



## **PORT MORESBY GRAMMAR SCHOOL HARNESSES THE POWER OF THE ICDL**

An independent K-12 school in Papua New Guinea, Port Moresby Grammar is helping its students and teachers embrace the future, with ICT skills certification.

An Australian by birth, Donald Daniels, the Director and Chair of Port Moresby Grammar School, arrived in Papua New Guinea (PNG) in 1967.

Concerned about the lack of opportunity and space for young people in PNG, Donald was instrumental in opening a number of regional schools before settling in the capital and founding what is today known as the Port Moresby Grammar School.

An MBE and a distinguished educator with with great vision, Donald has shaped much of PNG's educational strategy and raised the professional status of teachers in the country.

Port Moresby Grammar School is a magnificent symbol of 21st Century education in the nation's capital. With over 1,400 students from PNG, China, the Phillipines, Indonesia and the Pacific, it has become synonymous with excellence, discipline and pride. Students have access to over 200 computers in laboratories, internet cafes, the library and classrooms. Recently, Donald contacted the ICDL Unit to establish a way of providing ICT skills certification to the school's students and teachers.

Donald envisages offering the ICDL program to the school's 150-200 Year 10 students. He also believes the program will appeal to staff and students from other grades and other schools.

Port Moresby Grammar School emphasises Information Technology, from its Prep students right through to grade 12. It is the only school in the country to be permitted by the NSW Department of Education to offer IT as a HSC examination subject.

With an established IT Department and qualified staff, Donald believes the ICDL will be a great addition to the school and will assist students and teachers to gain much needed ICT skills for life in the wired world.

#### Cultivating ICT Ability

The school has recently established a link with Cyfarthfa High in Wales. With the assistance of the British High Commission in PNG and Connect UK, students and staff of both schools have been able to communicate over the internet and share their experiences. Demonstrating the benefits of a wired world, the lifestyles, backgrounds and environments of the two countries have been on show.

<sup>3</sup>In adopting the ICDL as a standard of basic ICT literacy, Port Moresby Grammar School has demonstrated a leadership role, based on global best practice<sup>2</sup> said Trudy Turnbull, ICDL Business Development Manager.