PAMBU NEWS

In line with a University-wide restructure, aimed at bringing research and teaching activities closer together, the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, was officially wound up at the end of 2009 and replaced by the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific.

Brij Lal, Chair of the PMB Management Committee, commented that “this restructure is designed to invigorate research on Asia and the Pacific: the existing functions of the various divisions of RSPAS have not altered significantly.”

Professor Lal added, “As far as the PMB is concerned, in the past the PMB Chair and two other members of the PMB management committee were nominees of the Director of RSPAS. They will now be nominees of the Dean of the College. All other functions of the PMB remain unchanged. As in the past, the PMB will continue to work closely with Pacific scholars in the College and in the ANU generally.”

Since the last Pambu newsletter was published the Bureau has undertaken two preservation microfilming projects in the Islands: to Vanuatu in July, at Port Vila, Lolowai and Luganville, working with Bishop Terry Brown and Bishop James Ligo on Anglican archives and microfilming missing issues of the Vanuatu Weekly Hebdomadaire held at the Vanuatu National Library; and to Rarotonga in September, working with Rod Dixon, Director of the USP Cook Islands Campus, microfilming papers of an American ethnologist, Donald Stanley Marshall.

Local PMB fieldwork has consisted of the following interstate trips:

- Sydney, 26 June – to microfilm additional Bougainville papers of Fr Kevin Kerley SM.
- Sydney, 14 August – to visit Stuart Inder, former editor PIM, to help sort and select personal papers for retention. Five cartons transferred to PMB, box listed.
• Sydney, 9 October – to microfilm and digitise documents of Pat Johnson relating to Ramale Prisoner of war camp, New Britain.
• Brisbane 12-18 October – to participate in the Joint Archivists’ conference and to borrow Marney Dunn’s 1960s Vanuatu slides for digitisation and the late Dr Basil Shaw’s research papers on Sir Michael Somare for microfilming.
• Sydney, 23-24 November – to microfilm additional Bougainville papers of Fr Kevin Kerley SM, and papers of Oscar Rondahl, a planter in New Guinea; and to Digitise photographs of Charles Rossiter Forwood who was associated with the Polynesian Company in Fiji.

In-house microfilming work has focused on editing microfilms for the annual distribution. 101 reels were distributed to the PMB Library members in January 2010. The following PMB microfilm titles were completed:


PMB Doc 519 AREA STUDY OF MADANG, Allied Geographical Section, South West Pacific Area, 1943, Vols.1 & 2. 1 reel. (Available for reference.)

PMB Doc 520 LOCALITY STUDY OF MADANG, Allied Geographical Section, South West Pacific Area, 1943. 1 reel. (Available for reference.)

Peter MacNicoll of Canberra lent the Bureau a manuscript journal of his grandfather, Alfred William Martin, a Tasmanian whaler, recounting his voyages in the Pacific in the 1850s and 1860s. The manuscript and a transcript made by Dr MacNicoll have been microfilmed at PMB 1342.

Work on arrangement and description of the Joe Lynch papers on constitutional development in the Pacific (PMB 1275) has been completed and selective microfilming of the Lynch papers has commenced (PMB 1275). The Bureau is continuing to work with the Pacific Research Archives (ANU Archives Program) on the arrangement and description of the papers of Dr Murray Groves.

The Bureau has received six additional collections of photographs for digitisation:

PMB Photo 26 GROVES, W.C. and Doris, PNG transparencies.
PMB Photo 27 WILSON, Robert Kent, PNG Photographs and slides.
PMB Photo 30 FORWOOD, Charles Rossiter (1826-1890), Fiji photographs and family records, 1849-1877.
PMB Photo 31 KERLEY, Fr Kevin SM, Bougainville photographs.

Papers of Sir Colin Allan, Dr Robert Norton and Hon. Jai Ram Reddy, which have been arranged, described and microfilmed by the Bureau, were transferred to the Pacific Research Archives in the ANU Archives Program for permanent retention in July. Professor Lal has begun transferring his research papers to the Bureau. Parts of them, documenting the Fiji Constitution Review Commission, 1995, which have already been microfilmed by the Bureau, have also been transferred to the Pacific Research Archives.

In November the Bureau received approximately 2,000, mainly ephemeral, reports, leaflets and publications on Pacific disaster risk management, c.1970s to the present, gathered by Joe Barr, a retired disaster-management consultant who lives in Canberra. The Bureau has been working with Jutta May, Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) Librarian, Suva, cataloguing the documents collected by Mr Barr, arranging for their digitisation and disposition.

Also in November Dr Colin Filer referred Charles Roche, Director of the Mineral Policy Institute (MPI) to the Bureau regarding the disposition of about 60 cartons of Ok Tedi Mines – Fly River Land Owners case files (1990s), which had been transferred to the Australian Conservation Foundation by Slater & Gordon (lawyers representing the land owners), and from the ACF to the MPI. Slater & Gordon are now reclaiming the case files. Lawyers may dispose of their case records five years after completion of the matter concerned. It would be reckless if Slater & Gordon were to dispose of the Ok Tedi case files without a careful assessment of their historical importance.

I gave a talk, “PAMBU: 40 years of archival collaboration in the Pacific Islands”, at the PARBICA, ARANZ, ASA Conference, Brisbane, 12-17 October 2009. (Copies of the paper are available from the Bureau on request.)

PMB Staffing

Kylie Moloney’s baby, Josephine, was born on 30 November. Kylie has taken parental leave from the Bureau from November and intends to return to work at the Bureau part-time from June 2010.

Mrs Sioana Faupula is working regularly at the PMB, on a casual basis for 3 hours a week, on
John Harris is being appointed as a College Visiting Fellow based at the Bureau. Mr Harris was a Patrol Officer in PNG in the 1950s and a Lecturer in language studies at the ANU, 1963-73, then Senior Lecturer at the University of Canberra until he retired in 1992. Mr Harris is working on the arrangement and description of Australian Broadcasting Commission, PNG Branch, archives collected by Geoffrey Luck.

I am in a “transition to retirement”, due in November 2011, working four days per week.

Ewan Maidment
PMB Executive Officer

NOTES ON A CATALOGUE OF MANGAIAN TAPA MASKS

Visiting the Cook Islands Library and Museum in Rarotonga in February last year, I came across an image of a conical brown Mangaian tapa-cloth mask known as a pare ‘eva. Observing my puzzlement, curator Jean Mason guessed at what I was already thinking: ‘Looks Papuan, doesn’t it?’

Certainly this particular example did look Melanesian and, as Polynesia has no strong mask-making traditions, it seemed to represent a major departure from the cultural mainstream. Jean pulled out some early twentieth-century photographs of a Mangaian performance troupe wearing tall white pare ‘eva, decorated with free-hand painted designs. Some of the performers brandished rather fierce korare (spears). ‘There’s supposed to be some connection between the masks and Mangaian missionaries who’d worked in the Papuan Gulf,’ she added.

Over the road at the University of the South Pacific, I asked campus Director and Mangaian specialist, Rod Dixon, about pare ‘eva. The information was sketchy. He suggested I write a chapter on them for USP’s forthcoming book, Art and Artefacts of the Cook Islands (working title). So began my odyssey into this quirky area of Cook Islands material culture.
I began searching for surviving pare 'eva as well as any matching 'eva costumes (which comprise a tapa tiputa [a poncho, sometimes stitched down the sides to form a short-sleeved shirt] worn with either matching pants or a pareu [wrap-around skirt]). With the assistance of Hilary Scothorn-Toi, a specialist in Pacific tapa, I was able to eliminate some museums from my inquiries and focus on those most likely to hold Mangaian objects. Curators the world over responded to my queries promptly and generously, demonstrating a high level of enthusiasm and commitment among Pacific specialists! The most unexpected find was Crispin Howarth’s (NGA) discovery of a pare 'eva at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. It was mislabelled as being from ‘Santa Cruz’, but is clearly dated as having been acquired in 1897 from a Lt Willis, revealing that it arrived on the Royal Naval gunboat HMS Goldfinch, mixed with a raft of Solomon Islands material.

By the end of the survey only 19 objects had come to light, demonstrating their rarity. The period in which they were accessioned, combined with their absence from earlier collections of Mangaian material culture (notably in the British Museum), indicates that these masks were made only between the mid-1890s and 1930. There are many things to be learned even from such a small sample of ‘survivors’. Although these masks are attributed to Mangaia in every scholarly text, some in the Auckland War Memorial Museum were collected on Rarotonga, and Markus Schindlebeck of the Museum für Völkerkunde Berlin, told me theirs are attributed to Aitutaki. By the end of the survey only 19 objects had come to light, demonstrating their rarity. The period in which they were accessioned, combined with their absence from earlier collections of Mangaian material culture (notably in the British Museum), indicates that these masks were made only between the mid-1890s and 1930. There are many things to be learned even from such a small sample of ‘survivors’. Although these masks are attributed to Mangaia in every scholarly text, some in the Auckland War Memorial Museum were collected on Rarotonga, and Markus Schindlebeck of the Museum für Völkerkunde Berlin, told me theirs are attributed to Aitutaki. This at least brings into question whether they were an exclusively Mangaian phenomena.

Rod Dixon already had some photographs of performance troupes in costume (c.1906), and during the study, more photographs were located. These included some taken on the same day as those shown to me by Rod, but now spread across several institutions. These photographs added substantially to the context of pare ‘eva illustrating costuming for performances of peu tupuna in which ancestral legends and stories were recounted. Backed by the photographs, an oral history document held in the Mangaian archives of USP, which describes a performance of this period, also contributed valuable contextual information, demonstrating that the ‘missionised’ Mangaians continued to celebrate their pre-Christian gods.

The photographs also clearly show that pare ‘eva were sometimes accompanied in performance by a second type of carved wooden mask. One of these was located in Dunedin Museum, along with the name katu tūpāpaku (loosely, ‘skull of a ghost’; tūpāpaku more eloquently translated as ‘one of the aronga te pō, “the company of the world of night or darkness”).

While I was unable to uncover direct evidence that mask-making on Mangaia constituted a cultural transference from the Papuan Gulf (which may well be buried somewhere in the records of the London Missionary Society), the circumstantial evidence is strong. German ethnographer Arthur Baessler first asserted this connection in 1899. To me, his account certainly has the feel of the superior German ethnographer revelling in the notion that once left unsupervised, the Cook Islander missionaries so trusted by the London Missionary Society to teach the Gospel, took such interest in Elema customs as to have ‘gone native’. Whatever the case, notable Mangaian missionary, Ruatoka, (right-hand man to Rev. James Chalmers) guided the LMS’s first contacts with the Papuans. Ruatoka’s long career saw him supervising mission stations in the absence of European missionaries, as well as selecting and placing new teachers in stations along the Gulf. Consequently, Cook Islander missionaries played a critical role in operating remote mission stations in the Gulf, particularly in the 1880s.

My book chapter for Art and Artefacts of the Cook Islands covers the etymology, construction materials and design, performance context, and the likely connections between pare ‘eva and katu tūpāpaku and masks of the Papuan Gulf (and possibly even the Torres Strait). However there was not sufficient room to include every mask and costume. What has emerged, as a bi-product of the study, is an informal catalogue of these materials. Hopefully its existence will assist future scholars to avoid a duplication of effort. As it is also possible that other pare ‘eva may unexpectedly show up, I hope this initial catalogue, which I will offer to PAMBU and USP’s Mangaian archives, functions as an open-ended document to which others might add.

Dr Jacqui Durrant
Pacific Artnotes Correspondent,
Art Monthly Australia,
February 2010
WORKSHOP REPORT
PARBICA Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit, Train the Trainers
Guideline, Port Moresby, PNG – 14-15 September 2009

Forty-seven participants from 23 PNG government agencies took part in the Workshop, the first of its kind in PNG. Participants included HR Managers, IT specialists, Records Officers/Managers and the officers of the Office of Libraries, Archives and Literacy.

The workshop facilitators were Adrian Cunningham, Director – Strategic Relations, National Archives of Australia and PARBICA Treasurer, and Mark Semmler, of the NAA Strategic Relations Office and Assistant PARBICA Treasurer. They were assisted by Jacob Hevelawa, Acting Director General, PNG Office of Libraries, Archives and Literacy; and Tukul Kaiku, Lecturer in Information & Communication Studies, University of Papua New Guinea. The workshop took place at the National Library, Waigani.

Opening the two-day workshop, Mr Rigo Lua, Chairman of the PNG Public Service Commission, said that PNG was privileged to have the important workshop and expressed his thanks to the PARBICA executive for choosing Port Moresby to host the workshop.

Mr Lua said that, at Independence in 1975, PNG adopted a large bureaucracy from the former Australian colonial administration. The bureaucracy did not have specific policies or procedures for the management of records and archives, leading to a lack of proper coordination, consistency and uniformity in relation to the creation, maintenance, storage and disposal of records across PNG government agencies.

He told the participants that the workshop was an ideal opportunity for PNG to assist with the fine tuning of these recordkeeping guidelines, and also a boon for our professional development, expanding the scope of our work.

Further, Mr Lua stated that a coordinated effort in policy development for the PNG Public Service has to be set in place to control mechanisms such as administrative arrangements and infrastructure to ensure a uniform recordkeeping system. He also stressed that a working committee must be established to oversee, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of records management, and the training and implementation of the toolkit. Key agencies of government must be involved in such a working committee.

The workshop was an eye-opening chance for the participants to share their experiences and establish an understanding of the role of recordkeeping in good governance.

The feedback sections, group discussion and presentations, where the participants expressed themselves, were the most interesting parts of the workshop. The knowledge the participants acquired from the workshop will enable them, as trainers, to deliver the PARBICA toolkit in their respective organisations/agencies, and will improve recordkeeping in the PNG Public Service.

Jacob Hevelawa officially closed the workshop on behalf of the PNG Acting Chief Secretary for Government, Manasupe Zurenouc. Mr Hevelawa thanked the facilitators and participants and reminded them that they play a vital role in recording the activities of PNG as a nation-state.

He also said that the workshop was the beginning of what should become a national program, where recordkeeping and records management will be integrated into the workings and framework of government and the public service.

Mr Hevelawa reported that the acting Chief Secretary for Government has requested that the government look at recordkeeping and records management as vital and critical aspects of government and administration and to integrate records management into the national strategic plan for 2010-2050.

Mr Hevelawa concluded by thanking the PARBICA executive, AusAID and NZ Aid for making funding available for the workshop, and the staff of the Office of Libraries, Archives and Literacy for their cooperation and assistance during the workshop.

Vicky Puipui
a/Senior Archivist
National Archives of Papua New Guinea

RECORD KEEPING IS A MAJOR PROBLEM


I REFER to the report “Poorly kept records not helping Govt” (The National, Sept 23). The chief secretary is right to say that. The heads of government departments and the chief secretary should come out with some programmes to develop a public record keeping system with advice from professional archivists.

There is an urgent need for records management directives to be developed and
introduced to all government departments so that the traditional registry operations are put in place…

This is important since the chief secretary has expressed the need to make plans for better management of records of the country. It is not only the records, but other data and historical sites, biographical data, etc, have been completely ignored and, thus, left to decay over the years. Remember, a nation without a history is a lost nation.

Unfortunately, records of all Government departments have not been transferred to the National Archives for permanent preservation since political independence, and as a result, some of these records have either been destroyed or are left to the termites… The departments have not been keeping records according to procedures… I am concerned with the records management programmes for Government departments and the role the National Archives has been doing over the last few years. The chief secretary is correct to say there is practically no record from Government departments at all.

The central registration and registry system was abolished when positions were abolished in the name of downsizing and multi-skilling. When this happened, the work was passed on to personal assistants, typists and secretaries who are often overworked and underpaid and are expected to look after files and records. Some departments have hired their drivers, security guards and tea boys to perform duties of filing clerks.

It is good PARBICA will introduce the train the trainers toolkit. I am sure that the Department of Education, which is responsible for the National Archives, will put aside some funds for a training programme for officers of the National Archives to go out and train officers in the entire country.

Our National Archives, which used to be one of the best in the Pacific Islands region, is slowly dying due to lack of support and funds.

Jacob Hevelawa is the only person committed to the National Archives while other archivists have left for greener pastures. There is no storage facility in the country for the National Archives to store the closed files. The repository of the National Archives is now full and it will not accept any more files as there is a lack of storage space.

Government departments will have to develop their own means for storage of closed files, either buy shipping containers or rent warehouse facilities. Lack of storage facilities has led to destruction of valuable records. Destruction of records will lead to misleading and mismanagement of files and records. This, unfortunately, has continued over the years since independence.

Lack of procedures and movements of records and files can lead to corruption and bribery. Officers must realise that these files can provide evidence of official transactions.

In the long run, the history of the departments and history of the nation are preserved in the archives as permanent records.

* * *

**2010 edition of the Blain Biographical Directory of early NZ, Melanesian, Polynesian Anglican Clergy**

THE 2010 edition of the Blain Biographical Directory of all Anglican clergy ordained before 1931 who were licensed to work in the ecclesiastical province of New Zealand (including dioceses of Melanesia and Polynesia) is now online on Project Canterbury at http://anglicanhistory.org.nz/blain_directory/.

It contains 1660 biographies. It includes entries on early missionary-ethnographers, such as Robert Codrington, Charles E. Fox and Walter Ivens; missionaries and native clergy of the Melanesian Mission (including early Loyalty Islanders); Maori clergy; major historical figures, such as Bishop G.A. Selwyn and Bishop J.C. Patteson; Melanesian Mission clergy who worked in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea (Rabaul, New Britain, mainland New Guinea) when it was a part of the Diocese of Melanesia, up to 1949; some eccentric Pacific figures, such as Thomas Eykyn, author of *Parts of the Pacific*; Reo Fortune's father, and, of course, colonial Anglican clergy in New Zealand, Fiji, Norfolk Island, Tonga, etc., As far as we know, it is complete, saints and sinners all. The new edition has picked up a few stragglers. I commend it as a basic online reference.

*Bishop Terry Brown*
Archivist, Church of Melanesia, Honiara
August 2009
After eight years’ work, The University of Auckland Library and the Polynesian Society have announced the completion of their project to digitise the first hundred years of back issues of the *Journal of the Polynesian Society*. Vols.1-100 (1892-1992) are now freely available at [http://www.jps.auckland.ac.nz/index.php](http://www.jps.auckland.ac.nz/index.php) as keyword-searchable texts with links to images of the original pages.

The 100 digitised volumes comprise over 3775 individual article-level sections, more than 40,000 individual pages and around 5000 photographs, drawings and maps.

*The Journal of the Polynesian Society* has been the world's premier academic journal for scholarly articles on the archaeology, anthropology, history and linguistics of the indigenous peoples of the Pacific Islands, including New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. Its many seminal articles chart the course of our growing understanding of the origins and development of human civilizations across this vast area.

The digitisation project began in 2002 with exploratory talks with the Polynesian Society. Judith Huntsman, the current editor of the JPS, supported the project from its inception. Rose Holley, the former Digital Services Librarian at the University of Auckland Library, designed specifications for outsourcing TEI mark-up. Brian Flaherty, Associate University Librarian, created the website. John Laurie, Digital Initiatives Librarian, assembled and edited the raw files and put them online.

The project is powered by b-engine rendering software, a local New Zealand product, developed by Tony Murrow. This produces the fast keyword-in-context search and browse capabilities which distinguish this project.

DataNZ of Auckland were contracted to do the scanning and TEI mark-up.

The project's completion was greatly assisted by funding received from the Pacific Rim Digital Library Alliance (PRDLA)

The University of Auckland Library is now exploring opportunities with the Polynesian Society to put subsequent volumes of the *Journal of the Polynesian Society* online in future.

*John Garraway, Manager Digital Services & Information Commons, The University of Auckland Library Te Tumu Herenga [http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz)*

Island Culture Archival Support was at the National Archives of Solomon Islands to perform basic conservation treatment upon one the archives’ most valuable collections, the British Solomon Islands Protectorate (BSIP). The work consisted of placing documents in acid-free folders or in archival encapsulation. Other treatments included dirt and dust removal, and identifying and treating poor quality paper applied to relevant documents where needed. Most important of all, training these techniques to Conservator, Kabini Sanga, was also provided. This was very significant as it is very difficult for NASI staff to find learning opportunities. Although the week was filled with delays and power-outages, our enthusiasm and patience were keys to making the best out of these delays.

One of these interruptions that we were confronted with right away was that the supplies to treat the B.S.I.P. collection did not arrive. Thus, plan “B” had to be put into place. This included writing two policies. The first was to draft a Disaster Management Plan. This is highly recommended for this archives, especially since it is situated in such a volatile environment, plus the archives currently does not have a plan in place. However, it will take a few drafts to finalize, and the Government Archivist along with the Conservator will need to revise it where appropriate. Nevertheless, the draft that was created during this week encompassed topics such as: Risk Assessment, Evacuation Procedures, Responder Roles, Network Response, Collection Priorities, Recovery Plans, Recovery Methods, and Resources. Some of the major concerns that still need to be decided and written into the plan are the location of first aid and emergency water, the evacuation meeting area, responder roles, the location of the response supplies container, priority collections, and an evacuation site for these priority collections. Eventually, the entire staff will need to be made aware of the plan, so that each member will know what to do to in the event of an emergency.

The second policy that was drafted and which a copy was given to the Government Archivist and the Conservator for revision and approval was a Preservation Policy. This is a document that is a plan of action for safekeeping records.

The supplies were received by the middle of the week. Anxiously, we then set work on preserving the B.S.I.P. collection. This will be an ongoing project that may take several months to
complete, as there are approximately 900 boxes to treat. The folders that house the items are torn, dirty, and acid laden, which is having a negative affect on the contained documents. The most significant aspect of this project is working with Mr Sanga and helping him identify the problems, as well as helping him decide as to which basic conservation treatment is best to be utilized. Funding is still needed to buy supplies.

If you are interested to help provide continued support, as well as look at pictures of this collection, please visit our website: http://www.islandarchives.org/

Brandon Oswald
San Diego

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REPORT ON PMB FIELDWORK IN VANUATU, 4-16 July 2009.

The aims of this fieldwork were: to work with Bishop Terry Brown, Church of Melanesia Archivist, and Bishop James Ligo, Bishop of Vanuatu, on identification, organisation and microfilming of Vanuatu Diocesan archives held at Lolowai in Ambai and at Luganville in Santo; and to microfilm a small number of issues of the Vanuatu Weekly Hebdomadaire held at the National Library of Vanuatu in Port Vila in order to complete the run for PMB Doc 487.

In addition to the missing issues of the Vanuatu Weekly Hebdomadaire the following 7 reels of microfilm were made:


PMB 1332  CHURCH OF MELANESIA, Diocese of Vanuatu, St Patrick’s Junior Secondary School, Banks Islands and Ambai, 1923-1986. 1 reel.


Vanuatu Cultural Centre, Port Vila, 6 July

With permission of M. Marcellin Abong, Director of the Vanuatu Cultural Centre, eight missing issues of the Vanuatu Weekly Hebdomadaire were microfilmed at the National Library of Vanuatu.

There was time for a conversation about archival matters with Mrs Naupa, June Norman, and Nellie, their casual assistant, together with Helen Gardener and Chris Waters of Deakin University. Mrs Norman is now Vanuatu National Librarian and Mrs Naupa is the National Archivist.

Mrs Naupa reported that the transfer of the Vanuatu National Archives to the Vanuatu Cultural Centre was complete. The old repository (the haus kranki) was occupied by the Vete Association in December 2008, then abandoned after a fight with the police. The building was a total mess. All the archives are now cleaned, dry and secure. However none of the archives’ catalogues have been located.

There is little chance that a new repository will be built in the immediate future. In the meantime a second container will be required to accommodate the archives.

The Supreme Court archives have also been transferred to the Cultural Centre. They were held in the Court’s strong room and had therefore escaped the Court House fire in June 2007. In June 2008 they were surveyed by two Archivists from the Territorial Archives of New Caledonia, Ingrid Utchaou and Roselyne Kromopawiro, who updated and revised Bruno Corre’s summary catalogue, Archives de la Cour Suprême de la République de Vanuatu (1994).

Mrs Naupa is concerned that important records at the Vanuatu Land Registry and State Law Office are in very poor condition.

Lolowai, Ambai, 8-11 July

At the Church of Melanesia Council of Bishops in Honiara in 2007 Bishop James Ligo expressed concern about the state of the Vanuatu Diocesan archives in Lolowai and Luganville and invited the PMB to survey them. In 2009 Terry Brown, recently retired Anglican Bishop of Malaita, was appointed Archivist for the Church of Melanesia, based in Honiara. He offered to accompany the PMB on the survey of the Vanuatu Diocesan archives.

Bishop Brown and I met at the airport in Vila and flew together in a Harbin aircraft to Longana airstrip in Ambai. We were given a lift to Lolowai where we met Rev. Simeon Targinago, the Senior Priest, and Rev. Judah Butu, the former Diocesan Education Officer, who were not expecting our visit. Over lunch they explained that most of the Diocesan records were transferred from Lolowai to Santo when the Diocesan HQ moved in 1980.

Using a table on the verandah of the Cooperative Society at Lolowai, that afternoon and the following day Bishop Brown and I surveyed, arranged and microfilmed records which Rev. Butu kept in the old Diocesan Education Office. The files consisted of education
administration papers from the late 1970s until the present and personal papers of Rev. Butu. Some of the papers document the struggle for independence in Vanuatu, including a file of the Trained Teachers’ Association on a teachers’ strike in 1979 leading up to independence. Other papers document the New Hebrides Cultural Association, the Vanuaaku Pati, and speeches by Rev. Butu and others. Some papers of Penama Provincial Council of Women and its predecessors, in very poor condition, were also microfilmed.

In addition, Mr Clemson, the Principal of St Patrick’s Secondary College, brought one box of College archives, including the College log books 1923-1946, 1963-1974, which were microfilmed on 10 July and on the morning of 11 July.

Rev. Butu was aware that the PMB had microfilmed Melanesian Mission records at Lolowai previously (Bob Langdon’s field trip in 1969) and he mentioned that part of the PMB microfilm had been used to retrieve land records.

**Luganville, Santo, 11-15 July**

Bishop Brown and I were met at the Santo Airport by Bishop James Ligo who took us to the old Diocesan administration offices at Sarataka, in Luganville.

The Diocesan Secretary, Mr George Salili, reported that, several years previously, some early Diocesan records in storage had been badly damaged and eventually had to be burnt. In 2007 Mr Salili had saved the more recent administrative records by having them packed in cartons.

There were 111 cartons of records in the old building in tumbled-down stacks. Many of the cartons were broken. Some damaged by rats and insects. There is mould in some of the paper though, by and large, the paper is dry.

Bishop Brown and I examined the contents of a number of the broken and unlabelled cartons. We found some series of Bishops’ and Diocesan Secretary’s files, a great deal of low-level financial records, and large amounts of loose paper. Among the loose papers we identified some early Diocesan land records, copies of Diocesan Synod and Council minutes, correspondence and other papers of Bishop Rawcliffe, and papers of the subsequent Bishops (Bp Harry Tevi, Bp Michael Tavao and Bp Huw Blessing Boe), together with issues of the Diocesan journal, *One Bread*, which was published during Bp Rawcliffe’s time.

There was no power at the old administration building until the final day of my visit. I began microfilming Bishop Rawcliffe’s papers in the hotel room on the evening of 13 July. After lunch on 14 July Mr Salili obtained a very long extension cord which allowed us to tap power from a distant part of the old administration building. With power connected, I was able to continue microfilming the Rawcliffe papers and early Diocesan land records through that afternoon and night.

The cartons were re-sealed, and in some cases replaced, top-numbered, listed, and stacked on makeshift pallets in a store room in the old administration building. Unexpectedly, Bishop Brown found some time to continue the survey after I left, opening and sorting a further 20 or 25 cartons, and locating more correspondence of Bishop Rawcliffe dating from the 1950s and some other records dating from as early as the 1930s.

The old administration building is likely to be demolished by late in 2010. Under the protection of Bishop Ligo and Mr Salili, the records will be secure for the time being, but not safe from damage by rodents, insects, water or fire. Bishop Brown and I agreed on the possibility of returning to complete the survey, arrangement and microfilming of the Diocesan archives in February or March 2010, which also suits Bishop Ligo.

I am very grateful to Bishop Terry Brown for his good company, good humour and practical collaboration on this fieldwork. I am also grateful to Bishop James Ligo for recognising the need to survey and protect the Vanuatu Diocesan records of the Church of Melanesia and for his hospitality in Santo.

Thanks too to Rev. Judah Butu and Father Simeon Targinago for their hospitality, interest and attention at Lolowai, to Mrs Losalyn Leodoro for supplying the power from her generator and to Ms Emma Tagaro for meals and tolerating our disruption at the Lolowai Cooperative.

The Principal of Torgil Training Centre, about a mile from Lolowai, kindly gave Bishop Brown and me permission to stay at the Training Centre’s guesthouse.

Thanks also to Mrs Anne Naupa and Mrs June Norman for their warm welcome at the Vanuatu National Library and Archives.

Ewan Maidment

*Pambu, February 2010*

*Ewan Maidment*

*August 2009.*
Report on PMB fieldwork in Rarotonga, 31 August-12 September 2009.

The aim of this fieldwork was to microfilm the Cook Islands research papers of Donald Stanley Marshall at the invitation Rod Dixon, Director of the Cook Islands Campus of the University of the South Pacific. There was also an opportunity to visit the Cook Islands National Library, the Cook Islands Library and Museum Society, the Cook Islands National Archives, and the Takamoa Theological College.

With Rod Dixon’s encouragement I gave a public “slide show” of photographs in an album documenting the Pacific Islands official tour of Lord Liverpool, Governor-General of New Zealand, in 1919 and distributed catalogues of PMB documentary resources on the Cook Islands.

Eleven reels of microfilm were exposed, producing the following PMB microfilm Series titles:

- PMB 1336 MARSHALL, Donald Stanley (1919-1905), Mangaian Census Materials, 1958. Reels 1-2. (Restricted access.)
- PMB Doc 518 TE KARERE KOIA OKI TE PEPA SOCIETY. With which is incorporated, Fugitive Papers, Edited in Mangaia, The London Missionary Society Press, Mangaia, South Pacific, Nos.4-16 &16, Sep 1898-Jan 1901. 1 reel. (Available for reference.)

This was the fourth PMB visit to Rarotonga during my time as Executive Officer; the previous fieldwork being carried out in 2001, 2002 and 2004. Staying at the Aitutaki Hostel, right next to the USP Centre, was not only convenient but also provided the best entertainment. About 100 Aitutakians arrived to prepare for Te Maeva Nui annual inter-island dance competition. The Hostel woke at 6.30am to the most beautiful custom hymn, sung in parts, prayers, a sermon and speeches, then leapt up to exercises, cooking, eating, washing, cleaning, making costumes and rehearsing the songs and dances accompanied by slit drums, base drum, conch shells and yells, like Tarvuvur in full eruption, and continuing off and on until more speeches and evening prayer at about midnight.

Mira Nan Marshall donated her father’s Cook Islands research materials to the USP Cook Islands Campus in 2008. Ms Marshall approved the microfilming but advised care when copying some of Marshall’s inward correspondence. A second larger record group of Marshall’s research materials, probably relating to French Polynesia, where Marshall worked in Ra’ivavae and Tikehau, has been donated to the Bishop Museum by Mira Marshall.

Don Marshall undertook 12 expeditions to Polynesia during the period 1951 to 2004, a number of them on behalf of the Peabody Museum, Salem, carrying out research work in Honolulu, Tahiti, Fiji, New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Samoa, the Austral and the Tuamotus. His field work in the Cook Islands focused on Mangaia.

Marshall was a professional photographer before World War II. He enlisted in the US Army in 1942 and was based in Panama where he developed an interest in the San Blas Cuna Indians and a lifelong passion for anthropology. After the War Marshall studied anthropology at Harvard and in 1951 was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to New Zealand, stopping at Honolulu for a few weeks with Sir Peter Buck who had studied and published a good deal on Mangaia. Marshall carried out fieldwork in Mangaia, including collecting artefacts for the Peabody Museum, in May 1952, February to May 1955, and November 1957 to June 1958. He was awarded a doctorate from Harvard University in 1956. Marshall returned to the Cook Islands in 1976 and 1989.

Marshall was editor of Frank Stimson’s, Songs and Tales of the Sea Kings: interpretations of the oral literature of Polynesia (1957); joint author with Frank Stimson of, Ra’ivavae: an expedition to the most fascinating and mysterious island in Polynesia (1961); joint author and editor of Human Sexual Behavior: variations in the ethnographic spectrum (1971), based on papers presented in 1965; and author of, “Too Much in Mangaia”, in Readings in Human Sexuality: contemporary perspectives, edited by Chad Morgan and Gayle Johnson (1980).

In 1962-1963 Marshall attended the US Army War College then joined the Army General Staff in Washington, serving two tours of duty in Vietnam, working on analyses of US involvement in the war and strategies for the future. He also served as deputy director of the Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT) task force at the Pentagon and...


The Don Marshall archive in Rarotonga is held in 47 archives boxes and 3 containers of negatives, in 4 four-drawer filing cabinets, in Rod Dixon’s room at the USP Centre. The bottom drawers of the filing cabinets have not been used as the USP Centre building is subject to flooding. The papers and photographs are loosely arranged, but Rod Dixon has compiled a detailed item list to which I contributed a little when working through the documents. The archive consists of:

- prints and negatives of Marshall’s Cook Islands photographs;
- journals of Marshall’s 1st-5th Polynesian expeditions (but not his expedition field notes),
- drafts of Marshall’s Cook Islands publications, including his unpublished paper, Descent, Relationship and Territorial Groups of Mangaia - Kith, Kin and Kindred on Mangaia,
- correspondence relating to Marshall’s Cook Islands fieldwork;
- research papers compiled during Marshall’s Cook Islands fieldwork, including his catalogue of fish and fauna on Mangaia, and materials on songs and music, bibliography, census and linguistics;
- one filing cabinet drawer of Cook Islands Maori (Mangaian) word cards (not microfilmed).

Published material held in the Marshall Papers includes:

- publications of the LMS Press on Mangaia, including Te Karere Otoa Oki Te Pepe Society, with which is incorporated, Fugitive Papers, Edited in Mangaia, Nos.4-16 &16, Sep 1898-Jan 1901, the latter microfilmed at PMB Doc 518;
- extensive collection of rare Cook Islands Maori dictionaries, word lists and grammars,
- including an annotated copy of Rev. Eastman’s, Rarotongan-English Dictionary, given to Marshall by Rev. Murphy, microfilmed at PMB 1338. (Another copy, held by Rev. Eastman in Dorset was microfilmed at PMB 478 in 1974. However we considered that the annotations in this volume would make it worthwhile microfilming as well.)
- a strong set of Cook Islands annual reports and legislation (not filmed);
- a good set of early papers by Ron Crocombe on land tenure in the Cook Islands.

Manuscripts, unpublished and rare printed materials were microfilmed in order of the listing, including, for many items, photographic prints where they were held with textual records. Additional selected items have yet to be microfilmed. Rod Dixon has already digitised a number of the photographic prints and plans to digitise the complete set of Marshall’s negatives in due course. He may call on the Bureau to collaborate on the digitisation.

Presentation, Beachcomber, Avarua, 3 Sep.

The “slide show” of photographs in the Lord Liverpool Album, 1919 (PMB 1281 / PMB Photo 11, lent to the Bureau for copying by Ewan Johnston) was advertised by the USP Centre in the Cook Islands News. The meeting was convened by Rod Dixon, assisted by Mahiriki Tangaroa, Beachcomber Contemporary Art Curator, and held in a new gallery at the Beachcomber in which an exhibition of Marshall’s Rarotonga and Mangaia photographs was on display. About 30 people attended, helping to identify sites and buildings in the photographs. A report on the meeting was published in the Cook Islands News on 8 Sep.

A draft Catalogue of Cook Islands Documents at the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, published for the ‘Are Marama Nui Project by the USP Cook Islands Campus, was distributed at the meeting.

We also distributed a handout, Cook Islands Photograph Collections listed in PMB Catalogue of South Seas Photograph Collections, and elsewhere.

Ewan Maidment
September 2009

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