

"Fore-Sight"



"Fore-Sight"- Quarterly Newsletter of the Association of Surveyors of P.N.G.

2003 PNG SURVEY CONGRESS A 'LANDMARK' OPPORTUNITY

As our ASPNG Members know the 37th PNG Survey Congress will be held in Port Moresby on 10 - 12 July.

The theme 'Registration of Customary Land - The Ultimate Challenge for PNG Land Professionals' has attracted interest from Surveyors and non Surveyors alike and we expect perhaps 7 - 8 Technical Papers on the very important subject of Customary Land Registration in Papua New Guinea.

Two of our long time members have indicated they will present papers. They are Fred Pratt and Bill McKibben. We expect papers from fellow Members and colleagues at Unitech in Lae but nothing specific yet.

Michael Govorov of the University of the South Pacific in Fiji who spent some time in Lae several years ago may give us a Paper and local land experts, Loani Henao, Brian Aldridge, Josepha Kanawi and Tony Power have told me they would like to participate.

What we need are one or two Papers from Papua New Guineans exposing the negatives of any formal system of customary land registration. Many grass roots Papua New Guineans have a great fear

that it is a ruse by the elites to steal their land from them and it would be great if we could get someone to enunciate this point of view. Perhaps the Unitech guys could identify a proponent of this point of view.

We will of course consider Papers on other subjects providing they are relevant to Surveying and Papua New Guinea but have had no submissions from anyone yet.

I look forward to hearing from some of you fellows (ladies included) in the next couple of weeks. We really do need more input from our young PNG Graduates and Students if we are to achieve any Policy clout in PNG. Think about it gentlemen, let's show the Bureaucrats and Politicians that we have something to offer. They need our Professional advice and they will have to pay for it.

We are arranging a Kokoda Trail walk commencing on Sunday July 13 immediately after our Congress so I want you to let me know two things. A) Will you participate in our congress by presenting a Paper or at least as a Delegate? B) Are you interested in doing the Kokoda Trail walk? I am waiting to hear from you.

Michael J. Larmer (FASPNG)

Congress Manager

Volume 4, Issue 1

March 2003



COMING EVENTS :

37th PNG Survey Congress, Port Moresby, July 10th to 12th, 2003

REMINDER :

Council wishes to remind members that Annual Subs are now due.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE :

Star light, Star bright, how many Stars will I see to-nite ???

Many years ago (about October 1978) I was involved with the establishment of some ground control points around a promising gold prospect called Porgera. I was there in a purely advisory capacity and left the real surveying up to those best qualified to do the job. The base trig for the whole Porgera control network was located on an outcrop of rock with a 360 degree view - it also had sheer drops on three sides of some 1000 feet or so. At its worst point, it was only a metre or so wide - and that was where the trig. stn was located. I declined the invitation to accompany ALS surveyor Ian Sparks to do his star observations at 4:30 am - I clearly remembered the daylight sortie to that spot when to achieve a good sighting Ian had his heels dangling over that

awesome drop in space. More recently, another fellow from ALS, took the opportunity to take some 'star shots' in Port Moresby. While not quite 4:30 am, but in overcast and 'wet' conditions one Sunday evening, decided the time as right to see some stars. Now whether it was the priming at the Aviat Club that afternoon, or the convivial bottle or three of fine 'red' that evening, it seems the 'Florshiems' on wet concrete steps did not have the same grip as 'Bluntstones' on bushy rock outcrop. The resulting fall was 'tempered' somewhat by the relaxed nature of the body as it took its drop in space. His shoulder needed some attention though ! Still, this generation of surveyors are a hardy breed and nary a work day was lost. Anon.

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What's So Difficult About CPD ???

Information Courtesy of Ian Truscott, Member Institute of Engineering & Mining Surveyors Australia Inc.

The Institute of Engineering & Mining Surveyors Australia have adopted a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) or Continuing Education (CE) program that is 'user friendly' and provides a broad range of activities that contributes towards accruing annual points.

- **INTRODUCTION** - To achieve the Continuing Education (CE) Policy Objectives, the Institution has established the following guidelines
- **APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES** - Any activity concerned with the theory and general practice of surveying, including all existing, emerging and related areas of science, in which members engage during their career.
- **CATEGORY** - These may also include with an emphasis on personal or business skills designed to increase a member's management or business efficiency. CE should encompass more than one of the following areas ...
- **Tertiary Courses** - These are specific courses including diplomas, degrees, etc and can include single subjects or units taken by a member not for award purposes. These must be conducted by a recognised educational institution.
- **Conferences, Congresses and Conventions** - Organised by IEMS or kindred professional bodies, which provide subjects of relevance for surveyors.
- **Short Courses, Seminars and Workshops** - These can be provided by a wide range of organisations including IEMS, kindred professions, government departments, private organisations, educational institutions and industry bodies but should be of a structured nature and usually cover over half a day of educational activity.
- **Meetings, Discussion Groups and Lectures** - These are topic specific events, where speakers provide specific opportunities for continuing education.
- **Work Based Activity** - These include specific development activities presented by the employer and conducted in-house.
- **Research Writing and Presentation of Technical Papers** - This includes the preparation and delivery of technical papers at survey congresses, seminars or preparation for publication in appropriate publications.
- **Service on Technical Committees** - This includes committees of the Institution looking at specific technical subjects, or sub-committees of Government Instrumentalities or private enterprises.

- **Other Assessed Activities** - This is any individual activity not listed above which has been specifically assessed by the Institution as being an appropriate Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activity. This would include approved self study and research.

METHOD OF RECORDING

- The minimum amount of commitment to CPD should be 10 units of CE per year, with a preferred amount of 20 units per year.
- One CE unit for every hour of actual time spent in one of the appropriate activities, except where indicated otherwise. There are no exceptions at present but in the future some weighting of activities may be necessary.
- All members should record their own CE participation in each of the categories on the Personal Record Sheet
- Copies of the Personal Record Sheet should be forwarded to the Division Secretary with each years membership renewal.
- The CE year will commence on the 1st of January.
- Certificates will be produced by the Institution and distributed by Divisions for successful completion of the CE minimum requirements.
- Any member unsure of the appropriateness of a CE activity should contact the Division CPD Convenor.

Ian Truscott is well known to many of us in PNG. He is the Geodesy Sales Consultant (Survey Rep) with C.R. Kennedy & Company. While he may not be actively out in the field surveying, he still has the ability to maintain his CPD commitments in accordance with the guidelines previously outlined.

An example of Ian's CPD score for the year 2000 follows ...

Feb Mackay Group Meeting	1.00 pt
Mar Mackay Group Meeting	1.00 pt
Apr Comb. Nth Grp Seminar	12.0 pts
Apr Comb. Nth Grp Conf.	2.0 pts
Apr. IEMSA Qld Nth Meeting	2.0 pts
Jun Mackay Group Meeting	1.0 pt
Jul Rocky Group Meeting	1.0 pt
Aug Cairns Group Meeting	1.0 pt
Oct ISAQ Conference	10.0 pts

Oct Comb Nth Grp Seminar	6.0 pts
Oct Comb Nth Grp Conf.	6.0 pts
Oct Comb Nth Grp Meeting	2.0 pts
Oct IEMSAQ AGM	4.0 pts
Nov Mackay Grp Meeting	1.0 pt

Yearly Point Tally = 48 points

The point tally for 2000, exceeds the recommended minimum CPD commitment of 10 points and also exceeds the preferred amount of 20 points in a calendar year. This was achieved by taking a continued interest in both professional and community oriented surveying bodies.

A similar program for participating in Continuing Professional Development could easily be established in PNG.

'Fore-Sight' wishes to thank Ian Truscott for the information to create this article. Look forward to seeing you at the 2003 PNG Survey Congress, Ian



NEW JOINT VENTURE GROUP FORMED

Surveyors Michael Larmer and Fred Pratt together with aerial surveyor Alan Dunley formed a joint venture partnership in October 2002 to promote the sale of GIS digital datasets and offer digital mapping services. Michael Larmer is represented via Arman Larmer Surveys, Fred Pratt through F.C. Pratt Limited, and Alan Dunley by RAGS Limited.

The joint venture will trade under the name GEO-GRAPHICS.

Based in 'PNG Survey Haus', Varahe St, Gordons in the NCD, the new joint venture group offers competitively priced GIS and digital mapping products on a consultancy basis. A number of 'stock' items are held to provide a quick turn-around service to clients. These items include PNG Nationwide - as well as - Provincial GIS datasets. Hardcopy maps and maps on CD-ROM are also available.

Project mapping and GIS establishment are also offered as well as training in the use of GIS and associated operating software.

Kokoda Trail Review

Information Courtesy of 'Northern Distracktions' & Niugini Holidays

Brief History :

The Kokoda Track is one of the many walking tracks in Papua New Guinea that existed long before the Europeans came to this part of the world. It was used for trade and cultural interaction between tribes and is still used for these purposes to-day. During the course of World War 2 the Japanese decided to use this trail as a means of ground attack against the Australians in Port Moresby. The idea was to take Port Moresby and use it as a base from which to stage a direct assault on Australia. The track starts in the north of the country at a village called Kokoda. It winds up and down over the rugged Owen Stanley Ranges and finishes in the south at Owers Corner.

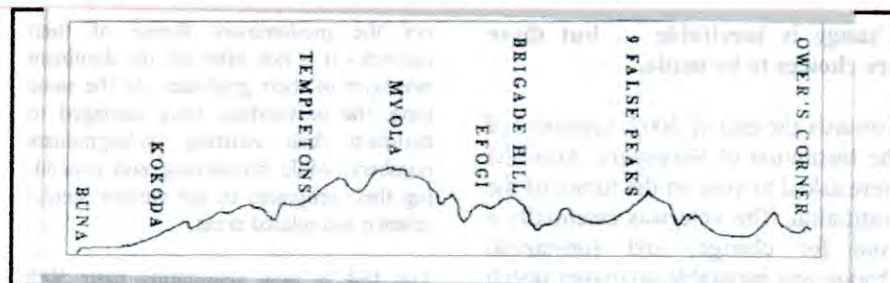
Both the Kokoda Track and the northern coastal plains were the scene of violent close contact jungle warfare as the Australians retreated in the face of the Japanese onslaught. The Japanese were finally stopped at Imita Gap as they had extended their supply lines too far in the rugged terrain and began to die of starvation. The Australians then chased them all the way back to the northern coastline.

Today the remains of the war lie rotting in the jungle and the track has reverted to quiet solitude disturbed only by occasional back-packers and local walkers. There are several villages along its length inhabited by peace-loving hospitable locals. These are the people who became known during the war as the 'fuzzy wuzzy angels' because of their selflessness in helping wounded Australian soldiers.

Proposed Walk In Conjunction With the 2003 PNG Survey Congress

As an added attraction to the 2003 PNG Survey Congress, it is proposed to conduct a group walk of the Kokoda Trail for the benefit of overseas visitors and local delegates alike. Hardy surveyors will undoubtedly respond to this challenge with courage and enthusiasm - although for an extra K400 you can have a porter carry your back-pack.

The Kokoda Trail is rated an A Grade Trek and you need to be fit. It is recommended you begin training at least 4 weeks departure and work towards being



able to carry a 16 - 18 kg pack up hills or stairs. Of course for many of our fit young surveyors this training will be superfluous. Older surveyors may wish to consider this aspect though.

Medically, there are no mandatory vaccinations however a course of anti-malarial tablets is recommended. Your tetanus booster shot should also be current.

What You Need to Bring

- Backpack
- Sleeping bag and sleeping mat
- Water bottles, flashlight, spare batteries
- Mess kit, bowl, cup, cutlery
- Small supply of energy snacks, favorite tea bags
- Personal medical kit
- Sunscreen, insect repellent, sunglasses, hat
- Small towel, toilet paper
- Personal clothing, raincoat or poncho
- Small bag/daypack to store travel clothes at Port Moresby

You'll Be in Good Hands

Niugini Holidays has been operating trips across the Kokoda Trail for almost two decades. As one of the more established and experienced operators, they have developed a strong bond with the villages along the track and enjoy a warm welcome from the friends they have been visiting there for so long. Much of this is to do with their many guides and porters, all of whom are from villages along the trail, and some who have completed more than 100 crossings. The guides are expert bushmen and greatly respected the length of the trail. On those rare occasions when there has been an injury to a trip member, the guides have proven their ability to perform in the case of a medical evacuation, despite the remoteness of the location.

So Why Not Give It A Go !!!

When the idea of a Kokoda Trail walk was first proposed after last year's survey congress, a number of people were enthusiastic about the idea. If Tony Luben is prepared to have a go at this, then that should be an inspiration for us all (of course Tony's a bit younger than me, so I'll help Mick serve the 'coldies' at the Owers Corner finish line).

The Association will need to know fairly quickly if you're prepared to participate in this event. I know of one overseas visitor (at the age of 52) who's 'champing at the bit' to have a crack at the Kokoda Trail - and if the ASPNG walk has to be cancelled, he'll do it anyway in August !!! So, let's do it together guys. Remember, it starts at the northern end so a lot of its downhill anyway.



PS : Some of its uphill as well, my mate in Brisbane has studied the profile and says an average of 700 metres vertical travel per day is a challenge. He's quite happy with the 8 or 9 days allowed for the trek.



Had any computer problems lately ?

Where to from here ???

Adapted from Malcolm McCoy's article, *Measure & Map*, Issue No. 20, May-June 2002

Change is inevitable ... but there are choices to be made.

Towards the end of 2002, members of the Institution of Surveyors, Australia were asked to vote on the future of the Institution. The vote was essentially a vote for change, and substantial change was inevitable no matter which way members voted. The vote was about maintaining the existing structures but in a leaner and smaller format, or to embrace a single spatial science organization, as espoused by the Spatial Sciences Coalition.

The Spatial Sciences Coalition is made up of a number of professional bodies including :-

- Institution of Surveyors, Australia
- Inst of Engineering & Mining Surveyors, Australia
- Assoc of Public Auth. Surveyors
- Consulting Surveyors Australia
- Mapping Sciences Institute, Aust
- Remote Sensing & Photogrammetric Association Australasia
- Geospatial Information & Technology Association
- PSMA
- AURISA
- Australian Spatial Information Business Association

The SSC believes that the new organization will appeal to new graduates, will be vibrant and dynamic, and offers the best future for not only ISA members but for members of other coalition partners. **This new organization is not about losing the term 'surveyor' or the discipline of surveying; it's about how surveyors can better organize and manage themselves as professionals in a wider and more diverse spatial science professional body.**

Perhaps the universities offer the best example of how organizations can re-engineer themselves and prosper in the face of dramatically changing circumstances. Over the past 20 years most universities have refocused their programs so that traditional surveying is

not the predominant theme of their courses - it is not, after all, the dominant employer of their graduates. At the same time, the universities have managed to maintain their existing undergraduate numbers, while broadening and expanding their programs in the various spatial science and related areas.

The ISA is now celebrating their 50th year, and it is appropriate that they are reviewing its position and future role in the surveying profession. In an attempt to understand the future, they have undertaken a study of the past. The study revealed that the traditional surveying profession only employs about 30% of surveying graduates; 70% of ISA membership is engaged in private practice; the average age of the profession is 49; very few females are members; main benefits to members at national level are seen to be national conference, national and international representation, journals and newsletters. Many members obtain best value services at regional level, where cadastral surveying and land development issues are fully explored. There is also a substantial net loss of 70 paying members per year.

Key issues facing the surveying profession in Australia over the next few years are :-

- The failure to attract significant numbers of new graduates;
- The aging of the profession
- The drop in the number of paying members.

This has led the ISA to investigate a number of risk management scenarios in order to find out what the best way forward is. So what is the best way forward? There are probably a myriad options, and a number have been explored, but I believe fail for a number of reasons.

I believe there are only two realistic options available to the ISA : maintain the status quo or embrace significant change by adopting the Spatial Science Coalition model.

Maintenance of the status quo will not necessarily mean little or no change. Quite the contrary. By maintaining the status quo, existing structures will remain, but service delivery will change dramatically due to the falling number of paying members. Investigations have revealed that membership could reduce by as much as 50% over the next ten years. This will severely affect service delivery at national

and divisional level. Raising fees to compensate for this loss in income is unpalatable to the members. Accordingly, the likelihood is that services would be reduced together with staff levels.

In summary, the status quo means a major change in service delivery and a much smaller and leaner ISA in quite a short time.

The other option is to adopt the SSC model. This option is supported by the coalition partners and offers the best opportunity for the surveying profession.

It would :

- Promote the benefits of all spatial sciences to the community
- Be the natural home for the spatial science graduate
- Represent about 6000 individuals
- Be an organization of individuals
- Provide professional accreditation and specialization acknowledgement
- Be a national body with regional service delivery
- Provide a single voice for spatial science professionals
- Involve the whole spatial science community
- Provide a wide range of member services
- Deliver the majority of services by paid staff rather than volunteers

The professional challenges faced by all organizations are similar - membership retention and growth, continuing professional development, professional standards, conferences, publications, accreditation, etc. I believe the SSC offers the best opportunity to attract new graduates to our profession, and to ensure that there is a vibrant, relevant and diverse membership base for the future.

The Institution of Surveyors, Australia now stands at the crossroads. It can maintain the status quo, but this will mean a smaller organization, with reduced services and a sharply (narrow) focused agenda in regard to its members, or it can embrace a larger, more broad-based and influential organization dealing with the wider spatial science community.

'Fore-Sight' acknowledges the work carried out by Malcolm McCoy, a director of Max Braid Surveyors, and immediate past President of ISA. Malcolm gave a similar more detailed paper in regard to this topic at the 2001 PNG Survey Congress.

World War 2 'Vet' Writes Biography

"The Cartographer" occasionally comes across some interesting enquiries for maps, this about one of them. A letter was received as follows :

"To Whom It May Concern. Permit me to introduce myself. I was a young U.S. Marine with the 3rd Marine Division on November 1st 1943 when we landed on the beach at Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville, BSI and into the SWAMP and what a SWAMP. I am now 77 and am in the process of writing a biography for our grandchildren. I would appreciate it greatly if you send me a topographical map of Bougainville, it is one thing to say you've been there, but another to try and explain what the conditions were when you were engaging the enemy. It is very difficult to explain the awe we were under when we came topside to go ashore and there before us was this smoking volcano. For a bunch of 19 year olds and the first time to face combat and to see that smoking volcano we looked at each other and said "Holy" Please let me know if you have such a map and how much it would cost to ship to me and the manner of payment, ie, international money order or ? Thank you for taking the time to respond to my request."

Very Truly Yours, Paul C Opilla,

The following response was sent

"Reference your letter 10 march 2002, I to my request.

have pleasure in enclosing herewith a topographic map of the Empress Augusta bay / Mt Bagana area of Bougainville, together with a general reference map of "New Guinea" showing its proximity to The Solomon Islands where the U.S. troops again saw plenty of action (and lost a great many lives) during WW2.

My father saw action in Milne Bay during WW2 and one uncle on the Kokoda Trail. By all accounts, anybody that served in New Guinea had a rough time of it. Please accept these maps with my compliments (yes I know they should be rolled, not folded).

An interesting anecdote that comes out of Bougainville, is that one of the holes on the Arawa Country Club Golf Course boasts a water-hole that contains a very active 'puk puk' (crocodile) that has an appetite for golf balls. Trust you didn't run into too many of these while crossing the swamp-its reputedly full of them. Best of luck with the biography (and thanks for your efforts during WW2)."

Paul's acknowledgement of the maps was most gracious.

"I received the maps today and I thank you most kindly. I am not offended that the maps are folded and not rolled I am just happy to have the maps. I've tried to get the Bougainville map within the USA but was not too successful, either because of the cost or I never got a reply

I also want to thank you for the kind words. We, WWII, vets are dying off at the rate of 1600 a day, by the time the memorial in Washington is finished there just might be a WWII veteran alive to see it. I think the price tag is either \$300 Or \$600 million dollars. Money that could be better spent of taking care of the Veterans in VA hospitals or who need care for which they are unable to pay.

Sorry about getting on the soap box. I often think of Kipling's But its Tommy this and Tommy that when the band begins to play.

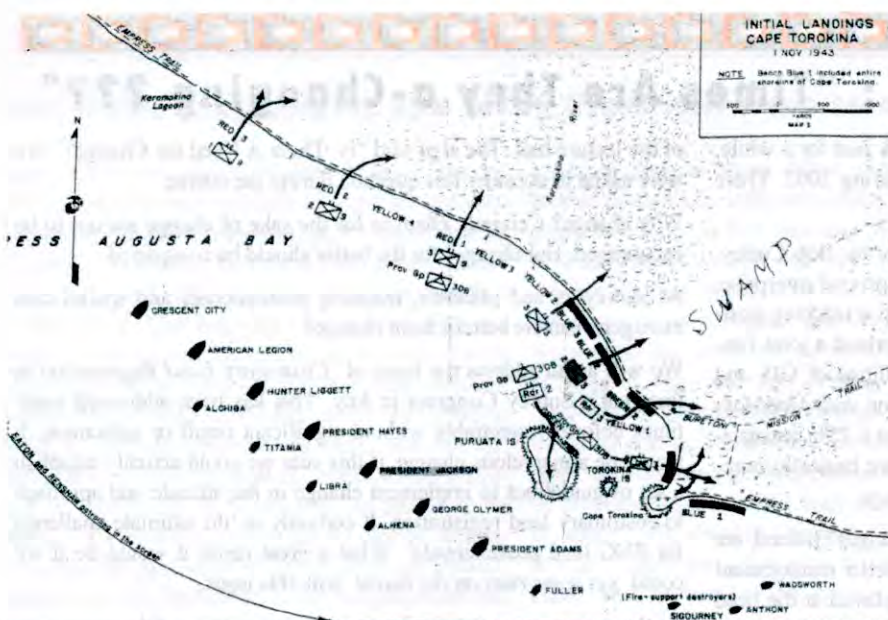
There is a new book out on Bougainville entitled, "Bougainville 1943-1945 : The Forgotten campaign" by Harry Gailey. I am enclosing a copy of a BARNES & NOBLE review.

Thank you again, as Clint Eastwood would say "You made my day".

As Marines would say-Semper Fi"

Paul C Opilla.

Paul also enclosed the map that appears on the top of this story. He was shipped onboard the The President Jackson and landed on Bougainville at Sector Blue 2.



SURVEYORS CPD QUIZ

If the longitude of a place measured in arc is 128 deg 37'20", the longitude measured in time is ???

- A. 8hr 29m 30.7s
- B. 8hr 42m 0.0s
- C. 8hr 34m 28.0s
- D. 8hr 34m 29.3s

Answer B was the correct answer to the last question.

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Members & Other News ...

Surveyor Skerry Palanga, currently based in Kokopo, took time out to visit some old friends in POM prior to heading south for a well deserved Xmas break. The gathering at 'PNG Survey Haus' seemed like a mini survey congress with the many surveyors assembled there representing a number of firms. Naturally, the 'Xmas Spirit' flowed freely for a number of hours.

Surveyor Jeff Sanderson is now resident in Cairns after completing a recent bridge survey contract. We expect to see him back in PNG in the not too distant future.

Survey Mark Ainsworth formerly of *Global Constructions*, has been offered jobs in Mackay, Darwin and Adelaide. The editor's grand-daughter hopes its in Adelaide (Mark's sister who lives in the Barossa Valley has a 20 ton container full of wine). 'Floggy-bum' is partial to a drop or two.

Airways surveyors and **ground surveyors** do have to work together occasionally in establishing (or re-establishing) aerodrome reference points. No problem as long as the ground surveyor gets paid, and rightly so. Any guesses as to who and why *Talasea* was closed for some time. PS : An airways surveyor is not to be confused with an aerial surveyor.

The *Editor* apologies for the lack of a Xmas issue of "Fore-Sight". Due to a change in circumstances certain priorities have had to be re-arranged. Hopefully, "Fore-Sight" will continue on a regular basis. If not quarterly, we'll aim for a minimum of 3 issues a year.

Sam Poon is a perfectly fit young man, but insists on playing snooker at the Car Club with just one hand. Anybody wanting to lose money should challenge him to a game. Unbelievable !!!

ASPNG 37TH SURVEY CONGRESS - JULY 2003

"Registration of Customary Land - The Ultimate Challenge for PNG Land Professionals"

CALL FOR PAPERS ...

We are inviting **Land Surveyors and allied Professionals** to prepare technical papers to be presented at the 37th Congress of the Association. Whilst we expect that most Papers will be addressed to the above theme, other subjects relative to Surveying and Land matters will be entertained.

Interested parties are requested to make contact at their earliest convenience but Abstracts will not be required until March 28th, 2003.

The 2003 Congress is scheduled for July 10th to 12th at the Holiday Inn—PORT MORESBY. It is intended to arrange a Kokoda Trail walk immediately prior to the Congress.

Please direct all correspondence to **Michael Larmer Congress Manager**, P.O. Box 372, Port Moresby, PNG.
Ph. (675) 325 8322 Fax 325 8813 E-mail : alsurvey@daltron.com.pg

Editorial Comment : "Times Are They a-Changing ???"

As we head in to 2003, its interesting to look back just for a while, and reflect on some of the things that occurred during 2002. There were a number of changes last year.

Amongst others, *GeoMark* was established in Lae by Bob Curley. For Bob, this signified a change from academia to private enterprise. Conversely, Raymond Bure left *Placer* to take-up a teaching position at *UniTech*. Michael Larmer and Fred Pratt formed a joint venture, *Geo-Graphics*, to better explore the possibilities of GIS and digital mapping. Alan Dunley ceased his association with *MapMakers*. The *National Mapping Bureau* was targeted for a 75% downsizing effective mid 2004. While these happenings are basically unrelated, it does indicate that 2002 was a year for change.

Looking ahead in 2003, will we continue to see changes? Indeed, are changes required or necessary? I once attended a better management course, and throughout the 4 days a sign was displayed at the head

of the lecture hall. The sign said "Is There A Need for Change?" We were asked to consider this question during the course.

Why change? Certainly changes for the sake of change are not to be encouraged. But changes for the better should be considered.

As surveyors and planners, mapping professionals and spatial data managers, can we benefit from change?

We will again address the issue of *Customary Land Registration* at this year's Survey Congress in July. This has been addressed many times before - regrettably without significant result or agreement. It would be a marvelous change, if this year we could actually establish a set of guidelines to implement change in the attitude and approach to customary land registration. It certainly is 'the ultimate challenge for PNG land professionals'. What a great result it would be if we could 'get some runs on the board' with this issue.

As the song says 'times they are a-changing' -Ed