Michael Claringbould – Author & Illustrator

When growing up in Papua New Guinea in the 1960s, Michael became fascinated by the many Pacific War aircraft wrecks which still lay around the country. Over subsequent decades he has assisted both with the recovery and identification of such aircraft and has helped both the U.S. and Japanese governments to identify missing aircraft crews. He has served widely overseas as an Australian diplomat, including in a number of South Pacific countries.

Michael is a contributing editor for *Flightpath* magazine and has written several books on the Pacific War. More recently, his history of the Tainan Naval Air Group in New Guinea, *Eagles of the Southern Sky*, received worldwide acclaim as the first English-language history of any Japanese air unit. A member of Pacific Air War History Associates, Michael has held an Australian pilot's license since 1974 and earned his PG4 paraglider license in 2016. These days he also enjoys developing his skills as a digital 3D aviation artist.



Michael Claringbould returning from a recent site survey outside Port Moresby.