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

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

The Association is well regarded by other organizations and this is reflected in the many invitations it receives to attend various functions and events. July, August and September is again proving to be a busy time, particularly for attending commemorative ceremonies. It is important that the Association is represented as well as possible and members are asked to support the Association by attending those events which are in their residential area.

Association Members, Ross Johnson and I, attended Harry West's funeral service in Sydney on 21 July 2015. Harry was a prominent District Commissioner particularly during the Mataungan problems on the Gazelle Peninsula and was a long serving President of the PNGAA. Harry served in ANGAU initially as a 19 years old private and as a Lieutenant a few years later. He became a Patrol Officer, an Assistant District Officer, a District Officer, a District Commissioner, the Australian Liaison Officer in Dutch New Guinea, Australia's Special Representative to the Trusteeship Council, and ultimately the Head of our Department. He was one of the big men of PNG.

Bob Collins, the Association's Vice President, represented the Association at the Korean War Memorial commemorative ceremony on 25 July 2015 at the Cascade Gardens Queensland Korean War Memorial on the Gold Coast. Details about the ceremony and the magnificent memorial will be found on page 13 of the newsletter.

Vice President Bob Collins and member Kieran Nelson attended the Surfers Paradise RSL Kokoda Day Service at Cascade Gardens on the Gold Coast on Saturday 8 August. Units mainly concerned with this ceremony are 39 Bn and 2/14 Bn. Bob laid a wreath on behalf of the Association. Guest speaker was George Friend OAM, President of the 2/14 Bn Assn. Our Association is in the process of having NGVR and ANGAU pavers laid at the rear of the memorial where a number of pavers each representing units involved in the New Guinea Campaigns of WW2 are being laid.

A Kokoda Day service was also held on Sunday 9 August at Corinda RSL Sub-Branch. The service commemorated the 73rd Anniversary of the defence of Kokoda from 8-10 August 1942. The 39,

49, 2/14, 2/16 and 3 Battalions and the PIB were acknowledged. The Guest speaker was Brigadier Ross Grant (who served in PNG in the mid 70's). Our Association was represented by Secretary Col Gould and committee members John Holland and Mike Griffin. Two wreaths were laid on behalf of PNGVR and NGVR. Our thanks to Mike Griffin who is also an office bearer of the Corinda RSL Sub-Branch for providing the wreaths and he being a great host.

Their Sub-Branch rooms opposite the RSL Club are well appointed with an interesting collection of photos and Military memorabilia, including a Bren Gun that was labeled "donated by the PNGVR Association". No one knew when or who made this donation many years ago. Does anyone know anything about this?

On Sunday 30 August Member Ian Thompson lead our Association team of two, Ian and Glen O'Brien, in the annual Light Horse shoot at the Fassifern Rifle Range just south of Boonah. It was a beautiful day with a big turn out with many from the Light Horse contingent. This year we were out shot with the winner scoring well over 170 out of a possible 200. Ian had a little trouble with his rifle but still came fourth – well done Ian.

Our Secretary Colin Gould, representing the Association, attended the 2015 Battle for Australia commemoration held at the stone memorial outside the Parliamentary Annex in George Street on Wednesday 2 September. Over 80 representatives from various military, government, RSL and military associations attended. Colin laid a floral wreath with an appropriate card dedicated to our NGVR comrades for their sacrifice and service in Papua and New Guinea during the Pacific war. This annual ceremony is usually held on the first September Wednesday, which is close to VP day. The host was Major Pat O'Keeffe, OAM (Rtd) (Infantry). The guest speaker was WW2 veteran of the New Guinea Campaign, Lt H F (Frank) McCosker APM BEM, ex 9th Battalion AMF and 2/25th Battalion AIF.

This September PNG is celebrating its 40th Anniversary since Independence. Our Association has been duly recognised with invitations to attend the PNG High Commissioner's celebratory event in Canberra on 16 September and the PNG Consul General for Queensland on 8 Sep-

tember in Brisbane and the PNG Consul General for NSW and WA on 15 September in Sydney. A copy of the PNGVR, A History book was presented to the PNG High Commissioner, Charles Lepani in Canberra recently.

The NGVR personal stories project has advanced to the stage that the draft is in the hands of the facilitator who will probably complete the first draft mid September. Hopefully the 400 page production will be ready to go to the printer prior to Christmas for printing January and distribution early 2016. The book's title will be Keepers of the Gate, personal stories of NGVR soldiers. Pre launch marketing will commence in November when the final size and costs are known. This will be a great read and a must for your library and will be a wonderful gift for your children and grandchildren.

The Museum Extension has been held up due to planning issues which we are hoping to correct soon and continue to completion.

We have a very busy day on 17 October 2015 - in the morning at 10 am we have our AGM to be held at the Museum, Wacol and the Jimboomba mixed dining evening starting at 4pm. The details of these are on page 16 and if you require more information, please contact the Secretary Colin Gould and the Vice President Bob Collins respectively.

Phil Ainsworth, September 2015

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NGVR AND ANGAU EXPERIENCES

JIM HUXLEY

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Continued

The Huxley Family in NGVR and the Services

I wasn't the first Huxley to join NGVR. An older brother, Tom, who went of Bulolo to work in 1937 joined NGVR in 1939. In 1940 he resigned his job as a dredge hand with Bulolo Gold Dredging and travelled to Sydney where he enlisted in the AIF. He was posted to the 2/3 Pioneer Battalion and trained at Cowra in NSW and at Alice Springs, before his unit sailed in the 'Queen Mary' for the Middle East. His unit trained in Palestine and Syria before moving to Egypt.

Tom and his mates fought in the battle of El Alamein and, unfortunately and sadly, he was wounded and died from those wounds on 7 November 1942 at the age of 28.

I visited my brother's grave at El Alamein in 1990 on my way home from England.

It is a magnificent cemetery and the boys buried there are well looked after.

Jack, the oldest, served with the AIF, Vic with the 2/4th Field Regt., Beryl with the AWAS, Bert with the RAAF and the youngest Frank was still a school student.

Leave in Australia

I didn't have a clue as to what was to happen to me when I reported to the Sydney Showground. I was told that following the disbanding of the NGVR in October 1942, while I was still serving in New Guinea, I was seconded to Kanga Force Headquarters and attached to the 2/2 Field Ambulance as a temporary arrangement. I wasn't aware of this at the time.

After enjoying five weeks leave with family and friends and a spell in hospital with a dose of malaria, I felt I was ready to return to New Guinea. However, while in hospital a surgeon looked at an ingrown big toe nail and decided to remove it. This had plagued me in my NGVR days. The surgery and recuperation took about two weeks and by then I was ready to go.

I travelled to Townsville by troop train. It ended up a long trip from Brisbane to Townsville, as the Burdekin River between Bowen and Ayr had flooded and our train detoured by travelling west from Rockhampton, through Emerald, Longreach, Winton, Hughenden and back to Townsville. However, as this had occurred only once prior, the hospitality from the citizens of those towns was overwhelming. We then boarded the troop carrier "Canberra" to Port Moresby where I reported to ANGAU Headquarters.



Jim Huxley March 1943 Note
NGVR colour patch & NGVR
shoulder slip on.

AUSTRALIAN NEW GUINEA ADMINISTRATION UNIT
(ANGAU)**Introduction to ANGAU & Medical Assistant School**

When I reported to ANGAU HQ I was given a set of Corporal's stripes and told to put them on. I didn't think this would improve my work, but it did mean I would receive a small increase in pay.

At ANGAU HQ I was directed to the unit's medical services where I was told that I was not, at that stage, a part of that set-up. For starters I would attend a medical assistants school at Gemo Island, on the southern side of Port Moresby's harbour, and then be posted to a native hospital or an outstation somewhere in Papua or New Guinea.

Gemo Island was a leprosy hospital pre-war but had been turned into Port Moresby's general native hospital when war came to the area. The lepers were moved to another hospital some distance away, further along the coast.

The school at Gemo Island lasted six weeks. The students were a mixed lot. I was the only one who had served on the New Guinea mainland while Gilbert "Johnny" Renton was with the NGVR in Rabaul. He and I became mates and we palled up with a smart young bloke, Rhys Healey, who had served in the Middle East before coming to Moresby with his then unit. He, like a number of the others, transferred to ANGAU when the unit sought recruits for its medical school. I was 20 years and seven months at the time.

The school was interesting. Captains Alex May and David Deland, who served respectively with the Papua and New Guinea administrations before the war, May in Moresby and Deland in Madang, covered just about every facet of medicine we would need to know about. We studied the various diseases and learned to carry out minor operations. The chances were that we would be posted to areas where we would deal with village native populations more than with indigenous soldiers and/or carriers, working with the Australian and American forces.

A third Captain got into the act in the last week of the school. Will "Tremmy" Trembath, who was a dentist in the Morobe District pre-war, initially served with the NGVR in this capacity. He gave us a rundown on mouth care, showed us how to anaesthetise the gums and how to extract teeth. This was something I wasn't looking forward to.

Captains May and Deland put together a written examination and tested us orally as well at the end of the School. They were happy that we did well enough and told us that in time we would receive a Medical Assistant's Certificate. Mine caught up with me some weeks later.

As far as I was concerned the school covered ground which I had already experienced while serving with the NGVR and the Field Ambulance, after being well taught at Bulolo under the



The Huxley Family in the Services. L-R. Tom (DOW), Jack, Vic, Beryl and Bert

watchful eyes of Doctors Carl Gunther and Hugh Marsden before the NGVR was called to active service.

Posting to the New Guinea Highlands

Rhys Healey and I were watching a movie – The More the Merrier – when an announcement came over the loud speaker ordering Cpl R.J. Huxley to report to ANGAU medical HQ. I left Rhys to see out the movie as I made my way to HQ as instructed. There I was told I had been given a posting to the Central Highlands of New Guinea, the first from the Gemo Island class to receive one.

I had to be at the HQ office at six in the morning, ready to move out. I was to be taken by jeep to Ward's Strip from where I would be flown to Dobodura, near Buna, in an American C47 Dakota (DC3 as we know them). There I would transfer to a second C47 and be flown to Nadzab, from where I would be taken in a third C47 to Goroka in the Eastern Highlands District.

All this went to schedule and we touched down at Goroka late afternoon. I was picked up by a Sergeant clerk and driven to ANGAU HQ at the District Office, where I met Assistant District Officer, John Black. He told me there was an outbreak of dysentery and diarrhoea in the Kainantu sub-district, a three day walk from Goroka, and that was where I was headed.

I spent the night in the Goroka staff quarters and then spent the next day at the Seigu native hospital with medical assistant Sgt Jock Simpson. He supplied me with a good variety of medicines, equipment and other needs. There was a good supply of sulphaguanidine, the 'in' treatment for dysentery at the time. He also supplied me with about 30 blankets.

Simpson organised a couple of 'dokta bois' to accompany myself and the two 'polis bois' given me at Goroka. As well, he arranged for carriers to take my party to 'Dirty Water' or Durantina River, where I would spend my first night in the cold. But first I spent a short time with roadmaster Gordon Eekhoff, formerly with the NGVR and now at Benabena.

At 'Dirty Water' I was entertained by veteran pre-war prospector and gold miner Ned Rowlands, who was putting a vehicular bridge across the river as part of the new Highlands Highway, an extremely good road which had already been constructed by different villages along the way. However, at this time walking was in vogue.

We changed carriers at the Durantina and headed for Komperi, where we overnighted after day two. On the third day we made it to Barola, where a native hospital had been established. It was run by orderlies under the watchful eye of Patrol officer Fred Richardson. The only other District Services Officer in the sub-district was ADO Rup Havilland Snr, who was stationed at Kainantu.

At this stage I was aged 20 years and eight months, and on the job in an area that was still only semi-controlled in many parts. I soon learned I had a real problem. The natives belonged to small clans who stayed within their own boundaries and refused to mix with their neighbours and other people within the sub-district. When we found natives with dysentery who had to be hospitalised, an attached policeman had to escort the ailing to Barola. Even when admitted to hospital they made "poisin" (pointed the bone) at people from other clans, who then refused to eat and take their treatment. We reached the stage where we had to partition the large building, which was used as the main ward. Even then they

parted the kunai walls and continued harassing other inmates.

When I arrived at Barola there were about 20 patients, few of them with dysentery or diarrhoea. Soon after there were 50 with dysentery well to the fore, and it wasn't long before I was left on my own. Richardson was transferred to Goroka.

I was left with four 'polis bois' and four 'dokta bois'. We extended the hospital and with two policemen and two orderlies I went out on patrols into areas two to three days walk from Barola. From the various villages we sent in patients under escort, including some with large tropical ulcers which needed urgent attention. The two orderlies left at the hospital had to treat these people while I was away. In the long run we got matters under control and dysentery cases became few and far between. The leg ulcers worried me. They were a real problem and a lot of the people, especially mothers and small children were covered with scabies and tinea (grile), which affected the skin in a most noticeable way. These complaints were treatable but one had to give this a lot of time.

At Christmas, 1943, I spent some time with Rup Havilland and visited the Ag Station at Aiyura where I found NGVR chief forward scout at Salamaua Jim McAdam, another NGVR bod Frank Vickery, and a third fellow I didn't know and didn't pick up his name.

On 16 January, 1944, I celebrated my 21st birthday all on my own. I had on hand a couple of bottles of Aussie beer and drank one of them with my evening meal. First I spent a long day at the hospital where there was a lot of work to be done. There were a lot of sick people needing attention. It took a little time and a few patrols but we got the dysentery situation under control and we had no more than two or three cases of dysentery to treat at a time.

A 'polis boi' then arrived from Kainantu with a note from Rup Havilland. This ordered me to proceed to Goroka as soon as possible. I would be flown to Mt Hagen where I would join a patrol being organised by Kiap Nep Blood. This patrol was to extend from Mt Hagen to the headwaters of the mighty Sepik river.

However when I arrived in Goroka, I learned there was a change in plans. There had been an outbreak of dysentery in the Asaro Valley and I was to work on this. There was a native hospital at Asaloka, at the Lutheran Mission there. ADO Black informed me that Medast Rhys Healey, a friend from the Gemo Island school, was to replace me on the Nep Blood patrol.

Injury Strikes

I worked at Asaloka for several weeks, got matters well under control at the hospital and then started patrolling villages within two days walk from Asaloka. During one of these patrols I tripped over a root of a tree, tumbled heavily, and twisted my left knee badly. This knee had hindered me during my NGVR days. I had injured it first playing Rugby League during the 1940 season in Sydney. When I was signed up to serve fulltime



New Guinea Highlands Area WW2—Note spelling of Goroka

with NGVR I told the examining doctor (Eric Giblin) this. He noted it but didn't appear very interested and passed me as A1.

I was carried back to Asaloka and from there to Goroka by jeep. At Goroka I was looked at by the Medical Assistant from Seigu, who had relieved Jock Simpson, and he decided my knee needed surgery. Arrangements were made to fly me to an Army Clearing Station at Yalu, near Nadzab. I was examined by Medical Officers there, given physiotherapy for a few days and then transferred to the 2/5 Australian General Hospital at Port Moresby.

Return to Australia

At Moresby the doctors decided that I would have to go to Australia for the surgery and that I would travel south in the Hospital Ship 'Manunda', which was to leave Moresby in a few days.

'Manunda', a wonderful and comfortable vessel, went first to Brisbane where half the patients were unloaded and then on to Sydney, its final destination. I was examined at the Army Hospital at the Showground but a tropical rash around the left knee would hold up the surgery for a week or so. I was booked into the surgical hospital which had been established at the Masonic Schools at Baulkham Hills, north-west of Parramatta. However, the rash had to disappear first, so I was given treatment for this and sent on a fortnight's leave.

After the knee operation I was reclassified as B Class and my rank was reduced from Corporal to Private. I was demoted to Private and posted to the Army Canteen at Railway Square in Sydney and worked the night shift as part of the cleaning staff.

I tolerated this for several weeks, but, when satisfied my knee was strong enough to allow me to do some serious work, I wrote to ANGAU's Medical HQ and asked that they rescue me from the situation I was in. Within a week ANGAU claimed me, I was medically examined, and passed as A1 again. A few days later I was on a troop train heading north.

Return to New Guinea and ANGAU

At Townsville I became a passenger in the troop carrier 'Katoomba' heading for Lae. At Lae I reported to ANGAU HQ where I found the Officer-in-Charge to be Capt Horrie Niall. He welcomed me, gave me a set of Corporal's stripes to put on and advised me my promotion dated back to the day I requested to rejoin ANGAU.

Malahang Native Hospital, Lae

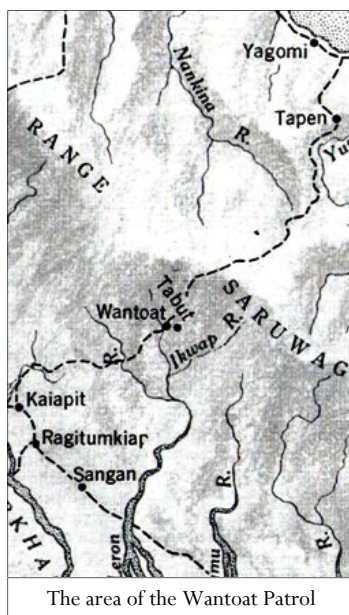
I was posted to the Malahang native hospital, which had a staff of about 12 or so medical staff, including two doctors, eight medical assistants, a couple of technicians and about 80 native medical orderlies. It was a very big hospital with many patients afflicted with many different types of ailments. I received a pleasant surprise the first day I started there. I found that Inogu was one of the 'dokta bois' at the hospital. Inogu was my 'mangki masta' at Bulolo before the war and, when I went on active service, he decided to go along with me. Of course, I could not employ him as a servant any more so I recruited him as a medical orderly, and, everywhere I went, he went too. He had bad feet and usually finished a days walk hours behind the slowest of the others, but he always made it. He became a very good orderly and he looked after me in his special way. I told my superiors at Malahang the Inogu story and they were impressed. They agreed he should work with me as much as possible.

Malahang was a good hospital in which to work. It was big and there were lots of patients, both medical and surgical. There was plenty to learn and I was keen to know more.

While I was at Malahang, pentothal anaesthetic was introduced and we were among the first medics given early supplies. The antibiotic penicillin was also new at this time and again Malahang was one of the army hospitals given early supplies.

Medical Patrols into the Wantoat

Whilst at Malahang I was selected to go on patrol into semi-controlled Wantoat, situated between the Markham Valley and the coast north of Finschhafen.



The area of the Wantoat Patrol

There was a dysentery outbreak and I would work with Patrol Officer John Wakeford, a health inspector before the war and an expert on latrines, especially the pit type. John, myself, four 'polis bois', four 'dokta bois' (including Inogu), and several general hands made up our party, along with the carriers we used each day. We spent six weeks in the Wantoat and made our headquarters at a village called Gwenmangwok. We found cases of dysentery, diarrhoea and other ailments. John set about making the villagers dig pit latrines.

But I was more interested in the shocking cases of leg ulcers, which were brought to me for treatment. I spent a lot of time with these people and cleaned

them up the best I could with limited treatment. I needed a lot of sulphanilamide powder but I had insufficient and had to use less than I would have liked. I had some success and there were a lot of cases which should be taken to hospital at Lae for the best treatment, including skin grafting. Obviously this couldn't happen.

After six weeks we walked back over the mountains to Kaiapit, where we decided to stay a few days before heading for Erap, about 30 miles away down near Nadzab. From there we would get transport back to Lae.

On the third day at Kaiapit John Wakeford dropped a bombshell when he announced we would not be going to Erap. Instead, we were going to return to the Wantoat. He said he wanted to check on the villagers who had been taught how to build and use his precious latrines. He wanted to make sure the people were following his instructions.

We spent a further two weeks at Gwenmangwok and, obviously, my return was well received. The day we returned a youth from a nearby village tangled with a wild boar who bit off half the lad's foot. After cleaning up the mangled foot I was able to save what was left, much to the satisfaction of the family and village officials. When we left the area the lad's foot was healing nicely. From then on it was up to him and the village 'dokta boi'.

When we eventually arrived back at Malahang, the Allies had the war well in hand and it was only a matter of time before the Japs surrendered.

The time had arrived when it was decided that Inogu should return to his home area in the Sepik district. He would work there at Aitape until he could be returned to his home village near Vanimo. Inogu didn't want to go but he had no choice. I told him I would catch up with him later on.

Transfer to Wewak

Sometime after this I was promoted to Sergeant and transferred to Wewak. I was to take charge of the big native hospital there on Moem Point where I was to relieve Lieut Jim Goreham.

This appointment came as a complete surprise to me. There were a lot of medics at Malahang senior and more capable than I, but I was given the job.

When I arrived at Wewak, I was greeted and welcomed by the ANGAU District Officer, Major John Milligan. I found the hospital to be a large and busy establishment but short of staff. There was a doctor who liked a tippie or two several times a day, a Hygiene Sergeant, Len McNamara, who was also a keen pho-

tographer, and a Medast Corporal, Ted Cole. There were about 20 'dokta bois'.

After I had been on the job for a few days I heard a familiar voice emanating from the hospital surgery. Sure enough it was Inogu. When I approached him he wouldn't at first accept that it was me. As far as he was concerned I was at Lae and he was just about to look for some sort of transport, possibly a small ship, which might carry him to Lae, where he would find me.

I invited him to join the staff, officially as a 'dokta boi', but he could carry out special duties as well – like looking after me. By this time the war was over. The Japs had thrown in the towel following the atom bombs falling on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Japanese Surrender and Return to Civil Administration

As soon as the Japanese surrendered ANGAU personnel, carrying a note from General Adachi ordering his soldiers to stay clear of the Australians were sent out into previously held Japanese territory. Sgt Ted Hagenlocker was sent to Angoram on the Sepik River and Sgt Jack Marlow, another 'lik lik dokta' walked three days to Maprik at the back of Wewak. Patrol Officers were sent to these Stations and others. Among the ANGAU kiaps working the region were Tom Lega, Tom Healy, Gus O'Donnell, Jerry Monk, Col O'Loghlen, Jim Birrell and Jack Godwin.

It wasn't long before the first of the Civil Administration officers came to relieve the ANGAU people, or at least some of them. District Officer Horrie Niall, who had been discharged from ANGAU came to Wewak to relieve John Milligan. Medical Assistant, Harry Erskine, who was in charge of the Wau native hospital before the war, and who served in the NGVR medical detail, arrived to relieve me. However there was no chance that I or my assistant at the time, Cpl Don McBeath (he had replaced Ted Cole when he was sent to Angoram to assist Ted Hagenlocker), would qualify for early discharge. We were both young, single and with very few discharge points.

After I handed over to Erskine, Milligan, who was still officially in charge, decided I should fill in some time visiting the islands off the Wewak coast and then spend a few days at Angoram. First I visited Kairuku Island, where the Japs had a seaplane base and had planted many flat mines around the area. We very carefully went ashore. I found the people of Kairuku in pretty good health, and there was need only to take a couple of villagers back to Wewak for treatment. I was taken to Kairuku in the Commanding Officer's launch. The boss man at the time was Brigadier Alwyn Garrett, who had relieved Lieut-Gen Horace 'Red Robbie' Robertson. Before we returned to Wewak the Brigadier decided to make one more trolling run along the strait separating the Kairuku and Muschu Islands, the latter being used as a prisoner-of-war camp. About 15,000 Japs were being held there until some of their transports (among the few left) came to take them home. As we made our way along the strait with the C in C's flag flying proudly above the launch, hundreds of Japs, mostly nude, stood on the shoreline and bowed as we passed by.



On my return to Wewak, Niall, who had by then taken over officially, suggested I might like to hang on and help out the CivAid, until my time for discharge came.

He said Jack Barlow, who was married with a child, was off colour and should go to Australia, and suggested I go to Maprik. I agreed to do so and with Inogu in tow I set out on the three-day walk to Maprik. I overnighted at Yangoru and Bainyik, the latter a pre-war Government Agricultural Station.

When I arrived at Maprik, a neat area with a small grass airfield on the banks of the Screw River, I found I was to work with my former patrol mate, John Wakeford.

I spent 10 months at Maprik and enjoyed every minute of it. I found I had a lot of work and many challenges to overcome. On one occasion I had to operate on a young man who was gored badly by a wild boar. His injuries were much worse than those of the youth at Wantoat. Unfortunately this fellow died from his injuries (abdominal and legs). I worked all night knowing that I could not save him, but there was a matter of good will. It was like waving the flag of friendship. We had to show the local people, who had been under Jap dominance for some years, that we were still their friends. Not only did I work on his lost cause but I had to use the anaesthetic, ether, which was a very flammable substance. All we had was a naked flame Tilly lamp to work under. Polis bois took it in turns standing on a chair and

holding the lamp high above their heads, and this went on for several hours. Luckily there was no explosion.

After the young man died, I felt in a way guilty about not saving him, but he was too badly hurt and his condition was beyond me. However I tried and when I went outside I was thanked by the village officials and members of his immediate family for attempting to save his life. This made me feel a bit better.

There was electricity at Maprik, but it was not connected to the

small operating theatre the Australian Army had left there. Electricity was not connected to the native hospital either.

Pre-war Assistant District Officer, Ken Bridge, came in to take over the station and John Wakeford was to stay with him as his assistant. Inogu fell in love with a local Maprik meri, whose first husband had been killed while working for the Japanese as a carrier. The young woman had a child who thought Inogu was some guy, just as I did. When I knew I was to go to Sydney for discharge Inogu assured me he would be happy to stay at Maprik. Ken Bridge approved this and said he would help fill a void caused by the Japs taking the young men from the village and letting them die.



Wewak Hospital Dockta Bois, 1945. Inogu front left

Return to Australia and Discharge

I eventually left Maprik late June, 1946, in the first civilian post-war aircraft to visit Maprik. It was a Mandated Airlines DH84 Dragon, piloted by experienced New Guinea pilot Arthur Collins.

At Lae I was met by a young Army Lieutenant whose name I don't recall. He was delighted I was there at last. He shook my hand vigorously and said he had been sitting there in his tent for weeks waiting for me to pass through. He informed me that I was the last of the ANGAU people to leave the New Guinea mainland for discharge.

He then went off and booked me on an RAAF C47 to Port Moresby. After

spending a couple of days at Murray Barracks I was flown from Moresby to Townsville in another RAAF aircraft. At Townsville I was put on a passenger train which carried me to Roma Street Station in Brisbane, and from there I was put on another passenger train, the Sydney Express, for my last journey as a soldier.

My mother was very happy to see me at last when I walked through the back door of our Willoughby home after being discharged.

It was 1 July 1946.

This is Jim Huxley's story as given to Bob Collins.

Jim's book 'New Guinea Experience' was published in 2007.

UNIT COLOUR PATCHES

It is thought that the uniquely Australian Army system of colour patches may have been inspired during the South African (Second Boer) War (1899-1902) when some British Army units wore small cloth patches in colours or tartans appropriate to their regiments, on the puggarees of their pith helmets. In late 1914, during the Great War (WW1), an AIF Order provided small flags that were nine inches square (23cm), to be used to mark headquarters and unit lines. These different coloured flags, with some minor changes, were to become the basis of the 1st Division's colour patches.

A 1st Division Order issued in Egypt in March, 1915, stated: "In order to better distinguish the several units of the Division, coloured patches of cloth will be worn on the sleeve one inch below the shoulder seam. Except in cases of Headquarters of Brigades and the Divisional Artillery, the Engineers and Army Medical Corps, badges will consist of two colours, the lower indicating the formation, the upper the unit etc. Light Horse (4th Light Horse) and Artillery will be divided diagonally, the others horizontally". Later that year a Divisional Standing Order amended the patch detail for the gunners to one patch for all Divisional Artillery.

Each brigade within the Division was allocated an identifying colour patch and this system was then extended to other organisations within the Division. The patches within the Division were worn at the top of both sleeves of the uniform and, as other divisions of the AIF were formed, they too were allocated distinctive shaped patches. Overall about 300 colour patches were authorised for the Army during the Great War.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, and with the raising of the 2nd AIF, it appears that many newly raised units may have initially been authorised to adopt the patches of their numerical forebears of the Great War; some Units just went ahead and did so without authority. This resulted in a significant number of units, particularly the infantry battalions, wearing colour patches completely unrelated to those of their (first) AIF namesakes. The problems were however, corrected in late 1940 with the issue of an appropriate instruction.

The colour patches of the Second World War were backed by a grey border and, as the War continued, new shapes came into being. For example, the T-shaped patches of units within the 9th Division in 1943 commemorated the major part played by the Division in the Siege of Tobruk. By the end of 1944 some 800 colour patches had been introduced into the Army during the War. A small number of patches were also approved for units of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force, in Japan, in both 1945 and 1946. The Australian colour patch system was discarded in 1949 in favour of the British style of shoulder titles.

The colour patch was re-introduced into the Army in 1987. Units which could trace their lineage back to either the Great War or the Second World War units were granted permission to adopt the appropriate patch (some claims are, however, somewhat shaky). These patches came to be referred to as the

"Series 1" colour patch system, as it was then decided to design patches for every unit and organisation within the Army. In 1996 the "Series 11" patches came into service' these were based on, in the main, corps and, in some cases, unit colours. The colour patches are no longer worn on the shoulders, as they were in the past, but they are now positioned on the right hand side of the puggaree.

A number of the patches of both world wars were worn on the shoulders as matched pairs' particularly those of the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery and the Royal Australian Armoured Corps. The patches worn on both the left and the right shoulders looked the same from the front; the correct terminology for this style is "leading edge". The patches seen on colour patch charts, or on flags, banners, signs or on letterheads are the patches worn on the left shoulder and the "leading edge" is facing to the left as seen by the observer. However the patches that were worn on the right hand side of the body were a mirror image of the left. This means that any "Series 1" patch that has a "leading edge" is correctly worn on the had back-to-front from the way it is represented on charts and signs. There is no "leading edge" with the "Series 11" patches.

WO1 C.J. Jobson, former RSM Ceremonial, ADHQ.

Everyone has read the story of the Man from Snowy River.

Well, here it is from the horses' side of things:

The Horses Tail by Don Lloyd

*The chase is finally over, and they're inside drinking grog,
and I'm tied up to the rail, and left there like a dog.
Old Harrison is slapping backs, and handing drinks all round,
While the blowflies give me hell and my blood drips on the
ground.
Yes I wheeled the mob to bring back the colt from Old Regret,
But sliding down that mountain is something I'll never forget.
Clancy reigned his horse in, though he led the stockmen's
pack,
but I was spurred by the butcher on my back.
The brumbies all went over, they took a desperate chance,
as they fled in mindless fear of the stockmen's quick advance.
No one will tell you how some died, as battered bloody
wrecks,
How the foals were trampled under, with broken legs and
necks.
I came down in a long mad slide, though gouged by rocks and
stones,
You may say I was lucky to escape without broken bones,
Most of my tail was torn out when I snared it on a stump,
and I've a piece of a tree stump protruding from my rump.
Yes I went on to wheel the mob though cut by whip and spur,
For I'm a mountain horse myself, and no one can call me cur.
I was limping badly when I bought them to the yard,
But my rider showed no mercy and he still spurred me hard.
Harrison was beside himself that we'd brought back his stud,
But no one noticed the hero's trousers were spattered with my
blood.
They yelled the man from Snowy River as they gave a cheer,
They all went inside to feast on food and rum and beer.
That is all except for Clancy, no one noticed him of course,
cos Clancy wasn't the hero; he'd stopped to save his horse.
He is the drover of the old school, a man who'd kept his pride,
But there wasn't one there man enough to say he couldn't
ride.
Clancy unclenched his fist, his face was ghastly white,
I could see he was angry and mad enough to fight.
Well I couldn't work it out, but how could I understand,
So I dropped there at the rails with the flies and blood and
sand.*

*Clancy came back with a rifle, stopped to scratch my ears,
He said 'it's all right old fellow' and in his eyes there's tears.
I know he's come to give relief in the only way he can,
And if this story is ever told I'd say that Clancy was the man.*

75th Anniversary of the raising of the Papuan Infantry Battalion

20th June saw a large crowd gather at Cascade Gardens, Broadbeach, at the Kokoda Memorial to celebrate the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the raising of the Papuan Infantry Battalion during WW2.

Lt Col Maurie Pears MC, the Patron of the PIB, NGIB and HQ PIR Assn gave a welcoming address and the keynote speaker was Maj. Gen. Michael Jeffery AC, AO(Mil), CVO, MC. Who spoke on the historical significance of the occasion, drawing on his own experiences with the PIR.

Our Assn President Phil Ainsworth then followed with an address giving further historical details re the NGVR, PIB, NGIB and PIR. Then followed the laying of wreaths,

The assembled crowd then moved to the Surfers Paradise RSL for a convivial luncheon.

PNGVR members at Cascade Gardens :-

Maurie Pears MC, (PIR), Bill McGrath, Bob Collins, Jesse Chee, Barry Beaman, Douglas Ng, Robert Cruickshank, Bruce Johnson, Kieran Nelson, Ken Connolly, Phil Ainsworth, Kerry Glover, Ralph Seeto, Des Pryde, Tony Boulter.

Phil Ainsworth's address follows.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF PIB:

Major General the Honourable Michael Jeffrey and Mrs Jeffrey, Keith Payne VC and Mrs Payne, distinguished guests and friends, Good Morning,

I am privileged to participate in the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the formation of the Papuan Infantry Battalion on behalf of the NGVR & PNGVR Association. PIB was one of several unique military units formed in PNG in the early days of the Pacific war. Today we not only commemorate the 75th Anniversary of PIB's formation, it is also a tribute to all who served in PNG's disciplinary forces throughout the Pacific war.

From 1940 to 1975 Papuans and New Guineans went from living under two orderly Australian administrations through invasion and war to development and independence. A small part of the community, the police and soldiers, Papuan New Guinean and Australian, influenced this outcome, particularly during the first turbulent years of invasion and war.

In 1940 the population of PNG was about 1.1million, 300,000 in Papua and 800,000 in NG. Indispensible to the administrative structures was the Papua and New Guinean Constabulary or

police force which numbered about 350 in Papua and 1,000 in NG. Members of this force were the right hand of every patrol officer as contact person, interpreter, enforcer of the law, bushman, recruiter and supervisor of carrier lines. It was because of the loyalty of these men Australia succeeded in PNG. These men from the police force served the civil and military exceptionally well by their presence and capacity.

The links between the PNG police force, PIB, NGVR, ANGAU, AIB, the battalions of NGIB and the PIR are many and strong. To speak of one, one should have an understanding of the others and to speak of an Australian contribution, civil or military, in the prosecution of the war in PNG, one must include the PNG contribution, without which there may have been no victory in PNG.

The PIB was formed in Papua in April 1940 with its first soldiers, many of whom were from the Papuan police, were enlisted in March 1941. By 1942 it consisted of only three under strength and poorly equipped companies. In June 1942 PIB was sent forward to patrol the northern coast of Papua. Led by Australian officers and NCOs, small parties were dispersed over a wide area. They were the first to make contact with the enemy on 23 July 1943 (now, PNG Commemoration Day) when the Japanese invaded Papua. PIB served in many NG campaigns with its soldiers becoming noted for their ferocity and tenacity during the Kokoda, Salamaua -Lae, Ramu Valley - Finisterre Range , Bougainville and Aitape - Wewak campaigns.

PIB had an establishment of about 77 Australians and 550 Papuan soldiers. Commanding officers were Maj Logan, Maj Watson, Lt Col Stanfield and Lt Col Elliott- Smith, all militia officers.

The PIB along with 1 NGIB and 2 NGIB formed the PIR in November 1944 with 3 NGIB and 4 NGIB joining in 1945. PIR was disbanded in August 1946 later reforming in 1951.

NGVR was established in September 1939 under the command of NG Superintendent of Police, Lt Col Walstab, with an establishment of 23 officers and 482 other ranks. Sub units were established in the NG islands at Rabaul and Kokopo, the NG Goldfields at Wau and Bulolo and on the NG mainland at Lae, Salamaua and Madang, with HQ in Rabaul. NGVR was issued with police arms which were guarded by the police. With war imminent, HQ shifted to Lae late 1941 when WW1 veteran Major MW Edwards assumed command.

NGVR fought in Rabaul at the time of the Japanese invasion. Despite the loss of 80 men in Rabaul, NGVR remained the only operational Army unit facing the enemy in NG. This it did in the Lae/ Salamaua/ Wau/ Bulolo /Markham area and Madang from the start of the Pacific war until relieved.

From July 1942 when the focus shifted to Milne Bay and Kokoda battles, NGVR continued to man its posts overlooking the Japanese: however, it was an exhausted unit by September 1942. Although some troops remained in place until early 1943, there were too few to be effective and was disbanded. The fit NGVR soldiers were attached to either ANGAU or other units which required their particular knowledge and experience. Many never served again because of the deprivations suffered during their prolonged period in the bush without adequate medical attention and other supplies. NGVR was reformed as the PNGVR in 1950.

NGVR's CO, Major Edwards transferred to ANGAU and was in charge of carriers with the American troops in their drive along the Morobe Coast towards Salamaua after which in late 1943 he was appointed founding CO of 1 NGIB. In 1944 Lt Col Edwards was promoted to command the newly formed PIR.



At the time of the Rabaul invasion in January 1942, the 8th Military District, the PNG command, comprised about 5,000 men, 3,000 in Port Moresby, 1,400 in Rabaul, 400 in the Wau/Lae area and 270 spread across the islands north of Rabaul.

Civil administration in PNG was handed to NGVR in Lae when Japan invaded Rabaul and civil administration ceased in Papua on 14th February 1942. The military commander, Maj Gen Morris established the Papua Administrative Unit (PAU) under S Elliott-Smith (later to become CO of PIB) and the New Guinea Administrative Unit (NGAU) under Kassa Townsend in Wau. Townsend arranged the "Harris Navy" to rescue the men who were escaping from the aftermath of the Japanese invasion in New Britain using NGVR and NGAU. On 10th April 1942, PAU and NGAU combined into ANGAU under KC McMullen. ANGAU administered PNG until mid 1946 when it was replaced by the Government of Papua and Australian NG.

Throughout arguably the most turbulent four years in PNG's history, ANGAU carried out the functions of the pre-war civilian administrations as well as marshal and lead the native peoples in support of the Allied armed forces during the Pacific War. The Allies relied on the PNG people for its success - their carrier lines fed and armed the Australian and American soldiers and carried their wounded; labour lines constructed roads, bridges, bases and air fields; ANGAU's scouts and networks of informants in operations areas were the eyes, ears and often the spearhead of clashes with the enemy; and ANGAU brought rehabilitation from the chaos of war in reconquered areas. ANGAU's place in Australia and PNG's history is deserving of far more recognition than it receives. It was a major influence in the victory in PNG.

In December 1942, ANGAU comprised 550 men including 140 officers. By mid 1945 ANGAU numbered just over 2,000 Australians including 360 officers. During ANGAU's existence 2,476 men including 935 Papuans and 1,541 New Guineans served in the Police of which 28 were killed in action, 63 died on duty or other causes and won more than 60 medals for valour and distinguished service.

Our recently departed comrade Ben Moide shared these links between organisations: he was an ANGAU carrier during the Kokoda campaign and a soldier in PIB. After the war Ben joined PNGVR and later played an influential role in PNG ex-servicemen's affairs. He was also a good Rugby League footballer.

The Police and soldiers were an important influence in the outcome of the war in PNG. After the war many of these men held high leadership positions up to Independence and beyond. The PIB, Police, NGVR, ANGAU, NGIB battalions and PIR hold unheralded but envious military histories.

Seventy five years ago PIB was formed, the first Military unit comprising Papua and New Guinean troops. It served with distinction. May the loyalty and steadfastness of PIB be retained in the fabric of today's PIR.

Thank you.

Phil Ainsworth,

President, NGVR & PNGVR Association 20th June, 2015

1RAR Vietnam Vets to receive Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry

ADF members who served with 1RAR in Vietnam 50 years ago have been recognised with the Republic of Vietnam

Cross of Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation (CGWP), in recognition of the military assistance provided to the former Republic of Vietnam while under the operational command of the United States 173rd Airborne Brigade.

To be eligible for the CGWP members must have served in Vietnam under the command of 173rd Airborne Brigade from 5 May 1965 to 31 May 1966 in one of the following units:

1st Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment; 1st Armoured Personnel Carrier Troop RAAC; 105th Field Battery, RAA; 3rd Field Troop, RAE; 161st Reconnaissance Flight, AAANV; 1st Australian Logistic Support Company; Battery Section, 4th Field Regiment Light Aid Detachment RAEME (and redesignated in country to 105th Field Battery Section, 12th Field Regiment Light Aid Detachment RAEME).

To apply, visit <http://www.defence.gov.au/Medals/Content/Applications>

A fifteen year old Amish boy and his father were in a mall. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially by two shiny, silver walls that could move apart and then slide back together again.

The boy asked "What is that Father?" The father, never having seen a life responded "Son! I have never seen anything like this in my life. I don't know what it is."

While they were watching an overweight old lady in a motorised cart moved up to the moving walls and pressed a button.

The walls opened and the lady rolled between them into a small room. The walls closed and they watched the small numbers above the walls light up sequentially.

They continued to watch until it reached the last number and then the numbers began to light in the reverse order. Then the doors opened and a young blonde stepped out. The father, not taking his eyes off the young woman said quietly to his son... "Go get your mother".

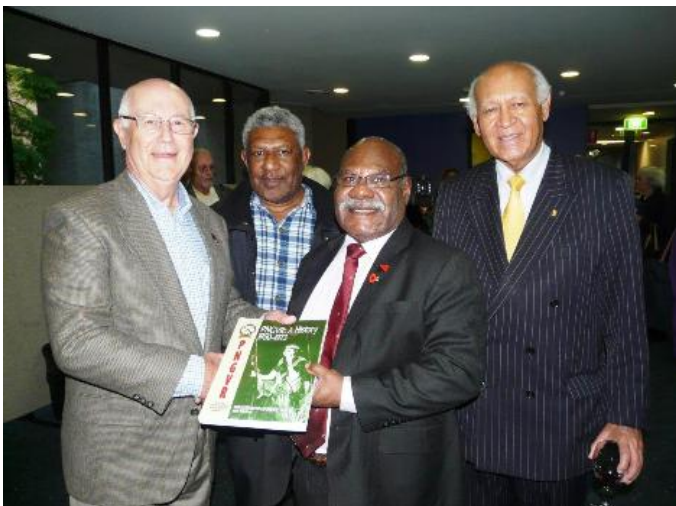
THIS REMINDS ME OF AN EVENT IN PORT MORESBY IN THE EARLY 1960'S. "ANG" HOUSE, THE VERY FIRST HIGH RISE BUILDING IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED BY THE PNG ADMINISTRATOR THIS GLEAMING BUILDING HAD TWO LIFTS AND LOCAL NATIVES FROM FAR AND WIDE WERE INVITED TO SEE MODERN WONDERS. WHEN ASSEMBLED ON THE GROUND FLOOR THEY WERE AGHAST WHEN ONE OF THE LIFTS OPENED ITS DOORS. A COUPLE OF NATIVES, WITH MUCH TREPIDATION, WERE PERSUADED TO ENTER THE LIFT. THE DOORS CLOSED BEHIND THEM AND THE ASSEMBLED THROG AWAITED. AFTER A MINUTE OR SO THE SAME LIFT DOORS OPENED AND, HORROR OF HORRORS, THERE WAS NO SIGN OF THEIR FRIENDS. THERE WAS AN IMMEDIATE MINOR RIOT THEN AS THEY PROCLAIMED "BIGPELA HAUS IBIN KAIKAIM WANTOK BILONG MIPELA" (THIS BIG HOUSE HAS EATEN OUR FRIENDS). A MINUTE OR SO LATER THE DOORS OPENED AND THERE WERE THEIR FRIENDS.

..... ORDER RESTORED

PNGVR History Book Presentation

It was a pleasure to meet with and present you a copy of my Association's book PNGVR, A History 1950-1973 at the Kiap DVD showing in Sydney last Sunday.

As the former Commander of PNGDF I trust you have an enjoyable read. You will read that PNGVR actually assisted in the reforming of PIR and significantly helped at the Mt Lamington eruption disaster near Popondetta in 1951. It was unfortunate the Routine Orders were lost on the disbandment of PNGVR in



Brigadier Francis Agwi, PNG High Commissioner to New Zealand being presented with a copy of "PNGVR, A History" by Phill Ainsworth. The PNG High Commissioner to Australia, Charles Lepani is on the right and the PNG Consul General to NSW and WA, Sumasy Singin is at the rear.

1973 and only the RO's from 1951 to early 1965 were subsequently purchased from an Australian Bookstore later which allowed the listing of a nominal roll for that period. This meant that very few PNGean soldiers are named in the book which is most regrettable. Consequently, few former members were contactable and little if any direct input for the publication was received from PNGeans. This is a significant loss particularly when PNGVR first enlisted Nationals from 1964 until disbandment in 1973 when over 80% of membership were Papua New Guineans.

Attached is a copy of the latest edition of the Association's Newsletter, Harim Tok Tok 92, which I said I would forward; unless you advise otherwise I will continue to forward future editions. Older copies may be found on our website www.pngvr.weebly.com. Regards, Phil.

CONGRATULATIONS MAXWELL HAYES

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal 1952-2012.

Max joined the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary as a direct entry at commissioned officer rank of Sub-Inspector in 1959 following his service in the Royal Australian Air Force. During his 15 years in the force, he served widely in Papua New Guinea and held a variety of positions before he was

retrenched at the rank of acting Superintendent in 1974 during the Australian Government's transition to Papua New Guinea Independence in 1975. Contemporaneously with his service in RPNGC, he was a member of "B" Company, Rabaul for about two years but resigned when Superintendent Jack Carroll required him to spend more time on police duties

For many years he has researched the history of his force from 1888 until the Constabulary centenary in 1988. Prior to 1968 RPNGC was one of only three Queen's "Royal" police forces in the western world being granted the Royal Warrant in August 1939. The citation was for services to the Constabulary in particular the history of the Commissioned Officers during the post-war period 1945-1975.



Tok Pisin (Talk Pidgin English)

An email to our Museum Curator John Holland.

Most of us are reasonably articulate with "tok pisin"

I have sometimes wondered what the tok pisin word for "museum" is – take note John.

The tok pisin for Museum is "haus bilong tumbund pasin" Now you know.

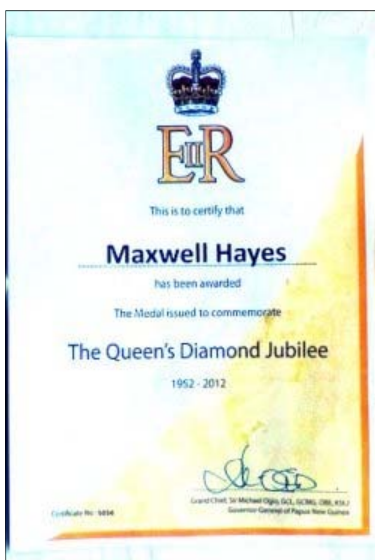
Response from Kieran Nelson.

The Mihalic Dictionary which was the standard pidgin reference for many years has been out of print for many years now but Oxford University Press has had one since 2008 which is based largely on it. For anyone who would like a copy or to brush up on their "tok pisin" it is available online. You are correct in your translation of "Museum" but their interpretation is simplified to "Haus Tumbuna" which is an addition since the Mihalic dictionary where it is not listed at all. Anyone wanting to obtain a copy can do so by following this link

http://www.oup.com.au/titles/papua_new_guinea/dictionaries_and_reference/9780195551129

BILLY SING DCM Croix de Guerre Gallipoli Sniper

William "Billy" Sing was born in 1886 to an English mother and Chinese father. He and his two sisters were brought up in Clermont and Proserpine in rural Queensland. Life on the land was tough, and from a young age Billy had to help his parents with their market garden and milk deliveries. He was also a talented horse rider and skilled at shooting.



When war broke out in 1914 Billy rushed to sign up. As one of the first to enlist, Billy was not subjected to the degree of later resistance against recruiting non-white Australians into the AIF, and he was accepted into the 5th Light Horse Regiment. He was sent to Egypt in December 1914 and onto Gallipoli in May 1915..

On Gallipoli Billy was given the nickname "the Murderer" or "the Assassin" for his skill as a sniper. Fellow soldier Ion Idriess described him as, "a little chap, very dark, with a jet black moustache and a goatee beard. A picturesque looking mankiller. He is the crack sniper of the Anzacs." Every morning in the darkness before dawn Billy would find a place to hide and watch over the Turkish soldiers in their trenches. Waiting patiently with a "spotter", usually Tom Sheehan, or Ion Idriess, he would wait for an enemy soldier to come into view. To avoid becoming a target of the Turkish snipers the Australians would stay in their position until nightfall. The ANZAC war diary for 23 October 1915 states:

Our premier sniper, Trooper Sing, 2nd LH, yesterday accounted for his 199th Turk. Every one of this record is vouched for by an independent observer, frequently an officer who observes through a telescope.

Billy's fame spread beyond the soldiers at Gallipoli, and his tally was written about in the Australian, British and American press.

The Turkish Army was also aware of Billy's reputation. In an effort to eliminate him they brought in their own crack shot, a man known to the Australians as "Abdul the Terrible". It is thought Abdul came very close to fulfilling his mission. In August 1915 a single bullet, fired from the Turkish side passed through Sheehan's telescope and through his hands, mouth, and cheek before hitting Billy in the shoulder.

In the end it was Billy who shot and killed Abdul. The Turkish army immediately retaliated aiming its heavy artillery at Billy's hiding position and completely destroying it. Fortunately for the Australian sniper and his spotter they had already evacuated to their unit trenches.

For his efforts on Gallipoli Billy was Mentioned in Dispatches by General Sir Ian Hamilton, and awarded the British Distinguished Conduct Medal in 1916 for:

Conspicuous gallantry from May to September 1915 at Anzac as a sniper. His courage and skill were most marked and he was responsible for a very large number of casualties among the enemy, no risk being too great for him to take.

The Australian soldiers were evacuated from Gallipoli in December 1915, and Billy was sent first for training in England and then to fight in France as part of the 31st Battalion.

The type of warfare on the Western Front, was different to that on Gallipoli. It is unlikely that as a sniper Billy spent much of his time on the battlefield, nevertheless his skills were put to good use. In 1917, he was recommended for, though not awarded the Military Medal for his actions leading an anti-sniper fighting patrol at Polygon Wood in Belgium. He was again Mentioned in Dispatches for gallantry, this time by the Commander of I ANZAC Corps General



Pte Billy Sing 5th Light Horse Regiment, Egypt, 1915

Birdwood, and in 1918 awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre.

Billy's health suffered during his service and he was frequently hospitalised to treat ailments ranging from serious infections to influenza. He was wounded on a number of occasions, and one gunshot wound to the leg caused him problems for years.

In 1917 while recuperating from illness in Britain, Billy married Elizabeth Stewart, a 21-year-old waitress from Scotland. Little is known about her or her marriage, and it is not even certain that she accompanied him back to Australia.

Billy returned to Australia in July 1918 as a submarine guard on board the troopship SS Boonah. Shortly afterwards he was permanently discharged as a result of being unfit for duty due to ongoing chest problems. He returned to Proserpine, Queensland to a hero's welcome, which included the presentation of a purse of sovereigns from well-wishers.



Billy sitting at his sniping position which was built on the parapet of the front line trench. It was about 140 metres from the Turkish positions.

Whether or not Elizabeth had accompanied Billy back to Australia, they were permanently separated by the time he took up a Soldier Settlement farm a few years after his return. This venture failed as did an attempt to strike it lucky in the Miclere gold fields near his property in Clermont.

In 1942 Billy moved to Brisbane to be near his surviving sister Beatrice.

A year later Billy Sing died of heart failure at the age of 57. All that remained of this one-time famous sniper was a miner's hut (worth around £20), and 5 shillings found in his room in a boarding house. There was no sign of his medals or awards from the war. Billy was buried at Lutwyche Cemetery in Brisbane. His headstone highlights his skills as a sniper, and reads:

His incredible accuracy contributed greatly to the preservation of the lives of those with whom he served during a war always remembered for countless acts of valour and tragic carnage.



The Framed Presentation of Billy Sing above is on show at your Museum at Wacol.

The last issue of HTT on page 1 had a photo of four of our members who attended the 31st Battalion Assn's dedication to the Memorial of Billy Sing at Lutwyche Cemetery on 19th May, 2015, the centenary of Billy's landing at Anzac Cove.

Australians of Chinese Heritage

War Memorial Monument

The aim of the Australian Service Personnel of Chinese Heritage War Memorial is:-

1. To educate the wider Australian community of the involvement of Australian service personnel of Chinese heritage in the defence of Australia .
2. To honour both past and present Australians of Chinese heritage in the Australian defence forces.
3. To set up bursary funds so that High School students can benefit from being good citizens and to have an awareness of the role played by the armed forces in the Australian society.

After much hard work the Memorial was dedicated on 17th April 2011.

Association members are on the Committee of this project as follows:-

- Douglas Ng Treasurer
- Ralph Seeto and Jesse Chee, Executive Members.



DON LAWIE

Don currently carries out a number of book reviews. Here is his explanation of what he does.

"M/C Reviews is some sort of offshoot of the Qld University of Technology (of which I am an alumnus). My youngest daughter did reviews of theatre productions and she introduced me to the Editor as a military historian. My eldest daughter Marion and my son Duncan also review for M/C. I've been reviewing for some years and I find that it gives me a reason to read a book analytically as well as for enjoyment and education. I check as many other sources as possible before writing. I am also Militaria Curator for the Mulgrave Shire Historical Society's Settlers Museum and currently have a WW1 Centenary Display which I reckon is pretty good. I've built up quite a library to add to my many other books on Militaria – the deal is that they send me a book, I do a 1200 – 1500 word review and keep the book. I can also request particular books. Phil has suggested that I do a review of the PNGVR book, and I'll ask for the Editor's permission. Will be a pleasure to do a favourable review.

I played my pipes at Babinda's Anzac Day Parades this year for the last time and was presented with an impressive crystal memento; I've also resigned my post as Piper for the Rocky Creek War Memorial Park and the Tablelands Council called me to a Council meeting to give me a presentation. My PD is deteriorating quite slowly but my piping is no longer of acceptable quality.

Below is one of Don's reviews.

Hell's Battlefield, To Kokoda and Beyond.

Phillip Bradley's book is redolent with pride in the Australian Digger and a passion to reveal the Diggers' story of New Guinea in WW1. *Hell's Battlefield* details the complete saga Australia's involvement against Japan in the Australian Territories of Papua and New Guinea from the bombing of Rabaul in January 1942 to the last spluttering offensives in Bougainville in August 1945. Verbatim quotes from interviews with participants enliven the crisp recitation of battles, large and small, won and lost. Well-spaced strip maps throughout the book make the action easy to follow, and there is a rather sparse overview of the war to place the New Guinea battles in context. Sixteen pages of well-chosen photographs include modern colour shots taken by the author which clearly illustrate the topography of areas such as Shaggy Ridge.

Hell's Battlefield published in 2012 can never be written again. Most of the participants of New Guinea battles are either too old to retain accurate memories of the events of so long ago, or have already died. Phillip Bradley, (and Peter Brune who must also be mentioned here for his *A Bastard of a Place*) has done an invaluable service to the people of Australia and the history of our country. Extensive interviews with the soldiers illuminate the dry official history, and Bradley has tramped the battlefields in person to gain understanding of the problems that faced the soldiers of both sides.

A book that tells the complete story of Australia's New Guinea battles in WW2 must of necessity retell some stories that have become familiar over the years. The Tol Massacre (15-21) brings out nothing new in a sickening tales that must be told, but Bradley's history of the Kokoda Campaign presents a number of attitudes that differ from those that have become accepted. MacArthur, and through him Blamey's, relentless replacement of officers during the desperate days of the retreat south from Kokoda are seen to be plausible. As *Hell's Battlefield* progresses we read of numerous underperforming Brigadiers and Lt Cols being summarily dismissed from command in much the same was as those of the Kokoda cam-

paign. Time and again the lives of both Australian and US soldiers are sacrificed against the relentless need for speed. MacArthur had to close the New Guinea campaign to pursue his drive to the Philippines ahead of the US Navy's strategy of a mid-Pacific advance.

The Australian commander General Blamey was subordinate to MacArthur and was obliged to conform to his orders. One has to feel some sympathy for Blamey in retrospect but at the time he was almost universally unpopular with his troops. "To this day you would be hard pressed to find any 21st Brigade veteran with a kind word for Blamey" (102). That quote could accurately be enlarged from "21st Brigade veteran" to "any New Guinea veteran"

Bradley writes sympathetically of the AIF attitude towards the Militia soldiers in New Guinea. He makes the important point that the AIF had been blooded through more than two years of war in Africa whereas the undertrained Militia were thrown into battle with insufficient weapons and equipment. Some Militia troops responded magnificently, such as the 39th Battalion, while others such as the 53rd Battalion were hardly given a chance to learn. "(Brigadier) Potts disdain for the Militia troops was as great as his disdain for the Japanese"(55).

In the later campaign for Salamaua the 15th (Militia) Brigade was allotted a strenuous approach and a high hazardous attack task. Bradley comments "...a difficult introduction to battle for troops with no front-line experience and little dedicated jungle training, and all the more so coming hard on the heels of an arduous trek." (234).

An interesting omission in *Hell's battlefield* is the fate of the 39th Battalion. After their dogged retreat down the Kokoda Trail the 39th were rested and reinforced, then thrown, as the only troops available, into the cauldron of the Gona battle. The 39th were instrumental in the Australian victory at Gona but their reward was that the pitiful remnants of the Battalion be dispersed into other formations and for the battalion to be disbanded. Why Bradley fails to mention this ignominious end to a proud Militia battalion is curious.

The Australian Army, by world standards, was small and units were cycled through repeated actions. Large armies such as the US Army could relieve their men after 12 months overseas service but Australians were rested then returned to action time and again. A case in point is the AIF 18th Brigade comprising the 2/9th, 2/10th and 2/12th battalions. The 18th served with distinction in Africa, particularly at the siege of Tobruk. They returned to Australia and were sent to immediate action at Milne Bay in August 1942 where the 2/10th in particular was savaged by Japanese tanks. After Milne Bay the 2/12th was tasked with eliminating a stranded pocket of Japanese on Goodenough Island and then the whole Brigade was enlisted in the stalled Buna campaign in Northern Papua in January 1943. The United States soldiers could not make progress but the veteran Diggers of the 18th Brigade rolled through the initial Japanese defences. After Buna the 18th were rested and reinforced in Australia then returned to serious and deadly fighting in New Guinea at Shaggy Ridge in early 1944. Bradley comments: "The Brigades of Vasey's Seventh Division had been all but destroyed in the struggle for Papua (179), then: "... the willing horse certainly copped the load. (423).

There are some annoying elements in *Hell's Battlefield*: the constant use of soldiers' first names and nicknames in inverted commas detracts from the narrative flow and is hardly necessary. The quoted expression "all Hell broke loose" may well have been used by the interviewee but it has little meaning and is used far too often. There is a tendency to accept some statements which require qualification: on page 398 the death of a soldier is recorded "... he accidentally stepped on the cocking

lever of his Owen Gun. The gun discharged and fired twenty to thirty rounds..." The Owen had a deserved reputation of being dangerous when cocked but had an effective safety slide – which could easily be dislodged. This reviewer has fired many hundreds of rounds from an Owen Gun (albeit at a target) and I cannot see how kicking the cocking lever can result in a continuous discharge of bullets.

There is a tendency to add words to embellish a story with a result of factual distortion. The unsuccessful raid on Porton Plantation on Northern Bougainville by men of the 31/51 Battalion is told well by Bradley and was most certainly a slice of Hell for the men involved. Towards the end of their travail the men stranded in a barge are attacked: "...a Japanese soldier clambered onto the stern of the barge from a native canoe and opened fire with a LMG". (405). (My emphasis). I have read numerous versions of this incident including eyewitness reports and the official Intelligence Report written by a participant. In none is the native canoe mentioned.

Hell's Battlefield brings to light some interesting observations; Japanese machine gun fire is often reported as being too high, enabling attacking Diggers to prevail, but long range Japanese rifle fire is deadly accurate (314). The Japanese troops involved were experienced and well trained and the high firing must have a reason. Bradley states, with regard to the Buna Battlefield, that the New Buna strip was a decoy (128), and this could well be so although perhaps the Japanese had had insufficient time to bring it to readiness. The hotly disputed Number Three Strip at Milne Bay could likewise be regarded as a decoy at the time of the battle.

Footnotes throughout *Hell's Battlefield* refer the reader to an extensive bibliography but many of the references are to unpublished or difficult to obtain sources making verification by a reader virtually impossible. Appendix One gives casualty figures for each part of the campaign, broken down into brigade and battalion levels and these give a sobering insight into the real cost of the defence of Australia in those desperate days.

Bradley sticks to the action in New Guinea and does not complicate the story with events elsewhere nor with discussions of Grand Strategy. A useful addition to a future printing would be a simple timeline of events and a table of Order of Battle of the Australian Army at that time. Future readers would find such additions make the story easier to follow.

Hell's Battlefield tells us in 436 pages of relentless history that Australian soldiers are capable of incredible feats of endurance, heroism and sacrifice.

Thanks Don.

The website for Don's reviews is: Reviews.media-culture.org.au open the first item – reviews, then there is a search box on top right – enter Donald Lawie for a complete list of his published reviews. You'll find *Hell's Battlefield*, a Bastard of a Place, The Coastwatchers, etc.

His review of 'PNGVR a History' will be in a future issue.

The photo of Maj Harbeck and Sgt Aschhoff was taken outside C Coy company lines during the 1967 annual camp on the Busu River near Lae.

C Coy lines were opposite those of B Coy and we were very conscious of the fact that B Coy lived a much more relaxed existence than we did!

It seemed that Maj Harbeck adhered to that old school of military discipline which held that:-

- If it moves salute it.
- If it doesn't move pick it up.

An Australian salesman checked into a futuristic hotel in Tokyo, Japan.

Realising he needed a haircut before the next day's meeting, he called down to the desk clerk to ask if there was a barber on the premises. "I'm afraid not, sir," the clerk told him apologetically, 'but down the hall from your room is a vending machine that should serve your purposes.'

Sceptical but intrigued, the salesman located the machine, inserted 15.00 Yen, and stuck his head into the opening, at which time the machine started to buzz and whirl.

Fifteen seconds later the salesman pulled out his head and surveyed his reflection, which reflected the best haircut of his life.

Two feet away was another machine with a sign that read 'Manicures 20.00 Yen'. 'Why not?' thought the salesman. He paid the money, inserted his hands into the slot, and the machine started to buzz and whirl. Fifteen seconds later he pulled out his hands and they were perfectly manicured.

The next machine had a sign that read, 'This Machine Provides a Service Men Need When Away from Their Wives, 1 Yen.'

The salesman looked both ways, put one Yen in the machine, unzipped his fly, and with some anticipation, stuck his manhood into the opening. When the machine started buzzing, the guy let out a shriek of agony and almost passed out.

Fifteen seconds later it shut off.

With trembling hands, the salesman was able to withdraw his tender unit, which now had a button sewn neatly on the end

Email received from Rick Giddings

- If you can't pick it up paint it.

No doubt you have need to communicate with Maj Harvey-Hall from time to time. When next you do you might be so kind as to congratulate him on my behalf for the outstanding book he has written about PNGVR. It says it all!

Best wishes,

Rick.

Thanks Rick! Another tribute to a superbly written Unit History.



Left to right: Sumasy Singin , PNG Consul General Sydney; Magdalene Shirley Moi-He, PNG Consul General Brisbane and Timothy Wai McKintz, President of the PNG Federation Qld Inc. cutting PNG's 40th Anniversary Independence cake in Brisbane 8 September 2015.

Korean Veteran's day

On Sat 25th July 2015, the Commemoration Service for Korean



Veterans was conducted at the Qld Korean War Memorial at Cascade Gardens on the Gold Coast.

Assn Vice President Bob Collins represented the Assn at the Ceremony and laid a wreath on behalf of the Association.

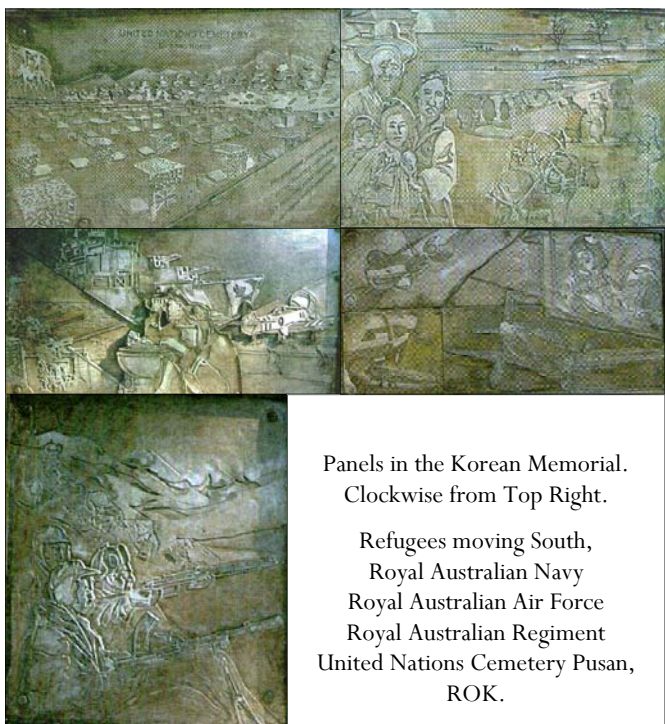
This is a magnificent memorial. The murals of the Memorial create a story of the Korean War including Australian, Korean and Allied involvement. The design of the wall shows a series of ten relief murals that represent the different forces of Navy, army and Air Force in addition to specialized units of Artillery, Armour, Medics and Nurses with additional murals for those Missing in Action and Prisoners of war.

Special features are those depicting the struggles of the Korean people and a special memorial to the Pusan Australian War Memorial in South Korea. The centre prominent sculpture of a Korean War era Australian soldier depicts the figure as a sentinel at ease overseeing the commemorative site.

The memorial wall is flanked by a remembrance garden with three flag poles flying the Australian, United Nations and Republic of Korea flags. At the southern end there is a special tribute to the land forces of the Royal Australian Regiment, including original battlefield stones.

The focus of the memorial's forecourt central podium is the *Taegeuk* or *Yin Yang* symbolizing the involvement of the Korean population. The Taegeuk is the major central symbol of the Korean flag. The National flower of Korea, the Rose of





Panels in the Korean Memorial.
Clockwise from Top Right.

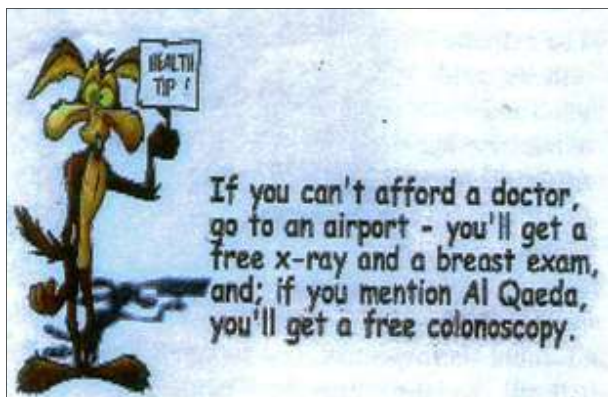
Refugees moving South,
Royal Australian Navy
Royal Australian Air Force
Royal Australian Regiment
United Nations Cemetery Pusan,
ROK.

Sharon, is represented in the panels with three hundred and forty flowers, each representing a fallen Australian. The central figure and the focal point of the Memorial, the Unknown Veteran was inspired by a photograph of a 3 RAR soldier standing next to a frozen lake in deep contemplation.

Lt Col Maurie Pears MC who is a member and great supporter of our Association, an ex CO of 1 PIR was a Benefactor and Project Manager for the construction of the Memorial. As a Platoon Commander of 7PI C Coy 3RAR Maurie won his Military Cross at the Battle of Maryang San, Korea in 1951. The official Korean War historian, Robert O'Neill stated *"In five days of heavy fighting 3 RAT dislodged a numerically superior enemy from a position of great strength. The victory at Maryang San is probably the greatest single feat of the Australian Army during the Korean War"*.

Maurie gave an inspirational address to the assembled crowd after Maj Gen Michael Jeffery, a former Governor General of Australia, and also the last Australian CO of 2 PIR, and the Consul-General of the ROK had given addresses.

This was an extremely well attended and organised ceremony.



VALE: George Edward COCKRAM (NGVR)

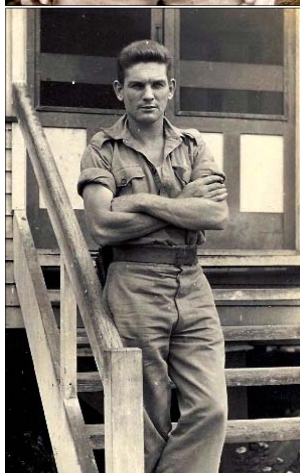
NG 2246

NGX426

17.9.1915- 6.9.2015



George was born in Box Hill, Victoria, and went to New Guinea in 1940 on the "Neptuna" on spec and obtained a job at Bulwa with Bulolo Gold Dredging on No 4 dredge as a deckhand, oiler. He joined NGVR in October 1940 at Bulwa and when NGVR was mobilized in January 1942, was a runner carrying messages between Wau/Bulolo and Bulwa and various outposts in the Markham Valley and also guiding incoming troops to their respective positions.



He was in the Markham Valley guiding Mick Rouse (NGVR) and Sgt Main and Cpl McBarron (2/5th Ind Coy) to Camp Diddy when they ran into a Japanese patrol. Main and McBarron were never seen again after the skirmish but George and Rouse were unhurt.

In Sept 1942, after the scorched earth policy was carried out in Wau and Bulolo, George was ordered out of Wau via the Bulldog Track and again in Port Moresby was used as a runner. At one stage he unknowingly walked through a minefield when delivering messages.



In October 1942, he left New Guinea in the Hospital ship "Manunda" and spent the next six months in and out of hospital in Australia, suffering from malaria and other tropical ailments. His experience similar to what happened to the majority of NGVR

veterans after their return to Australia from the months spent on active service in New Guinea without adequate medical supplies and existing on a poor diet, often of local foods.

Returning to duty in April 1942 he worked at BIPOD (Bulk Issue petrol and oil depot), but nicknamed "Bloody idiots pushing oil drums) before coming down with malaria again. He then joined ANGAU *Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit) and in November 1943, returned to New Guinea.



He was involved with carrier lines in the Markham Valley and was carrying forward to the 7th Division during the battle of Shaggy Ridge and also involved with one of the Independent Companies in the Ramu Valley, Bogadjim and

Madang districts and while there came down with Dengue Fever.

He was then moved to Bougainville again in charge of carrying lines. Illness again put him in and out of hospital and was in 109 Casualty Clearing Station when the Atom bomb was dropped.

After the war George worked on dredges in New Guinea, became a dredgemaster and then worked in Columbia and Bolivia as dredgemaster.

George and Evelyn lived in Surry Hills, Melbourne, not far from Box Hill where he was born until a few months ago when George developed stomach cancer and was admitted to a hospice.

George died just 42 days before his 100th birthday.

LEST WE FORGET

VALE: Valerie Cameron FISK

28.9.1940 - 18.8.2015



Born in Brisbane, one of two daughters in the Morrison family, Val attended school at Balmoral and spent holidays in the old family shack at Point Lookout where her father caught fish in the Jew hole off the local rocks.

After school she became a nurse, and when she went to New Guinea it was as a nursing sister with the Blood Bank and the Red Cross.



She initially went to Port Moresby and then to Rabaul where she met Joe Fisk, who was working with Hornibrooks in Rabaul at the time. Joe was transferred to Mt Hagen and Val followed, working in the office of the Police Department. They were married in Mt Hagen, later moving to Wewak where Joe worked as a carpenter with Madang Contractors.

Their two children, Charlie and Cathy, were born in New Guinea, and when Cathy was

10 days old the family moved to Brisbane into what was to be their lifetime family home in Daisy Hill. Val lived in that home for over 40 years.

When the Association commenced, Joe was the initial Secretary, however it was Val, a highly organised person who did most of the organizing and all the typing required for notices and the commencement versions of "Harim Tok Tok".



After the death of Joe Val's health slowly deteriorated to the extent

Donations for Tiles for Museum Extension

You will all be aware of the request for donations to place tiles on the floor of the extension to your Museum. A Donation board will be in the extension with the names of all those who have made such a donation (but not including the amount)

To date the response has been excellent, however donations are still requested.

The 17th October, when the AGM will be held at your Museum, will be the official cut-off time for names to appear on the Donation Board. After that date all donations received will be treated as being received in the normal course of events and will go into general revenue.

that her son, Charlie, who is a member of the Royal Australian Navy, moved from Fremantle so that both Charlie and Cathy could be near her.

Val was a loving person who showed great friendship to all she met and enjoyed having her children and grandchildren around her as much as possible.

VALE: Lettia Margaret HARVEY-HALL

Mother of the Author of "PNGVR A History"

Lettie died at the great age of 106 and a half years, an extraordinary age. She was born on the first of October 1908 in Cloncurry and educated at the local convent. At the age of twenty she married William John Harvey-Hall, a World War 1 veteran. Bill Harvey-Hall was a motor mechanic who periodically went fossicking for gold. Prior to WW2 Lettie followed Bill to several gold mining sites including the Percyville goldfield on the Cape York Peninsula. The house at the Percy was typical of the times in such places with a dirt floor and a lean to kitchen outside the dwelling where she prepared the food. Periodically she would accompany Bill in the Whippet car to Percyville for supplies; on one of these trips she was bitten by a deadly snake: prompt action from Bill saved her life. During this time Lettie educated Bob and John. This period was one of hard yakka. Other gold fields beckoned to Bill and Lettie was there to support him.

In 1938 Lettie accompanied Bill to Tennant Creek while he worked on the new emergency landing ground where once again she educated Bob, John and Rod: again this was hard yakka under difficult circumstances. Lettie was living in Charters Towers in 1942 when the manpower board sent Bill to Alice Springs as a technician in the new large power plant; the journey took three months because all trains were declared troop trains and travel was controlled by the Army: this included a trip on the Ghan. In 1945 at completion of Bills contract, Lettie and Bill returned to Charters Towers. By this time Lettie and Bill had five sons; Bob, John, Rod, Chris and Gil. In 1946 Lettie flew with Bill to Lae in the Territory of New Guinea where Lettie managed the Morobe bakery. Her first house was part of General Blamey's war time living quarters on the Butubum River just outside the township of Lae; later she and Bill moved to Rotten Row in Lae. Seven years before retiring to Charters Towers, Lettie and Bill built a house in the new housing area on Namanula Hill. Lettie lived in her Mothers home in Charters Towers where Bill died; she then moved to Townsville and Ayr, prior to living out her life with her youngest son Gil at Shailer Park. At the age of one hundred and at one hundred and five, Lettie received letters of con-

BE AN EXPERT ON PNGVR!

Read Bob Harvey-Hall's book *PNGVR, A History*
A comprehensive history of the Regiment.

Price: \$50 + \$20 postage

Where: order thru our Assoc. Secretary

When: Immediately Review below.

Review PNGVR History Lt Col MAURIE PEARS MC

The NGVR/PNGVR Association members have some very distinguished and illustrious ancestors. In 1939 at the outbreak of war, the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles (NGVR) was raised as citizens' military/surveillance unit. It comprised kiaps, planters, bankers, traders, miners and perhaps a few adventurous rascals, all with an intimate knowledge of the land and people of New Guinea. The traditions of these men were inculcated in PNGVR, the post war successor unit of NGVR. The Association members were former PNGVR members, When war exploded in the Pacific, Australia made an effort to defend the Territories, with the deployment of token forces mainly at Moresby, Rabaul and New Ireland. These were supported by the NGVR, ANGAI and the Coast Watchers. Australia's main military forces had been sent to the Middle East, Africa and Europe to support the Commonwealth war effort against Germany. It is important to remember that, from the commencement of the Japanese invasion in Rabaul to the Kokoda campaign, a period of 5 months, the rest of Papua and New Guinea was defended by these civilian volunteer forces with minimal support. But that is another story aptly recorded by Ian Downs in The New Guinea Volunteer Rifles, Eric Feldt in Coastwatchers and Geoff Gray in ANGAI.

Bob Harvey-Hall's PNGVR is a massive and erudite history of that Australian CMF Unit from 1950 until its sad disbandment in 1973. It tells, in intimate detail, of the years of struggle of an isolated CMF unit to deal with tribal authorities, local and national governments and the Australian Regular Army. It did so with distinction to become a major force, to grow a national PNG community and with PIR a defence capability. In this task they worked with Government administration, the Australian authorities and the Police.

I was fortunate to be in PNG as a PIR Company Commander 1961 to 63 and a Commanding Officer 1968 to 70. It was an experience matched only by my service in Korea. The PNGVR were my constant companions and advisors in those periods.

For those who have any interest whatsoever in the growth of the Defence Forces in Papua New Guinea I urge you to read this valuable document. I doubt whether a more informative unit history will ever become available. It is unique in the amount of information available and the ten year dedication of the author.

Congratulations to The PNGVR Association and author Bob. The book is a grand memorial to your departed comrades.



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A reliable alternative source for medal work is National Medals, natmedals@bigpond.com, Ph 07 3871 0600 Ask for Greg Faux, mobile 0419 196 172. Located at 13/200 Moggill Road, Taringa, Brisbane, 4066

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

Includes former members of the Pacific Islands Regiment, Papuan Infantry Battalion and New Guinea Infantry Bn.

For correspondence contact Secretary, Colin Gould, email pngvr@optusnet.com.au, phone 0424 562 030

(The Secretary, P O Box 885, Park Ridge, Qld, 4125)

For Military Museum enquires contact Curator John Holland, email rabaul42@gmail.com, phone 0449 504 058

(NGVR/PNGVR Military Museum, Corner Boundary Road & Fulcrum Street, Wacol, Qld, 4076)

Membership fee payments to Treasurer, Doug Ng, email doug-lasng@iinet.net.au, phone 0413 014 422

(NGVR & PNGVR Ex-members Association : BSB: 064006 - A/C: 10001126)

Website Master: Trevor Connell email trevor.connell@internode.on.net, phone 0409 690 590

www.pngvr.weebly.com (all backcopies of HTT may be obtained from our website)

Facebook Master: Kieran Nelson, email kieran.nelson@bigpond.com, phone 0412 236 013

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ngvrandonpngvrmilitarymuseum/>

Harim Tok Tok Editor: Bob Collins, email bob-collins@bigpond.com, phone 0413 831 397

President: Email p.ainsworth@kingco.com.au to get on members electronic distribution including Harim Tok Tok (you will receive it in colour, earlier and can adjust the print size to suit)

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FUNCTION DATES

Association Committee Meetings

Saturday 17th October AGM

Saturday 21st November

Meetings commence 10am and all members are welcome to attend.

Mixed Dining Night Jimboomba

Saturday 17th October.

Conviviality commences 4.00pm.

Sit down 7.00pm.

Contact Bob Collins 5526 8396

or Barry Wright 5546 9865

Come along and see old friends.



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