

HAVE A LAUGH BUMPER STICKERS

If you can read this, I've lost my trailer

So many Pedestrians—So little time

If we quit voting, will they all go away ?

FIGHT CRIME—SHOOT BACK

How many roads must a man travel down
Before he admits he is lost

He who hesitates is not only lost,
but is usually miles from the next Exit.

Illiterate ?
Then why not write for help.

Politicians & nappies both need to be changed often,
And for the same reason.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA—LAND OF THE UNEXPECTED.....

- When President Phil arrived in Port Moresby with his latest, modern, hi tec, international roaming mobile phone—IT DIDN'T WORK—all it picked up was "no signal"
- One of the very LAST suitcases off the flight from Port Moresby to Mt Hagen on 22 July was Col Gould's—the one with the bright pink "PRIORITY BAGGAGE" Airline tag attached to the handle.
- After a pleasant and enjoyable dinner on the waterside deck of the Royal Papua Yacht Club in Port Moresby in July, Phil, Colin & Bruce were enjoying a few quiet "handles" (Pots of SP) with VP John Mudge, when John suddenly got up, had a few quiet words with the 4 piece local Band, and then to our total surprise belted out a few Neil Diamond songs much to the delight of some 100 or so Club guests. Talk about HIDDEN TALENTS. Well done John.
- During our Port Moresby stay, President Phil decided that he needed to lay in a few more KINA for expenses, (or to shout the bar) yes—Murphy's law struck— Phil's you beaut Australian bank ATM card would not work in that Bank's Port Moresby Branch.
- After Remembrance formalities near the 'MacDhui' on Monday 24 July, a local band was engaged provide live music for the VIP gathering. One of the young PNG female guests asked Bruce if he would like to dance to the jazz type music. All I can say is ELVIS EAT YOUR HEART OUT—Bruce came up with the dance moves that would astound you. Needless to say Bruce was the big hit of the afternoon. Well done Bruce.
- During Sunday service at St Martins Anglican Church, Boroko, attended by Col and Bruce, Col got a tap on the shoulder and turned around to find leading Port Moresby Lawyer and community supporter, Mrs Winifred Kamit, CBE (wife of Reserve Bank Governor, Wilson Kamit, CBE) sitting behind him. Col and Winifred worked together with the PNG Ombudsman Commission 1976—1981—Winifred as Senior Investigation and Col as Commission Secretary. A great if not emotional re-union. Col

PAPUA NEW GUINEA.....LAND OF THE UNEXPECTED

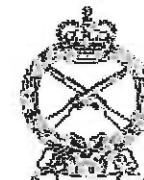
New Guinea Volunteer Rifles and Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles Ex Members Association Inc.

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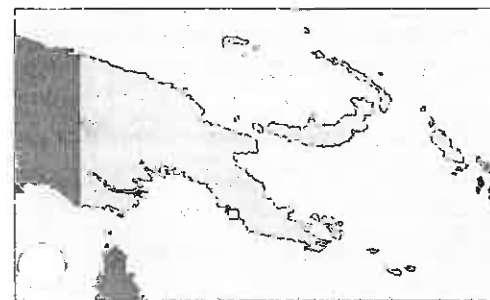
NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW GUINEA VOLUNTEER RIFLES
AND
PAPUA NEW GUINEA VOLUNTEER RIFLES
EX MEMBERS ASSOCIATION INC.

VOLUME 48

SEPTEMBER 2006



Visit to Papua New Guinea



In July 2006 three members of the Executive, Phillip Ainsworth, Col Gould and Bruce Crawford flew to PNG where they were joined by John Mudge.

The purpose of the visit was to:-

- Present 32 Australian Service Medals 1945-1975 with PNG Clasp to former PNG National members of PNGVR—17 in Mt Hagen; 5 in Port Moresby and 10 in other parts of the country including Madang, Wewak and Kavieng, by means to be established in Port Moresby.
- Undertake discussions towards establishing ex

- Member Associations in PNG Canvass whether there is sufficient ex-PIR support in PNG for our Association to assume Australian PIR responsibilities
- Assess whether another viable war time tourism, similar to the existing Kokoda Track, may be established, eg the Black Cat or Bulldog tracks.
- Commence preliminary planning for a proposed 2007 PNG tour for a larger contingent of Association members and friends/partners
- To renew and strengthen business and social ties with various government and community leaders forged during previous visits.

Summary:-

Saturday 15 July: Col & Bruce flew to Port Moresby and were met by John who kindly provided accommodation and transport in Port Moresby.

Sunday 16 July: Whilst John attended to personal business, Col and Bruce attended a Service at St

Martins Anglican Church, Boroko. Bruce presented the Church with a gift box of Bibles from Australia for Bomana Jail and the Milne Bay Province. Col and Bruce also met well known local identity and leading Lawyer, Mrs Winifred Kamit, CBE (formally of the PNG Ombudsman Commission; Public Services Commissioner and wife of the Governor of the Reserve Bank, Mr Wilson Kamit, CBE.) Incidentally, Col was Secretary of the Ombudsman Commission and worked for many years with Mrs Kamit who was the Senior Investigation Officer for the Ombudsman Commission. The Church members were reminded of our Association's donation of an Organ to the Church in the recent past.

Monday 17 July: Col and Bruce visited the office of the Post Courier at Konedobu and spoke at length about our visit with Chief of Staff, Goreethy Kenneth and reporter, Estella Cheung. Photos of the ASM medals were taken, and, along with editorial, appeared in the Tuesday 18 July issue of the Post Courier.

In this issue:- The 2006 PNG Visit Report; Photographs; NGVR Rfn Jack Goad "A Rescue Mission" - Part 1; AGM 2006; Jimboomba Bush Dinner; Have a laugh

NEW ASSOCIATION MAILING ADDRESS

Due to the residential relocation of the Secretary, the Association's new mailing address is:-

NEW POSTAL ADDRESS →

NGVR / PNGVR Association Inc

PO Box 885

PARK RIDGE, Queensland 4125

Colin Gould: Ph: 042 456 2030 email: pngvr@optusnet.com.au

Bruce later delivered a letter of thanks to the Post Courier for their support.

Tuesday 18 July: John, Col and Bruce paid a courtesy call on the Deputy High Commissioner, Ms Ann Harrap, at the Australian High Commission at Waigani. (His Excellency Michael Potts, the High Commissioner was overseas at the time) We were well received by Ms Harrap and briefed her on the purpose of our visit and the pending presentation of 32 Australian Service Medals in Port Moresby and Mt Hagen on the 23 July—PNG Remembrance Day.

During the day and evening we dined with a number of local businessmen and friends.

Wednesday 19 July: President Phillip Ainsworth flew to Port Moresby and met up with John, Col and Bruce. John provided accommodation for the group. This was followed by an interesting tour of Port Moresby and a planning meeting for the rest of our stay in PNG.

For the time B4 members, do you remember the old road that ran between Koki Market and Ela Beach—one road went up across the hill and down into Koki whilst the other road ran along the water front from Koki to Ela Beach, both being "one way only" Well the road along the waters edge between Koki Market and Ela Beach is now a two way, 4 lane divided sealed road. It is approx half way along this road that a new Memorial Park has been constructed to commemorate those who paid the supreme sacrifice during WW 2.

Thursday 20 July: Visits were made by our group of 4 to—Naval Captain Ur Tom, Deputy Commander of the PNG Defence Force (Commodore Peter Ilau,

CBE was not available as he was meeting with the Prime Minister) Incidentally Captain Tom has a connection to Brisbane—he once served part of his Naval service on the HMAS Diamantina, which is laid up at the Maritime Museum in Brisbane. Then,

- Kingsbury Club to meet with Tom Ward Jr.
- Minister for Health, Sir Peter Barter, Kt. OBE. MP, who undertook to present 2 x ASM's to recipients in Madang, on Remembrance Day. We were well received by Sir Peter and we briefed him on the purpose of our visit. As we prepared to leave, Sir Peter presented Phil, John and Bruce with the 30th Anniversary Medal. (Col had earlier received this award from the PNG Consul General in Brisbane.)
- Colonel Rauka Eric Ani, CBE., Director of the National Disaster Centre. Colonel Ani kindly offered his support to any ex PNG V R members Association established in Port Moresby.
- At the Police Officers Club at Konedobu, we met with Tim Ward, Jr and Doug Kelson, CEO of St John Ambulance Service, PNG. Doug kindly shared his wealth of local knowledge by introducing us to Port Moresby's night life via St John HQ and St John Social Club near Gerehu and the Port Moresby Country Club (Old Chinese Club) in Waigani. The quality and décor of Moresby's new social clubs and up market eating establishments has to be seen to be believed.

Friday 21 July: Phil and Bruce visited the Papua New Guinea Tourism Authority and spoke at length to Heni Dembis and Jim Yomapisi about alternate war time tourist walks. Heni, who was previously with the Morobe Province Tourism body, had already walked the Black Cat three times and kindly gave us a copy of his Black Cat Track report. They were very enthusiastic and sought our Association's assistance in promoting this walk.

John, Colin and Bruce also visited the National Broadcasting Commission HQ office at Boroko. Managing Director Mr Joseph N Ealedona made us welcome. N Ealedona is the son of former 12 Platoon D Coy Madang member, WO2 Malea Ealedona, who now lives of Misima Island. We presented the ASM to Joseph who will, in turn, organise a family presentation to Malea on Misima Island on Independence Day, 16 September. Also present was Journalist Denyse Ray.

Later in the day we met up with Police Commissioner, Sam Inguba, CBE. QPM., who is an Honorary member of our Association, and Assistant Commissioner Papuan Region. Tony Wagambie, QPM, DP (Tony is an ex Member of 12 Pl D Coy Madang). We also met Laurence Newell, CBE of Warner Shand Lawyers. We dined at the Lamana Hotel in Waigani with Solicitor Goodwin Poole from O'Briens, Tim Ward Jr and Doug Kelson from St John's and completed the night at the Hotel's nightclub, the "Gold Club". As mentioned earlier, the high quality of dining and clubs is impressive.

Saturday 22 July: Col and Bruce departed for Mt Hagen whilst Phil was bough up to date on Port Moresby places and events.

On Saturday 15 July, 2006, 51 guests sat down to a magnificent scene—white tablecloths, candelabra, mess silver etc, and all this under marquees—it was another mixed field dining night at Barry and Pam Wright's property, Jimboomba.

A great time was had by all, and, in addition, \$1,000 was raised on the night to purchase display cabinets for our Wacol historic military museum. Two display cabinets will be donated with plaques identifying the source of the funds—a very big thank you to all the donors.

Unfortunately, several of our regular attendee couples were absent—the National Servicemen's Association has a commitment in the New Hebrides where the French Military had invited them to attend Bastille Day, and the State Emergency Services personnel had scheduled a training weekend for that weekend as well. If all had been able to attend, we would have had over 60 persons at the dinner.

Jimboomba, for those who have not attended an evening yet, is well equipped for the dining nights. A great deal of work has been carried out to ensure the comfort of attendees. For those who camp out on the Saturday night there are hot showers, a kitchen with gas BBQ and gas stoves, as well as a timber fire. Camping spots are freely

available and the area is supplied with electricity.

A recent innovation is solar hot water for the kitchen, but, unfortunately, for its inauguration, the preceding three days were cloudy and only warm water was available and had to be supplemented for the big wash up the next morning.

Another new feature was the updated and much improved "Ladies facilities" which was one of the talking points of the evening.

Two large pot belly stoves were lit to provide warmth for the pre-dinner and post-sinner gatherings, and, thanks to the generosity of Association member Bruce Inch, new walls have been made which greatly assisted in keeping diners snug and warm, particularly in July. This new addition was most effective and there was no doubt that this was the most comfortable July dining evening yet.

It had become traditional for our Chef on the evening, Murray, to join us for a Port prior to his departure, and he advises that, on the November dinner, he will be staying that evening to partake in post dining festivities. Murray has cooked for all but one dining evening since their commencement nearly 10 years ago.

Bob Collins.

NEXT JIMBOOMBA BUSH DINNER

SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER



PHONE NOW:-

Barry:- 07 55 469 865

Bob: 07 55 268 396
041 383 1397



EMAIL NOW:-

Barry: barrypam.wright@bigpond.com

RSVP by 4 Nov.

We carried out weapons training on the rifle range situated facing the hill behind Chinatown-303, Lewis Gun and 1 Vickers machine gun.

We paraded two nights per week and I used to walk down to the Depot with my 'haus-boi' walking behind me carrying my rifle.

After Pearl Harbour (7th Dec, 1941), we used to post a permanent lookout at Voco Point. We would sleep down there and come to work during the day, leaving a lookout at all times. Our social life with NGVR consisted of fun nights at the BP mess. Four of us, Graham Menter, Jimmy Dixon, a chap called Young and myself formed a small band, in which I played the alto sax. Jackie Cook took the pinnace, the 'Anair', over to Salamaua on occasions and we played for them for a couple of hours and Jackie Cook then took them back. He would arrive back in Lae about midnight, but they were very pleasant evenings.

I recall that, on the first couple of air raids on Lae, the Japanese were so confident that

- a) we had no air support
 - b) we also had no anti aircraft weapons except for automatic weapons
- that they flew so low I could see the faces of the pilots as I huddled in the slit trench we used as air-raid shelters.

ESTABLISHING FOOD AND AMMUNITION DUMPS.

One of my early tasks was assisting in establishing food and ammunition dumps outside Lae. I cannot remember the type of truck but we obviously used one to establish one dump at Heaths Plantation and another at a village further up the Markham River. The road up the Markham at the time was very poor – just a track in fact. We also used the vessel 'Gnair' to establish a dump at Sugar Loaf, between Lae and Salamaua.

There was no shortage of food with which to supply these dumps as, by that time, the Burns Philp store in Lae had been taken over by the Army.

I was out establishing the dump at one of the villages when the fuel dump was fired at Finschafen, and I can recall the flames in the sky caused by the explosions of the fuel. Aussie (Oscar) Priebe, NGVR, was burnt whilst firing the fuel dump and had to be treated for his burns.

To be continued next Issue plus The Last Parade of A Company PNGVR

2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER.**

Long Tan Sergeants Mess—Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera. **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Due to increased security measures at Gallipoli Barracks, all members and guests attending the AGM MUST be able to produce, on demand, photo identification, such as a drivers licence at the main gate before entry. This includes any passengers you may have in your vehicle.

As it is a requirement for the Association to notify the Garrison Sergeant Major of all visitors to the Barracks, in advance, members who have not yet informed Col Gould of their intention to attend, and / or the name of their guest, please do so ASAP.

If you have any difficulty at the main gate on the 30th please contact Col Gould at the Long Tan Mess either via a Garrison phone or mobile 042 456 2030.

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 4.00 pm | Assemble in the Mess |
| 4.45 pm | AGM to commence |
| 6.00 pm | AGM ends |
| 6.30 pm | Bar B Q Dinner / tea / coffee / Bar open / drinks at Mess prices |
| | Port provided with the compliments of member Ken Hitchcock. |

Remembrance Day

Port Moresby

Sunday 23 July.

(Phillip Ainsworth & John Mudge)

Phil and John attended the Port Moresby Dawn Service at 5.00 am at 1 Royal Pacific Islands Regiment at Taurama Barracks and placed a wreath on the Memorial Cairn. After the ceremony they met with the Commander of the PNG Defence Force, Commodore Peter Ilau, CBE who introduced them to the gathering in the Officers Mess.

Our President made a well received speech after which he presented the ASM to Rfn Ken Rehder (Kainantu PI—who flew down from Manus Island); Cpl P Venget (Sp Coy Pom) and Cpl Elias Sakbua (12 PI Madang) who flew down from Kavieng)

At 8.30 am Phil and John attended the official National Remembrance Day Service at the new Ela Beach Commemorative Monument (built 2005) as invited VIP guests. This impressive ceremony was attended His Excellency Sir Paulus Matane—Governor General, and the Deputy Prime Minister. Prime Minister Grand Chief Sir Michael Somare was in

Wewak.

As VIP's, we were given preference in the order for the ceremony over other visiting dignitaries including the Australian High Commission and other Diplomatic Corp members. About 8 other ex PNGVR members joined and march with us on parade. We met up afterwards and arranged for everyone to attend Monday's ceremony at Kanudi Bay outside of Port Moresby.

At 12 noon, Phil and John attended the VIP reception at the Ela Beach Hotel and met up with numerous dignitaries and Port Moresby identities, et al—Ms Ann Harrap, Deputy Australian High Commissioner; Commodore Peter Ilau, CBE; Mr Alan Oaisa, CMG of the PNG Events Council Secretariat ; Mr Peter Loko, City Manager of the National Capital District Commission ; Lawyer Camillus Narokobi ; Dr PJ Usurup of the Modlion Hospital, Madang ; Several members of Radio FM100 (through whom our President organized a radio interview for the following morning); Sir Brian Bell ; Ray Thurecht ; Lt Colonel Raymond Numa ; Ben Modie, CBE ;and many more.

As invited VIP's Phil and John attended the PNG Defence Force's evening flag lowering ceremony which ended the National Remembrance Day celebrations. We again met with Commodore Peter Ilau and other Defence Force Officers as well at the Australian and New Zealand Military Attaches. Phil and John completed the long day at the Royal Papua Yacht Club where they met Winnie Mac.

The following morning Phil was interviewed on Radio FM100 about our visit. We thank St John CEO, Doug Kelson, who greatly assisted us in Port Moresby.

Monday 24 July 2006 Kanudi Bay—Port Moresby Remembrance Service.

This service was organized to remember those who lost their lives at sea during the Second World War, in particular the:-

MV MacDhui - 18 June 1942
MV Namutu - 7 August 1942
MV Montevideo Maru 1 July 1942

During the ceremony President Phil laid a wreath on behalf of all NGVR and PNGVR members at the beachfront memorial cross. During these formalities Phil and John presented ASM's to Assistant Commissioner of Police, Tony Wagambie and the widow of the Late Sgt Nou. PNGVR was well represented with the following members marching and participating in the service"-

Capt Phil Ainsworth (D, Sp and Admin Coys Port Moresby) ;
Cpl John Mudge (Port Moresby);
Sgt Col Gould (D Coy Madang)
Rfn Bruce Crawford (Port Moresby); Cpl Tony Wagambie (D Coy Madang) ; Sgt Morea Gaigo (Port Moresby); Cpl Wenget (Sp Coy); Rfn Mike Bray; Rfn Kevau Raho; Rfn Bagu Gaigo; Rfn Cyril Nogah and Rfn P J Usuruo.



MT HAGEN VISIT
Saturday 22 July to Monday 24 July
(Col Gould & Bruce Crawford)

Col and Bruce traveled to Mt Hagen from Port Moresby on Saturday 22 July and were met by C Coy Secretary Patrick Amberye and three other members. When we arrived at the Highlander Hotel, we were surprised and impressed to be greeted by some 18 former members of the Hagen Platoon lined up "on parade" to welcome us. There were also 4 ex PIR members to greet us as well.

With a comfortable 4 x 4 kindly provided and driven by Executive Committee member, Raphael Kona, we were quickly driven away down the Highlands Highway to Banz. The urgency of the Banz trip soon became apparent. Patrick, Raphael and members of C Coy wanted to take us on a visit to the house and coffee plantation of their former Company Commander, the Late Major Peter Harbeck, ED. We were driven right up to the front door and introduced to the current residents. Every one knew Peter Harbeck, and it is quite clear that some 32 years on, C Coy PNGVR ex Members still hold Peter in the highest regard.

On our return into Banz proper, we were driven to a local community venue where another surprise awaited Col and Bruce.. To the strong bellow of a former PNGVR Corporal

**" 8 PLATOON PNGVR
ATTENTION!! "**

we found 20 members of the Banz Platoon lined up on parade & who gave us a 'General Salute' . We were introduced to the members, local VIP's and family members of deceased members. This was followed by a substantial chicken and veggie lunch and some very cold "SP"

It was a very emotionally charged afternoon, and we all shared old PNGVR stories. I don't think there was a dry eye in the place, that afternoon in Banz.

On our return to Banz Col was met by a small delegation of ex (Pre-Independence) PIR members who said that they have been trying for years to seek some redress in Australia and PNG for their service entitlements. Col was presented with a submission for safe hand delivery to Prime Minister Howard and His Excellency the Governor General in Canberra.

The submission had been duly sent on to Canberra.

That night we dined with PNGVR Lt and former Patrol Officer, Ian Thompson, who works in the Highlands. Ian has kindly offered to assist the C Coy members, if required. Thanks Ian.

On Sunday 23 July, Remembrance Day, we joined some 100 former members of PNGVR, PIR, Ex Servicemen and a small detachment of PNGDF Engineers to march through Mt Hagen to Provincial HQ.

We had the pleasure of meeting Provincial Governor and three times former Prime Minister, Paias Wingti, CMG., Col and Bruce escorted the Governor on the Parade.

When the parade reached Provincial HQ, Patrick, Raphael, Col and Bruce were presented with flower leis and welcomed by a group of traditionally dressed SING SING dancers.

Following a formal welcome and speeches, Governor Wingti presented 17 Australian Service Medals to PNGVR recipients from Mt Hagen and Banz. Col and Bruce personally pinned each medal on the recipients jackets.

In his formal address, the Governor stated that he was most pleased and impressed by the work put into organizing the Mt Hagen Remembrance Day function and medal presentation by PNGVR. The Governor went on to thank our Association for organizing the ASM for his citizens, and was looking

forward to a growing relationship between the Western Highland Province and Papua New Guinea and our Association in Australia.

Governor Wingti announced that his Government will fund the purchase of two air tickets so that two former PNGVR members in Mt Hagen can join us in Brisbane on ANZAC Day 2007. The Governor also announce that Remembrance Day 2007 is firmly on his Provincial Calendar, and, with the help of PNGVR in the Province and other community groups, Remembrance Day 2007 in Mt Hagen will be bigger and better than ever.

Guests were invited to a pig and chicken lunch hosted by C Coy PNGVR.

Colin and Bruce would like to thank Patrick Amberye, Raphael Kona, Committee Executives and members of C Coy for all their hard work and efforts in making our visit such a success.

CONCLUSION

The visit's achievements exceeded all expectations. 17 ASM medals were presented in Mt Hagen and 5 in Port Moresby. Of the remaining 10 medals, 8 were posted by Registered Mail to other PNG locations, and 2 were presented to Sir Peter Barter for presentation in Madang on Remembrance Day.

Initial contact with the PNG Tourism Authority showed an enthusiasm for another war time tourism walk and agreed that the BLACK CAT TRACK between Salamaua and Wau is probably most suitable. The track is part of our NGVR history. It is not only a wartime walk, but allows for a round trip by bus from Wau through Bulolo and the Watut and Markham Valleys to Lae. It would seem that the next step is to have the track mapped, arrange the war time write up and post war history, obtain villagers assistance in developing the track and appropriate rest houses for walkers etc.

A Sister from a nearby Mission used to come over daily in the Government whaleboat, rowed by police bois, to teach the whole 6 of us expatriate children at the school in Kieta. I can still remember her sitting in the back of the whaleboat, with her umbrella up, rain or shine.

SCHOOL IN ENGLAND

In 1928 Dad had recovered from a bout of blackwater fever (brought about by recurring malaria – he was invalided from the Dardenelles with malaria). He took his holidays and sick leave and we sailed from Sydney to England in the P & O Liner "Borda", which called via Hobart, Tasmania, to load cases of apples for England. We travelled via Durban and Cape Town, South Africa.

Bruce and I were left to attend school in England when mum and dad went back to New Guinea. We stayed with relatives and I attended the same school that my father had gone to. I still recall one of the teachers who had also taught my father telling me, not so kindly, that my father's voice was better than mine, but he still kept me in the school choir.

BACK TO SCHOOL IN AUSTRALIA

Bruce and I came back to Australia in the "Balranald", via Malta, the Suez Canal, Fremantle and eventually to Sydney. Mum and dad came down from New Guinea on the "Macdhui" to settle us in school in Sydney – Bruce at Coogee and myself to Waverley Commercial School. We were there when the Sydney Harbour Bridge was opened and I recall, the day before the bridge was opened, walking across it. A co-incidence was that my future wife, Emily, also walked across the bridge with her school on the same day. The next day I stood on a corner of the street where I was able to see de Groot cut the ribbon with his sword before the official opening by the Premier of N.S.W.

It was while we were in Sydney that my brother Bruce was struck in the eye while we were hammering in some pieces of steel to make a chicken coop and lost his eye. However this did not stop Bruce and his life went on just the same.

RETURN TO KAVIENG, NEW GUINEA.

In 1934 Bruce and I joined mum and dad in New Guinea. We sailed on the "Montoro" to Kavieng.

There were no jobs available in Kavieng and I worked with the shipping manager of Burns Philp, assisting him in running the labour line on the "Bank" ships and, whenever he was free, joining schooners as they went to and fro picking up copra around New Hanover, with the occasional trip to Rabaul.

Eventually Les Bell took me on as an apprentice mechanic. After some 12 months I went to work one morning and there was nothing there – the place had burnt down during the night. Les said to me "Jack! Your papers and indentures all went up in flames, so I suppose you don't want to renew them, do you?"

I took the hint and dad got me a position with Burns Philp as their office boy.

My brother Bruce was working at Medina Plantation, owned by Burns Philp. He was in charge of the planting of the copra and cocoa. He often spoke of how he would place his glass eye on a log near the labour line and venture to other parts of the plantation. The labour line continued to work, thinking they were being observed.

Unfortunately, in 1939, he was murdered by the natives. He had come in to town for the Anzac Day Ball and went home to Medina that night. The next morning he was found murdered alongside the road at Medina.

TRANSFER TO LAE AND JOINING THE NEW GUINEA VOLUNTEER RIFLES

Late in 1939 Burns Philp transferred me to Lae as their Shipping Manager, a position I enjoyed very much.

Just after it was formed I joined the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles (NGVR).

Our training in Lae consisted of a lot of bush work – learning how to patrol, moving silently through the bush and giving hand signals etc.

A RESCUE MISSION ©
By Rifleman John Crayton GOAD
NG 2274
New Guinea Volunteer Rifles



I was born on 26th March, 1918, in Morecombe, England.

My father had served in the British Army in WW1 in the British Army Medical Corps, firstly in France, and then to the Dardenelles, being invalided home from there.

He had developed malaria in Salonika and in the Dardenelles, but fortunately, had a Medical Officer to look after him and he came through.

My brother, Bruce, was born in Durham, England, in June, 1920 and my other brother, Malcolm, was born in Subiaco, Western Australia, in 1924.

My father worked with his brother-in-law Jimmy after his discharge from the British Army, but in 1922 he made application for, and was granted, under the Returned Soldiers Settlement Scheme, a block in Western Australia.

WE MOVE TO AUSTRALIA

He emigrated in 1922 and my mother, Bruce and I joining him in 1923. We came out on the vessel "Lages Bay".

I recall our house at Belmont very well. It had a verandah all around, but, unfortunately was beside a track where the sheep used to go from one point to another – hundreds of them padding up and down, creating big clouds of dust that landed both in and out of the house. My father did not develop his land like the other soldiers around us but worked as a Stained Glass Artist at Sedgwicks.

It was while we were here that Jack Thurston, a resident of Rabaul, visited Sedgwicks to meet his fiancée, met my father and told him how there was a need for medical personnel to join the Department of Health in New Guinea. At this time positions in the New Guinea Administration were only available to Returned Soldiers. Dad applied for a position and his reply came back quickly together with a ticket for him to board the ship "Masina" to the Territory.

Doctor Cilento (later to be Sir Raphael of Brisbane) was then Director of the Department of Public Health in Rabaul. He posted my father to Kieta to relieve Medical Assistant Robertson, who later became known as the infamous "Sepik Wobbie" after leaving the Department to join District Services.

THE FAMILY MOVES TO NEW GUINEA

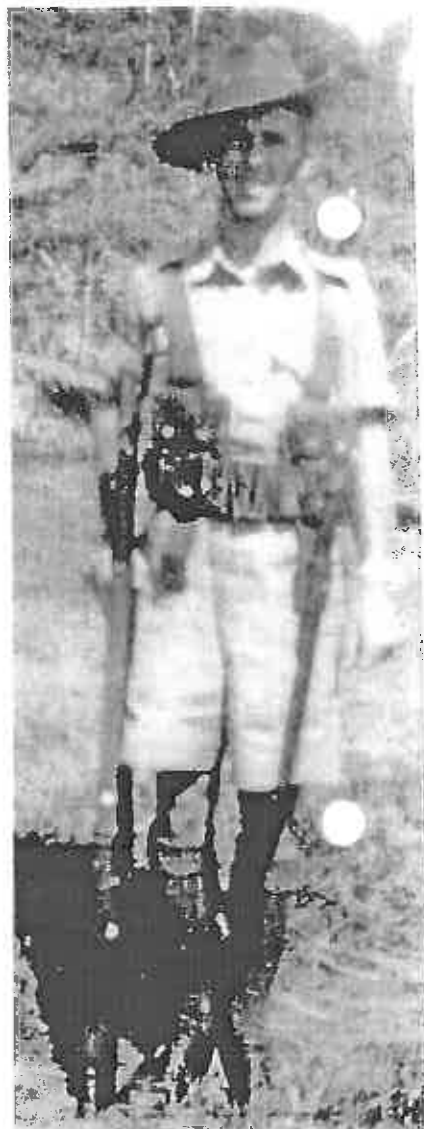
Mum got it into her head that we should go to join Dad, so she packed us onto a train which took a week from Perth to Sydney.

We left Sydney on the ship "Marsina" to New Guinea and there were many miners returning from their holidays to Salamaua. Mother was assured that there would always be people around to see that we children would not climb rails or getting into trouble. The miners were very nice people who certainly looked after us.

The ship took a long time to get to Kieta as it stopped at many plantations, rather than towns, and one stop at Linga Linga comes to mind. It was the first time we had seen natives shinny up a coconut tree to send down "kulaus" (green coconuts) so that we could drink the coconut milk, something over the years I never really got a taste for.

When we arrived at Numa Numa I learnt my first Pidgin. We were my father's 'mankis' and mother was his 'meri'.

The house in Kieta was not ready for us as my father was not expecting us so early and we had to walk on planks while awaiting the completion of the floor. The floor, when completed, was of native materials and we did not have to worry about any crumbs that fell from the table – you just had to stomp on the floor and the crumbs fell through.



and arrange for tour operators such as Fred Cook of Hilo Holdings in Lae to promote and start the tours. Naturally the National and Provincial Governments will need to be fully involved in this exercise. Whilst not part of NGVR history, another possible war time tour could be Shaggy Ridge on the Markham / Ramu divide.

The visit confirmed that any proposed group tour by our members to PNG should be organized around Remembrance Day 23 July 2007. This would allow our Australian members the opportunity to meet former comrades in the various centers around the country.

It has been announced that the main Remembrance Day ceremony in 2007 will be held in Wewak. Whilst we look at costs etc for such a 12 / 14 day tour to visit PNGVR centers such as Port

Moresby, Lae, Mt Hagen, Madang, Wewak and Rabaul etc your Committee would like to hear from any member who may be interested in such a PNG tour in July 2007. All comments and ideas welcome.

We were extremely well received by all whom we met during our short sojourn, and strengthen the ties that were made over the past few years. We record our thanks to all those we met and who helped us.

We are indebted to our VP John Mudge for his valuable help, transportation, accommodation, advice and local introductions, and for ensuring our safe stay and return to Brisbane.

Our thanks also to Patrick Amberye (above right) Raphael Kona (right) and the ex Members of C Coy PNGVR. Well done.

P Ainsworth C Gould B Crawford

Footnote: All travel & accommodation expenses for the PNG visit was met wholly by each member concerned.



EDITOR'S MAIL BOX

• Dear Colin,

I am writing to inform you that I received my Australian Service Medal on Monday 31 July, after you posted it in Port Moresby on the 25 July.

I am thanking your officer bearers of the NGVR/PNGVR Association for your kindness and hard work for getting this Service Medal for me. Special thanks to you Mr Secretary for spending more time helping me and for the newsletters for the last few months,

I would like to let you know that there are many more ex PNGVR members living in their remote villages in the country. You could go through the media to ask them to apply for their service medal. Mi tok 100 % thank you, long yupela ol comrade bilong mi.

(T/Sgt) Willaim Mafo 11 Pl D Coy Wewak.

• Dear Colin & Bruce,

I cannot express the great 3 days that we spent together in Mt Hagen. Your presence here when you presented us with our Medals, made me feel so important and special. For two and a half years I kept telling my members that one day they will receive their ASM's and my dream has finally come true and bought me to tears in the end.

All those C Coy medal recipients were so proud and happy. They continued celebrating all through Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday with their families.

(Cpl) Patrick Amberye—Secretary C Coy PNGVR Ex Members Association Mt Hagen.



NGVR VETERAN, **TOM KEENAN** TRIES OUT THE BREN GUN IN THE ASSOCIATION'S MUSEUM AT WACOL

THE BREN GUN IS MOUNTED ON A TRIPOD FOR ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE, THE 3RD. LEG OF WHICH IS ACTUALLY AN OLD .303 RIFLE.
DISPLAY KINDLY ON LOAN FROM KEN MacGOWAN.
(Photo: Col Gould)



**MEMORIAL SERVICE
KANUDI BAY
PORT MORESBY
24 July 2006**

Vice President John Mudge, MBE, C St J., presents former 12 Pl D Coy Madang PNGVR member, now Assistant Police Commissioner, Tony Wagambie, QPM., DPS. With this *Australian Service Medal 1945-1975* with PNG Clasp.

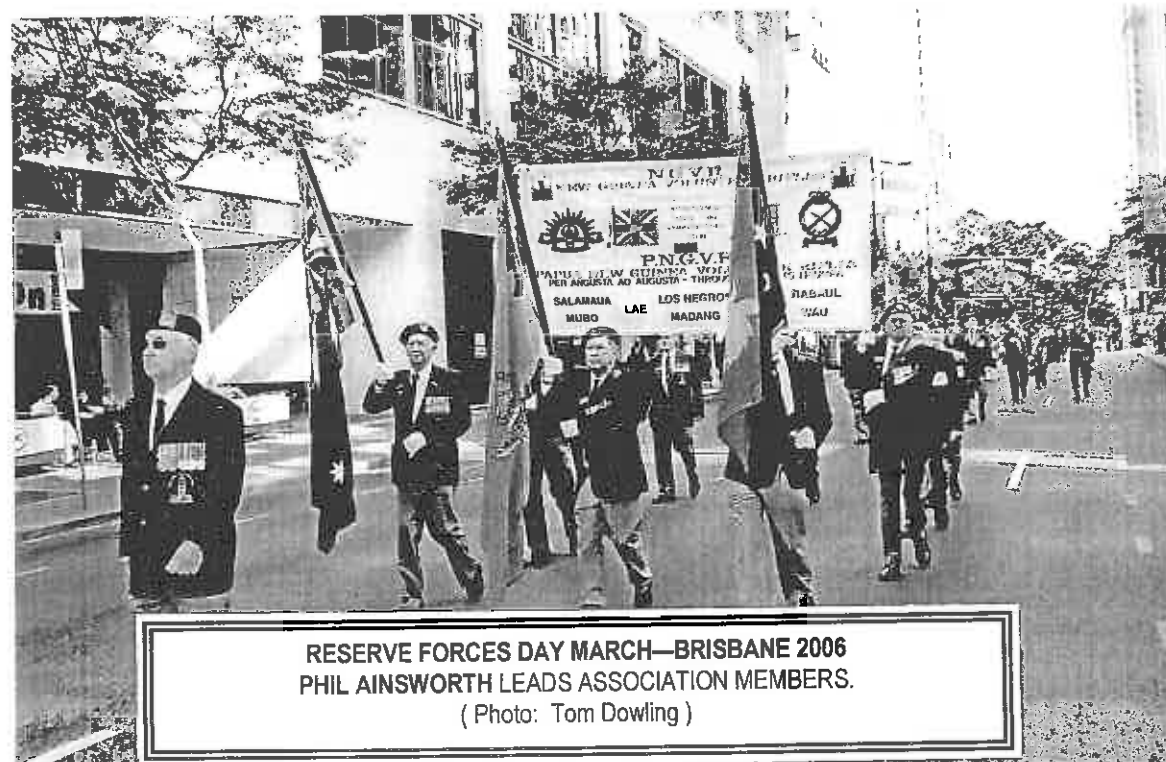
**MONTEVIDEO MARU
MEMORIAL SERVICE
1 JULY 2006
ANZAC SQUARE, BRISBANE**

NGVR VETERAN, **JACK GOAD** WITH
FAMILY AND FRIENDS
(Photo: Tom Dowling))

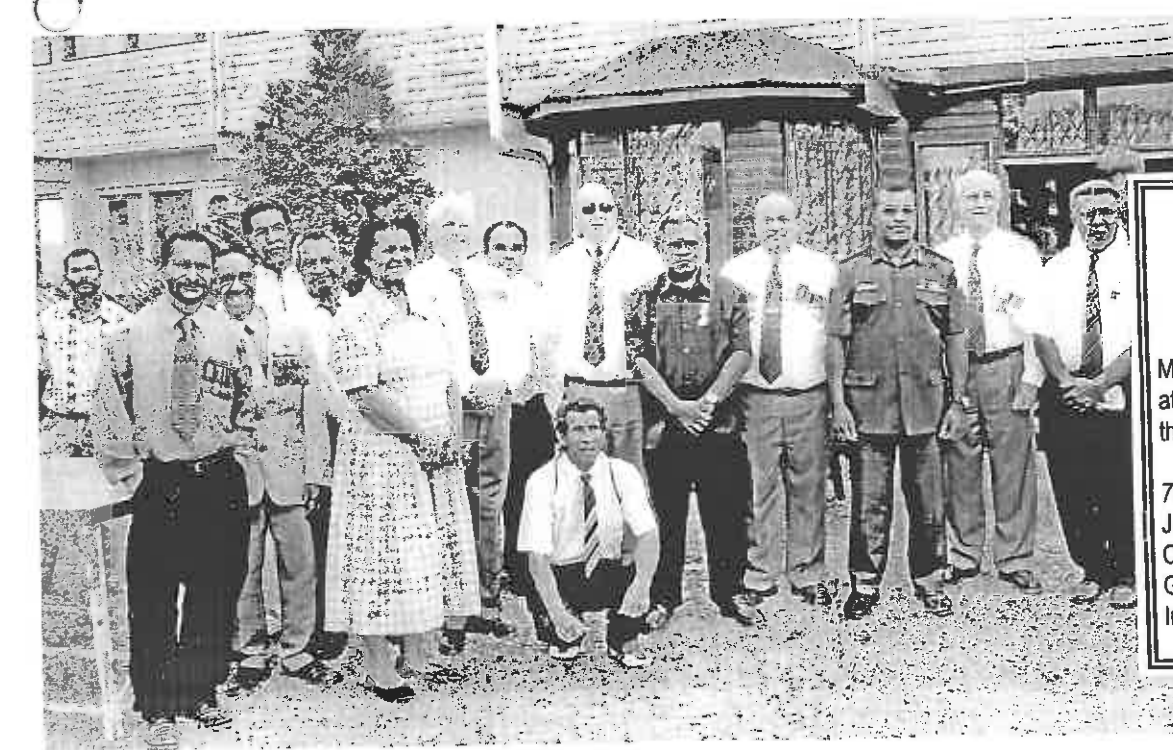


**PORT MORESBY
21 July 2006**

Former PNGVR WO2 Malea Ealedona of 12 Pl D Coy Madang was unable to travel from Misima Island to receive his ASM. Col Gould presents Malea's ASM to Malea's son, Joseph Elaedona, Managing Director of the National Broadcasting Commission. The family plans to present WO2 Malea Ealedona with his ASM on Independence Day—16th September, on Misima Island.



**RESERVE FORCES DAY MARCH—BRISBANE 2006
PHIL AINSWORTH LEADS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS.**
(Photo: Tom Dowling)



**MEMORIAL SERVICE
KANUDI BAY
PORT MORESBY
24 JULY 2006**

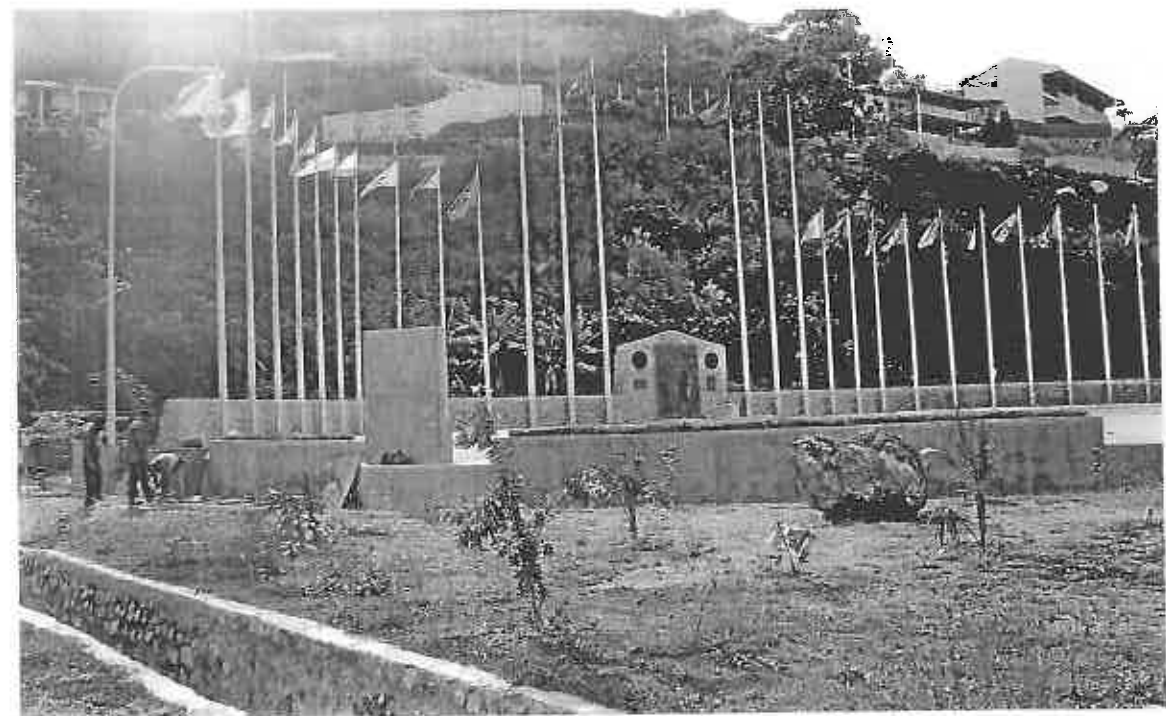
Members of PNGVR and other guests at the waterside Memorial Service near the wreck of the "Macdui".

7th from the right:- Bruce Crawford, John Mudge, Assistant Police Commissioner Tony Wagambie, Col Gould, Police Commissioner, Sam Inguba, CBE., QPM. & Phil Ainsworth.



**REMEMBRANCE DAY
23 JULY 2006
MT HAGEN**

Association members, Col Gould (L)
and Bruce Crawford, OAM with
Western Highlands Provincial
Governor
Paia WINGTI, CMG



**REMEMBRANCE PARK
Port Moresby
2006**

On the Ela Beach to Koki Road.



**REMEMBRANCE DAY
23 JULY 2006
MT HAGEN**

Bruce Crawford (L) and Col Gould are
welcomed by a Mt Hagen Sing Sing
group for the Medal presentations to
17 former members of C Coy PNGVR

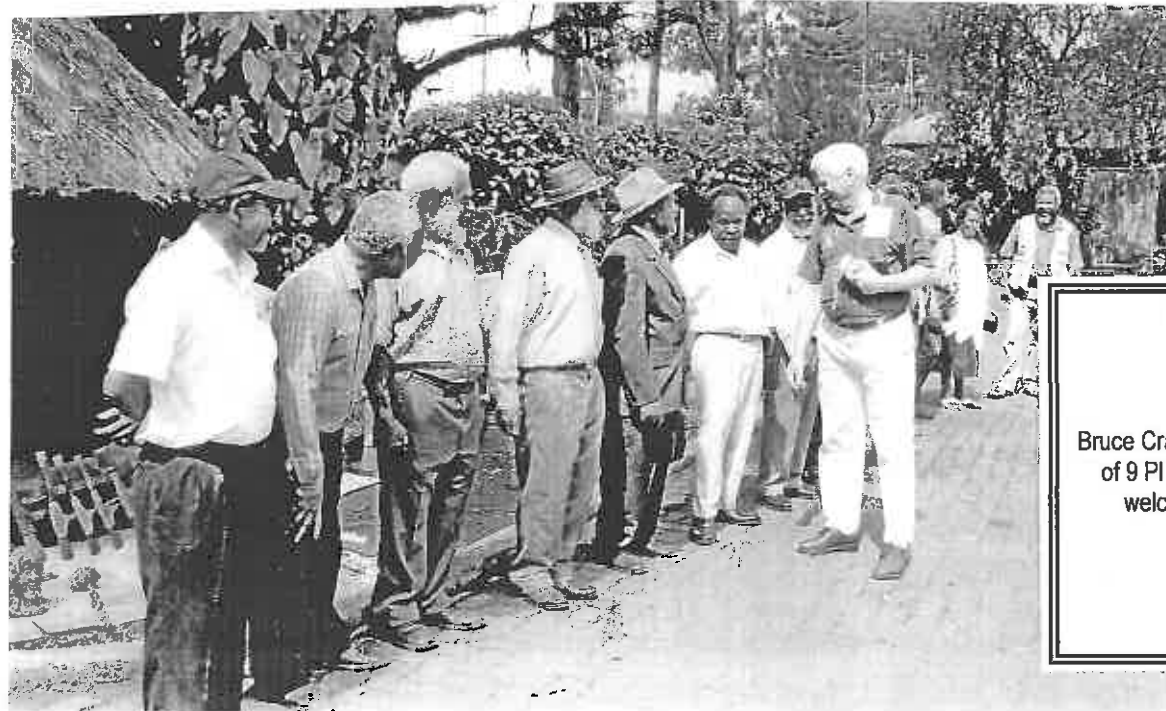


**PNG MINISTER FOR HEALTH
SIR PETER BARTER, Kt. OBE. MP**
With President Phil Ainsworth (R)
July 2006.

Phil Ainsworth presents two
Australian Service Medals 1945-1975
to Sir Peter who kindly offered to
personally deliver them to PNGVR
recipients in Madang on behalf of our
Association.

Christopher Kasiaguma (11 PI D Coy)
Peter Matawai (11 PI D Coy)

(Photo: Col Gould)



**HIGHLANDER HOTEL
MT HAGEN
22 JULY 2006**

Bruce Crawford talks with former members
of 9 PI C Coy PNGVR who provided a
welcome at the Highlander Hotel.

(Photo: Col Gould)



**AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION
PORT MORESBY
JULY 2006**

(FROM LEFT)

Bruce Crawford, OAM
Col Gould
Ms Ann Harrap (Deputy High Commissioner)
Brig. John Mudge, MBE. C St J. (St John's
Ambulance—PNG)

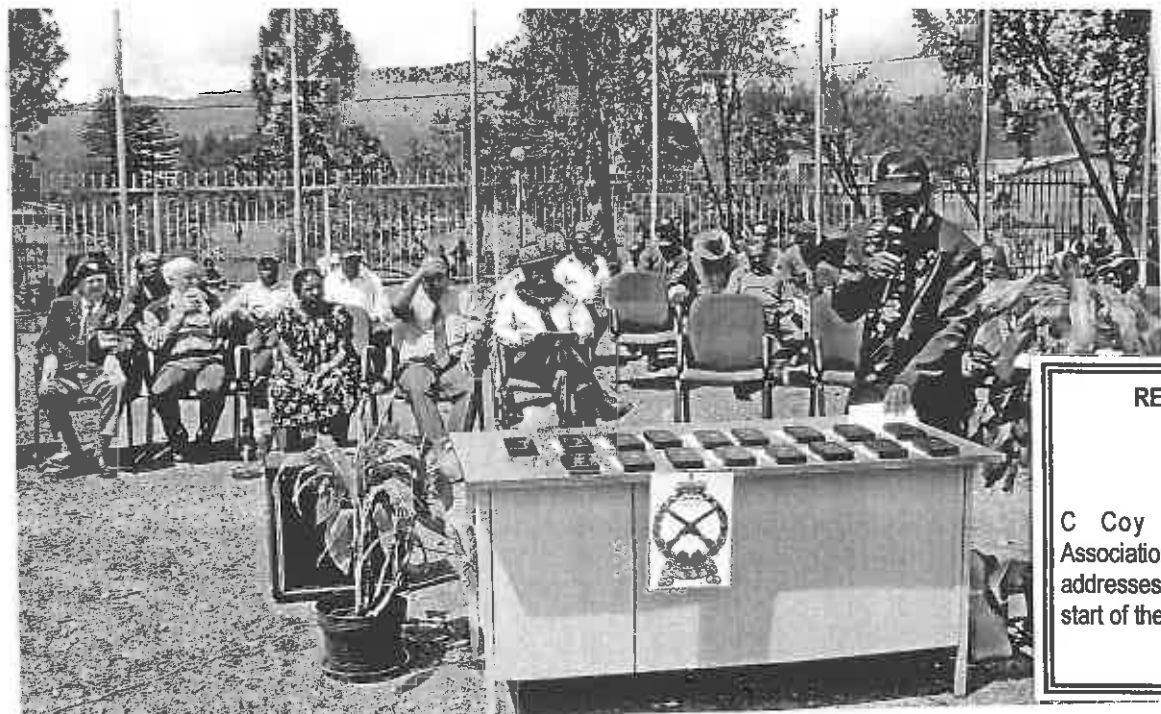


VISIT TO BANZ
22 July 2006

Former members of 8 Pl. PNGVR Banz, wait to greet Col Gould and Bruce Crawford. The welcome parade followed by lunch and "Sr" refreshments.

VISIT TO BANZ
22 JULY 2006

Ex C Coy PNGVR Secretary Patrick Amberye and Executive Committee member, Raphael Kona (front right) took Col Gould and Bruce Crawford to visit the home and plantation of their late CO Major Peter Harbeck.



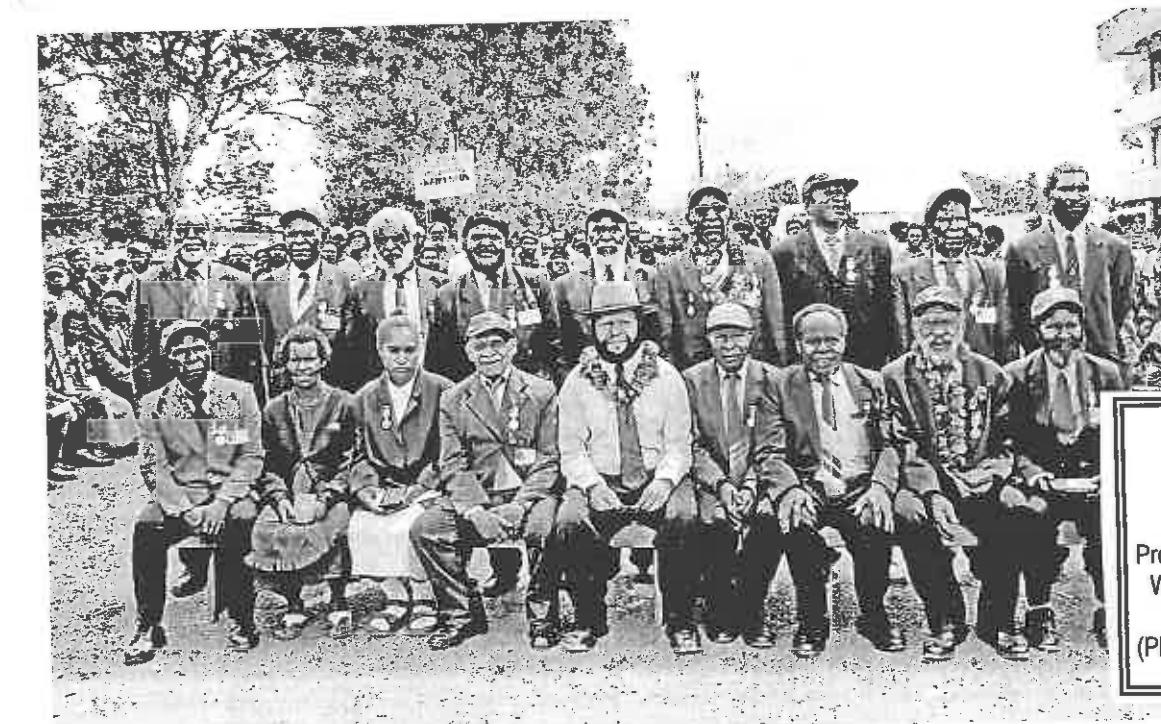
REMEMBRANCE DAY
23 JULY 2006
MT HAGEN

C Coy PNGVR Ex Members Association, (Cpl) Patrick Amberye addresses recipients and guests at the start of the medal presentation.



REMEMBRANCE DAY
23 JULY 2006
MT HAGEN

Provincial Governor, Paias Wlingti, CMG (L) presents C Coy PNGVR Ex Members Association Secretary, (Cpl) Patrick Amberye, with his Australian Service medal 1945-1975 with PNG Clasp,



REMEMBRANCE DAY
MT HAGEN
23 JULY 2006

Provincial Governor, Paias Wlingti, CMG With Mt Hagen and Banz ASM medal recipients.
(Photo: Col Gould)