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REA permit controversial rock wall in Lagoon Protection Zone



A group of concerned landowners and conservation folk heeded the call to action to protest about the potential development on the narrow beachfront at Vaimaanga.

Why do we bother having an environment impact assessment (EIA) process in the Lagoon Protection Zone when the concerns of the public are totally ignored by certain members of the Rarotonga Environment Authority (REA)? That is the question some of the land owners and lessees of nearby properties want to know after hearing that the REA has approved the controversial rock revetment wall application on the Avaavaroa beachfront land at the centre of protests over the slaughter of aged iron wood trees.

Word is that the application was approved after Titikaveka MP; Selina Napa argued strongly for it and was supported by Vakatini Ariki Joe Vakatini.

The objectors have shown a copy of the EIA application dated January 2014 that was prepared by Miro Consultants on behalf of Robin Grant who owns the Reflections development in Turoa around the corner from Government House in Titikaveka.

The owners noticed that Robin Grant's application of January 2014 was for a Sand Mound Foreshore Protection scheme would protect the property which sounds fine. But why and

when did the project switch to the rock revetment proposal given that the application notes that "although rock revetment is considered an alternative system, it is seen as interfering with the natural beauty of the beach scenery." (page4).

"Too right it does, so why change it over?" ask the landowners. Obviously a cost factor they say, the estimated difference is the rock revetment would be close to \$100,000 more expensive.

And the other curious aspect of the January 2014 application is that it states in the Executive summary that it will "provide a platform for residential construction". What exactly does that mean? The owners say it sounds rather like the lessee wants to try some sort of 'reclamation' plan? If that is the case, what is the stance of Cook Islands Investment Corporation on the matter, given their propensity to deem any reclaimed land to have become Crown land? Apart from the Crown land question, if the land is widened, then where are the beachgoers supposed to walk? In the lagoon?

The objectors are now set

to focus on the Public Health regulations whereby septic tanks and sanitation systems are supposed to be a certain regulated 'setback' distance from Lagoon Protected Zones. They are uncertain whether the distance is 30 meters or 100 meters, but given that the land in question is very narrow (estimated to be 12 meters wide) that the sewage system will have to be installed across the road from the proposed development in order to fit the distance legally required.

Although upset the ancient iron wood trees were felled, the land owners are not anti development, but encouraged by the high standards of developer Grant's other projects, they argue the foreshore protection should be the sand mound option which preserved the visual ascetics. "The rocks are an eye sore".

At an onsite meeting of the Minister of Environment Kiriaua Turepu, NES officials, REA members and on Tuesday 8 September to review opposing landowner's objections, the landowner present was disappointed the REA approval was supported.

On the question of public lane way accessibility to the foreshore raised by some residents, the National Environment Service have no involvement, said Director Vitoti Tupa, "that is an issue that is resolved by the landowner when the lease is being negotiated with the developer".

The landowners are concerned the continued REA approval of rock revetments sets an open door for others to bypass the more environmentally visually enhancing sound mound foreshore protection option for a cheaper option. Preserving the natural state must be the first priority of foreshore development not the financial cost.

The landowners want to see rock revetments banned altogether with the sand mound protection option the choice of foreshore protection.

Actually, the whole thing has become messy, with Environment Service powerless to intervene when pro-development MPs are on the Council and a Minister of Environment who has questionable empathy for the environment at all. As it was asked at the beginning of the article, why do we bother?

- George Pitt

Willie John confirmed as Penrhyn's MP

By Charles Pitt

Willie John of the Cook Islands Party (CIP) has been confirmed the MP for Penrhyn following an oral judgment in the High Court on Tuesday morning by Chief Justice Tom Weston in the electoral petition brought by Wilkie Rasmussen the Democratic Party Leader. Both Rasmussen and John were in Court to hear the judgment. John's lead was cut to 5 with 3 voters still to be considered by the Chief Justice.

Before a packed court room, the Chief Justice said the outcome of his judgment may be an appeal which is why his written judgment to follow would give sufficient reasons for his findings so the Court of Appeal would know of these.

There was absolute silence in the room as the Chief Justice read out his judgment although at times he paused and seemed hesitant.

Immediately following the oral judgment, the Chief Justice was to deal with the Manihiki petition which involved the Prime Minister and which was of enormous public interest attracting a large gallery. In fact virtually all seats in the public gallery were taken.

It was noticeable from the outset that most Demo supporters sat on the right with CIP seated on the left.

On commencing, the Chief Justice remarked that Tony Manarangi (for Willie John) was late but the Court would proceed in his absence.

The difference in votes was 10. The votes disallowed by the Chief Justice were not enough to change the outcome.

The Chief Justice said 11 witnesses were heard, from Rarotonga and Penrhyn, taking up 9 hours of the Court's time which equated to two sitting days. The Court convened in Rarotonga and heard 8 witnesses from Penrhyn via skype. The Chief Justice remarked that it was the first time skype had been used and he believed it would enhance the rule of law within the Cook

Islands. He paid tribute to the Registrar saying it cut costs.

Wilkie had challenged the eligibility of 19 members of a tere party from Australia to vote given their usual place of residence was overseas. The tere party had not intended to stay longer than three months but did so because of transport problems. They registered as electors in April before returning home. The Chief Justice said such a matter had not arisen before in the Cook Islands. No members of the tere party gave evidence.

The Chief Justice said he considered the provisions of the Constitution (Articles 27 and 28, the Electoral Act 2004 section 7) and various overseas precedents.

Article 28 set out how electors qualified to vote but did not mention residence. Subsection (1) referred to residing continuously. This Article had been amended 4 times and was last amended in 2003.

Article 27 referred to the concept of constituencies of which there are 24. Subclause (3) provided for qualification and disqualification.

The Chief Justice said section 7 of the Electoral Act 2004 was structured around Article 28 of the Constitution. He said there were three features as follows;

Section 7 (1)(a) and (b) which corresponded with Article 21.

Section 7(4) which was based on Article 28(2); and

Section 7(5) which was based on Article 28(3).

The Chief Justice said there was no argument that section 7 was unconstitutional. He said he believes the matter turns on the expression "actually resides."

For Rasmussen, Counsel Mitchell's argument was that Article 28 stated who should be an elector and Section 7 referred to where the elector resided. Reside meant the "home." This was Australia not Penrhyn. Some degree of permanence was required and the tere party were short stay visitors. Therefore all 19 votes should be disallowed.

For Willie John, Manarangi's submission referred to section

7(5) and Article 28(3). The Chief Justice referred to a submission by Crown Law which supported Manarangi's submission and which referred to a Hansard report of a comment by Sir Geoffrey Henry in 2003 who referred to, "the place you last spent three months."

The Chief Justice said the Court's concern was the period of time the voter spent in the constituency. With this view, he said 4 of the 19 did not meet the qualifying period and their votes were disallowed.

There were 4 cases of bribery under section 88 and 4 cases of treating under section 89 considered. The 4 treating cases did not proceed.

All 4 bribery cases were dismissed.

The Chief Justice said a further 2 votes were disallowed. One was by a UK resident who thought he had PR. The other was an 18yr old who spent most of the time on Rarotonga.

Summing up the Chief Justice said in effect, 5 votes have been dropped and there are a further 3 which he is still to rule on.

He said considering the difference of 10, resolving a further 3 votes would not alter the position.

The Chief Justice said there would be some disappointed people in the room.

He will deliver his oral judgment in writing as soon as he can.

It is not known if Rasmussen will mount an appeal but it is of interest that the Chief Justice referred to this possibility.



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Travel must be selective, justified and accountable

Two years ago the Cook Islands Government headed by some members of the private sector embarked on a fact finding jaunt to Papua New Guinea to woo the resource rich PNG Government and potential investors to consider the Cook Islands as the next best place to park its millions.

Readers may not recall but that visit included a possible purchase of the Bank of Cook Islands by the PNG Government equivalent. A visit was planned from PNG investors and much hoop-la expounded from the CIP Government that the PNG investors were arriving soon and investment in tourism and financial services would be high on their agenda.

Many struggling tourism businesses on the market nodded their heads in approval anticipating some relief could come from PNG. The offshore financial services trade would have been quite hopeful that some new business would come their way from wealthy PNG investors. To date the government has gone quiet on this and as far as it is known the much upbeat government releases on the impending PNG investor visit never materialised, perhaps they saw the Cook Islands as an investment that wouldn't get them the returns that they could get from reinvesting back into their economy.

Maybe they did their

due diligence and got cold feet after reading a Pacific Islands Trade and Invest document that said of the Cook Islands; *"The high cost of doing business is considered to be the primary barrier to foreign investors, together with issues related to market size, infrastructure and regulation. The low rate of return on investment,*

likelihood that anything substantial is going to come out from it? Apart from the Prime Minister Henry Puna delivering another meaningless speech, did any others make contributions?

Or did this travel fall into the category of being a self gratifying conference tourist funded by the Cook Islands taxpayer when the care

One media report glorified the conference because promises of millions dollars in aid is going to be poured into SIDS. Then again the same promises were made in Copenhagen at COP 15, a few years ago, but the biggest at risk Climate Change Pacific Islands haven't received a cent.

Has any of the recent spate of renewable energy money actually come as a result of our PM's jaunts to far flung places or was this money something that would have been made available through the ordinary course of business by rich world nations to us directly or to a regional authority who would disperse it to us anyway, without us having to do the whole global trotting thing?

I call it a thing because there have been so many of these endless travel things, some don't even make it into the media because they come on top of a just completed trip that the public and the media aren't sure whether these travellers have left here and recently returned to go again or if in fact this was all one trip?

As an example of travel with no identifiable returns to our small country, I recall our PM did several trips to Persia, a couple to Dubai with one on top of the other, then another to Abu Dhabi but I can't recall that anything substantial came out from any of these and if there was there certainly wasn't

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which was flagged as an issue is a result of the other constraints."

This month Samoa hosted the United Nations the Small Island Development States (SIDS), it is understood that a delegation of over 30 participants represented the Cook Islands and local business. There is nothing immediately wrong about this networking opportunity if in fact that is what it is, but is there any real

taker government should be exercising prudent financial constraints?

What tangible gains can we count on from past SIDS involvement that makes us such a willing participant now? How many times in a year that we send delegates on fact finding expeditions, how many times a year do we end up with no report on the previous expedition and no outcomes to assist the country in its endeavours?

continued next page

any media release that spelled out the incredible goodwill that will come our way or whether the country benefitted from it in anyway. The PM may regard all this travel as an important form of diplomacy to boost the notion of "statehood" but unlike the shuttle diplomacy of the Kissinger era, his is a hollow form of shuttle diplomacy.

Let's face it, the Cook Islands is some tiny little country that we all call home, but don't be fooled by the many statements that we box above our weight because that's simply self praise and self praise as the saying goes is not praise at all, it gives us false hope. We are a country with very little to call it a country, but we have all the appurtenances of a country to the point that it is beginning to drown us.

What we are in fact are just villages or a small town, out of all the small island states in the region for the exception of Niue we are best described as villages or a small town. Our sporting heroes make their names in other countries and not here and without the stiff competition from playing with the big boy's day in day out we won't quite manage the heights that give rise to the 'box

above our weight claim'.

Even freakish Rugby players like Jonah Lomu would not have made it big in Tonga without the formidable New Zealand schools and provincial rugby competitions. The point I am trying to make is that we really need to get to the core issues of what the Cook Islands is before we embark on some self gratifying overseas junket where the countries we are trying to engage in are in the same financial position as us if not much worse. How can they help us when they are struggling to help themselves?

We have received the generous help from the New Zealand tax payers on waste and energy without having to spend very much at all on all travel and the expenses that come with it to far flung places; it's very much like our tourism marketing budgets. We spend on developing markets like Persia and China when we haven't done as well as we could with Canada, NZ or Australia.

Some commentators want us to create more relations with China and get in close with China so we can access the loans and grants that China has, without the consequences of not being able to repay it given

very much consideration. The Cook Islands despite the heady claims by this government that we are doing well is in real trouble.

It doesn't need to be, but it is and it's going to require plenty of work from like minded people with the countries best interests at heart. It can do well by first acknowledging that we cannot carry on with the appurtenances of a rich world country nor can we afford to continue without some serious reforms and paradigms changes taking place.

A colleague once remarked that these should not be called reforms because it scares people but call it adjustments. Perhaps he is right, and perhaps it's time for many of us to be realistic about what is required. Most people are.

The questions I want to pose to the new faces to Parliament are these, "are you aware of the state of the economy and the state of affairs that the country is currently in? Do you believe that the current administration is doing a job that on its current trajectory will deliver this country from the financial and social crisis that we are obviously in?"

Or are you happy to carry on with the status quo of a

burgeoning public service a budget that has reversed itself from a country in surplus in early 2001 to a country with a greater reliance on loans to balance its books and an out of control spending spree evidenced by the increased government spending of an average of \$19m per year for the last 3 years? I know many families in the outer islands can't. Many businesses can't either.

High on the worry listing is the medium to small tourist accommodator who is going have to deal with a declining market share for the next six months, scary stuff when at the low season visitor drought numbers are significantly dropping off the graph.

In a fiscal climate predicting lean portions, no second helpings and empty troughs, why is it there are no role models or moral beacons in high office willing to exhibit constraints and resistance to the temptation of self indulgence and self enrichment.

Admittedly, a certain amount of Ministerial travel is mandatory and financially rewarding for the country but that's where the line must be drawn. International exchanges can be via Skype with equally satisfying outcomes. - George Pitt

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Pictured here the trainee nurses with their Principal, Secretary of Health Liz Iro, and Minister of Health Nandi Glassie to acknowledge the \$30,000 sponsorship donated through Marama Global Health in honour of Linda Golla a journalist who reported in 3rd World Countries, and organised through Professor Gregor Coster, the chair of the Counties Manukau District Board. The money is to help fund the travel of Outer Islands nurses to travel to Rarotonga for training. It is a one off fund. You may remember that our nursing school closed in 2008 and was reopened in February 2014. The nursing school needed to reopen so that we can train and replenish our nursing staff, instead of relying on foreign nurses.

Letter to the Editor

Vaimaanga beach section protest

Dear Editor,
I wish to draw public awareness to an environmental issue causing landowners serious concern.

The group identified issues of concerns at the proposed development at Vaimaanga with retaining walls; increasing the land area; creating irrevocable resultant erosion on a beautiful beach; what would be used as the backfill? And the massacre of 16 eighty year old toa (ironwood) trees.

We believe the property is too narrow and environmentally inadequate for development.

If the 30 metre legal restriction applied then from the current "land" on the beachside, to a 30 metre mark would put no development until across the other side of the road. The developers are using an illusionary medium high water mark which "used" to exist, but

no longer does due to gross erosion since the 1970's.

Examples of rock revetments at Muri demonstrate graphically the drop in beach level to bedrock over a number of years as well as erosion to properties at either end.

This stand by the landowners should be supported, as by raising the issue against development on this narrow beachside section could see the approval of non complying applications for development, in spite of precedence's being set, be a thing of the past.

You have to ask "Why isn't the Environment Act being adhered to, thus protecting the enua for the benefit of future generations instead of quick cash being an incentive to current title holders?"

A petition was begun signed by those present.

Beach Watch

Pukapuka land deal for solar farm

Landowners on remote Pukapuka have agreed to let the government use an acre of land to build a solar energy farm. Roto villagers will get a one off payment of NZ\$100,000 for the land. Materials to build the farm will begin arriving next month. The work is part of a major programme to deliver a hybrid energy generation system to the Northern group islands enabling them to get 95% of their power needs from renewable sources. The NZ\$20.5 million project is being funded by New Zealand. *See pages 12 and 13 for pictures of the equipment being shipped.*

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Congratulations to Mrs. June Hosea

I feel her work for the children of our country is outstanding and truly worth commendation for the passion that she inputs into her duties," says Rebekah Daniel about this month's woman of the month, June Hosea. Daniel has nominated Hosea to fill this month's woman of the month role, as she believes Hosea deserves acknowledgement for all the wonderful tasks that she has undertaken to ensure the benefit for the future of our country and our young generation. The itinerant career counselor for the Ministry of Education (MOE) was in charge of the Careers Expo program, which has recently been changed to a more 'hands on' program.

"Students are given the opportunity to find out what it's like to work in occupations of interest with various organizations including NGOs. Opportunities are also made available to any organization or individual to come and speak to students about the options available to them, or how to take care of themselves so that their ability to contribute to the economic, spiritual, social, cultural welfare of our nation is enhanced," she says.

Hosea says helping our children to make wise career decisions and plan their career paths help them to realize

their dreams, and helps them to become resilient and well-rounded Cook Islanders.

She firmly encourages Government Ministries and private sector organizations to work hand in hand with the MOE so that our children are better equipped to enter the work place and make a positive contribution to the overall welfare of our country.

Speaking of education, Hosea went to Nikao Side School for her preschool and primary education; she then went on to Tereora College from 1976 to 1979, followed by Onehunga high school where she completed form 7. Hosea attended USP from 1982 to 1983 before studying at Pacific Adventist University in Papua New Guinea from 1986 to 1987. She received her MBA through USP here in 2009 and graduated in 2011.

It was during those years she accrued many memorable experiences. Whilst in PNG she had her first child in 1986, then moved on to live and work in Fiji where her husband was lecturer at Fulton College from 1991 to 1995.

Hosea is married to a 7th Day Adventist Minister and is a strong member of the Women's and Family Ministries, Dorcas Society and the SDA choir. In the past she also had involvement with Pathfinders and Adventurers.



Woman of the Month of September, Mrs. June Hosea

Sports, singing and playing music are her hobbies and she has played sports for the various villages she has ever lived in, especially Atiu, Aitutaki and Titikaveka.

Hosea's strong passion for the education and upbringing of our future generation and the drive she has in helping them make wise choices shows that she deserves the woman of the month award, no doubt about that. I want to be a person who

can facilitate the growth and development in our children so that they can realize their career goals and ambitions, and also spirituality", she says.

Her woman of the month awards dinner will be held this evening at The Islander and is expected to be jam packed with her family, friends, supporters and colleagues.

FIRST IS GOD, SECOND IS FAMILY, THIRD IS MY COMMUNITY

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Exposing the gap between rich and poor

*The real challenge for
the next government is to
close the gap between the
'haves' and 'have nots'.
Before it's too late.*

By Derek Fox

The NZ election is approaching. The people will speak with their votes; well some of them will. Some people will be very happy and some not, with the result, depending on whether the party of their choice wins or loses.

But there are thousands of people, hundreds of thousands – maybe a million – for whom the result will mean nothing. Such is their situation it matters little or nought who wins, such is their deprivation and poverty and their homelessness and their poor health and imprisonment – but mostly their hopelessness. And it would appear that a majority of New Zealanders don't actually care, because they're doing all right and they're not exerting any pressure at all to make things better for the people who aren't.

There was a time when our political leaders used to proudly tell the world we are an egalitarian society, that our race relations are the best in the world; bollocks. As I'm writing this, a New Zealander has just launched a \$78-million 'pleasure boat'; at the same time 260-thousand children are living in poverty and families are living in unhealthy and over-crowded conditions, even living in cars.

There's no relief for them; on the other hand the National Party earmarked a \$100-million handout to farmers to fence their waterways to stop their cows polluting streams. Surely that's something they should do anyway – after all they are the polluters and willingly bank the healthy profits they make as a result.

I'm writing this two weeks before the election so I don't know who will win, but as far as the people I've described above

are concerned, it doesn't really matter.

The real challenge for the next government is to close the gap between the 'haves' and 'have nots'. Before it's too late.

As horrible as it was, the killing of two Work and Income workers in Ashburton and the subsequent plethora of threats and angry calls to other WINZ offices around the country, should be a warning to the government and senior civil servants that people are hurting out there, and such is their desperation some have been pushed to breaking point.

Poverty and deprivation are not academic exercises for me; I have family and friends for whom it is a reality. I have mokopuna who from time to time go without kai until pay day. The wider family rallies around when we know what's happening, but poor people have their pride too.

I'm reminded of the interjection former Labour MP Michael Cullen made in Parliament when he referred to National's John Key as a 'rich prick'.

Unfortunately for the people whose case I'm championing, 'rich pricks' tend to end up running the show. I don't recall someone living in a car ever being elected to Parliament. And as futile as it is, I would like to challenge the new minister of finance to swap places with a car dweller – not for a night or a week – for three months; trading salaries and taking his or her kids and spouse too. I guess someone is going to say I shouldn't involve their kids – but why not, the poor kids don't have a choice.

In fact the whole cabinet should try it.

Maybe then the poor might get a better deal.

Letters to the Editor

Grey Power to march again

Dear Editor
With both party leader's heads on the chopping block together with five others awaiting a High Court decision to determine their future in politics, the Justice Ministry is clogged up with petitions to deal with and working feverishly to untangle an inevitable boo boo that always crop up when things are not done properly and done in a hurry.

Our island way of life, for a person to be called and known by other names, and to be able to live wherever he/she chooses to, is under scrutiny. Our island way of giving and receiving is being tweaked and prodded in every which way to look gross with bribery intentions-like the free kai kai we enjoyed in past campaign rallies.

A voter's constitutional right, with sound mind, to cross the box of the person of their choice is being questioned.

Caretaker Prime Minister Henry Puna who initiated the snap election, saw the writing on the wall when he realized that he did not have the numbers in chamber to support him on Monday 16th April.

The shambolic, very expensive mess we're in, post election, was the result of the option he chose, to remain in power-to fight it. The other option was to quietly step aside.

The Prime Minister's public announcement to dissolve parliament and a snap election to follow shocked the nation. It devastated us Grey Power!

The anticipated passage of the amended tax law on that very day's parliament sitting which would have finally freed our stolen money, was wiped at the stroke of the Prime Minister Henry Puna's and the Queen's Representative Tom Marsters pens.

Grey Power like no other group or organization suffered at the hands of the CIP government, not only monetary matters but blatant human disrespect.

Editor, Grey Power's marches to parliament is not a stunt. Old people do not do stunts, it's a necessity. Two previous marches to parliament buckled the government. The next march will take place irrespective of who will be the government.

I conclude with an ominous adage, "Sow the wind, reap the whirlwind."

Dennis Tunui
Turangi

Don't call us names, Tim Tepaki

Dear Editor,
I don't know why Tim Tepaki called us Grey Power terrorists. We haven't done anything to upset him.

How many times do Grey Power have to explain to the people of this country why we're fighting the government and the Westpac Bank? It's because they drew some money out of the member's bank accounts without them knowing. Two single mums went to the bank to get some money and found their money had been drawn out without them knowing it. One mum has a daughter at university. How would you like that if it was you Tim Tepaki? Just because you didn't have any money in the bank, it didn't happen to you. Is that why you're on the government's side?

Because you're living on the government's old age pension, you should join and support us the Grey Power and also you Cook Islands pensioners-you will soon find out when the government makes you pay tax.

So Tim Tepaki don't you ever call us names. We might march to where you live and you will soon find out what "terrorists" do.

You are welcome to come to our meetings so you know what we're talking about.

Grey Power
One Voice, one choice

Update and Results from Friday 5th September 2014 Social Mix Handball Competition at the TSA in Nikao

By Makiroa Mitchell

It was really heart warming to see a large crowd at the games from players to spectators.

Game 1 saw the Legends our Arorangi legacy managed by Simiona Aumetua play young and upcoming members aged 14 upwards. Interesting young Simone Aumetua proves to be a versatile player moving swiftly on to ball during fast-breaks and never hesitates to shoot the ball. This girl has much energy and is not scared of the challenge from her male counterparts. Teaming up with another future player Mataroa Mataroa they both have a lot of potential once they familiarize with the game. Interesting talent and lots of potential.

PJs with experienced national players who are coming out of early retirement, functioned in the team to give support to conditioning new and young

players. Good to see the ladies Grace Daniels and Ioella Puna taking the court and as first timers picking up the game and playing amongst their male team mates. Playing in a Mix league has different dynamics but of equal footing. A good game from both sides who moved the ball down the court more instead of bouncing. It was experience on the day where PJs claimed victory 20 to Legends 11.

Game 2 Wayne Robati's Justice League of experienced hero's had aspired kept their ship tight with the men duo of Ben Tautu and Olaf Rassmussen hammering at the post 5 girls and the young ladies Vanya Robati and Simone Aumetua conceding to 2 goals each. After settling in the first half they were playing in an organised fashion. No experience TCI team with a Wow factor slim trim look

are much fitter and smarter this season. The Ultimate Lux Makirere slamming in 6 goals when on court still strong and experienced with young Finlay Munro stopping a lot of goals from turning in to essential points and like his Dad, Donald and ex national players Duncan and Terrence this handball family know their game and Finlay has been nurtured well before his time to know he means business. Very strong goalkeeper with national status in his palms. Ms Teina Nooapii was on fire with her intercepts and a true asset to the Team although Justice League in a close game came out with a 18 to 14 point win over No Experience Telecom. Both teams looked smart in their uniforms also well done,

Game 3 Avengers female player Teiti Tupuna on form and took care of collateral damage where she equaled

top scorer for the night with ex founding member of handball Kiki Tomokino on 7 points. Teiti is a mean machine and you cannot let any ball go to her because she flies to the goal with precision. Give her the ball and she's off. Like her younger brother Tearetoa Tupuna left hander absolute dangerous on the wings and his first time debut in handball. These Mauke kids are absolutely amazing and assets to any team. They have the right attitude get the ball to the goal as fast as you can and score as its the point that makes the difference. This saw Avengers win 19 against TMKz 13. Young Winton Pickering and little Mz Raui are aspiring youngsters that have a bright future in the sport. Well done to TMKz first timers to the sport but also the first Catholic Church Youth Organisation to join.

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Papaaroa School Fundraiser

Scenes from the School's fundraiser at Te Punanga Nui Market on Wednesday. - Jeane Matenga



Cook Islands coastal calculator sums up climate change adaptation with new harbour



The opening of the Mangaia harbour courtesy of Infrastructure Cook Islands

After close to a decade of being without a harbour, the island of Mangaia in the Cook Islands cut the ribbon to a new climate resilient harbour this year, an outcome of the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project (PACC).

In 2005 Cyclones Meena and Nancy destroyed the harbour, making life harder for the islands residents. If there were rough conditions for the island, ships would not berth at the harbour and depart without bringing goods ashore, goods that ranged from building supplies, food supplies and fuel.

Since the newly renovated harbour was launched, no ships have had to turn back. But of course, the real test is the next cyclone or any unusual and extreme tidal surge.

"Before this new harbour, we had to rely on calm weather if ships were to come in and, on average, you would get a ship every second or third month; the alternative was to air freight goods in, which was costly," said Mr. Paul Maoate, an engineer with Infrastructure Cook Islands.

What is unique about this harbour is it was built to be

climate resilient. To help this happen, a Cook Islands Coastal Calculator was developed, which took into account a range of different scenarios to help guide the design of the harbour renovation so it would be as climate resilient as possible.

Developing the Cook Islands Coastal Calculator took several months in the making as a wide range of information had to be programmed into the formula such as key measurements in distance of beach to the reef, the slope of the reef, the main features on the beach, the intensity and frequency of storms, the contour of the reefs as well as results of a bathymetry study.

Over the course of two years all necessary information was collated and input into a formula to generate the calculations.

"Based on this, the harbour in Mangaia is prepared to withstand the possible extreme conditions that could impact it, however in 50 years time or so we will need to revisit it and upgrade, but we have this in place for now making it as resilient and safe as possible," said Maoate.

"One of the best things about this coastal calculator is that

its' database includes all the islands of the Cook Islands, from Mangaia in the south to Penrhyn in the north. This means that we can easily use this calculator for the building of other coastal infrastructure in any of our 15 islands. We've already used it to design a new wharf for the island of Manihiki."

The wharf design has also worked with the natural surroundings, choosing to use the raised tidal reef flats and cliff edges surrounding the harbour to break waves and absorb the wave energy instead of building sea walls.

"This design is so much safer, we've not only worked with what we already have in terms of the tidal reef environments, we have also amended the design so the wave action doesn't cause whirlpools within the harbor itself. This was the case when renovations first began in Mangaia," said Maoate.

"After the 2005 cyclones there was an initial attempt to renovate the harbour but we had to redesign that as there was so much that needed to be fixed."

Safety in this new design is evident in the wave action that

no longer creates whirlpools during rough weather, fishermen now have an area where waters are calmer so they can berth in times of rough seas and children and families are now able to use this area as a swimming and picnic area.

"We see so many benefits from this, now it is easier to get cargo and can help drive economic stimulation. It can also act as a place for the community to come together for recreational activities and one of the very first things we noticed was a lot more fishermen went out. This new harbour has made a difference in Mangaia."

The PACC Project in the Cook Islands will be showcased during the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Apia this month. A special side event launching the 'Vital Harbour', a short film on the project, followed by a panel discussion will be held on Wednesday 3 September from 11 – 12.30pm in the Manono Media Centre Conference Room 1 at the UNSIDS venue. Those attending the UNSIDS conference are invited to attend.

Equipment off to Northern Group



Pictured here is the Prime Minister Henry Puna and New Zealand High Commissioner Joanna Kempers viewing the machinery that is being loaded onto the Tiare Moana for shipping to Pukapuka and Rakahanga.

This equipment is part of the \$22-23million Northern Energy Project funded by NZAID which will see 8 solar power stations built on all six Northern Islands with two on Manihiki and two on Penryhn.

Powersmart is the main contractor. The subcontractors are Top Energy for electrical, and McDowell for civil works.

Once the civil works are done, the equipment in Pukapuka will move to Nassau then to Penryhn, and the equipment in Rakahanga will move to Palmerson then to Manihiki.

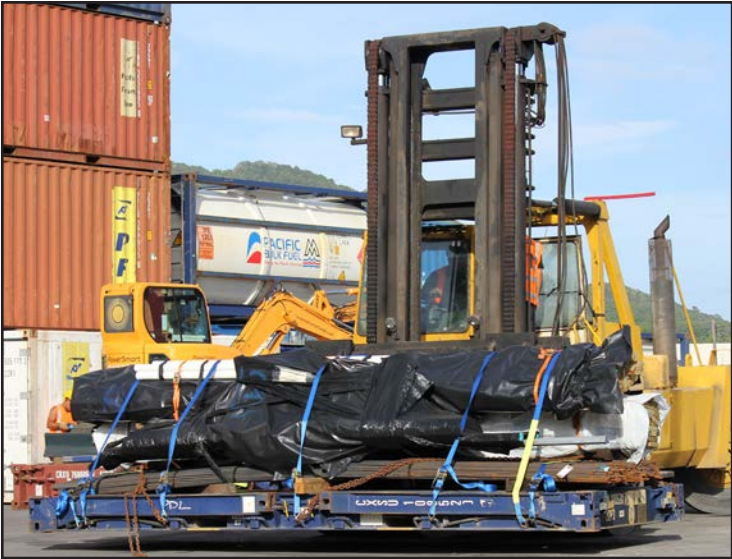
Rakahanga will be fully commissioned in early November, while Pukapuka will be full commissioned before Christmas.

The local team going to Rakahanga to do house wiring will be Nooroa Tupa, Tereora Mataio from Atiu, and Rino Mareko and Toka Toka from Manihiki.

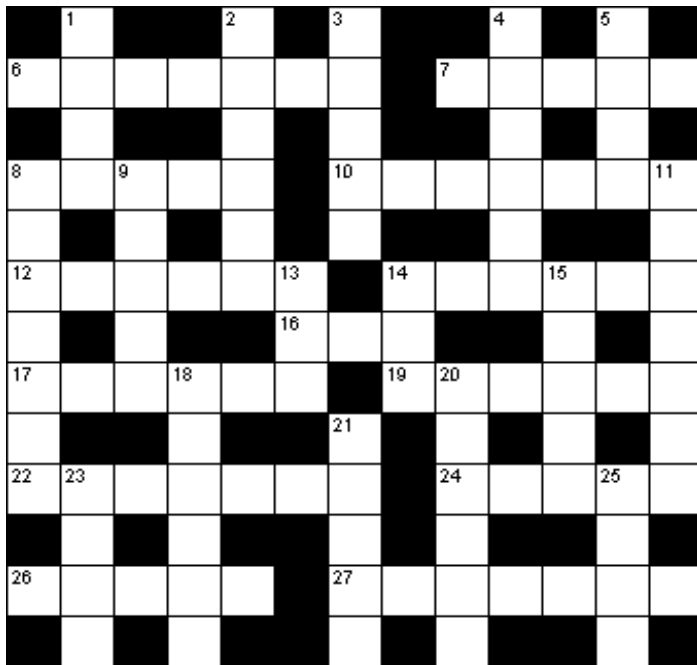
The local team going to Pukapuka will be Ngateina Rani and Paiau Pirake, Maara Ruatoe from Mangaia, and Maara Kimiora from Mitiaro.

Each island will receive new generators to go on standby alongside the solar. The old generators will be removed and sent back to Rarotonga.





CROSSWORD



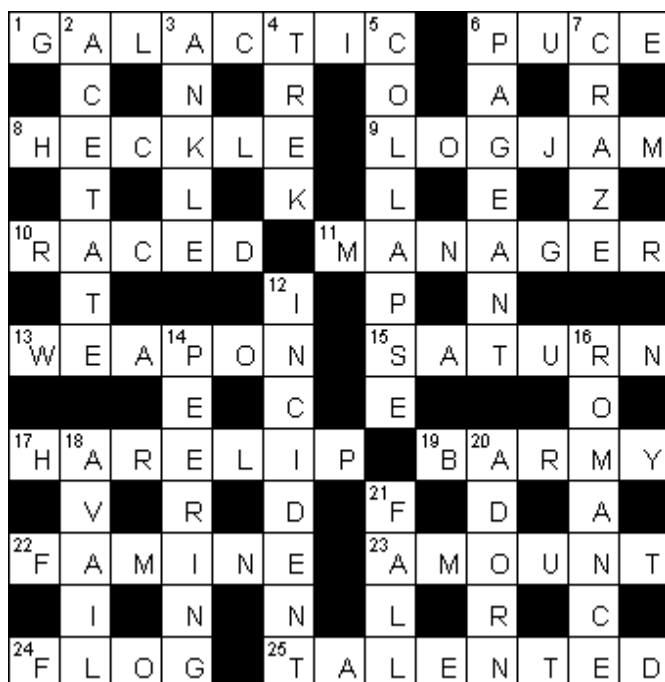
Across

6. Violent whirlwind (7)
7. Throw (5)
8. Slight sharp sound (5)
10. Trickle (7)
12. Spice (6)
14. ?-newydd, near Ruthin (6)
16. Period of history (3)
17. Horse pen (6)
19. Book of elementary principles (6)
22. Very long (7)
24. Attractive (5)
26. Bet (5)
27. Typical (7)

3. Given to moods (5)
4. Irrational fear (6)
5. Kilocalorie (4)
8. Contemptuous (7)
9. Bury (5)
11. Approaching old age (7)
13. Jelly (3)
14. Upper limit (3)
15. Females (5)
18. Person who rigs (6)
20. Infectious disease of dogs (6)
21. Subsidiary law (5)
23. Son of Isaac and Rebekah (4)
25. Near (4)

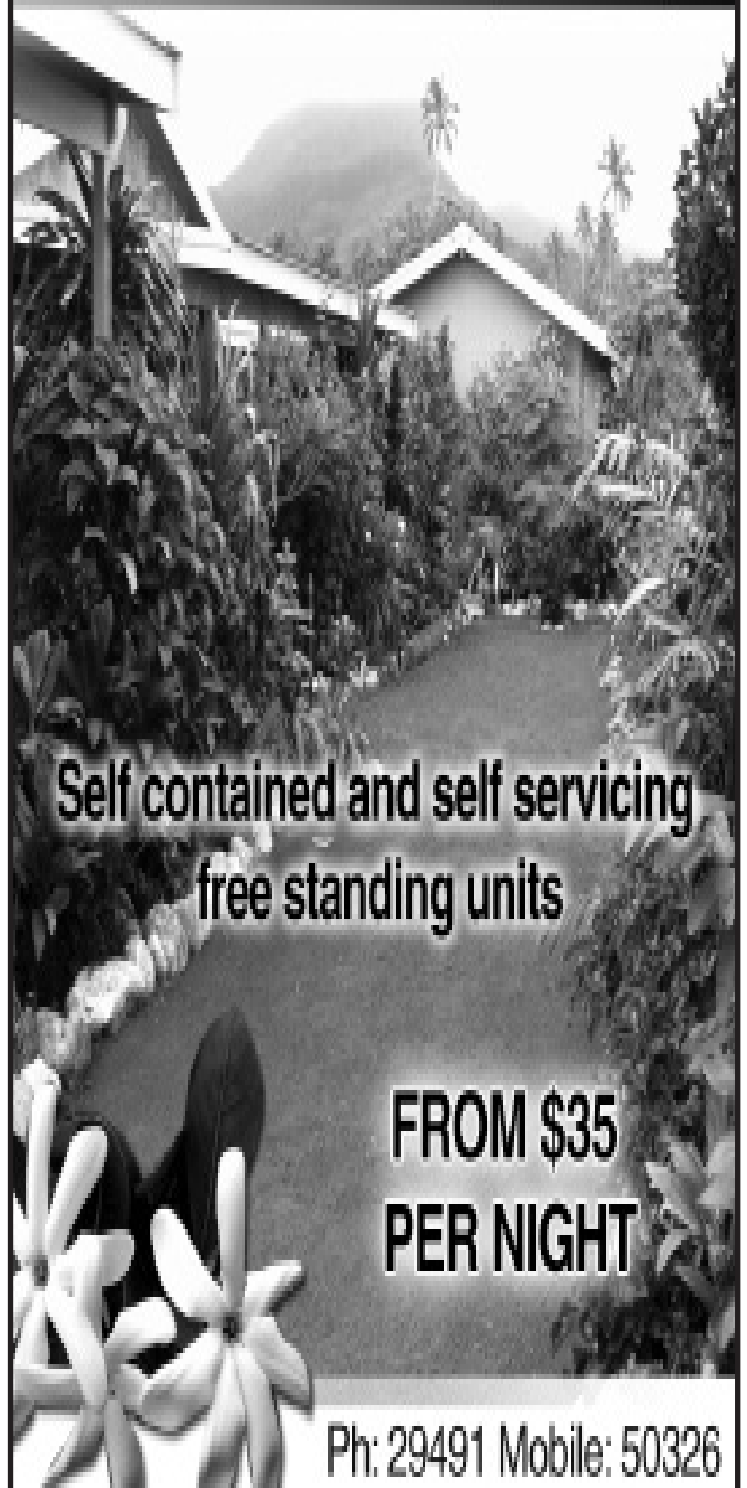
Down

1. Chicken (4)
2. Equipment for fishing (6)



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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

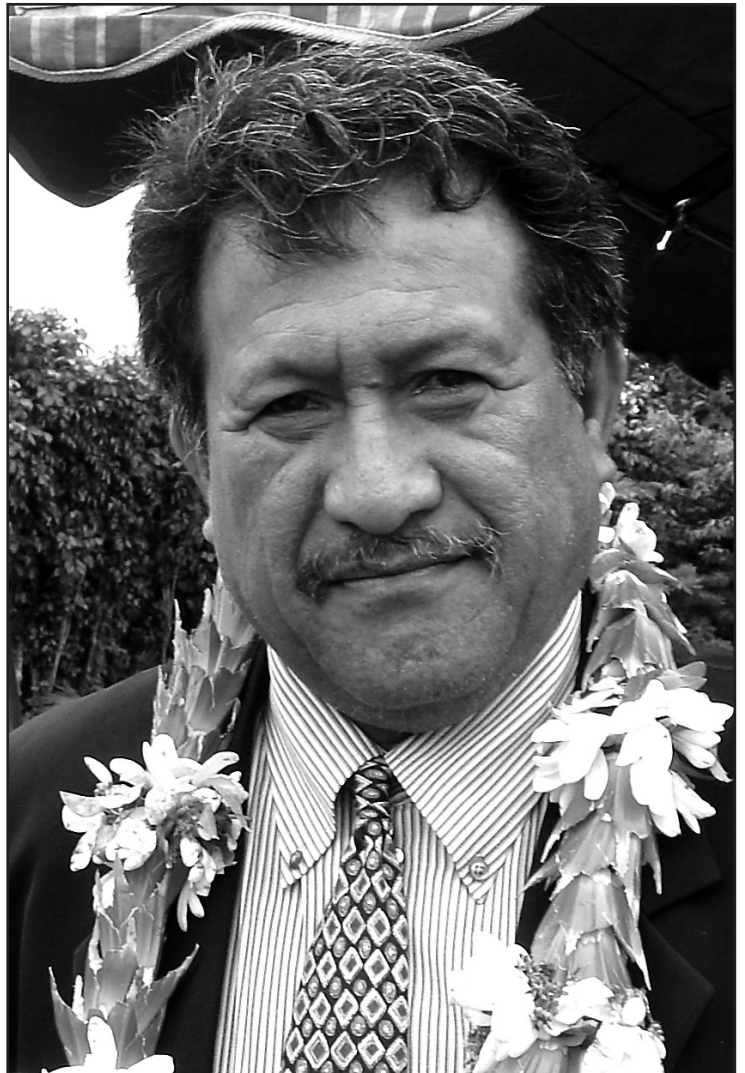
on the mind of God...Christ!' In II Corinthians 5 v.17 Paul said "Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new."

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.

Art: The challenge of the portrait



By Charles Pitt

Ten budding artists have taken up the challenge of learning about the difficult discipline of Portrait painting. Guiding them through this process is their gifted tutor, local artist Nanette Lela'ulu by way of two three hour classes per week (6pm-9pm Mondays and Wednesdays) on the upper floor of the National Museum.

Now in their second week, the class is making good progress according to Nanette. When the sessions finish in several weeks time, there may be a possibility of an exhibition of their works. That is still to be decided said Nanette. At the time the Herald paid a visit, the class was painting portraits using for reference photos from books on art. A live model was due to arrive later in the evening.

Fabulous Flying Fish

By Tiana Haxton

I wrote an article while my mum was away in Rarotonga. She was there for 10 days straight. We kept in touch by telephone. I was able to share my plans. I was feeling inspired and ready to write with a good story percolating in my mind. Mum responded with supporting suggestions. We enjoyed lengthy discussion(s) especially when i was feeling a little "out of sorts" missing mum. I'd gotten used to having her handy at home and more able to help me with my writing. Thinking back I remember announcing "The Flying Fish have arrived!"

Hearing this awesome news, um got excited too... She was ecstatic identifying

with this phenomenon taking place. Then she felt a little dismayed she was not on location on Mitiaro our island home. Mitiaro is renowned for this remarkable occurrence of nature happening here. There was no denying wanting to write about this signature event... Relive with relish and record the re-occurrences of flying fish spawning. They revisit to lay their jelly-like eggs close to the rugged reef rendering the sea frothy and foamy. This is synomonous with other sea-creatures visiting. Humpback, sperm and pilot whales can be seen lolling with their calf(s) in tow. Predator sharks chase and encircle their prey from under the sea. Dynamic dolphins and Playful

porpoise pods purposefully cruise. Especially large Spanish mackerel sporting to be game-fished. Yellow fin tuna and Albacore migratory tuna are constantly on the move. All these species are travelling, travelling perpetually around the Pacific.

Amazing.

Given there is a food chain in nature, fish are forced to flee to either race to the surface or dive deep. Flying fish hoping to get airborne in escape, and tuna dart in and out and dive to depth.

Recall the article 'Mitiaro Maroro- Flying Fish Fishing' dated August 13th 2014. This is the article i wrote in mum's absence.

While mum was in Raro, she was curious to gauge

how i coped without her writing on my own.

As was, i finished writing my first flying fish story and had already sent it to Rarotonga to contribute to the Cook Islands Herald. Mum obtained a copy there and reading my article it proved good. Mum was rest assured by my written work. This is fulfilling to me.

Since then, the fabulous flying fish have returned. This time in a much larger school. This is the 2nd month in a row-roe. Spawning on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of this month. They are back to further impress upon us humans, This has been opportune for me to further write about the fabulous flying fish.

Fishing for a story.

TE REO MĀORI KŪKI 'AIRANI



tātā'ia e Rutera Taripo

Kia Orāna `e te katoatoa! Me ko teia tō`ou taime mua ki runga i teia kapi Te Reo Māori Kūki 'Airani, "tūrou, tūrou ki teia tu`anga no te `akamātūtū `uātu rāi i to tātou reo Māori Kūki 'Airani".

Hello and greetings everyone! If this is your first time to this page Te Reo Māori Kūki 'Airani, "welcome, welcome to this section of continuing to strengthen our Cook Islands Māori language".

I teia `epetoma, kua pati `ia mai au kia `aka`oki `aka`ōu mai i tēta`i au tā`anga`anga `anga o tēta`i au kupu, tākiato `ē tēta`i au tākiato-kōrero putuputu i te tuatua `ia mē `ārāvei `ē mē komakoma ki tēta`i tangata.

This week, some readers have asked me to repeat some uses of words, phrases and sentences when meeting and talking to someone.

Tēia tēta`i au `ākara`anga:

Here are some examples:

Au Kupu - Words

`enua - island/land

`ingoa - name

tamā`ine - girl

mānea - beautiful

nō`ea - (from) where

tāne - man

pārata`ito - paradise

mata`iti - year

`akaipoipo - marry

Au Tākiato - Phrases

`enua mānea - beautiful island

`ei-tiare - flower garland

`oe vaka - canoe paddles

nū vene - sweet coconut

rā vera - hot day

tāra`u motokā - car hire/rent

tō`ou kainga - your home

aka`oro pātikara - bike riding

Au Tākiato Kōrero - Sentences

1. **Kia Orāna, ko`ai tō`ou ingoa?**

2. **`E pārata`ito mānea tikāi tēia**

3. **Nō`ea mai koe?**

4. **`E`ia ō`ou mata`iti?**

5. **Kua `akaipoipo koe?**

6. **Tei `ea tā`au tāne?**

7. **E nū vene tēna nū.**

8. **Inu `ia!**

9. **Nō`ou tēia `ei-tiare Māori.**

10. **Ka `aere tāua aka`oro`oro pātikara.**

11. **`Āpōpō, ka tāra`u au i tēta`i motokā.**

12. **Ka `inangaro au i te `aere `oe vaka**

13. **`E vera (tikāi) teia rā**

14. **Tei `ea tō`ou kainga?**

15. **Tei Arorangi tōku kainga.**

- Hello, what is your name?

- This is really a beautiful paradise.

- Where are you from?

- How old are you?

- Are you married?

- Where is your husband?

- That coconut (with you) is a sweet one.

- Drink it!

- This flower garland of Tiare Maori is for you.

- Let us go bike riding

- Tomorrow, I will hire a motor-car

- I want to go canoe paddling.

- Today is (really) hot

- Where is your home?

- My home is in Arorangi.

KIA MATAORA KOE I TEIA RĀ! - MAY YOU HAVE HAPPINESS TODAY!



Nandi safe in Atiu

Sitting MP, Nandi Glassie a Minister in the Cook Islands Party government, has survived an electoral petition brought by the Democratic Party candidate Eugene Tatuava. Glassie had retained his seat by 15 votes (88-73) but faced allegations of bribery and undue influence. The petition was heard by Justice Williams on 2-5 September and his judgment dismissing the petition was issued on 9 September. The Reasons for Judgment will be issued later. Set out is the full text of Justice Williams judgment.

JUDGMENT

[1] In the Cook Islands General Election of 9 July 2014 the First Respondent, Mr Glassie, won the Atiu constituency of Tengtangi-Areora-Ngatiarua by 88 votes to 73, a majority of 15.

[2] However, on 23 July 2014 Mr Glassie's unsuccessful opponent, the Petitioner Mr Tatuava, issued a Petition for an electoral inquiry into the result in Tengtangi-Areora-Ngatiarua alleging that Mr Glassie had committed the electoral offences of bribery (three allegations) and treating and saying that other offences of bribery and treating were reported to have occurred in the constituency particulars of which would be swiftly furnished if verified.

[3] On 6 August 2014 Mr Tatuava filed an amended Petition altering one of the original allegations of bribery to include the electoral offence of undue influence and adding a new allegation of bribery. On the basis that the new allegation may constitute a new ground for an inquiry and thus require leave under section 92(4) of the Electoral Act 2004 ("*the Act*"), Mr Tatuava also sought leave for the new allegation to be formally included in the Petition. The leave application was opposed but was granted on 26 August 2014 with the Reasons for that Judgment being delivered shortly afterwards.

[4] The Petition which was heard on Atiu and Rarotonga between 2-5 September 2014 was in the following form.

"1. Your petitioner states that the said election was held on the 09th day of July 2014 and that Nandi Tuaine Glassie was declared to be elected as a representative for the constituency of Tengtangi-Areora-Ngatiarua.

2. That he is dissatisfied with the result of the election in that:

i) **BRIBERY:**

The First Respondent committed an act of bribery within the meaning of s88 of the Act in connection with the election in that he offered to an elector office of employment:

- a) *To induce the elector to vote for him and refrain from voting for the Petitioner; and/or*
- b) *To induce that person to procure or endeavour to procure his return, or the vote of electors; or*

PARTICULARS

- a) *On or about the 2nd May 2014 the First Respondent at his Ministerial Office in Avarua, Rarotonga offered Upokoina Roland Toki (6/24) ("Upokoina"), an elector in the Tengtangi-Areora-Ngatiarua Constituency, the position of Executive Officer for the local Government in Atiu in order to induce Upokoina,*

Ngatokorua Toki (6/23) and Vaineteremoana Boaza (1/14) to vote for the First Respondent in the General Election.

ii) **BRIBERY AND UNDUE INFLUENCE:**

The First Respondent committed acts of bribery within the meaning of s88 of the Act and undue influence within the meaning of s90 of the Act in that he offered to an elector an office of employment and threatened termination of employment:

- a) *to induce the elector to vote for him and refrain from voting for the Petitioner, and/or*
- b) *to induce that person to procure or endeavour to procure his return, or the votes of electors.*

PARTICULARS

On two occasions during the month of June 2014 the Chief Administration Officer of the First Respondent telephoned an elector, Maire Tere-Evangelia George (1/22) ("Maire") at his place of work in Atiu, being the Atiu Electric Power Station, promising the continuation of his participating in a training programme associated with his employment, and threatened that his job would be terminated if he did not vote for the First Respondent, and that his expectation was that the members of Maire's family, Joy Tina Tangi Jim (6/3), Patikura Jim (2/21) Joshua John Jim (2/20) and Marona Teiotu (6/12) would similarly vote for the First Respondent.

iii) **BRIBERY:**

On or about the 02nd July 2014 the First Respondent committed an act of bribery within the meaning of s88 of the Act in directly or indirectly making a gift to the electors of Tengtangi tapere and Ngatiarua tapere.

PARTICULARS

That on or about the 25th June 2014 the First Respondent or his agents consigned two bundles of building materials to Atiu on the barge, such bundles being labelled or marked:

- a) *"Tengtangi-Tapere – from Nandi Glassie's office"*
- b) *"Piri Touna – from Nandi Glassie's office"*

For repairs and extensions to the Tengtangi tank house and the Ngatiarua meeting house in order to induce voters to those two villages to vote for the First Respondent in the General Election.

iv) **BRIBERY:**

The First Respondent or his agents on or about the 25th June 2014 directly or indirectly offered building materials or influenced the decisions to supply building materials for electors so that two residences received the benefit of grants of \$5,000.00 each used for the purchase of building materials delivered to the island of Atiu on or about the 26th June 2014.

Mock Exams! Bleh...

By Norma Ngatamariki

I know that this isn't a very popular topic with school students (You're probably like, aww not this again! Shut up, Normal!) but it's a very important thing. It could determine whether you become successful in life or not (Jokes. Exams are just a stepping stone) Some of us take the mock exams seriously, some us don't. Your attitude towards these exams will determine what your grades will be so, bear with me as I once again launch into the familiar topic of studying for your exams! Whoop, whoop!

You can't study when your siblings are running all over the place and tripping over your charger cord. Or when your mum is yelling at you to clean your room. You should really give your family a heads up on the times you study each night

so that they won't bother you as much. Maybe 7pm to 8pm will be enough (if you aren't trying to cram everything into your head all at once). Your room should be off limits to everyone but yourself. Try and tuck that phone away for at least one hour (I know it's a real sacrifice)

Another thing that could help you out is trying to find the right style of studying. Do you remember things more when you write it out? When you hear it out loud? Do you visualize the answer in your head? Do things come easier when you have your earphones in, music blasting away? (Personally, that doesn't really work for me. I end up dancing instead of studying) It's really important to find the right kind of studying style that suits you, not anyone else. It's all about YOU passing, forget about your

friends. Otherwise, you really won't have a chance at passing those exams.

I can't tell you how many times I've said this. DON'T STUDY THE NIGHT BEFORE THE EXAM! (But we still go ahead and do it. It's teenage nature) Really, you're not helping your brain. Study bit by bit each night for at least an hour. Trust me, this works wonders when you have five exams lined up, one after the other. It's easier on you than studying for eight hours straight, trying to cram Physics formulas, English essays and Geography concepts into one night. You'll only stress yourself out and not remembering anything, so don't try it.

Eat the right and proper food so that your brain can get fuelled up! Although all of us love the occasional fizzy drink and potato chip, we're really not doing our bodies (not to mention our brains) a favour. It's actually



been scientifically proven that eating junk deteriorates your brain cells faster than if you eat fruits and veggies (I'm willing to bet that even being told this, you'll reach for the nearest piece of fried chicken)

So yeah. These are just some tips (that I keep repeating each and every year to make my point) that will hopefully guide and help you during the exams.

Gala Day

By Nadia George

Last week Saturday, saw crowds of people pouring into the Trader Jacks parking lot for the final major fundraiser of the junior Ngakau toa paddling team.

The morning started off a bit too bright and early for my liking. After a quick wash and polish, I was in my team uniform and put the door. I had arrived to a team of blue, all rushing around setting the tents up, the barbeque already going and my friends Ruby and Ioana tuning up their guitars and fiddling with wires and knobs.

There were piles of clothes all laid out in a fashionable mountain and little doo-dads lining the tables. Things like books, games, phone covers and even a few pairs of shoes, could be found in our mega garage sale bundles. Bags upon bags of clothes and other items were flying out the door (or should I say tent?) and

into the cars, trucks or bikes of their brand new owners. Plates of food were also a hot topic amongst locals as orders of up to fifteen plates from one person were being quickly cooked, plated and wrapped, to yet again satisfy another generous customer.

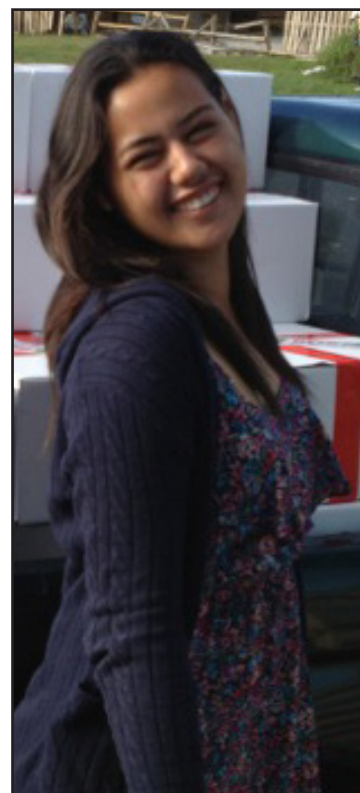
But that wasn't even the best part of the day. Oh no! If you had driven past Raro fried chicken at say, twelve o'clock on Saturday, you would've seen two stunning girls with giant colorful signs, flagging down passer-byers as they well, passed us by.

Trying to get as many customers as we could, down to the harbor to get their truck, car, bike, bus, trailer and even taxi, cleaned. I'd like to say a job well down to my fellow sign holders- Tehere Koteka and Otea Tommy. I think its safe to say that I've reached a whole new level of shameless-ness right now. Having used every line

I could think of, to try and get vehicles to stop. From the simplistic "sir or madam, we have a car wash going for only five dollars", to the more daring "sir get your car/bike washed, ladies love a clean ride", even trying the old, "spend your time in paradise on a nice clean ride". Yep it's safe to say that I'm feeling pretty invincible right now.


In total we had raised up a whopping four and a half thousand dollars, with generous donations still rolling in. So on behalf of all the juniors, coaches and parents we would like to say a big Meitaki maata to all those who had come out to support us in this last fundraiser and the past fundraisers as well. What a relief it is to know that we're almost at our target of fifty-two thousand dollars.


Its been a whole lot of stress, nagging and constant begging/persuading but with just under two weeks left to




go, our junior team is gearing up to begin their decent into Sunshine Coast, Australia.


Let the countdown begin... fourteen more days!!


Too many roosters in the Demo Party chook house is becoming a distraction, a recent letter in the editor less daily dribble attacking their rising star Jimmy Kava from the west was internally scribed. Appointed to be the spokes person on economics and development his media comments are confusing an economic expert buried in the Party. Demos got to realise it's time to start fresh and lead the reform process starting with themselves. 

Crowing about the daily dribble's vacancy ad tempting overseas journalists to come and work in paradise has seen them come only to find the work place is anything but paradise. Neighbouring businesses say for paradise there is a lot of shouting and unpleasant language heard even too much for the tenants of the shop in the front of the building which gets vacated in a regular cycle due to the heated goings on in the building. The most recent editor didn't last long much to the delight of many of the staff. Better to have a local calling the shots even if she is a bull terrier. 


Even the Demos had to feel sorry for Willie John during his petition brought against him by his former boss. While the Demos were in full support of his demise there wasn't more than two CIP cheer squad there to give him moral support. Now he's a winner he'll only make up the numbers for the CIP elite to carry on their lavish nonsense. When Glassie was under the petition pump, two of his fellow ministers were playing cricket instead of being in Court giving him moral support. What do


you expect when the love has gone out of the CIP? 

Good to see the resealing contracts of the Project City roads being advertised for tendered; the big question is what is Minita Heta's company going to get out of it? Is it a closed tender only for locals or are the Tahitians and Samoans going to be bidding for the \$6 million contracts? We all know only one local company does hot mix so what's all the mucking around for, just get on and fix the dangerous roads Heta, stop playing games with people's safety, we don't all have heavy duty \$70,000 vehicles. 


Many observed just how unpopular the 78 vote Prime Minister Elvis Eneri is, at the local market as he was doing his Saturday shopping not one person bothered to acknowledge his presence, no greetings, shaking of hands or hugs. Compare that to Norm Fu, where ever he goes he gets the works, the kisses, hugs and the laughs, not one to hang out with the high and mighty Norm is still popular with the small fries. 


Once the petition dust settles there is going to be a lot of expenses and legal


bills to pay especially if petitioners lose their cases. Had more strategic thought gone into the National Demo campaign none of the petitions would have been necessary. Had the Demos been more realistic about their petitions, there would have been only three instead of the seven. In the end it will be the faithful bottom of the chain supporters who will be paying. Rasmussen claims the Demos finances are in the black, well let's hope that's true, what about how much was borrowed for the petitions and legal costs and will it be paid back and how? Maybe Demo economist Drolley can get a real working job with his mates from MFEM. 

With Rasmussen's over stated fantasy petition defeated the Demos can now proceed without restraint to select an Opposition Leader from among their MPs elect. At \$87,000 a year plus perks there will be plenty of hands going up for the job that has no requirements or expectations to perform or get results for the first three and a half years. 

Assembled in the hallowed halls of the high law on Tuesday, Eagle Eyes up front

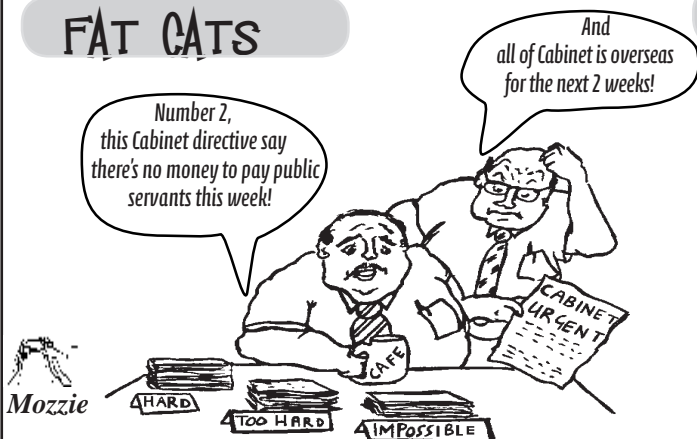
before the bench delivered the usual "turn your cell phones off" message. However, shortly into proceedings, someone's cell phone sprang into life whereupon, Eagles Eyes up front scoured the hall for the culprit. Who was it? A Demo supporter seated on the left near the back! 

Well into proceedings in the hallowed halls of the high law on Tuesday, the Chief had a problem coping with a dry throat but sadly there was no water in the jug in front of him! The Chief asked Eagle Eyes for some water whereupon JusSec's forehead formed a serious frown in the direction of Madame Registrar who hurriedly scribbled into her note pad-a note to staff? 

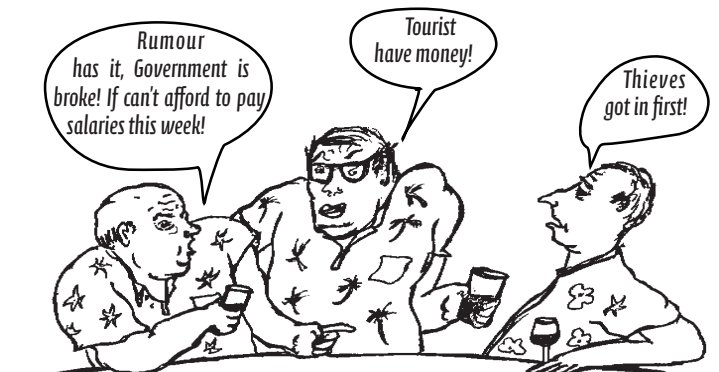
And speaking of dry throats in the hallowed halls of the high law, it was probably due to the fact the air con was not working! Sadly, the air con has not worked for several years. 

One good element of being a public servant and I am not talking about a few Ministries but quite a few because I did ask around is that staff now don't have to worry about having breakfast at home before coming to work! That's because at the work place and; courtesy of the tax payers Ministerial staff can now enjoy breakfast cereals in the morning or, it can also be your lunch menu. The list includes weet-bix, porridge and corn flakes drowned in powdered milk. There are also sweet biscuits for morning tea. You must be a public servant to enjoy all these gastronomic privileges otherwise you are missing out and again. And it's a hearty thanks to the tax payers of this country.

FAT CATS



COCONUT ROUNDTABLE



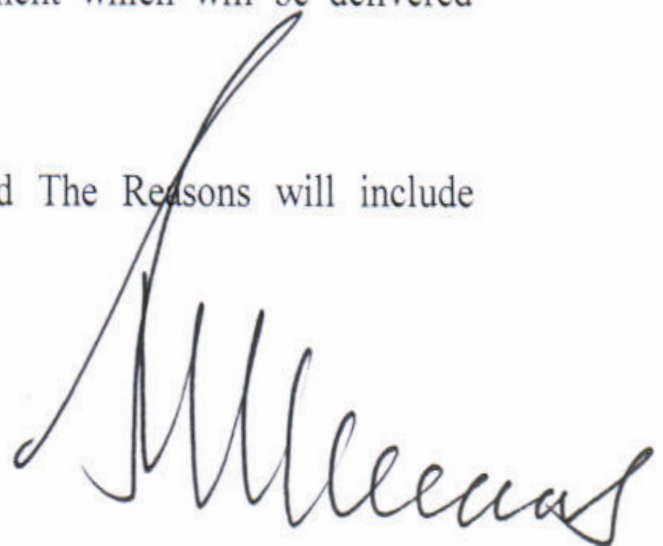
PARTICULARS

The houses in question are situated in Ngatiarua village in respect of a pensioner named Melanie Rakei (9/6) ("Melanie") and the Tengtangi village in respect of a pensioner named Aketau Matatei (VBD) ("Aketau"), such homes being also occupied by Tuaine Rakei (5/13) and Rima Punua (5/10) and Ngavaine Tei (6/8) and Teina Mata Tei (6/9) respectively, all voters in the General Election."

[5] However, during the afternoon of 2 September 2014, bribery allegation (i) was amended by deleting the names of Ngatokorua Toki and Vaineteremoana Boaza who had not been mentioned in the Petitioner's evidence and on the afternoon of 4 September bribery allegations (iii) and (iv) were withdrawn by Mr Mitchell, leading counsel for the Petitioner, for reasons which included the unavailability of witnesses.

[6] Having considered all the evidence in relation to the two remaining allegations, bribery (i) and bribery and undue influence (ii) the Court reaches the view that neither of those allegations has been made out and the amended Petition accordingly requires to be dismissed. Details of the basis for the Court reaching those conclusions will be in the Reasons for Judgment which will be delivered shortly.

[7] The amended Petition is formally dismissed. The Reasons will include timetabling orders as to costs.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Williams', is written over the bottom right portion of the text in paragraph [7].

Hugh Williams J

TE REO MĀORI KŪKI 'AIRANI



tātā'ia e Rutera Taripo

Kia Orāna `aka`ōu `e te katoatoa i tēia rā! I roto i te kapi Te Reo Māori Kūki 'Airani, no tēia epetoma, ka tītau `uātu rāi tātou i te `akaaraara i tō tātou vaerua Māori i te `eangaanga, i te umuumu pū i te `inangaro tikāi i te `akamātūtū `uātu rāi i to tātou reo mānea te reo Māori Kūki `Airani”.

Once again hello and greetings to everyone today! In this week's page Te Reo Māori Kūki `Airani, we will continue to keep our Maori spirit alive with the emerging yearn for and desire of continuing to uphold, speak and strengthen our beautiful Cook Islands Māori language.

Mei te `enua mai o Tongareva te karanga nei tēta`i ngā vānanga pakari, sumaringa `ē te `o`onu ā tō tātou `ui-tupuna:

- **Aue te kakara i angi mai mei silo, kua topa ki nā tapatapa ō te ao nei**
Kua uiui te noho o te henua, “`Ēi auē...`eaha tēia?”
- **Kia mau te Selenga, kia mau te napenga. Kia mau.**

From the island of Tongareva, a couple of beautiful wise sayings of our ancestors say:

- *Oh how sweet is the fragrant from silo (a very special place), it has spread throughout the world. Those living on land are asking, “Oh ...what is this (sweet smell)?”*
- *Secure the tie, secure the knot. Secure it.*

Pati atu ki tēta`i tangata no te `enua Tongareva kia tatau i tēia vānanga kia koe, kia rongo koe i te mānea o te tangi o tēia reo.

Ask someone from Tongareva island to read this saying to you, so you may hear the sound of the beautiful dialect of Tongareva.

`E mānganui `uātu rāi te au Kōrero Pakari ā tō tātou au tupuna i runga i te au `enua tātakita`i i roto i tō tātou `ipukarea Kūki `Airani. E mea tau rāi `oki kia `akangāteitei `ē kia ngakauparau tātou i te kite-pakari, kite-`o`onu `ē te tū-kama`atu ō tō tātou `ai-tupuna no tā rātou i `akaruake mai kiā tātou kia `āpi`i atu ki tā tātou au tamariki. Kia `akameitaki `ia rātou! Te `akaaro`a!

There are many Wise Sayings of our ancestors from each island in our paradise Cook Islands. It is appropriate for that reason that we respect and be proud of the deep knowledge and wisdom that our ancestors passed on to us today to teach our children. Bless our tūpuna! Te `akaaro`a! ... how grateful we are!

`Inārā, auraka `oki tātou kia vai`o`ua i tēia ki konei, māri ra, kia tā-`anga`anga tātou i te reira, kia ranga atu tātou, kia tāmoumou i tēta`i o te au Kōrero Pakari a tō tātou au `ui-tupuna, na roto rāi `oki i te vaerua umuumu i te parau `anga i te aruaru `uātu rai i te tuatua putuputu`anga i tō tātou reo tātakita`i o tō tātoa au enua i te Kūki `Airani nei. Nō reira kia koe tēia ...!

However, we must not just leave this here, we must make use of this, research it, learn some of the Wise Sayings of our tūpuna through aspirational spirits in being proud to regularly speak our individual dialects of the Cook Islands. Therefore this is with you...!

Kia Upokotū `uātu rāi tō tātou Reo!

Let our language continue to flourish!



VACANCIES



**MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS
Te Tango Ropianga**

Consultancies - "The Business Needs of Cook Islands Women Entrepreneurs".

Applications are invited from qualified consultants to apply for research and analyst positions to produce reports which will compile a research report entitled "The Business Needs of Cook Islands Women Entrepreneurs".

The purpose of the Gender Project is to help to develop an enabling environment that will encourage women to participate in the economic development of the Cook Islands. This initial report will provide the background on which future project activities will be based – providing information and recommendations that will support the start-up of new business opportunities for women in the Cook Islands.

1) Researcher - Financial institutions: to provide a comprehensive investigation into financial institutions, services and resources

2) Researcher – Training and Capacity Building: to provide a comprehensive investigation into business and financial literacy needs with recommendations about how business training needs can be addressed both on Rarotonga and in the Pa Enua.

3) Researcher –policy review and analysis: to provide a comprehensive investigation and review of the policies of government agencies and private sector, to ascertain their concurrence with the National Gender Equality Policy.

4) Technical consultant: to scope the information system needs of the Cook Islands Statistics Office and to make recommendations on improving data collection systems form key Ministries in relation the gender and violence-related data.

5) Researcher – Business Environment: a desk analysis of all the above findings with recommendations for building capacity for women entrepreneurs in the Cook Islands.

Applications close on Friday September 12, 2014. For more information please email the Project Coordinator, maureen.hilyard@cookislands.gov.ck or phone 54641.

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Public attending the petition hearings were amused to see and hear the Demo Party Leader Rasmussen sleeping on the job in the Court. Fortunately his deputy was beside him to disturb the noddly sessions. Either the proceedings were boring or he's been having a lot of sleepless nights worrying about a future life without the lavish trappings. 

The Court room was full to the brim after the Demos sent text messages to all to attend to celebrate the petition victory by their Leader only to be stunned into reality they had gathered to witness the announcement of one less lawyer in Parliament. Chief advisor Drolley's in the bag predictions of a landslide victory is fast becoming a landslip defeat, crow about false prophets. 

Pre election, with both Parties expected to have a huge majority that could exclude One Cook Islands MPs turning into uncertain gut retching anxieties; the secret talks are alive and growing by the day. Doors are being knocked on, offers have been whispered and brokered deals are being implied. One thing's for sure, the CIP won't be able to keep their lot together if the unpopular Elvis keeps clinging to his now 75 vote leadership. Don't be surprised if Teina gets offered the top job to return to the fold. 

Before the elections the gathering of Demo candidates were photographed on the steps of the Court House giving the victory two fingers salute, then after the big drubbing by Willie John the group photo had the losing Demos smiling with a new hand gesture of thumbs up. Drolley's biggest smile is because he's got another four years in the opposition trough at \$1,134 a week plus expenses job thanks to the tax payer, and who said crime doesn't pay? For all the voluntary petition work the Don is doing it won't enter the conniving mind of Drolley to split the money with him. 

The few CIP supporters who consistently fronted up to court to support their MPs fighting for their political survival are deeply disappointed at the lack of unity and solidarity. Bulldozer Heta the wanna be X factor Prime Minister lost a lot of ground by his absence, just too busy counting his Te Mato Vai Chinese contract millions of dollars. 

With 21 days in which to lodge an appeal, the Demo camp commandants are considering their options for their party leader. The plan is to consult some greater legal minds overseas, possibly some renowned constitutional law types who actually have some clues. Then there's the matter of costs. Costs to cover the petition and the appeal if there is one! More raffles for Ed? 

Trouble in ranks for the ruling CIP cabal! Their leader has no sense of duty and still refuses to fall on his sword-for the good of the party! Whispers of a change in leadership can't be ignored. What's more, at the recent SIDS chin wag in Samoa, the PM spread the word that he was the PM not some caretaker!