



LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

10 February 2012

VOLUME: 05 - 12

LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

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(Updated Weekly)

The newsletter can be located at:
<http://www.lcci.org.pg/resources.html>

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Thank you

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

RABAUL QUEEN DISASTER

The MV Rabaul Queen sank in the early hours of Thursday 2nd February 2012. The LCCI has obtained a copy of the manifest, providing the names of the passengers who embarked on the vessel in Rabaul and Kimbe and we also have a copy of the surviving passengers, who are currently being cared for by relatives or accommodated by the Catholic Church or the Salvation Army. The LCCI has been providing a service to relatives who are trying to locate missing people from the vessel. If any of your staff needs information on whether there may be loved ones who remain missing, they can come to the Lae Chamber of Commerce to see if they can find the names on the Manifest.

A Public Notice appeared in today's newspapers, announcing a Preliminary Investigation into the MV Rabaul Queen, by the National Maritime Safety Authority. This notice advised that an investigation team will be in East New Britain commencing Monday 13th February 2012, to conduct interviews regarding the loss of the vessel. This investigation must extend not only to East New Britain but to the other two Provinces concerned in this disaster, Bougainville and West New Britain, as well as Morobe and then to all coastal Provinces.

We also note that a Commission of Inquiry has been set up by the Parliamentary Prime Minister O'Neill, headed by retired Judge Warwick Andrews, which will include an investigation into the NMSA as well. We commend the Prime Minister for this initiative, and hope that these two investigations do not clash. As the Prime Minister stated, it is extremely important that independent investigators assess the situation without any interference from Politicians or Senior bureaucrats who may have some vested interest.

We believe that the enquiries will reveal a number of serious shortfalls in the controls of the Coastal Passenger Shipping service not only from Rabaul but at all coastal Ports in the country. These results are likely to set the standards for the Coastal Passenger Industry for the future.

The Governors of East and West New Britain and the President for the Autonomous Bougainville Region, travelled to Lae this week where they visited the survivors and the relatives of missing passengers, to provide some comfort and their condolences. All three Provinces have provided substantial funds as assistance for the disaster. The three Islands leaders were joined by the Morobe Governor to meet the Parliamentary Prime Minister when he travelled to Lae especially to see the affected people from the ferry disaster. Mr. O'Neill has pledged K8 million to help out with the disaster.

The Salvation Army and Catholic Churches opened their doors to provide temporary accommodation for survivors, who could not be housed by relatives. The East New Britain people have set up a committee and have accommodated the East New Britain survivors at the Salvation Army Church under the control of Major Ogi Au.



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**Objectives
of the LCCI**

- To promote the business interests of the private sector;
- To further the economic development in Lae;
- To ensure the provision of services and utilities essential to such development;
- To provide a representative body for business people, which government can consult;
- To promote support or oppose legislation; or take any other measures to improve the business community;
- To provide a forum for discussion of private sector goals;
- To pool the strengths of business people so that together, they can accomplish tasks that each one alone cannot achieve;
- To promote the economic viability of the area, so those current businesses will grow and new ones will be developed locally;
- To provide business with a common voice.

RABAUL QUEEN FERRY DISASTER (CONT)

The Morobe Disaster Team under the Deputy Provincial Administrator Patilias Gamato have worked tirelessly to cater for all the needs of this disaster, which has included search and rescue, catering for the survivors needs, checking names of the survivors and matching them with the names on the manifest and establishing a list missing people. The Disaster centre has a team working on profiling each of the survivors, so that they can assess their needs and requirements.

Counselling has become a necessary service for the traumatised survivors and close relatives and is being provided by the Catholic Church and the Salvation Army. The East New Britain Governor said that he has also set up counselling facilities back in the Province, for those survivors who will be returning.

NUMBERS

The Manifested passengers on the ill-fated MV Rabaul Queen totals as follows:

	Adults	Student	Child	Additional	Total
Rabaul-Lae	130	69	29	6	234
Kimbe-Lae	103	26	16	0	145
				Total	379

Bougainville passengers are on the Rabaul manifest, as their Buka/Rabaul trip was deemed to have been completed when they reached Rabaul, and they had to pay for the Rabaul/Lae trip in Rabaul separately.

The list of survivors total's 243.

At the time of writing this some bodies have been located and have been taken to the morgue at Angau. As you can imagine identification is difficult and officials are relying on identification marks such as tattoos, ear-rings, rings, clothes etc. Survivors and relatives are being asked to provide such details, so when bodies are located, they can be identified easier.

ASSISTANCE TO SURVIVORS

Last week we had a great response to our appeal for clothing for the boat survivors, who had lost everything except the clothes that they were wearing, which were dishevelled. There were many individual donations, and PNG Customs Service donated a large amount of unclaimed used clothes which were transported to the Disaster Relief Centre by Express Freight Services. Laga Industries provided 100 cartons of bottled water and other goods.

Assistance is ongoing, although food is now the priority rather than clothes. With 100+ survivors in the care centres, general food stuff is important. Donations can be delivered directly to the Disaster Relief Centre which is between Angau Hospital and the Huon Gulf Motel.

APPEAL TO ALL EAST NEW BRITAIN PEOPLE LIVING IN LAE AND OTHER CENTRES

An account has been opened under the name EAST NEW BRITAIN DISASTER COORDINATING COMMITTEE ACCOUNT No. 1005768856 at the BSP Lae. These funds will be used to help the Committee and the Salvation Army to look after the survivors and their needs, which is mainly food at this moment.

For further information you can contact the following Committee members:

John Ilam – Chair	71792684
Levi ToViliran – Treasurer	71744728
Nelson Kiene – Deputy Chair	72273863



Visit the Lae International Hotel new website.

Book Online at www.laeinterhotel.com

For more information call us on phone 472 2000.

Status Update on Network Failures (Front and Back Routes)

Telikom advises that attempts to access Mt Yule and Mt Strong this morning failed again due to strong winds and cloudy conditions. It is suspected that a microwave antenna on Mt Strong facing Mt. Scratchly is off alignment because of the very strong winds. The option of walking to both sites had been considered but ruled out due to remoteness and harsh environmental conditions for staff to carry tools and food rations. Another possible option is to camp with chopper near the two sites and attempt to access site when there is no cloud cover but may be risky for the helicopter company to consider and could also be in breach of CAA rules.

Restoration Works To Date

- Some PSTN Voice traffic and some narrow band services have been re-routed from Lae to Port Moresby via Mt Hagen Domsat.
- Some banking services are also carried via the Mt Hagen Domsat bearer.
- ANZ Bank circuits were not affected as they are on VSAT
- Some BSP Banking circuits on VSAT
- Westpac Bank circuits should also be transferred to VSAT today tomorrow

PIPE-APNG2 Connection

- Commercial negotiations are in progress to connect the APNG2 and PIPE Networks in Sydney so that some voice and data traffic can be rerouted from Lae, Goroka and Mt Hagen to Madang.
- Timing of when connection can be established dependent on negotiations.

Further updates will provided if there is any change in status.

PNG RESOURCES

REPORTING ON PNG'S PETROLEUM & MINERAL INDUSTRY
ISSUE FOUR 2011

Reporting on PNG for the last **20 Years**. The latest edition of this highly sought after magazine is now available at the Lae Chamber of Commerce. Please arrange to collect your free copy by visiting the Chamber in the Professionals building in Fourth Street Lae, or book a copy from Wendie on telephone 4722340.



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COMPANY PROFILES

The Lae Chamber of Commerce advises that your company profile can be included in our Weekly News Update, at no charge to you. We encourage you to send the layout with the appropriate phrasing and any graphics or photos (as long as they do not take up big bytes).

This profile will not only reach our 250 Lae members but all Chambers around Papua New Guinea and other associated addressees.

THE HUMAN RESOURCE SEMINAR HAS BEEN CALLED OFF TO A DATE TO BE NOTIFIED

PNG POWER NOTICE

HILLSIDE GARDENS APARTMENTS
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- *Cable TV Facilities (Subscription with Toloc)
- *Entertainment Area, Home Theatre, & Conference Facilities
- *Intercom to Security Access
- *Telephone Facilities (Telikom & Digital)
- *24-Hour Security (G4S Security)
- *Electric Gate & Gallagher Security Fence
- *Solar Hot water with Electric Booster
- *Air Conditioning in Lounge /Bedrooms
- *Fire Suppression Units / Smoke Detectors
- *Back-up Power & Water Supply

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Contact: Ms. Lourrain Pokosi (Property Manager)
 Ms. Catherine Paigina (Accounts & Leases)
 Tel.No. +675 472 5419 Fax No. +675 472 5395
 Email: senagproperty@senagchicken.com.pg



PLANNED POWER INTERRUPTION IN LAE

PNG Power advises consumers that there will be power interruptions to allow workmen to conduct urgent installations and maintenance work on distribution poles and lines.

Date: **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11**
 Time: **8 AM - 12 PM**
 Areas Affected: **Nadzap, Wampar LLG, Erap to Mutzing & Tanam**

Date: **SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12**
 Time: **8 AM - 12 PM**
 Areas Affected: **6 Mile to Muya, Wau Bulolo Junction, Zenag & Buang**

Date: **SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19**
 Time: **9 AM - 12 PM**
 Areas Affected: **PNG Redi Mix, Pipe Makers, Panamex, NCS Freighters, China Town Shopping Centre, Bumbu Area & China Town Residential Area.**

PNG Power regrets any inconvenience caused to consumers.
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A FOCUS ON THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA RESOURCE SECTOR



The latest edition for January 2012 of this magazine is now on display at the Lae Chamber of Commerce. Read their report on the Lae Riots when you get your free copy of this January edition, which can be reserved by contacting Wendie on 472 2340 or by emailing us at lcci@global.net.pg

TRAINING COURSE

TAE40110 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment

This 5 day course is offered by the MTO Group PTY LTD in Cairns through its subsidiary MTO Training PNG LTD. It will be conducted in the next few weeks in Cairns at a cost of AUD\$1500.00. The course is over 5 days with a 2 day final after a break of two weeks which can be adjusted for PNG participants.

If you are interested please contact Ian McLeod at T: +61 (0)7 4033 0130 M: +61 (0)438 954 481 or email on: ian@industrytraining.org

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AUSTRALIA WEEK OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE A VAST RANGE OF UNIQUE EVENTS IN

PORT MORESBY
LAE
MADANG

READ ABOUT IT HERE --

OR CONTACT THE LCCI IF YOU WANT MORE INFORMATION

LAE PROGRAM

Australia Week 2012

Monday 5 to Sunday 11 March 2012

Festival Events Program

Monday 5 March

Official Launch

The Australian High Commission will officially launch Australia Week 2012 and our featured exhibition. The launch will be followed by a reception.

Venue: Chancery Foyer, Australian High Commission

Feature Exhibition

John Gould is an award-winning Australian artist, who, as a child with severe dyslexia, found a passion for visual arts. A trained artist, Gould has held twelve major exhibitions of sculpture and paintings and participated in thirty group exhibitions since 1978. His work has been collected by the ANU, the University of New England, Lord Alistair McAlpine (UK) and private art collectors worldwide.

Gould's work will be exhibited during Australia Week alongside the work of celebrated PNG artist Ratoos Gary. Gould and Gary have a Wollongong connection - Gould taught art at Wollongong Tafe, and Gary studied in Wollongong with famous Australian painter and sculptor, Bert Flugelman.

Gould will be selling his work (purchases made after exhibition). He has proposed that ten per cent of all sales be donated to a charity chosen by the Australian High Commission.

Venue: Australian High Commission foyer.

www.johngouldartist.com

www.pasifiknau.com/PNG_Contemporary_Art/PNG_Art/Pages/Ratoos.html

7:00 pm Australian Short Film Festival

The Australian High Commission will screen Flickerfest, a popular Australian short film festival. Students studying film at tertiary institutions in PNG will be encouraged to attend.

Venue: University of Papua New Guinea Main Lecture Theatre

Tuesday 6 March

3:00 pm Austrade - Australia PNG Business Council Function

Guest speaker: TBC

Venue: Australian High Commission Chancery Foyer

Wednesday 7 March

Community Concert

Australia Week artists will perform in front of thousands of locals at Tubuseria Village in Central Province. This is an opportunity for the artists to engage with members of the public unable to attend ticketed events.

Venues: Tubuseria Village

Australian Defence Force Golf Day

The Australia Defence Force will host a Golf Day at the Port Moresby Golf Club.

3:00 pm Austrade - Australia PNG Business Council Function

A repeat of the Austrade - APNGBC Function in Lae.

Venue: Lae International Hotel

7:00 pm Restless Dance Theatre

Restless Dance Theatre is Australia's leading dance company working with young disabled and non disabled people to create dance theatre and run workshop programs. Restless Dance Theatre is a place where dance is used as a mode of expression which allows people to speak eloquently to everyone. Restless Dance Theatre is an integrated dance company where the art is made by young people for a diverse audience: <http://restlessdance.org/>. During Australia Week, Restless Dance Theatre will perform and participate in workshops.

Restless will also participate in workshops and present for schools on Thursday 8 March.

Venue: University of Papua New Guinea Main Lecture Theatre

Thursday 8 March

7:00 am International Women's Day Breakfast

To celebrate International Women's Day, the Australian High Commission and the Business and Professional Women's Group will once again jointly host a breakfast for business and community leaders, with speeches by women in leadership roles in PNG.

Venue: Crowne Plaza Ballroom

Festival Events Program (Cont)

7:00 pm AUSTRALIA WEEK 2012 LIVE Concert

The Australian High Commission will host a fabulous mix of Australian and Papua New Guinean artists to Port Moresby to perform in our Australia Week Live Concert. Artists will include:

The Red Eyes is a core group of seven multi-instrumentalist musicians that deliver an explosive live show combining masterful beats and shake the house dub rhythms with heartfelt lyrics that offer a unique spin on the broad reggae genre. The band is led on stage by enigmatic front man El Witeri (2011 APRA Songwriter Award Finalist). Recent release *Red Army* received critical acclaim including a nomination for Best Blues & Roots Album at the 2010 Australian Independent Record Label Awards and Album of the Week on PBS FM and Radio Australia.

Busby Marou is an Australian rock duo originally from Rockhampton in Queensland. The duo are characterised by their melodic guitar riffs and meaningful lyrics. The band primarily consists of Thomas Busby and Jeremy Marou, however several other musicians perform with the duo in concert. Jeremy is of Torres Strait Islander heritage, and both performers come from musical families. In 2009, the duo became one of five successful applicants for 'Breakthrough' - A Federal Government initiative supporting emerging indigenous contemporary musicians. The award assisted in the production of the band's debut, in June 2011, a record which includes their first hit single "Biding My Time". In 2010 they won the Indigenous Award at Brisbane's Q Song Awards and took out a Deadly for Most Promising New Talent in Music.

Richard Mogu hails from Amazon Bay, Milne Bay province on the south coast of Papua New Guinea and now resides in Port Moresby. Mogu has been a feature musician in PNG for many years, as a solo artists and session musician excelling in both traditional and contemporary style. Mogu is a multi instrumentalist. Whilst bass is his feature instrument he is also adept at bamboo flutes, garamut drumming, guitars and drums. Now through his relationship with Wantok Musik, he has released his debut solo album. Produced by Airi Ingram, Inagwe is an astonishing mix of contemporary and traditional PNG sounds. Mogu has created something distinctive and is part of the new sound of PNG.

Telek is a band, a man and, in some parts of the world, a legend. George Mamua Telek, or Telek as he is known to his legion of fans in PNG, has long been at the forefront of the local music scene. Telek's songs and his haunting voice, traverse many musical styles perfectly capturing the spirit of the proud cultural heritage of the Tolai people. Songs of the "midal" (magic charms) and "malira" (love magic) draw on Tolai culture blending contemporary grooves with Melanesian rhythms, enriched with textured environmental sounds.

Venue: Gold Club, Lamana Hotel

Friday 9 March

12:00 pm Australia Week Luncheon - 'Raising the profile of PNG in Australia'

Guest Speaker: Parliamentary Secretary Richard Marles MP

Venue: Grand Papua Hotel

The event will include the awarding of prizes for an essay competition for Port Moresby Year 11 High School students.

6:30 pm Sponsor Dinner

A thank you reception for sponsors hosted by the High Commissioner at Bacchus Restaurant with guest Australian chef Andrew Fielke.

Venue: Bacchus Restaurant, Airways Hotel

07:00 pm Australian Movie Night - 'Bran Nui Dae'

Venue: Madang

Saturday 10 March

10:00 am Family Day

The Australian High Commission will host a Family Day for AIDS orphans in conjunction with the Friends Foundation.

Venue: Australian High Commission grounds

2:00 pm 'A Day of AFL'

Curtain-raiser match between Papua New Guinean national and expatriate teams, followed by the main event: PNG Mossies v PNG Youth Team. Visiting AFL stars to play and coach.

North v South - PNG Women's League

Super Clinic (AUSKick) - 5 to 12 yr olds

Old Boys Game - PNG v Australia

AFL PNG Academy v Emerging Mosquitos (main game - excellent standard of football)

Venue: Amini Park (free entry)

Sunday 11 March

10:00 am 'Cricket: Battle of the Nations'

'Battle of the Nations' cricket tournament, supported by Cricket PNG.

Venue: Amini Park (free entry)

Throughout the week

The Australian High Commission will partner with Netball Australia and PNG Netball to bring coaches and players to PNG to conduct clinics.