

Return to Volcano Town

REASSESSING THE 1937-1943
VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS AT RABAU

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Front cover: This photograph of simultaneous eruptions at Vulcan (left) and Tavurvur volcanoes, Rabaul, was taken from Nangananga village by Torsten Blackwood overlooking Karavia Bay on 22 September 1994 (see Figure 8.3 for further details). The statue is of a *tubuan* (masked ritual figure) called 'Ia Patarai' from the Ralalar Clan who handed over this piece of land to the Catholic Church in 1882. The Nangananga Monument was built in 1982 to mark 100 years of the Catholic Church in the Rabaul area (1882–1982). The transaction from the Catholic Church to the Ralalar Clan was made using traditional Tolai shell money (*tabu*) and is acknowledged by the Christian cross on top of the *tubuan* statue. This information on the Nangananga Monument was kindly provided by Steven and Jennifer Gagau, Robin Bangin and Ia Kaum.

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