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In this edition we provide you with recent updates of the museum development. The major highlights of this 6th month occurred on the 2nd day of this month, with the launching of the museum's website after months of developing it. Not only was one milestone achieved on that same day, but two, where we also gained access into an existing building located at the museum site to be fixed up into becoming the office of the museum project.

Website Launch

Months of committed efforts into developing the website finally paid off when the clock strikes midday on Friday the second of June 2017, when it was set earlier that week to launch.

This would not have been possible without the generous contribution of James Carter, a fond friend of the museum, who had voluntarily offered his professional services at no cost to the museum, to plan, design and fully develop the website. Much of the content was put together by James with support from the museum team. His full dedication and commitment represents his passion not only for the war and its history but also into preserving and educating our own people about the role the islands and the Pacific region played during the war.

James is the creative director at Clemenger BBDO—Melbourne's largest and most awarded advertising agency. He has also assisted the museum in the past to develop its promotional [video](#).

He is currently supporting the museum in developing its Business and Strategic Plan. Thank you James for all your support. Visit website [here](#).

Museum Project Office

After discussions with the Acting Director General of the Ministry of Justice, Mr Pacco Siri, and Mrs Dorosday Kenneth, the Director of Woman's Affairs, we are pleased to have achieved a mutual understanding and agreement to move into the former Vanwoods office located on the museum site and next to the Santo Department of Woman's Affairs office. We thank Acting DG Siri, Director Dorosday Kenneth and their teams for their support.

Since after employing its first staff, the Elwood J Euart Association has since housed its full time staff at the Santo Hardware premises. This new office space now provides sufficient work space for its growing project team, with New Zealand VSA Volunteers due to start later this year and visiting friends and supporters of the museum who will be voluntarily assisting this project.

Renovation has started on the 02nd of June, aiming to complete by August. Inside the office will also be a display section of some of the museum's collection to date.

Image: Current museum office before renovations, located at eastern corner of the museum site



Project Launch planned for this October 2017

The Museum team and committee members are currently working towards its official project launch planned for late October 2017. This will follow the 75th Anniversary of the sinking of the [SS President Coolidge](#) on the 26th of October.

We will keep all our members, friends and followers informed of the plans and program of this important event in the upcoming months.

Those who wish to be part of this event, and to help in anyway, are welcome to contact us by email: info@southpacificwwiimuseum.com

Thank you Lamont Lindstrom, James Gwero & Vanuatu Cultural Center

Early this week, we were provided with some of Lamont's findings as part of his research about the war history of the New Hebrides.

Lamont has published a number of reports and books about the war as part of his research. One of which was titled the ' American Occupation of the New Hebrides'.

Back in the late 1980s, he worked together with the Vanuatu Cultural Center field worker, James Gwero, to interview and record stories of local Ni-Vanuatu people. Part of their work was compiled into the book '[Big Wok](#)' written in Bislama, Vanuatu's national language. Some of these Ni- Vanuatu people have passed on, adding great value to the works of Lamont and James. We are fortunate to have had this recorded stories, preserved and protected. We congratulate and thank Lamont, James Gwero and the Vanuatu Cultural Center for efforts and contribution towards preserving our own stories of the war.

Lamont Lindstrom is an Anthropology professor at the University of Tulsa in the United States.

Listen to recent Radio Interviews

- [ABC Pacific Beat's radio segment about the museum](#)
- [Radio New Zealand interview with Museum Chairman](#)

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to announce and welcome the following new members to the Elwood J Euart Association. Thank you for your interest and support.

- Wendy Turner
- Brigg Ranford
- Donna Esposito
- Rick Bevan


A Special Offer to New Members



If you're one of the first 500 members to join the Museum, we'd like to offer you a very special opportunity. In return for your generosity, we'll include your name on a commemorative plaque that will hang in the Museum once construction is complete.

Membership to the Museum also makes a wonderful gift for a family member or loved one, whose name you'd like to add to the Museum as a lasting memory for choosing to get behind us.

Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in helping to protect and preserve the WWII history of Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu and the South Pacific region. The funds from your membership will go towards our fundraising effort to get the Museum constructed, and assist in the operation of the Elwood J Euart Association. To become a member, just follow the steps outlined [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
CONTACT: Elwood J Euart Association
Email: info@southpacificwwiimuseum.com
Website: www.southpacificwwiimuseum.com
Phone: (678) 36 227 Fax: (678) 36 829
PO Box 850 Luganville Espiritu Santo Vanuatu