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20 February 2013

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# We must set bold new paths for the Outer Islands

By Prime Minister Hon Henry Puna

The Outer Islands landscape has undergone dramatic change over the years, shaped by successive governments and dominant trends of population drift, modern consumption patterns, and our peculiar weather extremities. History shows us just how many Governments have grappled with the difficulty of finding solutions to constraints caused by distance, inadequate infrastructure, shipping and fuel costs.

The cost of doing business in the Outer Islands – government or private sector – is a challenge many fail to sustain, let alone kick-start, but the Cook Islands Party has long recognized the need for addressing obstacles. As Government, we have pledged not to talk our way through the mire but to walk alongside our smaller communities in partnership.

The job of building and modernizing infrastructure, generating economic and

improving lifestyles, has been so great that the efforts of many administrations in the past have fallen well short. The efforts to bring ownership to island affairs have fared little better and the cynicism we see so often in Rarotonga has become magnified. It's understandable that the Outer Islands have become deaf to 'official talk' – action is the language of leadership when you visit these communities.

Previous governments and individuals simply gave up – resigned to a belief that Outer Islands' communities will forever be a system of social welfare for Central Government, and by extension, the people. Rarotonga Business after all, has groaned about the economic imbalance in our country where virtually all our tax revenues are generated here – the main island of concentrated activity. Politically, further imbalance is reflected with Outer Islands' representation constituting



PM Henry Puna, Mayor Ngamata Napara plus Island Secretary Tereapii Paulo

58% of Parliament.

With a clear majority of our nation's lawmakers representing the interests of 27% of the voting population, it should have been abundantly clear that Government had to do more to help those, who are the least advantaged in our country. Government must and will do more to assist the Outer Islands in their respective needs, alleviate the hardships, which have persisted over the years, and provide the right foundations to launch change for the better. Bold new paths are what we must pursue.

I'm happy to say that the Cook Islands Party Government has set new paths for the Outer Islands. Before taking office more than two years ago, we announced that there would be a re-prioritizing of the approach to meeting future needs. Today, we are fulfilling that approach with our comprehensive reform of Local Government

administration.

We are demonstrating our commitment in new, positive ways.

The new law being introduced this week aims to resolve the deficiencies that have plagued governance in the Outer Islands, and to help set that path toward constructive progress. Clarity of authority and accountability is important and the Local Governments will be required to act responsibly in setting the directions for their respective communities. Consultation and cooperation is thus key to the success of administering local affairs and this responsibility will be a tremendous boost for the ownership of new developments.

Devolution and empowerment are not new terms. The difference is that we want to bring new meaning to these tools so that Government can work with each of our Outer Islands with a healthier spirit of cooperation.

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# Donor Roundtable outcomes maintain “developing nation” status-for now

By Charles Pitt

The Donor Roundtable discussions are over but there is little doubt that behind the scenes, the donor partners will have dropped big hints about the Cook Islands government needing to face reality and be prepared for the day that the curtain comes down on free handouts. That day may be closer than we think.

The Donor Partners will have made it clear to our government that the Cook Islands can no longer be regarded as a “developing” nation and that it should in the near future be contesting regional funding pools along with other Pacific nations. Unlike the fairy tale character Peter Pan and the ageless rocker Cliff Richard, we need to grow up and we cannot cling to donor apron strings for much longer.

As Norman George MP might quip, “It’s time to get off the breast milk and onto the single malt!”

Also we need to face the fact that most of the funds we will require for major projects will be loans at commercial rates, not freebie handouts. With loans needing to be repaid, more attention will need to be focused on the tax base and revenue streams.

Depopulation does not help, neither does private sector stagnation. Increasingly, Donor nations will be looking for parallel private sector developments that will ensure funded projects are fully utilized or repaid.

While donor nations seem prepared to allow the Cook Islands a bit more time to make the full transition out of developing nation category, it is clear they will also want to see some activity that will stimulate the economy, create jobs, grow the tax base, produce sustainable revenues and reduce dependency on foreign aid.

Our economy needs a major leap forward and achieving that will be a challenge for

government.

The following are the outcomes from the recent Donor Roundtable discussions.

## Overall

The meeting:

Reinforced that partnerships are vital to our success (DP’s, private, NGO’s)

Acknowledged the CI planned priorities of Agriculture, Renewable Energy,

Economic Development and continued Public service improvements

## NSDP

The meeting:

Noted the implementation of the new NSDP monitoring framework with linkages between planning, budget and performance

Reinforced the importance of country ownership

Noted good progress across most goals and strategies

## Public Sector & Reforms

The meeting:

Recognised progress and commitment to providing robust PFM systems

Noted value in combining PEFA and Compact Peer review in 2013.

Noted steps undertaken towards improving service delivery and performance management

Acknowledged a commitment to an improved procurement system by the next DPR

## Economic Development

Strong economy but limitations on expansion of fiscal/budget base

Recognised that being a small economy enables quick adaptation to internal and external changes

Recognised the importance of growth in Tourism capacity for the longer term

Acknowledged importance of risk management including non-performing loans

Demonstrated that private sector has capacity and recognised potential for direct investment

Recognition that in Education, one size doesn’t fit all, specific solutions are needed for specific issues

## Agriculture

The meeting:

Acknowledged sustainable agriculture revitalisation is a priority

Acknowledged the potential for positive impacts on the economy, health and environment

Notes government plans to progress development in this sector

Acknowledgement of transport, land, labour, logistics and technology advances needed

Need to cement private/public relationships in this sector

Importance of community involvement

## Renewable Energy

The meeting:

Recognised that our 2015 target is achievable

Noted the important contribution of energy efficiency to reducing demand

Recognised that further investment is needed to meet 2020 goals

## Where to from here?

Government will follow up with partners on bringing action to priorities

Government will pursue commitments on procurement, PEFA and Peer review by 2013

Development partners committed in assisting in achieving priorities from the roundtable



## SWITCH ON WITH TE APONGA UIRA

“ When preparing for a cyclone...”



Living in the Cook Islands, we understand that cyclones are a part of life. And, while we haven’t felt the fury of a big one so far this cyclone season, it’s vital to remain prepared. Install a surge protector from your home to help protect sensitive electronic equipment. If a cyclone is near turn off and

unplug electrical appliances. After a cyclone, stay well away from fallen powerlines. Always assume they are ‘live’ and dangerous. If you experience tingles or shocks from an electrical appliance or water taps, call your electrician to check your electrical wiring immediately.

[www.teaponga.com](http://www.teaponga.com)



# A dangerous fire bug at large and bad politics by the PM

*By Wilkie Rasmussen, Leader of the Opposition*

The video footage of fire ravaging the Nikao home of David Munro was just heartbreaking. In front of our eyes we watched the investment that Mr Munro had built for him and his family in flames. A house is one of the most treasured assets of any Cook Islander. It gives one a sense of security; it harbors memories of the children growing up and precious family moments. It imbues pride and dignity in people.

On Tuesday night I watched the Commissioner of Police reveal that the evidence discovered points to an arsonist

on the loose and mingling among us. The Commissioner also said that there also such evidence for the previous fires several months around the Nikao area. If we recall there were properties adjacent to each other not far from the Rarotonga Golf Club that were torched making homeless their occupants. These Nikao fires were in addition to fires from other places such as Arorangi and lately the home of the Cook Islands High Commissioner to New Zealand Papa Tiki Matapo.

The prevalence of house fires in Rarotonga within the last few months makes one jump to the conclusion that

they have been lit by a fire-bug. However I'm sure that some fires were misfortunes and accidents but the Nikao ones appear deliberate and malicious. If they were, perhaps a few questions need to be asked. For instance why did it take so long for both the Police and the Fire Service to disclose that there is evidence that these fires were started by an arsonist? I am quite disturbed about that. Perhaps someone could correct me; I do not recall a strong public campaign by both the Police and Fire Services that could either deter the perpetrator(s) or make people of the area more alert and take preventative actions. In fact the most high profile campaign was when concerned citizens raised funds from the public to help the affected families.

I don't know, I am after all just a politician and barking at some people could be seen as one too many. Strangely enough the whole preventative and proactive efforts were made that much more sinister by the fact that on Tuesday, the Prime Minister held a distribution of funds ceremony for the victims of the first round of Nikao fires at the Prime Minister's Office grounds. It was a blatant ploy to divert people's attention from the real issues and from the Government's inactiveness and from the lethargic behavior of the Police and Fire Services over these fires. Government's public relations in this instance has made the Prime Minister cross the line and display insensitivity to at least politically neutral donors; kind-hearted members of the public who generously gave their hard earned dollar for the cause. It was a clear case of mistaken opportunism; at



least a gesture of inclusiveness of the Opposition would lessen the awkward protrusion of the Prime Minister in his Armani suit, looking aloof and ready for a grand ball in New York instead of comfortably mixing in humble surroundings with the fire victims.

Of course questions will continue to be asked, what and how much effort is being put towards apprehension of the fire-bug. Others will also ask what educational programs or efforts were being made to inform the public of what's going on and what they might expect to happen or need to do when seeing people acting suspiciously around their area.

I believe that this sort of thing makes us all come together and help one another. My support and that of the Opposition goes to the sitting MP for Nikao, Hon Ngamau Munokoa for her unsung efforts in helping those people in her community. There's nothing glamorous, just hard, face to face work regardless of the victim's political affiliations. One thing is certain though, the arsonist needs to be caught and put before the court of law.

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# Younger Wichman continues legacy of innovation

By Charles Pitt

Like his father Tom, Cook Islander Alan Wichman, a product of Avatea School, has an inquisitive mind.

Both father and son turn "ideas" into reality. They are innovative, inventive, ground breakers and ahead of their time. The younger Wichman, Alan, looks set to continue the Wichman family's legacy of innovativeness.

Alan who is based in Hamilton, New Zealand has for the past two years been in the USA working on a project to extract precious metals from desert sand.

The Herald caught up with Alan last week when he advised that currently he has been busy working on a project in Phoenix Arizona. He described it as an environmentally friendly process for recovering precious metals (Gold) from sand. The precious metals are extracted and the sand is returned back from where it was taken.

Alan advised, "We have a Plant set up here in Arizona, and I am heading back to New Zealand next week then possibly heading to Hong Kong and China, and maybe back to NZ or the USA."

He said two years prior he was working on Zero Emission technology with remote

monitoring and reporting for Vehicles, power stations and other carbon polluting industries. Unfortunately He was pulled into the mineral recovery industry which needed help to eliminate toxic chemical processing and hazardous chemical and Industrial water pollution.

Wichman says he has had to multi task between mineral recovery processing for Industries in the USA and recently an International organization who have Investments in the Mining Industry spanning the globe.

Wichman announced he is involved in a new medical project in NZ for Type I and Type II Diabetes monitoring and early warning system. A friend of his family in Hamilton has a 3 year old son who has Type I diabetes and almost died recently while on holiday in the USA. The parents have been desperate for him to adapt one of his technologies to help monitor their son 24/7 and warn them of any potential problems before they happen.

Wichman said sampling blood to determine blood sugar levels is a very demanding task for Type I diabetics and he has been working on a 3D bio-neuron sensor for interfacing to the human body.

When last in Rarotonga

about two years ago, Wichman held a public demonstration of a new system he installed at his sister's home in Tupapa to clean and recycle "grey" water for use on household gardens and fruit trees. The demonstration attracted much interest from Hotels, government agencies and the public.

It was also on this last visit that Wichman was critical of our Telecom for using technology which he said was 20yearsold. Wichman invented a telecommunications system for the Vanuatu government which did not require the use of transmitter masts. Telstra Australia offered him \$23 million and a seat on their

Board for the invention. He declined their offer as he wanted to manufacture the item himself.

Some two years before his last visit, Wichman was in Rarotonga to demonstrate an invention of his which used low power from a solar panel or car battery to purify waste and contaminated water from piggeries. This was to protect streams and water ways from becoming polluted. The same concept could also desalinate sea water. His device attracted a lot of international attention.

Wichman, who also has a commercial pilot's license and owns two aircraft, plans to visit Rarotonga about June this year.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Statement by Wilkie Rasmussen in last week's Herald I certainly agree with the Hon Wilkie Rasmussen, in his column last week, that to allow a fish cannery plant on the Avarua/Avatiu waterfront would be "stupid, crazy and suicidal."

Under my watch as Minister of Marine Resources and Tourism such a cannery will never eventuate.

I have repeated several times in the recent past that there is no proposal to establish a fish cannery plant at Avatiu or anywhere else in the Cook Islands.

One reason for this is I am totally against it.

But unfortunately for some, they are "really slow" to absorb such statements.

Teina Bishop



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# Our cover girl At the touch of your fingertip



*Our fontpage girl for this week's issue 654 is Crishla Smith, who is a customer services rep for Telecom. Crishla has a beautiful baby boy who turns 1 in April and just recently returned from a long holiday in Australia. Check out our website [www.ciherald.co.ck](http://www.ciherald.co.ck) and facebook page: [www.facebook.com/ciherald](http://www.facebook.com/ciherald)*



John Paul Wilson looks up where he can take his wife to dinner on this new information kiosk, the very first set up at Westpac.

**W**hatever you want to know about Rarotonga - where to eat, what to do, where to go is now all at the touch of your fingertips.

Westpac is the first location where these information kiosks are set up. According to Digital Advertising Solutions' Anne-Marie and Simon Bounsall they are waiting on a shipment of the kiosks which are to be set up in 6 different locations providing maximum viewing around Rarotonga. This type of technology offers a whole new form of advertising to the Rarotonga market. It has been designed to provide both tourists and locals with up to date information on the local attractions, activities, restaurants and more. It also contains other general Cook Islands information like the annual calendar of events, what's happening this week, a map of Rarotonga and "Find Us" maps which allows people to locate you. Outer Islands businesses can also use this technology to promote their offerings here on Rarotonga. The Bounsalls are confident that many businesses will benefit greatly from this form of advertising.



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# ADB approves funding for energy efficient lighting at the airport car park and Punanga Nui market



The group that attended the signing of the MOUs.

*By Charles Pitt*

**T**he air port car park and the Punanga Nui market will soon have new, improved and efficient lighting thanks to an ADB project promoting energy efficiency in the Pacific.

At the Renewable Energy Development Department (REDD) office at the Office of the Prime Minister on Tuesday morning, Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) were signed between the Heads of the Airport Authority and the BTIB for government and Project officials for the ADB's Pacific Energy Efficiency Programme (PEEP).

The PEEP programme, which was detailed in earlier Herald reports, covers five Pacific nations, including the Cook Islands, is in phase 2.

The first phase of PEEP (which concluded in May 2011) identified

the potential for energy efficiency and defined pipeline of specific energy efficiency projects for funding or co-financing by ADB, GEF and other sources. ADB and GEF have now initiated Phase 2 of PEEP. ADB has engaged the International Institute for Energy Conservation (IIEC) as the contractor for Phase 2.

The MOUs signed on Tuesday confirm the ADB's approval and funding for two projects to provide solar powered lighting for the airport car park and Punanga Nui Market.

Signing for the Airport Authority was CEO Joe Ngamata and for the Punanga Nui Market, BTIB, CEO Terry Rangi. Signing on behalf of government were Roger de Bray, Energy Commissioner and Chairman of the Project Steering Committee and Tangi Tereapi, Director of the REDD.

Signing on behalf of the ADB was Felix Gooneratne, Asia Director and Team Leader PEEP 2. Felix is from the International Institute for Energy Conservation (IIEC). In attendance with Felix was ADB's Cook Islands Energy Efficiency Expert, Terekino (Tino) Vaireka.

All in all some 23 people attended the signing including local media. There were representatives from government agencies and the private sector and Aitutaki MP Toanui Isamaela (Amuri/Ureia) also attended.

Roger de Bray, Felix and Terry Rangi spoke briefly about the projects.

The Airport Car Park Project Proposal was submitted to the ADB in Dec 2012 with approval given on 15 Jan 2013. Bid Documents were due for issue in early Feb 2013 with the deadline for bid submissions – being 8

March 2013. Bid evaluations – are to be completed by 24 March 2013 and ADB's approval and contract awarded at the end of April 2013. Delivery of the units and installation is to be completed by July 2013. The estimated costs are, Lighting System – US\$ 36,800 (NZ\$ 46,000), Poles/installation – US\$ 14,000 (NZ\$ 17,500).

The Punanga Nui market timeline follows the same stages as for the Airport Car Park Project. The estimated costs are, Lighting System – US\$ 96,000 (NZ\$ 120,000), Poles/installation – US\$ 22,000 (NZ\$ 27,000).

In next week's Herald we will report on the other projects coming up under PEEP 2.

According to Felix, the Cook Islands is well ahead of the other Pacific nations with its programmes.



## News Briefs *By Moana Vaevae Tetauru*

### Supplementary Budget to deal with surplus

**T**he supplementary budget is anticipated to be tabled in parliament this week Minister of Finance Mark Brown announced at a media conference on Wednesday morning. The performance of the Crown accounts for the half year has indicated revenues have increased from what was budgeted, and expenditure is below budget leaving an underlying surplus of \$824,000. Government has decided upon new expenditures with \$268,000 going towards the Disaster Trust Fund, and brings this to now around a half a million dollars, with governments aim is to bring this up further to \$1-million to ensure that the country can respond immediately in the event of a natural disaster.

The underwrite expenditures for Air NZ is significantly lower that was budgeted for, due to the increase numbers on the LA and Sydney direct flights, resulting in a saving of \$1.3million. Initially, government budgeted over \$13 million towards the underwrite, and with this saving, government will spend total of \$12.3 million. This is the final year of the underwrite agreement and government along with Air NZ and Tourism CI will be conducting their analysis into the performance which will give government a basis for moving into the future.

Brown said \$150,000 was going towards purchasing a new fully equipped ambulance for Rarotonga and to improve greater transport links and will immediately work on upgrading the Manihiki harbor and the upgrading of the Vaimaru Water in Aitutaki which was unfinished following the devastation of Cyclone Pat. Government will also replenish its contingency fund to cover emergencies and unexpected crown obligations in the future. Currently \$94,000 has been spent from the \$100,000 which was budgeted for. These include the costs associated with the state funerals of the late Sir Geoffrey Henry and Sir Terepai Maoate, along with the legal fees that have incurred between the Health Minister and St Mary's Medical School, the costs associated with the Toa mediation which were unpaid from the previous government and the election costs associated with the Mangaia by-election. A further \$20,000 will go towards MFEM for legal advice it sought on issues surrounding Crown finances and obligations which were unanticipated at the time of the Budget. A further \$16,000 will go towards the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration for protocol and officials travel to accompany the PM in his role as the Chair of the Pacific Island Leaders Forum and lastly a further \$175,000 will go towards the Civil List, but is still less than the budgeted amount from 2011/2012.

### The Cook Islands and the People's Republic of China sign Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation

**T**he Cook Islands and the People's Republic of China (PRC) today, 20 February 2013, signed an Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation for the provision of RMBY 20million (approximately NZD 3.8million) grant funds by the PRC to the Cook Islands for projects to be agreed jointly between the two Governments.

The signing ceremony was held at the PRC Embassy in Wellington between Cook Islands High Commissioner Tekaotiki Matapo and PRC Ambassador to the Cook Islands, Xu Jianguo.

High Commissioner Matapo explained, "Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Cook Islands and the PRC in 1997, the PRC has provided various grant funds which have facilitated the construction of the Courthouse and the Police station and most recently, support for the hosting of the Pacific Islands Forum. This additional assistance will no doubt be usefully employed by the Cook Islands Government to support further development priorities."

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tom Marsters said that Cabinet welcomed the signing as demonstration of the PRC's commitment to its relationship with the Cook Islands. "The PRC has a history of providing tangible and focussed assistance to the Cook Islands, and the Pacific region and we look forward to working with the Chinese Government over the coming months in ensuring this assistance is directed to where it is most needed."

### New MP sworn in

The swearing in ceremony of the country's third woman MP was held in Parliament today. Democratic Party's Tetangi Matapo took the oath today after being announced as the winner of the Tamarua By-election earlier this month. Matapo, received 28 votes, to CIP's Tokorua Pareina's 26 votes.

The swearing in ceremony was set for today as last Thursday when parliament sat for the first time this year, Parliamentary services had to await for the 7-day petition period to be adhered to before the new member was sworn in. Travel arrangements were made to bring Matapo to Rarotonga on Friday for orientation before today's swearing in ceremony. She is the first woman MP for Mangaia and the third woman MP in parliament.

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# Overcoming barriers

**W**e've been moving towards a renewable energy future for quite some time. Some years ago, TAU set a goal for itself of adopting affordable and clean renewable energy solutions to supplement fossil fuel.

To be expected, we've found that moving towards a renewable energy future involves some growing pains. We know a lot about generating electricity from fossil fuel but not enough about generating from renewable energy.

For example, we had to scale back on net metering when our system could not cope.

While it may be that the vast supply of our electricity today is from fossil fuel, nevertheless the activity behind the scenes to build knowledge and capacity for a renewable energy future has been huge.

Here's what's happened so far:

- We have an in-depth study of the economic viability of renewable energy generation
- We have a study on energy storage
- We have a study on energy from waste
- We have a feasibility study on grid stability

All these reports are compiled by renewable energy experts.

Here's what we are about to do:

- Automate the control systems for generation at the power station
- Upgrade the power station plant to enhance generation capacity to international standards.
- Get to grips with overcoming policy and regulatory barriers

Not least among the positive indicators last week was the visit from a consultant from IT Power Australia. He spent four days with TAU learning our models, our pricing formulas

for tariffs, as well as our policy and regulatory framework.

Just from a simple conversation with him, we appreciated the need for TAU to build separate payment regimes for generation, network and storage under a renewable energy framework. At the very least, he'll be able to recommend a grid code with renewable energy component (a set of rules that TAU can use to distribute electricity to the various service addresses that connect to it).





# Project City upgrade of the town water pipelines



Workmen carrying the new water pipes to be laid in town

The Project City water network upgrade is progressing at a rapid rate having commenced on 23 January 2013 and less than one month later, the contractors have already replaced the water mains on the Ara Tapu from Panama to the central business district within the 30km zone.

By Monday of this week the contractors had reached Taputapuatea opposite the Makea Nui palace and by Tuesday 19 February, the contractors have temporarily closed off the Ara Tapu at Maraerenga and Tupapa area in order to carry on their work.

This morning traffic from the main road was diverted from Tepuretu St to the Ara Metua and rejoin the Ara Tapu main road at the exit for Avarua CICC church in Taputapuatea.

Once the work on the ring mains has been completed within the target area, the contractors will move on to the next stage which is to replace the sub mains and then the branch mains and so on until all water pipes on the roads and side streets within the proposed town area are replaced.

The contractors have

committed to completing the new water network system by the end of June 2013.

The contractors have taken the precaution of using ground penetrating radar to identify all the underground service lines, and then carrying out

'spot checks' to ensure that the service lines identified on their digital maps are accurate before the trenching work commenced. The same procedure will be followed when the contractors commence the work on the sub mains and branch mains in

town.

The contract for the replacement of the town water pipeline is worth \$2.5million and is funded by the Asian Development Bank and project managed by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Planning.

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# How can we curb the growing burglary problem? - The responsibility lies in the home and community

The crime wave for burglaries in Rarotonga is growing rapidly. Stealing has become a real problem and it will get worse if we don't do anything to help reduce it.

According to police statistics, in 2011, there have been 264 recorded cases of burglary reported to the police and last year, the number has increased to 395.

The most targeted area is the Vaimaanga area, whereby tourist accommodations run adjacent to each other and majority of them are beach front accommodations.

"Findings have revealed that most tourists who are victims of burglary have just arrived to the island and are relaxed and unaware of their surrounding, leaving their phones and wallets lying around and not realizing the possibility of being burgled," states the Intelligence report from Police on Crimes of Concern completed by Karen Ngamata and approved by Detective Inspector of the Crime Investigation Branch and Intel, Areumu Ingaua.

Residential homes are also highly targeted. The main commodities taken from residential properties are hard-drives, PS2/3 consoles and games, touch screen phones ie. Samsung Galaxy phones, Iphone, Ipods and cash.

The report also tells us that the main point of entry is through louver windows which have been removed and left to the side, and is usually the point of exit as well. Intruders use their time to enter the premises either when occupants are asleep at night or are at work.

One victim of this crime, Staircase Restaurant and Bar, have had a number of break-ins to date. Intruders take whatever money is on the property, as well as alcohol. The most recent break in was 3 weeks ago, "The burglars managed to smash through a window that was secured with bars and ransacked the entire place looking for money, fortunately nothing was taken as there was no money on the property," says Sisi Short, manager for Staircase. Short also tells the Cook Islands Herald that they were never informed about a report from the Police as to whether the criminals were caught or not.

Another unhappy victim of this type of crime, June Budinet of Raina Trading had her laptop (that contained very useful

information) stolen off the Raina Trading property 2 years ago. Fortunately she recovered the laptop, which led to the Police discovering a heap of other stolen goods from that same person. In another case that occurred last year, she had food stolen from the Raina Trading property, and was unhappy to report that the burglars were only children, as young as 14.

"Caregivers, parents and families need to be responsible for their children, there's no point talking to the police, it's a National problem, everyone needs to wake up!" she states. Baudinet also goes on to say that they weren't updated on the situation, "the fact is that we don't get told, we don't get a report, we don't know if the burglars are prosecuted or what!"

Ingaua tells the Cook Islands Herald that victims of crime are supposed to be advised of the result of police investigation within 48 hours from the time matter is reported to the police and throughout the investigation. "It concerned me that the process was not followed and I will make sure that this does not happen again in the future," Ingaua comments on the victims who claim they were not informed on the situation by Police.

The Cook Islands Herald takes a look at what a few leaders and role models of the community have to say in their opinion to reduce burglary.

Vania Kenning, Director for Youth and Sports at Ministry of Internal Affairs reckons the core issue is family, "our families need strengthening, kids are often resorting to things because of what is happening in homes", she adds. Kenning also gives an opinion that parents and young people need to take responsibility for their actions.

Charlene Hoff, Youth officer for the Youth and Sports department at Ministry of Internal Affairs explains to the Cook Islands Herald that it all falls back onto the parents and their upbringing. "Some parents don't even send their kids to school therefore they have no education, no motivation, no goals and dreams and they lower their standards, which only allows them to commit to crime," she says.

According to George Rasmussen, principal of Nukutere College, the most

by Teriu Woonton

## In a Flash:

Burglaries are on the rise, 264 in 2011, 395 in 2012 according to recorded Police statistics. The most targeted area is Vaimaanga. Entry is via louver windows. Sometimes the people are in the house when they are burgled. Victims claim they never receive a report about their burglary. The solution lies in the home and community.

obvious strategy is family responsibility and values. "Why do our young people think its ok to take someone else's property? Where does that value come from? It's ironic that we are regarded as a caring Christian community and yet these behaviours reflect just the opposite. Parents, Adults, Grandparents-know where your children are, question them! Assert your authority, that is your responsibility" he urges.

Sisi Short, victim of burglary, says "There needs to be more programs for the youth. The young ones who steal but are too young to be sent to jail are a real problem! There should be programs to keep them out of trouble."

In saying that, the Cook Islands Herald managed to nail down a few programs that are implemented to do so, and guide young people along the way in making things right for themselves.

Rakei Toa, is a program for those who fall through the education system and have ongoing issues. It is for the youth who don't go to school and need help furthering themselves in their education and in some cases, work. It is not a program for juvenile delinquents. The Cook Islands Herald spoke with Nga Teinangaro, guidance counselor at Punanga Tauturu and advisor for the Rakei Toa program who explained that the main idea is for the students to come back into the education mainstream where they can do normal school work and have some sense of belonging and responsibility.

"There is a vocational class for 16 year olds who come on this plan who have the chance to carry out NCEA level 1 and work experience, we judge from their improved behavior and attitude to see

Continued next page



# How can we curb the growing burglary problem? - there is a breakdown in values.....

**Continued from previous page**

whether they are prepared to be put into the Tereora College classes, one subject at a time," There learning involves sports, trade work, attending classes and assemblies.

There is also the 'Tumanava' program which is more for juvenile delinquents. "Because people won't hire them because, they can turn to this program," Tumanava carries out nearly the same activities as Rakei Toa, particularly work experience, which involves Tradework.

The Cook Islands Herald is also aware about the "Future for Youth" program which used to be "Troubled Youth", and is a program wider than just for the youth who are constantly in trouble. Amongst the team of organizers is New Zealand High Commissioner, John Carter who will be speaking with the CI Herald at a later date to tell us more about the program.

Detective Inspector Areumu Ingaau tells the Cook Islands Herald, to reduce burglaries; our court system needs to tighten up, especially around repeat offenders. Parents need to know where their kids are at certain times during the day and night. The community also needs to work closely with the police in dealing with this problem.

"The Nikao Ekalesia together with the police has this new initiative of visiting certain homes in the tapere (especially homes where our hot offenders are living) to conduct some counseling sessions with the kids and parents who are known to the police," Ingaau tells the Cook Islands Herald.

Ingaau also urges the public to report to police any suspicious activities no matter how minor or major the problem is.

**RATE THIS STORY:**

**How useful was it to you?**



# Being a legal alien

*By Carmel Beattie*

**A**ccording to the last census, 1,789 people currently living in the Cook Islands are of non Cook Island origin – in other words, we are legal aliens. Life in a country other than that of your birth is always interesting and that is something that many Cook Islanders will also understand, having lived for a while in New Zealand or Australia or somewhere else in the vast world.

I have lived in Australia, the United Kingdom and here in Rarotonga and my adventures as a 'foreigner' – by passport but NOT always by sentiment – remind me of that old song by Sting – 'an Englishman in New York' – especially the words, "I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien.....". This is because no matter how comfortable you are outside of your place of birth, there are always things that you don't quite get especially in the beginning.

Although I had travelled throughout the UK and Europe years before, my first few weeks permanently living in London brought a cascade of learning experiences. Not around the places and spaces because I knew these from travelling there, but rather the sayings, the customs, the way of life lived by the locals.

For example, I wondered why people were giving me funny looks the first few days as I strode down the Strand, thrilled to be in London, wearing my bright Australian colours and smiling broadly. When I commented on the looks to my friend, she explained that they obviously thought that I was a bit of a looney as nobody ever smiles at each other on the street! I learned to turn down the voltage of my smile and not to make as much eye contact eventually but it was difficult - this is where I first heard the Sting song, ironically about an Englishman, that seemed to say it all about living in a country while not actually marching to the sound of the same drum.

Although I loved my time in London, it never felt like home – I am a big open skies kind of person and prefer the colour to be blue rather than grey the majority of the time – hmm, why did I go there at all?! Being a person of Celtic and Mediterranean origin, I was more comfortable when I was in Ireland or Scotland or Southern Europe than I was in London and all my friends tended to share a similar background. My only British friends had either travelled extensively or were married to foreigners so were perhaps more open to louder, brighter, smiley(er) people who were openly opinionated.

I didn't live in 'Kangaroo Valley' as

they used to call Earl's Court – that had disappeared by then as we Australians spread the love across London but working for an Australian State also meant that I got home enough and focused on Australia enough that I didn't feel homesick. However, when I left my State job, I realised that London was not a place that I could live forever – the weather was an obvious impasse but it was also the lack of warmth that shrivels the heart. Not the temperature, you can always put on a few more layers of clothes and I do love winter clothes (!) but the lack of warmth in the country itself – not enough emoting for my needs, too much restraint and while I love British humour, it is often barbed and sarcastic. I have gorgeous British friends and I miss them but I do not miss their country!

Returning to Australia, I found that rather bizarrely, I had become an alien in my own country – what were the in-jokes? Did we really elect John Howard in my absence? Why did everyone have Australian accents on the ads? Why were there so many American shows on TV? I found myself humming that song again. But, once I had my ear retuned to the accent and spent enough time with my family and friends, I got back into the swing easily.

Coming to Rarotonga was different – I have told you before about the different style of nodding and I have got used to that. Blissfully, people don't think I'm a looney when I smile and make eye contact and nearly every local is bright, smiley and eye contacting too. The sky is big and blue most of the time and while I have thought of Sting a few times, I haven't actually broken into song here! There is a great mix of people here and my friends have been born here, there and everywhere but all share one thing in common – a love of and commitment to the Cooks.

My biggest challenge has been the language because I feel that after 2.5+ years, I should speak more Maori but it is hard to practice when all you guys speak to me in English! One of my work colleagues and I have now vowed to only speak in Maori together which may make for long silences but I will get there eventually. When I am practising and speak to you in Maori, please don't answer in English, I think it is because you don't understand my accent and become discouraged – Cook Islands Maori is officially on the endangered language list so we should ALL be speaking it as much as possible!

And for the rest? Well, I have always thought that our paradise is 'O' for Osum and while I arrived a legal alien, nek minute..I'm a local!

# Does your insurance cover cyclones, tsunamis, earthquakes and fire? - its optional and costs vary

Insurance is supposed to give you 'peace of mind' - but with the recent threats of tsunamis, cyclones and fires one after another, one does tend to question whether they are adequately covered, or even covered at all. The answer to that is all in the fine print which every one should spend some time reading.

Despite what some people say, you can get cover for natural perils like earthquake/tsunami, cyclones, hurricanes, gale and windstorms but you have to request it, and it costs more.

According to Tower Insurance Manager Jay Areora, natural perils are an optional cover and costs are based on the sum being insured for.

"Cover can only be offered once the dwelling has been certified by an engineer that the property has been cyclone-proofed, with cyclone shutters etc," said Jay.

As for tsunamis they "are created by earthquakes, so they go hand in hand," said Jay.

But of course if you have any doubts about your insurance cover and you want to know what exactly is covered under certain options, and what your obligations are, then Tower Insurance is just a phone call away.

Jay says that insurance protects you against 'what if' scenarios. His company encourages that you insure your homes, and that they can tailor an insurance package to suit your budget and payment options.

Tower Insurance currently has over 3,000 domestic and commercial insurance policies that have fire cover. He did not have the figures on hand, but he approximates that only half of these customers have some form of natural disaster cover.

Further calculations using census data from 2011 approximate that only 40-50 percent of homes have some sort of personal insurance cover.

Given that many are not adequately covered or not insured at all, what will happen when there is a natural disaster with a wide ranging impact like Cyclone Pat? Is there a contingency fund that can be used to help a recovery. As was seen in 2010, funds for the Cyclone Pat recovery came from aid donors, the community here and in New Zealand and Australia, and some assistance from Government. So if you don't have insurance you had better take some out or else take the necessary precautions to ensure the safety of your most valuable asset - your home.

There is a Disaster Risk Management Act 2007 according to the Director of the Emergency Management Cook Islands Charles Carlson but it does not mention any insurance cover in the event a natural disaster such as cyclones, tsunami and earthquake takes place. Although, why would it, everyone is responsible for themselves. Government has its own assets to insure without having to worry about yours.

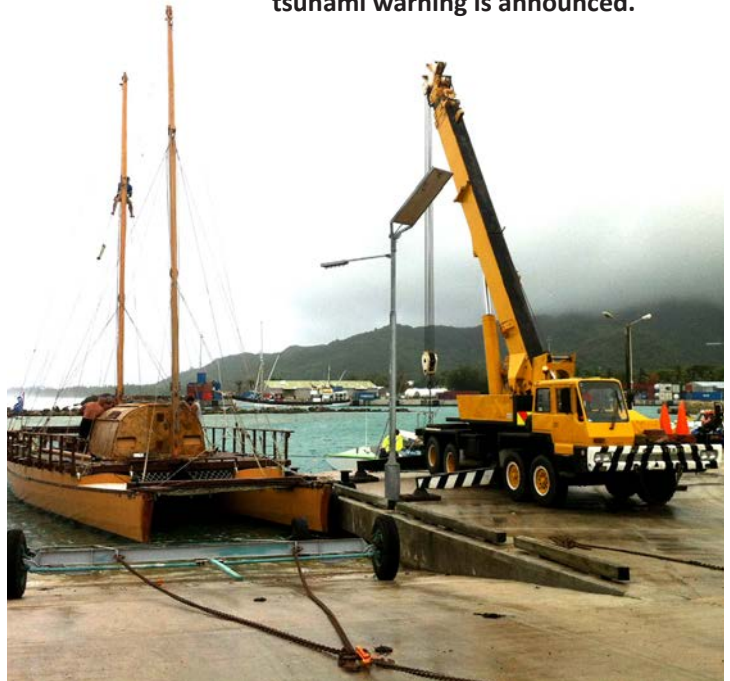
According to the Chief Executive Officer of the Cook Islands Investment Corporation (CIIC) Tamarii Tutangata, all Government

by Charlie Rani

## In a Flash:

Insurance is supposed to give you 'peace of mind' but are you adequately covered or covered at all against fire and natural disasters. Cover for natural disasters is available but it is optional so you need to request it. The cost of cover is based on the sum being insured for. In most cases, you will be required to perform some sort of obligation like put up cyclone shutters etc and have your place certified.

**Boat owners normally safeguard their assets by removing their boats from the water when a cyclone or tsunami warning is announced.**



buildings valued over fifty thousand dollars are insured. State Owned Enterprise such as the BCI, TAU, the Airport and Ports Authority have their own insurance arrangement for their respective properties. In the case of Government buildings and properties in the Outer Islands valued over fifty thousand dollars the same also applies. As an example, the Aitutaki Power Supply has not been formally established as an independent SOE and so operates under the authority of CIIC according to Tamarii. Its buildings, and power generation and distribution network are insured by CIIC.

All CIIC's assets are insured for the cost of replacing it if it is destroyed or damaged if beyond repair. If the asset is destroyed by fire "we will have enough funds to replace the asset with the money to be recovered from the Insurance Company", says Tamarii. Their insurance provider is Willis Co NZ Limited.

**RATE THIS STORY:**

**How interesting was it to you?**





# Should you have your electrical wiring re-inspected and when?

## - 2 of the recent fires were caused by electrical faults

Most people would probably put up a house and never re-look at its components until perhaps the ceiling leaks, or the meter box catches fire - something extreme anyway. Sometimes the tell-tale signs are not even recognised till after the house burns down.

According to the Fire Chief Nga Jessie, two of the fires of the last 6 months have been attributed to electrical causes, one to a mosquito coil, and the rest are still under investigation although, one of the 3 houses in Nikao is under investigation for an additional crime as evidence was found of an unlawful act. The most recent fires are also suspected to be arson.

With regards to mosquito coils, the Fire Chief says that the most common problem that they have found is that people still put coils in an ice cream bowl which can melt transferring heat or a flame from a smouldering coil to the material below the bowl like a mat or cloth.

As for electrical fires, the Fire Chief says that they have put out a few meter boxes that have gone up in flames. These had shorted out after being affected by water. Many electrical fires are caused by overloading the powerpoints with too many appliances, or using cheap plugs that are worn or bent. Otherwise, electrical fires are caused by wires that are rat eaten or exposed coming into contact with water.

Electrical Inspector Paiau Pirake was surprised when we told him about the electrical-caused fires. He said that he had only been indirectly notified about one of them. Usually, he says the procedure is that he is notified so that he can inspect and sign off on it. He prefers to be notified as soon as possible before the evidence is cleaned up. Usually, insurance companies request an inspection report from him which will say how many power points were in the house, and can usually indicate if the house has been modified without inspection. This can greatly impact your insurance payout.

In terms of how many years after a house is built should it be subjected to a re-wiring program, Pirake said that if you as a homeowner have the slightest suspicion that your electrical wiring is faulty, then you should call in a registered electrician to have a look, and possibly carry out a rewiring. One benefit of a rewiring is that it allows an electrician to install newer safety features which are available such as newer type fuses/meter boxes.

The Herald also asked Pirake if he conducts re-inspections. Pirake admitted that there was such thing as a re-inspection program which was mandated under the Act. However, he himself was not able to conduct this as he was the only person in his office and he has a lot to do.

Pirake is currently the only appointed Electrical Inspector for the entire country. Pirake did share that he estimates that currently 50 percent of homes in the Cook Islands are currently over 40 years old so the re-inspection program is needed badly. If he had another two inspectors to help him they would be able to carry out all the functions of that office which include inspecting new homes, carrying out re-inspection of old homes, ensuring that importers of electrical supplies and goods are bringing in compliant products, and as was pointed out due to the recent

by Jeane Matenga

### In a Flash:

Two of the fires over the last 6 months are attributed to electrical causes. Approximately 50 percent of current residential properties are now over 40 years old. Electrical wiring does not survive for eternity, if you suspect that there is something not right, you need to get an electrician in and conduct some rewiring if needed.

### LOCATION

Arorangi Business

Avatiu Business

House in Arorangi

3 Houses in Nikao

House in Titikaveka

House in Nikao

House in Nikao

### CAUSE

Electrical

Under investigation

Electrical

Under investigation

Mosquito Coil

Suspected Arson

Under investigation



Puaikura Fire Brigade look on at the damage after working to put out the fire at Snowbird laundry last year.

Photos above by Junior Marsters, Nior Photography.

fires, being available to the Fire Rescue service to confirm that fires are electrically caused.

So unlike a car where the mechanic puts a sticker that indicates your next date of service, you have to pretty much be responsible for your own home and safety.

Henry Napa of Fire and Safety CI says that smoke alarms are a good first step as they can basically wake a sleeping person up. In addition, you can get a special kind for the kitchen and lounge smoke alarm that won't go off when you burn toast. Otherwise, he recommends that you have at least one general purpose dry powder fire extinguisher.

### RATE THIS STORY:

How interesting was it to you?



# What happens to audit reports?

## - complaints from the public, conflicts of interest, unauthorised use of public monies, its Audit's role to investigate this

The Audit office plays a vital part to the country by ensuring and promoting good governance in terms of better accountability and transparency is upheld in the public sector.

Each year, the audit office compiles quarterly reports to highlight and disclose its audit work carried out and identifies and carries out special reviews and investigations in which high risk areas are identified or genuine valid complaints from members of the public, or initiated by the Director of Audit which can include conflict of interests, and unauthorised purchasing or spending of public monies.

Last year, the Audit office completed 38 financial audits with 28 of that being related to the year ending 30th June 2009. This is caused by irregular sittings of parliament but the Director of Audit Alan Parker reports, he is hopeful things will improve this year and its time government ensures the audit office gets the help it needs.

Clerk of Parliament, Puna Rakanui says that the reports tabled in parliament enable Ministers and MP's to see how their appropriation for the reported period was used on, and will allow MP's to scrutinize their operations.

With the establishment of the public accounts committee made up of MP's, Wilkie Rasmussen, Jim Marurai, Mona Ioane and Kiriau Turepu and secretary, Paul Allsworth, the committee is responsible for reviewing reports and questioning those referred to them by parliament or minister, so when done, the report is submitted back to parliament with its recommendation, this includes whether a report is to be referred to Crown Law or police for further investigations and possible charges.

Rakanui says, that he along with the Speaker will be looking to re-establish the Standing Orders committee to see how to better improve recommendations from audit, and the ministries and will work closely with the Public Accounts Committee to see what should be acted on, and Rakanui is hoping the establishment of the committee will be made during this sitting otherwise when Parliament returns in April.

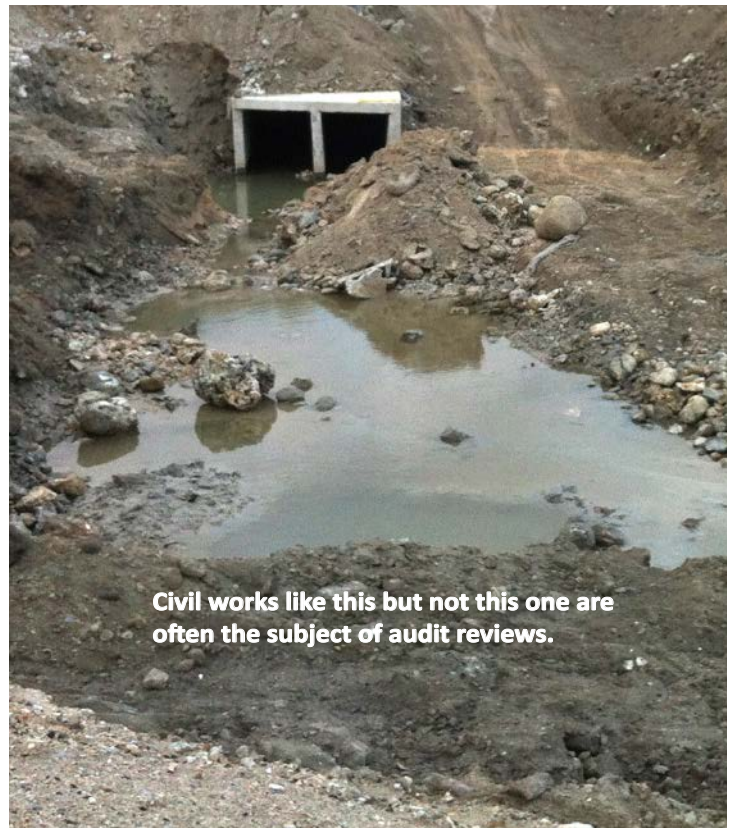
To this date, there is no knowledge or records of cases that have been pardoned by parliament. But the public are weary that those within ministries get a slap on the wrist. According to the Audit office's annual report, there are concerns about the absence of code of conduct by senior public officials, and a leadership code for politicians, conflict of interest and mismanagement of public monies and unsatisfactory levels of accountability on the usage of public funds. There is also a high failure of implementing and enforcing internal control procedures surrounding high risk areas and failing to address regular anomalies through disciplinary and corrective measures.

The CI Herald understands, the audit office is behind by 2 years in its checks of Crown accounts and its time that government get serious about giving the audit office the resources and capacity it needs to do its job in a timely fashion, and it is also time government get tough on Audit office's recommendations.

by Mona Tetauru

### In a Flash:

Audit investigates and review public complaints, conflicts of interests, unauthorised use of public monies among other things. Their findings are reviewed by the Public Accounts Committee who will make a recommendation and forward on for appropriate action.



Civil works like this but not this one are often the subject of audit reviews.

## News Brief

By Moana Vaevae Tetauru

The Prime Minister today says, the community has a much bigger challenge to face and that's to find the culprit whose destroying homes and people's livelihoods, after another home was destroyed in a house fire on Tuesday morning, taking the total number of homes in the Pokoinu area alone to 6 since early December. Fire Chief Nga Jessie said on Tuesday, the crash fire service received a call out just after 5am Tuesday morning involving 3 fire trucks including the Puakura Volunteer Fire Service, with the fire being contained 22 minutes later. At this stage Jessie says, there is no indication at this moment whether the fire is linked to a 2-storey home that was engulfed in flames early Monday morning. And at this moment, discussions have begun between the CI and NZ and there may be a possibility NZ may assist us with investigations. On Tuesday the Prime Minister said, we must ask ourselves who is this sick person in our community doing this, and maybe the people of Pokoinu should come together to form a neighbourhood watch group as the problem has escalated. The PM is also appealing to the community that if they have any information relating to the apprehending of the person or persons involved in the heinous crime, to come forward to end the ordeal.

RATE THIS STORY:

How interesting was it to you?



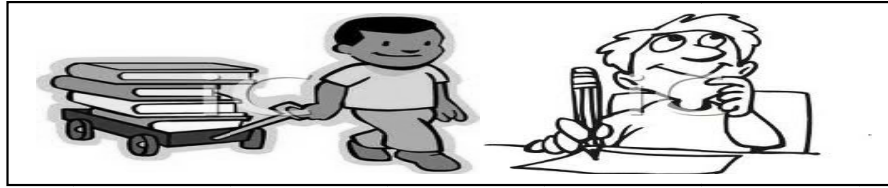




On Thursday pupils from Avatea School visited Pitt Media Group to see and hear about the workings of CITV, the Herald newspaper, Radio Cook Islands and other functions like filming of TV advertisements and administration. The kids were well behaved and asked many questions. Speaking on behalf of the three teachers who accompanied the children from Class 4 and 5, Maria Scheel thanked Pitt Media Group for the opportunity to visit and learn how the media operates.



## TE REO MĀORI KŪKI 'AIRANI



### tātā`ia e Rutera Taripo

`E rā kurakura tēia, kua nakenakea mai. Kano e, kanokano atu ki te paerangi.

Kia Orāna `ē Tūrou rava ki te katoatoa e `ātoro piri-putuputu mai nei i teia `ora`ora `anga i roto i tēia tu`anga kapi no te `iri`iri`anga ma te `akaaraara atu i ēta`i au mānako`anga nā roto i tō tātou Reo Māori kia vai mātūtū `uātu rāi tō tātou Reo Ipukarea `ē kia Upokotū.

`Āe, ko Pēperuare teia marama, `ē, i roto i tēia `akamata`anga mata`iti 2013 kua na roto takere tātou i tēta`i nga `akamatakite`anga pāpā, koia `oki ko te Uri`ia Garry `ē te `akakī`angā-tai mei te `enua mai ko Solomon. Ināra, nā roto `oki i te irinaki`anga Atua `ē te pure a te iti-tangata katoatoa kua tūpeke kē `ia atu tēia tumu rangi pōiri, `ē kāre tō tātou basileia i tā`iripoti `ia. No reira, kia `akaoki atu rāi tātou i teia au akameitaki`anga no tātou ki tō tātou Metua Tapu.

Te kite nei `oki tātou, i te tūranga o te ua e topa mā`ora`ora `ua nei i teia au ra, `ē tē riro nei tēia i te `akakī i te au arā-vai, kia tū tātou i te vai`inu, te pīpī atu i te au tanutanu `anga a te kōpū-tangata `ē te `akaoraora mai i te marō o tō tātou `enua ruperupe.

Mei tei tā`iku `ia atu i tēia `epetoma i topa ake nei, kua `oki atu tā tātou au `ānau ki te `āpī`i no tēia mata`iti, nō reira, kia riro rāi `oki tātou metua, kōpū-tangata i te `akamāro`iro`i `uātu rāi i teia kaveinga pu`apinga ā tā tātou au tamariki, `ē kia rauka `iā tātou i tēta`i au taime i te pukapuka-pu`apinga ta`i ki tēta`i no runga i tō rātou tūranga i te `□pi`i `ē pērā katoa i te akarongo atu ma te rapakau i tēta`i au tā`i`i`anga mē kore tīmata`anga te kā iri mai kia rātou. Ki te au tamariki, ka ūmere koe me pukapuka rikiriki koe ki tō`ou nga metua, ka kite koe e ko rāua katoa rāi tēta`i ō`ou ngā `oa pirimou tikāi.

### AU KUPU (Some Words)

<b>nakenake</b> - clear & bright	<b>kano</b> - move forward	<b>paerangi</b> - horizon
<b>`ātoro</b> - visit to look at	<b>tā`iripoti</b> - to destroy	<b>arā-vai</b> - stream
<b>vai`inu</b> - drinking water	<b>pīpī</b> - to water	<b>kaveinga</b> - direction, path
<b>tai`akakī</b> - tsunami	<b>`akaaraara</b> - reawaken the thoughts	

1. `E rā nakenake tikāi tēia.

Today is really clear and bright.

2. Tē kanokano atūra te vaka ki te paerangi.

The vaka is moving towards the horizon.

3. Kua manuia tātou, kāre tō tātou `enua i tā`iripoti `ia `e te tai`akakī.

We are lucky that our island had not been destroyed by the tsunami.

4. Māri te au rā uaua i te `akakī mai i te arā-vai, ma te pīpī atu i te `āua-kai

It is just as well for the rainy days to fill up the streams and to water the plantations.

5. Ko te `aere ki te `āpī`i `e kaveinga pu`apinga teia nā te katoatoa.

Studying or going to school is a very important direction for everyone.

6. Ko te au Korero-pakari a te au `ui-tūpuna, e `o`onu te au karere `akaaraara `anga i roto.

Wise-sayings of our ancestors have deep reawakening messages and thoughts in them.

**KIA MATAORA TŌ`OU RĀ! = HAVE A HAPPY DAY!**





# Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tongi

## How God Meet Our Needs His Way *Part 2*

In Part 1 of this article I was talking of what God expect us to do before He could bless us according to the Bible in Philippians 4v.19 which reads "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." Many want to take this promise of God and apply it to their lives while avoiding the conditions in v.14-18. When we are generous to others, God will be generous with us. Luke 6v.38, "Give to others, and God will give to you...The measure you use for others is the one God will use for you." The Apostle Paul gives us three reasons why we should be generous: 1) Our Giving Encourages others. Philippians 4v.14-16 reads "It was good of you to share in my troubles... as you Philippians know, in the early days .... not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only, for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need." The Philippian church was not a wealthy church. Yet they were a generous and a giving church. 2) Our Giving Is An Investment In The Future. In Philippians 4v.17 Paul said "though I appreciate your gifts, what makes me happiest is the well-earned reward you will have because of your kindness." Giving benefits the giver as well as the receiver. I Timothy 6v.18-19 (LB) "... Give happily to those in need, and always be ready to share whatever God has given you. By doing this, you will be storing up real treasure for yourselves in heaven -- it is the only safe investment for eternity!" 3) Our Giving is a Sacrifice to God Paul said in v.18 "I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God." When you give generously you become more like Christ! And it pleases God. Jesus said, "In as much as you have done unto the least of these, my brethren, you have done it unto Me." (Matthew 25v.40). We must remember that the condition comes before the promise. The Promise of God in Philippians 4v.19 does not: 1) Include laziness. God expects you to work. This promise is not an

invitation to sit with folded hands and say, "I'm just trusting the Lord to provide." He has not promised to meet your needs if you sit around and do nothing. I Thessalonians 3v.10 says that people who are unwilling to work should not be given handouts. "Let him who does not work not eat." 2) Cover all our wants. James 4v.3 reads "You ask for something and when you don't get it's because you're asking with the wrong motive. You just want to consume it on your desires." God has not guaranteed to provide us with all our luxuries. God is interested in having our needs met. If you spend all your money on some unnecessary things and your needs were not met, and you say, "God, Your promise isn't true!" That's not God's fault. It's your fault! Who knows you might blame the devil! It's not his fault either, it's your fault! What's covered in v.19 are 'All legitimate needs!' If you're a faithful giver you have every right to ask God to meet your financial needs! If you're not a faithful giver you have no right, to ask God to help you. In II Corinthians 9v.6 8 it shows us the condition (man's part) and the promise (God's blessings). "Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each one should give whatever he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver." This is the condition (man's part). Then the promise (God's blessings) "And God is able to make ALL grace abound to you, so that in ALL things, at ALL times, having ALL that you need, you will abound in EVERY good work." The main lesson is this: If you are a giver, God will take care of your needs. Giving guarantees God's provision. Be a Generous person, helping those in need. The happiest people are the most generous people. The most miserable people are those who are mean! God want to bless us! Be a faithful giver, and also a generous person with others and watch what God does in your life. May you find these words encouraging in helping those in need. God bless, te Atua te aroa!

## The COMPUTER MAN Tech Tips

Phone 24979 Email: [sales@thecomputerman.co.ck](mailto:sales@thecomputerman.co.ck)

### 10 things to try when applications won't work with Windows 8

#### 8: Trick the application into thinking it is running on an earlier version of Windows

Some applications are hard-coded to look for a specific version of Windows. In these types of situations, you can configure Windows 8 to lie to the application about what version of Windows you're running. Start by running the Program Compatibility Troubleshooter (as described above). When you get to the What Problems Do You Notice screen, choose the option for programs that worked in an earlier version of Windows. After clicking Next, you will have the option of telling the utility which version of Windows the application worked in.

#### 9: Provide the application with extra permissions

Some legacy applications (especially those written for Windows XP) fail to run due to inadequate permissions. Once again, the Program Compatibility Troubleshooter can help. When you get to the What Problems Do You Notice screen, choose the option related to the program requiring additional permissions. As an alternative, you could try right-clicking on the application and choosing the Run As Administrator option (assuming that you have administrative permissions).

#### 10: Check the Compatibility Center

One last thing you can do is check the Compatibility Center for information about the application. The Compatibility Center is a Web site Microsoft uses to provide application compatibility information for Windows 7 and 8. In some instances, it provides a link to detailed instructions on what you must do to make an otherwise-incompatible application work with Windows 8.

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# Rules of the Road

By Norma Ngatamariki

Yes, this is a topic that we're all pretty familiar with, especially kids in our generation. There are motorbikes galore, which is the main source of transport for teens. We could own a car, if our parents are generous enough to lend it (or you could have your own truck, if you're that fortunate) Yes, owning any kind of transport is a privilege bestowed upon us, but we have a tendency to abuse these sort of privileges. Read on if you're interested in finding out the positive, negative and in-between stuff of teens and their "rides".

It's common knowledge that the legal driving age is sixteen (If you didn't know this, you do now) but underage driving is more common nowadays. Sometimes you see a kid as young as ten, zooming around on a bike that's equipped with

a Koby muffler (that is, a muffler that makes a smooth, purring sound) or a popped muffler (that makes a rattling sound, which isn't pleasing to the ear), absent rear view mirrors (an absolute no-no) and a number plate that's been drilled upside down. What I've just described to you is something that's not even authorised to be on the road. Raro-style or a "pimped mustang", as some would call it. But seriously, if you're going to "pimp" your ride, then at least get a decent paint job. There are some ridiculous colour combinations out there.

The point I'm trying to make is this: THE LEGAL AGE IS SIXTEEN. First page of the Cook Islands Road Code. I guess it's alright if you're heading to the shop or something (some police would beg to differ and I'll admit, I've had my turn) as long as you're driving at an appropriate speed.

Who cares if you're driving mama-slow and that you're holding up a queue? (Well, some people might) The important thing is, is that you make it to your destination in one piece. If road accidents involving youth are going to keep on happening, at this rate, a law will be enforced to make helmets compulsory. I know for a fact that teens don't want this to happen.

Another factor that I want to point out is the issue of freedom. Our parents must be freaked at all the free time that we have with our bikes/cars/trucks. It's like a movie scene played out on one of those teen flicks. We throw a party, get a bit tipsy, think we're all cool and try and drive home. C'mon, man, use your manako and arrange for a sober driver on the night. We don't want ambulances rushing towards the crash scene or grieving parents. I don't want



any tumatetenga notices coming on our radio station saying that yet another youth has died.

So I hope that you've taken this article seriously, because it is a serious issue. Be expecting more of these "life lessons" later on, since I have nothing better to talk about. (No life, you see..lolz)

## Uipaanga no te tautai kupenga

Na Rutera Taripo

I teia pōpongi Ru'itoru ra 20 o Pēperuare, i te ora 10, i ko i te 'Are Pārimani i Nikao, kua rave 'ia tētai uriuri'anga manako no runga i te tāpura o te Tautai Kupenga i te moana, i roto i tō tātou pae moana i te Kūki 'Airani nei. Ko te tāpura nui oki no tēia 'akatakāpātoa'anga, koia oki, no tētai atu au rāvenga kē i te 'akameitaki rāi i te tūranga o te Kūki 'Airani nei.

Kua akateretere'ia tēia uipā'anga 'e Turi Mataiapo, Maria Henderson te Perētiteni o te Kōutu Nui. Kua tā'okota i mai te au mema o te Kōutu Nui no te 'akarongo i te au manakonako'anga tei 'ora'ora 'ia mai 'e te minita ngāteitei o te Pae Moana ko Teina Bishop rāua ko Ben Ponia te tēkeretere o Pae Moana katoa. Kua tae katoa mai

te minita ngāteitei o te 'Are Ariki ko Teariki Heather no te 'o'ora katoa mai i tāna turu no teia 'akakoro'anga pu'apinga no te 'iti-tangata.

Te pati nei te minita ngāteitei a Teina Bishop, ki te Aronga Mana te Koutu Nui no tā rātou tika kia 'āriki mai i teia 'akakoro'anga pu'apinga e tāpapa atu nei rātou kia tupu. Kua nā roto i te au uiui'anga ma te pa'u'anga a te Aronga Mana ki te mema ngāteitei, kua matara mai i reira te au ngā'i e tā'iti nei ki tēta'i au pae tangata.

Kia oti te au 'uri'uri'anga a te katoatoa kua 'o'ora mai te au Aronga Mana tātakita i tō rātou au manako ma te tuku katoa mai i tā rātou turu ma te 'āriki i te pati'anga Tautai Moana ā te minita ngāteitei ko Teina Bishop.

## Resident population by Religious affiliation

From Table 2.4, Cook Islands Census 2011

Total residents:	14,974
Cook Islands Christian Church:	7,356
Roman Catholic:	2,540
Seventh Day Adventist:	1,190
Church of Latter Day Saints:	656
Assemblies of God:	557
Apostolic Church:	310
Other Religions:	1,201
No Religion:	841

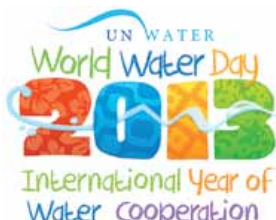
Those who objected to the question or did not answer: 323

As expected the Cook Islands Christian Church (CICC) has the most members. About half the population is affiliated to the CICC. Interestingly across all religions, the split between male and female is virtually even.

Other religions will include those such as the Jehovah Witnesses, who along with the six religions mentioned above, comprise the Religious Advisory Council (RAC).

Other Churches include the New Hope Church, New Life Church, Holy Spirit Revival, Cornerstone Church, Celebration on the Rock.

**You can make a difference! Do Your Part**



**OFF THE TAP!!**

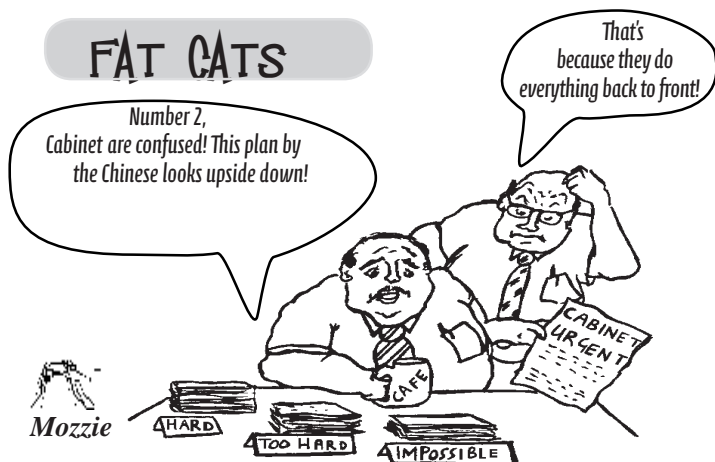


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## FAT CATS

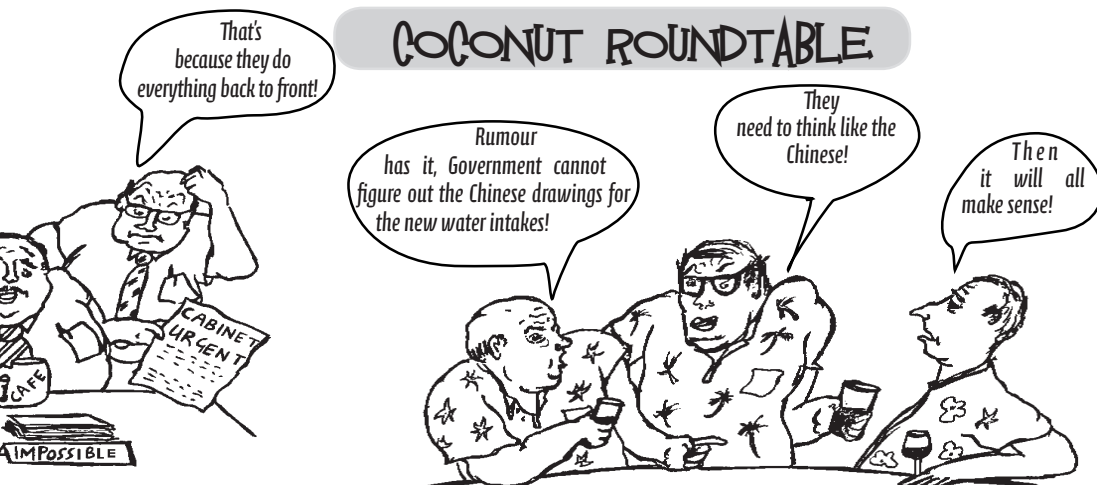


Warning! Warning! Nonsense alert! Nonsense alert! Two more instances of "nonsense" arose last week as reported by the media. First, the Hopposition Bleeder Wilkie incorrectly suggested the Chinese deep freezing plant would smell-wrong says the Bishop! Second, a nameless writer quoted incorrect figures on fishing licenses according to MMR! These instances clearly qualify under the "CC" - Carr Category of "Nonsense." Chartered Accountant Mike Carr stands no nonsense when it comes to people getting their facts wrong as demonstrated by his outburst on the front page of last week's Daily Phews when someone got the secondary tax rate wrong!

Whisper picked up by Big Red is that a group of northerners are delaying their return to the land of the Black Stump in order to qualify to vote in the next general election. The reason? They want to ensure the numbers are there to bring in a new MP!

A rose between two thorns? Spot the new MP from Mangaia on the goggle-box, struggling to get to her seat in parliament? Wints struggled to his feet to let her past and the great Vav was not making any moves.

Good to know our hard working MPs are wide awake and on the ball. For instance the member for Titikaveka said she read about the cruise boats not stopping in last week's Daily Phews. However, the Herald



# CHOOKS CORNER

WITH BIG RED



carried that story the previous week! Good to see our MPs so sharp, incisive, alert and earning their \$50,000 salaries?

Minister for the fishy tales Diocese, the Bishop, reckons the opposition's Leader is confused for thinking a fish processing plant is the same as a fish canning plant! Do you smell anything coming out of the Coop-Douglas plant in Ruatonga? The Bishop says a fish doesn't smell when it is deep frozen at minus 60 degrees! But the Bishop smells something going on at the opposition's Office! Norman?

It's good to know that the business of State will stop for important events like unveiling of headstones and radio-thons. Can't have things like passing important legislation holding up those events!

Member for Matavera attended the launch of Matavera's own public, UV treated fresh water system at the local school funded by NZ, last week. After all if the MMM-Mighty Maggie Man can get the NZ High Commissar to install a UV treated fresh drinking water system in Tupapa, the member for Matavera

can do likewise! Now if only the other MPs can follow suit, it may not be long before Raro's two treated water plants are forced to close down!

Fresh drinking water alert! Fresh drinking water alert! Chooks besides Tupapa, there is now a UV treated, fresh drinking water dispenser fitted at the AOG church in Takuvaine!

With the Deputy NZ High Commissar being groomed to take over from Dohn Larter, has Larter taught her how to get out and about and poke her nose into what's going down and to sniff out important doo dahs to report back to base in Wellington? Will she get her fingers into all corners of the pie to scoop out the good stuff?

"Minus-60," the Chinese deep freezing plant is awaiting the big tick from the guardians of our commercial border, the BTIB. Chooks, the whisper is, the plant could be set up elsewhere, it does not have to be on the Rock! Watch this space for an important announcement as Big Red rubs

and consults his big crystal balls!

After all these years, it has taken a pommie expat teacher to come up with the brilliant idea that schools should stay open after hours so people can make full use of the school's computers! Doesn't that sound suspiciously like the old "night school" idea? Yes, when will schools start offering night classes in various topics?

Chooks, locals have become accustomed to people running around the island with buckets looking for donations for worthy causes. So accustomed have people become that one day the unscrupulous will run around the island with buckets collecting money for themselves from an unsuspecting public!

If crime is rampant in a particular area, does it not make sense for Police to stake the area out and wait and watch and catch offenders? That's what they do on American Cop shows on TV!

All is not well in the hair salon industry chooks! Big Red is picking up whispers of anti-foreignism and a certain government agency has been approached!

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VACANCY

**MARKETING COORDINATOR**

Join the dynamic hardworking team at Cook Islands Tourism Corporation! With the mandate to lead the nation in tourism, destination development and marketing, our team is looking for a bright, energetic, passionate individual to make a difference and help cultivate continued success in this economic sector.

The Cook Islands Tourism Corporation invites applications for the position of Marketing Coordinator. The successful applicant will be reporting to the Director of Sales & Marketing and will be required to coordinate and manage work programmes that service the sales and marketing requirements of Cook Islands Tourism Corporation and deliver an efficient support system to international representatives from Head Office.

Applicants must have the following expertise:

- possess a Tertiary degree in a related field or studying to its completion
- OR have 1 year work experience in the tourism industry or alternatively a new graduate in tourism studies
- experience in Tourism sales and marketing
- have excellent interpersonal and written communication skills
- multi-task and able to manage many projects at one time
- have sound knowledge of general office and administrative procedures
- have excellent organisational skills and ability to prioritise work and meet tight deadlines
- have sound knowledge of the industry, activities and service personnel
- have advanced knowledge in the use of Office software – Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access

A detailed Terms of Reference is available at [www.cookislands.travel/jobs](http://www.cookislands.travel/jobs)

Applications with a CV should be addressed to Executive Assistant, PO Box 14, Cook Islands Tourism Corporation, Rarotonga or emailed to [applications@cookislands.gov.ck](mailto:applications@cookislands.gov.ck)

Applications close 4pm, Thursday 28 February 2013

VACANCY

**DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR**

Applications are invited for the position of Destination Development Coordinator with the Cook Islands Tourism Corporation. This is a fixed term appointment with the dynamic and hardworking team at Cook Islands Tourism Head Office. The successful applicant will report to the Director of Destination Development and will be primarily required to coordinate and manage work plans that service the Destination Development programme. Other responsibilities will include coordination of product development activities and coordination of local media information at Cook Islands Tourism Head Office.

Applicants must have the following expertise:

- excellent interpersonal and written communication skills
- have sound knowledge of the tourism industry and related activities
- experience in managing various stakeholders with competing priorities
- possess a Tertiary degree in a related field  
OR  
Have a minimum of 2 years work experience in the tourism industry
- ability to multi-task and manage many projects at one time, with a sound knowledge of general office and administrative procedures
- have excellent organisational skills and ability to prioritise work and meet tight deadlines
- have advanced knowledge in the use of Office software – Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access

A detailed Terms of Reference is available at [www.cookislands.travel/jobs](http://www.cookislands.travel/jobs)

Applications with a CV should be addressed to Executive Assistant, PO Box 14, Cook Islands Tourism Corporation, Rarotonga or emailed to [applications@cookislands.gov.ck](mailto:applications@cookislands.gov.ck)

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**TENDER AND CONTRACT NO. OPM-02/2013  
PUKAPUKA-NASSAU RENEWABLE ENERGY AND  
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS PROJECT**

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) in conjunction with the Office of the Energy Commissioner (OEC), invites sealed Tender Submissions from suitably qualified contractors for the supply and delivery of all requested Goods including the construction of the Pukapuka and Nassau Islands photovoltaic and low-voltage distribution systems co-funded by the Japanese and New Zealand Governments.

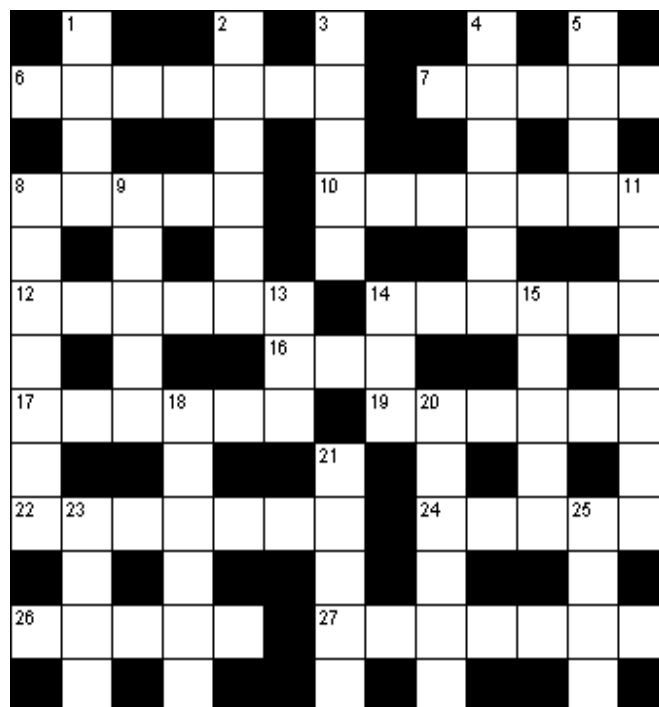
Hardcopies of the tender document will be available from the Renewable Energy Development Division's office of the OPM at a non-refundable fee of NZ\$100 per set. Electronic copies will however be made available free of charge.

Only hardcopies of the Tender Submissions will be accepted and these must reach the tender box located at the REDD's office no later than 1.00pm on Monday 11th March 2013 (local time). All Tender Submissions must be addressed to:

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Private Bag  
Avarua  
Rarotonga  
COOK ISLANDS

All tender enquiries must be directed to the PEC Fund Coordinator Ngateina Rani, on telephone (682) 25494, mobile (682) 54433 or email [ngateina@pmoffice.gov.ck](mailto:ngateina@pmoffice.gov.ck).

# CROSSWORD



**Across**

- 6. Luggage
- 7. Female horses
- 8. Run away
- 10. Performance of music
- 12. Antiaircraft fire
- 14. Heavenly body
- 16. Before
- 17. Wretchedness
- 19. Mind
- 22. Long curl
- 24. Like musk
- 26. Departing
- 27. Covering

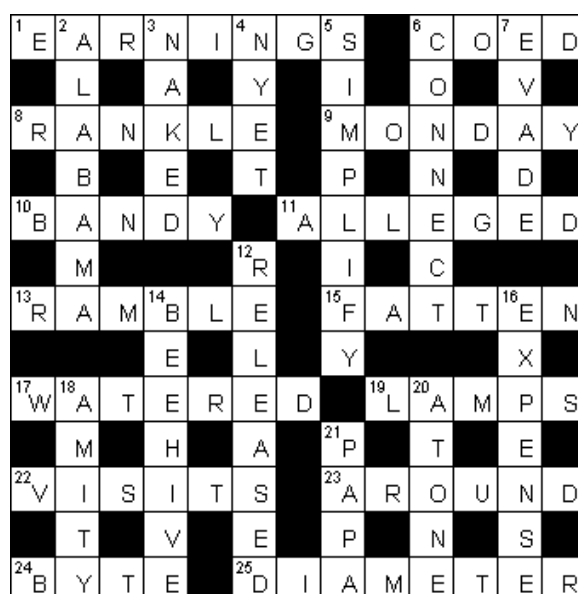
**3. Swerves**

- 4. Boat basin
- 5. Second letter of the Greek alphabet
- 8. Prison
- 9. Finds pleasing
- 11. Method of raising money
- 13. Lock opener
- 14. Vigour
- 15. Narrow joining pieces
- 18. Locomotive
- 20. Ask to come
- 21. Severely simple
- 23. Image of a deity
- 25. Compassionate

**Down**

- 1. Torch
- 2. Manoeuvre

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