



MRL Capital NEWS

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Joanne graduates through MRLC scholarship assistance

FOR Joanne Kiapital, April 29 2011 will be remembered as a significant milestone in her academic life. She is the first female student to graduate as a fully fledged degree student under the MRL Capital Tertiary Students Scholarship Program since the program commenced in 2010.

The MRL scholarship scheme offers young Lihirian school leavers the opportunity to pursue higher educational qualifications so that they are prepared for life after mine closure.

Twenty two students have, since last year, been awarded scholarships to take up Commerce, Accounting, Information Technology, Education, Arts and Engineering studies at respective Australia and PNG universities.

Joanne graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing Management & Education at the 56th UPNG graduation. When she applied some 12 months ago for scholarship under this program, Joanne held a Nursing Officer 1 qualification and was employed as tutor at

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the St Mary's School of Nursing at Vunapope, East New Britain Province. She also had four years of practical experience at Palie Health Centre on Lihir.

"This degree is testament that anything is possible if you put your mind to it. With my Nursing Officer 1 qualification, four year working exposure as a Nurse at Palie and five years tutoring experience at Vunapope, I was able to successfully complete this exhaustive year long program.

"The fact that I was working before I enrolled for this post graduate program helped enormously as the program is very extensive and not for the faint hearted. Not all the 19 of us who enrolled at the start of the academic year graduated, so you can see what I mean.

For me, with this degree, I feel I am now ready to return home. Living and working in Kokopo, where services are readily available has made me realize the lack of services that my people on the island have. I set myself a personal goal when I left Lihir in 2005 and that was to only return home with a higher educational qualification as it means I will be able to better serve my people.

"I have successfully done that. I want to return home now, give a few more years of service to my people and maybe go for further studies."

MRL Capital congratulates Joanne on her achievement of attaining Bachelor's Degree in Nursing Management & Education and is proud to be associated with this success.

Editorial

WELCOME to our second edition of MRL Capital News.

This edition is dedicated to our Tertiary Students Scholarship Scheme for Lihirians. This scheme is initially for a five year term and was launched in 2010 and has been running into two years now.

The scheme is an initiative of the Board and Management of MRL Capital Ltd to focus its attention on the future generations of Lihirians. This scheme aims to develop the human resource of Lihir Islands and to ensure Lihirians are better equipped to handle the challenges and opportunities in a modern economy of Lihir Island, Papua New Guinea and the world. MRL Capital is indeed an active sponsor in the development of Lihirian professionals, both present and future.

Through this scholarship scheme, young Lihirians will gain better access to educational support and guidance and eventually develop into productive citizens and contribute to the society and the community.

Participants in the scholarship scheme will have all their costs related to board and lodging, tuition, book allowance, travel costs plus basic stipend provided.

The scheme applies to school leavers who have been accepted by tertiary institutions in PNG and overseas.

I am glad to announce that to date, a total of 22 Lihirian students have benefited from this scheme.

Congratulations to our graduates for

2011 academic year— Joanne Kiapital, Degree in Nursing Management & Education and Camillus Hobo, Degree in Information Systems and Management.



Thomas Tanasu
MD and CEO

Our Chairman' say

I am delighted to know that within just two years since the MRL Capital Tertiary Scholarship was launched in 2010, 22 students from Lihir have benefited from the scheme.

This scheme is consistent with the long term objective of the company which is to facilitate all Lihir Islanders to be self reliant and financially independent –The Lihir Destiny – when the Lihir Gold mine closes.

I believe to achieve the Lihir Destiny, today's potential Lihirians must be identified and given every educational opportunity to prepare themselves to be effective leaders of tomorrow, not only for Lihir but also for PNG as a country. Educated and healthy population are able to build a prosperous sustainable society.

As a responsible corporate entity, MRL Capital undertakes commercial investments that will give the highest possible returns to its shareholders. We apply the

same principal in the investment in our human resource, perhaps the most significant resource of any institution. We believe the investment MRLC is making in the development of our human resource is a long term investment and will eventually bring tangible benefits to the people of Lihir and Papua New Guinea.

The Board of MRL Capital has fully endorsed this scheme and will continue to do so as long as the beneficiaries comply and uphold the requirements of this scheme and the graduates are of high standards who can be competitive in the labour market.

Apart from this scholarship scheme, the Board intends to undertake other community development projects over the coming months under its Community Service Obligation (CSO) program. The Board has established a Social Committee as part of the Company's overall five year strategic plan

to oversee the successful implementation of the CSO program on Lihir for the Island community.

On behalf of the Board, I convey our congratulations to the 2011 graduates and also the internal committee which has worked diligently to implement this scheme thus far.



Mark Soipang
Chairman
MRL Capital Limited

MRLC scholarship a blessing for Camillus

"I would not have had the privilege of these services if I was not on the scholarship and I thank MRLC for it."

Camillus enrolled at the Divine Word University in Madang for the four year Degree in Information Systems and Management Program in 2007 after graduating with a Diploma in Information Technology at the Don Bosco Technological Institute in Port Moresby.

He was self sponsored for two of those years, putting a tremendous burden on his parents.

When he was selected for the MRLC Scholarship last year, "it was a huge relief".

"I was in the final year of my course and I really needed to concentrate. I had been struggling with school fees and it seemed this was going to be another one of those years when I heard wind of the MRLC scholarship and applied. The scholarship was a real blessing and I can't thank the company enough.

"The scholarship was a relief for my parents. It was very extensive, covering things like medical insurance, accommodation, book allowances and a return ticket to Lihir.

"I would not have had the privilege of these services if I was not on the scholarship and I thank MRLC for it."

Camillus graduated in February this year and is considering starting an electronic and computing shop on the island. He wants to provide people internet services outside of the mine. Camillus also

wants to further his education, believing that in his field of expertise, changes in technology occur constantly and if he has to prosper, he needs the relevant qualifications.

For now, Camillus is content where he is. He has found a job on the island and is looking forward to putting into practice what he has learnt.

"I have been offered employment with a local company and am looking forward to putting to use the knowledge and skills I have obtained. It's been a long road to where I am now. There are many people I owe my success to. I thank God, my family and MRLC for helping me achieve my dreams."





Lihir students studying in PNG and Australia

MRL Capital Limited, as a partner in the development of the people of Lihir, has continued its tertiary sponsorship this year.

Fifteen students will take up Commerce, Accounting, Information Technology, Education, Arts and Engineering studies at respective Australia and PNG universities.

MRL Capital Limited Managing Director, Thomas Tanasu, said the scholarship is aimed at giving young Lihirians an opportunity to achieve their dreams and become professional Papua New Guineans employable in PNG and abroad.

“We live in a competitive world and for these young Lihirians to have an edge over their peers, as well as be competitive in the job market, they will need to have the right

qualifications; the right education, and that is the rationale behind the creation of this scholarship scheme.

“Our scholarship scheme does not substitute Newcrest’s scholarship assistance to the people of Lihir; rather it offers these young Lihirians an opportunity to pursue their dreams.

“The mine will one day close. The people must be prepared for life after mine closure. The scheme is our contribution towards preparing them for that.”

MRL Capital has sponsored 22 students since the inception of the scholarship last year, giving these young Lihirians an opportunity to achieve their dreams of attaining tertiary education.

Scholarship holders in 2010

Awardee	Institution	Course
Joanne Kiapital	University of PNG	Bachelor in Nursing
Lawrence Baras	University of PNG	Bachelor of Arts in Political Science
Jacob Asiat	University of PNG	Bachelor In Business Management
Ronald Balbal	University of PNG	Bachelor of Arts in Social Work
Ian Alfred Kaven	University of PNG	Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science and Physical Geography
Jacobeth Amnol	University of PNG	Diploma in Accounting
Gerald Yanasa	Institute of Business Studies	Diploma in Accounting
Joseph Sakatne	Institute of Business Studies	Advanced Diploma in Business
Camillus Hobo	Divine Word University	Bachelor in Information Management
Newman Sana	University of Southern Queensland	Bachelor of Civil Engineering

Scholarship Objectives

The scheme applies to school leavers who have been accepted by tertiary institutions in PNG and abroad.

The rationale behind this is as follows:

- The world is progressively modernising and people must have the capacity to participate in the future world.
- Current and future generations of Lihirians must be educated in order to participate meaningfully in the future.
- Educated and professional Lihirians will be required to run commerce, industry, administration, government and private sector
- In a competitive world only human capability is dependent on education, training and professionalism.
- This scholarship scheme supplements the NML scholarship for Lihirians whose mineral wealth is exploited and exported overseas for millions of US dollars.

MRLC scholarship recipients have their say

FOR the scholarship recipients and their families, the assistance has been of tremendous help. Here is what some of them had to say:



"I've always wanted to become a doctor and the scholarship assistance from MRLC will go a long way in ensuring that I achieve this dream. My parents are both medical professionals, so I guess choosing this career path was easy.

"Thank you MRLC for assisting me realise this dream."

Melissa is in her first year of studies for a Bachelor of Science Degree. She wants to become a doctor. Like her father, she aims to one day, graduate in medicine and serve the people of PNG in her profession.

Melissa Kaven– Bachelor of Science-University of Papua New Guinea



"My ultimate aim is to successfully graduate with an Accounting degree. I am currently studying for my Diploma and hope to graduate next year.

"This scholarship is highly appreciated. I am privileged to be sponsored by MRLC and will do my very best to ensure that all the help I am getting from the Company is not wasted."

Gerald has set his sights on furthering his education, either here or overseas and knows that what he needs to do now is concentrate on his studies.

Gerald Yanasa– Diploma in Accounting– Institute of Business Studies



"I see this opportunity to study abroad as a stepping stone to achieving greater things. Through this scholarship, I am now exposed to the world and the opportunities that are available.

"It is also a challenge for me. I need to prioritize my goals, the first; to successfully graduate with my degree.

"In ten years time, I hope to be contributing in my capacity as a planner to the development of Lihir and PNG."

Stanley Gona Daimol– Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning– University of Queensland



"Being a recipient of this scholarship is a privilege. In order for my future ambitions to be achieved, this is where it starts. Placing the first step ahead is the key to completing the whole journey.

"From the knowledge I gain at the completion of my finance major, I will be able to live my dreams as well as help my family by providing financial advice on projects they are engaged in and contribute to development on Lihir and PNG.

"It is my aim to be able to assist my people prepare themselves for life after mine closure and with this degree of exposure, I am confident I will be able to do that,"

Melanie Maur- Bachelor of Commerce- University of Southern Queensland



"I would like to be working as a senior Engineer in 10 years time, in charge of either a geothermal power station or a processing plant.

"This scholarship is helping me realize these dreams and I am thankful.

Newman Sana- Bachelor of Civil Engineering- University of Southern Queensland

Their say....



“Being on the scholarship means a lot to me. This is the beginning of a new chapter in my life in which at present, I have to see the forthcoming challenges and achievements as the end result of the scholarship program offered.

“As a recipient, I also have to make use of the resources provided and get the best out of it. I reckon this is the primary objective of MRLC as well.

It will be Loise’s “greatest achievement” to one day become a Certified Practicing Accountant and reduce the number of qualified accountants that are coming in from abroad. She knows that with these qualification, she will be able to achieve her goal of leading a business entity either on Lihir or elsewhere in PNG.

Loise Kondiak– Bachelor of Commerce– Pacific Adventist University



“I am working very hard, not only to graduate as a specialist teacher, but to also do well so that I continue to be on the MRLC scholarship. I also want to return to Lihir and teach there and with the exposure and educational I will then have, I know I will be able to do a lot for the school.

“It is important to be properly educated as it prepares our generation and those after us for life after mine closure and I am thankful for the MRLC scholarship for doing that.

Pauline is studying for a Bachelor in Education Degree at the University of Goroka. She wants to specialize in Accounting and teach on Lihir after the completion of the five year program.

Pauline Braun– Bachelor in Education– University of Goroka



“After this four year program, I will be graduating with a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting and Sustainable in Business and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, all thanks to the financial assistance of MRLC.

“As a young Lihirian, this opportunity to further my studies is Godsend and I will do my utmost best to ensure that I successfully graduate.

“I would like to help support my family, the people of Lihir and PNG, with the knowledge, skills and experience I gain after this program.”

Enoch Sasieh– Bachelor in Accounting– University of Southern Queensland

2011 scholarship holders

Awardee	Institution	Course
Clothilda Bolot	University of Southern Queensland	Bachelor in I.T majoring in applied computer science
Encoh Sasieh	University of Southern Queensland	Bachelor in Accounting
Nickson Lopuk	University of Southern Queensland	Bachelor in I.T majoring in computer systems engineering
Melanie Maur	University of Southern Queensland	Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Finance
Maxine Pupet	University of Queensland	Bachelor of Information Technology
Stanley Daimol	University of Queensland	Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning
Pauline Braun	University of Goroka	Bachelor in Education
Dorothy Samewan	University of Goroka	Bachelor of Education
Vanessa Karani	University of Technology	Diploma in Communication for Development
Ruru Gasrong	University of Technology	Diploma in Commerce
Loise Kondiak	Pacific Adventist University	Bachelor of Commerce (Majoring in Accounting and Information Technology)
Melissa Kaven	University of PNG	Bachelor of Science

Drought affected Mahur islanders assisted

MRL Capital Limited, in May, assisted three drought affected villages on Lihir.

The Company's Lihir Office Manager Patrick Labongis, presented a K15,000 cheque to Papindo Lihir for the purchase of food supplies to be distributed to the 1,053 people of Kuelam, Lakamelen and Lih villages, all on Mahur Island.

"On behalf of the disaster committee and the disaster affected areas, I would like to thank MRLC for showing concern in assisting the Lihirians who are suffering from the recent drought," Disaster Committee Chairman Samuel Tabairuo said.

Lihir has not had rain since September last year. On Mahur island, where MRL Capital's K15,000 assistance will be received, the prolonged drought has affected the islanders' food gardens, water

sources and schools. Health service has also been affected and while there has been an increase in the number of sick children and adults, there has been no water to administer medication said acting local level government secretary Gregory Opat.

In a situational report sent to the company for assistance, Mr Opat said: "The soil has become too dry that food and cash crops have not been able to grow well.

"At Makapa Primary School, student attendance has been affected, with classes running only until lunchtime when students are sent home.

"While the coastal villages of Lakamelen and Kuelam have bore water wells, the people of Lih have been traveling up and down the mountains daily to find water."



These photos show the purchased food supplies being loaded onto outboard motors to be transported to Mahur island in Lihir. They were distributed to the affected villages of Kuelam, Lakamelen and Lih.

Deed of Trust- Lihir Equity Trust

BESIDES the requirements of its Company Constitution and the Companies Act 1997, MRL Capital as Trustee is regulated by the Deed of Trust- Lihir Equity Trust ("Trust Deed").

The Lihirian Trust was initially set up for the purpose of receiving and holding dividends from its holding in Lihir Gold Limited together with any other property acquired or received by the Trust for and on behalf of Lihirians. Any distributions out of the Trust are to benefit all Lihirians equally such that no group or class of Lihirians is unreasonably favored.

The Trust Deed vests the management and investment of the Lihirian Trust in MRL Capital as Trustee, provides for the administration of the

trust property, sets out the powers of the Trustee and sets out accounting and record keeping requirements on MRL Capital.

The Trust Deed also mandates MRL Capital to provide for the long term benefit of Lihirians using the Lihirian Trust.

MRL Capital is fully aware of its corporate responsibilities to its shareholders and beneficiaries as well as its trustee roles and responsibilities to its beneficiaries. MRL Capital has put in place policies and internal governance systems to ensure that the Lihirian Trust is protected, preserved and grown for the benefit of present and future generation of Lihirians.

A man on a mission

MARK Soipang is a man on a mission, a mission to serve the interests of the 14,000 people of Lihir.

Quitting is not an option for this bespectacled gentleman who strives each day to ensure that when Newcrest packs up and leaves Lihir, his people will be self reliant and financially independent.

"I have a duty to my people. I want to build a lifestyle of growth for them and see the mine as an opportunity for my people to improve their lives.

"I have set up social and economic structures that are geared toward achieving this and seeing these mechanisms work motivates me.

"I have a responsibility to ensure that my people are self reliant and financially independent and to ensure that commercially, their businesses are maintained and capital retained."

He continues: "I ran away just months before I was to graduate from Unitech. Everything I have been able to build for myself and my people, I've done through experience and from reading. I've learnt the tricks of the trade from the stock market, to investment, real estate and commercial enterprises from reading and experimenting. And I'm still learning."

Mark was 22 years old when he abandoned school. He returned to his Putput

village and through an arrangement with his uncle and advice from an agricultural extension officer, started planting hybrid cocoa in his uncle's coconut plantation.

"Business was good. We were selling pods and wet bean bought from other small-holder growers. I was enjoying what I was doing."

In 1983, however, Mark's life changed and all this happened with the drone of a helicopter.

"Unbeknown to me, the helicopter brought in the first exploration geologists who got rock samples and left."

"When exploration began and with it the buzz of activity, I was not interested. I was content where I was and nobody could convince me otherwise. It took several attempts by leaders of the six clans on the island to finally force me to realize that unless we were united in this, we would not be able to fully utilize the benefits from the mine. I finally gave in and agreed to chair the Lihir Mining Area Landowners Association—LMALA in early 1990."

His leadership at LMALA, was the start of a lifelong commitment to ensuring the best for his people—something he still does so passionately today.

In 2008, more than 10 years after watching money meant for his people being used to service a loan facility with the European



MRLC Chairman Mark Soipang

Investment Bank, for their share in the Lihir Gold mine, Mark embraced the inception of MRL Capital Limited, an investment company owned by the six clans on Lihir. Under his leadership as Chairman, the company has grown to become a nationally significant investment company.

Mark is also the owner and director of family company Maron Limited, a hydraulic and hose fitting company providing services to Newcrest on Lihir and Hip Pocket, a franchise that has branches in Lihir and Lae and specializes in safety and work wear gear. He is also director on clan companies Ailia and Anitua Limited.

"My people are my business. If they are happy, I am too. I have a responsibility to ensuring that their interests are taken care of.

"I've come too far to give up now. I've seen systems that I established work and these will take care of my people when its time for me to call it quits."



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