



**Rabaul & Montevideo Maru**

Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society

# Memorial News 29

August 2011

## 1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

11am Wednesday 14 September 2011

Jackson Wells Pty Ltd Board Room

Level 2, 81-91 Military Road, Neutral Bay (See Page 21)

### RABAUL AND MONTEVIDEO MARU MEMORIAL -

## PASSAGE

### ARTIST:

### JAMES PARRETT

Congratulations to sculptor James Parrett on his winning design for the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial titled 'Passage'. In creating his design, James Parrett acknowledges

"My immediate response was to create a work that would 'protect' the memory of the people who lost their lives as well as the tragedy of the event itself".

Parrett sought to provide an abstract design for future generations that was timeless, both physically and aesthetically. The work would be fabricated in stainless steel, and be approximately 3.5 metres high. The



design is based on the manipulation of circular forms, and refers to themes of physical and personal journeys, and the ocean. This symbolic design provides a peaceful way of reflecting upon the fall of Rabaul, the New Guinea Islands and

### [www.memorial.org.au](http://www.memorial.org.au)

The Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society was established to ensure national recognition and commemoration of the tragedies that ensued after the Japanese invasion of the New Guinea Islands in early 1942, including Australia's greatest maritime disaster, the sinking of the Montevideo Maru with the loss of more than 1,000 lives. The Society is registered in the Australian Capital Territory (No A04977). ABN 960 583 442 11



the sinking of the *Montevideo Maru*. An explanatory text panel will be positioned adjacent to the memorial and will provide a brief account of the events.

The location for the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru memorial is in the Australian War Memorial's award winning Eastern Precinct, designed by Johnson Pilton Walker. This site commands views across the National Servicemen's memorial and ANZAC Parade and will be positioned not far from the bronze sculpture of Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop.

The design has recently been approved by the Australian War Memorial Council and will also require final works approval from the National Capital Authority.

Commissioning of the sculptural memorial will not occur until it is fully funded.

### ARTIST STATEMENT

When reading many articles about the events of Rabaul and the New Guinea Islands, and the Montevideo Maru, what struck me was the importance of creating a timeless work allowing people to comprehend the magnitude of this disaster whilst simultaneously feeling at peace. My immediate response was to create a work that would 'protect' the memory of the people who lost their lives as well as the tragedy of the event itself. I want people to remember but also to learn.



The ocean is a powerful force, it can be devastating but I also strongly feel that it can also be protective, peaceful and calming. The events in New Britain, New Ireland and on board the Montevideo Maru all centre around the ocean, so I would like to create a memorial that symbolises the ocean and how the ocean is now embracing the victims while also ensuring that the event is appropriately commemorated.

*Passage* possesses all of the grand elements of a major sculptural work, capturing and balancing both the powerful and peaceful nature of the ocean. The work has a great deal of movement and the circular 'wave like' forms will harmonise with its surrounds, with its angled base evocative of a ship's bow steaming through the water. It also creates the sense of protection for viewers standing under or around the piece whilst simultaneously conveying the emotion attached to this tragedy.

The title *Passage* refers to many things including:

- A boat's trajectory
- The ocean and movement of the waves
- Different people's experiences within the event
- The journey of the families and loved ones who live on
- The span of forgiveness
- Life and lifetimes
- Moving on



## JAMES PARRETT PROFILE

James Parrett (b.1976) is a Melbourne based sculptor. In 1998, he completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Sculpture) at Monash University, Caulfield and then in 2002 attained a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) at the Victorian College of the Arts, Southbank. Parrett has been a finalist in numerous important awards and exhibitions. In 2008 and 2009 he was a finalist in Sculpture by the Sea, and in 2005, 2007 and 2010, was a finalist in the nationally respected McClelland Contemporary Sculpture Survey and Award, at Langwarrin in Victoria. His work is held in public and private collections throughout Australia.

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Our thoughts are with Paul Lockyer's family after the helicopter tragedy on 18 August. As MC at our 69<sup>th</sup> commemorative luncheon at the National Press Club in Canberra in July 2011 he warmed our hearts with his generous involvement, special charisma and professional integrity. A well-loved and highly respected ABC journalist, Paul was a gracious and articulate MC, interested and empathetic to the Society's goals. Connected to the *Montevideo Maru* through his wife's uncle, Paul had also interviewed Bill Royston and shared with us the story of the two men titled 'Twists of Fate' (see article *Memorial News* July 2011pg 7). He will be greatly missed.

## REFLECTIONS - ON HUMANITY

An address delivered on the occasion of the Memorial and Thanksgiving Service of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society

By Professor John Pearn

**FROM SADNESS** - May There Come Proud Closure

**FROM DISASTER, MAY THERE COME RESOLVE** - That in a Future World, Such Events Which We Memorialise Today, Will Not Again Occur

Following personal loss, closure is a personal thing. For many, comfort comes from the sharing of such loss. Those of us whose lives have been touched by the war-time incarceration of relatives, their tribulations and their deaths, are enjoined at this time of special remembrance. They were spouses and partners, parents and grandparents, relatives and friends of the several thousand families who remember their service and sacrifice.

Those who perished in July 1942 served as soldiers and civilians and were caught up in the maelstrom of war. They were infantry men, commandos, bandsmen, signallers and medics. Others were civilian government employees maintaining the machinery of society in a tropical outpost. Other victims were planters and business folk. One thousand and fifty three of them, men and adolescent boys, lost their lives during the sinking of the *Montevideo Maru*. The sinking of that ship remains Australia's largest maritime disaster. The prisoners of war, soldiers and civilians both, perished in the water, entrapped below decks in the holds of the ship, in the early morning of the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1942. Concurrent with these events, many other families lost loved ones on the

Islands of New Britain and New Ireland, brutally killed under unimaginable circumstances. Many others were harried, executed or imprisoned. A few escaped to recount their experiences.

In our Reflections, we look forward to the unveiling of a physical memorial, placed on Australian soil, to honour their sacrifice. It is anticipated that in July 2012, those of us who are spared will meet again, in our Nation's Capital, to dedicate a fitting memorial which will be a tangible symbol of reference to these events. It will honour the more than a thousand victims of the *Montevideo Maru* disaster; and those of the military and civilian forces of New Britain and New Ireland, who have no known grave.

A physical memorial is an important witness of such service unto death. However, memorials also serve as metaphors. The metaphor of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial will also be a witness of our Nation's resolve that there is a higher ethic than the brutality of war. When all attempts at peace have failed, and when nations become locked in combat on the battlefield, civilised peoples still adhere to a higher principle. In the aftermath of conflict, when prisoners are taken, one manifestation of that higher ethic is a resolve that there will remain dignity in victory; and that prisoners will be treated with physical care and humanity. The Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial will be a witness of that metaphor - that the events which it commemorates will not again recur in a future, better world.

**NOTE:**

If you received this newsletter by post and you have an email address which could be used, it would be appreciated if you could let us know please. This will save both costs and time. Please email: [admin@memorial.org.au](mailto:admin@memorial.org.au)



**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP  
OF THE SOCIETY DUE**

**1 September 2011 for Ordinary  
and Gold Members**

You can help commemorate an important part of the history of Australia and Papua New Guinea by continuing your membership of the Society or donating to the memorial.

*Memorial News*, the monthly newsletter of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society, is available only to financial members.

Life members will receive a Certificate recording their special membership of the Society.

**Only financial members will be able to vote at the upcoming Annual General Meeting on 14 September.**

**How to join the Society:**

**Electronically.** Transfer the appropriate funds to the Society's bank account: Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society BSB 082-401 Account No 16-083-2367. Notify this deposit in an email to [tharyjanto@jacksonwells.com.au](mailto:tharyjanto@jacksonwells.com.au)

**By mail.** Post a cheque made out to the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society to PO Box 1743, Neutral Bay NSW 2089.

**By credit card** - please complete form at end of newsletter

Membership (one postal or email address) - \$50

Gold membership - \$100

Life membership - \$500

**Remember, the only way to continue receiving the *Memorial News* after August is by becoming a financial member of the Society.**

The Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society is committed to applying all funds to the establishment of a Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial.

*If you are in doubt please check with:*  
[tharyjanto@jacksonwells.com.au](mailto:tharyjanto@jacksonwells.com.au)

## AUSTRALIA- PAPUA NEW GUINEA BUSINESS COUNCIL

Phil Ainsworth recently addressed 25 members of the **Australia Papua New Guinea Business Council (APNGBC)** at their quarterly executive meeting in Sydney (see page 7). The Council is an independent association of businesses which invest or trade between Australia and Papua New Guinea. Its members are drawn from major mining, banking, agricultural and service investors in PNG as well as smaller companies.

### A-PNGA BUSINESS BREAKFAST

The **Australia-Papua New Guinea Association (A-PNGA)** recently held a **Business Breakfast in Brisbane** with Guest Speaker Max Esparon - previously General Manager Projects of Newcrest Mining Ltd and now of Wapi Golpu. 260 members of the Australia/Papua New Guinea business community attended.

Phil Ainsworth also addressed those present. Posing several thought provoking questions about the fate of the Australian troops and civilians in the New Guinea islands during WWII, the silence from the audience was palpable. President of A-PNGA, Gayle Carrick, kindly emailed the information to all present.



Photo: Phil Ainsworth and Andrea Williams represent the Society at the A-PNGA Business Breakfast.

## SCHOOLS EXACERBATE AUSTRALIA'S PNG AMNESIA KEITH JACKSON

(With thanks for PNG Attitude)

**A SENIOR AUSTRALIAN academic has lamented the absence of coverage of the Pacific from school studies and says "we must get the curriculum right".**

"Australia's amnesia about our relations with Papua New Guinea is particularly unfortunate" Prof Tony Milner AM, professor of Asian history at the Australian National University, told a conference

He said Australian students can undertake the new national history curriculum without seriously studying the region that holds the key to Australia's future.

Prof Milner told the NSW History Teachers Association that the only section of the new school history curriculum to mention Asia a Year 7 introduction to ancient China and India and part of a Year 10 component.

Professor Stuart Macintyre, who led the drafting of the curriculum, said: "It has always been a problem that teachers feel less confident about teaching on Asia, but we have gone further towards installing it in the curriculum than previously."

He said the curriculum for Years 11 and 12, to be released soon, would provide substantially more Asia content than in the past.

Prof Milner said: "A history curriculum for our times must certainly help Australians to think about the task of carving out a specific role for our country in the Asian region."

Source: *The Australian* 26 July 2011

Feel like making a comment? Visit:

[http://asopa.typepad.com/asopa\\_people/2011/07/schools-exacerbate-australias-png-amnesia.html](http://asopa.typepad.com/asopa_people/2011/07/schools-exacerbate-australias-png-amnesia.html)

## FIRST 50 CALLERS - AIR NIUGINI SPECIAL FARES

Exclusive discounts are available for Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society members wanting to travel to Papua New Guinea with Air Niugini (only for bona fide members.)

- Limited to first 50 callers only
  - Bookings must be made by 30 October 2011 and direct through Air Niugini Brisbane only on 1300 361 380
  - Fare and discount will vary according to availability
  - Members must quote their membership when making the booking otherwise normal fares will apply.
- Air Niugini reservations staff will quote both the normal fare price plus the discounted fare price.

## AURORA EXPEDITIONS PNG - 70<sup>th</sup> commemoration voyage

### RABAU ANZAC Day 2012 –

To acknowledge the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Australia's entry into the Pacific War and Papua New Guinea's entry into World War II, *Aurora Expeditions* offers a special commemorative voyage:

***Lost in Paradise - Our Fallen Heroes.*** Aurora's historian shines a light on the courage and tragedy of Australia's unsung heroes - Lark Force - in the Battle of Rabaul, and the ensuing loss of lives, both troops and civilians, on the *Montevideo Maru*.

With moving dawn ceremonies at Tol and Rabaul, this cruise will reawaken the true courage and sacrifice of WWII.

*Aurora Cruises* offer two historic voyages to the New Guinea Islands in April 2012 - see box for details.

The PNG brochure is currently online at:  
<http://www.auroraexpeditions.com.au/papuanewguinea2012>

Further information and brochures are also available from: *Aurora Expeditions* +61 2 9252 1033 or 1800 637 688 (free call within Australia)

Note: Aurora Expeditions support the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial.

*There is already considerable interest and it is suggested that you consider options as soon as convenient.*

### VOYAGE 1:

**2-14 April 2012**

#### ***Island of Smiles***

Alotau, Dobu/Ferguson Is, Trobriands/Kitava, Lababia, Wannam/Tami group, Madang, Murik Lakes, Mandam, Karkar, Siassi Island (Tuam), Tufi, Weddau/Dogura, Alotau  
For those wishing to explore the islands and coastline of New Guinea, and to experience the diverse array of customs, snorkel, swim, bird watch, or perhaps go on village walks or join in a football match.

### VOYAGE 2:

**70<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Voyage:**

**14-26 April 2012**

#### ***Lost in Paradise - Our Fallen Heroes***

Alotau, Milne Bay/Samarai, D'Entrecasteaux islands - Dobu & Fergusson Is, Egum Atoll and Gawa Is, Trobriands, Lindenhafen near Gasmata, Palmalmal/Jacquinet Bay, Karlai/Wide Bay, Tol (pre-dawn landing and ceremony), Lambon & Lamassa - New Ireland, Duke of York Is, Rabaul.

This voyage, visiting key historical sites and beautiful beaches and coral atolls, will arrive in Rabaul in time for a special 70<sup>th</sup> ANZAC Day service on 25 April 2012 before disembarking 26 April.

There is also an option to experience the 65km **Lark Force Wilderness Trek from Vunga, near Rabaul, to Tol** - admire the courage of Australian soldiers as you follow their footsteps on the jungle route to escape overwhelming numbers of Japanese in early 1942.

Options for the voyages also include kayaking and scuba diving.

# SPEECH TO THE AUSTRALIA PAPUA NEW GUINEA BUSINESS COUNCIL ON 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2011 IN SYDNEY

PHIL AINSWORTH

I thank the Business Council for providing the Society with the opportunity to speak today.

My name is Phil Ainsworth and I am the President of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society. I am also the President of the NGVR and PNGVR Association and a committee member of the PNGAA.

I lived in PNG for 21 years from 1960 to 1981 and raised my family there. I worked in Forestry and in the National Planning Office and was an officer in the PNGVR. At one time my boss was the present PNG High Commissioner to Australia, Charles Lepani, who is present today.

Today I make an urgent appeal to you for your immediate financial support to allow the commissioning of a memorial commemorating Australia's worst maritime disaster... the sacrifice of 1,053 Australian soldiers and civilians who, in 1942, went down with the Japanese prison ship *Montevideo Maru* after it was torpedoed by an American submarine off the Philippines coast. It is also to acknowledge the 350 who died in Rabaul and New Guinea Islands at the time of the Japanese occupation. A prominent site in the grounds of the Australian War Memorial in Canberra has been approved, a sculptor and an appropriate design has been selected, a firm budget and timetable to enable the dedication of the Memorial on 1 July 2012, the 70th Anniversary, is in place - **providing another \$200,000 can be raised by 31 October 2011! WE NEED YOUR URGENT ASSISTANCE!**

Can you imagine the horror felt by the first Australians to enter Rabaul after the war seeking our 1,400 men, both soldiers and civilians, missing since the Japanese occupation nearly four years earlier, and instead, were presented with just 26 allied prisoners of war, comprising 5 Australians?

Can you imagine the disappointment, grief and dismay of the families, relatives and friends of these 1,400 missing men, when in late 1945, three and half years after their deaths, official telegrams were received briefly stating that the death of their men occurred when the ship *Montevideo Maru* was sunk by friendly fire mid 1942? How, when, where did they die? Where were their bodies?

Can you imagine the wartime deaths and sacrifices of so many Australians not being publicly recognised for 68 years?

Can you imagine that no National Memorial has ever been dedicated for these men, all of whom had done their duty for their country?

Can you imagine this has happened in Australia without any official public enquiry or investigation being held?

How can the families, relatives and friends ever achieve a satisfactory closure for their loss if the country does not recognise this loss?

To put this tragic event into perspective, the 1,400 deaths represent a casualty rate of about 82% of the 1,700 Australian men present at the time. The 1,400 captured is about 6% of all Australian POWs taken in all theatres during the war, and their deaths represent about 15% of all Australian POWs who died during capture. As a maritime disaster, the sinking of the *Montevideo Maru* with 1,053 Australians aboard compares with HMAS Sydney, when 645 lost and the hospital ship Centaur with 268.

### **May I now briefly relate the story of the invasion and its consequences?**

During 1941, Australia sent a 1,400 strong military force, called Lark Force, to Australian Administered mandated Territory of New Guinea to protect the strategic Rabaul Harbour. Rabaul was the capital of New Guinea and there were about 300 plus Australian civilians in Rabaul and surrounding islands in early 1942. Most of the women and children had been evacuated in December 1941. These men were administrators, missionaries, bankers, merchants, plantation owners and managers, professional men, tradesmen, traders and shipping operators, all providing service essential to the running of the pre-war colonial plantation economy.

Lark Force was poorly equipped lacking artillery, air and naval support. It comprises mainly a Victorian raised infantry unit, the 2/22 Battalion of about 900, 1 Independent Company of about 250, and about 100 New Guinea volunteer Rifle men with the balance being detached support troops from artillery, engineers, ambulance and administrative units. There were a few Hudson bombers and Wirraways but these were destroyed by the Japanese prior to the invasion day. The Independent company was spread from Manus Island in the west and through the Solomon Islands to the New Hebrides, with most at Kavieng to protect its airfield.

On 21<sup>st</sup> January 1942, communications between Rabaul and the outside world ceased due to the accidental destruction of the radio. It was this day the Japanese occupied Kavieng and early in the morning of the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, Rabaul was invaded and overwhelmed in a matter of hours by a 20,000 man force, comprising 5,000 assault marines backed by a fleet of fighting ships including two aircraft carriers.

The order “Every man for himself” was given by the commander of Lark Force, even though no plans had been made for such a withdrawal or jungle survival training given to the troops prior. What happened to the men is both inspirational and tragic.

The men escaped along the north and south coasts of New Britain with over 350 eventually reaching Port Moresby or Australia. Some died in action, others through privations trekking westwards from hunger and disease. Many were massacred by the Japanese, the largest being at Tol Plantation with over 150 killed. Most however were captured and imprisoned at Rabaul.

The officers were separated from the soldiers and civilians. On 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1942, 1,053 soldiers and civilians embarked on the *Montevideo Maru* bound for Hainan Island situated off the coast of China. The 80 or so officers and nurses boarded another ship, the *Narutu Maru*, bound for Japan, which it safely reached and where these men and women remained until War’s end.

Nine days out from Rabaul and in the early morning of 1<sup>st</sup> July 1942, after rounding the northern tip of Luzon Island, Philippines, the unmarked *Montevideo Maru* was torpedoed by

the American submarine, *Sturgeon*. The ship sank swiftly and 1,053 Australian soldiers and civilians, the youngest 15, went down with the ship. About 18 Japanese seamen and marines reached Luzon Island, but only a handful arrived in Manila, the others were killed enroute by Filipino guerrilla fighters.

That brief story summarises the death of over 1,400 Australian men, 82% of those in Rabaul and the surrounding islands. The loss of the *Montevideo Maru* remains the worst Australian maritime disaster.

After evacuation, the women and children, who had hurriedly left their homes, their men, their belongings and way of life, arrived to make their living in Australia. They were practically refugees in their own country. Other than perhaps one brief letter in April 1942 from their men folk, nothing was heard. Waiting in anticipation after the war for word of the fate of their men, the families received a brief telegram advising of their deaths in 1942 - a wait of over three and a half years. Neither formal enquiry nor recognition of their men's service to, or honouring their sacrifice by the nation, was ever made. They were left to get on with their lives, not really knowing or understanding how, where and when their men died. Thus, the controversy around these tragic circumstances grew.

**Nonetheless, all this happened and it is time to put things right.**

Since its formation early in 2009, the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society has acted to correct many of these oversights.

1. A Montevideo Maru Memorial Plaque was dedicated at the Subic Bay Philippines Hellship Memorial on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009. About 12 society members were present and the Australian Ambassador to the Philippines attended.
2. A submission was made to the Australian Government in November 2009 advocating the correction of the issues raised above. These recommendations were accepted by the Government.
3. On 21<sup>st</sup> June 2010, both Houses of Federal Parliament passed resolutions recognising and honouring the sacrifice and loss of these men as well as condolences to their families, relatives and friends. Over 350 attended these ceremonies in Canberra.
4. The Federal Government made a grant of \$100,000 to kick start the funding for the National Memorial.
5. Much work has been done, in Japan and Australia, in finding and authenticating the *Montevideo Maru's* nominal roll, which went missing after the war. The recent discovery of Japanese POW cards may help resolve this outstanding issue. The Society has people working on this as I speak.
6. Unfortunately, no further progress on having the site of the wreck of the *Montevideo Maru* declared a war grave may occur until the governments of Australian and Philippines ratify the 2001 UNESCO Convention which affords protection of vessels in international waters. No one has any idea when this is likely to occur.
7. Last year, a new, permanent exhibition, explaining the Japanese invasion in the New Guinea Islands, the Tol Massacre and the sinking of the *Montevideo Maru*, was established in the Australian War Memorial.
8. A submission to the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority was made to have historical information with resource references about these matters included in the national school curriculum, to ensure future generations of Australians will be aware of these dark events.
9. On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2011, the 69<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the sinking of the *Montevideo Maru*, a commemorative luncheon at the National Press Club in Canberra, attended by 160

Society members and the Society's Patron, the Honourable Peter Garrett, and General Peter Cosgrove, was held. This was followed by a memorial service at the Duntroon Chapel on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, officiated by Defence Force clergy and attended by a similar number of members as well as the former Governor General, Major General Michael Jeffery.

10. Earlier this month, The Council of the AWM gave its approval for the selection of the sculptor and his design. A public announcement is pending.

The artist is James Parrett, a 35 year old based in Melbourne. He is an established Australian Sculptor whose works are often constructed of stainless steel. He has titled his memorial design "Passage" in reference to a boat's passage, the ocean and movement of the waves, the different experiences of those involved, the journey of the families and loved ones on the road of understanding and perhaps forgiveness, life and lifetimes and of moving on.

James sees the events at Rabaul and in the New Guinea Islands and on board the Montevideo Maru being centred around the ocean, but ensuring the events are appropriately commemorated. He has used an abstract sculpture to create a relatively timeless structure to symbolise the events and to get people to think about what happened, which may also lead them into further investigation. This symbolism should remain relevant and accessible to future generations.

Australia has just over two months to raise \$200,000 to allow the commissioning of the artist and have the memorial completed in time for the 1<sup>st</sup> July dedication, the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This once only appeal for a significant historical national memorial to these 1,400 men may be made by either a tax deductible donation or by sponsorship; whichever best suits your needs.

You may electronically transfer funds to the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society's NAB bank account: BSB: 082-401 A/C: 16-083-2367 and advise the Society by emailing to [tharyjanto@jacksonwells.com.au](mailto:tharyjanto@jacksonwells.com.au). Alternatively, mail your cheque to Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society at PO Box 1743, Neutral Bay, NSW, 2089 by the 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2011.

**Your help is required by 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2011 - but please act now!**

Just a thought - there are representatives of about 20 organisations here today. If each one of you could donate as little as \$5,000 to \$10,000, we would be well on the way to reaching our target and you would have played a major part in contributing to this worthy cause.

Should you need further details, do not hesitate to contact me at 0418 730 348 or by email [p.ainsworth@kingco.com.au](mailto:p.ainsworth@kingco.com.au)

**The Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society is holding its  
1<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 14 September in Sydney.  
Nomination form to be received by the Secretary 7 September 2011  
Further details on page 21-24.**

## VALE

### FRED KOLLMORGEN 24 July 2011 aged 94 years LINDSAY COX

It's nearly 70 years since Bandsman Fred Kollmorgen was abruptly separated from his mates in the Band of the 2/22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion at Rabaul.

Fred was the only survivor out of the 25 bandsmen; his indomitable spirit sustained him through a hazardous four-month trek of some 1,000 kilometres through fetid, disease-ridden, enemy-patrolled jungle to eventual safety at Port Moresby.

After the war, Fred farmed down in Gippsland until retiring, selling up and moving to Ringwood., where he continued his Salvation Army service, particularly as a member of the Ringwood Citadel Band.

Frederick William Kollmorgen was born at Oakleigh on 10 May 1917. As a 23-year-old truck-driver and tenor-horn player with the Springvale Salvation Army Band, he enlisted in the AIF at Caulfield on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1940. He was



assigned the number VX29061 and posted to the 10<sup>th</sup> Training Depot at Bendigo. Private Kollmorgen transferred into the 2/22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Band on 6 December 1940 to be part of the Band (of which all but two were Salvation Army Bandsmen) under Arthur Gullidge, and sailed for Rabaul aboard the *Zealandier* on 10 April 1941.



Photo: Lindsay Cox and Fred Kollmorgen

On Sunday afternoon, 24 July 2011, within hours of the Ringwood Salvation Army Band visiting and playing some of his favourite music, Fred passed away.

The link remains, for as long as we remember Fred and his mates they are still with us.

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## WEBSITE

With thanks to Jackson Wells, Kurt has been working on a more user friendly website for the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society. This will be changed over shortly - Keep an eye out in the next week or two!

## TAX RECEIPTS

The Australian War Memorial has returned tax receipts to the Society for mailing out. You should receive them within the next few days.

## LARK FORCE/2/22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Trawool Get-together

Sunday 31 July 2011

### FRAZER HARRY

Approximately 120 people attended this year's get-together at Trawool, mainly family of the men. We had only two surviving members of 2/22 Btn Lark Force there - Norm Furness and Sam Blaby. Norm spoke and thanked everyone for their support, and made mention of a few of the others who had died just recently.



The crowd moved to the memorial stone, with flag pole and Australian flag, and we had a minutes silence followed by the Ode of Remembrance (They shall grow not old ...).

A special thanks was made to the current owners of the property, and the Farrer family, who own the adjoining Traawool Valley Vineyard, who do so much to help organise the day. Marg and I made a short mention of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society, fundraising for the memorial, etc. We also mentioned the possibilities for a Rabaul trip next year, marking 70 years since the attack on Rabaul, and the sinking of the *Montevideo Maru*.

There was a film producer present who is looking at putting together something based on the Battalion, mainly based on a book by Rob Mitchell 'One Bloke's Story'.

It was a great day weatherwise, with a successful sausage sizzle - some people brought general photos and letters and other information to show about Lark Force and the men.

Photo (above): Norm Furness, President, 2/22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, and Sam Blaby



Photo: Thelma Moyle and Ruth Harry, wives of Jack Moyle and Bill Harry who both passed away in the last 12 months

## LETTER FROM FR FRANKE TO NORM FURNESS

*Fr Franke arrived in New Britain from Germany in 1928 when he was 26 years old. He spent the following 50 years there ministering to the Tolai, European and Chinese communities, both on remote mission stations and in Rabaul. Fr Franke was respected and loved by all. He wrote the following letter to Norm Furness following the visit of the 2/22nd back to Rabaul on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1982.*

Rabaul 6.9.82  
PO Box 220  
RABAUL

Dear Norm

How happily I was surprised to receive your splendid 'New Outlook' and deeply touched by your kind words about my personal part in your horrific experiences.

Believe me my loving heart [was] with you all and I am so proud that I was really in it and able to help a little bit, to cheer you all, who came along in those dreadful weeks, to shelter you a little while and seeing you far away, into the dark future. No, Norm you all were not just lucky, no it was a clear miracle of God's Love and Providence to guide you all through all your dangers on your way to Cairns and home. And when I saw you all arriving 40 years later at Rabaul, I just could not take it, oh I would have shouted and cried under this pressure on my heart to see you again...

And at the Reception in the RSL Club I was on the point of jumping up to let all those look into my heart to see and feel what I was experiencing. There was probably nobody in Rabaul who would have understood.

May I mention a few things that I had to [go] through when you all had left.

There in front of the Church a kind of 'execution' for about 3-4 minutes facing death by bayonets, absolutely sure and waiting for the stabs to go through you until an officer in charge stopped it, and later the kind of 'court martial' on board the ship. One of many miracles that have happened in my life.

Then about six weeks with coastwatchers, with this wonderful, brave 'Blue Harris' (who was later in New Hollandia so cruelly murdered) and then the Japanese again. And about June 1943 brought to Rabaul and 'delivered' to our Mission camp at Kokopo.

Dear Norm, Our Lord saved me left and right, that I should work as His priest in Rabaul until now, that I should meet you again after 40 years at this 'glorious return' of 2/22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of you all.

Norm, do you understand this strange old Fr Franke who is so grateful to Our Lord who was all around me all those years to meet you and all of you again so well and happy.

Dear Norm, so far.

My love and best wishes to Mrs Furness and your daughters and to you for having given me the opportunity to express privately to you my grateful feelings and my happiness.

Yes, your friend in PNG

Fr B Franke

And loving greetings to all our comrades.

## EXTRACTS FROM REV JOHN MAY'S LETTERS DR MARIAN MAY

I'm writing to add to the information provided by Grace Lovell in Newsletter No.23 (February 2011) and Betty Muller in Newsletter No. 24 (March 2011). Grace wrote about a photo that included her brother, Frank Vale, and three others, one of whom was Ralph James. She requested identification of the two other boys in the photo. She mentioned that she thought the photo may have been taken after a church service. Keith Jackson noted the plaque next to the boys and wrote: 'The building is almost certainly a church and the church is almost certainly in Rabaul.' Betty identified the church as St. George's, Rabaul.

In sifting through John May's photos, I have come across two additional photos, apparently taken on the same occasion as the one sent by Grace, with the boys in slightly different configurations but dressed the same and with the same background. In one of the photos, my father appears in his priest's robes. His letters to his parents in Tasmania mention the occasion and the names of the other two boys - Jack Bernaldo and Bill (Drene) Chenhall. Maybe Betty can tell which is which!

From the letters, it seems the photos were taken on the occasion of Ralph James' baptism on Sunday 15 June 1941 at St. George's. The setting for the photographs was certainly St. George's Anglican Church in Rabaul; in addition to his military duties, Chaplain May was involved in events in the parish church and assumed care of the parish after Father Lawrence and his wife left Rabaul in August 1941 (Fr Lawrence left to take up a post with the AIF in the Middle East). His letters mention many events at the church throughout 1941.

On [Wednesday] 18 June in a letter to his mother, John May wrote: "I had that baptism on Sunday morning - including three witnesses, driver and myself - and Ralph - that's the chap's name - was very pleased about the whole thing. Now he is coming across to me for regular preparation for confirmation. He brings with him his 'cobber', and there are a couple of others very interested."

Several other references are made to this occasion and subsequent occasions held at St. George's. Through the months of September and October 1941 various mentions are made of writing to Church Stores to obtain Communicant Manuals (for those being confirmed or taking communion) and confirmation classes being held. For instance, his letter of 23 September 1941 mentioned Frank Vale and Ralph James: 'I am invited, so am going to dinner with three Engineers (of whom, one is Frank Vale - see earlier letters in re Baptism of R. James, and his own confirmation) and then we are going to the party. It is to be held at the B.P. [Burns Philp] Club, where we had the dance on Friday.'

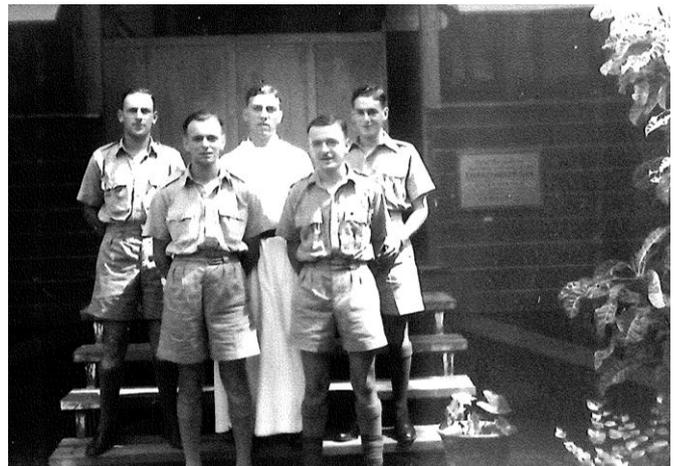


Photo 1 L to R: Frank Vale, Ralph James, John May, with Bill Chenhall and Jack Bernaldo (which is which?) at the Baptism and confirmation, St. George's Anglican Church, Rabaul, Sunday 15 June, 1941

The letter of 2 October 1941 reports: 'I stayed with Major Clarke - a fine chap, and "Rolly" to all his officers - on Wed. and Thurs. nights, returning here on Friday afternoon. On Sunday afternoon I went out again, had church parade, rushed in for Evensong and back. Again, on Monday evening I went out, and so have stayed four nights (five days) there in a week. I got through a bit in the way of confirmation classes and such like.' [As far as I can tell, this group was stationed with the Lt. Heavy Battery at Praed Point]. Later in the same letter he reports:

'I have just finished a batch of censoring, on top of a first yarn with a new confirmee, a really genuine, manly corporal with very fair hair, and am almost ready for bed.' [A later letter 6 October refers again to the fair-haired corporal, this time using his name, Jack Debney.]

Letter 6 October 1941: '1915 - *kaikai*<sup>1</sup> (with drink "shouted" all round by one officer who had a birthday) is finished, the news has just finished, and at any minute I am expecting a chap for confirmation yarn. Meantime - ... P.S. at 2155. I have had two visitors, Jack Debney the fairhaired corporal from Max [Macgowan]'s company, whom I was expecting and another lad... Jack and I yarned for one and a half hours and got through a lot. He's an extraordinarily likeable chap with good, blue eyes.'

Letter 30 October 1941: 'I stayed out, after Evensong on Sunday, with the Tassies (and others) [at Praed Point], until lunch today and have had a good four days on confirmation preparation & in getting them ready for the celebration on Sunday morning. We have planned a big service, followed by breakfast, and I am expecting to have 50 present, that is, three or four times the average. I have eight confirmees there and another six or seven in town, plus four children whom I shall (D.V.) have ready by Christmas. There is still no word of the Bishop, but he might turn up at any tick of the clock.'

Letter 6 November 1941 reports in detail about these confirmations and first communions. The event seems to have taken place on Sunday 2 November: 'We had gradually succeeded in making some good plans. On Sunday morning, I was up early, took the car & drove out to Tavui to pick up Geoffrey Voss, who had promised to assist me at the celebration. We were back to the church in good time. When Ivor (server) and I went in, the church was full. There were in all 65 [?] communicants, from the town & from various parts of the Forces, and among them were 15 chaps making their first communion. It was a tremendous kick to me. It is the biggest congregation since we came - and it was at Holy Communion. The service itself was not extraordinary, beyond the fact that all the people were sincere and devout in manner, and I used the ceremonies as at Holy Trinity [Launceston]. (There is still no word from the Bp.) After the service, they were invited to breakfast. I had guessed 50, a few days before. 51 "sat down" or clustered round the *kaikai*. I couldn't stay, on account of being due back in camp for the general parade.'

Letter 16 November 1941: 'Yesterday, at a moment's notice, I packed up and went off for the day with a party of engineers, including the four who formed the party at that baptism (Ralph "Jesse" James, Frank Vale, Jack Bernaldo and Bill Chenhall).'

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## Rabaul - August 1941

### 7Pl - A Company

Photo courtesy Sue Bussell,  
Bussell Collection

Do you recognise any of the  
faces?



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<sup>1</sup> *Kaikai* – pidgin for food or dinner

## GLADYS BAKER'S ESCAPE FROM WITU

*This is the story of Gladys Baker's escape from the Japanese as she described it on Radio 2FC at 7.45pm on Sunday night, 27 August 1942. Glad was a widow with no immediate family. Her husband, Bill, an ex-serviceman from WWI, died from blood-poisoning in Rabaul about 1934.*

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After Japan attacked and when women and children were being evacuated from New Britain I asked permission of the Administration to remain. I thought maybe there might be use for my medical knowledge and I thought that my 'mud-ticket', which I gained because of my knowledge of New Britain waters, might be required.

That last Christmas of 1941 at Langu was the closest I could make it the same as all others. I arranged the usual *sing sing*<sup>2</sup> for the natives but I doubted if we would ever have another Christmas on Langu for a long time. Almost a week before Christmas the first of many Jap reconnaissance planes came over. Nearly all of them would come down low and circle the house at Langu. In case of bombing I made the natives take shelter in the reinforced concrete culverts I had helped them build. Some Zeros came too with the Rising Sun glinting on their wings and I hated the scream as they dived to look at Langu and at the plantation anchorages.

Just after Christmas I was granted permission to remain in the Territories. The last ship carrying women and children had gone. As far as I knew I was the only woman left.

On 19 January the natives told me that Praed Point at Rabaul had been bombed and gave me details of the bombing which I later found to be accurate. The news came by drums and smoke signals down the mainland of New Britain and my boys picked it up. It was a clear day and they had seen the smoke signals on the mainland 64 miles away. The following day all radio news from Rabaul ceased and later I learnt from the natives Rabaul had fallen.

There was a small steamer anchored at Witu - the *Lakatoi* - and I tried to persuade the crew to leave for Australia but they thought the run would be too risky. On January 24th I loaded my pinnace - *Langu the Second* - and set out for the mainland to make food dumps which I was sure we would require later. I was sure if any Australians escaped from Rabaul they would make down the coast. *Langu the Second* had only 9 knots and was 27 feet long. I had with me a boat's crew and we established our dumps along the Aria River. I left a cutter on the mainland with eight boat's crew - boys from my own plantation - with instructions to return to Witu immediately and tell me if they had any news of Australian soldiers.

On my return trip on 14 February a Jap seaplane circled my small pinnace and looked about to land. I told the boys what to say in case the Japanese did land and come across to investigate us. I hid in the bilge under the after-decking. There was a slap as the seaplane landed and the motors roared as it taxied close. Next I heard footsteps on the deck accompanied by a flood of fluent Pidgin. The Japs had boarded us and were questioning the natives. The native boys told one of the two in answer to his questions that their master had gone to Sydney a long time ago and that they were going back to the plantation on Witu to pick up a load of workers to take them back to their villages on the mainland. I remember that strangely enough I was not frightened of the Japanese. Perhaps that was because a rat in the bilge water was running about and brushing against my bare leg - I was wearing only shorts and shirt. I bit my lip till blood ran to prevent myself screaming and giving myself away to the Japanese. The Japs seemed satisfied with my boys' explanations, gave them a cigarette and a biscuit each, went back into their plane and took off. And it wasn't a rat

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<sup>2</sup> PNG traditional dancing celebration

after all. It was only some cotton waste. When I came up my face was covered in a black scum of oil, and pitch from the decking had blackened my back. I saw then that three of the boys had spread a sail over the decking and pretended to mend it all the time the Japanese were on board.

I got back to Langu and two days later the cutter returned. The boys told me of 18 Australian soldiers who were at Linga-Linga Plantation at Talasea. The Australians, the head boy told me with tears in his eyes, were '*Sick fella masters too much*'. I immediately loaded the pinnace with food and medical supplies. I overloaded dangerously because I had 15 tons by measurement on a 5½ ton boat and at midnight on the Sunday, with three natives and a half-caste girl, Emma Leahmann, we crossed to Iboki. I found the 18 Australians there and met the Assistant District Officer, Keith McCarthy. Keith put me in charge of the Iboki camp and the next morning five of the Australians who were well enough left for Cape Gloucester. They were to wait there until the other 13 were well enough to travel and join them. They meant to try to get to Finschhafen. I cooked for and nursed the 13 boys who were sick, and meanwhile Keith McCarthy with Rod Marsland went back to Tol Plantation which was the scene of the Japanese Massacre. I nursed the boys for about a week, then an order came back from McCarthy telling me to send them to Gloucester. I prepared the boys for the trek, and they went by canoe and launch.

Finschhafen had fallen before they left Cape Gloucester, and the 18 boys got to Madang from where they went overland to Moresby and did not get to Australia until 2½ months after I did.

I remember a funny incident at Iboki. I had taken my denture to clean it when one of the soldiers suddenly took a bad turn. I went to him and left the denture in a half bottle in which I was cleaning it. When I returned, it was gone and I accused the soldiers of playing a practical joke. I was rapidly becoming annoyed until I suddenly noticed a native boy who was quite naked except for a pair of rosary beads he was wearing around his neck. I looked closer and discovered that he was also wearing, attached to the beads, my missing denture.

With the Australians gone from Iboki, I got the pinnace out and sailed up the coast towards Rabaul to see if I could find more troops. A little way up I saw a boat stranded on a reef and thought it might have been an enemy boat. I left the pinnace to go on up the coast in charge of the boys, while I returned to Iboki in a canoe. However that night the boat on the reef got off and came into Iboki. To my relief it was a Mission boat and they were surprised to find a woman to welcome them. They had on board 35 boys of the 2/22nd Battalion in charge of Captain E.S. Apel who is now Lieutenant-Colonel. Some of them were very sick and others were wounded. A few days later the pinnace came back with 15 Diggers, a Guinea Airways boat brought more. Escapees continued to trickle in until we numbered 191 in all. Some of the boys had lost all their clothes and were wearing lava-lavas, and all of them were bearded.

I remember being struck by the number of ginger beards. I worked night and day caring for them and feeding them. In sixteen days I could only snatch 13 hours sleep. Two of the boys were badly wounded and one of them whose name I think is Bill Collins of Cronulla had been shot up by the Japs in the Tol Plantation Massacre.

After he was captured he broke away with his hands still tied together. The Japs fired at him and hit him in the shoulder, another shot went through his wrists and miraculously severed the cord which bound him. They had already taken his boots and he wandered in the bush for four days. Brambles and thorns cut his legs badly. He went back to the massacre scene and helped two soldiers who had been bayoneted and left for dead, up a steep incline to a native house. The Japanese came, set fire to the house and Collins alone was able to escape.

Many of the sick had severe tropical ulcers, and malaria and dysentery had struck many

others. The fever cases were more severe than usual because of the poor diet the men had been subjected to. Their systems were craving for salt and sugar. However, whilst in camp, we were able to kill a bullock or some goats every day and this with a small helping of rice, tea and jam, helped pick the boys up. Water was a difficulty and the natives brought us water by canoe from a distance of 12 miles sealed in long lengths of bamboo. On March 15th we had a round-table conference attended by all Army officers and by the Captains of the boats of the small mosquito fleet which by now was assembled at Iboki. It was finally decided to go with the fleet back to my plantation to see if the steamer which had been there when I left was still sheltering. Early next morning we arrived at Witu and fortunately the steamer, the *Lakatoj*, was still there. We put the sick soldiers into an improvised hospital while the others, with natives, set to work cutting leaves and small trees to camouflage our tiny fleet. We camouflaged the steamer - a ship, by the way, of 170 tons - by mixing camouflage colours from a combination of red, white, black, grey, blue and yellow paint which we found on the island. With other soldiers I went to my plantation and we killed as much livestock as the ship's refrigerator would hold. I had no time to collect many personal belongings or papers.

On the night of 19 March we were all on board the *Lakatoj*. I played poker with some of the men while we were waiting to sail and lost £11. I was holding fours all the time. Next afternoon we sailed and we prayed for luck. I piloted from Witu through the Dampier Straits and dropped anchor at Umboi Island in the Straits on the 21st. Some of the boys went ashore for a wash at the creek, and on the after deck we built a place to cook for the troops. Next day we sailed again, passed Finschhafen in broad daylight and followed the main Japanese water route past Gasmata. This is rather a feat considering we had no charts of any description with us and the Dampier Straits through which we passed is thickly studded with outcrops of reef, and is known for its tricky tides.

With the help of a Papuan native boat crew we managed to get to the Trobriand Islands, and once there the Papuan boys could pilot us on to the D'Entrecasteaux Group where we were to meet the *Laurabada* - the Papuan Government Yacht - having previously contacted by tele-radio Army and Navy authorities at Port Moresby.

After giving us some more medical supplies they piloted us through the China Straits, and we trusted in luck and providence that we'd meet up with Australia sometime, somehow - still having no charts.

We arrived in Cairns on Saturday, 29th March. [China Straits to Cairns - approx. 850 km.] The civilians and officers were billeted in hotels and the troops were taken to a camp for the night where doctors and nurses took charge of them. The next morning (Sunday) a special train was made up and although I was offered help for the train trip I preferred to carry on alone. On the journey I made it a practice of devoting each hour to a particular carriage to continue the medical treatment which I had been giving the troops from the start of the evacuation.

The Red Cross and the Queensland people were marvellous - bringing supplies of food and clothing to the train for the boys. On the following Wednesday I handed over to an Army Medical Officer at Exhibition Camp, Brisbane.

When we started our evacuation I weighed 11st. 5lbs.; when we handed the troops over at Brisbane - although I didn't know it then - I weighed 7st. 1 lb.

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In recognition of her work in helping the troops in their escape, Gladys Baker was later awarded an OBE. She was among the first civilians to return to Rabaul after the war and after only a short time back on Langu Plantation she became ill and died. She was buried in front of her beloved plantation home.

With thanks to Peter Coote

## WEBSITE:

[www.memorial.org.au](http://www.memorial.org.au)

Have you any old photographs or letters, stories, or historical documents of the service men or civilians who lived in Rabaul and surrounding islands before WWII?

Photos of Rabaul pre-war would also be welcomed.

This information will help provide insights to the story of Rabaul, the New Guinea Islands and the Montevideo Maru.

We thank those of you who have already sent them in; they will be on the website soon.

Please Email: [andrea.williams@bigpond.com](mailto:andrea.williams@bigpond.com)

## RECRUIT PEOPLE AS MEMBERS

The Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society has over 330 members. Each membership contributes to the memorial and is tax deductible. Please encourage family and friends to join and to receive this monthly newsletter by emailing Andrea Williams [andrea.williams@bigpond.com](mailto:andrea.williams@bigpond.com) or writing to the Society c/- Jackson Wells Pty Ltd, PO Box 1743, Neutral Bay NSW 2089

## DVD: THE FALL OF RABAU & KAVIENG

4 hours over a 2 disc set, High Definition format. Cost: A\$43 incl p&tp within Australia

This 2-disc edition of "The Fall of Rabaul & Kavieng" features over 10 in-depth interviews with those who survived Rabaul in 1942 - plus extensive coverage of the events at Parliament House, 21st of June 2010.

Schindler Communications has pledged \$3 per unit donation for every copy sold to the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society towards the building of the memorial.

To purchase this DVD visit: [www.thefallofrabaul.com](http://www.thefallofrabaul.com) or phone: 0418 740182

## FEEDBACK

**BRYAN AND BEVERLEY SAUNDERS**

**DONCASTER VIC**

We appreciate the time and effort that you spent in organising the 2/22nd commemoration events of the 2nd 3rd July 2011.

Please accept our gratitude and our thanks.

We were moved by the special occasion, with the chance to catch up and talk to many old friends. These were cherished moments. The list of dignitaries and the number guest speakers were exceptional.

**MARG RUXTON**

**KYNETON VIC**

We had a lovely time, so good to meet and make new friends with a common interest. I've told my family all about the anniversary next year and hopefully some, at least, will be able to attend then too.

**DEL HOLDER**

**WINMALEE NSW**

Just a note to thank you for all the hard work that went into making the Canberra weekend such a huge success. I had a wonderful time, talking to people who can relate to same family history as mine. Also I met two cousins who I have never met; it was wonderful. Please pass along my congratulations to the rest of your team. Thanks again.

## MEMORIAL NOTICEBOARD

### DONATIONS

Recent donations towards the memorial have been gratefully received from:

Jennings, War, McDonald, Hughes, Lindsay, Jessen, Board, Martin, Martin, Stamps, Pasco, Williams, Wakelin, Thwaites, Tucker, Bussell, Moran, Collings, Hoare, Humphries, Whittington, Parr, Tonson, Mahar, Dewar

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEMORIAL NEWS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

E: [andrea.williams@bigpond.com](mailto:andrea.williams@bigpond.com) Or P O Box 1743 Neutral Bay NSW 2089

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### REGISTER YOUR MEMORABILIA

Register your New Guinea Islands, Rabaul and *Montevideo Maru* memorabilia with Lindsay Cox at The Salvation Army Heritage Centre. Contact [lindsay.cox@salvationarmy.org](mailto:lindsay.cox@salvationarmy.org) or write to PO Box 18137, Collins Street East, Melbourne VIC 8000.

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### SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Life membership - \$500    Gold membership - \$100    Ordinary membership - \$50

#### HOW TO REMIT FUNDS TO THE SOCIETY

**BY INTERNET:** Transfer funds to the Society's bank account BSB 082-401 Account No 16-083-2367. Notify your deposit in an email to [tharyjanto@jacksonwells.com.au](mailto:tharyjanto@jacksonwells.com.au)

**BY MAIL:** Cheques to Rabaul & Montevideo Maru Society at PO Box 1743, Neutral Bay NSW 2089. All funds devoted to constructing a memorial at the Australian War Memorial

#### BY CREDIT CARD:

	
<b>CREDIT CARD AUTHORISATION FORM</b>	
Card type: _____	
Credit card number: _____	
Expiry date: _____ / _____	CVV: _____
Last 3 digits on back of credit card _____	
Amount to be charged: \$ _____	
Complete mailing address: _____	
City: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____	
Email Address: _____	
Name on card: _____	
Signature: _____	
Description of what is being paid for: _____	

Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society, PO Box 1743, Neutral Bay NSW 2089, Australia



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### RABAU AND MONTEVIDEO MARU SOCIETY INCORPORATED

The 1st Annual General Meeting  
will be held in Sydney on 14 September 2011 at

**Jackson Wells Pty Ltd Board Room**  
**Level 2, 81-91 Military Road, Neutral Bay**

Commencing at 11:00 am.

#### AGENDA

1. AGM Open and Welcome
2. Members present and apologies
3. President's Report, year ended 30 June 2011
4. Treasurer's Report, year ended 30 June 2011
5. Receipt of Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Report
6. Receipt of AR Form 'Annual Statement of Particulars by Association'
7. Correspondence
8. Election of Office-Bearers and Committee (*Refer Rule 12 of the Associations Incorporation Regulation 1991*)  
President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, 3 Committee persons.
9. Election of Honorary Auditor (*Refer Rule 37 of the Constitution*)  
Page Harrison & Co
10. General discussion

\* \* \*



**RABAUL AND MONTEVIDEO MARU SOCIETY INC**

[www.memorial.org.au](http://www.memorial.org.au)

**PO Box 1743 Neutral Bay NSW 2089**

**FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY**

I, .....  
(full name)

of .....(address)

a member of .....  
(name of incorporated association)

appoint

.....  
(full name of proxy)

of .....  
(address)

a member of that incorporated association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the association to be held on

..... and  
at any adjournment of that meeting.

\*My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of/against (delete as appropriate) the resolution (insert details).

.....  
(Signature of member appointing proxy)

(\*To be inserted if desired.)

Date .....

Note A proxy vote may not be given to a person who is not a member of the association.



**RABAUL and MONTEVIDEO MARU SOCIETY INC  
2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**14 September 2011**

**NOMINATION FORM**

**for the election of OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE**

I, ..... of .....  
.....

being a financial member of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society Inc, hereby  
nominate :

..... of .....  
.....

for the position of \* .....

Signature .....

I, ..... of .....  
.....

being a financial member of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society, hereby second  
the above nomination. Signature .....

I, ..... of .....  
.....

being a financial member of the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society, hereby accept the  
nomination. Signature .....

**\* Positions are President; Vice-President, Secretary; Treasurer; General Committee (3)**

*(Please photocopy if you require more than one Nomination form)*

**THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY,  
Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Society**

**PO BOX 1743 NEUTRAL BAY NSW 2089**

**BY 5:00PM 7 September 2011**

## **Notes**

Due to the wide geographic spread of the membership, an email ([admin@memorial.org.au](mailto:admin@memorial.org.au)), preferably containing, as an attachment, a scanned image of the completed Nomination form, or a letter from the Nominee accepting nomination would be acceptable – the Society reserves the right however to communicate with the Nominee to verify his/her acceptance.

The following are the Rules dealing with the Constitution and Membership of the Committee together with the Election of Members of that Committee:

### **12 Constitution and membership**

- (1) The committee consists of—
  - (a) the office-bearers of the association; and
  - (b) 3 ordinary committee members; each of whom must be elected under section 13 or appointed in accordance with subsection (4).
- (2) The office-bearers of the association are—
  - (a) the president; and
  - (b) the vice-president; and
  - (c) the treasurer; and
  - (d) the secretary.
- (3) Each member of the committee holds office, subject to these rules, until the conclusion of the annual general meeting following the date of the member's election, but is eligible for re-election.
- (4) If there is a vacancy in the membership of the committee, the committee may appoint a member of the association to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed holds office, subject to these rules, until the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of the appointment.

### **13 Election of committee members**

- (1) Nominations of candidates for election as office-bearers of the association or as ordinary committee members—
  - (a) must be made in writing, signed by 2 members of the association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the nomination form);
  - and
  - (b) must be given to the secretary of the association not less than 7 days before the date fixed for the annual general meeting at which the election is to take place.
- (2) If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the committee, the candidates nominated are taken to be elected and further nominations may be received at the annual general meeting.
- (3) If insufficient further nominations are received, any vacant positions remaining on the committee are taken to be vacancies.
- (4) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the people nominated are taken to be elected.
- (5) If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot must be held.
- (6) The ballot for the election of office-bearers and ordinary committee members must be conducted at the annual general meeting in the way the committee may direct.
- (7) A person is not eligible to simultaneously hold more than 1 position on the committee.