

### AUSTRALIA DEFENCE HELICOPTER TRAINING IN PNG

Through October and November, the ADF had a training exercise in PNG where more than 100 ADF Pilots were given high altitude training based at the Madang Resort and Kalibobo Village. According to the Commander and Senior officers, the Resort lived up to its reputation satisfying the demands of such high level of service which prompted awards being provided to our Chef Abraham Molukwewa for the excellent meals. It is expected this exercise will be repeated in 2019.



ADF Personnel with Madang Resort staff pose of a group photo at Sugan Aben Park

### MISS MADANG RESORT WINS MISS PACIFIC ISLAND PAGEANT

After winning the 2018 Miss Madang Pageant, Leoshina Kahira a first year student of DWU was sponsored by Madang Resort and supported by a team from DWU to win the Miss PNG Pageant and finally winning the coveted Miss Pacific Island Pageant in Tonga.

Leoshina not only has an excellent personality, she is intelligent and will continue to talk about the empowerment of Woman in PNG and the Pacific along with environmental issues including global warming and increasing sea levels throughout the Pacific.

Leoshina in her position as Miss PNG presented Wenceslaus Magun K1000.00 towards the preservation of the endangered leather back turtle.

Sir Peter Barter congratulated Leoshina on winning the coveted title and looked forward along with the Melanesian Foundation to support her role as Miss Pacific Islands which will have a positive effect on the image of Madang and PNG, he said.

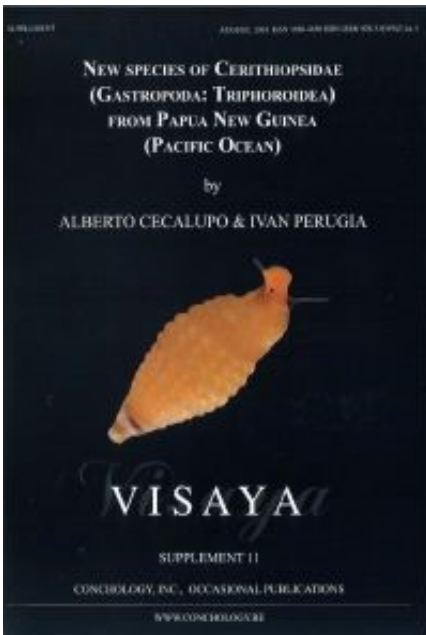
Special thanks should be given to the team at Divine Word University, Molly O'Rourke, Maureen Hill, the staff of the Madang Resort along with Josie her dress designer not least her family who encouraged her to contest and supported her throughout the

*It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you and your team winning the 2018 MPI PNG with your contestant Miss Leoshina Kariha. We are very proud of her and confident she will win Miss Pacific Island, Thank you for giving this young woman and an opportunity that will change her life forever.*  
- Molly O'Rourke—Chairperson MPIP PNG Committee





## NEW SPECIES OF CARETHIOPSIDAE



The above new species was identified by a team of Marine Scientists who visited Madang in 2015 led by Professor Philippe Bouchet. It was found at Sek Harbour and was named *Joculator Berteri* in dedication to Sir Peter Barter who had supported the research whilst Governor of Madang. The Melanesian Foundation has supported many projects that protect the environment, provide school desks and generally improve the quality of life in remote regions of PNG.

## MADANG CELEBRATES FIJI INDEPENDENCE DAY



### *Madang Fiji Community at the 2018 Fiji Night, Madang Resort*

President of the Fijian Community at the Madang Resort, Lemeki Tuivanuvou, was pleased in the way the Fiji community arranged a Fiji Night to celebrate Fijian Independence Day in Madang. "I am happy the event turned out well which allowed is to bond together the Fijian and Madang community and at the same time share our rich cultural heritage.

"Sir Peter is a very kind man and it was so special to see him here with us, it is a big deal for us the Fijians," he said knowing that Sir Peter has a long association with Fiji himself over 3 generations. The Fiji Community welcome his presence held the Haus Win of the Madang Resort. PNG share a strong relationship together with other Pacific countries most of which are small but if we all work together, it strengthens our ability to contend with pressing matters that effect us all in the Pacific such as global warming and rising sea levels.



Pictures show PNG students visit to Russia



## INDEPENDENCE SEPIK CRUISE

Dinesh Papapu. MTS Marketing Manager said that the expedition along the September Sepik river expedition aboard the Kalibobo Spirit was a great way of witnessing the unique culture and art of the amazing and mysterious Sepik River. The small group of Americans who travelled were all engaged with the uniqueness, the places they visited, the cultural entertainment which cannot be compared to any other destination in the world, he said.

This cruise was organized by Terri Everest, the MTS Manager in North America who said the expedition was a positive way to learn about the culture and at the same time have the comfort aboard the Kalibobo Spirit.

In 2019 MTS is planning several more expeditions along the Sepik River some of which coincide with various festivals and cultural shows in Mt Hagen, Goroka and Madang. The dates of these cruises are shown below and as space is limited to 12, it is wise to book as early as possible.



Happy guests aboard the Kalibobo Spirit with faces painted in traditional design at Tambanum, Sepik River

"I was humbled to be chosen to be on the September cruise and to hear positive feed- back from Terri and the passengers who shared this experience." Said Dinesh

## PNG STUDENTS VISIT RUSSIA

Thanks to the Maclay Foundation 6 students from UPNG and DWU were invited to visit Russia, The trip was arranged by Nickolay Miklouho-Maclay Jr, the Grand Nephew of his Grand Uncle, of the same name who was the first visited Rai Coast of Madang Province in September 1871.

The Maclay Foundation is arranging further student exchanges between Russia and PNG which is expected to build better relationships between the two countries. And encourage more Russian Tourists to visit PNG In 2019 the Maclay Foundation have arranged a further visit to Madang which are being jointly arranged between

the Maclay and Melanesian Foundation.

If you would like to know more about Maclay, download [www.mtspng.com](http://www.mtspng.com) which contains links to documentaries, stories and pictures about his stay at the Rai Coast in the Madang Province.



## SENIOR CHFS AT THE MADANG RESORT WERE GIVEN PRAISE BY DELEGATES TO 54TH MEDICAL SYMPOSIUM

Chef Abraham Molukwowa and the Resort's seasoned pastry chef John Kila both said that they were more confident after they delivered the best standard of food for the medical professionals, who were in Madang for a week-long symposium.

The medical symposium in Madang started on Sunday and finished on Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> of September this year.

With more than 600 medical professionals, both local and international, Chef Abraham said that it was a new experience for him and his team.

We recently cooked for the APEC conference that catered for only 200 people, now the number of people attending the symposium was 600, but we did well."

John Kila, the Resorts veteran pastry chef, with more than 30 years of experience, said that customer satisfaction was his priority.

"I didn't doubt my team, we delivered efficient, quick and satisfying food to the medical people and they left with the satisfaction that they deserved."

Both Chefs also said that they had rehearsed and planned several different strategies with their staff in preparation for the Medical Symposium. Chef Kila said that his team were well organized.

"The satisfaction of these overseas medical professionals depended on the way we had organized ourselves in the kitchen."

Chef Abraham also added saying that the Resort's cuisine was unique, it has a fusion of local and international recipes blended together.

Both Kila & Abraham were solely trained at the Madang Resort And aboard the Melanesian Discoverer and Kalibobo Spirit. Staff also have the opportunity of spending time at MTS hotels in Cairns.

## CARMA PRIZE WINNERS



Annemarie Rhodes, the Manager of Air Niugini Cairns is seen congratulating Teresa Paola Atonia & Paul Cazzulino on winning the combined prize of accommodation at the Madang Resort and return airfares from Cairns by Air Niugini.

Teresa and Paul have booked their trip in February and the Management and staff of Madang Resort look forward to welcoming them to Papua New Guinea.

CAMA is the Regional Multi Cultural Festival hosted annually. Both Air Niugini are sponsor cultural activities which include PNG, Australia's closest neighbour.

## DEMA 2018

Our senior Dive Instructor of Niugini Dive Adventures and Terri Everest our Manager in North America attended DEMA during which time he re-introduced diving in Madang to operators. He also met up with long time friends, Captain Garcia and Cathryn Castle who had recently spent some months cruising and diving in PNG including a 2 week expedition along the Sepik River.

Taka will also be attending BOOTS in Dusseldorf in Germany in January along with trade shows in Australia.



## NEW CANOPY CRANE FOR BIRDWATCHING

Professor Vojtech Novotny, who works for the New Guinea Baitabag Research Centre, said that the new Kakoba Canopy Crane could be used to take tourists high above the rainforests to see birds and other animals.

Professor Novotny was speaking at the opening of the new facility at Baitabag Village in Madang on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December.

Professor Novotny said that apart from attracting tourists, scientists from all over the world could now have access to the rainforest's canopy in Madang.

"The crane will be used by PNG and overseas scientists to reach the forest's canopy for various observations and experiments on the forest ecology," he said.

Dinesh Papapu represented MTS at the ceremony and was excited about this additional activity that would help in attracting tourism to the Province and serve to assist in educating the people about the preservation of our environment and ecology. Dinesh said that the facility would be promoted by MTS to become a major attraction in Madang.

Professor Novotny added that the local villagers in Baitabag could also benefit from ecotourism.

"Now that this facility has been built in their forest, tourists would come to their village, this would create jobs for everyone here in Baitabag," he said.

Baitabag is located along the North Coast Road near Alexishafen just 30 minutes from Madang.

It is located in a Rainforest with spectacular waterfalls. Trekking can be arranged by the local people to observe birdlife and share cultural activities.



## Modilon General Hospital received a new 3d ultrasound machine on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November.

The head of the Obstetrics and Gynecology services at the general hospital, Dr John Bolnga, thanked the donors who recognized the need for such an ultrasound machine at Modilon Hospital in Madang.

"It was the kind realization of Lauren Tapper and Namiko Aleker who have had a strong association with Modilon Hospital and its staff, they saw that we had a need and managed to secure the ultrasound through various donors in Melbourne.

The donation was largely organized by Dr. Andrew Ngu, past president of ISUOG, based in Australia with General Electric (GE).

Dr. Bolnga also acknowledged the kind assistance of Sir. Peter Barter and the Melanesian Foundation. He said that he was a blessing to the many people in the remote parts of Madang who will no longer need to travel to Port Moresby and overseas to be diagnosed. Sir Peter paid K5500 for road freight from Melbourne to Cairns and then carried it aboard the Kalibobo Spirit from Cairns to Madang free of charge. Dr Bolnga said we are ever so grateful for his generosity. He has been a blessing to many people in the remote areas and the underprivileged, particularly women and children for many



Staff of Modilon Hospital in Madang & new Ultrasound.

years and he continues to do so," he said.

"It will serve the women of Madang well and we thank everyone for their part in securing it as well as ensuring that the machine arrived to us safely," he said.

## PROJECT RECOVERY

A team called Project Recover, which was made up of marine scientists, archaeologists and volunteers, has finally found the WW2 bomber in Hansa Bay, off the coast of Madang.

The Bomber known as 'heaven can wait' was found with the assistance of MTS's Kalibobo Spirit and Niugini Diving Adventure's (NDA) Dallman Diver.

The co-founder of Project Recover, Eric Terrill, said that the whole purpose of the expedition was to find the 11 servicemen that were lost with the bomber.

"The results from our efforts in Hansa Bay have stirred a mix of lasting emotions within our team and drives home the need to recognize the sacrifices that service members and their families make in protecting our freedom," he said.

In Dec the US Navy arrived to remove the remains of the missing airmen and take them back to America to their families to Rest in Peace.

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## MADANG RESORT CAROLS BY CANDLE LIGHT

Human Resource Manager at the Melanesian Tourism Services (MTS), Sibona Mani, said that the money raised through the Christmas Celebrations will be handed to the Madang Rotary Club for the upgrading of the hospital kitchen.

The Madang Resort along with the Madang Rotary Club will hold Carols by Candle Light at Sugan Aben. The evening entertainment has been organized by Billy Arua the Resort Musical Director and numerous groups representing schools, churches and businesses and will featuring a visit from Santa Clause under the gigantic Christmas Tree erected in the Sugan Aben Park.

Sibona also said that Christmas was a time to give and share, he said that it was the obligation of individuals to give to someone special.

"Christmas is all about sharing the love, what better way to do that then to help build a school, feed a family or simply bringing a family closer together," he said.

## VISIT BY MARY MENNIS

The author of the "Flagged History of Madang" visited Madang from Nov 28 – Dec 08 during which time she officially launch her book, published by the Melanesian Foundation.

1000 copies of this book will be distributed to school libraries and sold by the Madang Resort and the Madang Visitors and Cultural Bureau for K20. The book contains a brief history of Madang from 1871 when Maclay first visited Madang, through the British, Australian, Japanese, Australian and finally to Independence in 1975. Copies of the book can be purchased from the Gift Shop at the Madang



Merry Christmas & Prosperous New Year from the Management & Staff of MTS



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