

Men's Cricket team make the pre-finals

THE National Parliamentary Service (NPS) Men's Cricket team secured a spot in the preliminary finals of the 2018-2019 Corporate Cricket Competition, however bowed out of the competition at the end of the quarter finals after losing three out of four matches.

The team comprising of staff members and their dependents made it to the top four of their division, in a competition that has about 40 or so private companies participating on the weekends at Amini Park, in Boroko.

The team, pictured right in their new uniforms, has been going into the finals every season since it joined the competition three years ago.

The 2019-2020 season will commence in October this year. - *Photo: Sean Aufa*



Tambarans in Pool comp



PARLIAMENT Tambarans representing the National Parliamentary Service (NPS) in the Media Pool Competition at Lamana Hotel on Saturday afternoon is on cue for the 2019 season. The team won consecutive matches so far since the competition started in June.

A total of 24 teams have

registered for this year's competition.

The Tambarans (pictured left) who have been in the competition since it started in the early 2000s is calling on former players and interested staff and dependents to join the team.

- *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*

PS netball on in Oct

THE Public Servants (PS) Netball Club competition will be commencing in October this year. The games are held on Saturday mornings. The National Parliamentary Service (NPS) staff and dependents who are interested in taking part in the competition are encouraged to sign up with the PS team

organiser, Walo Ravu.

Meanwhile, the team taking part in the Private Companies Netball Club competition on Sunday afternoons, bowed out of the preliminary finals earlier this year, after losing to PNG Ports 13 points to 14, a tremendous effort by the women at the Rita Flynn Indoor Complex.

Women's team: 2018 "Volleyball queens"

THE National Parliamentary Service (NPS) Women's Volleyball Team was 2018 premiers in the Port Moresby Corporate Volley Competition (POMCVC).

The 'volleyball queens' were also 2017's grand final winners. The other two teams in the competition are the Men's and the Mixed teams, who play on Sundays at the Taurama Aquatic Centre.

All volleyball teams did not take part this year, however have plans to register for next year's competition.



#knowyourparliament

Staff from Serjeant-At-Arms Division (backrow right) take a photo with children and staff from Liberty International Christian School during an excursion of the Parliament House recently. The school is one of many individuals and groups that visit every year. *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*

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Speaker's Summit: a successful event

THE 2ND Speaker's Investment Summit (2SIS) held last month turned out to be a successful event with about 20 staff, representing Bills & Paper, Hansard, Civics and Education, IPRO and Committees attending.

The event was part of the weeklong Papua New Guinea (PNG) Investment Week 2019 organised by the Business Council of PNG (BCPNG), Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) and the National Parliamentary Service (NPS), Acting Clerk Kala Aufa made the opening remarks on behalf of the Speaker Hon. Job Pomat, setting the scene for an intensive discussion on important issues and topics surrounding this

year's theme, "Legislating Papua New Guinea's Prosperity."

The program included sessions exploring opportunities in building partnerships in trade and commerce with the business community and Members of Parliament engaging with the private sector on specific legislative priorities. Prime Minister Hon. James Marape and Opposition Leader Hon. Patrick Pruaitch were key speakers as well.

NPS also hosted a cocktail for delegates and officials at the Parliament House lakeside.

NB: Please go to Page 6 for summit photos.



WELCOME!

Welcome one and all to the July-August 2019 Tambaran Update; the inaugural edition of the National Parliamentary Service (NPS) bi-monthly newsletter compiled and produced by the Parliamentary Media Service (PMS).

This publication is part of the PMS's Communications Strategy to highlight the work and activities of the service and its events and initiatives to foster consistent interaction and engagement between management and staff through information sharing, thus creating an informed and connected workforce.

We look forward to your participation and contribution in either sharing your photos and stories or your activities and initiatives to build a more inclusive, informative and interactive content going forward. Do write in and tell us about what you like about Tambaran Update, what you don't like and what you would like to be included in future editions.

Until next time, happy reading!

The Media Team

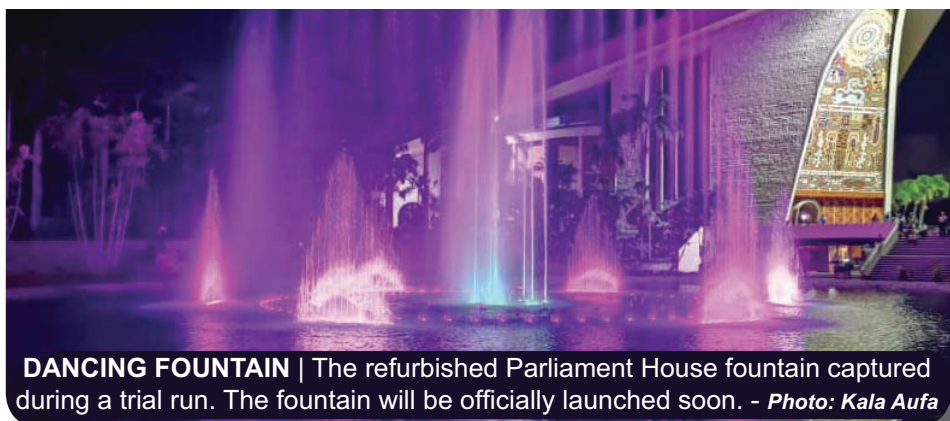
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DANCING FOUNTAIN | The refurbished Parliament House fountain captured during a trial run. The fountain will be officially launched soon. - Photo: Kala Aufa

The Mace:

A symbol of our Parliament

The Mace is one of the most important symbols that Papua New Guinea inherited from the British parliamentary tradition and continues to use today. It is a massive sceptre, heavy and ornate, and is kept in the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms.

The Mace in Parliament is the symbol of royal authority and authority of the House. It serves as a guarantee for the Serjeant-at-Arms in enforcing peace and order in the House upon the Speaker's instruction. Without it, Parliament cannot sit or pass laws.

Our Parliament's Mace was presented to the country by the Australian Commonwealth Government at the opening of the First House of Assembly on 8th June 1964. It is made of silver and heavily plated with pure gold. Encased within the head is a polished stone ball symbolic of a stone war club – a traditional weapon in many parts of PNG. The head of the Mace bears the royal crown, symbolising authority, whilst the shaft has three gold bands, carved to depict the life of the country, terminating with a gold base engraved with the National Crest.



The Mace is carried into Parliament by the Serjeant-at-Arms in front of the Speaker when he enters the Chambers of Parliament at the beginning of the daily sitting of Parliament and is carried out again at the end of the sitting.

The mace sits on two brackets on the centre table, in front of the Speaker's Chair, when Parliament is in session.

● **Information:** www.parliament.gov.pg | Parliament House Papua New Guinea

Commonwealth Parliament Secretariat offers technical support

A SCOPING team from the Commonwealth Parliament Secretariat has offered technical support to build capacity of Members of Parliament (MPs) to understand the Commonwealth Latimer House Principles on the three arms of Government.

Former Clerk of Parliament, Vela Konivaro commended the contributions made by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and the legal profession of the Commonwealth to further these principles.

He said that the objective of these principles was to provide, in accordance with the laws and customs of each Commonwealth country, an effective framework for the implementation of the governments, parliaments and judiciaries of the Commonwealth's fundamental values.

The support, the secretariat is expected to provide will enlighten MPs to understand the use and exercising of powers, clarify their roles and empower them to be better informed on the Commonwealth Governing Rules and Regulations on use of powers.

Mr Vela said the visit was timely as Papua New Guinea would be seeing some important constitutional matters tried and tested by the court such as the vote of no-confidence on the Government and the Bougainville referendum which also impinge on Parliament's powers and responsibilities as a Legislature.

German parliamentarians visit

AN EIGHT-MEMBER German-Pacific Parliamentary Group from the German Bundestag made a courtesy call on the Speaker of Parliament as part of their four-day visit to the country in March.

The visit, a first of its kind from the German Parliament was part of an official tour to advance relations in the Pacific Region.



The German delegation take a photo with chairpersons of various Parliamentary Committees after their meeting. - Photo: Parliamentary Media Service

Media briefing: a first

AN information workshop aimed at educating journalists on Parliamentary processes and procedures was conducted in May following incidences of misreporting by the media on the Vote of No Confidence (VoNC) motion debate in Parliament.

More than 50 local media personnel attended the Q&A session, a first of its kind, where a panel comprising of Acting Clerk of Parliament Kala Aufa, Acting Deputy Clerk Basil Kambuliagen and Parliamentary Counsel Richard Whitchurch responded in detail to questions from the media on processes and procedures involved in a VoNC motion, as well as related queries.

The workshop also provided an opportunity for the panel to appeal to the me-



Local journalists listening attentively at the Q&A session. - Photo: Parliamentary Media Service

dia to report accurately on such important issues debated on the floor of Parliament, as misreporting leads to wrong public perception, hence can paint a negative image of the National Parliamentary

Service. The Parliamentary Media Services who initiated this workshop has plans to continue to share and exchange important information with the media through such dialogue in the future.

'Selfie Contest'

Do you have a favourite feature or view of the Parliament House? Why not take a selfie with this feature or view in the background, write in 25 words or less why you say so and submit for a chance to win a "surprise prize" and have your photo published in a future edition of the Tambaran Update.

Send your entry to:

mediadivision.parliament@gmail.com

e.g: Entry by Yakam Kelo, Media Officer

The "Spearmaker", a metal sculpture by Benni More displayed in the Library depicting a EHP legend. Interestingly, the wiry hair when plucked makes musical sounds."



EXAMPLE

Live broadcast engages public



Live broadcast of Question Without Notice of Parliament sessions by NBCTV (pictured), EMTV and TVWAN is engaging the National Parliament with the people to enable them to be informed on national issues being debated by their leaders and of laws that are being made.

Qld Parliament pays visit



AN SEVEN-MEMBER Queensland Parliament delegation visited Parliament House during the PNG Investment Week in June. Pictured above is Acting Clerk of Parliament Kala Aufa meeting the Qld Parliament Speaker, Hon. Curtis Pitt, MP (second from right) - Photo: Parliamentary Media Service

“INTEGRITY: With integrity, you have nothing to fear, since you have nothing to hide. With integrity, you will do the right thing, so you will have no guilt. - Zig Ziglar”

How well do you listen?

Listen Carefully
Pay Attention
Listen Closely!
Yes and Ears Open
Vital Info!
Be a Good Listener

LISTENING is an important leadership skill. Through good listening, you can acquire information, identify and clarify issues, make decisions, and resolve conflict. A leader's listening skills play a major role in team building. Leaders must be able to connect with their teams through listening. In order to evaluate your current ability to listen, determine how often you can honestly make the following statements.

ASSESS YOURSELF:

	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	NEVER
I FOCUS MY ATTENTION ON THE SPEAKER AND DON'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE	3	2	1
I DO NOT ANTICIPATE WHAT THE SPEAKER IS GOING TO SAY BEFORE SHE ACTUALLY SAYS IT.	3	2	1
I WAIT UNTIL THE SPEAKER HAS FINISHED TO FORMULATE MY RESPONSE	3	2	1
I LOOK THE SPEAKER IN THE EYE, NOD MY HEAD, AND SMILE WHILE LISTENING TO SHOW THE SPEAKER I'M INTERESTED.	3	2	1
I DO NOT PERFORM OTHER TASKS WHILE SOMEONE IS TALKING TO ME.	3	2	1
I LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THE SPEAKER EVEN WHEN I DISAGREE WITH WHAT IS SAID.	3	2	1
WHEN THE SPEAKER HAS FINISHED, I SUMMARIZE WHAT HE SAID TO ENSURE I UNDERSTOOD CORRECTLY.	3	2	1
I ASK QUESTIONS WHEN I AM NOT SURE ABOUT SOMETHING THE SPEAKER SAID.	3	2	1

ADD THE NUMBERS:

- ☐ If you scored 22-24 points, congratulations! You're an excellent listener.
- ☐ If you scored 17-21 your skills are good, but they need some attention.
- ☐ If you scored 16 points or fewer, it's time to make some improvements.
- Information and test courtesy of Toastmasters International, presented by facilitator Aro Kia during the "Brown Bag Session #1" held in May this year.

“Excellence: ‘The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential; these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.’ - Confucius”



1. Recruitment and selection exercise on

The Human Resource Management (HRM) with the support of selected staff has started with the pre-screening process for the recruitment, selection and appointment of the 292 Parliamentary Service positions advertised in April this year. The exercise is anticipated to be completed by August 2019.

No further recruitments will be facilitated by HRM whilst the current exercise is still in progress.

Positive outcomes from this exercise include substantive appointment and staff made permanent to positions and the recognition of qualified, experienced, high performing staff for appointments.

2. Training committee set up

A Parliamentary Training Committee, comprising senior management and HRM has been set up to deliberate on all training requests. A Terms of Reference (TOR) has been issued and HRM will advise staff on who the committee members are and confirm the guidelines for requesting training.

3. New allowance implemented

A new special Domestic Market Allowance (DMA) approved by the Acting Clerk for marketability of positions and retaining highly qualified and experienced staff members will be awarded for classifications from NP10-NP14.

The four main criterion used to assess the eligibility for payment of this allowance are; qualification, work experience, know-how of the position (knowledge, skills) and occupancy status (substantive or acting holder).

Due assessment has been carried out by HRM and new rates have been implemented.

4. Staff urged to observe work ethics

All staff are urged to take pride in their respective roles, serving Members of Parliament and to be professional in their conduct. They are also encouraged to wear uniforms during working hours. Chewing of betel nut within the office premises is not permitted.

5. Attendance, punctuality monitored

Staff attendance and punctuality is currently being monitored through a sign-in, sign-out logbook on a daily basis. Those staff found to be absent from work without good reasons will be issued green forms to fill out and their pay will be deducted by HRM.

6. Staff performance appraisals on

HRM has issued performance appraisal forms to all staff for the period from 1st of January to 30th June, 2019 to assess and track all work performances to ensure that the overall organisational objectives/goals are met. All assessed and completed forms must be returned to HRM by 31st of July, 2019.

Positive outcomes from this exercise include; identifying poor performance thus taking corrective measures to address the issue; identifying skills and knowledge gaps, hence proposing appropriate professional development training; and paying salary increments from the current salary step to the next level on the substantive appointments.

TRIBUTE



LATE ANTHONY ELLY

First national Clerk of Parliament

THE late Anthony Elly was the first Papua New Guinean to be Clerk of Parliament in the House of Assembly in 1974, (prior to Independence) and first national Clerk of Parliament of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea at Independence in 1975. He was also the first Clerk of Parliament to have served in the new National Parliament after it was opened by Prince Charles in Waigani, in 1984. The late Anthony Elly was also instrumental in his position as Clerk to certify the Constitution of PNG to enable the country to become a democratic and independent nation amongst the Commonwealth and the world, as well as enabling all other legislations implementing the Constitution before and after Independence to ensure smooth transition of power and orderly implementation of and transition to Independence.

The late Anthony Elly passed away on October 24th 2018, aged 73 in Port Moresby and was laid to rest at his family cemetery at Koukou Village, Central Province.

Practice values

“Let us create a work culture, we can be proud of...”

Dear Colleagues,
 Welcome to our very first-ever newsletter, “Tambaran Update” for the National Parliamentary Service (NPS).

This communication tool will be one of a few new platforms, we will be using going forward as an evolving organisation, not only to highlight the work we are doing and activities and events we are involved in, but also to share our stories and air views on what is happening within our respective workspaces and around us.

As we move into the third quarter of this year, let us take stock of our roles and responsibilities as appointed stewards of the positions that we hold as a service for the 111 Members of Parliament and for our country and people.

Hon. James Marape in his first keynote address as the 8th Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea to this 10th Parliament, made a bold statement, borrowed from Hon. Gary Juffa's “Take Back PNG” slogan. In the same token, could the same bold statement be applied to NPS?

If our conduct is not with honesty, let us take back integrity; if we have not been operating as an unified service, let us take back collaboration; if we do not practice responsible behaviour, let us take back accountability; if we do not value our colleagues, let us take back respect for others; and if we have not been performing our duties to our fullest potential, then let us take back excellence in our workforce.

Let us create a work culture that we can be proud of; a place where we can serve, learn, grow, add value, aspire and initiate lasting legacies.

Let us start practising core values to help us determine the right path in fulfilling



KALA AUFU

Acting Clerk of Parliament

goals in our personal and professional lives. Many of us have these values instilled in us by our parents, teachers, mentors, our Christian beliefs and the environment around us. There are countless types of core values such as the ones mentioned above and others including; reliability, passion, innovation, service to others and environmentalism, however a core value is only true if it has an active influence and if the people or organisation live by it.

As such, your efforts in fostering core values when discharging the important and responsible duties of your respective roles can make a difference and play an integral part in promoting if not raising the standards of the service that serves the House of the people of our beloved PNG.

Kaikai Bilong Tingting by: Charles Nir





(l-r) Parliament SRC Officer Richard Guria, Executive Officer Emma Faiteli and Parliament Legal Counsel, Richard Whitchurch with the new members of the commission, responding to questions from the media after the swearing-in ceremony at Government House recently. - **Photo: Parliamentary Media Service**

SRC members sworn-in

THE Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) established under Section 216A of the Constitution determines and authorises the different levels of salaries and benefits (financial and otherwise) of all public sectors leaders in the country.

Three new members of SRC, including Prime Minister Hon. James Marape, MP were sworn into office by Governor-General, Sir Bob Dadae at Government House on July 15th, 2019. The other two members were Public Service Minister Hon. Westley Nukundj, MP, PM's nominee and William Hapi-pai, acting Deputy Secretary – Policy

and Reforms for Department of Personnel Management (DPM), nominee of acting Secretary, Taies Sansan.

The other members are Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Job Pomat, MP, Opposition Leader Hon. Patrick Pruaitch, MP, Chief Justice, Sir Gibbs Salika and acting Secretary for Department of Labour and Industrial Relations, Ravu Vagi.

Correspondingly, their nominees may be their respective representatives, in their absence.

■ **Contact SRC Executive Officer, Emma Faiteli or go to www.parliament.gov.pg for more information.**

Staff attend “Brown Bag Series”



Participants of the first Brown Bag session captured with Toastmasters International facilitator Aro Kia (centre right) and Acting Clerk of Parliament Kala Aufa. - **Photo: Parliamentary Media Service**

The Parliamentary Media Services has initiated the “Brown Bag Series” - a sequence of monthly informal seminars on various workplace topics as well as informative and motivational sessions aimed at fostering personal and professional development during lunchtimes.

Two sessions have been conducted so far including: Toastmaster's Communications Skills training on “Identifying and Applying Effective Listening Skills” and Westpac's Financial Literacy workshop on “Financial First Steps”.

A date will be set for the next session.

Staff learn about B'ville Referendum

NATIONAL Parliamentary Service staff had an opportunity to learn more about the Bougainville issue when Dr Thomas Webster, National Research Institute Research (NRI) team leader and member of the Bougainville Referendum Commission gave a presentation in March on the Bougainville Peace Agreement and related matters in the lead up to and preparation for the Bougainville Referendum, rescheduled for October this year.

The information session was conducted before the joint consultation with the people of Bougainville on these matters by the Parliamentary Bi-partisan Committee on Bougainville Matters, NRI, and the National Coordination Office of Bougainville Affairs. The four centres visited were Panakei, South Bougainville, Wakunai, Central Bougainville and Tinputz and Lontis in North Bougainville.

The purpose of the visit was to collate views from the people and wider community on the planned referendum on Bougainville's political future and to present a special report to the next sitting of Parliament.

Parliament gives to Kidney Foundation

THE National Parliament through its Government Private Partnership Program donated K50,000 to the Papua New Guinea Kidney Foundation on July 12th, 2019.

The donation was an acknowledgement and furtherance of the exceptional work of the foundation, assisting patients suffering from various kidney problems in the country, since its inception in 2009.

Acting Speaker of Parliament Hon. Jeffery Komal, MP, when presenting the cheque to founder and chairman Sir Martin Poh, said the National Parliament was honoured to support the foundation to continue to provide such a vital health service for the people of PNG.

The foundation, in its 10th year of operation is located at the Kennedy Estate, 7-Mile.

FLASH BACK

A photo of the first national Clerk of Parliament, Late Anthony Elly, when he was younger, serving as the Serjeant-at-Arms at the old House of Assembly prior to Independence.

■ **Information and photo courtesy of Parliament House Papua New Guinea.**



Freedom of Expression: What is your view?

Every issue, we interview Parliamentary Service staff to gauge their opinions on a topical issue. Below, we feature six of our colleagues sharing their thoughts on the question, “What is your view on ‘Freedom of Expression?’”



DEBORAH KANU
Assistant Committee Secretary

“Freedom of Expression is a basic human right; it is a form of communication which gives us the space to move and express what we think and do. It is also about being confident and knowing beforehand what you want to say and do. But if that freedom is abused, then it can cause disharmony.”



KEVIN VALA
Acting Chief of Security

“Freedom of Expression must not be controlled by those in authority because it is one of the fundamental rights of people. Everyone has the right to express their views on any subject that matters to them and it's up to everyone to take it or reject it. Freedom of expression is here to stay for everyone's benefit.”



JULIE MAIMA
Publications Officer

“Our Constitution protects our right to speak and express ourselves freely on any matter of importance in our lives. Freedom of Expression must be protected at all times as we progress in a world where communication is now through digital technology. If such modern forms of communication are good for us, let's protect them but use them responsibly for our benefit.”



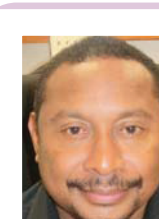
MOSES KUMAN
Acting Deputy Chief of Security

“Freedom of Expression is about our freedom to many things we must know about and for others to know about us. In this changing world of technology, social media enables us to express our concerns and views openly, unlike before. It's also an useful tool for obtaining vital information for learning and keeping everyone informed of what is happening in the world and must not be regulated or banned.”



SARUFA HARO

“Freedom of Expression is enshrined in our Constitution and is our right as citizens of Papua New Guinea. However, how we use this right is very important. We have to be mindful of our audience and the kind of impact it will have on others. We must not abuse this right, otherwise it may be taken away from us. We must use it responsibly to benefit ourselves and others.”



SETA ERICK
Parliament Medical Officer

“Freedom of Expression should not be restricted but be guided so it continues to serve the people. With regards to exercising this freedom on social media, stronger policy and legislation can ensure people making comments and statements are registered with their true information and are not hiding behind fake names and profiles and defaming others.”

“ **COLLABORATION: “Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships.” – Michael Jordan** ”

Meet the man behind the interpreter's voice...

Mali Lalai

**COME, VISIT MY
WORKSPACE!**



Mali Lalai at the Interpreter's Booth, where he sits and conducts his job everytime Parliament sits. - Photo: Parliamentary Media Service

DURING every Parliament sitting, you will not miss the unmistakable voice of this man from Rigo District in Central Province interpreting, live from Parliament House, the proceedings in Hiri Motu to radios that pick up National Broadcasting Commission's (NBC) Radio Central signal.

Mali Lalai, 59 from Imuagolo Village has been an Interpreter for the last 26 years, since starting with the Parliamentary Service's Hansard Division in 1993 after leaving his former job as an Education Officer in Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province.

Mr Lalai still enjoys his job to date and is one of the first people to witness all proceedings on the floor of Parliament before the discussions and debates are relayed live to the radio station for the general public to hear.

He said he was privileged to hear and see, firsthand, how leaders debate and pass laws for the country or elect a new prime minister during a Vote of No Confidence Motion.

During non-sitting days, Mr Lalai assists with administrative duties of the Hansard Division as required of him by his supervisor, the Principal Parliamentary Reporter.

He is married with six children and six grandchildren and resides at his village; making a two-hour or so journey to work every day. During Parliament sittings, he spends the night with relatives in Port Moresby because he would normally finish late and need to be early to attend the meeting the next day.

Mr Lalai said he was grateful for the support and cooperation of his col-

Molly Gege clocks in 38 years of service

MOLLY Gege, Accounts Division's Claim Examinations and Registration Officer is one of National Parliamentary Service's longest serving staff, clocking in 38 years of service this year.

Mrs Gege (pictured right), 59 from Tau-ruba Village, Rigo District of Central Province started work at the old House of Assembly in 1981 and moved into the new National Parliament in 1984, after it was opened.

She started as a switchboard operator

for ten years before moving into the Accounts Division where she held various positions including Stationary Officer, Personal Officer, Filling Clerk and Personal Assistant before being appointed to her current role.

Mrs Gege said she has enjoyed working with her colleagues, who have been supportive and cooperative over the years. However, she added that she was considering leaving the service soon.

MOVERS & shakers!

Appointments

- Kevin Vala - Acting Chief Security Officer.
- Hillary Ravi - Deputy Chief Security Officer.
- Emma Faiteli - Executive Officer, Staff and Remuneration Commission (SRC) Secretariat.
- Lulu Willie - Administrative Assistant, Reporting.
- Peter Sea - Records Management Officer, HRM.
- Hannah Hasing - Hiring & Contracts Officer, HRM.
- Priscilla Raepom - Acting Director, Media.

Congratulations

- Kathleen Latumahina, Retirements Benefit Fund Officer on the safe arrival of your baby boy.
- To: All our sporting teams representing the National Parliamentary Services (NPS) in the various codes of sports. Congratulations on your various achievements on the field and thank you for being such great ambassadors.

FACTFILES

- The first Speaker of Parliament was Sir Barry Halloway from 1975-1977
- The shortest serving Speaker of Parliament was Iaro Lasaro for 24 hours



Parliament researchers analyse national budgets

THE Papua New Guinea Parliament was part of a team of researchers from the Pacific and Australian parliaments who travelled to Samoa in May and June to build the capacity of the office of the Clerk and its staff by undertaking an independent analysis of national budgets.

The researchers were from Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, PNG and Australia. PNG Parliament was represented by Anderson Anda of the Committee Secretariat Division. Committee Secretariat Director Andrew Kavana and Legal Officer David Yuwa attended similar workshops in Tonga and Fiji respectively.

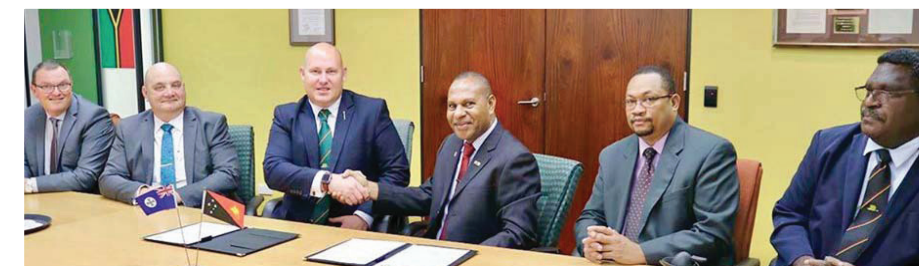
The researchers paired off with local researchers and ministers and drafted an independent analysis of Samoa's national budget which were tabled and debated in Samoa Parliament.

According to the UNDP's Pacific Floating Budget Office Analysis Mission, Pacific Island countries with small legislatures face challenges with analysing, processing and formalising their national budgets. Therefore, UNDP was looking at ways on promoting a flexible model for Pacific parliaments to collectively share knowledge and expertise and support each other during their respective budget processes.

The analysis mission produced briefing notes and presentation of the 2019 budget to Members of Parliament (MPs), the 2019-2020 Budget at a glance and sectoral briefings which will be presented to the MPs at their workshop.

The mission's objectives include; achieving a better understanding of budgets for well-informed deliberation, valuable recommendation on improving the budget scrutiny process, strengthening the capacity of the local staff in budget analysis and budget briefing preparation and stronger networks of the Parliament research teams

Twinning pact signed



Queensland Parliament Speaker Hon. Curtis Pitt, MP (third from left) shakes hands to seal the agreement with Assistant Speaker Hon. Salio Waipo, MP as acting Clerk of Parliament, Kala Aupa (second from right) and acting Deputy Clerk Basil Kambuliagen (right) look on. - Photo: Queensland Parliament

THE Papua New Guinea Parliament recently renewed the Parliamentary Partnership Agreement with the Queensland Parliament for another six years at the 50th Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference held in Brisbane, Australia in July.

The "Twinning Agreement" first signed here in 2013 is a program brokered by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Executive Committee in July 2007 where the parliaments of all Australian states and territories enter into twinning relationships with Pacific parliaments to foster greater cooperation and support between the respective parliaments.

The program has also provided the basis for a range of parliamentary strengthening activities by members and staff of Australian parliaments in conjunction with development agencies

such as the Centre for Democratic Institutions (CDI) at the Australian National University and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Queensland's commitments under the twinning agreement include:

- Exchanges of information regarding parliamentary work, and on matters of common interest;
- Regular exchanges and dialogue regarding the training needs of parliamentarians and staff leading to training activities that promote parliamentary development;
- Exchanges of visits as a means of fostering links between parliamentarians and parliamentary staff; and
- Meetings of representatives at conferences or seminars attended by both parliaments.

Data to improve parliament functions

UNDP Pacific Office, working with Pacific parliaments have begun the process of collecting baseline data on parliamentary operations in the region to assist monitoring and evaluating functions of parliaments.

The baseline data is the first step in a planned process of regular data collection that will allow parliaments to review their functions over time and better guide their agendas for reform and needs prioritisation.

Papua New Guinea Parliament representatives with counterparts from Cook Islands, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Niue, Kiribati and Tuvalu met in Wellington, New Zealand early this year



(right) Hon. John Simon, MP, Minister for Agriculture and Lvestock captured at the meeting. - Photo: Parliamentary Media Services

to launch the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) benchmarks on this data collection methodology developed by UNDP. Since 2016, UNDP with funding from the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade has been implementing the Pacific Parliament Effectiveness Initiative (PPEI) for Pacific parliaments.

“RESPECT: “Respect for ourselves guides our morals; respect for others guides our manners.” - Laurence Sterne



Acting Clerk of Parliament, Kala Aufa giving his speech at the opening of the 2nd Speaker's Investment Summit 2019 held at the Stanley Hotel last month. - *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*



Acting Deputy Clerk of Parliament, Basil Kambuliagen (second from right) escorting the Prime Minister Hon. James Marape (right) during the summit. - *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*



Catering staff serving summit delegates and officials at a cocktail hosted by Parliamentary Service at the Parliament House Lakeside.- *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*

2nd SPEAKER'S INVESTMENT SUMMIT 2019



Hansard and Bills & Papers staff captured, listening attentively to presentations at the summit. - *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*



Inter-Parliamentary Relations Office (IPRO) staff Jenny Rawali (left) and Open Parliament staff, Elisabeth Francis take a breather, sampling "Mountain Coffee"; one of many local SMEs that set up display booths at the summit. - *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*



Parliamentary staff captured during the cocktail, held on the evening before the summit.- *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*

“ ACCOUNTABILITY: Teams keep leaders accountable for the goal. Individuals connected to no one can change the goal without accountability. - John C. Maxwell ”

Happy Independence...

Staff captured at the poolside during Papua New Guinea's 43 years of Independence celebrations held last year. - *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*



New-look lakeside fountain...

Staff posing with the refurbished fountain in the background during the staff Christmas party held last year. - *Photo: Ruth Alex*



Happy Mothers Day!

Female staff at the Mothers Day luncheon held in May this year.- *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*

Farewell late Tony Elly...

BELOW: Acting Clerk of Parliament Kala Aufa presenting a donation to the widow of late Tony Elly who passed away in October last year. Late Elly was the first national Clerk in the first Parliament in 1984. - *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*



A service with a smile...

Staff waiting at the Members Entrance for Opposition members to arrive for a Parliament session in May this year.- *Photo: Parliamentary Media Service*