

Index to *Niugini Caver*

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Niugini Caver was a journal devoted to documenting cave exploration and speleology (the science of caves) in Papua New Guinea (PNG). The journal was published on behalf of the PNG Cave Exploration Group (PNGCEG), an informal association of those engaged in cave exploration in PNG. It was founded in early 1973 by RM (Mike) Bourke, supported by his wife, Jean, who were based at Keravat, about 40 km from Rabaul, New Britain. Mike edited sixteen issues of the journal, volumes 1 to 4, from 1973 to 1976. Another member of the PNGCEG (and also University of Queensland Speleological Society), Malcolm Pound, supported by his wife, Alison, and others in Port Moresby, took over the editing when Mike left PNG. The Pounds produced nine issues across 1977, 1978 and 1979. After a gap of several years, they produced a huge catch-up issue (volume 7, numbers 2, 3 and 4) of 124 pages in 1982.

Geoff Francis, assisted by John Wyeth and Bernard Pawih, produced one issue in December 1982. This was the final issue, as the number of active cave explorers in PNG, most of whom were Australian, British or New Zealander, had declined as this generation of expatriates left PNG. Twenty-seven issues of the journal were produced, containing 1010 pages.

The focus of the journal was documenting caves in PNG, but many other cave-related topics were covered, including documentation of cave use by indigenous Papua New Guineans (rock art, burials, wartime history, legends, spirits and stone artefacts). Other articles include karst geomorphology, cave fauna, bibliographies, short biographies of prominent cave explorers in PNG and a history of cave exploration in PNG from the early 1960s.

There were more articles on caves in Chimbu and New Ireland (over 270 in each of these two provinces) than elsewhere, but a significant number of articles from Southern Highlands (including what is now Hela), Eastern Highlands, East New Britain and Western provinces were also published. Eleven or fewer articles came from West New Britain, Madang, Western Highlands and Milne Bay. No articles were published in *Niugini Caver* from East Sepik, Northern (Oro) or Gulf provinces, although caves have been documented elsewhere in those three provinces, including by a 2017–18 Italian expedition to the border of Gulf and Southern Highlands provinces. A photo of cone karst in the Darai Hills inland from Kikori in Gulf Province was included in one issue. The distribution of articles reflects both the location of caves as well as ease of access to the karst area. Several articles were devoted to caves in other nations, including Vanuatu and Solomon Islands.

This comprehensive index was prepared by Tracy Harwood and proofread by Mike Bourke. We are grateful to Dave Gillieson, Kevan Wilde and Ian Wood for comments on a draft index. All personal names are indexed, although many are passing mentions — they offer little substantive information — and may be of interest only to the cavers themselves or for genealogical histories. The term *passim* refers to small mentions of a subject throughout a span of pages. The numbers that follow each entry indicate the volume, issue and page number where that item was published. Thus: Abara Creek, WSP, 4(2) 56 refers to that location in *Niugini Caver* volume 4, number 2, page 56.

We have used the official names for certain provinces, rather than the commonly used names; that is, we have used Chimbu (not Simbu) and West Sepik (not Sandaun). Hela Province, created in May 2012, is the site of many of the caves and activities described as being in Southern Highlands Province. The key to abbreviations used for provinces follows.

BOU	Bougainville	GUL	Gulf	SHP	Southern Highlands (including Hela)
CEN	Central	MAD	Madang	WES	Western
CHI	Chimbu (Simbu)	MAN	Manus	WHP	Western Highlands
EHP	Eastern Highlands	MBP	Milne Bay	WNB	West New Britain
ENB	East New Britain	MOR	Morobe	WSP	West Sepik (Sandaun)
ENG	Enga	NIP	New Ireland		

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