

Jawun Research Centre

SEMINAR SERIES

Communication, Health, and Social
and Cultural Well-Being



Seminar 33: Kidnapping and violence in the rainforests of PNG

This multidisciplinary seminar series aims to create a forum centered in Jawun. It is for researchers at CQUniversity, across Queensland and all over the world, as a forum to share their research findings and establish potential synergies, leading to joint grant applications, and partnerships that endeavour to advance knowledge in various disciplines.

Location

Room **3.06**, CQUniversity Cairns Campus
Corner Abbott Street and Shields Street
Or via [Zoom](#) Passcode: **041048**

Date and Time

Wednesday 4 October 2023
3:00pm – 5:00pm Qld time
Light refreshments provided

RSVP

JRC Administration via email: jrc@cqu.edu.au
or phone: 07 4923 2672

Further seminars upcoming in 2023 – [watch this space!](#)



Speaker

Dr Michael Wood,
Adjunct Research Fellow at
the Jawun Research Centre

Michael is an anthropologist
whose research interests
are primarily located in

Papua New Guinea. He is currently
developing, **with Rosita Henry and Simon
Foale**, a project on how patrol officers helped
prepare PNG for Independence. He has
recently worked on describing some of the
cultural components of the World Heritage
values of the Nakanai Ranges in New Britain
and has finalised co-editing **with Anna Hayes
and Rosita Henry** a collection of articles on
the Chinese in PNG that will be published by
ANU Press."

Abstract

This presentation is about recent
developments in kidnapping in PNG. It will
outline some of the often spectacular raids
enacted largely by Huli into the lowland
communities of the Western Province and
Southern Highland Province. I will present
some ideas on how kidnapping for ransom is
a key part of the economics of such raids and
then consider how we might understand how
kidnapping is experienced by the perpetrators,
victims and other actors. Having outlined
some of the causes of the recent violence
maybe we can start to talk about possible
solutions?