

# Kokoda fall tests fuzzy wuzzy tales

AFTER successfully guiding a posse of unfit Australian celebrities along the Kokoda Trail earlier this year, NSW Upper House Liberal MP **Charlie Lynn** had his own Kokoda misadventure last week.

Lynn slipped off a river embankment in the Papua New Guinea highlands and plunged on to rocks below.

He suffered a deep gash to the back of his head and lay unconscious on the rocks for five minutes while members of his trekking party tried to revive him.

The seasoned PNG professional was leading a group of CRA executives and Young Liberals and Democrats on a leadership and team-building exercise.

"One minute I was stand-

ing there, the next thing I remember was waking up, sprawled on the rocks near the river," Lynn told *Thirteen* yesterday.

"I must have hit my head on the way down and passed out before I hit my head on the rocks.

"My doctor said I was very lucky to be alive.  
"If the impact had been anywhere else on my head I might not have survived the fall."

Earlier this year, Lynn led a handful of celebrities — including **Collette Mann** and **Angry Anderson** — along the Kokoda Trail for an Anzac Day TV show.  
Mann tumbled over a cliff and later described it as the "hardest thing I've ever done in my life".

The cut to Lynn's head

was so deep it would have required 15 to 20 stitches, but because of the remote location of the accident, it took two days for the local villagers to carry him — on foot and on a stretcher — to the nearest airstrip for a flight to a Port Moresby hospital.

"I only did it to test out the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels theory," Lynn said referring to the famous World War II escorts.  
"And everything you have heard about them is true."

And testament to his hardness, after the MP was X-rayed, assessed and declared fit, he was back on a plane and back on the Kokoda Trail.

"I was in charge of all those people," he said. "I had to go back."

Motor in press mess