



# WASDOK NIUS



EYE WITHIN



## February 2013 edition

### Acting Ombudsman Hekoi dies

The Ombudsman Commission (OC) has suffered another blow in the passing away of yet another critical personnel required by law in its overall operation. Three months after the Chief Ombudsman Late Chronox Manek and Counsel to the Commission Late Gregory Emilio passed away consecutively, OC lost its Acting Ombudsman Mr Gabe Hekoi to illness on 6 February 2013.

Mr Hekoi was serving as the Acting Ombudsman in his time of passing. He was appointed Acting Ombudsman after Ombudsman Phoebe Sangetari was appointed Acting Chief Ombudsman following the death of Late Chief Ombudsman Manek.

Late Acting Ombudsman Hekoi served a total of a little over eight years with the Ombudsman Commission and had vast experience as an Accountant both in the Public and Private Sectors.

He had served as Commercial Accountant, Senior Financial Accountant and then Chief Accountant/ Financial Controller with Air Niugini before joining the Ombudsman Commission.

Late Hekoi joined the OC as a Senior Investigator with the Leadership Division and was later appointed as Internal Auditor in 2005. He left OC for CARDNO ACIL with the Law & Justice Sector program and was reappointed Secretary to the Commission in 2009.

He graduated with a Bachelor in Art (Commerce) from the University of Papua New Guinea in 1981. During his primary schooling, he was selected to complete six months of his grade six education in Hobart,



Late Acting Ombudsman Gabe Hekoi (red circle) and Late Counsel to The Commission Gregory Emilio. Photo taken during the funeral of Late Chief Ombudsman Chronox Manek in Lae.

Tasmania in Australia. He came out to be one of the top students in his class.

Late Hekoi was involved in various church activities in his community as well. He was passionate about mentoring young people about good Christian values and leadership and spent a lot of time with the young people in his community at Elavala because they would be the future leaders of their families, community and the country as a whole and needed to be guided and counselled in various aspects of their young lives.

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#### VISION

Fair, just and effective leadership and good governance in Papua New Guinea.

#### MISSION

To promote and foster quality leadership and good governance and strengthen respect for Rule of Law in accordance with Section 218 of the Constitution.

The Ombudsman Commission is committed to (6) fundamental values in all dealings with government bodies, the private sector, members of the public and the leaders.

The values uphold are;

- ◇ Impartiality
- ◇ Integrity
- ◇ Independence
- ◇ Accountability
- ◇ Responsiveness
- ◇ Respect

[ Ombudsman Commission Strategic Plan 2011-2015 ]

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# 2013 LLG Awareness set to start

The Ombudsman Commission is set to kick start its 2013 Local-level Government (LLG) nationwide pre-election awareness in the first week of March 2013. Officers in the Leadership Division of the Commission, team Leaders plus directors from the other divisions will join in the awareness drive.

The awareness drive aims to make clear to the people at the district and at ward level the duties and responsibilities of the Head of LLG which is the

President and the duties and responsibilities of the Ward Member who is the Councillor.

Many people do not know the difference in the key roles these two different leaders perform through out their term whilst in power.

The awareness drive is a similar exercise that the Commission carried out across the country prior to the 2012 National Elections and the previous elections.

Director Leadership, Mathew Damaru, who is taking the lead in the awareness exercise said in the last 4-5 years the Commission has received increased complaints against the LLG leaders from the public.

Mr Damaru said this awareness exercise aims at educating eligible voters of qualities and values of good leadership in order for them to make the best choice when they cast their votes. It will also make intending candidates and the public aware of the duties and responsibilities of leadership.

The awareness poses quite a lot of challenges to the Commission as the population targeted in the exercise is in the rural areas.

## editorial

### February edition of Wasdok Newsletter

#### Hello readers!

This month OC as an organisation has suffered another blow in the passing away of Acting Ombudsman Gabe Hekoi. Three months after the Chief Ombudsman Late Chronox Manek and Counsel to the Commission Late Gregory Emilio passed away consecutively, OC lost its Acting Ombudsman Mr Gabe Hekoi to illness on 6 February 2013.

The office is coming to terms with the loss of these critical people.

Even though the year begins on a slow note it comes with new challenges with OC kick starting the LLG awareness. We will bring you more coverage on the awareness in our March issue.

We also read about Communication being a two-way process simply that is "me and you".

Cheers!  
Editor

## M&E a challenge in the Sector Agencies



*Sector Performance Monitoring and Reporting Adviser, Myra Navarro-Mukii and Project Effectiveness Adviser, Joanne Roberts.*

Monitoring and Evaluation is a major challenge within the agencies of the Law and Justice Sector. Some officers from the Ombudsman Commission had the opportunity of meeting with the Sector Performance Monitoring and Reporting Adviser, Myra Navarro-Mukii and Project Effectiveness Adviser, Joanne Roberts.

Myra said performance and monitoring is a major issue faced by many of the Law and Justice Agencies. Officers raised concerns about how best they can evaluate their specific projects. "I have visited other agencies and there is really a need for monitoring and evaluation trainings", Myra said.

She said the meeting has helped her understand OC's planning process and achievements made in performance monitoring.

## Media officers attend Communication Conference

Officers from Media Unit of the Ombudsman Commission participated in a Communication conference from 21-22 February 2013 at Lamana Hotel in Port Moresby.

Barbara Sakaiya and Joycelyn Wasas joined their colleagues in the media and communication industry for a two-day Communication Arts Professionals Association (CAPA) conference on the theme 'Breaking Barriers to Effective Communication'.

The aim of the conference was to identify communication barriers that impede communication with an audience and with the stakeholders and suggest improvements or recommendations for a way forward.

The conference brought together communications specialists, Public Relations practitioners, and marketing professionals from the public and private sector, the non-governmental organisations and community-based

organisations to interact and share ideas, experiences and knowledge addressing the theme.

CAPA is made up of former Communication Arts (CA) students of Divine Word University (DWU) throughout Papua New Guinea, with a genuine interest in the affairs of Communication Arts Graduates who are professionals in the private, public, and the non-government sectors of PNG and abroad.



*Media Officers from OCPNG together with others from the Public and Private Sectors and the mainstream media.*

The association was initiated by Jaive Smare, a former student of DWU with the aim of bringing together former CA students of DWU to enrich and build on the knowledge base of communications in PNG through the sharing and transfer of experiences and knowledge.

Mr Smare is the Director for CAPA.

## Communication is a two-way process

Communication is a two-way process of reaching a mutual understanding in which participants not only exchange information, news ideas and feeling but also create and share meaning.

These were the words of Director of PNG Law and Justice Sector Secretariat Mr Joe Kanekane during his opening address at the Communication Arts Professional Association Conference on 21-22 February 2013 at Lamana Hotel in Port Moresby.

Mr Kanekane said the issue in communication, however, is not about the person receiving the message rather how the message is presented. An effective communication is complete once the receiver has understood the message.

A major challenge in communication is once the message or information is sent, do the receivers embrace it? And if they embrace it, what would they do with it?

Kanekane pointed out that communicating information to ordinary Papua New Guineans depends on how the message will impact them. He said no one is interested in information about LNG or

similar kind of development projects unless they will be impacted by it in some way. "You will grab the attention of people if you

mention that the price of tinned fish or kerosene has risen", he said. Effective communication depends on your audience and their experiences.

While agreeing, Rebecca Arnold, Lead Communications and Media Advisor for Esso Highlands (LNG Developer) stressed that in business, communication is a key function of management. An organisation cannot operate without communication between levels, departments, employees and stakeholders. She added that you have to listen to your audience to know what they want.

Communication is a very important tool for development. According to Bank South Pacific's Public Relations Manager Mr Barnabas Pondros, a break down in communication may result when a message is not adapted to its receiver.

# OC Fellowship

## Ealadona Rule

*The body is not one member but many.  
1 Corinthians 12: 14*

Coach Joseph Ealadona had an interesting rule for his team. Whenever a player scored, he was to acknowledge the person on the team who had assisted. When he was coaching Eastern Star Soccer Club, one of his players asked, "Coach, won't that take up too much time? Ealadona replied, "I am not asking you to run over there and give him a big hug. "A nod will do."

To achieve victory on the soccer field, Ealadona saw the importance of teaching his players that they were a team- not just "a bunch of independent operators". Each person contributed to the success of everyone else.

That reminds me of the way the body of Christ should work. According to 1 Corinthians 12: 19-20, each of us is a separate part of the body. If they were all one member, where would the body be or where would the head be? But... there are many members, yet one body.

Is the success of the MOC, an investigator, or OC awareness program based solely on one person's accomplishments? How many people contribute to the smooth operations of the OC programs, a family unit, or a Church organisation?

Coach Ealadona's rule and 1 Corinthians 12 are both rooted in the principle of seeing our need for one another.

Let's use our gifts within the Commission and the body of Christ to build up, strengthen, and help to carry out God's purposes. (Verses 1-11)

REMEMBER: *There are no unimportant people in the body of Christ.*

By Patrick Niebo

## Tribute to Late Gabe Hekoi

Pipi Dai Boe, Elevala village

In cricket, among the specialist bowlers and batsmen, there's always someone who is an all-rounder. In rugby, there is always someone who stands out to be the best forward and the best back. But in any case there is always someone who still stands out to do everything no one can do and that is 'a game breaker'.

Within the family circles and in the community, I have witnessed some extraordinary people who can really think and talk and be influential. However, some appear to think well but cannot talk sensibly and there are others who can talk but cannot think well enough.

There is someone who can either contribute to a conversation that can reveal your own shortfalls and make you feel bad although not intentional or encourage you or build your morale up. There are few whose integrity is intact and conscience is unperturbed and certainly there are a few who can be very difficult to convince and agree to one's own opinion.

Gabe was a man of integrity and stood by his own principles, an all rounder, a game breaker; a man who knew well when to tell off or not to tell off someone right in his face, someone who upheld and safeguarded the rules and laws and someone who did his job in all the senior management roles that he took up and lead his life whether at home or workplace, without fear and favor.

He can be described as a very hard nut to crack and a straight shooter, no nonsense man and yet so modest. Despite this, he was one who was approachable and friendly and of course, a humble down-to-earth man.

Gabe had touched the hearts of many people throughout his life. He gained so much respect amongst his friends and people who knew him back in his school days at Della Salle Boys High School-Bomana, Aiyura National High School then at UPNG throughout his entire working life and community engagements whether it is church-related or social concerns. He had a very outstanding and unique character and surely he leaves behind an incredible legacy behind.

Starting from his early childhood in the humble abode of his parents in Elevala Botai, his determination to excel in life and natural aptitude landed him a scholarship. He was selected to complete six months of his grade six education in Hobart, Tasmania in Australia. He returned and went to Della Salle Boys High School then to Aiyura National High where he was always one of the top students in his class. It was not really a surprise to many when he entered UPNG and graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Commerce.

He practiced professionalism in his field as an accountant and auditor made possible by his vast work experience he undertook both in the country and overseas over the years, having worked with Steamships Trading Company, Provincial Affairs, Air Niugini and up to his death, Ombudsman Commission of PNG serving as Secretary then appointed as Acting Ombudsman in 2012 with the elevation of Ms Phoebe Sangetari as the Acting Chief Ombudsman.



*There is no morning to him  
that's bad...*

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Gabe has left behind his wife Hitolo Kohu three children and five grandchildren. He had an unconditional love for his immediate family.

He was someone who was like family glue - the person who ensures that everyone stays linked to one another in various ways. He saw short falls as no short falls in family gatherings because he always gave whether through his verbal admonition or financial assistance. He was always willing to give advises or a helping hand.

Such is the determination, dedication and loyalty of this great man that despite carrying this ailment that brought his astonishing life to an end, he kept on witnessing for the Lord, counseling victims of broken marriages, unemployment and praying and laying hands over the sick at the hospitals and in the community.

One time he called me over and said, "I beseech you very strongly that in the event when your wife is bed-ridden and dying on her sick bed, continue to love and treat her as if she were normal and look perfect to you at the time when you first met, even on her sick bed when she looks terrible, ugly and smelly until to her death. Do not be ashamed and feel reserved to clean her place if it's wet and messy. Never be hesitant in attending to her discomfort. In other words don't be afraid to get your hands dirty, if need be".

Not long ago before he died, we bumped into each other and without thinking how he would respond, I said in Motu, "vava daba namona" and he responded; "be daba ta dika" then I said, "vava, oi namo?" and he replied, "be ta dika". The conversation simply meant there is no morning to him that is bad.

This is Late Gabe Hekoi, despite carrying a chronic ailment which he has been hiding from everyone except a few close friends and family members, he continued to live his life to its fullest.



Acting Chief Ombudsman ,  
Ombudsman Nero and  
officers of the  
Commission pay  
their last respect

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