

JOHN LYNCH, EDITOR OF KIVUNG, 1974–78

I took over as Editor of *Kivung* from Andrsa Balint, presumably when he left UPNG (which must have been 1973). I began with vol. 7, no. 1, in 1974, and remained as editor until vol. 11, no. 2, in 1978.

Kivung—which during my time as editor had not as yet changed its name to *Language and Linguistics in Melanesia*—had come out in three issues per year, up until the end of volume 7. After that, a decision was made to produce only two issues per year, though to aim for at least the same number of pages per year, if not more. The rationale here was to save on time and printing costs: articles, etc., were typed at UPNG, but then sent to SIL in Ukarumpa for the actual printing and distribution. Trying to deal with three separate issues, while teaching, administering, and conducting research proved somewhat onerous. Two, somewhat larger, issues per year meant less rush, and still meant that subscribers got the same or more value for their subscription.

I mentioned above that articles “were typed at UPNG”. By “typed” I mean exactly that: I think originally on manual typewriters, though I have a vague memory somewhere along the line that the Language Department acquired a fancy electric typewriter which used an interesting font. These were definitely **not** the days of computers, PDF files, and email: cut-and-paste, for example, meant literally that—scissors and glue. Florence Wala, the departmental secretary, did most of the typing, though of course any small error meant an erasure and a retyping, and any more serious error meant retyping a whole page or, in extreme cases where pagination went awry, retyping a number of pages.

There was a sort of Editorial Board: as I recall, my original set of Associate Editors were Adrienne Lang from the Language Department of UPNG, Keith Johnson from the Education Department (also UPNG), and Ken McElhanon from SIL. Obviously, home-grown contributions were the most numerous, coming mainly from UPNG and SIL; but I note browsing through a couple of volumes we also received articles from the Australian National University, the University of New England, and the University of Kansas, among other places; so the journal was at least acquiring something of an international flavor.

There was one unusual year: in 1977, we produced a combined vol. 10 (nos. 1 and 2 as a single issue), which consisted only of a set of Tolai texts by Ulrike Mosel. Thirty-four years later, I can't recall the circumstances behind this departure from the norm: whether it was because we had insufficient articles to fill two issues, or whether for some other reason, is now lost in the mists of time.

Apart from that issue, the papers published during my tenure covered a range of topics: descriptive studies of Papuan languages, historical studies of Austronesian languages, and English language teaching were probably the dominant ones, though there were others.

I finished my tenure as editor at the end of 1978, though I was Reviews Editor of what had now become *LLM* from 1982 to 1986, and Associate Editor from 1986 onwards.