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VSA Volunteers to start Oct/Nov 2017



On the 7th of September, a team consisting of representatives of the Volunteer Services Abroad (VSA) head office in Wellington and the Vanuatu office met with representatives of the Elwood J Euart Association to confirm placement of two volunteers with the Elwood J Euart Association to support the development of the South Pacific WWII Museum.

The first volunteer will assist the association over a period of up to 3 months to develop its fundraising, marketing & communications plan. The second volunteer will help the association in implementing these plans, over a period of up to 48 months.

As Zealand's largest and most experienced volunteering agency working in international development, VSA is confident that the candidates recruited under its programme will help the Museum project increase its capacity as well as to help achieve greater visibility and develop a strong brand that results in significant growth in donor-interest, pledges for support, sponsorship, and raising the needed funds for the South Pacific WWII Museum project.

The Elwood J Euart Association wishes to thank VSA, the New Zealand Government through its Aid Programme, and its private and corporate partners for their support.

Big Wok - Vanuatu's War stories

The stories of Vanuatu's involvement and experience in World War two is better told by our own people who witnessed and were involved in the war.

From 1987 to 1989, Prof. Lamont Lindstrom, James Gwero and few other field workers of the Vanuatu Cultural Center interviewed and recorded stories of more than 125 men and women throughout Vanuatu.

Lindstrom and Gwero furthered their work by compiling in 'Bislama', Vanuatu's national language, a book 'Big Wok' to feature some of these stories. We are grateful of the work done by Lindstrom, Gwero, and the Vanuatu Cultural Center. Their work help preserve an important part of Vanuatu war history for the current and future generations.

It is the mission of the South Pacific WWII Museum to acquire, document, preserve and exhibit the World War II military history which is reflective of Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu and the surrounding Pacific region.

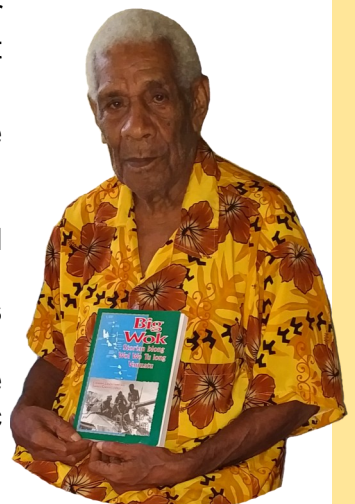
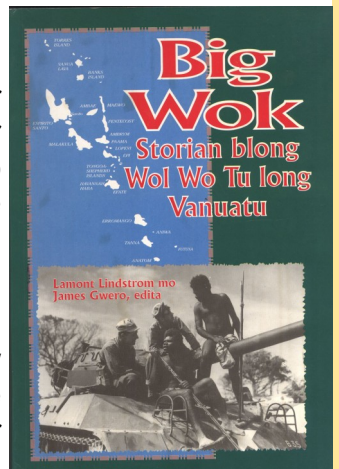


Image: Co-Editor James Gwero with a copy of Big Wok' book . Photo taken after meeting him in Sept 2017

Grumman F6F-5 Hellcat pieces found and assembled for display

Pieces of a 'diaphragm' or 'firewall disk' off the front section of a Grumman F6F-5 Hellcat were found at a wreck site here on Espiritu Santo, and assembled to put up at the new mini-museum at Pekoa International airport due to open in October 2017.

Thanks to [Broken Wings](#) and [Planes of Fame Museum](#) for their help with identifying the aircraft matching this part.

The airport mini-museum will provide visitors and the general public a glimpse of what the actual museum will contain when completed.

The displays will help in creating more awareness for the museum project as well as support it's fundraising efforts.

The F6F-5 Hellcat is an American fighter aircraft based on Espiritu Santo and flying battle missions from the three bomber airstrips and one fighter airstrip here, to the Solomon islands and other battlefields further north during World War II.



Image above: Assembled 'firewall disk' for display

Image below: Firewall disk shown on a F6F-5 Hellcat (source: Broken Wings)

Image far right: Grumman F6F-5 Hellcats at Espiritu Santo during WW2 (source: US National Archives)



75th Memorial of Capt. Elwood J Euart & launch of the South Pacific WWII Museum

(1942 - 2017)

This October 26th marks the 75th Anniversary of the SS President Coolidge sinking.

While there will be other activities organized by the local dive operators throughout the week to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the SS President Coolidge sinking, the highlights on the sinking date will be 'The President's Dinner' organized by Coral Quays Resort with a 1940s theme where the main courses will be based on an original menu of the Dollar line Cruise Ships. Prepaid tickets for the President's Dinner is available at [Coral Quays Resort](#).

On that day, the Elwood J Euart Association will also be organizing a memorial service at Captain Euart's monument next to the SS President Coolidge sinking site, to honour its association's namesake as well as officially launch the Museum project, followed by the opening of the Airport mini-museum and the Museum project development office.


Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome Dwight Martin and Robert & Dianne Thurley to the Elwood J Euart Association this month.

New Membership Special Offer

In return of signing up as a member, we'll include your name on a commemorative plaque that will hang in the Museum once construction is complete. This is only for the first 500 members. Sign up today. [Find out more here](#)



 **PayPal** Help us build the South Pacific WWII Museum
Online donations to [Elwood J Euart Association](#) Paypal account

"We aim to inspire all to understand the sacrifice and achievement of others in defending freedom for all"

For more information, donation and pledges of support
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