



WASDOK

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OMBUDSMAN COMMISSION OF PNG

EYE WITHIN

Welcome to February edition of the Wasdok. We hope you have enjoyed the January edition. We acknowledge comments from readers both at headquarters and in the regions and have tried to accommodate their concerns in this edition as well as future editions.

In this edition we feature the LJSP games and despite the pre-conditioning training, our staff did tremendously well, at least for the number eight spot in the overall points ladder and of the nine participating agencies—well done.

Congratulations to all recipients of the Investigators Refresher Course who successfully completed a three days course at headquarters.

The LSJ exhibition in Alotau from 25—27 February, 2009 was a great success despite the short notice given for a scribe to travel—pictorial details on p.3 and story on p.5.

Talking about the Investigators Refresher Course, we feature a special profile on OC Lae Regional Office driver—Fred Liwa—p.4.



How about this for our womenfolk in the Commission—A Friday attire. We caught her off guard on Friday 6 March on her way to the hearing room while MOC was in progress.

We will be back in the March edition.

EDITORIAL

LJSP Games ends in high note



The stories of successes, achievements, failures, and injuries, if any, have already being told on and off the field in the various sporting encounters.

“What you have learnt today may assist you in your day to day encounters and on the work front. For some, you have created special bonds and relationships that will take you to the next level of your lives and careers.”

This were the closing remarks given by the Chief Ombudsman at the one-day LJSP games held at the Sir John Guise

sport stadium on Saturday 14 February, 2009.

The Chief Ombudsman alluded the success of the games to all those who have helped to make the games possible.

Mr. Manek said, had it not been for their leadership, co-ordination and guidance throughout the games it would not have been possible for us to be here.

He said the inception of the PNG Law and Justice Sector’s sport event in 2005 only saw six agencies taking part in five sports codes. These included Basketball, Net-

ball, Soccer, Touch and Volleyball.

Mr. Manek said he remembered vividly during the inaugural tournament that the crowd was not as big as this year now that we have more agencies in the sector participating.

He added that in 2006 and 2007, more agencies began to show interest and joined the annual PNG Law and Justice Sector Sport event.

The Chief Ombudsman said in 2008, a total of 10 agencies participated and this year only 9 Agencies participated in mix basketball, volleyball, touch rugby, soccer and netball.

Investigators urged to be neutral in their conduct



A three day investigators refresher course was conducted for officers of the Commission from Wednesday 18 to Friday 20 February 2009, courtesy of the Complaints Administrative and Investigations Division.

CAID acting Director, Joseph Molita, in his opening remarks welcomed participants, particularly officers who travelled in from the regions.

Mr. Molita said time management was an important topic for the workshop to dwell on, and therefore, they had to start on time, break on

“As investigators you are not advocating for any one’s call— not the complainants, not the governments— you must be neutral at all times,” Ombudsman Nero urges participants at a 3 day workshop in Port Moresby.

time and finish each day on time.

He said workshop details would be progressed with the course facilitator, David Ward, who would be facilitating in the next three days.

Ombudsman John Nero, who officiated at the opening ceremony, welcomed everyone present, including new faces he had not been able to meet.

Mr. Nero encouraged participants to show professionalism in the conduct of their duties as

investigators as this would determine the level of competency of officers, whether at headquarters or in the regions.

He called on participants to be more determined and conduct themselves impartially when they deal with cases.

“As investigators you are not advocating for anyone’s call, not the complainants, not the government. You must be neutral at all times,” he urged the participants.

Mr. Nero wished them luck throughout the three

day workshop and encouraged them to ask as many questions as they could possible can if they were not sure of issues being discussed.

He said by asking questions they can be able to get appropriate answers to issues they do not understand and this was the only healthy way of getting something out the workshop.

Mr. Nero said for officers in the regions, it will assist them advance in the way they conduct business for the Commission away from headquarters and urged them to make use of every opportunity available to them.

Alotau, here we come! Law & Justice Sector exhibition



Nurses formed part of the processing



LJSP Director—
Joe Kanekane



A local theatre group performs for the audience



OC Stall



Police Stall



Hon. Gordon Wesley MP,
Member for Samarai- Murua

Dianne Dademo of Pubsol gives legal advise to a client



Staff Profile—By Heni Goro

It was about 7.45 am and I had just completed the daily media watch for the Chief Ombudsman and got it posted on the LAN. About this time David Ward's presence at the nearby hearing room reminded me of an invitation that I should avail myself to get some pictures and stories for the February edition of the Wasdok.

I glanced over to confirm with David if it was the Investigation Course he had told me about a week ago. On confirmation, I rushed back and got my newshound equipment ready for 9.00 am.

I was the last to enter the hearing room. By then all the course participants had got themselves seated in anticipation for Ombudsman John Nero's arrival to officiate the opening ceremony.

As the theme of the workshop was based around time manage-



Fred Liwa—Being a driver does not stop you from carrying out investigative duties.

ment, punctuality and the like, the program kicked off spot on at 9.00 am with Director Joseph Molita in casual mood, welcomed the course participants.

He looked at me then turned around to the lady participant next

to him, whom I learned later to be also from the Lae Regional Office, and nodded in agreement. I could sense from the strong vibes that it may have been to do with the Wasdok publications, the Regional Offices have been critical about lately. I was right!

The whole room came to life when Fred Liwa finished paying homage, being the first in the row of seats and the only driver among the sophisticated lawyers and investigators.

Fred has reached half century for cricket fanatics, and hails from Kabwun in the Morobe province. He joined the Commission in January 1992 as a driver. He has been, kind of a roving rover, as a driver mixing it up with the GBLP team and on most occasions receiving complaints everywhere they went.

His hard work and anticipations have paid off at last. He was the only driver among a group of investigators who completed a 3 days workshop in Port Moresby. Well done Fred !

Senior OC Officers attend Management Course



Mrs Alexia Luke

Two officers from the OCPNG have returned to Port Moresby after spending two weeks on campus training as part



Mr Genly Malawae

of a two years Project Management Diploma Course they are undertaking, through open learning mode at the Divine Word University in Madang.

They are Alexia Luke, IT Manager and Genly Malawae, Logistic Manager, both from the Support Services Division. Mrs. Luke and Mr. Malawae were among a group of private and public sector employees who spent 10 working days at the Divine Word University to fulfil requirements for a two years Project Management Diploma Course they are doing through an open learning mode with the University.

The course started on Monday 23rd February and finished on Friday 6th March, 2009. Also on the same programme is Albert Sambre, acting Policy & Planning Manager who is expected to travel to Madang in July.

Alotau takes lead in LJS exhibition—Kanekane

A three day Law and Justice Sector exhibition was staged in Alotau, the provincial capital of Milne Bay, from Wednesday 25 to Friday 27 February, 2009, at the Alice Wedaga Oval.

The Member for Samarai-Murua, Hon. Gordon Wesley (MP) who officiated at the opening ceremony highly praised the efforts of the Law and Justice Sector Programme for bringing the exhibition to Alotau.

Mr. Wesley said addressing law and order was not a Law and Justice Sector function alone, but needed communal participation so that its impacts could be widely achieved, particularly at the grass-roots level.

He said although, Alotau was a very peaceful province, compared to the rest of the provinces in Papua New Guinea, every caution was needed to ensure the influx of people into the province was carefully scrutinised.

Similar sentiments were also echoed by the Law and Justice Sector

Programme Director, Joe Kanekane during his closing remarks alluding to the province's success to the administrations recognition of the Law and Justice Sector's outreach programmes.

Mr. Kanekane reaffirmed the sectors full commitment for a safe, sound and just society for Alotau and maintained a strong bond between the administration and the Law and Justice Sector initiatives.

He alluded that it was the responsibility of every citizen in the country to understand the basic things in life. "That means if you learn to obey the law, learn not to break the law and respect the simple law, we will have a safe, sound and just society encapsulated in our slogan. Simple things like, if you are a betel nut chewer, learn to put your rubbish in the rubbish bins provided. If you are living next door to a person or family, you must respect their rights by turning the volume of your radio down. While we are talking about big things, the application of the rule of law must apply in your own setting."



LJSP Director—Joe Kanekane

Mr. Kanekane said if we can learn to do little things this we will go a long way in getting ourselves organised by concentrating on big things like chasing up criminals and putting them behind bars.

"Alotau is a good place and will continue to be a good place to live in and I am very honoured to be here, in fact, my first in my capacity as the Sector's Director. That is why I am very thankful", he added.

He said he was looking forward to working closely with the Administration and the NGO's to enhance the objectives of the Law and Justice Sector programmes in the months ahead.

Stop Violence Against Women

LJS games in pictures



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