

"Fore-Sight"



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

PNG Survey Congress Time in Port Moresby

2003 PNG Survey Congress Manager Mr. Michael Larmer is pleased to announce that arrangements for the up-coming Survey Congress are proceeding as planned. The venue as previously advised is the Port Moresby Holiday Inn (formerly Islander Hotel). The dates are Thursday 10th July to Saturday 12th July. Your registration form is enclosed with this issue of *Fore-Sight*.

The call for papers has received a good response and we can look forward to the following ...

Tony Power : *The Creation of Melanesian Property Rights*

Joseph N Kanawi : *The Role of Surveyors in the Land Dispute Resolution Process and in Particular the Land Titles Commission (What does a Surveyor and a Land Titles Commissioner have in Common?)*

Norman Oliver : *A Review of Land Dispute Settlement Organizations and Mechanisms*

Loani Henao : *Proposed Law on Voluntary Registration of Customary Land*

Kanawi Pouru, Joseph Badi and Muyang Basenke : *The Challenges and Opportunities for Customary Land in the Forestry Sector*

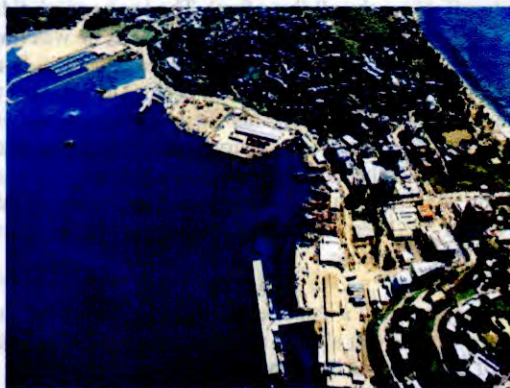
Frederic C. Pratt : *(paper to be advised)*

Bill McKibben : *Digital Mapping in West New Britain*

Another paper or two has been promised by UniTech and it is hoped that we will get a summary of the findings from the *Customary Land Registration Congress* held by the Institute of PNG Land Valuers in Lae towards the end of last year.

With the theme of the congress being **Registration of Customary Land - The Ultimate Challenge for PNG Land Professionals** the intended papers are right on target and will surely provoke some spirited debate.

A suitable Formal Opening and Keynote address will start the proceedings at 9.00am on Thursday the 10th followed by technical sessions throughout the day. The *Presidents Welcome Party* is scheduled to 'kick-off' around 6:30pm in the evening.



POM CBD : Photo courtesy of Geo-Graphics Ltd

Friday morning is devoted to further technical sessions with the *Annual General Meeting of the ASPNG* to be held after lunch. Friday evening we are all looking forward to the *Annual Dinner*.

Saturday morning has been set aside for a Forum and any further technical presentations that may be outstanding. The afternoon is free and it is hoped that out of town delegates and overseas visitors can be entertained by the Moresby contingent. The *Farewell Dinner* will held Saturday night.

A *Trade Display* will be available during the course of the Congress, and *Theodist* has arranged for a *Leica* technician to be on hand should any servicing be required for surveying 'kit'.

Air Niugini has made 20% fare discounts available for ASPNG members traveling from other parts of the country to Moresby for the Survey Congress.

Discount accommodation rates for Survey Congress delegates are available through the *Holiday Inn* and the *Lamana Motel*.

Congress delegates are welcome to bring friends along to the social events - additional fees apply ...

Presidents Welcome Reception K 70.00

Annual Dinner K100.00

Farewell Bar B Q K 70.00

Look forward to seeing you there !!!

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COMING EVENTS :

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

REMINDER :

Membership fees must be paid prior to the AGM on 11th July 2003.

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Some Different Viewpoints on Land Tenure in PNG

The up-coming Survey Congress will feature many papers on the theme ... *Customary Land Registration - The Ultimate Challenge for PNG Land Professionals*. It seems everybody has an opinion on this topic, and rightly so - it is a very important area of consideration. I'm a little surprised that a great many of the papers are being presented by expatriates - but then again many have been here a considerable time and have a great deal of experience to offer in these matters.

When we think of *Customary Land Registration*, I believe - in the main, we think of it in terms of impact on not only on individual Papua New Guineans and groups of citizens, but also in terms of future impact on the administration and economy of the country. But could *Customary Land Registration* or even the current situation with *State Leases* and land tenure in general have an impact on other individuals in PNG that are not citizens? And are there other areas of concern that do not cover normal administration and future economic considerations?

Three mini-case scenarios highlight what some individuals see as having an impact on their future existence in PNG - all three are expatriates and non-citizens at this time.

Len : Len came to PNG around 1957 spent a number of years in Milne Bay Province where his parents ran a plantation. At one time Len's father was involved with Dillingham Bros and the early stages of construction on the Highlands Highway. Len runs a successful service business out of Port Moresby. He has a number of children who he wants to provide a secure future for and this involves a number of property rights. They are all shareholders in his company.

Len holds freehold title to a small island in Milne Bay Province and a plantation on one of the bigger islands there. Who would have thought there were any freehold land titles left in PNG (???) - last one I heard of was at Kaibola Beach on 'the Trobes' some years ago. Len also has an interest in some state leasehold land in Central Province and is keen to register for his father-in-law some customary land around old Rigo station.

Trying to do the right thing some 8 or so years ago, Len engaged a surveyor to undertake a survey and go through the process of registering a piece of customary land. The ground survey took over two years to even-
tuate - despite making an 'up-front' pay-

ment. Considering the site was only 40 minutes drive out of Port Moresby this doesn't seem to encompass 'due diligence'. When the survey plan finally eventuated he thought the land had been registered. Sorry Len, not the case. The surveyor was approached again and Len was told it would be followed-up by one of his ex partners (original surveyor had now set up business in another province and didn't get to Moresby all that often). The 'ex partner' didn't want anything to do with it as he was owed money from the previous association. Some years go by and Len decides to write off the losses from his first encounter and try again. An enquiry was made through another firm of surveyors regarding the registration of the customary land - three months later he's still waiting for some sort of response.

Len's experience with surveyors has not been all that successful ... is there a lesson to be learnt here (?)

Len also has serious concerns regarding the time it takes for the re-issue of titles ... but that's another story.

Alan : Alan came to PNG in 1969, and has traveled extensively throughout the country during his time as an aerial surveyor. Alan met Madia in 1978 and they were married in 1983. Madia is from Tatana Island. Alan wears the clan sign of the *Nenehes*, and it is probably true to say that he adopted them rather than they adopting him. The *Nenehes* have a reportedly somewhat 'difficult nature' when it comes to certain land claims around the Port Moresby Harbour area.

Alan's customary 'block of dirt', is in fact the ultimate water frontage - the entire plot is over water and would only be connected to the land proper by a walkway. It is located on the Tatana Causeway, and is a site that was most probably allocated because nobody else wanted it. Given the right circumstances, Alan's customary land plot could well become part of a retirement plan. There is a certain attraction to 'throwing out a line' off the verandah and catching breakfast. The location also lends itself to the construction of a 'boom gate' and charging travelers for their passage - although that may not be the smartest idea he ever hatched !!! Perhaps he should stick with the "Reef & BeeF" restaurant come nightclub.

Alan's comments on *Customary Land Reg-*

istration : It won't work if it is arbitrarily legislated and forced on the people. The people must have a say in how legislation is enacted and the means by which customary land is demarked and formally recognized. It should be available on an 'as required basis' - ie those that want to register their land should be able to do so. Those that don't want to have anything to do with it should be respected for their wishes and not be forced into it (they will eventually follow the majority in due course anyway). Legislation should also allow for 'over water' sites.

Grant : Grant may have the least amount of time 'on the ground' in PNG of our 'three musketeers', but has a sincere fondness for the people and their rich culture. Grant came to Papua New Guinea in February 2002, met Joy - and was married in September later that year. Grant's best man was an 'Asaro mudman', Joy is from Gogodala in Western Province. Grant's forte is in computerized document management, he also a renowned horticulturist. It is in this latter field of endeavour that Grant believes is where his future lies. He has successfully cultured many orchids and has two new and special breeds to his credit.

Grant's land, while not customary (its State Leasehold) is situated on Daru Island adjacent to the airstrip, and with a water frontage. Its around 5 hectares. The location diagram is drawn on the back of a bar tab (at least he admitted it wasn't to scale !!!).



The land was gifted to Grant by his in-laws and is currently going through the process of 'change of title'. How long could this process take? Native orchids cannot be exported, but cultured or specially bred orchids can - and at a very reasonable profit. The only drawback, is that it takes seven years to successfully breed a new strain of orchid. It is likely, that Grant will have the opportunity to breed two new orchids before he sees the title to his newly acquired land. Up to fourteen years to acquire title !!! - this can happen (ask Michael Larmer how long it took to get the titles for Doini Island).

Thanks for your contributions guys - Ed

Emphasizing the Need for CPD

Courtesy of Bob Curley & Geomark (PNG) Limited

The doctrine of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) stresses the need for a structured approach to lifelong learning and self-development.

A lifelong approach to CPD

CPD has been defined as "the systematic maintenance and broadening of knowledge and skill and the development of personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties throughout a practitioner's working life".

Continuing : because learning never stops regardless of age or seniority

Professional : because it focuses on personal competence relevant to a professional's role

Development : because it improves personal performance and enhances career progression and is much wider than formal training courses

It is an approach, or process, which should be a normal part of how individuals plan and manage their whole working life. Most professionals recognize the need for professional updating but CPD's emphasis on *systematic development* and the comprehensive identification of learning opportunities provides a framework within which both formal and informal learning activities can be set.

Learning and development becomes planned rather than incidental.

Benefits of CPD

The benefits of CPD are that it assures clients, government and other decision makers that a professional practitioner is updating his/her existing skills and this may be used to judge his/her competence to undertake specific work.

An on-going commitment to CPD by individuals (and corporations) ensures their competitiveness in a changing market place. This may be considered in job applications and/or promotion situations.

A professional's liability for negligence in a duty of care situation will be judged on the standard of competence shown by a qualified professional at the current time. This will take into account developments in technology and procedures.

Regulation of CPD

Many professional institutions now insist on members complying with specific requirements for CPD and use a points system to monitor the amount and quality of CPD carried out by individuals. It is often a prerequisite to membership upgrades. Whilst attendance at formal courses is not the only source of CPD it does allow attendees to get hands-on experience and try out equipment and software with the support of technically competent staff.

Geomark (PNG) Limited has prepared a series of affordable courses for surveyors, engineers, other professionals and managers working in the built and natural environment sectors of the economy.

For further information please contact :

Geomark (PNG) Limited
P.O. Box 1096, LAE, MP 411
Papua New Guinea
Tel + 675 479 3100
Fax + 675 479 3101
Email :
rculrley@geomark.com.pg

STOP PRESS :

Geomark (PNG) Limited is running a special CPD course 7th—9th July 2003 :

"Introduction to GPS" covering ...

Basic GPS Terminology
Equipment Capabilities
Adjustments
PNG94 and PNG(MG)
Equipment Costs
GPS Concepts
Modes of Operation
Quality Control
DGPS and WAAS
Mapping / GIS
Basic Geodesy
Surveying by GPS
Transformations
Other Systems
Applications in PNG

This course covers the basic theory of GPS and the use of code only receivers for positioning, navigation and asset mapping / GIS. Surveying by GPS using the carrier phase is also covered with emphasis on methods, techniques and applications suitable to PNG. **This is great value at only K450.00.**

See included 'flyer' for further details.

A Blast from the Past



Above : Observation balloon being readied for launch during the American Civil War indicates that aerial surveying has been around for some time.

Below : "Piss-off Dunley".



SURVEYORS CPD QUIZ

Precision has long been the hallmark of a good surveyor - let's try some precision with this one

In computer terms, 'a gigabyte' is how many bytes ?

- A. 999,999,999.999
- B. 1,000,000,000.00
- C. 1,000,000,000.01
- D. 1,072,741,824.00

Answer D was the correct answer to the last question.

"Fore-Sight",
P.O. Box 1271,
Port Moresby, N.C.D.
Papua New Guinea



Phone: (675) 320 - 0231,
Fax: (675) 320 - 1539
Email address :

Newsletter contributions
can be sent to the Editor
at P.O. Box 1, Jacksons,
or via fax to 325 8813 or
by e-mail to :
alsurvey@daltron.com.pg

Members & Other News ...

... The continuing story of the **surveyor** and airways surveyor ... In a moment of weakness our **surveyor** sends the co-ordinates of the airport reference point (despite payment being overdue) to the airways surveyor. The airways surveyor then berates our **surveyor** for supplying incorrect co-ordinates. Try this for an explanation ... the airways surveyor asked for the co-ordinates to be in WGS 84 - and that was what was supplied. But our airways surveyor being wise in the ways of **surveyors** 'knows' he won't get what he asked for, so he believes the co-ordinates to be AGD 66, and converts the WGS 84 (as AGD 66) co-ordinates to WGS 84 again !!! Good one, Les.

And what do airways surveyors do (???), they design the blue lines on 'RNC Charts' that aviators trust their lives to when flying in IFR conditions. Hmmm !!!

Well known **surveyor** waits 12 months to get paid for a 'Works Job' - and wouldn't you know it gets a duplicate payment. Being a man of integrity, eventually has to return the money so he sends his girl to the bank to get some K50,000 in cash. !!! No, she wasn't robbed - but the bank detained her for a number of hours thinking she was trying to offer a forged cheque (apparently no surveyors are thought to have that sort of money).

Same **surveyor**, was at the Aero Club in POM recently driving a borrowed car. The CID raided the place and arrested him for driving stolen car !!! Seems the security guard recognized some of the bullet holes in the bodywork. But of course the car wasn't stolen ... just the bodywork !!! (True, the chassis was legit !!!).

Same **surveyor** is thinking about presenting a paper on Customary Land Registration at the up-coming Survey Congress - now that should be something to look forward to !!!

CARTOGRAPHERS ELECT THEIR COUNCIL FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS

March 28th saw PNG cartographers gather at the National Forest Authority Training Room to hold their Special General Meeting - Elections 2003. The *Institute of Mapping Sciences & Spatial Information Papua New Guinea* elect their office bearers for a period of two years. This allows for consistency and a continuation of combined efforts that has rewarded the *IMSSIPNG* with a number of achievements over the past few years.

Mr. Raymond Bure was re-elected as President. Raymond is the Senior Technical Instructor in Cartography / GIS at the University of Technology in Lae.

Mr. Bruce Durom, Senior Cartographer for Oilsearch Ltd was elected to the position of Vice-President.

Ms. Dorothy Damar, National Forest Authority, was elected as Secretary.

Mr. Potuann Pakop of the National Mapping Bureau retained the position of Treasurer.

The newly created position of Information Officer (Media) was filled by Mr. Joseph Kunda of the National Mapping Bureau.

Councilors assisting the Executive were elected as follows

Representing the Lands Department - Mr. Nou Tau
Representing the National Forest Authority - Mr. Kini Lohia
Representing the Dept of Works - Mr. Kevin Kenim
Representing the Civil Aviation Agency - Mr. Rambi Moirafa
Representing the University of Technology - Mr. Clement Tabul
Representing the Private Sector - Mr. Elias Bonit, of Eda Ranu

The blend of youth and experience elected to Council will assure the *IMSSIPNG* of continued growth and development. Council meets on a monthly basis February to November each year.

All are working towards organizing PNG's first *Carto Conference* to be held in 2004.

Editorial Comment : Thru' Rose-Coloured Glasses ?

As an association of professionals, the **Association of Surveyors of PNG** ranks extremely highly in my opinion. We possess a reasonably constant membership, provide a fraternity for experienced surveyors and newly qualified graduates, offer all the advantages of belonging to a professional association, extend invitations for members to participate in the running of the association, put on a damn fine Survey Congress every year, and crank out the odd newsletter or two.

We also have the opportunity to 'bung wantaim', exchange ideas and viewpoints, and through professional collaboration develop ideas and concepts that could create meaningful government approaches to land administration. By doing this, we not only provide our expertise for other's benefit, but also create the opportunity for enhancing our profession - and in the long term creating jobs for surveyors. In other words, we do have the opportunity to be 'masters of our own destiny' as well being working *mastamaks*.

So if all this is true, then what's my beef ??? My beef is that we appear to be looking at the situation 'thru' rose-coloured glasses'. Why, because we only do all the good things once a year at the Survey Congress. What about the rest of the year ? When do we provide input to assist our Council and Sub-Committees; when do we get together to exchange ideas or even share a glass or two; when do we provide an article for the newsletter ??? It doesn't take a lot of effort, or time for that matter, to give a bit of yourself to the Association. Somebody once said, 'you only get out of something what you're prepared to put into it'and I believe that's true here. If you only want to belong for the 'status' of belonging to the Association, then so be it. But, if surveyors are to 'regain the ascendancy' (Congress Theme 1999), I think members need to put in a lot more effort than is being done of late.

So, off with those rose-coloured glasses, and on with the 'real shades' man, so we can get out and do some real work !!!
- Ed