years he was a semi-invalid and, even though he was house-bound and very ill, he loved life and fought death till the very end.

Barry is survived by his widow Joan, son Ben, daughters Frances and Cassandra and grandchild Benjamin.

Dr. Kathleen FARAGO (24 December 93)

Kathleen escaped from Hungary in 1956, when the country's borders were briefly left open. In Vienna she was recruited to head the radiotherapy unit at Taurama General Hospital in Port Moresby. During her service in PNG, Kathleen not only treated the patients referred to her, but carried out surveys in many districts on the incidence of cancer in village communities. She was widely known for her professional skill and compassion by her patients, colleagues and all who came into contact with her.

After leaving PNG she spent some years at the Royal Newcastle Hospital and overseas. Her last post was at the Alice Springs General Hospital. On her retirement she lived in Sydney, doing locums and other professional work. She died after a brief illness which she bore with great courage.

She is survived by her sisters Antonia, Barbara and Claire, and mourned by her many friends.

Mr. James Quinn (Jim) DUNCAN (27 April 93, aged 72 years)

Born in Sydney in 1922 Jim arrived in Madang, TPNG in 1946, employed by W.R. Carpenter as an engineer, where his wife Margaret joined him when accommodation became available on Kerosene Island in Madang Harbour.

In 1949 Jim established and became Manager of Madang Marine Workshops. Son Michael was born in 1950 (sadly killed in an accident in Rabaul later) and daughter Joanne in 1953.

In 1962 Jim branched out on his own forming J.Q. & M.E. Duncan Refrigeration and Air Conditioning which flourished until he decided to leave the Territory in 1968.

Jim was enormously interested in every aspect of community life, being deeply involved in the Masonic Lodge, Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, school affairs, the Bowling Club and for some years the town's auctioneer. He was highly respected by all, regardless of race or creed and staunchly loyal to all he called "friend".

Jim joined ACTROL in Sydney involved with the Administration and Consultant side of the business until, owing to impaired health, he retired to Paradise Point on the Gold Coast in 1983. He is survived by his wife Margaret, daughter Joanne and grandsons Joshua and Matthew.

Mr Keith TRACY (14 April 93, aged 67 years)

Keith commenced his career in the wartime Royal Australian Navy. He served in the Corvettes HMAS Toowoomba and Geelong. He was a survivor of Geelong when that ship was sunk after a collision with the US tanker York off the North coast of New Guinea on the night of 18 October 1944. Owing to wartime submarine security neither ships were showing normal navigation lights.

From 1950 to 1969 Keith was with Department of Forests at Konedobu, serving under Jim Macadam, Bill Suttie, Don McIntosh and Kevin White. After his return to Australia he lived at Balmoral, Brisbane before moving recently to Banora Point NSW. He was an active member of the RAN Corvettes Association.

His daughter Kim from the USA and son Mitch were at his cremation service. By Keith's wishes his ashes will be scattered at sea off the coast of Queensland from a RAN ship.

Sir Albert MAORI KIKI, KBE. (14 March 93, aged 60 years)

Sir Albert Maori Kiki KBE was the first Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade at Independence in 1975.

With Sir Michael Somare, Sir Ebia Olewale, Sir Cecil Abel, Sir Joseph Nombri and the late Mr Oala Oala Rarua etc. Sir Albert started the famous 'Bully Beef Club' which eventually emerged as the first political party in Papua New Guinea - the PANGU PATI. He was instrumental in the first Union Movement as he believed strongly in the rights of workers, and unions in PNG are now a force to be reckoned with.

After retiring from politics, Sir Albert became a successful businessman heading Credit Corporation (PNG) Ltd. Last year he opened up a branch in Suva, Fiji - Credit Corporation Fiji Ltd, where 51% share is owned by the Fijians.

Sir Albert can best be remembered for his decisiveness, straight shooting, and above all humility and humour. He is survived by his wife, Lady Elizabeth Kiki and four children.

Miss Pam AUMULLER (3 June 93, aged 65 years)

Daughter of George Aumuller who was with Burns Philp in Samarai pre-war. George returned to PNG after the war to establish Burns Philp in Port Moresby.

Dr. Eric Mervyn CRAGGS (7 March 93, aged 91 years)

Dr. Craggs was a Medical Officer in the PNG Department of Health from August 1952 to November 1958. No further information available.

Mr. Wallace David LAWRIE (20 March 93, aged 76 years)

Wal was with the PNG Department of Lands, Surveys and Mines and is survived by his widow, Nellie. No further information available.

Mrs. Kathleen Mary HALVORSEN (12 December 92, aged 85 years)

Widow of Louis Henry Halvorsen who was a Foreman Storeman with PNG Department of the Treasury. No further information available.

Mr. Adrian Geoffrey FRUGTNIET (20 May 93)

Was O.I.C. D.C.A. in Madang in 60's and is survived by wife, Noelene, and children, Pam, Andrew and Geoffrey. No further information available.

Mr. James Bryant KEOGH (4 May 93, aged 76 years)

Jim went to PNG during W.W.II at age 25 and as a remnant of ANGAU was taken over by the Provisional Administration. He subsequently worked with the PNG Department of Health, Supreme Court, "South Pacific Post", Land Titles Commission and Department of Lands.

He served in several office-bearing roles with the Moresby Amateur Draatic Players, later PNG Co-opted Division of Australian Arts Council.

Later was President of PNG SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). This body, plus other supporters from PNG and outside (including Africa), were instrumental in persuading MHA's to vote against the 1965 Bird of Paradise Bill which, if passed, would have removed the then existing prohibitions on buying, selling and exporting birds of paradise.

Jim moved to Far North Queensland at age 50, there dabbling in concrete construction, police work, social security and education. He finally retired in 1983.

He is survived by his widow Ann.

(The above information was sent to me by Jim way back in 1989 titled "Obit Notes". Ed.)

Mrs. Wilma Elsie May (Wim) HERRIOTT (4 May 93, aged 71 years)

Wim worked for a number of years in the Government Stores at Madang and is survived by daughter, Margo.

Mrs. Myrtle, Ena (Pat) HART (9 April 93, aged 84 years)

An ex-resident of PNG is survived by daughter Isobel. (No further information available.

Miss Pam AUMULLER (3 June 93, aged 65 years)

Pam's father was with Burns Philp at Samarai pre-war and went back to Moresby after the war to help re-establish Burns Philp. No further information available.

Sir Vincent Serei ERI, GCMG, KStJ (25 May 93 aged 56 years)

Sir Vincent was born in the Gulf Province and was educated at St Patrick's School, Yule Island, after which he trained as a Co-operatives clerk with the Dept. of District Services & Native Affairs. He then attended Sogeri Secondary School and completed teacher training at Sogeri.

He taught at Sogeri Secondary School for two years then studied for the Queensland Junior Certificate for a year. He later held posts of Deputy Headmaster at Ihu Primary School for a year and Coronation High School, Kerema for a year. Next, he attended a three month political education course and also undertook field training to be a Schools Inspector in Port Moresby.

In 1963 Vincent was selected to meet Her Majesty the Queen in Canberra and later undertook inservice studies at Port Moresby Teachers' College, where he became a lecturer in 1966. He was the first president of the PNG Teachers' Association and led a delegation to the Asian Trades Union Congress. Later he attended the UNESCO conference in Teheran as part of the Australian delegation. In 1967 Sir Vincent entered the University of PNG and graduated with Bachelor of Arts in 1971, after which he returned to the Dept. of Education as Superintendent of Primary Education and was A/Director of Education for a period of six months. In 1973/74 he was appointed Head of the Dept. of Information and Extension Services, during which period the National Broadcasting Commission was established.

In 1974 he was appointed PNG Consul in Sydney and upon Independence he became the first Consul-General. In 1976 he was appointed High Commissioner in Canberra and in 1979, he returned to PNG as Head of Transport and Civil Aviation, later leading the PNG delegates to the World Conference of Maritime Nations in London. In 1980 he was appointed Secretary for Dept. of Defence and was awarded the CMG (Companion of St Michael & St George). In 1982 he joined Harrisons & Crossfield (PNG) Ltd and in 1984 was appointed Employers' Representative to the National Provident Fund Board, and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the University of PNG, a position held until his election to the post of Governor General in 1990.

During the next six years Sir Vincent served on a World Bank team to report on Upper Secondary Education in PNG; he became President of the People's Action Party, and he served on a committee set up by the Minister for Education, Hon. Aruru Matiabe which produced a report known as the Kenehe Report. He resigned from the Office of Governor-General in 1991.

(I believe Mr. Lepani WATSON, an ex-member of the House of Assembly and well known to Port Moresby residents, passed away recently, as did Mr. Raphael DOA, a very important person in the Mt. Hagen area. Ed.)

I apologise for not including the AGM Minutes & Financial Report with this issue, but it is our first under "Print Post" and we are not certain as yet what will now be our postage costs under this system.

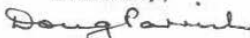
Held over also are some items on PNG and a number of articles by members including one on Fred Shaw Mayer, The Bird Man of New Guinea, also a magnificent eulogy delivered at Chris Cohen's funeral, which I have had great difficulty condensing whilst still doing it justice.

All of the current backlog I will endeavour to include in the September and December issues.

Moving house recently has also not helped!

My very best wishes to you all.

Sincerely,



Doug Parrish
Editor