



Armi Nius

NEWSLETTER OF THE PIB-NGIB-HQ-PIR ASSOCIATION

4/2024

Editorial



Welcome to the final edition of Armi Nius for 2024.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to and read the newsletter during the year. You are part of a special team of people who are striving to keep alive one of the most important stories in Australia's history: the bravery, resilience, sacrifice and commitment of those who took part in the defence of Australia and Papua New Guinea during the Second World War.

It is an 'against the odds' story of people, many of them not yet out of their teens, who not only prevailed in the face of a formidable enemy and a brutal natural environment, but also poor, even unsupportive, decisions and actions by generals and politicians. Without their efforts and sacrifices, today's Australia and Papua New Guinea would be very different places, and we would be different people.

The Anzac story is now embedded in Australia's culture. The Papua New Guinea story is equally important and needs to be given comparable status. It was young people who picked up the Anzac story when it appeared destined to be lost in the 1960s and 70s. In the 1980s they began what is now the annual pilgrimage to Gallipoli on Anzac Day, and that place is now almost sacred ground to Australians.

Is there a place in PNG that could warrant similar recognition of the campaign that has gifted us the Australia and Papua New Guinea of today? Where young and old Australians and Papua New Guineans could gather in a pilgrimage? A battle ground? A Coastwatcher's site? A village? A burial place? A memorial?

If there is, could it touch the hearts of young people the way the Anzac story did back in the 1980s? If we can reach our young people with this story, perhaps it can survive and take its place among the defining artefacts in Australia's culture.

The Kokoda, Milne Bay and other PNG campaigns had a greater direct impact on the future of Australia than did the Anzac campaign. The story must continue to be told, and this newsletter with your support, is our small contribution to that important mission.

Norm Hunter, Ian Ogston, Steve Beveridge (Editors)

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Remembrance Day

Perth

On Monday 11 November 2024, more than 500 people gathered at the Flame of Remembrance in Kings Park & Botanic Garden for a special commemorative service to honour those who have died while serving in conflicts and peace-keeping operations.



Ceremony at the Flame of Remembrance, Kings Park, Perth

(Photo courtesy of *Sub-Branch Signal*, RSL WA)

Special guests included The Hon Chris Dawson AC APM, Governor of WA and The Hon Roger Cook MLA, Premier of WA.

RSL WA CEO Stephen Barton said the service was an opportunity to pause and reflect on the sacrifice of Australian service personnel in war and conflict.

“It is a fundamental part of our national story and helps define us as a nation. We are also reminded that similar services were held across the Commonwealth and in Allied nations, reminding us of the deep and enduring bonds of common sacrifice and shared endeavours,” he said.

The service commenced with a welcome of the official party, *In Flanders Field* recited by Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School and a Remembrance Day Address by Hon Roger Cook.

RSL WA Chaplain Barrie Yesberg delivered a *Prayer of Remembrance* and blessing of the wreaths, followed by the Wreath Laying Ceremony.



RSL WA State President Duncan Anderson recited *The Ode*, and Bugler CPL Tricia O'Connor sounded the *Last Post*, followed by a minute of silence at 11:00 am, a Fly Past and *The Rouse*.

RSL WA extends thanks to all attendees, including special guests, veterans, current serving ADF members and family members.

Lest we forget

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Brisbane

A number of Association Members and partners attended the 2024 Queensland State Remembrance Day ceremony which took place around the Shrine of Remembrance from 10.15 am at the Ann Street site of ANZAC Square.

Remembrance Day marks the anniversary of the World War I Armistice and is now the traditional time to honour those who have served, died or suffered in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.



As a part of the ceremony, a wreath was laid by Patron Major (ret'd) Don Graham on behalf of all Association members. Don Graham was a member of the invited party. The Governor of Queensland,



Dr Jeanette Young and the RSL Queensland President Major-General (ret'd) Stephen Day spoke, high school student Sophie Robinson (2024 Premier's Anzac Prize recipient) offered a reflection, and fellow awardee Michelle Pipe recited *In Flanders Fields*. The Australian Army Band Brisbane provided music as wreaths were laid. The ceremony concluded with a prayer and the National Anthem.

Immediately following the ceremony, in keeping with a now traditional ritual, the group moved to the Memorial Galleries below the Shrine, where the Association President, Greg Ivey, placed a poppy on the PIB and NGIB memorial plaque (right). The group then met for lunch and camaraderie in the dining room of the Grand Central Hotel opposite the Shrine.



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Townsville

Colonel Boniface Aruma who is the first PIR officer to be 2nd in charge of an Australian Brigade (3rd based in Townsville) was the keynote speaker at the Remembrance Day Service held in ANZAC Park on the Strand. The parade was attended by members of the public, veterans associations, school groups, dignitaries and representatives from council and parliament.

Also in attendance was Roy "Duchy" Hislop, 94, who has been attending for nearly 40 years. Remembrance Day in the Garrison City is preceded by one to two weeks of Remembrance Day badge selling by the RSL and veteran associations to raise money to provide services to veterans.

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What are we remembering on Remembrance Day?



The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of the year is more than an anniversary. The editors asked a number of Association members to respond to this question:

'What is the deep meaning of Remembrance Day for today's Australians?'

The responses:

Remember that war is hell and that almost 100 million people died as a result of the First and Second World Wars alone. Understand that international diplomacy is essential and must be fostered. Appreciate that the (imperfect) United Nations organisation is our last hope for a safer world. Reflect on the toll that war imposes on innocent families. Support the military survivors who suffered in defending Australia's interest. (Greg Ivey)

In the 1960s, American folk singer Pete Seeger wrote and sang a gently-worded anti-war song with a powerful, timeless message. At the end of each verse he asked the question ... 'When will they ever learn?'



Remembrance Day causes us to pause on one day each year, reflect on the horror of war, and express our gratitude and sadness for all who have experienced that horror.

Looking around the world at 11.00am on the 11th day of November, 2024, it's clear that even within our own country, there are those who still haven't learned.

Sixty years on from when folk singers like Joan Baez, Peter Paul and Mary and The Kingston Trio began singing 'Where Have All the Flowers Gone?', Pete Seeger's question remains unanswered. Remembrance Day reminds us that we must keep alive the hope that eventually we'll learn enough to find an answer. (Norm Hunter)

One of my most poignant experiences was a visit to Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium a couple of days after Anzac Day in 2011. Most interested and patriotic Australians would be aware of the nightly Last Post service conducted by the local Fire Service personnel.

It is a most moving service, and looking at the names on the countless panels makes you realize the huge sacrifices thousands made in World War 1. Seeing relatives' names on the panels was of special importance to our family.

Despite the visit being close to Anzac Day, attending this ceremony at any time has a huge impact on visitors from around the world. I am convinced it is reinforced on the 11th of November every year, being the anniversary of the World War 1 Armistice in 1918. (Graeme Johnson, WA Rep.)

The original meaning was to celebrate the armistice of World War I. For many years, especially in industry, it was as highly regarded as Anzac Day. I suspect that's changed over the years.

The Anzac Day march has become an integral part of our calendar. Many of us march with our grandchildren. I suspect Remembrance Day has suffered as a consequence.

For me personally, I do pause and remember at 11 am each November. However, there is not the same level of thought or actions which accompany Anzac Day.

Is it because the actual event celebrated is not as "powerful" as a stuffed-up landing on a cove in Turkey? It's nearly the same point in time, but it doesn't seem to get the same level of interest or support?

So what does Remembrance Day mean to me?

It marks the cessation of a war which was supposed to be the last one. It was called 'The Great War' because the loss of life suffered by both sides was so horrific. There were not supposed to be any more wars. As we know, that was not the case. However, the event of Armistice Day 1918, more recently referred to as Remembrance Day is a poignant reminder of the lives lost during war, not only in World War I, but in World War II and the numerous other battles fought over the years.

Probably the biggest difference between ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day is the fact that ANZAC Day has been commemorated since 1916, but Remembrance Day in Australia was not officially declared until November 1997. From its initial focus, it has become a time to remember all those who died or suffered in war for Australia's causes.

(Steve Beveridge, Vice President)

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War correspondent Leslie James Fitz-Henry's typewriter donated to Qld State Library

The following story is about a typewriter and a medal, from a *Courier-Mail* war correspondent, that have been donated to the State Library of Queensland's Collection.



The typewriter was used by war correspondent Leslie James Fitz-Henry in Papua New Guinea during World War II. His family also donated a medal he received after being awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Service Ribbon.

Left: Leslie James Fitz-Henry using his typewriter in PNG during WWII.

(Picture Queensland State Library)

Mrs Hamilton said: "It's just lovely around Remembrance Day to highlight different stories of Queenslanders experiences in wartime. So we just thought it would be interesting to focus on someone who did a different job, other than a soldiering job, but an equally important one. War correspondents are so vital, because they go into dangerous places and report what they see."

"The typewriter is an interesting and informative object in the collection. Most of what we collect is paper-based material, but sometimes we collect objects if they really provide context to the story," Mrs Hamilton said.

Mrs Hamilton explained that the typewriter was integral to Leslie's work as a war correspondent and went into as many war zones as he did. She continued: "So as an object, it's really got a story to tell, and we decided to accept it as part of the donation."

(Adapted from a *Courier-Mail* article by Andreas Nicola, 11 November 2024)

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WA Poppy Appeal 1 November 2024

RSL WA's 2024 Poppy Appeal began on Friday 1 November, throughout WA.

Our dedicated members, Sub-Branches, volunteers, RSL WA staff and Defence Force personnel, along with local businesses and community groups, were out in the community and at many of Perth's train stations to raise funds to support our veterans in need.

The Perth CBD's streets were bustling with volunteers accepting donations and offering poppies and merchandise, and the Poppy Ladies did a wonderful job at yet another beautiful poppy display in London Court.



It was a fantastic and rewarding day raising funds to support our veterans. The Poppy Appeal is one of RSL WA's largest annual fundraising events, both locally and

across the State, with the funds raised

going directly to providing support to veterans and their families who may be facing an array of challenges resulting from their service for our country.

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What is the deep essence of the Kokoda story for today's Australians?

It is relatively easy to write about the essence of Kokoda from the perspective of the battle itself. But while actions in which troops prevail against all odds may make for engrossing reading, the deeper questions of why it had to be that way remain to be answered. For that reason, the deep essence of the Kokoda story lies in the political machinations and cost-cutting that handicapped the Australian and Papuan troops who ended up achieving the impossible against all odds.

At the outset, Australia's forces on the Kokoda Trail could not match the numbers or weapons of the Japanese. The 39th Battalion did not receive Bren guns until well after the fighting had commenced and the PIB had no machine guns until much later. Before the fighting began, the 39th had their mortars taken from them on the grounds they could not be used in the jungle. But they were expected to face Japanese using mortars. The soldiers were severely handicapped by these decisions. The 7th Division became available before the situation at Kokoda deteriorated, but were held in Australia as insurance against a Japanese invasion which, by that time, could never happen.

Such things bring together the travesties of decision-making, from the inability to assess a threat and meet it a critical point, to the reluctance – in many instances – of senior officers to contradict their superiors and politicians and fight for what is needed. This means that the troops on the ground end up struggling in a situation not of their making.

So it was with Kokoda. When we try to get our heads around what the poor decision making meant for those who fought and died in the jungles of Kokoda, we need to remember who put those soldiers there with scant resources. Culpability begins far up the chain where the original decisions are made on what weapons and other supplies are needed to equip troops for a looming conflict. Closer to the front, once the battle begins, other decisions may be made by senior officers, remote from the front, who do not fully understand the battle conditions.

Today's Australians need to understand that the Kokoda story is riddled with examples of poor high-level planning and decision making. But the soldier in the jungle just had to get on with the job, with no time to reflect on that.

(Peter Jesser, Association History Officer)

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Laurie's War Medals replaced



War Veteran, Lance Sergeant Laurie Siegle is an original member of the NGIB (New Guinea Infantry Battalions) and he served from 1943 until discharge in 1946. Laurie, aged 99, has been participating in Commemoration Services and Association events for several years, including cutting the NGIB 80th Anniversary Cake at our 2024 AGM. In recent times, he has wanted to wear his War Medals on such occasions. His original Medals went missing during a marital break-up so he asked for help lately to obtain replacement medals.

Left: Laurie Siegle and medals with Greg Ivey at Caloundra

Laurie's sons researched his Army Records to reveal his medal entitlements. Greg Ivey assisted by consulting a local Medal Dealer who was able to confirm the entitlement and source the medals which were then Swing-mounted at a very fair price. Laurie can now be recognised at Commemoration Services at his local Caloundra RSL Club on Remembrance Day.

(Laurie is one of our War Veterans profiled under "Membership" on our website www.soldierspng.com)

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Book Review: Jan McLeod, *Shadows on the Track: Australia's Medical War in Papua 1942-1943*, Big Sky Publishing, 2019, hardcover, 396 pages (also available on Kindle)

Jan McLeod is an historian and researcher at the University of Newcastle. Jan's academic interests in critically examining the history of Australian military medicine has been inspired by a personal connection to the topic. Her Honours thesis considered popular representations of the Papuan campaign and an examination of her great-uncles who served with the 2/4th Australian Field Ambulance, 7th Division, AIF (1940-1945). Jan's Doctoral thesis expanded on this research by critically examining the preparedness, planning, execution and effectiveness of the Australia Army's medical campaign in Papua.

This book provides insights into the political machinations, changing priorities, ineffective leadership, poor planning, and logistical difficulties of the medical treatment of the 20,000 soldiers killed or wounded, and almost 30,000 that suffered from illness and disease on the Kokoda Track, Northern Beachheads, and Milne Bay battles.

There were many dilemmas for the medical staff on the Kokoda Track. The initial planning was based on moving casualties forward for treatment and evacuation. The subsequent retreat caused massive logistical problems. Carriers were pushed to the point of exhaustion. Each stretcher case required 8 carriers. The 42 stretcher cases at Myola on 31st August necessitated the availability of 336 Papuan carriers. Abdominal wounds were a virtual death sentence along the Track – very few, if any, survived. On occasions crushed morphine tablets were administered intravenously.

Hygiene and disease prevention and suppression was another challenge for the medical units. The supply of quinine from Java had been compromised. Both policy and logistic decisions and realities exposed troops and support staff to the greatest cause of illness – malaria.

On leaving PNG the man who led the 2/14th Field Ambulance, Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Dobson, reflected on the medical campaign in Papua and those who did not return to Australia with their mates:

It was only natural on sighting Australia once again, that our thoughts should turn to those members of the unit no longer in our midst. We recalled the nightmare journey across the Owen Stanley Range ... most of all we remembered that dreadful day at Soputa on 27th November 1942, the utterly helpless feeling we had as Japs dive-bombed and strafed the Unit personnel and the patients who were under our care ...we felt rather proud that the occasion had not found us wanting.

In the lead-up to that bombing, on 25th November an Australian Jeep travelling on the road that ran along the perimeter of the MDS (Main Dressing Station) parked a 25-pounder gun in the grounds of the medical post while Japanese reconnaissance aircraft were overhead. McLeod describes the subsequent Web Inquiry into possible war crimes.

There are many official unit and personal reports of what happened at Soputa but the one that stands out was written by a 2/4th Field Ambulance nursing orderly not bound by military formalities that stripped emotion from official reports. The personal diaries of Bill and Nick Kennedy, great-uncles of the author Jan McLeod, stimulated her research into and publication about the Australian Field Ambulance units in PNG. Nick's words provide a raw and more personal account:

The 27th November is a black day for 2/4th, we come under heavy machine gun fire, and aerial bombardment, 35 were killed and 70 wounded. The CO of our company is killed, Major Vickery, also Major McDonald. There is not much left here – dead, mangled bodies, blood, guts and mud. This is a day that none of the 2/4th will forget, and some great boys have paid the supreme sacrifice here.

A sketch drawn by Nick Kennedy many years after the attack showed the layout of the MDS, the areas where the bombs landed, the location of the 2/4th Field Ambulance personnel when killed, and the original Soputa cemetery with 50 crosses contained within its perimeter. The names of the seven men from Kennedy's unit who were killed and the horrific wounds that caused their deaths are graphically noted: "disembowelled ... legs blown off at waist ... face blown off ... head blown off". Bill Kennedy, and Papuan assistants, are attributed, by Nick, as "burying most of our dead. It was after midnight before the last dead is covered in".

Both Nick and Bill survived the attack and continued to care for casualties at Soputa 2.

Christmas Day 1942, waiting near the Popondetta airstrip with his fellow 2/4th Field Ambulance personnel, Private Nick Kennedy finally left the fighting behind. By January the Kennedy brothers were both sick and weak after contracting malignant tertian malaria. No one wanted to report sick for fear of being sent to hospital and miss the boat to Australia. Bill Kennedy had spent a few days as a patient in Soputa 2 MDS and Nick was treated "in lines" at Donadabu.

This book questions the cost of victory. Her great-uncle, Private Nick Kennedy, was a nursing orderly at Soputa and witnessed the cost of failures first-hand. One wonders why all this strife should be. These men in the prime of life "cut down like flowers ... There are a few mounds here now with little wooden crosses over them ... their troubles are over, and a nice and better world awaits them."

McLeod concludes with the hope that she has helped to shape the one-dimensional myth of "Kokoda" into a more complex and multi-dimensional narrative of the entire Papuan campaign – one that puts flesh on the bones of heroes, angels, soldiers and men. I think she has achieved that, and I highly recommend her book to all Kokoda associations.

(Jay Hooper, son of Kokoda Track veteran, the late Lt Alan E. Hooper, PIB & ANGAU)

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The Coastwatchers

Australian Coastwatchers with their indigenous assistants played a vital role in the **New Guinea Campaigns** (& the Solomon Islands Campaign) during the Second World War.

An e-petition has been launched, calling on **Brisbane City Council** to support a small Coastwatcher memorial in the city. Submissions closed on Remembrance Day.

This petition is called *Australian WWII Coastwatchers deserve a Mainland Tribute in 2024*, and reads:

Residents draw the attention of the Lord Mayor and fellow Councillors to the fact there is no Australian Mainland monument to the Coastwatchers. Brisbane was home to the Coastwatchers Headquarters during the latter half of World War II. Recognition of their amazing achievements is long overdue.

Your petitioners would like to make the observation that the Brisbane River was host to two key elements of support for the Coastwatchers of WWII, these being the submarine base at Newstead and the Flying Boat base at Murarrie.

Your petitioners would like to request a Memorial Place be situated in Newstead Terrace Park, which is midway between these two Coastwatchers support elements.

The memorial place would be known as the WWII Coastwatchers Place. The area required would need to be sufficiently large for a suitable memorial or statue to be erected in the fullness of time. As such it would be a notable addition to narrative of Brisbane's role in WWII through the work of the Coastwatchers and their leader Commander Eric Feldt.

This place would be the first memorial on Australian shores recognising the vital role the Coastwatchers played in the War in the Pacific. The Coastwatchers made immeasurable contributions to the Allies' success in the War in the Pacific through their spying on the enemy planes, ships, and troops. Forewarned is forearmed. Often forced to hide in the steamy, muddy, disease-ridden jungles of Papua and New Guinea and the Solomon Islands they sent out their vital messages by tele-radio so that Allied planes could be ready in prime position in the air rather than prime targets stationed on the ground.

Fleet Admirable William "Bull" Halsey said... "The Coastwatchers saved Guadalcanal and Guadalcanal saved the South Pacific". The Coastwatchers also rescued over a thousand people including future United States President John F. Kennedy.

Your petitioners point out Newstead Terrace Park is the home of the Rakuyo Maru Memorial and the site of the old Newstead Wharves where the USAT Pensacola and USAT Goucher Victory were berthed. It is the home for a

proposed place to be called USAT Goucher Victory Place. It is home for a proposed National WWII Crossing the Bar Grove a small grove of trees in honour of WWII veterans. These tributes would form a small but key part of the proposed and hoped-for National WWII Veterans Riverwalk, running from Pensacola Place to the Submariners Heritage Trail Walk.

The Brisbane City Council has ruled out Newstead Park as a venue, but has offered its support for the concept and suggested a number of possible alternative sites.

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Tales from Vanimo 1961

(From the late Major General 'Hori' Howard, whose sense of humour was legendary)

This mission story was told to me back in the 60s: A new priest was sent to a large village which was about two days walk from Vanimo, to establish a small Mission. He was brand new to PNG, and was welcomed by the villagers who had already built him a house. But he arrived with only a small number of carriers who were carrying mainly food and was expecting a much larger number with all his needs for several months a few days later.

They duly arrived but when they reached a fast-flowing river which was on the coastal side of the village they told him that they couldn't cross. They also advised him that they

had only brought with them enough food for the couple of days it would take them to go back to the coast.

Being a priest, he told them that they could feed themselves from the food which had been provided for him. They were delighted to do so, but after the best part of a week they were still enjoying his food and there was no sign of the river falling. By now being very frustrated and somewhat suspicious, he tried to walk across the river himself. To his surprise it was only knee deep but being muddy this could not be seen from the surface. He was very angry but quickly forgave the carriers. However, he was quite short of food, so he sent one of the carriers back to Vanimo with a note which explained what had happened.

The Catholics owned a light aircraft which was based in Wewak and flown by the local bishop, so a free drop of food was arranged to take place on a set date, weather permitting. On the due day, the plane duly arrived and circled the village to let those on the ground know that there was about to be a free drop. But instead of the villagers clearing the central area, they all came out to watch.

Unfortunately, one of the boxes of tinned food was not secured and the tins fell out. One struck a villager and killed him stone dead. The others were spread all over the open area, to be grabbed by the villagers who took off with them. As far as they were

concerned it was Cargo. (I assume that the readers of this story will be familiar with the cargo cult.)

Another one ...

There once was an RSM who prided himself on his ability with “Tok Pisin”. On a rehearsal for a Parade, he shouted as only RSMs can, “Upim lek.” Then “Upim tupela lek” then “Upim tupela lek wantaim” The troops responded by jumping in the air, which they did. As of course he had ordered them to lift up both of their legs together!! PIR soldiers were very obedient and they had excellent senses of humour. They knew exactly what he meant to say.

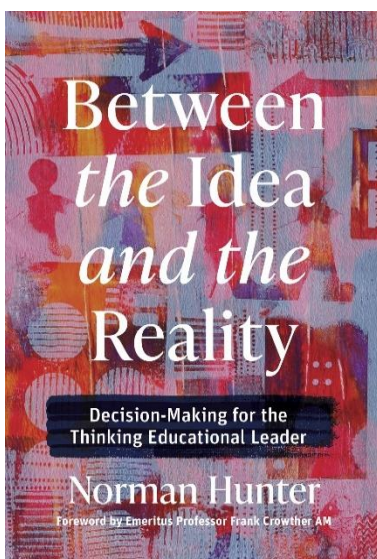
And one more ...

Then there was an Officer who also prided himself on his Tok Pisin. As he had finished his breakfast, he directed the Mess Steward to "rausim plet". This caused some amusement as he had directed the Steward to throw the plate away. Of course, he should have said “tekwe plet.” (I am sure there are other howlers still floating around.)

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Norman Hunter, *Between the Idea and the Reality: Decision-Making for the Thinking Educational Leader*; Melbourne, Amba Press, 2024; 195 pages, softback, bibliography, ISBN: 9781923215269

Within this book lie pearls of wisdom set within a sophisticated argument about leadership, especially educational leadership. The author (a former Chalkie who served at Taurama Barracks from 1967 to 1968) draws on twenty years’ experience as an independent high school principal in Brisbane, along with sustained research, to take us on a journey towards more deliberative processes of educational decision-making, applicable to a variety of settings.



The context for the author arguing for more nuanced decisions today is the “age of ambiguity”, an intriguing concept raised by Hunter. He describes this “age” as one of uncertainty, complexity, ambivalence etc. such that it behooves a leader to demonstrate thoughtful decision-making, to prioritise people, and to communicate their organisation’s meaning (Why are we here?). Regardless of whether the current era of passionate social discord can be described as ambiguous or equivocal, educational leaders would do well to adopt those specific and well-enunciated suggestions.

Hunter encourages leaders to make meaning of the present; find wisdom in the past; be guided by their moral purpose in

the future; and communicate a narrative of hope and belief to their communities. To keep the reader invested, the author outlines a student case study, which provides a school leadership dilemma, as a recurring example of complex decision-making. Hunter holds that the belief systems used by decision-makers in the past – organised religion, political ideology – are no longer sufficient to sustain followers or guide decision-makers. The book's comprehensive perspective and inclusive sources are persuasive, potentially transformative, for leaders.

Readers will enjoy the entertaining style in which Hunter analyses and articulates the key messages of scholars, novelists, jazz musicians, poets, painters and storytellers. Fortunately, the book includes a list of these varied sources, from Andre Agassi to The Beatles, to W.B. Yeats, (the title is from T.S. Eliot), allowing the reader to pursue the original texts. (For the next edition, the publisher could possibly include an index of the most-mentioned sources to save the reader's time in locating the first, full reference.) The tone of the book is collegial so that the reader feels like an equal companion walking through this familiar yet provocative territory. One such provocative question is: *What do I want this decision to do?*

Chapters in this book are short but carefully constructed to contain a mix of theory and practical examples, a reprise of earlier perspectives, a connection to the book's purpose, a mention of what lies ahead, and questions for reflection. Chapter 16, for example, deals with the power of trust and provides examples from the military context. Here, examples of leadership from Taurama Barracks and on a USA nuclear submarine demonstrate the positive results of a culture of trust within a command structure.

This book will benefit school and educational leaders and aspiring leaders. Further, I believe that Hunter's book will become a valued reference work because the issues discussed, and the strategies espoused, will find application in many organisations beyond schools.

(Review by Gregory J. Ivey)

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Chalkie Peter Darmody kindly continues to enable us to enjoy his water-colour record of travelling in Asia. On the following page are two water-colours from Peter's recent visit to Myanmar.



U Bein Bridge, Myanmar



Irrawaddy River boats, Myanmar

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We hope you've enjoyed reading this final newsletter for 2024 and, as always, we welcome your feedback.

We wish all members and their families a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year, and a fulfilling 2025.

Norm Hunter, Ian Ogston, Steve Beveridge (Editors)

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Bomana War Cemetery, Port Moresby

Lest We Forget

