

## Managing Director's Message



**Managing Director, Alan Milne** 

WELCOME to the first edition of the revived staff newsletter, Balus Toktok.

This newsletter will be published monthly and aims to keep the people of Air Niugini, whether in both the airline's domestic or international network, informed and involved. It also aims to influence and promote the corporate culture of this airline, our common values, attitude and beliefs that defines us as employees of ANG.

It is you and I, the people of Air Niugini who can make a difference to the public's experience every time they fly with us.

We must continue to show the passion and commitment that is driving Air Niugini to a 'Higher Altitude.

The Higher Altitude program as you know aims to transform Air Niugini while focusing on our people, our customer service, our operational excellence and our

profitability. Back to the newsletter, I encourage staff from a 1 1 departments and out ports to participate by sharing any interesting stories or information on anv positive events/ happenings your at respective ports. It could be staff recognition or developmental. anv empowering stories to encourage and inspire other staff. It's also a great way to show how impactful your work has been and what the company is doing on a broader scale.

The newsletter helps you connect your work to the bigger picture of the overall goals of the company. Thank-you! Volume 1, Issue 1 31st October 2019

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**Anniversary Special** 

### Staff Achievement

Congratulations to Executive Manager, Human Resources, Ms. Ritchilyn Barrios for being awarded the 2018 Top UPNG Masters in Human Resource Management (HRM) Graduate. The award was presented during PNG Human Resource Institute's annual conference in Port Moresby in August this year. Ms Barrios was surprised but was honoured to receive the award. She said

"It wasn't an easy journey, but I am happy the hard work, commitment, sacrifices, and the endless support from everyone, my family, friends, colleagues, course mates. PNGHRI, Brunel International and Air Niugini, all paid off in the end."Ms. Barrios spent her evenings from 5pm to 8pm every day after work to attend classes. It was a two year program from 2017 to 2018.



Ritchilyn (left) receiving her certificate from a PNGHRI representative

## AIR NIUGINI ANNOUNCES CUSTOMER AIRCRAFT SUPPORT CENTRE

With a total of 67 Licensed aircraft maintenance engineers (LAMEs) and 51 aircraft maintenance engineers (AMEs), Air Niugini plans to become a key player in global airline servicing.

This move will significantly contribute to the Papua New Guinea economy with the introduction of Air Niugini Maintenance Repair Overhaul (MRO) facility.

The initiative is being driven by Managing Director Alan Milne, whose engineering background identified huge potential in the talent within the Air Niugini engineering and maintenance teams. Mr Milne said PNG's geographic location, talent and infrastructure made it a logical





Engineers hard at work at the new MRO facility.

option for airline servicing for operators in Australia, Asia and the Pacific. "We have some of the best talent that I have seen in my 40 years in the aviation industry," Mr. Milne said.

" But beyond that, financially it makes sense to consider the ANG MRO when operators are spending millions of dollars to have their aircraft serviced as far away as Europe." Milne said

The MRO facility has already completed its first full service on a Dash 8 belonging to Solomon Airlines. The service centre specialises in heavy maintenance checks known as a C check which is a mandatory major inspection of all aircraft after a certain period of time and flight hours. This opportunity will also give Air Niugini a new income stream that will massively contribute to the financial security of the airline



Transport Secretary, Roy Mumu

Part of the engineering team that did c checks on Solomon Airlines Dash 8

Transport Secretary, Roy Mumu and Mr Milne during the announcement of the new service centre



Sir Kostas visits Madang sales staff

### Chairman visits Madang Sales office

Air Niugini Board Chairman, Sir Kostas Constantinou paid a courtesy call on Air Niugini Madang sales staff in August this year.

Sir Kostas, who is also Chairman of BSP Board, was in the province for their meeting.

Air Niugini Madang has 23

staff members led by Port Manager, Henry Senat. The staff were delighted to see the Chairman visit them. Since taking up office a year ago, Sir Kostas has also taken the time to visit other Air Niugini offices throughout the country whenever he is in the area.

### Feature: Kumul Legend Richard Wagambie



Wagambie (centre, holding the ball) during the Legends game in August this year

It was an emotional moment for PNG Kumuls legend Richard Wagambie wearing the PNG colors again after 28 years since playing an international Test match.

The former Kumuls Test Center and Air Niugini staff member was included in the Kumuls Legends team as coach/ player that played against the Brisbane Broncos legends on Saturday, 31 August 2019 at the Oil Search National Football Stadium (NFS) in POM.



Wagambie during his debut in Goroka in 1992

Wagambie, who hails from Tui village, Hawain in Wewak, East Sepik Province, recalled wearing the Kumul jumper again which brought back a lot of memories and emotions.

He said, "A lot of us actually had tears in our eyes. It hadn't dawned on us until just before we were running out when I reminded the guys that we were playing a Kumuls match and that we must stay focused and be mentally ready for the game. I told the legends to take the game as an international match as we represent PNG again with our families including our grandchildren present to watch us play."

It was a qood game however the Broncos came out winners 44-32.

"The younger players were too fast greedy with the ball, so next time they'll have to give some opportunity to us the older ones," Wagambie pointed out with a smile.

league his rugby career at the age of 17 1982. Wagambie got selected into the Kumuls in 1990 at the age of 27 and has since eight played test matches with the Kumuls between 1990 and 1991 where he had the opportunity to tour Australia, New Zealand, France and England. "I was in the spotlight at the age of 21 but was considered too young to play at the high level

The 54 year old began jersey however I was 78kg and he was over 100kg but I always while attending Sogeri believe that I played National High School in well against him," he added.

> He played with Paga Panthers and Tarangau prior to joining the Kumuls then went on to play professional rugby league in France with the Carpentras rugby league club in 1992 after retiring from the Kumuls. The Kumuls number 142 has been involved in rugby for 36 years now as a player, administrator and coach



Paga Panthers, old Lloyd Robson Oval in 1991.

retired from Kumuls," Wagambie explained.

He revealed the highlight of his career was Mr. Wagambie playing his first Kumul test match in Goroka against Australia and playing opponent, Mal Meninga

" Meninga and I both wore the number 4

until I was 27. When I He thanked his family, turned 29 I was old to his wife Jacqueline and continue that's when I their six children and six grandchildren, for the support throughout his career.

> commenced at Air Niugini in 2001 with the Property and Facilities and against Department is currently the Staff Accommodation Manager.

### Air Niugini steps in where Cathay Pacific left off

Air Niugini looks forward to delivering on the announced partnership between the Queensland Government and Air Niugini on an expanded service between Cairns and Hong Kong via Port Moresby from the 30th October this year.

Managing Director, Alan Milne said this following a meeting with all strategic partners involved in the proposed Cairns/Hong service in Cairns, Australia on Friday, 18th October where the expanded service was announced.

Mr. Milne said he was delighted Air Niugini would be a pivotal partner in expanding both passenger and freight capacity between the Cairns region and Hong Kong via Port Moresby.

He said, "This is a great opportunity for freight shippers and passengers alike and we are keen to make this work. There is agricultural produce and fish trade which we can uplift out of Cairns to Hong Kong via Port Moresby using our wide body 767 aircraft. We know this is a significant service for the people of Far North Queensland and it's now a

### HR staff attend training

Air Niugini has continued to show support for the staging of the annual PNG Human Resource Institute (PNGHRI) national conference with a sponsorship of K10,000.

Managing Director, Mr. Alan Milne said people is one of the four core areas of the airline's higher altitude transformation program where Air Niugini is giving staff across all ANG network the opportunity to progress their career.



Deputy Chairman, Andrew Nui and Managing Director, Alan Milne with strategic partners during the recent announcement in Cairns.

significant service for Air Niugini and Papua New Guinea as we continue to grow our airline and continue to explore new opportunities."

Queensland State Member for Cairns Michael Healy said of the six expressions of interest lodged with the government, proposals for a twice weekly Air Niugini passenger/freight service supplemented by a once a week Qantas freighter service best met the needs of local exporters to maintain immediate access to lucrative Asian markets. Cairns Mayor Bob Manning welcomed the news of the new services.

"This is a welcome outcome for our region and importantly secures the ongoing viability of a number of high value industries, including live export of coral trout, crayfish and aquarium fish, and their access to key Asian markets."

Air Niugini's offer to take up the Cairns/Hong Kong route followed an earlier announcement by Cathay Pacific that they would cease flights to Cairns

current staff with the potential to excel in their career within ANG.

PNGHRI President, Jerry Wemin acknowledged Air Niugini for its continuous support over the last three years.

The two day annual PNGHRI conference with the theme: HR IN THE 4th INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION was held in Port Moresby from June 20th to 21st. It was attended by HR practitioners throughout the country including staff from our HR department.



He said "Our management team is conducting talent identification process and training need analysis review to identify the gap in employee training needs and also recognise the talent within the

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## Staff Social Activities

### Dart grand-final

The first ever annual John Kilawari Polume (JKP) Memorial Cup Dart competition for Air Niugini staff ended on a high note with the finals played two weeks ago.

Team Terminals, also the minor premiers in the competition, won the Cup title after defeating Team IT in a close encounter.

The JKP Cup competition pays tribute to a former long service staff the Late Polume who served Air Niugini for 30 years before his passing on October 6, 2018.

He was the Pricing Manager at the Pricing and Tariffs Department at the time of his passing.

On behalf of the Polume family, his daughter Nicole who is an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME) with ANG thanked the sponsors and those involved



2019 Cup winners Team Terminals



Nicole Polume (centre) presenting awards in honour of her late father

for staging the event in honour of her late father. "We are honoured to see ANG staff come together to put up a competition in my father's memory as he was a strong advocate and supporter of young people and was heavily involved in social activities at ANG "

The Cup winners Terminals won most of their games, losing only 3 games throughout the season. Team Captain, Thelma Poneleu said they started off on a good note, taking into consideration that most of the players were just beginners.

In the Plate final, cabin crew team Sky Walkers finished on top to win the title after defeating Aviation Security. The grand final was followed by presentation of awards during dinner. A total of 16 teams participated in the competition. More teams are expected to take part next year.



David Susuve of Aviation Security in action during the finals

## Staff walkathon

Staff from various departments were involved in a walkathon around Jackson's airport area, 7mile recently in a bid to raise funds towards the hosting of Pacific Airline Games in Port Moresby in July next year.

Walkathon is one of many fundraising activities planned for the rest of this year.

The idea also supports and promotes one of the four pillars of the Higher Altitude transformation program, which is "people."



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### STAFF CELEBRATE PNG's 44TH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

Air Niugini staff in Port Moresby took time out from work on Friday, 13th September to commemorate the PNG's 44th Independence anniversary.

The event started at 8:30am, organized and led by the Finance Department

Staff were smartly dressed in their traditional attire or with the red, black and gold PNG colors.

The event began with prayer, followed by Air Niugini Managing Director, Alan Milne's Independence message, national anthem, the national pledge and flag raising.

Mr Milne said "Since starting with ANG in October this year, I feel



Mr Milne in the company of staff in traditional attire







like Port Moresby and PNG is now my home. " "ANG is two years older than PNG. We started before PNG gained Independence and that means a lot"

He said working for a national flag carrier we can see how proud the people are of Air Niugini. " It's nice to come into such a family -oriented environment here at ANG and that is what the PNG culture is about."

Since this was Mr. Milne's first Independence celebration in PNG, he was formally welcomed by the staff who gifted him with carvings, including a Bird of Paradise emblem.

# Link PNG hosts lunch for staff



Staff of Link PNG and Air Niugini engineering having lunch to commemorate PNG's Independence Anniversary.

Staff of Link PNG, a subsidiary of Air Niugini, dressed in their best PNG colors to commemorate the country's 44th Independence anniversary on September 13th

They shared lunch comprising local food and a cake to remember the day.

General Manager, Bruce Alabaster reminded staff to be proud of PNG. He said although the country has gone through its fair share of challenges, it remains an independent, stable and progressing nation.

"There will be more challenges going forward but as a country you are free to make better choices. As part of the Air Niugini family, you can be proud and hold your head up high on what we have achieved so far," Alabaster said

( 为 Air Niugini

## Gallery



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#### **The National Bird Carrier**

www.airniugini.com.pg

Papua New Guinea's national airline Air Niugini, with over 20 destinations nationally 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.

> "Leadership is the ability to get extraordinary achievement from ordinary people"-Brian Tracy

Staff Noticeboard

Management advises and reminds all staff to please adhere to the following in regard to the Higher Altitudes Friday wear shirt:

1. It is to be worn on FRIDAYS ONLY and no other day.

2. It is not to be worn or treated as a weekend/leisure wear.

3. It is not to be lent out to relatives or friends to wear.

4. It is not to be worn when going out to night clubs or any Non-Company related/approved social event as it is a Company approved uniform.

Department Managers and Supervisors, please ensure that these foregoing requirements are adhered to by staff in your respective workplace.

Thank-you.

Rei Logona

General Manager, Human Resources



All POM Based Staff & Dependents are welcome to attend The Zumba Fun Class this Friday.

Fee is K10 per person . Gym Members are Free.

Registration & Payment is to be made prior to the event at the Front Office Desk at the ANG Residence .

The following Staff have been nominated to collect names & payments from those who may be interested to participate:

- Ruth Pupia , Engineering Department
  - **Veronica Pomah**, Jackson's Domestic Terminal

**Evangelynnah Paul**, ANG HAUS , Level:3 Staff Travel Office

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Questions or comments? Email us at ikaprangi@airniugini.com.pg or qnaime@airniugini.com.pg or call +675 327 3509