

New Electronic Book on Pterosaurs in Australia and in PNG

I'll compare this new e-book, *Live Pterosaurs in Australia and in Papua New Guinea*, with the print book *Searching for Ropens*. Both of them have details on pterosaur sightings in Papua New Guinea. Both are written by Jonathan Whitcomb.

1. **General Genre:** SFR, at least in the first edition, is cross genre: cryptozoology and Christian believes on the Bible. LPAPNG is strictly cryptozoology, with only a brief mention of creationist explorers.
2. **Length:** SFR is longer, with details on expedition experiences. LPAPNG gives the essentials about expeditions, but gives details on the eyewitness accounts.
3. **Common Ground:** Regarding Papua New Guinea, the new e-book has some of the same sightings as SFR, although there are a few added details here and there. The new sighting off the coast of Umboi Island is an exception, for it is absent from the older SFR. Both books have a chapter devoted to the Perth sighting of 1994.
4. **Nit Picking:** The covers of e-books are not physical, simply digital images. The new book, LPAPNG, has a "cover" with the same eyewitness sketches as another book by Whitcomb, namely *Live Pterosaurs in America*. This might leave an impression that those drawings of pterosaurs are based purely on ropens in Papua New Guinea and in Australia, but not so. They are from eyewitnesses in Cuba, decades ago. Purists might disapprove of that.
5. **Misc:** The new e-book does have some new ideas, although not many of them are completely absent from SFR. An exception is the explanation of why modern pterosaurs

are seen in daylight when they are nocturnal. The new book gives details and plausible conjectures about pterosaurs being disturbed and awakened in the day, causing them to fly up into the air.

To be fair to the new book, I don't mean to imply that those who have read the older SFR will have gained little new from the new book. LPAPNG has a number of Australian sightings that are not found at all in SFR, for they are newly reported accounts, and straight from the mouths of eyewitnesses in Australia.

I guess I could also have compared the new book with the paperback *Live Pterosaurs in America*. They seem to be about the same length, but it's hard to compare page numbers with digital space or with word counts. E-books have no page numbers.

For more information see "New Cryptozoology Book: Live Pterosaurs in Australia," which I quote:

In modern eyewitness reports, long-tailed pterosaurs outnumber short-tails, at least four-to-one. Standard models of extinction make this ratio appear strange, for the long-tailed variety were thought to have dwindled before the short-tailed pterosaurs became dominant, at least that's the theory.