

# BALUS TOKTOK

## NEWSLETTER

### CEO's Message



**CEO, Bruce Alabaster**

Welcome to this edition of Balus Toktok Newsletter for August 2021.

Runway upgrades by the National Airports Corporation at some ports

throughout the country continue to challenge our full operations to these areas.

Further to our previous advice regarding the temporary suspension of Air Niugini flights to Madang from 23rd July – 16th August, there was a further delay in the works forcing the temporary suspension of our Dash-8 operations to be extended by six days until Sunday 22nd August.

We look forward to resuming Fokker jet services to Madang once the runway maintenance is

complete.

The completion of works is now forecast by NAC to be in November, weather permitting.

Runway works at Wewak, Nadzab and Kavieng also mean these airports are also all limited to DHC-8 operations.

You all may be aware of advertisements in newspapers by Matrix Constructions calling for creditors of Air Niugini to attend a meeting on Friday 27 August 2021.

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Volume 3, Issue 8

31 August 2021

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### CAPTAIN TIM SHEEN DONATES LIBRARY BOOKS TO KAVIENG SCHOOL



One of our Fokker jet pilots, Captain Tim Sheen is helping out a secondary school in Kavieng, New Ireland Province with some books for their library.

This follows an appeal by an ex student for reading books.

Captain Sheen approached a school in Sunshine Coast, North Queensland Australia who have donated the first lots of books.

More on this story in our next edition.

## AIR NIUGINI WINS COURT INJUNCTION AGAINST MATRIX

The public may have seen advertisements in newspapers by Matrix Constructions calling for a creditors' meeting.

This followed moves by Air Niugini to progress the winding up of Matrix Constructions in the National Court due to their failure to pay Air Niugini outstanding costs.

Air Niugini was successful in legal proceedings in 2020, where the Arbitrator, Richard Chesterman QC made a legal order against Matrix Constructions of costs of K380,000, together with other orders.

Matrix failed to pay these costs and so an application was made to the National Court to have Matrix Constructions placed in liquidation.

The dispute about the application for

liquidation of Matrix Constructions will go back to the National Court for further hearings in early September.

Based on a belief that the notices were a breach of the Company's Act, Air Niugini filed for and obtained a Court injunction against Matrix Constructions (PNG) Limited, and its delegate Mr Peter Neville.

The effect of the Court Order is that Matrix Constructions and Mr Neville are restrained from conducting any meeting outside the National Court about Air Niugini. This invalidates the advertisements placed by Matrix Constructions in the public notices section of the Post Courier newspaper last week, inviting creditors of Air



**The Air Niugini residential apartment building at the Air Niugini head office at 7 Mile, Port Moresby.**

Niugini to attend a meeting on Friday 27 August 2021.

The disputes stem from unfounded claims made concerning the construction of the Air Niugini residential apartment building at the Air Niugini head office at Jacksons International Airport.

Air Niugini is assessing

its additional legal options relating to these advertisements having damaged Air Niugini's reputation and also how the notice infringes on the existing court action.

The various actions relating to Matrix Constructions will not have any effect on Air Niugini's continuing operations.

## UPDATE - AIR NIUGINI FLIGHTS TO MADANG

Further to the previous advice regarding the temporary suspension of Air Niugini flights to Madang from 23rd July – 16th August, the runway upgrading works was delayed by six days and work continued on Sunday 22nd August.

During that time useable runway at Madang was too short for Link PNG Dash-8 aircraft to operate safely, therefore as a result of the delay in the

works, customers were advised that the temporary suspension of Air Niugini flights to Madang was extended by six days until Sunday 22nd August.

The safety of operations remains our primary concern.

Dash-8 operations resumed from Monday 23rd August. We look forward to the restoration of Fokker jet services to



**Passengers at Madang Airport boarding a Fokker 70 aircraft to Port Moresby before flights were suspended.**

Madang once the runway is now forecast by NAC to be in November, weather permitting. The completion of works

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT ENGAGE PAU STUDENTS

Twelve final year students in Business Management, majoring in Accounting at the Pacific Adventist University (PAU) outside Port Moresby did their six week practical at Air Niugini's Finance Department as part of

their school assessment. The students were divided into various sections within Finance including Accounts Payable, Banking, Revenue, Accounts Receivable and General Ledger where they had the opportunity to gain

knowledge of how the department operates, develop awareness of workplace culture and skills and general hands-on experience on how work is done in the real world. On their final day of practical, the students did a

presentation to Finance staff, giving an overview of their six weeks work experience, the new things they have learnt and also suggested ways to enhance the current work process and procedures within the department.



## CEO: STAFF REMINDED TO ADHERE TO SAFE COVID WORKING PRACTICES

I am pleased to say that Air Niugini was successful in legal proceedings and obtained a Permanent Court Order against Matrix Constructions (PNG) Limited restraining the company from conducting any meeting outside the National Court about Air Niugini.

Simply, Matrix Constructions (PNG) Limited is not owed any money by Air Niugini, but rather owes a substantial amount to Air

Niugini which Air Niugini is progressing in the National Court. Air Niugini is also assessing its additional legal options relating to these advertisements having damaged Air Niugini's reputation and also how the notice infringes on the existing court action.

Developing the human resource is a priority for Air Niugini, we have students from the University of Papua New Guinea and Pacific Adventist University attached with various

departments for their six weeks practical work. Final year students in Business Management, majoring in Accounting at PAU have completed their six weeks practical at Air Niugini's Finance Department.

They were divided into various sections within Finance including Accounts Payable, Banking, Revenue, Accounts Receivable and General Ledger where they had the opportunity to gain knowledge of how the department

operates.

On the social front, all the best to all teams taking part in the annual Late JKP Memorial Cup dart competition for POM based staff as finals are approaching.

In conclusion, I remind all staff in both our domestic and international ports to continue to be vigilant and adhere to safe COVID working practices whilst delivering the best services to our customers.

Thank you!

### STAFF AT WORK



Captain Jason Nonggor-r (on the left) and First Officer, David Seken (on the right) operated PX 130, a Fokker 100 flight from Port Moresby to Vanimo on Friday, 30th

July 2021. Air Niugini operates five(5) direct flights between Port Moresby and Vanimo in a week including Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Meet some of Link PNG's airport staff at Wapenamanda airport, Enga Province.

From left: Traffic Officers-Larsen Pia Kenken, Obed Ambui and Port Supervisor-Sadrick Samuel.

These traffic staff are

part of the airline Ground Operations team, who are responsible for loading and unloading of cargo according to flight mass and balance specificities.

Their role is also critical in ensuring an aircraft turns around on time.



PX 204 at the recently upgraded Tokua airport, Rabaul.

Fokker jet services, operating daily flights to Rabaul with up to three flights on certain days.

Air Niugini has resumed

Staff from the Finance and Human Resources departments who attended the farewell for the 12 students from

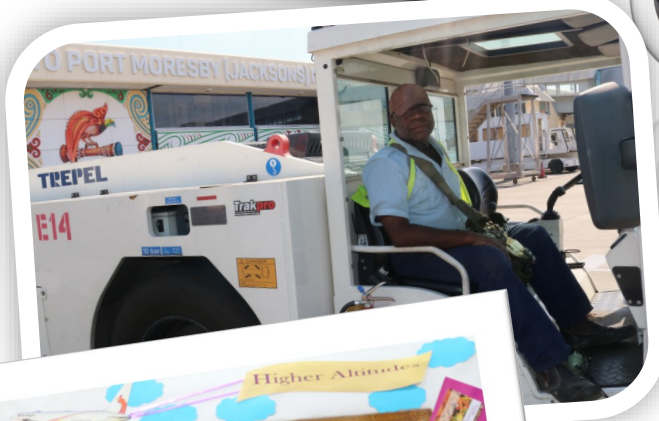
the Pacific Adventist University (PAU) who completed their on job training at Air Niugini.



Picture to the left; From left: Captain Wayne Allport, Cabin crew Jay Torrance, First Officer Tom Manjin and Captain Andrew Casupang at Wapenamanda airport

following the arrival of PX 990, marking the resumption of Link PNG services to Enga Province, operating three weekly direct flights between Port Moresby and Wapenamanda.

# GALLERY



## Air Niugini

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The National Airline of Papua New Guinea

[www.airniugini.com.pg](http://www.airniugini.com.pg)

Papua New Guinea's national airline, Air Niugini serves over 20 destinations domestically and 10 internationally.

Air Niugini strives to provide safe, efficient, affordable and comfortable airline services.

#### Mission:

To continue to be the premier airline to Papua New Guinea striving to provide safe, reliable, cost-effective and profitable air operations while exceeding the expectations of our customers and stakeholders.

## Staff Noticeboard

### **FOKKER MAINTENANCE CONTROLLER, NAGALINGAM KULANTHAI RETIRES**

Dear All,

Fokker 70/100 Fleet Maintenance Controller, Mr. Nagalingam "Naga" Kulanthai has left Air Niugini effective 14 August 2021.

We sincerely thank Naga with utmost gratitude for his outstanding contribution and services to the Company for more than 14 years he has served.

The wisdom he has shared to all of us and his camaraderie will be remembered for years.

We wish him every success in his future endeavours as he enjoys his retirement.

In view of this, Mr. Jessie Suarez has re-joined Air Niugini who will continue Naga's role under our Maintenance Control Department with the position of Fokker/Falcon Fleet Maintenance Controller.

Mr. Suarez was with Air Niugini before (2010-2012) as our Maintenance Planning Superintendent. Let us support and assist Mr. Suarez in his new role with us and he can be contacted thru his e-mail: [jsuarez@airniugini.com.pg](mailto:jsuarez@airniugini.com.pg) and extension 3303.

Thank you,

Jerico Diaz  
Executive Manager - Engineering

### **STAFF DEATH NOTICE - LATE RAYLYNN HANE**



On behalf of Management and the Staff, it is with great regret and sadness that I advise of the death of the Late Raylynn Hane, who passed away on Monday 09<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

Late Raylynn commenced employment with Air Niugini on 01<sup>st</sup> April 2014. She started as a Cabin Crew with the Cabin Crew Department. She then transferred to the Destinations Department in 2018 and was serving Air Niugini as a Customer Loyalty Officer until her untimely passing.

She was a loyal staff who has served the Company for 7 years plus. She was a dear colleague and friend to many employees of Air Niugini and will be dearly missed.

May God grant her eternal rest and may her beautiful soul rest in peace.



Questions or comments? Email us at [ikaprangi@airniugini.com.pg](mailto:ikaprangi@airniugini.com.pg) or [qnaime@airniugini.com.pg](mailto:qnaime@airniugini.com.pg) or call 327 3509/3564