



Welcome to the Spring Edition - September 2020 APNG Association News



President's note



Hello everyone and welcome to this edition of our newsletter. It is still a challenging time for so many with COVID-19 cluster outbreaks in both PNG and Australia impacting families, those in aged care and businesses. As positive case numbers continue to rise in Port Moresby and the provinces, the potential impact could be overwhelming especially for vulnerable citizens and the Provincial Health Departments.

What is pleasing to see is the major companies in PNG all have strong COVID plans in place and are donating significant amounts of PPE to impacted areas and the Department of Health. We all have a role to play in sharing good health practices especially with family and staff, who can pass that on through their communities.

Rollover of Member fees and AGM postponement

In May I sent out a letter advising of the committee's decision to rollover the AGM to next year because of the coronavirus and our inability to meet in person. This included waiving member fees for the year due to the pandemic and the financial hardship placed on many in the community. Our current committee will continue to serve, and if you'd like a copy of the member letter sent to you, please email us at: apngassociation@gmail.com.

Online events

Like many other associations and businesses, we embraced the new normal that is now virtual events. In July we held our first Zoom seminar with guest presenter Stephanie Copus-Campbell, Executive Director of the Oil Search Foundation. Stephanie gave a great overview of the Foundation's initiatives and projects working with remote communities. Members could attend for free, and non-members were charged \$25 which went back directly as a donation. You will find a summary of Stephanie's webinar further down in the newsletter and all members will receive a link to the webinar.

Following the event, the committee endorsed a motion to make a modest donation of \$500 to Femili PNG a women's group that the Foundation works closely with.

Our next virtual guest presenter is Matthew Savage, Partner EY, Port Moresby. Matthew will provide an insight into "Auditing through the pandemic – a PNG perspective". Bookings can be made online via Trybooking and we encourage you to share the event details with your colleagues and business associates. Full event details can be found further below.

At this stage, we will continue with webinars and plan for a traditional Business Breakfast later in the year (COVID-19 pending).

New committee member

And finally, we welcomed [Nicholas Kirke](#) to the committee. Many of you will know Nick who was a former Vice President and is currently spending time in Brisbane, whilst simultaneously managing his Manila based international skilled manpower supply company. He has boundless energy, sage advice and plenty

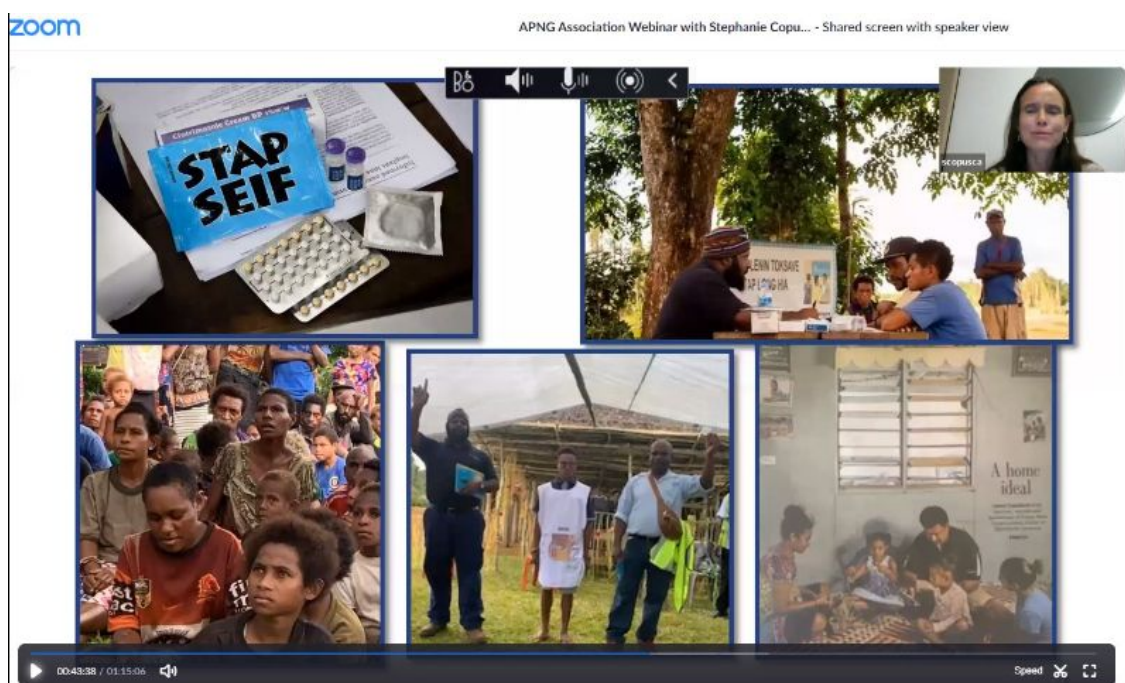
of good yarns.

I would like to thank the Committee who keep the ball rolling along and to all the members and association friends who have taken the time to keep in touch.

Until next time, take care.

Nick Currey
President

Zoom webinar event: Oil Search Foundation with Stephanie Copus-Campbell



Stephanie provided an enlightening insight into the work OSF has been undertaking in the Southern Highlands, Hela and Gulf Provinces over the past six years. Stephanie has over 20 years experience in PNG, specialising in development outcomes working with various agencies.

PNG is a challenging country unique within global developing countries and includes:

1. Problematic service delivery with over 1 million people living in remote areas.
2. A complex decentralised system of government and governance
3. One of the highest rates of population growth in world (top 10)

4. Extreme challenges for women to get ahead
5. PNG ranked 158/187 in UN Country Development Indices.

OSF commenced on a journey six years ago to develop a strategy based on public private partnership (PPE), through a development lens focused what has proven to work and adopted a “Development Effectiveness Model” for program development.

1. Must have a country lead, ownership and leadership of development strategies, where development partners implement within PNG’s development plans/system
2. Partnerships with every partner including Gov’t, NGO, Private, Multilateral donors, Community – Develop a shared vision and partnership
3. Results focus (not inputs and outputs but outcomes)
4. Good governance, leadership and principles.

OSF built on these principles a “Shared Value Proposition” - what is good for the company is also good for community. Collaborative approach to improving community wellbeing. Three key focus areas:

1. Health – work within PNG Health system to improve systems and functions
2. Women’s empowerment – focus on issues like violence, conflict, family planning, mentoring
3. Leadership and education – local empowerment and expertise, develop local expertise (esp youth)

Five years on the Foundation’s focus, within a low capacity environment was very hands on – including directly delivering services. As capacity has improved OSF now focuses on capacity building. A good example is OSF’s work in building the Hela Provincial Health Authority (PHA) to become one of the leading health delivery PHAs in PNG. The Foundation has also supported family and sexual violence through Beli isi PNG, Femili PNG and ensuring family support centres in Hela and elsewhere remain open and functional.

Key challenges ahead include addressing PNG’s large youth population (in Hela 67% of the population is under the age of 18 and in Southern Highlands this is 63%). How do you engage them in the formal and informal workplace through education, labour, education etc. There is an important role for agriculture development to support livelihoods and develop potential income via export of clean/green food to Asia.

The learnings are: adopt the “Shared Learnings Model” and work towards drawing on all key partners collective interest to solve a problem within the

PNG planning frameworks. All PPP partners need to be on same page and focus on outcomes.

- More information can be found on the Oil Search Foundation Website: <https://www.oilsearchfoundation.org/>
 - OSF 2019 Annual report: <https://www.flipsnack.com/55F866EEFB5/osf-ar-2019-final/full-view.html>
 - Famili PNG website: <https://www.femilipng.org/>
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Upcoming event: Zoom webinar, September 10 with EY's Matthew Savage

Join us on Thursday, 10 September to hear from Ernst & Young Assurance Leader (PNG) Matthew Savage.

Matthew will lead our discussion on EY's response to the pandemic in PNG and how EY ensured the wellbeing of its people while still delivering exceptional service to its clients. Matthew has built his career at EY over the last 20 years. He is a Fellow of CPA Australia and a member of CPA PNG and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and New Zealand.

For full event details, including registration, please click on our Trybooking link here - www.trybooking.com/BKUZA. You will receive the Zoom link to the webinar once your registration is complete.

We look forward to seeing you at this event! *Members can attend for free.



JOIN US FOR A ZOOM WEBINAR

Auditing through the pandemic A PNG perspective

WHEN

5:00PM AEST
Thursday 10 September 2020

PRICE

Members – Free
Non-members – \$25 AUD



Join us on
zoom

POM image supplied by "Baxter Torie - Photography"

Matthew Savage

Assurance Leader

Ernst & Young – Papua New Guinea

Booking via www.trybooking.com/BKUZA

www.apngassociation.com

PNG Chamber of Mines and Petroleum Seminar

On August 13 the PNG Chamber of Mines and Petroleum hosted a seminar titled 'PNG Resource Industry - The Way Forward' at the Brisbane Hilton hotel. The event was linked via webinar to the Hilton's sister hotel in Port Moresby.

Close to 100 guests enjoyed a luncheon and received several presentations including hearing from the Honourable Minister for Petroleum and Energy, Kerenga Kua. Mr Kua spoke about the proposed changes to the Mining and Oil and Gas Acts, and more proposed amendments announced by government to the organic law on resource ownership.

A number of other industry leaders spoke about the potential impacts on the resource sector. There were a number of APNG Association members in attendance, and it was a good networking event for mining professionals and those in supporting industries.

Further information can be found including transcripts of the seminar on the Chambers website: www.pngchamberminpet.com.pg



Industry seminars

Webinar event

The PNG Chamber of Mines and Petroleum will be hosting its second Webinar Series on Monday 7 September 2020 @ 1pm.

The topic is: 'Reforms and Revenue in the Resource Sector: Let's Talk'

To register for this free webinar, visit
<http://www.pngchamberminpet.com.pg/index.php/our-events/view/papua-new-guinea-mining-and-petroleum-seminar-2nd-webinar-series-2020>

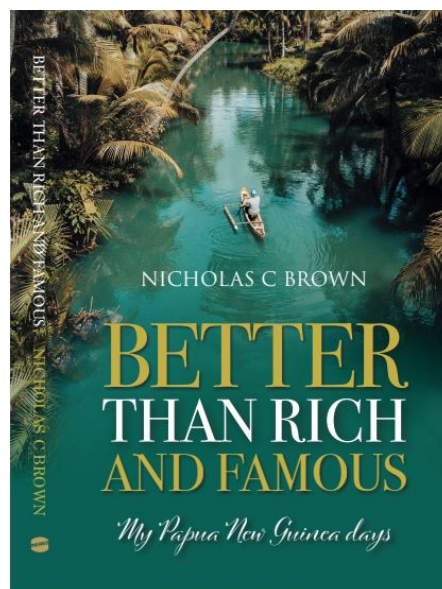
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New memoir: Better than rich and famous - my Papua New Guinea Days

Author Nick Brown has just released a new book on his time in PNG. The below is an excerpt from the back cover:

‘After three years selling gaskets under the grey skies of England, Nick Brown decided he’d had enough. But how to escape? Eventually he found a way, travelling to the South Pacific to ‘captain’ a cargo boat running cocoa and copra between the islands. Any notion of a tropical paradise soon evaporated when Nick found himself living without electricity, washing in the river and sailing treacherous seas. This is his entertaining story of those years.’

It is published in Britain by [Mereo Books](#) and available through Dymocks in Australia.



Know your network: Member profile - Maryanne Kepui

In each edition of the newsletter, we'll include a spotlight on a member or friend of the association to facilitate networking opportunities.

Meet Maryanne. She currently serves on the committee as the Association's secretary and is responsible for the smooth administration behind the scenes of the association's meetings, marketing and website.

Profession: Senior communication specialist

Workplace: Thiess – global contract mining services provider

Based in: Brisbane

Connection with PNG: Parents are from Manus, I was born in POM. Moved to Australia with the family for better schooling and education. Currently in the process of launching a consulting agency specialising in cross-cultural awareness for SMEs wanting to work in PNG. Reach out if you'd like to talk more.

Fondest memory of PNG: As a kid – eating Malay apples straight from the tree. As an adult – taking my father's ashes home to bury him in the village.

Something people don't know about you: I have a blue-belt in jujitsu and write a fitness blog.



Contact us

If you'd like to talk to know more about this edition, sponsor a webinar/event, or become a member, don't hesitate to reach out to the committee via

info@apngassociation.com or connect with us via LinkedIn.

2020 Executive Committee

[President - Nick Currey](#)

[Immediate past President - Gayle Carrick](#)

Treasurer - Justin Humphrey

[Secretary - Maryanne Kepui](#)

Member - Sheryl Guthrie

[Member - Mark Flood](#)

Member - Professor Robin Cooke

[Member - Nick Kirke](#)

Learn more about the Association here

