

PNG EVENTS

SEPT
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OCT



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NATIONAL
FILM
& SOUND
ARCHIVE

australia's
living
archive

WELCOME

Australians have long crossed the Torres Strait to make films in Papua New Guinea. Between 1906 and 1975, the territories of Papua and New Guinea were Australian protectorates, and cinema played an important role in promoting the colonial agenda to an audience at home and abroad.

In the 1930s, gold prospectors penetrated the highland areas of central New Guinea with maps and bulky 35mm camera equipment only to find a population of one million people living in its mountainous valleys. Following the Pacific War, Australians were increasingly keen to learn more about their northern neighbours and the Film Australia Collection provides a unique insight into the history of PNG at this time through the lens of the government filmmaker. In the early 1970s, a new generation of young, politically aware Australian filmmakers arrived in PNG to document the extraordinary period of change preceding independence in 1975.

To mark the 40th anniversary of independence we proudly present a season of films from all these eras. We are doubly proud to have significant Australian filmmakers and historians to personally present them and discuss their historical, social and political context, including Michael Waterhouse, Gary Kildea, Andrew Pike, Les McLaren and Bob Connolly.

Michael Loebenstein
CEO – NFSA

EVENTS PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER

- FRI 11** Taking Pictures
Panel Discussion:
Canberra & PNG
Ties That Bind
Yumi Yet
-
- THURS 17** Adventures on
the New Guinea
Goldfields Between
the Wars with Michael
Waterhouse
-
- FRI 18** The New Guinea
Goldfields Between
the Wars with Michael
Waterhouse
Trobriand Cricket
Man Without Pigs
-
- SAT 19** 100 Seats: George Telek
-
- FRI 25** First Contact, Joe Leahy's
Neighbours, Bob
Connolly in discussion,
Black Harvest
-
- ADVERTISED
TIMES** PNG from the Film
Australia Collection
-

For all event bookings unless noted, visit:
TRYBOOKING.COM/IISP

PNG FILMS FROM THE FILM AUSTRALIA COLLECTION



SEPT & OCT: 9.40AM – 5PM DAILY
Free entry | All ages
Check [nfsa.gov.au](https://www.nfsa.gov.au) for screening dates.

The Australian Government film unit Film Australia documented stories of daily life in Australia from 1945 until its collection was gifted to the NFSA in 2011. The Film Australia cameras were also trained on our protectorate and neighbour PNG, and we share just a selection of the rich and complex history of traditional life, colonial invasion, war and impacts from industry the Film Australia crew captured.

COLONISTS FOR A DAY

(1994, 55 mins, D: Alex Morgan)

9.40AM

In 1994, director Alex Morgan compiled this previously unseen footage recording the KIAPS (Australian patrol officers) crusading into the PNG interior to impose 'pax Australiana.'

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

(1963, 26 mins, D: Shan Benson)

10.35AM

Documenting the work of Tom Ellis, District Commissioner in the New Guinea highlands.

MOUNT HAGEN SHOW

(1965, 22 mins, D: Boris Cook)

11AM

In a country with over 700 different language groups, the Mount Hagen Show was established to promote peace and tolerance. The Film Australia cameras capture one of the first shows.

MY FATHER MY COUNTRY

(1989, 56 mins, D: Peter Butt)

11.20AM

Meg Taylor follows in the footsteps of the journey undertaken by her father 50 years earlier when he and fellow officers journeyed into the PNG highlands to make first contact.

MEMORIAL TO THE STRETCHER BEARERS OF THE KOKODA TRAIL

(1960, 3 mins, D: Jack S Allan)

12.14PM

In 1960 at the foot of the Owen Stanley Ranges, a memorial to honour the PNG carriers during the Kokoda Trail campaign.

NEW GUINEA BOATMEN DISPLAY SKILLS IN CANOES

(1958, 3 mins, D: Jack S Allan)

12.17PM

Villagers from Koki and Manus Island show their skill at canoe crafting and sailing.

KOMPANI BILONG YUMI

(1969, 26 mins, D: Lionel Hudson)

12.20PM

The Native Marketing and Supply Company of PNG produced native handicrafts for export and was an innovator in being one of the first jointly PNG and European-owned enterprises.

MY VALLEY IS CHANGING

(1970, 26 mins, D: Lionel Hudson)

12:50PM

The building of a giant open-cut copper mine on the island of Bougainville brought profound change to local landowners.

KOKODA

(2010, 56 mins, D: Don Featherstone)

PART 1: 1.15PM, PART 2: 2.15PM

Film Australia sent its film crews to the Kokoda trail and Owen Stanley Mountains to immerse themselves in the history of this region's significant contribution to the Second World War.

GUINEA PATROL

(1958, 43 mins, D: Peter Dimond)

3.15PM

Follow Assistant District Officer James Sinclair and his team of patrol officers, constables, carriers, interpreters and medical personnel as they journey from the furthest outpost of Koroba into the unknown high interior of New Guinea.

TOWARDS BARUYA MANHOOD: VILLAGE LIFE I

(1973, 50 mins, D: Ian Dunlop)

4PM

Every two years the Baruya people of the high Wonenara and Marawaka valleys in PNG gather together in a great display of strength and unity to initiate a new generation of warriors.



CANBERRA AND PNG: TIES THAT BIND

FRI 11 SEPT, 5.30PM

From administration to independence, the people of Canberra have shared a common story – join us for a discussion with the many Canberrans who lived and worked in PNG, and the folk who left the warm PNG weather for a life in our city.

FILM LAUNCH EVENT



KIAP: STORIES BEHIND THE MEDAL
(2015, G, 52mins)

THURS 17 SEPT, 10AM

Chronicling the lives and work of some 2000 young Australian men who served as Patrol Officers in Papua New Guinea between the end of the Second World War and Independence in 1975. They were known by Papua New Guinea people as *Kiaps*, derived from the German word *Kapitan*.

Join PNG High Commissioner His Excellency Charles Lepani on **Thurs 17 Sept @ 10am** for the launch of this film and refreshments. Film screening @ **11am**.

MICHAEL WATERHOUSE LECTURES

Historian and economist Michael Waterhouse presents two illustrated lectures about life on the New Guinea goldfields in the 1930s. The lectures feature rare early footage from the NFSA collection and the Mitchell Library shot by his grandfather, Leslie Waterhouse, who worked as a director of Bulolo Gold Dredging and Guinea Airways in the 1930s. Michael is the author of *Not a Poor Man's Field: The New Guinea Goldfields to 1942 – An Australian Colonial History*.

ADVENTURES ON THE NEW GUINEA GOLDFIELDS BETWEEN THE WARS

THURS 17 SEPT 5.30PM

In this hour-long lecture, Waterhouse shares highlights of the footage shot by his grandfather and Tom Yeomans on the New Guinea goldfields in the 1930s.

THE NEW GUINEA GOLDFIELDS BETWEEN THE WARS

FRI 18 SEPT 10AM

In this two-hour presentation, Waterhouse shares the full complement of footage he has discovered and curated in the course of his research. This will be the first time this film has been shown in public in its entirety, and includes some unique black-and-white footage of life on the Sepik River in the early 1930s, possibly the earliest such film in existence.



SIGNIFICANT AUSTRALIAN PNG DOCUMENTARY

The soon-to-be and later newly independent nation of Papua New Guinea was a fascinating draw for young Australian documentary filmmakers in the 1970s and 80s. In this series we take a retrospective look at their work and invite them to share the stories not told on screen.

DENNIS O'ROURKE

The filmmaking world mourned the tragic loss of Dennis O'Rourke to cancer in 2013. His legacy included some of Australia's most talked about documentary (*The Good Woman of Bangkok*, *Cunnamulla*) and a wealth of chronicles of evolving lives and livelihoods in the Pacific (*Sharkcallers of Kontu*, *Cannibal Tours*). In *Yumi Yet* O'Rourke's camera is trained on the new nation's independence.

Yumi Yet

(1975, PG, 54mins)

With an introduction by Les McLaren.

FRI 11 SEPT, 6.30PM

LES MCLAREN AND ANNIE STIVEN

Annie Stiven and Les McLaren spent 15 years in PNG, working in government cultural institutions, and on independent film projects about culture and change. In *Taking Pictures* they turn the camera onto their fellow documentary filmmakers and ask questions of cultural rights and Western domination of representation.

Taking Pictures

(2001, PG, 56mins)

Followed by Q&A with filmmakers Les McLaren and Annie Stiven.

FRI 11 SEPT, 3PM

GARY KILDEA

In 1975, filmmaker Gary Kildea lived among the communities of the Trobriand Islands where cricket was introduced by a British missionary, Reverend Gilmour, in the early 20th century to replace violent tribal warfare with gentlemanly sportsmanship.

Trobriand Cricket

(1975, PG, 54mins)

Followed by Q&A with Gary Kildea.

FRI 18 SEPT, 3PM

CHRIS OWEN AND ANDREW PIKE

Director Chris Owen and producer Andrew Pike accompanied John Waiko home to his PNG village after he became the first PNG man to obtain a PhD (at Canberra's ANU) – a piece of paper that has little influence on the minutiae of village life and daily struggles back home.

Man Without Pigs

(1990, PG, 59mins)

Introduction and Q&A by Andrew Pike.

FRI 18 SEPT, 6PM

BOB CONNOLLY

Bob Connolly and Robin Anderson spent a decade of their lives charting the story of first contact between the highland tribes of PNG and European explorers with *First Contact*, and the long-term ramifications of this collision of cultures across two follow-up long-form documentaries (*The Highlands Trilogy*).

Connolly joins us to present these screenings:

First Contact

(1982, PG, 58mins)

FRI 25 SEPT, 2.30PM

Joe Leahy's Neighbours

(1989, PG, 90mins)

FRI 25 SEPT, 3PM

Connolly discusses the films with Ray Edmondson of the Friends of the NFSA

FRI 25 SEPT, 6.30PM

Black Harvest

(1992, M, 90mins)

FRI 25 SEPT, 7.30PM

Free to Friends of the NFSA members or entry by gold coin donation.

TRYBOOKING.COM/IJQX



100 SEATS: GEORGE TELEK

SAT 19 SEPT, 6.30PM

\$40 | All ages | 90 mins with interval
Online booking code:
TRYBOOKING.COM/IJFC

The haunting voice of George Mamua Telek, known as Telek to his legion of fans in PNG, traverses many musical styles and perfectly captures the spirit of the proud cultural heritage of the Tolai people. His 1997 album *Telek* won an ARIA as Best World Music Album, leading to an invitation from Peter Gabriel to record his second album *Serious Tam* at Gabriel's Real World studio.

'Telek's voice on its own is a thing of rare beauty.' London's *Sunday Times*



MYTH + MAGIC

ART OF THE SEPIK RIVER, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

UNTIL 1 NOVEMBER FREE ENTRY

 NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA

Papua New Guinea, East Sepik Province, Yuat River Mask 19th century
(detail), wood, ochres, fibre, shell. National Gallery of Australia, Canberra



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