Pacific Health Programs
Exhibition
27 January – 6 July 2009
Menzies Building
Australian National University

Catalogue

Poster promoting maternal & child health in PNG, c.1956. (Jean Chambers collection, PMB 1255/1)
Introduction

The health of Pacific Islanders is an important issue. Healthy people have more choices, can participate more fully in society and are more productive.

The Pacific Health Programs exhibition was developed using archival collections from the Pacific Research Archives (PRA) and the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau (PMB). Many individuals contributed their own collections to this exhibition, of which we are grateful.

We would like to thank the following people for their support in the development of this exhibition — John Ballard, Paul Brugman, Richard Eves, Alan Ives, Kathy Lepani, Vicki Luker, Hank Nelson, Roy Scragg, Bert Speer, John Spurway and Deveni Temu.

The exhibition highlights both historical and contemporary health issues in the Pacific. As readers will see, many health issues of the past are still relevant to contemporary Pacific Island communities today. Themes covered in the exhibition include:

- Pacific Health Services
- Nutrition
- Maternal health
- Tuberculosis
- Malaria
- HIV/AIDS

Health is one of the most challenging issues for the future development of the Pacific. For example, Dame Carol Kidu recently reported that a rural woman in PNG “has a one in about 28 chances of dying from pregnancy complications caused in her lifetime of childbearing!” (Post-Courier, 14 May 2009)
It is hoped that through this exhibition, people may become more aware of the historical and contemporary health issues facing Pacific Islanders.

_Kylie Moloney, PMB Archivist_
_Ewan Maidment, PMB Executive Officer_
_Karina Taylor, PRA Archivist_

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October 2009.
Caption reads, “We don’t know her name — we don’t even know exactly what her trouble is — but she is a Netherlands New Guinea youngster who is getting the best possible attention at Hollandia’s big new modern hospital. We can believe she’s probably not exactly happy with the world at the moment. Who would be, with a leg in the air! — but one day no doubt she’ll appreciate it.”

(Donation by Dr. John Spurway to the Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University.)
Ships – SS Tambua, ambulances being discharged at Noumea, 30 Sep 1941.
(Photograph from the CSR Ltd Archives, Noel Butlin Archives Centre, Australian National University, Z364/46.)

(R.P. Gilson Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 308/12/235; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1009/8.)

Survey of traditional beliefs and attitudes, health & allied matters, March 1960. Booklet and instructions for Patrol Officers by Dr. R.F.R. Scragg, Chairman, Health Education Council, Papua New Guinea. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

Report on the link between sorcery and illness, Papua New Guinea, c.1950s. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

Haus Sik, Papua New Guinea. (Photograph from Margaret & Terence Spencer collection relating to their work on malaria in Papua New Guinea, National Library of Australia, nla.pic-an22704478.)

Medical services for Indians in Fiji, 20 October 1919. Correspondence from the Acting Chief Medical Officer to the Manager of CSR Ltd in Lautoka regarding providing medical services to Indians in Fiji following the end of indentured labour. (CSR Ltd, Noel Butlin Archives Centre, Australian National University, Z303/85/2.)

Pacific Health Programs Exhibition, Menzies Building, ANU, Jan-Jul 2009.
Eye testing chart, Papua New Guinea, 1935. (Dr Stanley Wigley Papers, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1182.)

Dispensary at CSR’s Lautoka mill in Fiji, ca. 1950s. Photograph by Max Dupain. CSR Ltd provides medical services to its employees and their dependents. (Noel Butlin Archives Centre, Australian National University: CSR, Z638/Album 9.)
The Mount Lamington volcanic eruption, Papua New Guinea, 29 May 1950. Report by Dr. J.T. Gunther, Director of Public Health, on the disaster from a medical point of view. He details the types of injuries resulting from the eruption. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

Giving injections Amgo village, Papua New Guinea, 1951. (Photograph from Albert Speer collection of photographs & slides from the 1951 eruption of Mt Lamington, Papua New Guinea, National Library of Australia, nla.pic-vn3539088.)

Mount Lamington blast area, Papua New Guinea, 1951. Sketch map showing the area affected by the Mount Lamington volcanic eruption. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)
NUTRITION

Photographs by Nancy Hitchcock, Nutritionist, South Pacific Health Service

(N. Hitchcock Photograph Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 293-1-24.)

Peeling yams, Kaparoka, PNG, 1962.
(N. Hitchcock Photograph Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University: ANUA 293-2-12.)
Women's house and interior, Pari, Eastern Highlands, PNG, 1962.
(N. Hitchcock Photograph Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University: ANUA 293-1-8.)

Cooked food unloaded from oven ready for serving, Pari, Eastern Highlands, PNG, 1962. This meal consisted of sweet potato, pumpkins and several varieties of leafy green vegetables and beans. (N. Hitchcock Photograph Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University: ANUA 293-1-29.)

(N. Hitchcock Photograph Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University: ANUA 293-1-36.)

(N. Hitchcock Photograph Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University: ANUA 293-1-34.)
Pig preparation. Marriage in the Sinnga Valley, Eastern Highlands, PNG, 1962. (N. Hitchcock Photograph Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 293-3-15.)

Food gifts at wedding. Marriage in the Sinnga Valley, Eastern Highlands, PNG, 1962. (N. Hitchcock Photograph Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 293-3-25.)


Filling the pig’s intestine. Marriage in the Sinnga Valley, Eastern Highlands, PNG, 1962. (N. Hitchcock Photograph Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 293-3-18.)
Notes on diet, income and food preferences in Hanubada, 7 Feb 1951. C.S. Belshaw’s notes on Miss Hamilton’s report on nutrition in Hanubada. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

Carleen O’Loughlin and Susan Holmes, *A survey of economic and nutritional conditions in Indian Households*, May 1954. (Professor R.G. Ward Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 258/1/8.)

Nutrition – *The care and feeding of New Guinea infants*, c.1950s. Lecture by Dr. Eben H. Hipsley, Nutrition Services, Commonwealth Department of Health for the Australian School of Pacific Administration. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Lithographic and silk screen posters by Mrs Jean Chambers, Maternal and Child Health Division, Dept. of Public Health, Territory of Papua and New Guinea, c.1949-1960. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1255; PMB Photo 9.)

Jean Chambers

Jean Chambers was a commercial artist with considerable experience in advertising and display, having worked for many large business firms in Sydney, including Bonds, Berlei and Nestle. She moved to Papua New Guinea in 1935 with her husband.

Mrs Chambers wrote, “Having lived in the Territory for a number of years some of the ways and outlook of the native people have naturally become known to me. This, I have found a big advantage in the producing of the numerous original poster designs for colour reproduction by the Infant Maternal Welfare Section of the Department of Health. This work is fairly well known as thousands of reproductions have been distributed throughout the Territory.” (Mrs J. Chambers, c.1965, PMB 1255 project file.)
The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Division of the Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea, was officially established in 1948. Dr Joan Refshauge was the Assistant-Director in charge.

At the time infant mortality in the community was estimated to be 50% or higher. The MCH program was based on clinics and patrols in the field aimed at encouraging preventive health measures, such as improvements to diet.

In the 1950s and 1960s Government and Mission maternal and child health clinics expanded to the main regional centres of PNG. They were staffed by overseas and indigenous Registered Nurses, Infant Welfare and Midwifery Assistants and Orderlies.

By the end of the colonial period the outcome was a major decrease in child mortality in PNG.

‘Feeding Baby at 6 WEEKS. Don’t BURN Baby’s Mouth.’ J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/3.)
'Your Own Trained CLINIC NURSES. READY TO CARE FOR YOU. Before and after BABY is BORN.' J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/1.)

'Feeding Baby at 2 WEEKS. Take Baby to see your CLINIC NURSE every 2 weeks.' J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/2.)

Feeding Baby at 3 MONTHS. Give Baby ONE TABLESPOON from the FAMILY'S MEAL'. J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/3.)

'Feeding Baby at 8 WEEKS. COOK for BABY every day.' J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/4.)
'Feeding Baby at 4 to 6 MONTHS. Give NEW FOODS, a little at a time.' J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/6.)

'A CLEAN HOUSE HELPS PEOPLE TO BE STRONG.' J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/9.)

'EVERY MONTH BEFORE AND AFTER BABY IS BORN VISIT THE CLINIC. SISTER WILL HELP TO MAKE YOUR BABY STRONG. GO TO HOSPITAL WHEN BABY IS READY TO BE BORN.' J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/11.)

'Feeding Baby at 7 to 12 MONTHS. Give some of these GOOD FOODS Every Day. KEEP BABY STRONG.' J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/7.)
'CLEAN WATER for GOOD HEALTH.'
J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/8.)

'PAMIM OLGETA HAUS'. Malaria Eradication Service, Department of Public Health, Papua and New Guinea, Health Education, P.18. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/22.)
'RATS, FLIES and MOSQUITOES bring SICKNESS. DON'T LET IT HAPPEN TO YOUR CHILDREN'. J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/12.)

'CONTROL TB IN YOU VILLAGE WITH...' Department of Public Health, Papua and New Guinea, Health Education, P.C.6. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/24.)

'FOR HEALTHY TEETH EAT FRESH FRUIT.' Health Education, Department of Public Health, Papua and New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/28.)

'MOTHERS! Your children want... every day.' J. Chambers, Port Moresby, Infant Welfare Section, Department of Public Health, Papua New Guinea. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/13.)
'WASH. TEETH. COMB. BEFORE MEALS. AFTER TOILET. CLEAN CLOTHES. COVER SORES with PLASTER OR BANDAGE.'
Department of Public Health, Papua and New Guinea, Health Education, P.40. (Jean Chambers Collection, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB Photo 9, PMB 1255/33.)

Sister E.M. Gilbert at Saiho with twins, 1951. (Photograph in Albert Speer collection of photographs & slides from the 1951 eruption of Mt Lamington, Papua New Guinea, National Library of Australia, nla.pic-vn3537995.)

Infant & maternal welfare facilities, Papua New Guinea, 21 Dec 1948. Inter-Departmental Committee on Native Development and Welfare. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)
Fertility and Mortality in Vanuatu, The Demographic Analysis of the 1979 Census, 1985. (Dr. John Ballard Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 268.)

South Pacific Reproductive Health Words and Phrases, 1992. In English, Fijian, Hindi, Pidgin, Tongan, Samoan, produced by the Family Planning Federation of Australia. (National AIDS Archives Collection, Australian National University, A0080.)
Mother and child from the Lihir group of Islands in Papua New Guinea’s New Ireland Province. (Photograph in Martha McIntyre & Simon Foale Collection, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 269.)

TUBERCULOSIS

Poster outlining a ten step management chart for Tuberculosis control, n.d. (1960s). (Stanley C. Wigley Papers on tuberculosis, other health matters, and conservation in PNG, 1952-1991, Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1182.)

**Letter from E. Massal, Member for Health Research Council, South Pacific Commission to Dr. John Gunther, 1949.** Letter describes a survey tour by the South Pacific Commission to the Eastern Pacific and notes that, “Tuberculosis is the most important problem, of which everybody is talking about.” (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

**Letter to John Gunther from Stanley Wigley, and Report of the Goroka Conference on Tuberculosis Control in the Highlands Region of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea.** (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

**STOP TB – DOTS Marasin Stopim TB!** Pamphlets about TB produced as part of the STOP TB campaign, produced by the Department of Health, Papua New Guinea. (On loan from Richard Eves, State, Society and Governance in Melanesia, RSPAS.)
MALARIA

“Malaria Control, A Review of the Disease Picture, A Study of Regional Health Cooperation, 1947”. Information about regional health cooperation in the Pacific dating from 1925, from the South Seas Commission Conference Papers, Canberra, 29 January 1947. (On loan from Mr. Alan Ives of Canberra.)

Malaria in the South-West Pacific, by Robert H. Black, South Pacific Commission, Technical Paper No.81, March 1955. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

Mosquito window-trap, Maprik, Papua New Guinea, 1959. (Photograph in Margaret & Terence Spencer collection documenting their work on malaria in Papua New Guinea, National Library of Australia, nla.pic-an22704081; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1146.)

Looking for anopheline mosquito larvae, Nissan Island, Papua New Guinea, 1960. (Photograph in Margaret & Terence Spencer collection documenting their work on malaria in Papua New Guinea, National Library of Australia, nla.pic-an22703991; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1146.)

With Jonathan Bbaloiloi, Adi'loi'i'nana (Joe) Ia'ia'mina & Hubert Murray Kirata. Photograph in Margaret & Terence Spencer collection relating to their work on malaria in Papua New Guinea, National Library of Australia, nla.pic-an22704263; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1146.)

Our vehicle (Landcruiser previously converted to ambulance), Bougainville Island, Papua New Guinea, April 1971. (Photograph in Margaret & Terence Spencer collection documenting their work on malaria in Papua New Guinea, National Library of Australia, nla.pic-an22704263; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1146.)
‘Malaria scandal’, *Inside New Guinea*, 28 April 1971. “Poor achievements in eradication of malaria in Australian administered Papua and New Guinea are chiefly due to sub-standard operation in the field and ineffective supervision”, Dr. Michael Colbourne & Mr. K.A.P. Stevenson, World Health Organisation. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

‘Malaria – the fight’s not over yet,’ 1975. Article by Keith Gosman. *Post-Courier*, Wednesday 7 May 1975. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

‘Malaria is a growing problem...and full scale spraying...is the only answer’, 1978. Cartoon by TRIS, *Post-Courier*, 6 January 1978. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)

‘Warning on malaria’, 1978. Article in the *Post-Courier*, Wednesday 4 January 1978. (Sir John Gunther Papers, Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 321; Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, PMB 1267.)
Caption reads – “Like some monster out of ‘Star Wars’, a mosquito prowls the asteroid-like surface of a human arm, and then plunges its needle-sharp proboscis to suck its victim’s blood. The photographs are by Swedish photographer, Lennart Nilsson, who used a scanning electron microscope to achieve these enormous magnifications. They won the Hasselblad Foundation prize of $25,000.”

(Donated by Dr. John Spurway to the Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University.)
**Malaria. A Colouring Book.** Colouring book produced by the PNG Department of Health, UNICEF, WHO and Rotary Against Malaria. (On loan from Richard Eves, State, Society and Governance in Melanesia, RSPAS.)

**Pasin bilong yusim na lukautim Moskito Net.** Pamphlet in Tok Pisin about how to use and look after your mosquito net, produced by the Department of Health, Papua New Guinea. (On loan from Richard Eves, State, Society and Governance in Melanesia, RSPAS.)

**AIDS**

Blood stream follies, Life Foundation, the AIDS Foundation of Hawaii, 1989. (Donated by Dr. John Ballard, RSPAS.)

A person with AIDS is just like You and Me. Poster, produced by the PNG National AIDS Council, supported by the Australian Government. (On loan from Richard Eves, State, Society and Governance in Melanesia, RSPAS.)
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McIntyre, Martha & Foale, Simon. Collection. Pacific Research Archives, Australian National University, ANUA 269.

National AIDS Archives Collection, Australian National University Archives Program, A0080.


The Pacific Research Archives at the Australian National University collects, preserves and provides access to unpublished and published research material from and about the Pacific Islands. The Archives is open to all researchers and supports the Pacific Studies teaching programs at the ANU. The collection includes, papers, photographs, audio-visual materials and digital images from companies, unions, organizations, and people including ANU researchers who have been involved in the Pacific Islands.

http://pacificarchives.anu.edu.au/

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