

# COOK ISLANDS HERALD

3 September 2014 \$2 (incl VAT)

*Frontpage model Steph is pictured here wearing a bracelet, necklace and ring from Goldmine*

[www.facebook.com/RaroPubCrawl](http://www.facebook.com/RaroPubCrawl)

THE **BIGGEST & BEST** PUB CRAWL ON RAROTONGA



WED & SAT \$25, FRI \$30  
**CALL NOW**  
on 29700  
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

**CIPS**  
IMAGE & COPY CENTRE

DIGITAL PHOTO PRINTS STANDARD TO SUPER BIG  
Printed on Photopaper or Canvas



ONLY  
**35¢**  
100 Plus Prints

Well also sell digital cameras, printers, cellphones, car audio and much much more..

**FUJIFILM OKI Canon**

Come in and see the photo specialists today  
Located Opposite Cooks Corner

PH: 26 238 FX: 21 238 Email: [fuji@cookprint.com](mailto:fuji@cookprint.com)

*Cakes for all occasions!*



**Edgewater Cakes**

Enquiries call us  
on 25435 extn 7010

**Sunset BarBQs**  
at the Shipwreck Hut

Saturday Seafood menu  
with Jake Numanga on  
the Ukulele 6pm

Tuesday Sunset BBQ with  
Garth Young on Piano 6pm

Thursday Sunset Cocktails  
with Rudy Aquino  
5.30pm-7.30pm

Reservations required  
**22 166**

Aroa Beachside Inn, Betela  
Great Food, Great Entertainment



*Always the best  
selection, best  
price & best  
service at  
Goldmine!*

## POWERBALL RESULTS

Drawn: 28/8/14 Draw num: 954

**9 11 14 23 26 28** PB **11**



## TATTSLOTTO RESULTS

Drawn: 30/8/14 Draw num: 3455

**2 14 24 37 40 44** SUPP: **18 33**

**\$4**  
MILLION  
ESTIMATED

## OZLOTTO RESULTS

Drawn: 2/9/14 Draw num: 1072 Next draw:

**1 3 9 15 29 40 43** SUPP: **18 39**

**\$5**  
MILLION

**COMPUTER MAN**  
Sales Parts & Service

Located between CITV and the Bowling Club - Phone 24979

**LAPTOP BUNDLE \$888**



HP Pavilion - AMD CPU - 4GB RAM  
500GB HDD - 14" LED - DVD Writer  
Webcam - USB3 - Wifi - HDMI - Win 8.1

**INCLUDES  
FREE  
CARRYBAG  
WIRELESS MOUSE**





# PM in Samoa



On Sunday, the Cook Islands delegation currently in Samoa for the SIDS conference hosted Cook Islanders residing in Samoa to a special lunch with Prime Minister Henry Puna at the delegations rental house in Toamua. Petirini Frank, Cook Islander residing in Samoa says although the Cook Islands SIDS delegation are busy with the conference, it was a good day for them to all catch up, before the week started.



# The atrocious behavior of humans

By Charles Pitt

**N**ews of atrocities in the troubled Middle East is alarming. Alarming not because humans have not previously suffered such indignities but alarming because despite all our advances educationally, technologically and scientifically, socially we have not stepped far from the cave.

The barbaric, inhuman atrocities occurring in the Middle East, horrific and despicable as they are, have sadly, been witnessed previously in earlier conflicts. Set out below are only a few of the recorded events which depict humans in a very bad light indeed.

## **Biblical records and legends**

(a) A great flood, said to have been initiated to rid the world of evil.

(b) The destruction of the cities Sodom and Gomorrah because of the evil that existed there.

© Warfare. The destruction of whole cities—slaughter of men, women, children, elderly.

(d) After Jesus was born, King Herod ordered all children 2 yrs of age and under put to death.

## **Roman Empire**

Rule by iron fist. Crucifixions in public. Slavery. Early Christians fed to the Lions. Persecution of Christians by Roman Caesars.

## **The Mongols**

Invasion of Europe. Mass slaughter on an epic scale. Under Tamerlane, some 17 million died. Under the merciless Genghis Khan an estimated 40 million died.

## **English Royalty**

Despicable torture. Public executions. Beheadings. Burning at the stake.

## **The Crusades**

Christian armies took out the first victory and 70,000 men, women and children were hacked to death. Jews fought alongside the Muslims. Rape and torture. 500 Jews who sought refuge in a Synagogue died when the French burned it. 88 years later the Muslims retook Jerusalem but they were more merciful as most prisoners were released on payment of a ransom or sold into slavery.

## **Spanish Inquisition and foreign conquests**

Despicable acts of torture. Burning of heretics at the stake. In South America, thousands burned at the stake in the name of Christianity.

## **French Revolution**

Public executions of the aristocracy and Royal family. Beheadings by guillotine.

## **British Justice**

Public executions, floggings. Hangings. Dead prisoners drawn and quartered.

## **Zulu Kingdom**

Under Shaka Zulu, 1 to 2 million put to death. Men, women, children put to death even dogs.

## **Taiping rebellion in China**

Some 20 million died.

## **World War I**

Millions dead. Millions displaced.

## **Josef Stalin programs**

4 to 5 million died of starvation due to failed programs. Help was refused and borders closed. Many in the Ukraine were denied food and starved to death. Cannibalism was rife.

## **Japan in China**

Unspeakable public slaughter. Rape of Nanking.

## **World War II**

Millions dead. Innocents bombed, shot, tortured. Death camps, torture, public executions, beheadings, unspeakable atrocities. Hitler's Final Solution. Two Atomic bombs wiped out men, women, children, elderly, most living things.

## **Post World War II forced migrations**

After WWII, some 500,000 people died during forced migrations out of previously German occupied territories. Death was due to appalling conditions. Many concentration camps were kept in use to house prisoners of war.

## **China's failed leap forward**

Some 45 million died due to Mao's failed great leap forward. Famine

and rule with an iron fist saw millions tortured to death for stealing food.

## **Cambodia**

Pol Pot regime put 2.5 to 3 million people to death. Death camps. Torture, beatings, public executions, babies executed. People hacked to death with machetes. People from all religions suffered. People forced to eat human waste.

## **Burundi/Rwanda**

Tribal warfare. Brutal slayings in public. Genocide.

## **Yugoslavia**

Warfare. Mass killings. Concentration —like prisoner camps. Religious bigotry.

## **Equatorial Guinea**

80,000 out of a population of 300,000 were put to death by the first President who acted as Chief Judge. He despised intellectuals and ordered all who wore glasses to be executed.

## **Northern Ireland**

Indiscriminate bombings. Death of women, children. Executions. Religious intolerance.

## **China**

Suppression of democracy by force. Tiananmen Square deaths unknown.

## **Nigeria**

Religious intolerance. Mass killings. Kidnappings, slavery.

## **Middle East present day**

In turmoil.

## **Worse to come**

The record of atrocities is long. Far too long to be mentioned here. The above are just a few examples and after some 5,000 continuous years of recorded brutality, there appears to be no end in sight. What is frightening is that Biblical writings prophesize even worse is to come.



SWITCH ON WITH  
TE APONGA UIRA

## Turn the lights off



Make sure that you turn the lights off whenever you leave the room. If there is no one in the room, there is no point in lighting it up and all you are really doing is wasting both electricity and money.

You can buy timers if you are worried about burglars and other things but make sure that you do not leave unnecessary lights on.

You could also try switching to energy efficient bulbs. In the long run, they can save a huge amount on your bills.

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

## POLITICAL COMMENT

# Rasmussen refutes evaluation on performance

The reality of being dumped by Penrhyn voters as their Member of Parliament after a decadal tenure and the expected fulfilment of his political dream to be the first of his constituency to be a Prime Minister evaporating has turned Wilkie Rasmussen bitter and angry. Rejection and failure are hurtful even for the best of us, but to lash out and turn his wrath on the media for analysing and commenting on his fall from power seriously falls short of leadership maturity.

Rasmussen said he is gravely offended, "I will muster all I can to fight and there are avenues against such transgression." Such comments only serve to become self inflicting. Rasmussen should consider the plight of the offended Demo supporters for such a poor electioneering performance under his leadership.

Unable to win an Election many perceived was over weighted in favour of the Demos, it was a loss predicted by a media report unless there were changes in the campaign engine room. Absent for most of the crucial period of the campaign, Rasmussen left it to flounder by an inexperienced team controlled by his chief advisor and CEO Eddie Drollet who had yet to taste Electioneering success.

Not only did Rasmussen lose his seat, the three other Northern group seats were captured by the CIP through smart campaigning and strategic use of their Radio

Cook Islands broadcasts. Along with his failure at the Penrhyn poll came Rasmussen's loss of his \$87,000 a year plus perks job as the Leader of the Opposition.

Polling only 68 of the 146 votes cast in a loss to his former CEO Willie John, it was Rasmussen's fourth loss in seven Elections. Try as he did Rasmussen was unsuccessful in repeating a previous victory unopposed at the polls. Two of his previous successes have been as a Cook Islands Party candidate.

Despite the final declaration by the Chief Electoral Officer, Rasmussen is high on self belief stating, "As for my political career, it ain't over yet and I will get my seat back as was the wish of the people of Penrhyn living on the island not that of Penrhyn Islanders living for 20 odd years in Australia, who so happens to get stranded in Penrhyn because of poor shipping."

Whether he likes it or not the Party hopping Rasmussen is liable for the Demo's loss at the polls, as the Party Leader he failed to prepare an engine room team in tactics, strategy and execution to win the 2014 Elections. Counting on best case scenarios the Demo team's adrenalin was driven by assumptions of a landslide outcome with as much as 18 seats.

With over two years at the helm, the Rasmussen and Drollet tag team did little to prepare the Party for the Elections, not even the basic details like membership cards



Wilkie Rasmussen

had been prepared but both are reported to have carried out personal business work using the office premises and equipment at the expense of concentrating one hundred percent on preparing to the smallest detail to win the 2014 Election.

Rather than look in the mirror and address the short comings of his incompetent leadership and learn the lessons of loss and failure to prevent a future tense repeat, Rasmussen has manifested denial by irresponsibly pursuing legal provisions to reclaim and cling to power.

Having engaged in and tasted the lavish elevated offerings of political and

Parliamentary privilege he has become accustomed to, one must not be criticised for asking the question, is Rasmussen pursuing a doubtful petition for self preservation interests or because it is in the best interests of the Demo Party?

Failing to improve on the eight seats won in 2010, Rasmussen will not propel the Demos into government if he unlikely reverses his 2014 result, the only difference will be for Rasmussen himself, it literally means he can unproductively maintain his highly paid tax funded job with all its trimmings and status while he flirts with his

*continued next page*



legal practise.

In the meantime nearly two months after the Election the eight Demo MPs elect have no interim Parliamentary leader, nor can they access the Opposition Leader's office because Rasmussen still illegally occupies and uses it for Party business which is contrary to the instructions from the Cook Islands Investment Corporation (CIIC).

Repeatedly claiming to be a Christian, Rasmussen fails to exhibit humility by congratulating John then ending his fortress mentality and gracefully removing himself from the Opposition Leader's desk and chair to let the new Parliamentary leader get on with the job plus stop using the tax funded office for Party business.

With Parliament to convene once the petitions have been completed and the Budget high on the agenda, the MPs elect needed to assemble themselves and begin preparing the green entrants for their role and functions in the House of Parliament.

Such is Rasmussen's desperation, there is talk in the Demo camp there will be an appeal if his petition fails to overturn the Election result in Penrhyn. Rasmussen suffers from the Politician's cognitive disorder there is permanency in the fickle world of politics. His irritating "My Government"

comments are a deluded belief the public institution can be owned by leadership.

Prior to the Election announcement in April when the Demos had a sniff an Election landslide victory was eminent, Rasmussen when presented with an opportunity to grab power while the House was sitting was insistent there would be no coalition government forged with Teina Bishop outside of

me like an older brother, to say that I have dismissed any coalition with Teina is a lie. The Democratic Party's position is very direct; no coalition with the Cook Islands Party and Teina was a CIP MP pre July 9, 2014. Now he is a One Cook Islands MP, and yes we will have a coalition with Teina and George Maggie of Tupapa. The Demo is under my leadership is and will always be progressive."

*Rather than look in the mirror and address the short comings of his incompetent leadership and learn the lessons of loss and failure to prevent a future tense repeat, Rasmussen has manifested denial*

an Election. In a Demo puna meeting Rasmussen made it clear he did not trust Bishop and would keep him at a long poles length.

Once the reality they could not be the government without the One Cook Islands support had sunk in, Rasmussen reneged and did a face saving back flip and painted a new picture saying, "Teina Bishop and I have always been very good friends, in fact he treats

In defence of Drollet, Rasmussen refuted the Demo Party was in despair and financial ruin, "The truth is the Party has never enjoyed a much stronger position financially. The bank statements and party statements are there to prove that. The Demo has been in the black mid-2012 until now. That improved financial position began since I took over as Leader just over two years ago and

the Secretary-General of the Demo was quite instrument in driving the Demo ledger to credit."

"And believe me the Party is not in political despair, the opposite has actually happened. The Demo has in fact broken the CIP's certainty of Government after the 2014 elections. It turned around Rarotonga and a close battle in the Outer Islands. In 2010 and I was not Leader then, the Demo lost badly to the CIP and I say had I had those further two years to lead it, it would have been a comprehensive win for the Demo in 2014."

"That is the truth," claims Rasmussen, "I only had less than two years and even if I have to say it, the position of the Demo today is nothing short of a miracle – far, far better than the misleading picture that George Pitt has painted. The Demo is very, very united, shares a common purpose and loyalty to me is very, very strong."

Very questionable comments when Rasmussen has never tested his leadership popularity in a Party Conference, the honourable thing for him to do as an Election losing leader is to resign and make the Party leadership contestable. Hopefully the Democratic Party will duplicate the New Zealand model where a sitting MP cannot be the Party Leader.

- George Pitt

## Broadband Plans

Prices Effective 1st March 2014

### just got BETTER AGAIN!

<b>Intro</b> 1.5 GB \$25	<b>Standard</b> 3.5 GB \$49	<b>Value</b> 8 GB \$89	<b>Plus</b> 15 GB \$139	<b>Super</b> 32 GB \$299	<b>Mega</b> 75 GB \$699
--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------------	-------------------------------

For info on plan speeds and excess charges go to [www.telecom.co.ck](http://www.telecom.co.ck) > Personal > Internet > Plans





## Our Frontpage model

## Letter to the Editor

# Tim shoots himself in the foot

**T**im Tim is at it again in Mondays 1st September CI News. Why he keeps having swipes at 'Grey Power' and calls them 'terrorists'? When all of them whilst raising families in New Zealand and supporting families from here settling in to New Zealand are now tarnished as 'terrorists' For some 50 years 'Grey Power' members fuelled the tax coffers of New Zealand that provided 'millions' of aid and support to our people. Many locals with families who travelled to New Zealand require dire medical care and accommodation. Our youth need finance for education. Cyclone relief and immediate support from New Zealand tax payers. Many of 'Grey Powers' children and grand-children are still there today fuelling the New Zealand tax coffers.

Now he advocates about political 'terrorism' and terrorised politicians. Let's look at Tim Tim's past advocacy! The Te Kura O Te 'Au People's Movement is a political movement in the Cook Islands. It has several founding members, but its current leader is Tim Tepaki. May 2010. Tim Tepaki backs Tim Arnold, Nov 13 2010 Cook Island News; "He certainly has the heart of a Cook Islander of old, when we were once warriors, as he did not hide behind pseudonyms while he said his piece. He has challenged past governments without fear of retribution, unlike many of us of this land, and he must have known those of his DNA would not like him standing and drawing attention to them, but still he fought for what he believed in." 'Embrace China's financial assistance,' 30th April 2014.

"Grey Power and TMV Petitioners rose up and terrorised politicians to draw attention to them, so unfortunately our safe haven status will be short lived." Obviously no mention of the 2008 helmet's petition, chaired by the Prime Ministers nephew. Are those 4000 petitioners 'terrorists'? This is only some of the on-going 'babble' which clearly shoots himself in the foot repeatedly! Seems disturbing he missed some fundamental rights people globally are entitled too. These do apply to Cook Islanders as well, like Article 64 of our constitution, freedom of speech and Standing Orders for petitions and petitioners not 'terrorists'. You fail to raise standing orders- codes of conduct, section 191, of the income tax act. You need a High Court order to raid bank accounts, Public Service Act, MFEM act 95-96 or CIGFPPM for procurement and the tendering process. 'Terrorism' is unlawful acts wouldn't you all agree?

*Captain Haddock*



Our frontpage model this week is Stephany. Check out our website [www.ciherald.co.ck](http://www.ciherald.co.ck). and facebook page: [www.facebook.com/ciherald](https://www.facebook.com/ciherald)



## Letter to the Editor

---

Dear Editor,

How many times do you have to fail to crack a coconut with your bare hands before you realize you need a better tool?

If you think the answer is "only once", you should read the book titled "Cook Islands Politics. The inside story". Prepare to be depressed, because the book suggests the answer to my questions is, "In the Cook Islands, we never learn".

The book chronicles the distressing state of our country during the "fly-in voter year" in the late 1970's and the first whole-scale sacking of a government in the Commonwealth. The Cooks set a world record of culpability and incompetence that is not likely to be broken soon.

In the opening chapter, the late Mana Strickland had me muttering "nothing has changed: those problems are now our nightmares!" Strickland's despair is clearly evident, even though he goes to some lengths to emphasize that he is not meaning to denigrate what was written over 35 years ago, and is attempting to avoid politicized (party-polarized) views. His is an account of where our tiny country had been — and was headed — on the eve of our 50th year of self government in free-association in the realm of New Zealand.

When you read this book, you can't help but realize that the issues we faced 49 years ago — within that first decade of self government — are the issues we still face today. If you look past the colossal *mana* and reputations of our founders, you'll likely see that these wise men and women tried to solve our national challenges half a century ago ... but, in retrospect, they have by most measures failed.

We are, in fact, much worse off than we were 40 years ago, because the issues Strickland points to have only transformed themselves into larger more significant challenges. We are like lost travellers in some strange wild land, condemned to pass through the same cross roads again and again without ever getting closer to a meaningful destination.

Is it conceivable that after 49 years of self government that we should change our approach to problem solving? I think so. So do many others.

Most people I have spoken with believe we need a new path out of this wilderness: they are convinced that strong reforms in our political processes, in our economic and social processes, and in public sector composition are the only way out.

None of these reforms can take place without agreement on the issues among political parties and politicians. This would require us to set aside our egos and, through vigorous and honest debate, to arrive at a national consensus on a new path. We will not succeed if we do not park emotions and party and personal agendas outside the door of the debating room.

To paraphrase a famous quote from George Santayana: those who cannot learn from the past are condemned to repeat it. Insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting to get a different result.

Let's find some better tools to crack that coconut.

James Beer  
MP for Muri Enua.



# Reds unhappy over slanted punishment and racial taunts

Takuvaine/Tutakimoa Sport and Cultural Association (TTSCA) President Tua Dyer is claiming his Reds Rugby Club is being victimised by the Cook Islands Rugby Union (CIRU) and racially abused by senior officials of the Avatiu Nikao Rugby Union Club (ANRUC).

Dyer is making reference to the harsh penalties dished out to the Reds Rugby Club members involved in an on/off field brawl during the final of the Constitution 7s held on Saturday 2 August at the Ngatangia Field. A three member Judicial Committee, chaired by Johnny Hosking handed down the penalties on 6 August 2014.

Takuvaine officials claim their punishment does not reflect their involvement in the brawl that the Avatiu President William Taripo in part of his written evidence to the CIRU described it as; "This is unfortunate and embarrassing in the history of my career as a rugby player in the Cook Islands. I've seen fighting but not in my entire life like these Samoan players using chairs as a weapon, luckily it's not bottles."

Takuvaine officials refute Taripo's evidence as being grossly exaggerated and racially slanted, only one player used a plastic chair as a means of defence as he was surrounded by five advancing hostile Avatiu people, one was wielding a sideline marker pole.

One Reds supporter claims the Eels officials are to blame for the outbreak of tempers, after thirty years of being the easy beats the Reds are the current champions and are unbeaten



Avatiu Eels vs Takuvaine Reds rugby brawl on youtube.

this year, Avatiu are not used to been beaten by Takuvaine, "its sour grapes, if the Eel's coach Clive Nicholas accepted their defeat none of this would have happened."

According to most who gave evidence said Reds player Fereti Iona committed foul play and was penalised and yellow carded. It is reported as evidence Iona's passage to the side line was impeded by Avatiu player Dwayne Gukisuva who witnesses report punched Iona at least twice around the face area. This incident was not dealt with by the referee Tua Manea even though it happened about ten metres away from him. Takuvaine claims Manea should have halted play and sent Gukisuva to the sin bin.

Ben Koteka the CEO for CIRU was the Tournament Director and on the day was seated at the Administration desk monitoring the PA system. In his written evidence he wrote, the Sin Bin area for players sent from the field was in front of the

Admin desk. Koteka described the incident that occurred right in front of him about five metres away.

"When Iona arrived at the Sin Bin area I noticed Clive Nicholas (Eels coach) had moved towards the Sin Bin area also. In the Sin Bin area I did see Nicholas grab and hold Iona by his jersey, exchange a few words, and then seconds later I did see Nicholas throw the first punches that started the fight that eventually lead to the "All-in-Brawl" involving players and spectators."

Takuvaine point out Nicholas' trespass into the Sin Bin area was wrong and intimidating, his continued verbal abuse using the most offensive "K" word is the highest insult in the Samoa culture was racist claim Samoan Red supporters, this provocative tormenting was the last straw that pushed the Samoan players over the edge.

One Takuvaine supporter claims Nicholas was not acting out of ignorance, he has strong

Samoan connections, "Just look at the tattoos he is wearing, Clive knew he would get a strong reaction by using the K word." They also commented it didn't help matters that the Sin Bin area was on the Avatiu supporter's side of the field.

While both clubs seem to want to put the incident behind them they have both written to the CIRU to appeal against the severity of the imposed penalties. But the message is clear, CIRU officials have taken a strong stand of zero tolerance to violence and the penalties are a deterrent to drive home that message.

For a club meagre on resources the disproportionate fines and penalties have made Takuvaine weary about entering future 7s tournaments where they risk further provocation. One outspoken Reds supporter said the three big clubs, Avatiu, Tupapa and Arorangi now know how sensitive our Samoan boys are to the use of the K

*continued next page*



word and may resort to using it to bring the Club down, "they are very jealous we are the champions and on top of that why wasn't the ref penalised for not controlling the game, what about the CIRU officials?"

Penalising the whole club is an overreaction, the direct aggressor offenders should have been dealt with not the Clubs. Takuvaive had to forfeit their \$500 prize money, fined \$1000 plus slapped with a Behaviour Bond of \$3000.

The two year ban on Brian Toa for defending himself with a plastic chair is simply just ridiculous, say Takuvaive, what was he supposed to do fight five others with one holding a marker pole? Lone got a seven week suspension plus \$200 fine. "When you compare the Judicial Committee's decision it is very much one sided favouring the Avatiu offenders," claimed a



supporter.

To penalise all the Takuvaive players when some intervened to try and break up the fighting has left a sour taste in Takuvaive. The eleven players mostly peace makers where unfairly suspended for three weeks are the core of the Red's 15 aside's A team. Virtually downgraded

to B team status the Reds dug deep and demonstrated great resilience to remain unbeaten without the suspended players.

Unhappy that the \$500 cost for an appeal hearing was beyond Takuvaive's resources Tua registered his reservations, "We accept, that by retaliation, one of our players contributed to

the sin bin brawl, but imposing a penalty on innocent players and he entire Reds rugby club, that is much more severe than the instigators of the brawl, in our opinion, is grossly unfair and a miscarriage of justice."

There is a one minute video of the brawl on YouTube – (7s fight Muri Rarotonga) - George Pitt

**FREE CALL 0800 HELP  
FREE TEXT HELP (4357)**

**talk about it**

**Youthline**  
Changing lives.

**The youth helpline service:**  
IS **FREE** AND **CONFIDENTIAL**.  
IS A **NON-JUDGMENTAL** SPACE TO  
EXPRESS YOUR THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS  
TO PEOPLE WHO WANT TO LISTEN.  
PROVIDES **EMOTIONAL SUPPORT** AND **CARING**.  
CAN HELP YOU MAKE **HEALTHY/POSITIVE DECISIONS**.  
CAN HELP YOU EXPLORE YOUR **OWN STRENGTHS** AND  
RESOURCES, AND THINK ABOUT WHO ELSE YOU  
CAN TURN TO IN YOUR COMMUNITY FOR HELP.

**Youthline**  
Changing lives.

COOK ISLANDS FREE CALL 0800 HELP | FREE TEXT HELP (4357) | WWW.YOUTHLINE.CO.NZ



# Mauke celebrates Priesthood

60th Golden Jubilee of Priesthood for Father John and Father Damien that was held in Mauke on Friday 29/8/2014.  
The event began at 3 pm, with the Mass and after Kaimanga at the Damien Hall. *Basilio T Kaokao*



## New Hope Church

Parekura Conference Centre

Inspirational messages to uplift and empower you

**Sunday at 10.30am**



# Pacific Women's Parliamentary Partnerships Outcomes Statement

*Pacific Clerk's Retreat – Katoomba, NSW, Australia, 29 - 31 August 2014*

**1** 4 Clerks of Pacific region parliaments from 12 jurisdictions: Autonomous Region of Bougainville (PNG); Cook Islands; Federated States of Micronesia; Marshall Islands; Nauru; New South Wales; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Tonga; Tuvalu; and Solomon Islands came together to discuss ways to improve gender equality that could be supported in their parliaments.

In attendance from the Cook Islands Parliament were John Tangi Clerk, and Deputy Clerk Mrs Helen Maunga. (The Retreat was funded from external sources under the auspices of the Australian Parliament).

The retreat was coordinated by the Australian Parliament under the Pacific Women's Parliamentary Partnerships (PWPP) project, with the financial support of Australian Aid, under the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development initiative.

Mrs Louise Markus MP, Member for Macquarie (where Katoomba is located) and Chair of the Pacific-Australia Parliamentary Network welcomed the Clerks to Katoomba. Mrs Markus had recently attended the PWPP Forum with Pacific Women MPs in Nuku'alofa, Tonga and stressed to the Clerks that they could play an important role in supporting women MPs and advocating for gender equality in their parliaments.

Former Speaker of the Australian House of Representatives, Mr Harry Jenkins, AO, participated to facilitate discussion and give a Speaker's point of view and Dame Carol Kidu, provided insight as a former member and minister from the Papua New Guinea Parliament. Ms Sherrill Whittington, M.A., M. Litt., M.Ed. Dip.Ed. provided expert advice on definitions gender terms and concepts and is currently putting together the PWPP e-learning program in consultation with Dame Carol Kidu. Ms Ronda Miller, Clerk of the New South Wales Parliament, also assisted with facilitation and joined with the Pacific Clerks to consider and discuss gender equality in parliaments.

At the retreat the Clerks

discussed gender equality in Pacific parliaments and actions that could be supported so that members and staff might understand more about equal rights for all.

The group discussions concentrated on the following topics:

- The current situation of support for women aspiring to get into parliament.
- What the differences are between sex and gender and what various gender terms mean.
- The PWPP e-learning program, its relevance and delivery?
- What more can be done by parliaments support gender equality for MPs?
- What more can be done by parliaments support gender equality for parliamentary staff?
- How can the PWPP project assist with this?

At the conclusion of the retreat the clerks produced a strategic plan to further gender equality in Pacific parliaments.

Pacific Clerks valued their interaction at the Katoomba Retreat, the importance of drawing on experiences, expertise and support from each other and agreed to the following actions and outcomes:

1. Support education on parliamentary practice and procedure through "mock" or "practice" parliaments, but feel that these opportunities should be open to women and men in equal numbers and strategically orchestrated to break down gender stereotyping.
2. Recognise the need to be impartial and therefore cannot encourage female candidates to run for parliament and must rely on other local and international partners to take a lead role in these activities.
3. Support the creation of the PWPP learning program and agree it should cater to a range of education levels amongst MPs and staff. An accredited certificate level is seen as an incentive to undertake the training. The learning program should not duplicate learning that already takes place in other parts of an induction program, but complement it with relevant

information on gender equality.

4. Identify that early induction programs for members of parliament cannot cover all necessary skills. There should be additional opportunities for members to be exposed to gender equality ideas building on members' experience, such as in committee secretariats or other parliamentary briefings.

5. Regard training and mentoring of staff as critical to improving gender equality in parliaments as staff need to provide information to members in the chamber, committees and constituencies and are well placed to influence change.

6. Recognise that refresher training is required to ensure that gender equality values and

principles are part of practice and procedure.

7. Highlight the need for statistical data so that parliamentary staff are able to provide sex disaggregated data to members so that they can consider issues from a gender equality perspective.

8. Support civic education programs on the roles of parliaments and parliamentarians to break down stereotypes about leadership.

9. Regard the mentoring of women parliamentarians through PWPP as a positive activity.

10. Recognise the value of continuing and broadening twinning arrangements through Pacific Parliamentary Partnerships and engagement with development partners such as PWPP.

## Voting in the New Zealand election

The New Zealand election will take place in New Zealand on 20 September. Eligible voters who are overseas at the time of the election can still vote. Voting papers can be downloaded from the [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz) website from 3 September; requested by post from the Electoral Commission; or obtained in person from the New Zealand High Commission in Rarotonga.

The High Commission will be open during its normal business hours (set out below) for voting from 3 September until 3pm on Friday 19 September. Eligible voters may vote in person or voting papers may be collected on their behalf if they wish to make a postal vote. Postal votes can be returned to the High Commission (by 3pm on 19 September), or posted to the Electoral Commission (postmarked by Thursday 18 September and received by noon Wednesday 24 September).

You are eligible to vote in the New Zealand election if you are enrolled and:

- You are 18 years of age or older;
- You have lived in New Zealand for more than one year continuously at some time in your life;
- You are a New Zealand citizen and have visited New Zealand within the last three years; or
- You are a permanent resident of New Zealand and have visited New Zealand in the last 12 months.

You must enrol by the day before Election Day (18 September in the Cook Islands) in order to vote. The easiest and quickest way to check or update your enrolment details is through the Electoral Commission at: <https://enrol.elections.org.nz/app/enrol/#/>. Alternatively, you can contact the Electoral Commission at:

Electoral Commission, PO Box 3220, Wellington 6140

Email: [overseas@elections.org.nz](mailto:overseas@elections.org.nz), Phone: +64 9 909 4182

New Zealand High Commission office open hours:

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9am-12pm and 1pm-3pm

Tues, Thurs: 10am-1pm



# Botany College too good for Tereora



*By Courtney Matai*

*Courtney is a student at Tereora College*

The Botany Boys College played a round of rugby against the Tereora College's Under 18 boys on Thursday afternoon at the BCI stadium at 3pm. The match started off with the Botany Downs Boys performing a haka. After the intimidating haka from the

Botany boys, the game kicked off with Tereora College taking the lead then with the Botany College picking up on their 'A' game and winning the match with 31, and 17 to Tereora College. The main players from the Tereora College whom the spectators as well as the couch thought played well was Edimiah Pokura and Ngatuaine Jessie. From the Botany College, an outstanding player of the day was no 8, Neil,

along with the team captain, Ben Sims, and co-captains, Joseph Kafatolu and Sean-Ben Kuria. Watching the match between the local College and New Zealand College, spectators have come to say that there needs to be some improvements with our local boys, but overall, it was a good game.

Joseph Kafatolu, a player from the Botany College is "passionate about rugby, and has

planned to make it into the big leads so that he could give back to the community". As well as to teach the next generation to come, through his rugby talents and by inspiring the little ones whose dreams are to become a big time rugby player. After the match, Tereora players came out feeling tired and disappointed with the Botany boys feeling sore but glad and victorious.

*Photos by Poko Utia*









# Cooks, Pacific youth Facebook tuna at SIDS Samoa

**A**nika Hunter had something fun to smile about when she hooked up this travelling tuna artwork while in Apia for the build up events to the high-level launch this morning (Monday 1st September) of the UN's Third Global Conference on Small Islands Developing States, SIDS. Her photo ended up being amongst the first posted to a new FFA Fisheries Info-Sharing Hub (FISH) on Facebook. The Facebook page and invites to comment or post on Tuna is aimed at engaging on fisheries in social media spaces, with the TALAVOU Youth pre-SIDS Forum an ideal space to launch it. "It's an innovative way to engage Pacific youth and make sure their voices on the fisheries are heard," says co-convenor of the Youth Forum, and Assistant CEO for Samoa's Ministry of Women, Youth and Children, Seletuta Visesio-Pita.

The UN SIDS is being hosted for the first time ever in the Pacific with Samoa pulling out all stops to ensure the more than 3,000 officials and delegates have an awesome conference experience.



For all the talking about youth challenges, the big development picture, and how the Pacific can take on sustainable approaches to progress, Hunter was especially delighted to see this artwork, which is the result of a creative collaboration between

the Forum Fisheries Agency, FFA and USP aimed at raising issues around Offshore fisheries for the SIDS event. While most of the global youth delegates wear hats related to their activism, her full time job resonates with Oceans and Fisheries issues at the SIDS

-- she is a data entry officer at the Ministry of Marine Resources, Cook Islands.

*Lisa Williams-Lahari  
Media Officer  
Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries  
Agency  
Honiara, Solomon Islands*

## Letter to the Editor

### Defeat hard to accept

**D**ear Editor  
In response to Mr Ka's article in Saturday's CI News editorial, I acknowledge his sincerity and "soul searching comments" with regards to the Demo party's demise however like most first time aspiring politicians, defeat is very hard to accept especially at times when you think you have beaten your adversary and victory is at hand only to find the battle has been won elsewhere. I do not intend to comment at large regarding One Cook Islands potential relationship with the Demos nor any other political party for that matter as "the song is unfinished and the fat lady has yet to sing" but I do wish to clarify and

correct his assumption that One Cook Island's is a "tired and fractured component."

On the contrary, One Cook Island's is indeed a lively, active and real political movement with a clear sense of political direction and conscience supported and complemented by a team of dedicated, loyal and enthusiastic people wanting to make a difference where people can actually contribute, make choices and be heard. Our performance at the snap election last month proved that and our increasing popularity and overwhelming support, is further evidence that we are here to stay.

His comment is totally out

of context and assumes some personal agenda against the Leader of One Cook Islands rather than against the Movement per se.

Experience, depth, political cunningness and astute understanding of the issues were the winner on the day of the 9th July, not so called smart, intelligent, waffly, media pschyo' economic armchair wannabe political analysts who ended up creating mistrust, uncertainty and eventually a huge public divide resulting in a last minute turnaround in what should have been seen as a "clear victory for the Demos." Mr Ka as an "experienced journalist" and others may well learn from this experience to improve his

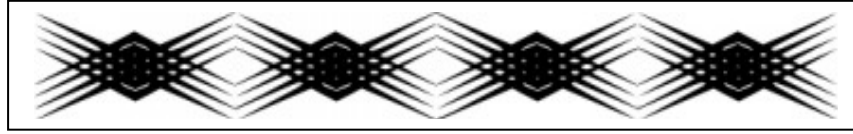
chances in 2018 should he wish to stand again.

I suggest from his editorial insinuations that any issues he may have with the Leader of One Cook Islands as the eventual successful candidate for Are Nikau in Aitutaki is quickly forgotten and that he should move on and prepare for 2018 just as we're doing. Better still, it might pay to refrain from making any such assertions publicly in future "lest the hand that feeds you may come back to bite you!" Good luck on his continued soul searching and aspirations to join the future political gravy train.

*George Turia  
President  
One Cook Islands Movement Inc*



# TE REO MĀORI



tātāia e Rutera Taripo

**Situation:** Waking up, Tidy room, Shower, Dress, Have breakfast, and Ready to go out

Kua ara au

*I am awake*

Kua ara au i roto i tōku ro`i

*I am awake in my bed*

Kā tū mai au

*I will get up*

Kā eke au ki va`o i te ro`i

*I get out of bed*

Ka `aere au ki te māramarama

*I walk to the window*

Ka e`eu au i te ārai `ē ka `ākara ki vao

*I open the curtain and look out*

Hmm!! `E rā mānea tēia

*Hmm!! Today is a nice day*

Ka akatuera au i te māramarama

*I open the window*

Ka ma`ani au i tōku ro`i `ē ka tāmā i tōku pi`a-moe

*I make my bed and clean my bed-room*

Kā rave mai i tōku tauera `ē ka `aere ki te pi`a-pā`i

*I get my towel and go to the bath-room*

Kā rave mai i tōku uru-ni`o `ē kā uru i tōku ni`o

*I pick up my tooth-brush and brush my teeth*

Ka pā`i au

*I have a shower*

Ka tāmarō au i āku ki te tauera

*I dry myself with the towel*

Ka a`ao au i tōku kākā`u `ē ka `a`ao i tōku tāmaka

*I dress myself and put my shoes on*

Kā peru au i tōku rouru

*I comb my hair*

Ka `aere au ki te pi`a-kaikai

*I walk to the kitchen*

Ka `akavera au i te tīkatā-vai

*I put the kettle on*

Ka ma`ani `ē kā kai au i tāku kai-pōpongi

*I make and eat my breakfast*

Ka ma`ani au `ē kā inu i tāku tī

*I make and drink my tea*

Kā rave mai au i tāku kiri `ē ka `aere ki te ngūtupa

*I pick my bag and go to the door*

Ka e`eu au i te ngūtupa `ē ka `aere atu ki va`o

*I open the door and walk out*

Ka tōpiri au `ē kā roka i te ngūtupa

*I close and lock the door*

## Au Kupu - Some Words

moe - sleep  
arai - curtain  
ma`ani - make  
tauera - towel  
`uru - brush  
tāmaka - shoes  
rouru - hair  
ngūtupa - door

ara - awake  
rā mānea - nice day  
tāmā - clean  
pi`a-pā`i - bathroom  
pā`i - shower  
peru - comb  
tīkatā-vai - kettle  
tōpiri - close/shut

māramarama - window  
`akatu`era - open  
pi`a-moe - bed-room  
`uruni`o - toothbrush  
tāmarō - dry  
pi`a-kaikai - kitchen  
kai-pōpongi - breakfast  
roka - lock

**Kua rava tēia kaku`anga. `Akamāro`iro`i! `Aere ki mua!**

# September 'Employer of the Month' competition launched

Local employment website, CookIslandsJobs.com has launched its September Employer of the Month competition. This will be the third month the competition has run. With support from other local businesses including Tropic Bird Sailing, Storytellers Eco Cycle Tours, CITC Pharmacy/Te Tika and Reefside – there are some great prizes at stake!

Employees who have recognised good practice in their immediate Managers, owners of the company, CEOs or others in leadership positions in their place of work are encouraged to nominate someone they think deserves some credit for being a 'great boss'. Nominating someone is easy you can do it via the Cook Islands Jobs Facebook page or email them to [jobs@cookislandsjobs.com](mailto:jobs@cookislandsjobs.com).

All you need to do is include your name, the person you are nominating's name, where you work and a couple sentences about why you think they deserve the title.

As an incentive the person



who nominates actually wins part of the prize pack too! In this case, they will receive a coffee voucher from Reefside and a free Te Tika facial courtesy of the girls at CITC Pharmacy.

The winning boss wins a sunset cruise on Tropic Bird worth \$140, a Storytellers Eco Cycle tour with lunch, a free vacancy listing with Cook Islands Jobs and a framed certificate for their office.

Previous winners have been

nominated for going above and beyond the expectations of a boss, supporting staff in times of distress, recognising great work with bonuses and regular recognition and contributing to the professional development of their staff by offering paid training opportunities.

"By recognising those great bosses in our community, we can encourage all employers to treat their staff with respect, courtesy

and assist them in professional development initiatives. When we highlight good practice, it helps jobseekers when choosing what employers they want to work for." Says Luana Scowcroft of Cook Islands Jobs.

Winners will be announced via Facebook on Tuesday 30th September and winners notified by email. For more information contact Luana on [jobs@cookislandsjobs.com](mailto:jobs@cookislandsjobs.com)

## Writing for the paper

By Tiana Haxton

Last July, while visiting Rarotonga on school assignment, it was understood I would be interviewed. A report would be written about my experiences there, at the end of this educational excursion. This was a pre-arrangement with the Ministry of Education. The Ministry of Education hoped I would write a good story for their Gazette. As it was my return flight time was brought forward and created a little havoc on the last day. We hurried to complete task(s), keep decorum and check in at the airport on time. It was so good to buckle up, settle into my seat for a breather and recompose myself before flying home. Phew...!

identify with it being the last day of the school term and the start of the holidays... hooray! This celebration is premature as I recall having been offered earlier in the day, the opportunity to write my experiences in my own words when I can make the time. This reminds of a sole remaining task.

As it was, during a chance meeting, I was introduced to Charles Pitt who is a Director of PMG (Pitt Media Group) and Editor of the Cook Islands Herald. He asked if I too could write a report; a report for their paper. I started writing while en-route to Mitiaro via Atiu. I worked and reworked the story over the entire weekend till satisfied. I enjoyed the process and

was happy to finally send the pre-required 400-500 words and several relevant photos. I posted these on Monday comprehending Tuesday 4pm is the deadline for submissions.

It got accepted. It got printed.

Since having submitted my first newspaper report in July, I have been offered the opportunity to continue writing. I have been given a column which translates as a regular feature in the paper; I'm astounded and think it's awesome.

I can now begin on another story...writing for the paper.

This is my process. I choose a topic and source information before brainstorming. Then I begin to piece my first draft together with favoured ideas.

It takes time and patience to write and I'm glad the papers are printed weekly and not daily! This gives me plenty of time to think, rethink and commit in ink.

As I still go to school and am easily distracted by homework, books and television, it can be hard to make the time to write. Thankfully, Mum is a great help to me however she has rule. I have to get a full draft to mum by Friday evening or else, she won't help with correcting/ editing and writing my final copy over the weekend. When Monday arrives, I type up my story before submitting it.

After my article is sent, I don't know what happens to it next except that as a writer I get sent a copy.



# Manihiki Students compete first Science Fair



**A** first of a different kind for Manihiki students who participated in the island's inaugural science fair as students of both Tukao and Ruamanu Schools gave judges a good run for their money producing 18, "genuinely outstanding," projects says MMR's Tina Weir.

Proud students displayed their projects around the central courtyard of the school. Using a scoring system from 1-5, the three judges, Aporo Johnson, Teupa Tepania and Simiona Wichman, studied and interviewed each student about their project.

For the judges, the hard task of awarding points was based on how well the students' projects executed the categories of presentation, questioning, experimental design, creativity and understanding/comprehension.

Awards were given to:

Overall Best Project – Angelina Williams – 4GB mini tablet – "Can you make gas from waste?"

Young age group (11 & under) Best Project – Apollo Johnson – bicycle – "What are the best baits for fishing?"

Tukao Best Project - Brandon

Johnson – 32 GB memory stick – "How do gliders fly?"

Tauhunu Best Project - Rimaati Tuakana – digital underwater camera & 32 GB SD card – "How do you make taro pudding?"

Best Presentation - Teupa Tepani - digital underwater camera & 32 GB SD card – "What makes a banana turn brown when exposed to cold?"

Most Creative Experiment – Tairi Johnson – Mask, snorkel, fins and rash shirt – "Why do caterpillars eat some plants and not others?"

Most Interesting Question – Helene Johnson – Mask,

snorkel, fins and rash shirt – "How does bleach affect the environment?"

Marked as a success for both Manihiki students and schools, Tina Weir adds, "This fantastic event was only possible because of the support and encouragement of the school principals who went the extra mile to help the students prepare projects they were proud to call their own. Meitaki korereka to Anna, Peter, Teariki and Rangi for making this possible. It was truly my favourite day I've spent on Manihiki, seeing the kids shine like this."







# God's purpose for your life

*By Senior Pastor John Tangi*

If we understand our God given purpose, then it will give us better appreciation of the life we live. Ephesians 1 v.10 "God's purpose, which he will complete when the time is right, is to bring all creation together with Christ as head."

God has two purposes for your life.

1. God made you to Know Him!

2. God made you to be Like Him!

1. GOD MADE YOU TO KNOW HIM!

Have you ever heard anyone say, "I didn't ask to be born!" The fact is, you did not choose to be born! It is beyond our control! God planned it! He had a purpose in it! God said in Jeremiah 1 v.5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Before you were born I set you apart (sanctified) and I appointed (ordained) you to be a spokesperson (prophet) to the nation." And Paul said in Ephesians 1 v.4-5 "Before the world was made God had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would bring us to himself as his children. This was his pleasure and purpose." Long before any of us were even born, God decided we were going to be born. There's no such thing as accidental birth! There is no such thing as illegitimate children. God takes pleasure in you! God made you and to love you! You were made to have relationship with God!

2. GOD MADE YOU TO BE LIKE HIM

God want you to develop His characteristics, His behaviour, His attitude, His conduct, and so on.... The apostle Paul said 'Be transformed by the renewing of your mind, put

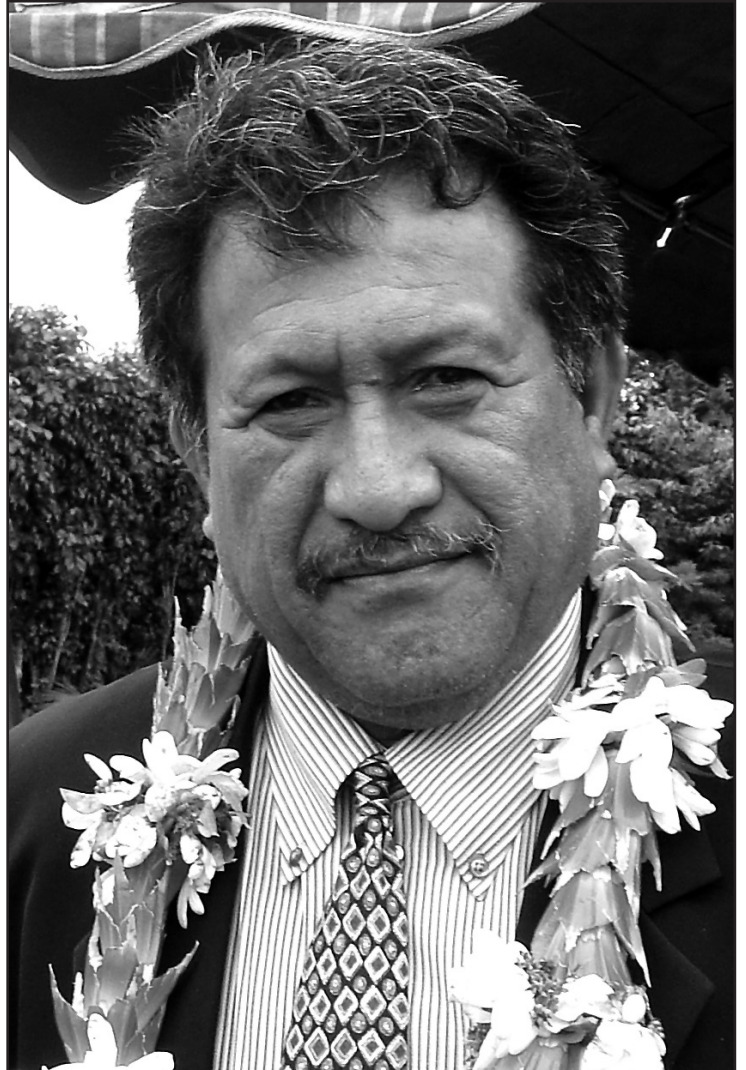
on the mind of God...Christ!' In II Corinthians 5 v.17 Paul said "Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new."

Romans 8v.28-29 (CEV) "We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him. They are the ones God has chosen for his purpose, and he has always known who his chosen ones would be. He had decided to let them become like his own Son, so that his Son would be the first of many children." This has been God's plan from the start. God said in Jeremiah 29 v.11 "For I know the plans that I think towards you says the Lord, plans of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." We're made different from all of God's creation. Genesis 1 v.26-27 says that "God created us in His own image, according to His own likeness..." You never see a Cow praying! or a Dog saying grace before eating! You, of all creation, have the ability to communicate with God. God want you to be like Him! to live a Godly life! A life of Love! Honesty! Joy! Peace! Patience! and so on, Jesus is our model; our example! God want you and I to be like His Son Jesus Christ, to learn to think like Christ! To act like Christ! To talk like Christ! And so on.

The NKJV Bible says Romans 8 v.28 "...we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." It says that all things that happened work for good! Once you understand God's goal for your life is to make you like Christ, and to build character in your life, then

## Encouragement Column

*With Senior Pastor John Tangi*



everything in life will take on a new meaning! You will realise that God has a purpose behind everything that happens to you! Even the bad things that happened to you, God is using it for your good!

Paul said in Philippians 1 v.6 "He who started a good work in you will finish it until the day of Jesus Christ." Whatever circumstances you are in, good or bad, ask yourself, "What is God trying to teach me, to make me more like Jesus?"

'Is God forgiving?' Yes! He is! So if God wants you to become like Him, does He want you to learn to be forgiving? Yes! How

do you learn 'forgiveness?' There's only one way! Get offended, be hurt! If you've never been hurt before, or been 'back stabbed' by others, or been criticized, and so on... ..how are you going to learn forgiveness?

If you don't learn forgiveness, you're never going to be like Jesus Christ! Because that's one of His main characteristics! Jesus said on the cross, "Father forgive them for they do not know what they're doing." There is not a situation in life that you can't learn from. May this article encourage you in life.

God bless – te Atua te aroa.



# Education on the rock

By Norma Ngatamariki

As the time for the senior mock exams nears, I thought it would be appropriate to write an article based on our education system here on Rarotonga. I've been a student at Tereora College for five years. I started out in Year 9 and now I am nearing the end of my final year, so I can speak out from experience. During these past five years, I have seen a lot of development within the school. Some bad, some good. Some events were more memorable than others.

As a primary student, I expected a lot of things from secondary school. More computers, more books. Basically, I expected more resources than what a primary school has. I was not disappointed. There were three computer labs in the entire school and the library was available for all year levels. (This was back when I was into books) However, the transition from

Year 8 to year 9 was not an easy one. I distinctively remember the whole platoon of Year 9 students gathered in the Princess Anne Hall. We were all confused, scared and intimidated. The atmosphere was so daunting, that we were too frightened to ask for help. Now, with the new Anau system, the younger students have the option of approaching the older students for help. At first, I was against it (if you can recall, there were a few articles I wrote about the Anau system) because I thought, "Ain't nobody got time to babysit! If I got through Year 9, so can they!" But I put myself in their shoes. Yes, I had a hard time getting around in Year 9, and to be honest, I didn't want these children to go through the same process. As a student leader, I had to make myself approachable. Year 9 kids would come up to me and ask, "Where's the lab?" or "What's that English teacher like?" I didn't get that kind of guidance when I was a junior

student, so they're very lucky!

Another thing which has caught my interest is the 'Letter to the Editor' my principal wrote to the Cook Islands News. I completely agree with him. It's almost as if Government doesn't care about the state of our education facilities. I mean, c'mon! Tereora College is the national school of the country! Almost every kid in the nation will attend this school. Their needs can't be catered for and why? Because we are struggling to make ends meet. The key to a successful economy is skilled people. In order to obtain these kind of people, they must be given an education first. It's that simple. The appearance of our classrooms is not all that flash, so when parents come for interviews, they have a lot to say. It is difficult for the IT department at school to constantly try and upgrade the technology when there is no money for it. It all falls on us. We can't depend on others. The food festival raised just over



\$30,000 thanks to the efforts of the students, teachers and staff of Tereora College. My old media studies teacher had to approach PACMAS, an organisation that deals with media in the Pacific, for additional funding for his department. So, the point I'm trying to make here is: if the Government wants this economy to thrive, then it should invest a bit more in the future generation.

## My BPW experience

By Nadia George

Last week Wednesday I had attended a BPW meeting-if that's what you wanna call it, and had the amazing opportunity to be one of eight guest speakers for the night. I know right, me of all people being a guest speaker? Liz Koteka had called me up a couple weeks prior and had asked me to do the gig, at first I was extremely hesitant to say yes, but my mother insisted that I take the opportunity being handed to me on a silver platter. So I did and what do you know? It was the night of the speech and my mother was two hours out of Rarotonga on her way to Melbourne, Australia for my sister-in-law's 21st birthday. Thanks mum lol.

The day (or should I say night) of reckoning had arrived all too soon and I was still unprepared, like I always am with things such

as these. But what made the night even bigger stress bomb than it already was was that I had nothing to wear! Seriously, my wardrobe malfunction could not have happened at a worse time. So I opted with a dress that fits any occasion, "TAV to the rescue." With my hair pulled back, my body wrapped in blue and my cardigan draped over, I felt as ready as ill ever be, until I hit another snag in the road. Who the heck was I going to socialize with at this function? Luckily my aunties Mosey, June and Curly were there to take me under their wings and give me a much-needed pep talk until I finally felt like I was ready to get the show on the road. It was finally my turn and hello; I was the youngest speaker of the night, talk about pressure?

With all eyes on me, microphone glued into my hand and my mind

and heart racing, I began my speech and what should've felt like seven long agonizing minutes, phased by in what felt like a matter of seconds. I stood at the front of twenty or forty odd people feeling the blood rush to my face and my cheeks starting to burn up. I could see each and every face of the individual woman, man and young teenage girl that sat in front of me on the night. What felt like an eternity was in fact only mere seconds and finally my brain clicked in and I began to speak. Seven minutes ticking by in an instant. Tick tock, tick tock.

I spoke about my college life, the things- projects I've been involved with and finally my hopes, dreams and aspirations for my future. Trying not to make eye contact with anyone in the crowd for fear of stumbling through my speech, but



mind you, I hadn't written anything down. In my opinion, that was probably the best impromptu speech I have ever given in all my eighteen years and am so thrilled that it was at an important event such as this. Definitely a moment and experience that I will always remember!



It seems there are some senior public servants who aren't into the travel perks. One in particular tried his best to discourage his minister from accepting a fully funded trip with bag carriers to PNG to check out some deep sea mining activity. With the care taker government looking shaky, don't blame the minister and a few of his campaign committee taking up the offer as it might become a long time between drinks when the petitions are over.



Asian fishing company bought some fishing licenses from government, and the matter was investigated by the Audit Office and also Police with the assistance of Australian Federal Police but no enforcement action followed after the matter was considered by the PM who was also the Attorney General. The Police Commissioner announced there was insufficient evidence. The Audit report was made public but not the Police report. Why not? On top of that why did it take two senior government officials in a private capacity from Raro to fly all the way to the Asian country to deliver the licenses?



Talking about deep sea mining all Lynch's crowing about the Cooks being world leaders in this industry looks like a load of babble, the Kingdom of Tonga have jumped the gun and are the first country in the world to put in place a law that manages seabed mineral activities within its national marine space. They did all this without having a Sea Bed Mining Commissioner as well, who spends his time doing what, besides preserving his lucrative non essential job? It's time to disband that office and just follow what others do using Crown

Law.



Despite the Office of the Leader of the Opposition having no Leader, the unsuccessful Rasmussen won't give up the keys to his former office which is kept locked when he's not there. There are eight MPs elect who need to have access to that office. Instead of complaining why doesn't one of them just change the lock? Rasmussen has no legal right to even use the premises, how many times does he need to be told the premises are not for the Demo Party operations but for the Opposition? Rather than follow the rules the Demos are demonstrating they are no different from the law breaking CIP lot. Where is the integrity of the Demos? It's about time they got a new leader who will walk the moral high ground and not just talk about it. Hurry up Drolley and announce the date for the promised Conference, every week you are hanging around pretending you are costing the tax payer over \$1,100 a week.



LODS-Large Ocean Developing States, is the new name for SIDS-



Small Island Developing States! Good grief! What next? Stop bandying fancy names about and get on to some real work! What name will these turkeys dream up next? What about CLODS? Clueless Large Ocean Diddling States!



Boo hoo! The so called Realm of NZ nations, Cooks, Niue and Tokelau have far too much time on their hands at SIDS in Samoa so instead of twiddling their thumbs, they have banded together to form the Realm Group. Big deal! It gives three mindless leaders a weak excuse to get together and chin wag. Here is a group going nowhere fast. What tangible results will it produce? Another lame excuse for our jet setting leader to zoom off somewhere. This new group comes hard on the heels of the Polynesian Leaders Group, another meaningless association that has so far not produced a single tangible initiative worth talking about. And what of the Pacific Forum? Useless! Going nowhere! At least the Melanesians saw sense and formed their own breakaway group. And the saddest thing about the photo of the Realm

Group's first chin wag? All those over paid public servants lapping it up, smiling, looking the part. If these public servants had any intelligence, they would be advising their leaders to forget it!



One thing this recent election has produced chooks is a bunch of sore losers! No-one is interested in hearing what a "loser" has to say. The best thing a loser can do is acknowledge defeat gracefully and move on to planning for the next election!



Has the Director of USP Nod Nixon retired or not? Whispers were the Mick Jagger of academia had slipped off under cover of anonymity to his bolt hole in the Mangaian jungle. But then all appears not what it seems! Rumours are he is still treading the hallowed halls of learning!

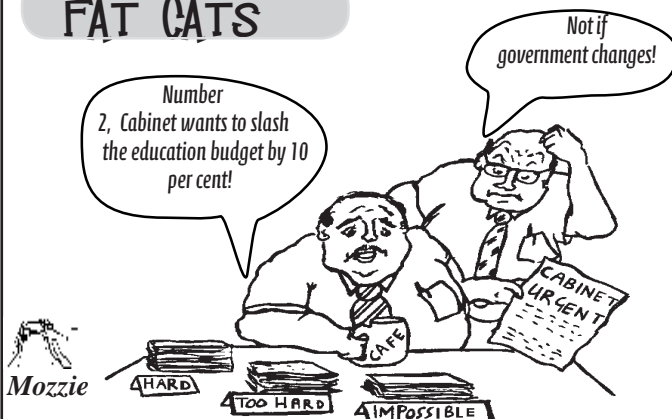


When is the Pacific Studies campus going to be built on Rarotonga? This much lauded house of traditional and contemporary learning was all go but then, uh oh, nothing! What is the hiccup? To prepare some tutors for this house of knowledge, the USP had some local artists put through a Masters of Fine Arts degree course in collaboration with a NZ University.

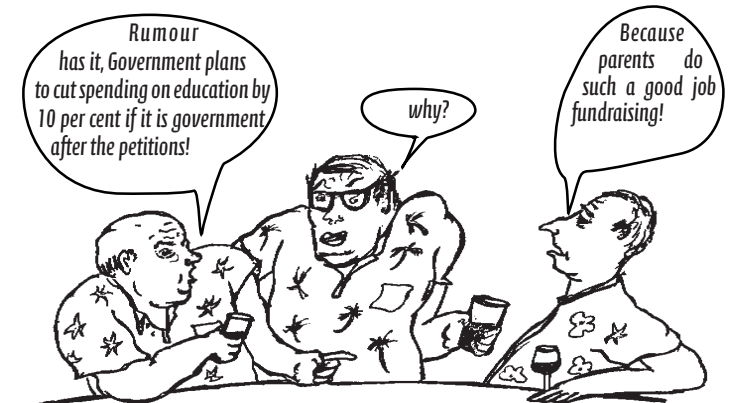


Chooks according to the interim, caretaker PM, the funds are on hand, courtesy our pals from the land of the great wall, so when are we going to pick up that inter-island ferry, similar to the drive on Samoan one that can carry 300 passengers?

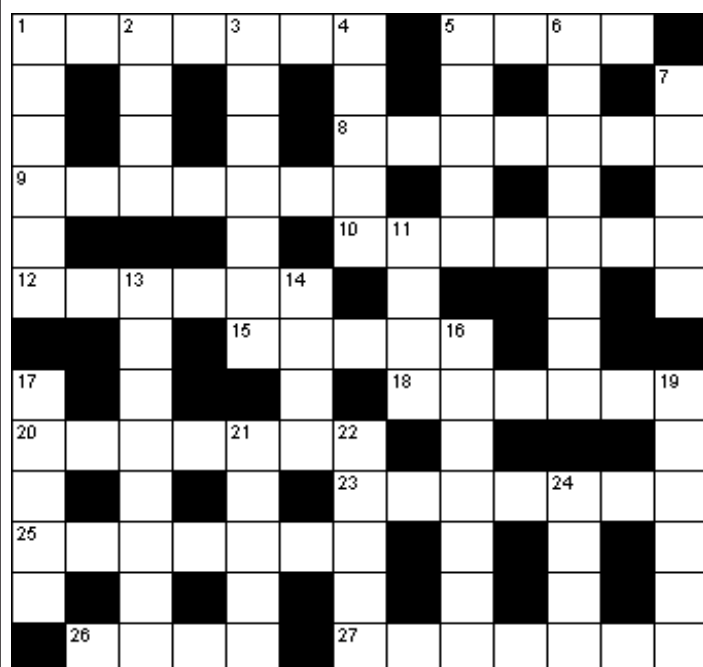
## FAT CATS



## COCONUT ROUNDTABLE



## CROSSWORD



## Across

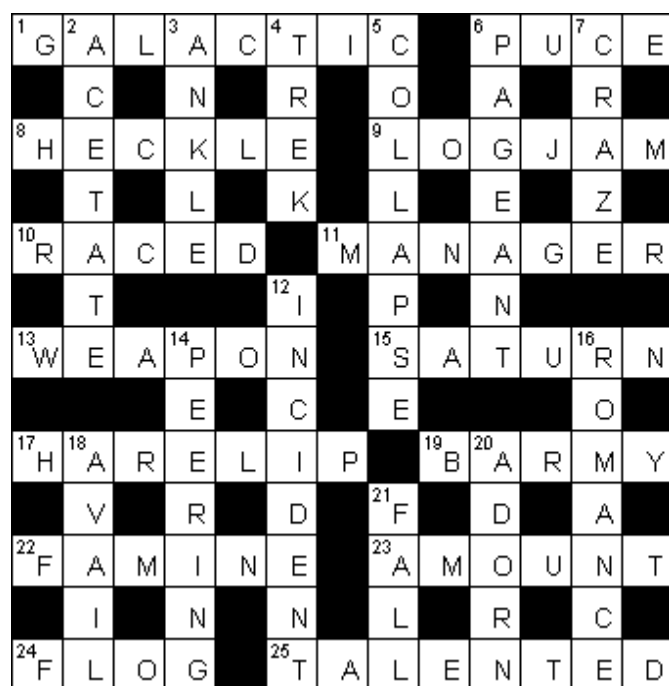
1. Without any flaws  
5. Flesh  
8. Examines and corrects  
9. Solicit votes  
10. Notice  
12. Peril  
15. Group of 12  
18. Separated  
20. Overexposure to the sun  
23. Doctors  
25. Enduring  
26. Places to sleep  
27. Esteem

## 4. Trunk of the human body

5. Shifts  
6. Theoretical  
7. Doorkeeper  
11. High-pitched tone  
13. Midday  
14. Laugh loudly  
16. Chats  
17. Dam extending across the Nile  
19. Barren place  
21. Single things  
22. Republic in NW Africa  
24. Dominion

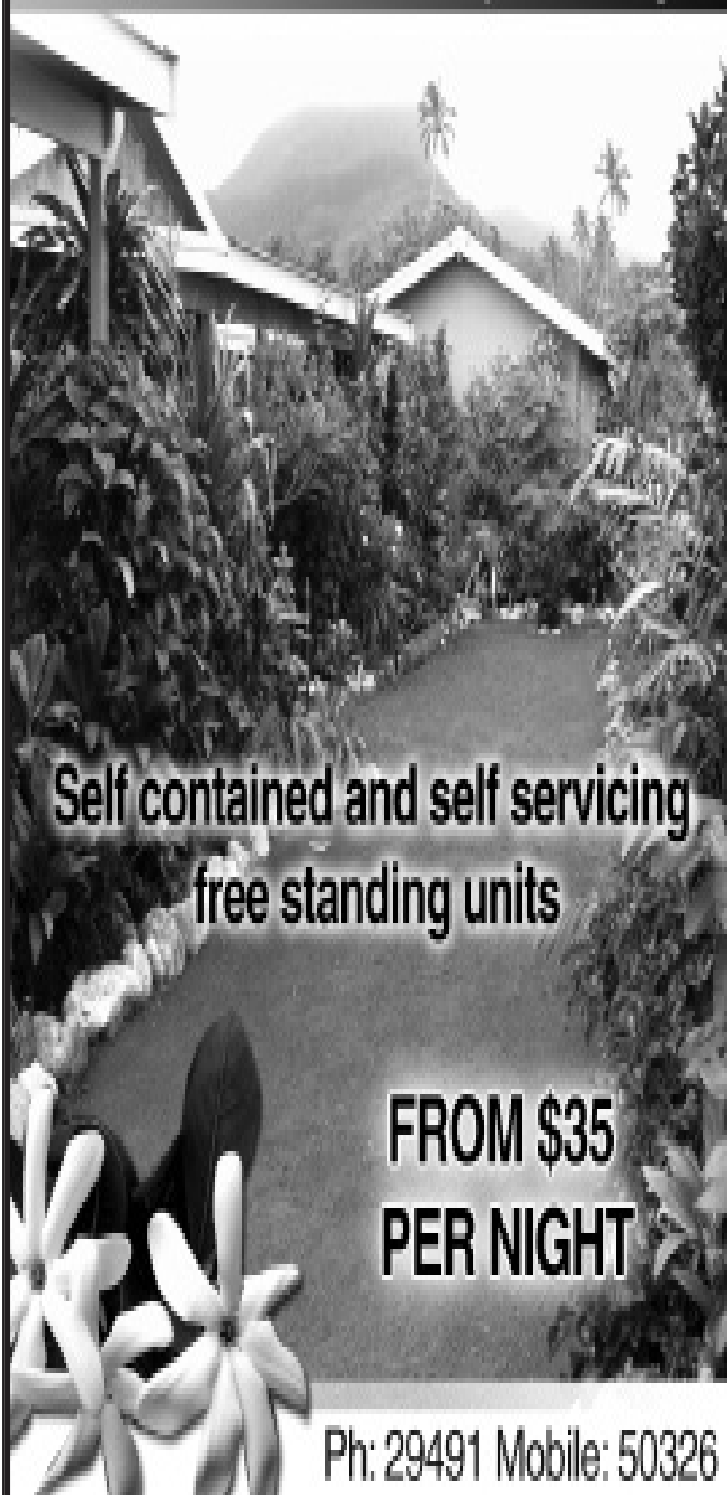
## Down

1. Tranquil  
2. Restraint  
3. Livid



# Mount View Lodges O'oa

Accommodation to suit your budget



Self contained and self servicing  
free standing units

FROM \$35  
PER NIGHT

Ph: 29491 Mobile: 50326



# New rules for sanitation affect tourism sector

## Sewage and Sanitation

This note contains important information and guidance on new legal requirements for sanitation systems in the Cook Islands. It also contains important information about changes to aspects of the Tourism Accreditation Scheme, linked to the new legal requirements for sanitation.

The new requirements have been introduced to ensure ongoing, improved protection of public health and the environment, and to help promote sustainability in our tourism sector.

**It is likely that you will need to take action to ensure compliance with the new requirements.**

At the outset Infrastructure Cook Islands WATSAN unit and The Ministry of Health would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the many contributions made by key partners, stakeholders, and the public at large, towards our efforts to safeguard and protect public health and the environment, and ensure sustainability of economic and social activities, both, in the public and commercial arenas.

Over the past few months, WATSAN and the Ministry of Health have consulted widely with the public, commercial and tourism operators regarding changes to regulation and control of sanitation systems in the Cook Islands. The purpose of the new regulatory initiatives is to raise the benchmark in water, waste and sanitation systems in the Cook Islands. The consultation was intended to introduce the new measures; and to raise awareness and understanding of the importance of good sanitation and the necessity of effective management of sanitation systems.

To ensure better management

of such systems and their operations, legislation provides the mandate that regulates all activities. All proprietors and operators are, therefore, bound, by legislation, to comply with the regulations and conditions as stipulated. The capital return in terms of public health, the environment, social and economic sustainability and prosperity cannot be stressed enough.

Within this context, this letter directs your attention to the legal requirements for sanitation systems in the Cook Islands as contained in two important documents: Public Health (Sewage and Wastewater Treatment and Disposal) Regulations 2014 and the Annual Warrant of Fitness Scheme (WoFs). Access to the documents is found on this link <http://www.health.gov.ck/index.php/publications/moh-documents>. A summarised version of the key points will be presented in booklet format to enable quick reference and action and be available to you in September. This letter also directs your attention to the link with the Tourism Accreditation Scheme.

## 1. The Public Health (Sewage and Wastewater Treatment and Disposal) Regulations 2014

The Public Health Regulations 2014 is the result of rigorous review and critique of the previous (2008) Regulations, to ensure that appropriate, current standards of sanitation are in place. Compliance is imperative and all proprietors and operators are urged to take responsibility and act accordingly as stipulated by regulations.

There are several new or amended requirements in the new Regulations. One of the main ones likely to be of relevance to commercial and

tourism operators is that:

*Secondary wastewater treatment or better, and appropriate Land Application Systems (no soak pits), are now required for all properties and operations located within the Lagoon Protection Zone (LPZ).*

To achieve full compliance, proprietors and operators will need to work with the Ministry of Health and WATSAN before January 2015, to discuss and agree on improvement plans and timeframes for achieving full compliance before.

## 2. The Sanitation Warrant of Fitness Scheme (WoF Scheme)

This is a partnership between the Ministry of Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) WATSAN, the Ministry of Health (MoH), registered drain layers, wastewater system professionals and the tourism and business community. The WoFs will be implemented from August/September 2014. The WoFs will apply to sanitation systems that are moderate to high loadings (above 2,000 litres per day design capacity), and/or secondary and advanced wastewater treatment; whether they are commercial, public or private, and (with reference to point 3 below) whether they are members of the Tourism Accreditation Scheme or not. WoFs will be issued on an annual basis. The WoFs will encompass all areas of sanitation system design, construction, operation and maintenance that are covered by the Regulations.

## 3. Links with the Tourism Accreditation Scheme

WATSAN and CI Tourism Industry are both committed to quality standards in sanitation operations and maintenance in accordance with the Public Health Act 2004.

The Tourism Accreditation

Scheme requires commercial property owners and operators to confirm that their sanitation systems comply with the Public Health Regulations. This requirement is reinforced in the *Minimum Standards of the Accreditations Scheme - Quality Assurance Programme of the Cook Islands 2014, section 2.2.1 – Sewage System in compliant with Regulations.*

This standard states that:

*Sewage systems must be of a type and standard that meets Health Department regulations. If your system is not up to this standard, you will have time to meet Regulations without being penalised. Once assessed by the local authorities a business must have their Sanitation Warrant of Fitness available for viewing.*

Therefore, to gain accreditation with CI Tourism Industry, all proprietors and operators will be required to provide proof of a current WoF for their sanitation systems, from January 2015. The Tourism Accreditation Office will endorse property's accreditation status on the proviso that the application is in compliance with the regulations as stipulated in the Public Health Regulations 2014 and includes a current WoF.

In the desired interest of public health, the environment, social and economic sustainability and prosperity, a collective and collaborative partnership is essential. WATSAN and Public Health is committed to supporting you achieve compliance to regulations.

WATSAN thanks you in advance and trusts that you will join forces in securing quality sanitation systems in the Cook Islands. Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the WATSAN unit on [watsan@oyster.net.ck](mailto:watsan@oyster.net.ck) or 22 648.

VACANCIES



*A transformational leader  
An energetic goal setter that achieves targets  
An individual that values the team*

Get into a new role by joining the team at the Bank of the Cook Islands to unleash your potential and that of our team as the:

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

This is THE leadership position within BCI and we need someone passionate to deliver to strategic plans. As the Managing Director of our business you will implement BCIs strategy through active team engagement, productive client relationships, while administering a high quality credit portfolio, and delivery of outstanding customer service, with regard to compliance matters in line with regulatory and policy requirements. Minimum qualifications and experience in Banking and Finance is applicable to this role and regular travel national and international may be required.

Dynamic applications enclosing C.V with reference to:  
KPMG-BCI Ref MD14, Attention: Mike Carr, PO Box 691, Rarotonga, or email [mikecarr@kpmg.co.ck](mailto:mikecarr@kpmg.co.ck) by 3pm, 5th September 2014.

A copy of the Job Description can also be obtained from Mii Mataora by email [mii@bci.co.ck](mailto:mii@bci.co.ck) or telephone 29341 ext 840.



The Project Management Unit (PMU) for the Te Mato Vai wishes to engage the services of three (3) Field Technicians to assist in the coordination of Quality Assurance and Quality Control of the Te Mato Vai Ring Main Construction Works. The Field Technician shall have at least two (2) years practical experience on any infrastructure construction projects and have a minimum qualification of a New Zealand Certificate in Engineering.

For those who are interested in applying, a full Job Description is available from the PMU Office in Takuvaine.

Applications together with CV and three referees must be submitted to the PMU Office in Takuvaine by 3pm Friday 05 September 2014 marked Confidential and addressed to:

Project Manager  
Te Mato Vai Project Management Unit  
P O Box 3286  
Rarotonga  
Re: Field Technician Vacancy

All enquiries to Daryl Rairi, Deputy Project Manager, Telephone 28-851 or 55-064, or email: [daramide@oyster.net.ck](mailto:daramide@oyster.net.ck)

**ADVERTISE WITH THE  
COOK ISLANDS HERALD**

TENDER



**TENDER**

**PURCHASE AND SUPPLY OF BOBCAT  
FOR PUKAPUKA ISLAND  
CONTRACT No. C14/05**

Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) on behalf of Pukapuka Island Government seeks tender proposals from Contractors for the Purchase and Supply of Pukapuka Island Bobcat, Cook Islands.

A copy of the Tender Document including specifications can be collected during work hours from ICI office in Arorangi. A non-refundable deposit of NZ\$100 will be required before the tender document is issued.

Tenders close at 3pm on Friday, 12th September 2014, and must be submitted to the ICI Office in Arorangi and in accordance with the specific requirements of the Tender Document. Tenders must be submitted in hard copy format in two (2) separate envelopes marked accordingly, Envelope 1 or 2, labelled "CONFIDENTIAL" and addressed to:

The Secretary  
Infrastructure Cook Islands  
Arorangi  
Rarotonga  
Cook Islands

and subsequent markings below to include the following:  
Tenderers name and address, contact person and details;  
Contract number and title; and Closing time and date.

All Enquiries to be directed to: Solomona Solomona  
Contact Officer  
Email: [solomona.solomona@ici.gov.ck](mailto:solomona.solomona@ici.gov.ck)  
Phone: +682 20321

**EAT LESS**

**MOVE MORE**

HEART FOUNDATION

**New Hope Church**

Parekura Conference Centre

Inspirational messages to uplift and empower you

**Sunday at 10.30am**