



MELANESIAN NEWS

P A P U A N E W G U I N E A

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PROJECT RECOVERY 2 SUCCESS!

Project Recover will continue in the Madang Province from the end of September to mid October utilizing the Kalibobo Spirit, the main area of the research will be carried out in the Hansa Bay area north of Bogia in the Madang Province where it is understood that a number of American aircraft crashed during World War 2

.Earlier this year, the same team researched areas in the Madang Lagoon and Astrolabe Bay which they described as successful.

Project Recover consists of a team of experts who use science and technology to find the final underwater resting places of U.S. service men who went missing during World War 2.

composed of researchers from the University of Delaware, Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego and a nonprofit, The Bent Prop Project. The team visiting PNG was under the leadership of Dr. Andrew Pietruszka.

On this visit Project Recover scientists conducted oceanographic surveys and dive operations on targets around the waters of Hansa Bay and will liaise with people in the area to gather as much information as possible about any the location of possible aircraft that may have crashed around this area.

The goal of Project Recover is to locate aircraft crash sites associated with U.S. personnel who remain missing as a result of WW2, document those sites, and correlate sites to known losses.

The research is designed in such a way as to not disturb the sites. The findings are shared with local authorities in country, and with the U.S. government, who then use the information to identify and possibly recover human remains Project Recover is operating in Papua New Guinea under the authority of and in close cooperation with the United States Embassy in Port Moresby, the Papua New Guinea National Museum, and the U.S. Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

The team will included a senior Member of the National Museum and police who will assist the team and undertake awareness in order to avoid any miscomprehensions of the peaceful mission.

Project Recover 2 is a collaborative effort to enlist 21st century science and technology in a quest to find the final underwater resting places of Americans missing in action since World War II to provide recognition and closure.



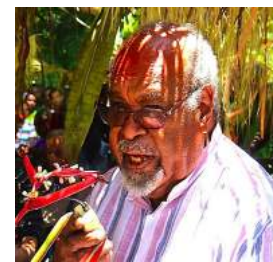
The success of this mission came on Oct 12 , 2017 when a missing B24 aircraft was identified 1nm off Awar Point near the active volcano of Manam Island, records show that there were 11 aboard the B24, no survivors. A commemorative service was held aboard the decks of the Kalibobo Spirit to remember the crew that lost their lives. Departing Hansa Bar a further dive was made on the B25 at Wangat Island. The last stop was at Bilbil Island in the mid afternoon of Oct 14 when miraculously the team located a B25 bomber that crashed in 1944 between Bilbil Island and Bilbil Village and had laid undiscovered for 75 years. The wreck was intact in 37m of water which no doubt will become a prime dive site.. The UOC, Scripps Institute team celebrated dinner at the Madang Resort before departing on Oct 15.

NICHOLAY MIKLOUHO-MACLAY VISITS GORENDU

Nicholay Miklouho-Maclay, the Grand Nephew of the famous late Russian Explorer with same name arrived in Madang on Sep 8 to visit Gorendu/Bongu Village, site where Maclay first visited in 1871 and returned spending almost 3 years on 3 successive visits to undertake research which made him famous in Russia. Maclay was accompanied by Arina Lebedeva, Sheramon Dmitrii Sharomov, Igor Chininov. Despite some problems in getting to Madang, they managed to be greeted by thousands of people of Gorendu/Bongu on Sep 16 to celebrate the 42nd Anniversary of PNG gaining Independence.

The Maclay Group remained with the people at Gorendu until 20th September when the Kalibobo Spirit arrived with a large delegation from Madang to celebrate the 146th Anniversary of Maclay's first arrival at Gorendu Village.

Amongst the guests was the Grand Chief, Sir Michael Somare, the Founding Father of PNG who was given a Chiefly welcome to the Rai Coast again attracting thousands of people, dressed in traditional dress carrying Chief above their heads in decorated cane chair. Later "sing sings", dramas plus a formal welcome where Sir Peter, Nicholay Maclay, Aspel? the direct



Grand Chief, Sir Michael Somare



Nickolay Miklouho-Maclay

descendant of Kui who took care of Maclay during his visits to Rai Coast. Sir Michael delivered an address not only to the people of Rai Coast, but by live telecast to Russia which was watched by millions of Russians who were linked up via Telikom and TASS the Russian Media agency.

Apart from the visit to Rai Coast, Maclay spoke at the Divine Word University in Madang, visited Bilbil Village to see the remains of a Balangat Canoe and then in Port Moresby visiting the National Museum and the University of PNG where Maclay presented a number of pictures of exhibits collected by Maclay during his visits to PNG.

The organisation of the visit of the Maclay Foundation was done for the purpose of creating a better understanding of the work undertaken by Maclay. The Melanesian Foundation facilitated the visit on a non commercial & non political basis.



MACLAY GROUP ABOARD THE KALIBOBO

Dear Sir Peter,

I spent a pleasant and unforgettable time in PNG, the country and people have become very dear to me.

I am very pleased that I was able to implement everything that I had planned in PNG with your help.

This difficulties that were at the beginning of the journey, see to bring us closed, and I am thankful to fate that I met you, apparently Maclay Senior send me to you.

In October 12, there will be a press conference and I will talk about tourism, all the good people in PNG and the fact that I was supported by everyone.

To my plans, I have decided to work on the exhibition and film in the first month, of course, I will also attract tourists for 2018 on the Maclay Coast, I'll keep you updated about developments.

Best wishes

Nickolay Miklouho-Maclay (www.miklucho-maclay.ru)



*Ambassador of the
Russian Federation
Jakarta*

No. 2355

« 9 » October 2017

Dear Sir Peter,

First of all, I would like to extend to you my warm gratitude for sharing with us the press-release on the Nikolay Miklouho-Maclay Expedition of the XXI Century to Papua New Guinea in September 2017 and the 146th Anniversary of the arrival of Nikolay Miklouho-Maclay, one of the most prominent Russian scientists, to the shores of your wonderful country.

I wish to express once again my highest appreciation of your great personal efforts to preserve the memory of the said Russian ethnographer whose activity brought the peoples of our countries together centuries ago.

Although I was not able to join the festive events in Gorendu Village due to my extremely busy schedule I sincerely believe that the Ceremony has become a symbol of friendship and trust between Papua New Guinea and Russia.

I hope that the relationship between our countries will deepen and develop further for the benefit of the people.

Please accept, Sir Peter, the assurances of my highest esteem.

Mikhail GALUZIN

**SIR PETER BARTER,
MANAGING DIRECTOR,
MELANESIAN TOURIST SERVICES LTD
MADANG, PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

ON TOP OF PNG EXPERIENCE

Since early civilization, there was a track from Madang to the Highlands used by the earliest missionaries, including Fr. Ross the legendary Catholic Priest who brought Christianity to what is known now as Simbu. Jiwaka and Western Highlands.

Many attempts have been made to construct an all weather road but the rough terrain, heavy rain along with landslides has made this task difficult. This year, the extended dry season enabled 4x4 vehicles to drive to Bundi, Snowpas and through the Bundi Gap at 8,100' elevation including myself driving my old faithful Pajero—the scenery can only be described as awesome, there are many villages, raging creeks and a mind boggling road which can be best described as a swamp, rock moraine and sand duns which has a direct distance of a mere 60 nautical miles but takes at least 8 hours of driving (one way).

Upon arrival at Keglsugl, we head up along an equally bad road to "Betty's Lodge" which is a simple guest house but very comfortable and warm at night around a log fire with temperatures below freezing. Betty Higgins, the Proprietor also runs the PInde Trout Farm which also serves as a great source of great meals served with an abundance of fresh alpine vegetables.



The Lodge serves as the main base for the adventurous enough to climb Mt Wilhelm, the highest mountain in PNG at 15,000'. There is a further base at Lake Pinde, a glacial circ set at approx 10,000' From the Summit, on a clear day you can see the north and south coast of PNG and on occasions snow.

MTS are considering further involvement with Betty Higgins to improve access, increase standard of accommodation, further expand the trout



DOWN UNDER EXPERIENCE

To celebrate 50 years in PNG, Sir Peter Barter, Grandson, Jordan, Sibona Mani and Derol Alpha flew to Cairns in May and took 7 weeks to visit 6 states beginning with a drive from Cairns to Sydney through outback Queensland and NSW, then along the coast to Sydney where they attended the SPTE Travel Trade Exhibition then along the South Coast of NSW to Bega, inland to Cooma and the Southern Alps to Jindabyne, Thredbo, Khancoban and through Victoria to Melbourne.

By sea aboard the Spirit of Tasmania and five days touring Tasmania which was one of the highlights of the visit, then back to Melbourne to hitch up with a new caravan and along the South Coast of Victoria, South Australia to Adelaide.

From Adelaide they drove north into central Australia via Port Augusta, Cooby Pedy, Alice Springs, Uluru (Ayers Rock), Katherine and onto Darwin.



Leaving Darwin they visited the Kakadu National Park, then across the Gulf to Cape Crawford and Bolooloola and down the Tableland Highway to Barly Station and along the Barkly Highway to Mt Isa, then back into the Gulf to Kurumba, Georgetown, and along the Savannah Highway back to Cairns and finally Papua New Guinea.



LINKS TO VARIOUS VIDEOS & PUBLICATIONS

The following links provide you the opportunity of downloading publications and videos that may be helpful to you in knowing more about MTS and Papua New Guinea.

1. The images & videos Resort – bit.ly/mrhresort
2. PNG Underwater Treasures – bit.ly/pngunderwater
3. Madang Dive Planet Rock – bit.ly/planetrockmdg
4. Madang & DWU show 2017 – bit.ly/madangdwu
5. PNG islands cruise book – bit.ly/pngislands
6. Melanesian Tourist Website – bit.ly/mtspng
7. Sepik River Cruise – bit.ly/sepikbook
8. Madang Resort – bit.ly/madangresort
9. Madang NDA Diving – bit.ly/madangdive
10. Australian Book – bit.ly/autour17
11. Melanesian Newsletter #6 – bit.ly/mtsnews6
12. Sepik River Best – bit.ly/sepik2016

THE MIDDLETON'S OF KAR KAR ISLAND



Alice, (Victoria) met Maxwell Middleton after replacing one of his eyes which was shot out in WW1, she was a pioneer herself being the only woman in NSW who specialized in making artificial eyes and gave rise to the song "I only have eyes for you".

After they married, they acquired Kulili Estates and several other plantations on Kar Kar Island, at the time Kar Kar had a population of a few thousand. Sir John is the oldest son of Max. He is now 87 years old and is seen in the picture with his wife, Lady Anna and the Grand Chief Sir Michael Somare taken on a recent visit aboard the Kalibobo Spirit to Kar Kar with long time residents Mike and Di Cassell. (That is me in the background.) Sir John and his two sons Derek and Brett, along with their wives and children are the 4th Generation of Middleton's on Kar Kar.

Sir John was appointed to the House of Assembly and the first Parliament after Independence and served as shadow Finance Minister also was a member of the fiscal commission, he has served on the Board of, Porgera Gold Dredging, Ramu Sugar and chaired both Copra and Cocoa boards. He has taken an active role in assisting the people of Kar Kar over almost 100 years the Middleton Family have been on Kar Kar.

Kulili Estates has encouraged locals to make Kar Kar one of the wealthiest islands in PNG. They have pioneered commercial production of Bio-diesel using coconut oil which powers the island and soon to be exported to the rest of PNG.

This year we had the privilege of having Cathryn and Gui return to Madang during which time the remade acquaintances of our staff and did some serious diving with Taka and staff of NDA.

On their previous visit as Master of the Qing, a 64m luxury yacht that last year spent 14 days on the Sepik River, they vowed to return and did so with a vengeance, during their stay they took some beautiful pictures, several videos all of which are now available to visiting yachts. Guests and passengers travelling aboard the Kalibobo Spirit.

We would like to share some of the pictures with you by providing you



MTS have scheduled a number of cruises aboard the Kalibobo Spirit to the Sepik River. The cruises will be of 6 day duration departing and terminating in Madang and are limited to just 12 persons.

The cruises will cruise the lower and middle Sepik River and visit the village of Kopar, Mendam (Murik Lakes), Kambaramba, Tambanum, Timbunke, Kamindimbit, Aibom and Wombun (Chambri Lakes), Parembei and Kanganaman. Excursions are operated by the ships purposely designed fast tenders. Sing Sings and cultural events will be witnessed and aboard you will have access to a well stocked library, documentaries and listen to lectures about life on the Sepik River for the more than 70,000 people that live along the river.

2018: Mar 02; Apr 13; May 11; *Jun 01; Jul 06; *Aug 10; *Sep 07; Oct 05; & Dec 26

*These cruises coincide with Madang, Mt Hagen and Goroka Shows. The rate in Kina is \$7000.00 (\$3200.00) per person sharing twin/double cabin, all meals, excursions, village fees and cultural entertainment.

The Kalibobo Spirit is available for charter to the Sepik River and the Islands in the Bismarck and Solomon Sea including the Trobriand Islands.

CORAL EXPEDITION 1 SEPIK CRUISE
Special Sepik Cruises will be operated aboard the Coral Expedition operating in February 2018 on the following dates 06 Feb; 13 Feb; 20 Feb & 27 Feb.



RESORT STYLE POOL PLANNED FOR 2018

We have secured the services of the well known Landscape Architect, Andrew Prowse to extend the existing Olympic size pool into a resort pool with sand beach a pool bar and water slides for children. It was hoped to have it complete for the APEC conference but has been delayed due to the amount of work undertaken in 2017



CHRISTMAS AT SUGEN ABEN

This year again, the Madang Resort and Rotary Club will host Christmas by Candlelight on Dec 20 at Sagen Aben Park which provides an excellent setting for such events. As in past years the town's biggest Christmas Tree will help put Magic back into Christmas for the children.



APEC CONFERENCE 2018



The Madang Resort & Kalibobo Village have been chosen to seral several of the APEC meetings outside Port Moresby in Dec 2017. We are expecting up to 300 delegates and visitors and the meeting will take place in the Sana Room.

Our maintenance and construction team are busily undertaking up-grades of all accommodation , conference rooms. The foyer, reception, and restaurants.. Two new wings have been constructed, one has already been opened y the Prime Minister, the other due to open in November. All rooms will be entirely refurbished in readiness for the APRC meetings to take place throughout 2018

OTHER MTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Madang Resort & Kalibobo Village— We have secured the services of Andrew Prowse a landscape gardener who will design the proposed Resort Pool. Work is expected to begin in 2018. The White House has been demolished and a new executive wing is ready to be opened in November. All executive and deluxe bathrooms have been replaced. All beds and bedding, along with new curtains have ready to be installed, the foyer, reception, Janek Aben and Sana Room have all been refurbished all in time for the **APEC** Conference in 2017 & 2018

Tropical Heritage Cairns—The entire hotel has been recar-peted, new bedding and split air conditioning installed throughout.

Cairns Sheridan Hotel - All rooms have been recently refurbished, new beds, covered patio as well as normal routine maintenance.

Kalibobo Spirit— Will undergo survey in Cairns in Oct/Nov and return to Madang in late November ready for another exciting year.

Niugini Dive Adventures— Taka Yamaguchi has increased the number of Japanese Divers and we expect further growth in 2018.

