



FRIENDS OF THE HIGHWAY GALLERY

Newsletter September 2014 Convenor: Marie Donald

🌸 *Message from the Convenor*

Over the past month two Councillors and several Council Officers have shown interest in our Gallery. This meant a last minute postponement of our planned talk by Marj Walker at our August Coffee Morning as the Council visitors wanted to meet the Friends of the HG. Our apologies for that as there wasn't time to let everyone know. We will however, hear from Marj about the Celebrations at her PNG School's 70th Anniversary at our September Coffee Morning.

You have already received the Minutes of the Meeting with the Council and enclosed is the Minutes of the follow up Meeting. This Meeting, initiated by Cr Bill Pontikis, was held on Monday August 18. Many of us came to the second meeting, plus many apologies, to express our support for the ongoing future of The Highway Gallery. Many thanks for your interest and support. Like myself, many of you have been Friends of the Gallery since the early 1980's - Marie

🌸 *Friends' Coffee Mornings - First Monday of each month at 10:30 am*

Monday Aug 4 - Meeting re the Future of The Highway Gallery

🌸 *Next Coffee Morning:*

Monday, Sept 1 Sogeri School 70 years old - Marj in PNG



Seventy years ago, the Australian Government built a school on the site that had been the Convalescent Depot for injured soldiers of the Kokoda Trail battles.

The school has had an important role in educating Papua New Guineans over seven decades. For 14 years in the 70's and 80's Marj Walker was Head of the Expressive Arts Dept at Sogeri. The subject area covered Music, Drama, Visual Arts, Oral History and Traditional Studies. The school was the first School of Excellence set up in 1969 preparing students of Grade 11 and 12 ready for University entrance. There are now 7 of these, mostly boarding schools, in various parts of the country. The top students from Grade 10 in Provincial High Schools are selected to attend.

The Seventieth Anniversary Celebrations saw several new buildings Opened, one of these being a new Sogeri Museum.

The school's comprehensive collection of traditional items moved to a new building. Marj was invited to go to PNG in April to advise on the Museum move and in early June she was briefly back up at Sogeri for the 2 days of Official Celebrations and Traditional Dancing by the present students performing their tribal dances.

We will see an illustrated account of the Celebrations at our next Coffee Morning on Monday September 1, at 10.30 am. Visitors welcome.

🌸 *Current and forthcoming exhibitions*

SPRING into ART

Work by members of the Hughesdale Art Group September 2 to 10



REFLECTIONS

**Mount Street Neighbourhood House
Annual Art Show**

September 12 to October 2

Waverley Arts Society 44th Annual Exhibition and Sale Oct 11 to 31

More details in the October Newsletter

Printing of this Newsletter by courtesy of the Office of the Hon. Anna Burke MP

🌀 *The Highway Gallery, 14 The Highway, Mount Waverley 3149 9807 7261* 🌀

Opening times - Wednesday to Sunday 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm