

PIB-NGIB-HQ-PIR ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the AGM on 25th July 2021 held at Geebung-Zillmere RSL Club, Brisbane

President Don Graham opened the meeting at 1:10pm and welcomed Members and wives present. One Minute's Silence was observed for all our deceased Members.

President Don and (Maj) Laurence Quinlivan (as the senior PIR Officers present) gave an informative synopsis of their PIR experience during the 1950s and 1960s then cut the **70th Anniversary of PIR** cake which was prepared by Mrs Lindy Horton.

Present: G. Farr, K. Horton, D. Graham, G. Ivey, T. Edwinsmith, K. Smith, L. Quinlivan, I Ogston, F. Maclean. (S. Harper-Greentree, B. Graham, L. Horton, E. Ogston present for 70th Anniversary of PIR Celebrations only)

Apologies: B. Howard, G. Johnson, M. Pears, G. Carnes, R. Wade, P. Jesser, G. Screen, M. Fletcher, Ron and Trixie Lange, J. Morris, P. Adam, F. Cordingley.

Minutes of 2020 AGM/GM were circulated

There was no business arising.

Moved: I. Ogston Seconded: G. Ivey

"that the Minutes of the 2020 AGM/GM as circulated be confirmed" **Carried.**

President's Report

President Don read his annual Report. (see Report attached) Moved: D. Graham

Seconded: L. Quinlivan that the President's Report be received. **Carried**

Correspondence: Secretary K. Horton presented the following correspondence:

Major inward/outward items consisted of multiple e-mails and snail mail relating to –

1. **Newsletters / information updates / items of interest** to/from members – (Ian Ogston, Greg Ivey, Kev Horton, Kevin Smith)

2. Emails/photos re **Remembrance Day 2020** – Info /images re beginning of PIB compiled by G. Ivey

3. Thank you letters sent to TSS, Andrew Hawkins, Howard Manning, Guest speaker Lt Col Grey and Simon Lees re 2020 Kokoda Day service. Several positive responses received back.

Emails to/from re the **2021 Kokoda Day Service** at Sherwood-Indooroopilly RSL.

Kokoda Day 2021 Gold Coast – to/from G. Friend / Invitations /letters to members/Southport RSL/ M. Pears / C'tee.

4. E-mails relating to continuing exploration of official recognition of **PNGDF Medal** Russ Wade/Don Graham/Greg Ivey/Secretary/Medals C'tee

5. **Membership reminders and Dues receipts/ new members welcoming letters** plus snail mail posting of Assn stickers – (Direct Credit payments and cheques for dues) to/from Treasurer Frankie Maclean, Membership Officer Kevin Smith, Secretary Kev and V/Pres Greg

6. **ANZAC Day 2021** letters to/from members, March C'tee, 2/14th, 39th Assn re ANZAC Day due to Covid 19. Emails re Sydney march – G. Ivey/ K. Horton
 7. Correspondence to/from **Bluehost re Website** annual costs etc (K. Smith, Kev Horton)
 8. **Sympathy cards** for John Gibson, Thomas O'Meara, Honourable Michael Jeffery, Dick Flint. – Don Graham's personal tribute to M. Jeffery – Marlena Jeffery's personal response to Assn - Emails re the late Brig Dick Flint - The National Servicemen's Association Gold Coast South Twin Towns Branch, Tweed Heads South re \$100 donation.
 9. Email to Scott family re DVA Medallion/Certificate entitlement – G. Ivey
 10. **Website updates and new articles** - Kevin Smith
 11. Info / support letters re Ian Ogston's illness.
 11. Requests for support/suggestions/ for Concord **Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway** – R Wade/G Ivey
 12. Emails in relation to cooperation with **KARS** in PNG.
 13. Emails from Terry O'Neill re Future Use and Development of '**Teacher in a Box**' in PNG
 14. Newsletters from our Assn. and kindred Kokoda Associations.
- Some explanation of various items were made by relevant members present.
 Moved K. Horton Seconded F. Maclean that the inward correspondence be received and the outward endorsed. **Carried.**

Treasurer's Report

Mrs Frankie Maclean presented the Treasurer's report showing a balance of \$2,371.63. Although this was a satisfactory financial situation for the Association, concern was expressed by Frankie re future income as most members have paid once-only Financial Life Membership. Several options were discussed when the necessity for more funds arose. Frankie was thanked for her work throughout the year. (see Report attached)
 Moved F. Maclean Seconded K. Smith that the Treasurer's Report be received. **Carried.**

The Paypal Auxiliary Report below was presented by Sec K. Horton

Report related to our Website www.soldierspng.com as below.

Carried forward from 2020 \$37.00 AUD

Expenditure

(Automatic deduction by 'Bluehost' - Annual Domain Name '**soldierspng.com**'

- \$19.79 **USD** to Bluehost.com until May 2022 - (\$26.71**AUD**)

Balance as at 24.07.2021 \$10.29 **AUD**

Moved K. Horton Seconded D. Graham that the Paypal Aux report be received. **Carried.**

It was moved that \$100 to be transferred from PIB General account to PIB Paypal Account to automatically cover **Annual Domain Name Costs** for the next 4 years for our website **soldierspng.com**. Moved K Horton Seconded I. Ogston **Carried**

The Membership Report and the Website Report were presented by Kevin Smith (See attached Reports)

Information re Website Host costs which were due May 2021

(\$8.99 USD x 36 months for 'Bluehost' website hosting - \$323.12USD (\$445.98AUD) for 3 years - 29.05.18 to 29.05.21 was paid in May.

Moved K. Smith Seconded G. Farr that the Membership Report and the Website Report be received. **Carried**

Medallic Recognition Officer Report – Read by Secretary as prepared by Russ Wade.

Moved R. Wade Seconded D. Graham that the Medallic Recognition Officer's Report be received. (see Report attached.) **Carried.**

Newsletter Report – Ian Ogston / G. Ivey

Mention was made that the most recent and the next newsletter will be Aviation related to emphasise the important role that these members of the Assn played in PNG. Greg Ivey will edit the current newsletters for the time being until Ian recovers fully and resumes editorial duties.

Moved I. Ogston Seconded T. Edwinsmith that the Newsletter Editor's Report be received. **Carried**

Election of Office Bearers

President Don Graham vacated the Chair and Ian Ogston conducted the election. Ian sincerely thanked Association members for their support and visits during his recent hospital stint.

Patron: Maj Gen Brian Howard has agreed to continue as Patron.

Nominations for all office bearer's positions listed below were called for by e-mail to all Members by the Secretary. Indications were received from all current office bearers re their willingness to continue in present positions for the 2021-22 year, subject to further nominations being received.

There were no further nominations received by Email or from those present.

It was Moved Ian Ogston Seconded Laurence Quinlivan that the following Members be elected to the Committee for the 2021-22 year:

President	Don Graham
Vice President	Greg Ivey
Secretary	Kev Horton
Treasurer	Mrs. Frankie Maclean
Assistant Secretary	Greg Farr
Newsletter Editors	I Ogston, Greg Ivey
Website Managers	Kevin Smith, Frank Cordingley
History Officer	Peter Jesser
Medallic Recognition Officer	Russ Wade
Membership Officer	Kevin Smith
Brisbane Rep	Phil Adam
Regional Qld Rep	Graham Carnes
NSW & ACT Rep	Russ Wade
WA Rep	Graeme Johnson
Vic Liaison Officer	Tom Derham
Committee Member unattached	Garry Screen

There was some discussion re trying to attract more 'new blood' into Committee positions with mention of 'Zoom' meetings a possibility to overcome the tyranny of distance.

The outgoing Committee was thanked by Ian and President Don was invited to resume the Chair. Don resumed the chair and thanked all Committee members with special mention to Treasurer Frankie Maclean, Vice President Greg Ivey, Website and Membership Officer Kevin Smith and Secretary Kev Horton. He declared the Meeting open for General Business.

Items of General Business

1. **2021 Remembrance Day**, Brisbane. President Don outlined 2020 activities and all members were invited to attend ANZAC Square in Brisbane on 11.11.2021 as per 2020 with Lunch to follow.
2. Information was given re support for our objective of Australian recognition of the PNGDF Anniversary Medal. After further information and discussion, it was Moved G. Ivey and Seconded D. Graham that the meeting endorses the setting up of the **Anniversary Medal Team** consisting of the Patron, Medallic Recognition Officer and Vice-President. **Carried** unanimously.
3. Copies of the detailed and extremely well-presented Position Paper on the Sydney **Concord Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway** prepared by Russ Wade were distributed to all present. The 1:10 scale model of the PIB Memorial concept, made by Russ, was displayed to assist in visualizing the concept.
In a nutshell, the aim of the project is to give recognition to and raise awareness of the role of the PIB (both PNG and Australian troops) in the Kokoda Campaign to a level equivalent to that shown for the 'Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels' at Concord.
Moved G. Ivey Seconded L Quinlivan **Carried.**
4. It was resolved that communication and information exchange with the **Kumul Assn of Retired Service Men and Women Inc. (KARS)** be continued by our Association.
5. Association Stickers - Many original stickers issued are worn/cars/vans sold etc
Motion – It was moved K. Horton Seconded F. Maclean that to help enhance the profile of the Association and as a **Thank You** to members, that 1 new sticker be sent to each member, unless a sticker was issued in the last 12 months **Carried**
6. Broadbeach Kokoda Day 2021 – It was resolved that, because of current and Project demands on Assn funds, a request from 39th Bn to support the Broadwater-Southport Rotary Club with Kokoda Day 2021 needs to be limited to offering manpower.
7. Various ideas were discussed re our Assn recognizing the **80th Anniversary of Kokoda Campaign in 2022**. Secretary to investigate an Assn stamp for Assn Envelopes; and all Members encouraged to add a Kokoda footer to their Emails.
8. A request to support the 'Future Use and Development of 'Teacher-in-a-Box' (TIB)' for students in PNG from Member Terry O'Neill was discussed. It was resolved that the project was not in our Association's ambit and that the request would be passed on to the 'Chalkies' Network for the information of their Teacher members.
9. It was resolved that suitably inscribed Books about the War in PNG be laid during Kokoda Services and donated to local High Schools. These will take the place of Wreaths where deemed appropriate. Thanks to **Greg Farr and Sharon Harper-Greentree** for designing the Association **Donation Cards** (including our Website address) to be attached to the donated books.



PATRON: Major General B W (Hori) Howard AO MC ESM (Ret'd)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2020-21 by Don Graham

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for your attendance today – it's good to see our Assn. members again despite the threatening Covid 19 Virus causing problems in Qld and other States.

70th Anniversary of PIR

Today we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the 1951 re-establishment of the PIR with the cutting of the cake by myself and my fellow PIR 'Old Boy', Laurence Quinlivan. It is regrettable that Colonel Ron Lange was unable to attend today as planned as he is still recovering from a long stint in hospital. We are delighted that our 'Armi Nius' editor, Ian Ogston, is back with us after his hospitalisation.

Re-appointment of Patron

Of significance, we again welcome the news that our Patron, Major General B W (Hori) Howard AO MC ESM (Ret'd), has agreed to continue as the Association Patron for 2021-22.

New Kokoda Track Walkway, LWC Canungra, Tuesday 10th August 2021.

I have accepted, on behalf of the Association, an invitation to attend the official opening of the new Kokoda Track Walk established at the Land Warfare Centre at Canungra on the Gold Coast.

Remembrance Day, Shrine of Remembrance, Brisbane, 11 Nov 2020

Thank you to those Assn. Members and family who were able to participate. Members were well represented in TV News - myself on Channel 10 and Kev and Terry on Channel 7. The ABC film included the laying of our PIB & NGIB wreath. Christine Ivey again provided the beautiful Wreath. A most enjoyable luncheon was provided at Greg Ivey's son's restaurant for our 14 members during which I was honoured to propose a toast to the PIB's 80th birthday (1940-2020). Covid allowing, we look forward to Remembrance Day 2021.

ANZAC Day, Brisbane, 25th April 2021

Fortunately, our Association was able to participate again in the Brisbane ANZAC Day March activities, despite the Covid 19 virus. Our activities in Brisbane included our traditional 0900 hrs service at the PNG Memorial in ANZAC Square and the laying of our Assn Wreath. This service was followed by our ANZAC Day march through the city, and we were again loyally assisted by our Banner Bearers, Ian and Noel Wust. The post-march luncheon was enjoyed by all, again at the Geebung-Zillmere RSL Club.

A special mention goes to our oldest member, WO2 'Jock' Wilkinson, 100 years young, who again led the Association in the Sydney March organized by Peter Porteous. As many of you know, Jock served in the PIB and in 2 NGIB. Jock led the Sydney team of 17 marchers this year with a sprightly step.

(An Army Sergeant in uniform was instructed to march behind Jock "just in case". The Sergeant did this cheerfully but was not needed.) Jock appeared on the FRONT page of Sydney's **Sun-Herald** on Anzac Day this year. As an extra tribute to 'Jock', Vice President Greg Ivey flew to Sydney to join the Sydney contingent.

PNGDF Anniversary Medal 1940-1990

Our quest to secure Australian recognition of the medal continues. Our medal team comprises Assn Patron Maj Gen Howard, Maj Russ Wade (NSW), VP Greg Ivey with input from PNG when appropriate.

Kokoda Track Walkway, Concord, NSW

Our proposed Association Team includes Patron, Maj Gen Howard, Maj Russ Wade from NSW, and myself as the Qld liaison. Our AGM is to consider approving the Association's participation in a project. The Team is to examine the feasibility, cost and establishment of a PIB Memorial at the Concord Kokoda Track Walkway.

CONCLUSION

My sincere thanks to the Association Committee particularly to Vice-President Greg Ivey and Secretary Kev Horton for their invaluable loyal support, advice and assistance throughout 2020-21.

Committee Members, our Association could not function without your generous support. THANK YOU and best wishes for a safe, virus-free year.

Maj D. D. Graham (Ret'd)

25th July 2021

(Some PNG photos of the 1956-58 Army era were passed around among members by President Don especially noting the dress – no juniper green uniforms for Australian personnel- and unique grenade fishing techniques/catches.)

Treasurer's Report, PIB-NGIB-HQ-PIR Association
2020-2021 Financial Year
as at 23 July 2021

Opening balance from 24 August 2020 (Bank Statement): \$1,972.87

INCOME

Dues	\$1189
Donations	\$350
Sticker Sales	\$7
Kokoda Wall	Nil
Total Income	\$1546.

Balance carried forward plus income : \$3,518.87

EXPENDITURE

Refunds Wreath: \$85 Postage: \$10.05 KaBoom: (200 Stickers) \$300
Bluehost (Website 3 yrs) \$616.29 Misc : \$115.90 Archive Cabinet : \$20

Total Expenditure: \$1147.24

Income less Expenditure: \$398.76

Balance as per Bank Statement: \$2,371.63

Frankie Maclean
Honorary Treasurer
23 July 2021

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Membership Report 2020-21 PIB-NGIB-HQ-PIR Association

2020	
Total	123
Financial Life	56
Honorary Life	8
Honorary	11

2021	
Total	145
Financial Life	86
Honorary Life	6
Honorary	15

11 members are currently not financial.

There have been 4 deceased and an overall increase of 22 members. This represents 26 new members.

New Members' Corps Service in PNG

Corps	Numbers
183 Recce Flt	15
RAINF	5
RAEME	2
RAMC	1
RAE	1
PNGDF	2

New Membership Types

Life	22
Ordinary	2
Honorary	2

Kevin Smith, Membership Officer

The 2021 Membership by STATE:

STATE	Additions	2021
QLD	11	61
NSW	2	35
VIC	6	20
SA	1	4
WA	1	11
NT	0	0
TAS	0	0
ACT	2	5
PNG	2	6
FIJI	0	0
Unknown	1	3
Totals	26	145

**PIB-NGIB-HQ-PIR ASSOCIATION – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021
MEDALLIC RECOGNITION OFFICER’S REPORT**

SUMMARY

In keeping with the Association’s moratorium on handling medal enquiries, there were no enquiries regarding the medal during the reporting period. This moratorium was to allow the Association’s Patron, Major General Brian Howard AO MC ESM (Ret’d), to pursue avenues to have the 50th Anniversary Medal formally recognised. It is recommended that the moratorium continue for 2021-2022.

LIST OF MEDAL CANDIDATES

The Committee was requested in early September 2020 to furnish a list of eligible candidates for the PNGDF Anniversary Medal. This list was compiled as far as was reasonably practicable. There has been no further action.

CURRENT SITUATION

The Patron has agreed to lead a dedicated Medals Team for our Association to include the Vice President and myself.

We will continue to look for opportunities for recognition by the Australian Government.

CHANGE IN POSITION TITLE

The PIB NGIB HQ PIR Association Committee has agreed in principle to the change in title from Medals Officer to **Medallic Recognition Officer**, to better reflect the role of this position in advising on recognition of PNG service and the standing of the 50th Anniversary Medal.



Russ Wade
Medallic Recognition Officer
PB NGIB HQ PIR Association
sunray62holdfast@gmail.com

16 July 2021

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LEST WE FORGET (Members who have died recently)

W.O. Billy Scott Born 1927 and died 30 November 2020 (Hon Life Member)
Enlisted in 31/51 AIB then posted as WO to 3NGIB in 1945. Discharged as Private in 31/51 AIB (Army error).

Major General The Honourable Michael Jeffery Died 18 December 2020.
Hon Life Member and Inaugural Patron January 2009 to December 2012.

Brigadier Richard (Dick) Flint Passed away March 2021
Lt/Capt RA Infantry, PIR, 1957 – 1961

Sgt Brian E J. Jones Passed away May 2021
1959-61 Sgt RAE, Wewak. 1963-73 Sgt RA Inf, PNGVR

Meeting closed at 4:05pm