

COOK ISLANDS HERALD

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Murdered multi millionaire had Cook Islands link



Robert Ellis pictured with his wife, Noor Ellis, who police say masterminded the murder.

Locals who learnt through the international media former Cook Islands resident Robert Ellis was murdered in Indonesia last week are saddened and shocked. Before he made his fortune in Indonesia, the sixty year old Ellis worked in senior management for Cable and Wireless now Telecom Cook Islands during the 1980s. A British and Australian citizen Ellis' body will be flown to New Zealand to be buried by his two sisters who live there.

A multimillionaire businessman, Ellis was murdered in Bali and dumped in a rice field, allegedly on the orders of his wife.

Robert Kevin Ellis, 60, was found with his throat cut and covered in plastic and a bed cover in a ditch within a rice paddy about two hours' drive from Denpasar last Tuesday. His

hands and feet were bound.

His wife, Julaikah Noor Aini, 45, was arrested later that day and police say she masterminded the murder and paid her housemaid's boyfriend, Adrianus Ngongo, \$3100 to kill Mr Ellis. Noor is also alleged to have paid the same amount to up to seven other "executioners", including two maids. She denies the allegations.

Police are considering charging Noor with premeditated murder, which can carry the death penalty.

Ellis is remembered by locals for his generosity when they visited Indonesia, one couple who did not want to be named said when they visited Bali they stayed in a luxurious beach front mansion he owned at his insistence free of charge. Ellis was known to have lavished Cook Island visitors with overwhelming hospitality of the highest standard.

Ellis' Indonesian wife Noor of 25 years is known to a circle of local friends as along with her husband she has holidayed in the Cook Islands. All are devastated to learn she has been arrested for alleging the masterminding of his execution. Noor told Police she felt embittered and wanted to take over her husband's assets. She complained Ellis was frequently cheating on her. Bali Police claim Noor had confessed to organising her husband's murder.

A neighbour of Mr Ellis and Noor told the Australian newspaper the couple had been having problems. Mr Ellis wanted to end the marriage and had applied for Indonesian citizenship so he could transfer their property from her name to his, the man said. Under Indonesian law, Mr Ellis could not own property unless he had citizenship. The couple have four

children.

After leaving the Cook Islands, Ellis lived in Australia for 15 years before heading to Indonesia where he had resided for the last ten years. In Indonesia he bought a business supplying and maintaining telecommunications equipment. The timing was fortuitous and Ellis made millions from the enterprise. His wealth continued to grow through investments in airlines and hotels including commercial acquisitions in Australia and NZ.

In a statement released by Ellis' family, they said his business had created jobs for thousands of Indonesians. "He was a good and honourable man.

"His integrity, generosity and spirit is evidenced by the way the business community both expat and Indonesian, have rallied to support us and to pay their respects. - George Pitt

Are our antibiotics effective?

By Charles Pitt

From time to time medical specialists come from New Zealand to perform operations or do examinations at Rarotonga Hospital.

These regular visits are most invaluable, welcomed and appreciated.

Recently, there have been a number of instances where that may warrant closer examination by our Health officials in conjunction with medical experts from New Zealand.

There are instances where antibiotics prescribed locally, have not had any effect.

Some patients referred to NZ or opting to seek medical treatment in NZ have mentioned that when asked by NZ doctors to produce the medication they have been prescribed, report that the NZ doctors have transferred them to new drugs. There was an instance just a week ago when an elderly Cook Islands woman was taken by her daughter to NZ at her own expense for a medical check up because her condition was not improving and locally

prescribed medication appeared to be having no effect. The woman was prescribed different medication and her condition has begun to improve. Another patient reported that the doctor he consulted, threw the locally prescribed pills in the rubbish bin and he was prescribed new drugs.

To cite my own case involving a cut on my leg, local doctors changed the antibiotics presumably in the hope one would have some effect. In the end, after over a month of trying various antibiotics, one doctor went back some years into my records and came across an antibiotic I had been prescribed and that was tried. It worked, and my wound began to heal after 4 days.

The point here is that can we afford to let patients suffer and deteriorate while medical practitioners look for an effective antibiotic? This is no reflection on the capability of our medical staff but rather on the antibiotics we have been supplied with.

Recently, the Herald asked Secretary of Health Liz Iro

whether it was time a serious examination was done of the antibiotics we are using to determine if other types are needed or would be more effective.

Iro advised that the matter of infections and the prescription of more antibiotics is one which is resource challenged. She commented that the infection and antibiotic resistance patterns has resulted in the Ministry of Health sourcing the expertise of an infectious disease specialist to work with staff in the laboratory, pharmacy and doctors on the matter.

The Ministry she said faces further challenges such as the need to modify antibiotic dosing in obese patients, reduced access to laboratory testing, reduced access to some expensive antibiotics and the difficulty convincing patients to take all of their medication.

Iro is currently awaiting approval of a proposal for this study to be conducted in the Cook Islands from WHO and NZ and is hopeful this will be forthcoming before the end of this year.

She said it was difficult for her to comment on the cases mentioned above but understands that there are various issues that could contribute to each case. She advised that treatment guidelines are in place for clinical presentations and blood culture and swabs for cultures if taken can have results that identify antibiotics which are sensitive to that particular infection. This helps guide the doctors in their prescribing.

Iro said a specialist and a study that crosses lab, antibiotics prescribed and prescribing practices of doctors, is timely and needs to inform our practice.

Letter to the Editor

Standard of work on water project questioned

Dear Editor,
I refer to the front page story on T.M.V. in the CI News of Wednesday 29 October 2014- "Work not up to international standards."

The ring main I believe is specified to meet New Zealand and Australian standards.

John Batty's job was to ensure this was happening in the field by directly observing pressure testing, you cannot do this with photographs (as there are so many ways to manipulate the pressure gauges). If the line is passing the required tests, sections will now be signed off by K.E.W. and this documentation should be available for all to see.

For John Batty to be asked to leave, there has to be something to hide, I wonder what it is. Project City 2 Pipeline was pressure tested to 12 Bar to pass its testing phase.

There are a lot of rumours going around T.M.V. is struggling to reach 6-7 Bar while under test.

If this is the case the job should be stopped until all work is brought up to standard.

Landholdings had 2 x stop work notices during Project City 2 for having too much untested line in the ground.

I guess at the end of the day the poor old tax payer will pick up the tab for more substandard work- by, we all know who.

Bill Doherty



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Preparing for power outages ...



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Remember. Cyclone season is almost here. Know your connection number.

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Local women's rugby in survival mode



Puai Wichman and his Expendables; the "Royals" sevens squad bonding over the weekend.

While Cook Islands women's rugby sevens was represented in a recent overseas tournament dominated by non resident players, back home women's sevens rugby is all but extinct. Four years ago in 2010 at a tournament in Malaysia, the CI woman's team won the Plate and came third overall beating Samoa and Tonga in the process. That team was comprised of seven local players and five Cook Islanders from overseas.

Within a year, Women's Rugby Sevens was spiralling downward while Samoa and Tonga were improving at an alarming rate. At the 2011 South Pacific Games in New Caledonia the Cook Islands

Team finished well out of the medal results an embarrassing fifth only ahead of Tahiti out of the six teams.

At an Oceania Women's sevens tournament in Australia (Noosa) in October 2014 out of the seven teams the Cook Islands finished sixth. Only two players were locals, the rest were New Zealand and Australian Cook Islanders.

For the last two years the Sevens in Heaven Rugby tournament has had no provision for women's teams. It was announced in 2013 this year's 25th anniversary would see the return of the popular women's component.

Unless there are some late

entries only three women's teams will be competing this year. One Cook Islands team has withdrawn leaving two overseas teams in the mix. Local women's sevens enthusiasts Tai Wichman and husband Puai have put their hands up to enter, train, coach and sponsor the sole Cook Islands entry called FR (Fitness Revolution) Royals. Due to the lack of interest three players have been imported to bolster the six locals who turned up for their first training last Saturday at Avatea School in Nikao still leaving the team three short in their squad.

On Sunday afternoon the team got together socially for team bonding and to welcome

the imports. On Monday two training sessions were held to simulate the two games they are expected to play on Friday. One observer at the training sessions said the team members were young and may lack experience but there was no shortage of enthusiasm.

Former players and supporters are reluctant to go on the record and comment but there is a strong feeling that blame rests at the door of the Cook Islands Rugby Union for the lack of interest at the top. It starts with the Management at the top and the results are seen at playing level they argue. Not enough has been done by

continued next page

the CIRU to grow and develop women's rugby; it's easier to rely on overseas players to represent the Cook Islands at international tournaments.

Local players are being denied the opportunity to represent the country because of the prioritising of funding being for the men's teams and the excuse women players lack the skills to be competitive beyond the local scene. Both Samoa and Tonga have surpassed the Cook Islands in ranking because they have developed the local talent and provided regular in country tournaments to lift the skill base.

There is a perception that the annual Sevens in Heaven tournament is riddled with conflicts of interest because it is run by the CIRU President Lara Sadaraka's company under contract to the CIRU. While that may be the view of a few folk, those with some sort of memory recall say it's the best thing to have happened for the annual event. If it hadn't been for Sadaraka's intervention to privatise it long before she was elected the CIRU President, the Telecom sponsored international tournament would have died an unnatural death.

The tournament is now a major event on the Rarotonga sporting calendar that contributes to our tourism driven economy. It's too big an occasion to be administered by volunteers and for the spectator value the commercial benefits are of no real concern. It's a huge undertaking that won't

be sustainable if it wasn't commercial driven with the backing of sponsors.

Such is the state of women's rugby; enthusiasm by those involved at player and club administrative levels has seriously waned. What's needed say the few remaining interested

There is a perception that the annual Sevens in Heaven tournament is riddled with conflicts of interest because it is run by the CIRU President Lara Sadaraka's company

contributors is a relaunch of the sport with a local competition that includes an Aitutaki team. We have to get past blaming and finger pointing for the demise of Women's rugby sevens. Thick skinned individuals have got to step up to the plate and find away to make the sport work.

Throughout villages in Fiji, Samoa and Tonga some sort of a touch and sevens rugby hybrid game with as many on each side as want to join in is played out during the week evenings, the regularity of participation has been the platform for the unstructured development

Manusina is represented by local players.

IRB Women's Rugby Sevens is now a professional sport with the announcement of six tournaments a year held throughout the world. There are numerous international tournaments held in every region as well. Like our men's team there is no reason why our women cannot aspire to perform at international tournaments. So what if we initially get beaten by cricket scores, ten years ago teams like the USA, Canada and even Samoa were in that position but the consistency of opportunities has seen sevens rugby flourish globally to the extent it has been admitted as an Olympic sport.

On our day the Cook Islands men's sevens team has beaten a few tier one teams including the 2010 World Champions Samoa.

If the CIRU cannot see a way for them to take women's sevens beyond its current position then let a group of focused people in partnership with the CIRU be responsible for the development and promotion of the sport. CIRU CEO Ben Koteka said efforts to commit local Rugby clubs to support women's rugby sevens have been very disappointing.

Is it the Cook Islands offers such an agglomerate smorgasbord of sporting codes to chose from that no one sport can attract sufficient numbers to be competitive? Are we a victim of our demographics?

- George Pitt

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Our Frontpage model Budget Announcements



Our frontpage model this week is Rereao Vano. Rere is happily married with 3 kids and works at The Islander. Check out our website www.ciherald.co.ck and facebook page: www.facebook.com/ciherald

Half a million dollars being earmarked for the 2015 celebrations (\$250,000 in this year and another \$250,000 in next FY)

The national celebration to mark the 50th anniversary of self-government will be the biggest yet says the Prime Minister, Henry Puna, and government will put aside half a million dollars to help pay for it.

The three weeks in August next year will be very special, says Puna. The Ministry of Culture will be responsible for bringing our people from all around the Outer Islands to Rarotonga for what promises to be the most extraordinary and largest Te Maeva Nui since the Constitution Celebrations began.

Additional resources of \$250,000 will be allocated in the 2014/15 budget to be tabled in Parliament this week, and a further \$250,000 will be allocated in 2015/16.

To help mobilise the massive effort, and manage the various components of the national events for 2015, the Prime Minister has announced that local entrepreneur Nicholas Henry would be in charge of coordinating the planning and organisational work.

Atiu to get a new crusher

Member of Teenui-Mapumai Atiu, and Deputy Speaker of the Cook Islands Parliament, the Honourable Rose Toki Brown is proud to announce to the people of Atiu that funding is being made available for a new crusher in Atiu and for the sealing of the air strip.

One million dollars is being made available over two years to commence preparing the Atiu airport runway to a state that it can be sealed. The purchase of the crusher to provide the required aggregate for various projects on Atiu will significantly improve the ability of the Island Council to undertake roadwork and other repairs.

Much needed heavy equipment will be shipped over in the new year to compliment the efforts of the crusher, including a 14 tonne excavator, a 10 tonne roller, an 11 tonne grader and a 10 tonne wheeled loader.

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Te Aponga not so bad after all

Next time there is a malfunction in our electricity generation system that results in a power outage, don't be so hasty to criticise our local utility Te Aponga Uira or even get upset. Spare a thought for New Zealanders in Auckland, they are being told by the power network Vector's

chairman to expect power cuts and get used to them and actually plan for them. In other words don't even complain just be accepting it's a normal part of life.

This year there has been only one electricity outage that involved only one of the Islands six feeders. There have been no Island wide outages for 2014.

The outage on 3 October was only for 18 minutes during the mid evening.

Te Aponga's CEO Apii Timoti said despite the complexity of the integration and intervention of solar generated electricity into the existing grid there have been no outages related to the process. "We are going where we

have never been before and are making significant adjustments but our meticulous preplanning and preparations have ensured the grid has not been disrupted with outages".

The NZ Herald article has been printed to give a global perspective to our local electricity supplier. - George Pitt

Get used to power cuts, Vector chairman says

Thursday Oct 23, 2014

Power cuts are a part of life and Aucklanders should get used to it, says Vector chairman Michael Stiassny.

Vector bosses spent much of yesterday's annual meeting in Auckland discussing the fire at a substation in Penrose on October 5 that cut power to 85,000 customers.

Mr Stiassny and Vector chief executive Simon McKenzie were unable to say what caused the fire until an investigation was completed, possibly early in the New Year.

Only then, Mr McKenzie said, could the company discuss compensation for households and businesses, some of whom were without power for several days.

Compensation could take the form of the "Vector promise" of \$50 for households and \$200 for businesses. It would be premature to speculate on compensation above that, he said.

Affected businesses and homeowners have demanded compensation from whoever is responsible for the network failure. Paymark figures showed that the outages caused an estimated \$4.3 million drop in spending on October 5, a busy

Sunday trading day.

Coralie van Camp, a Vector shareholder and longtime critic of the power network company, told the meeting that people could have died due to poor maintenance at the substation.

She criticised Vector for paying out too much in dividends instead of investing in maintenance.

Mr Stiassny called it a serious incident that could have been worse, but said the company and electricity users could not afford a gold-plated network.

It would cost \$500-\$600 million for Vector to upgrade each of its 14 substations to achieve reliability above 100 per cent. State-owned Transpower, which provides bulk electricity to Auckland, would have to spend more, he said.

The company produced figures showing people in the affected areas had had 99.8 per cent reliability of power in the past 15 years.

But Mr Stiassny, whose home in St Heliers lost power during the outages, said power outages were a part of life and people should get used to it and plan for them.

The accountant said he had partial power from investing in a Vector solar panel and battery



Vector chairman Michael Stiassny

package.

He was able to run a small fridge, his son had a television to watch the NRL league final and the family had a barbecue, but he got told off by his wife for opening the freezer.

Mr McKenzie said Vector had a cable expert from the UK in Auckland looking at the site, taking damaged cables back to the UK for forensic analysis.

The company, he said, wanted to wrap up the investigation quickly.

Auckland's black Sunday

- Power goes out to swathes of Auckland on October 5.

- Outages due to fire at Penrose substation.

- Vector and Transpower investigating cause of fire.

- Vector accused of putting dividends ahead of maintenance.

- Vector says gold-plating network would cost billions of dollars.

- Chairman Michael Stiassny gets by with solar power during black-out.

Bernard Orsman is Super City reporter for the NZ Herald.

Conservation delegation meets PM

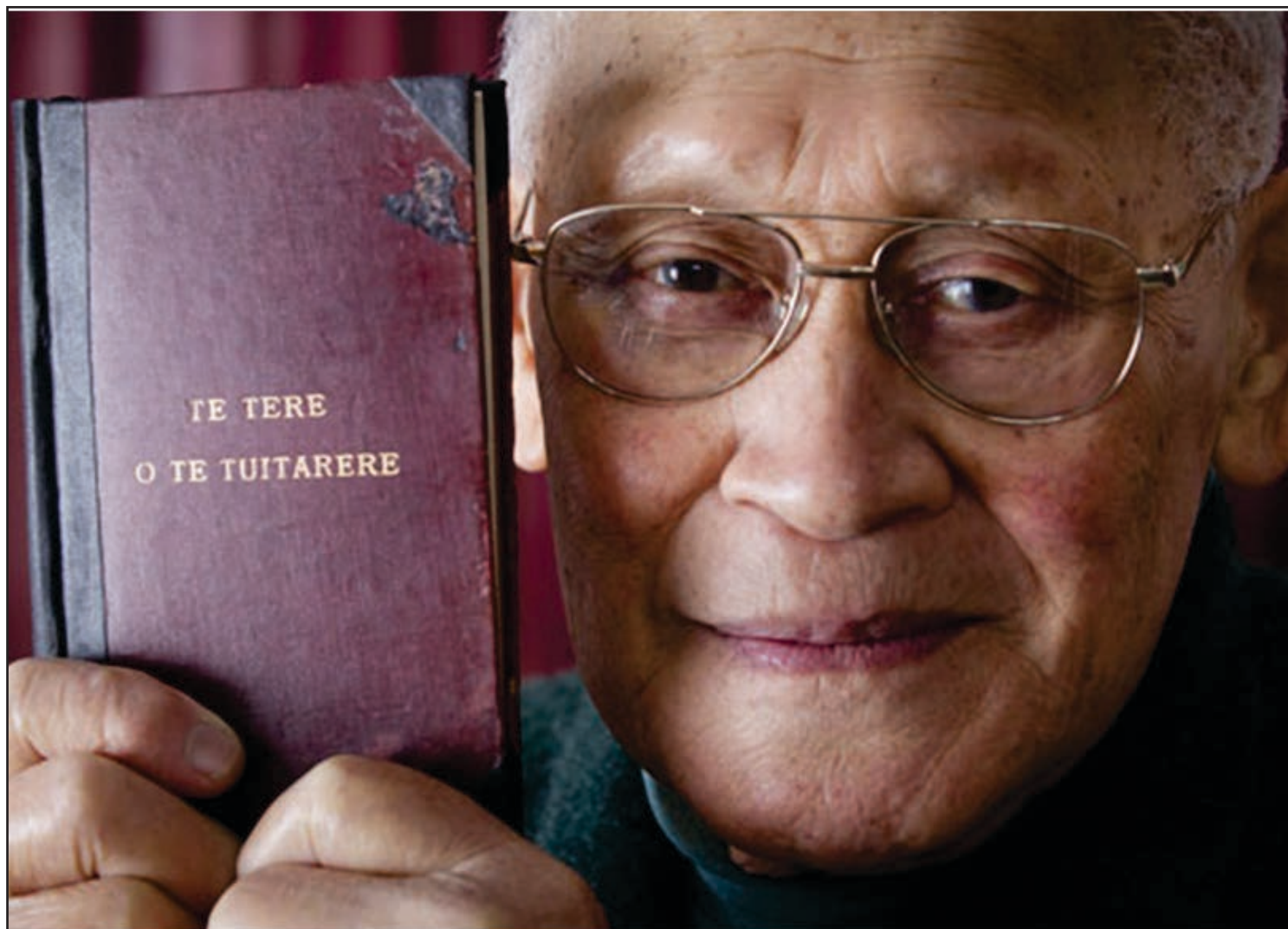


The Prime Minister hosted a delegation from Conservation International on Wednesday morning, which also involved a session with the Cabinet. The CI delegation includes Rob Walton (from the Wal-Mart founding family) and CI CEO Peter Seligman. The US-based organisation is on a brief visit to the Cook Islands having arrived from Kiribati last night. They will be in Rarotonga for two days for meetings with various stakeholders on Marae Moana and Cook Islands' efforts to promote our protected area into a world-wide beacon for conservation and sustainable development. The Prime Minister said he was grateful for this opportunity to meet the CI delegation and talk about the importance of building and developing our marine park for the benefit of future generations.

Scenes from Monday's Nuku



‘Priceless’ book used in Cooks a century ago



MAARTEN HOLL/ Fairfax NZ

TIM DONOGHUE
29/10/2014

REMARKABLE **PROGRESS:**
Tengaepu o te Rangi Tararo with his Cook Islands version of The Pilgrim’s Progress, published in 1892 and restored by Akatarawa bookbinder Bill Tito.

It cost just \$10 on Trade Me, but to Tengaepu o te Rangi Tararo it’s a book worth much more than that.

It’s a version of John Bunyan’s The Pilgrim’s Progress written in Cook Islands Maori and published in England in 1892 for use in Sunday schools and religious classes.

“It’s priceless. It’s part of our

history. I’m delighted by it,” he said, after daughter Dorothy Hosking presented it to him.

She had found it on the auction website.

Hosking had it restored by Akatarawa bookbinder Bill Tito, who also said the book was remarkable.

“It’s the first time I’ve seen anything like this in the Cook Islands language. It’s nice to be able to restore a book like this. There’s a real good feel factor about it.”

Te Tere o te Tuitarere was published by the Religious Tract Society, in conjunction with the London Missionary Society, for

distribution throughout the Cook Islands.

The Pilgrim’s Progress was first published in 1678, and was begun while Bunyan was in jail for breaches of religious law. It has been translated into more than 200 languages.

Tararo, of Ascot Park, Porirua, was born on the island of Mauke in the Cook Islands in 1931. He said that as a Presbyterian, he did not get to spend too much time at Sunday school in his youth.

“I only had three years at school. I was not well in my younger days. We had no doctors on Mauke and a lot

of my generation died young because of it.”

When he arrived in New Zealand in 1961, he left about 1000 people living on Mauke. “There’s only about 300 there now,” he said.

Reading the unusual book in his own language had forced him to think about the island life he reluctantly chose to leave behind all those years ago.

He wants Hosking to make the decision about what eventually happens to the book. “She gave it to me, so I’ll leave it to her to see whether it stays in the family.” - *The Dominion Post*

Increased Funding For Health - A Healthier Cook Islands

The Honourable Nandi Glassie, Minister of Health announced today that funding for health would be increased in the 2014/15 Budget.

"I am very glad to outline that additional funding for the Cook Islands Nursing School will be provided from 1 January for another tranche of 12 students. Currently we have 11 students at the nursing school, these young people come from all over the Cook Islands including Atiu, Mitiaro, Mangaia, Rakahanga, Pukapuka and Penrhyn and are expected to fully graduate into the nursing system by end of 2016. I am told that this week they they will be starting clinical work."

The additional funding of \$50,000 in 2014/15 and \$97,000 per annum will bring the Cook Islands component of the nursing school to \$235,000 per annum, and will provide for an additional twelve students to join the nursing School from January 2015.

Elizabeth Iro, the Secretary of Health outlined that additional funds on top of the ongoing money for equipment would be also be provided to the Ministry for the purchase of a much needed new immuno assay analyser and laparoscope machine. The analyser is the major piece of equipment used for doing blood tests. It assists in screening everything from blood donors to patients suffering from metabolic disorders. Ms Iro pointed out that the current Immuno assay analyser (Elecsysys 2010) had been in use in the Rarotonga Hospital laboratory since March 2003, but that the current supplier of the analyser Roche Diagnostics NZ Ltd has indicated that they will cease support of this analyser towards the end of 2014.

The laparoscope machine will be an updated piece of equipment which will enable an improved quality alternative surgical technique for both diagnostic and therapeutic surgical procedures using keyhole surgery which will lead to faster patient recovery, shortened hospital stays, reduced inpatient costs and improved cosmetics results.

Minister Glassie also pointed out that the Cabinet had approved the fit out of the pharmacy at the Rarotonga Hospital. "This builds on the recently completed renovations of the outpatients part of the hospital"

Additional laptops and computers will also be purchased to replace old and out of date ones in both the Pa Enua and the Ministry. Minister Glassie outlined that he was looking forward to the continued improvement in the delivery of health services to the people of the Cook Islands.

Education Budget at Record Levels

Minister for Education, the Honourable Mona Ioane outlined additional funding which would be provided for the Ministry of Education to financially support students in the Pa Enua to successfully continue their senior secondary education at an accredited College offering the final years of formal schooling (normally Tereora College).

Families hosting students providing them with room and board as well as pastoral and other support during their time in Rarotonga were previously paid \$50 per week, this will now be increased to \$100 a week. Under this improved scheme, 95% of the funding is distributed to caregivers and students (for personal items). The remaining five per cent is utilised to meet the cost of the students' NCEA fees and course materials. In addition, this scheme also meets the cost of return transport (by air where possible) from students' home islands.

On average around 45 students benefit from the support of the allowance, which amounts to around \$0.230 million.

Actual budgeted spending on education (which excludes depreciation) will amount to just over \$14 million, the highest amount ever allocated for Education. Education spending will represent approximately 13 per cent of government's total appropriation and if we exclude the cost of the underwrite of the long haul services to Los Angeles and Sydney, that percentage rises to almost 15 per cent.

The total personnel budget of \$9.6 million in the Education Ministry amounts to nearly 21 per cent of the government's total personnel budget. A further \$4.4 million is provided in operating expenditure and payments to private schools.

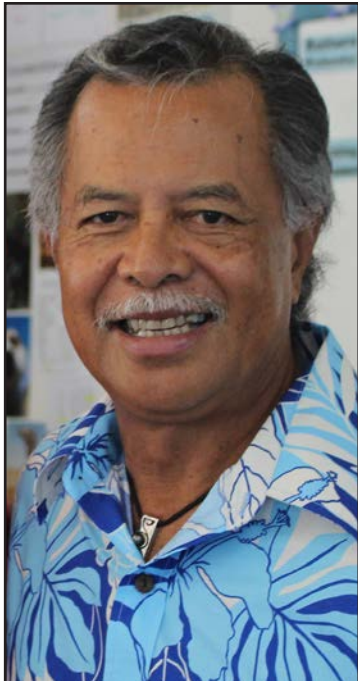
Minister Ioane pointed out that there was always more pressure to put money into Education.

"Education is an important investment in our people, there is always a need for more. Excluding the underwrite, the Cook Islands dedicates 15 per cent of our own expenditure into that investment is not out of step with other nations. For example, the New Zealand Treasury outlines in the functional categorisation for expenses in 2013/14 that education was just over 14 per cent of total expenditure."

A further \$221,000 will be provided over the next three year period to upgrade ICT equipment. This is on top of the annual \$110,000 which the Ministry normally gets for equipment purchases.

Under the Cook Islands Party, the Ministry of Education was quarantined from savings which were applied to many other agencies, and in the last budget (2013/14) teachers' base salaries were increased by \$1.3 million.

Parliament kicks off with a whimper not a bang



PM Puna - Sick of listening to Opposition's silly questions



Mark Brown - This government walks the talk



Teina Bishop - Fast becoming the Elder Statesman



James Beer - Beginning to ask probing questions

By Charles Pitt

The House is back in session but the opposition did not leap out of their seats all guns blazing when business resumed on Tuesday at 1pm.

The stand out speakers for the opposition this session were James Beer (Demos) and Teina Bishop (One Cook Islands Movement -OCIM). These two with their attention to detail and procedural matters look likely to be the ones who will keep government and parliament on its toes.

Opposition speakers Albert Nicholas and Cpt Tama spoke well for new MPs. Aunty Mau was not in the House, being on sick leave.

Even Speaker Mrs Rattle was left "off the hook."

The Prime Minister Henry Puna tried to inject some life into what was essentially a "soft" session, by lashing out at the Demos.

Finance Minister Mark Brown, like the lonely Sheriff who steps out onto main street at high noon for a gun fight, also tried to draw

some old fashioned scornful retaliation by listing the progress made by the CIP government in completing projects that had languished for years under a Demo government. However, the bullets did not come as Brown listed; the Employment Relations Act-10 years in limbo under the Demos, Minimum Wage Act-idle for 6 years, Education Act-idle for many years.

Brown capped it off by saying, in provocative fashion, "It's a reminder this government walks the talk!"

Speaker's announcements

The session proper commenced with several announcements by the Speaker. She acknowledged the concerns raised by James Beer at the last session regarding procedural matters. She indicated it was very important to look at these concerns and do more if possible. She mentioned obtaining advice from Crown Law.

She said Crown law advice was that the Speaker was properly appointed under Article 31 of the

Constitution and in accordance with Standing Orders (SO) 8/9. Advice was SO 9/10 and 397 did not apply.

She said much had been said in the media but procedures had to be decided in parliament and it was now the end of this concern.

The Speaker invited all members to attend the MFEM briefing on the Budget on Thursday to receive clarification on the Appropriation Bill.

The Speaker then paid tribute to several notable passings, the first being a very moving tribute to former Clerk Nga Valoa whom she said was a person of great distinction and humility. Valoa she said had treated parliament like his family and he had nurtured the nation's leaders year after year. Valoa had served parliament for 40 years and prior to that had been a school teacher for 10 years.

She said Interpreter Bobby Turua was greatly missed and was very conscientious.

She paid tribute to Papa Henry and former Secretary

General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Dr William Ferdinand Shija of the Tanzanian parliament.

The Speaker also made mention of her own Aunty who was recently laid to rest in Manihiki.

The House then observed a minutes silence and there was a prayer by Tekei Lazaro (CIP-Pukapuka).

Question time

Ngatangia Demo MP Captain Tama asked Minister Nandi Glassie if the election process for the Speaker was constitutionally legitimate and correct.

Glassie responded that this was one of the simplest questions and referred to the explanation given earlier.

Tama asked a supplementary question whether the election of the Speaker should have been by majority vote of the members present. Tama said the Clerk failed to put the Speaker's nomination to the vote.

Glassie raised a point of order

continued next page

saying government got 12 votes which was a majority.

The Speaker then said the two questions had been answered by the advice received from Crown Law and there was to be no further discussion.

Smiley Heather (Demos) then rose to confirm that at this session he was the Leader.

The Prime Minister then spoke of his appreciation for Nga Valoa.

Smiley Heather interjected saying the PM was telling stories in question time.

The PM then responded that he was sick of listening to silly questions from the opposition about the Speaker's election. He said it was as though the opposition had total ignorance. The impression was that they were brighter than Crown Law.

Beer raised a point of order saying the PM was not asking a question but making a statement.

The PM then responded by asking if the MP for Ngatangia was aware of inconsistencies in the constitution regarding the election of the Speaker. He said if only the PM can nominate the Speaker, what was the point of an election? He said there was no need for an election if only one person was nominated. His question was, "Are the opposition aware of the inconsistencies in the constitution?"

Beer, responding, asked if the election was procedurally incorrect and if it should be done again?

The PM said inconsistencies were common in the Cook Islands.

Beer asked if our laws should be fixed instead of parliament side stepping them. He asked that if the PM nominates the Speaker and no one votes, does the PM have to nominate someone else? Beer then asked the Speaker to table Crown law's opinion in the House.

Smiley Heather raised the question of what happened to some \$500,000 worth of materials left over from the construction of the indoor sports stadium. He said the items removed included welding rods, steel rods, steel sheeting.

Minister for Sport Mark Brown

has undertaken to make enquires and report back to the House.

Business of the Day

Minister Mona loane tabled the Arbitration Amendment Bill No 2, 2014 to be heard forthwith.

Minister Brown presented two papers:

the Public Expenditure Review Committee and Audit paper No 14 regarding the appointment of Director, and

The Customs Tariff No 3, paper No 15.

Arbitration Amendment Bill No 2, 2014

Minister loane commenced with a moving tribute to Nag Valoa, paying respects to Valoa's family.

He introduced the Bill as one which would resolve employment issues, restore

Smiley Heather raised the question of what happened to some \$500,000 worth of materials left over from the construction of the indoor sports stadium. He said the items removed included welding rods, steel rods, steel sheeting.

confidence among the legal fraternity, enable the country to compete in the global market, resolve disputes between governments, employers, companies, by providing a cost effective alternative means to court action.

Beer said he agreed with the Bill but queried a procedural matter to do with the notice required under Standing Orders. Beer said while the Order paper was dated Tuesday, SO 224 required 24 hours notice. He asked if SO 224 had been suspended.

There was a brief pause while the Speaker and the Clerk conferred.

The Speaker was overheard to say, "How did we not do this?"

The Speaker advised notice had been given and the debate

continued.

Following the afternoon break at 3pm, Teina Bishop spoke on the principles and merits of the Bill. Firstly he explained the matter of the sale of fish from the Chinese Huanan vessel in Aitutaki. Bishop explained that the Arenikau Fishing Association purchased the by-catch from the Chinese for \$5 per kilo. This price barely covered the costs incurred by the Chinese in wharfage fees and other costs. The Association then on-sold the fish to Aitutaki businesses for \$7 per kilo. Of this amount, \$5 went to the Association and \$2 to the fishermen. When sold, the income for Aitutaki fishermen was approximately \$10,000.

Turning to the Bill, Bishop asked why section 5 was

global region and in providing a legal framework.

Minister Mark Brown began with greetings to his electorate and a prediction the Reds would win the upcoming sevens. He commended the Manea Games committee for a very successful games in Mauke.

Speaking to the Bill, Brown said it was a straightforward Bill. He said it was one of many Bills over the past four years to correct things needing correction and to change things. He said the government was big enough to make the changes when needed. For example, the 100 year old Customs Act was repealed and updated. Government passed the new Health Act and new Police Act for the benefit of the people of the country. It passed the Loan Repayment Act to protect public funds.

Addressing Bishop's two queries, Brown confirmed section 5(1) repeals the entire 2009 Act so the 2014 Act can take effect.

Section 5 is backdated to avoid any legal issues with the old Act. He said when the 2014 Bill was amended, the clause to repeal the previous 2009 Act was not inserted.

Brown said more Bills would be introduced over the next two weeks.

George Maggie (OCIM) rose in support of the Bill. Firstly he greeted his electorate-Vakatini and the Mataiapo, the elders, young people and his papa'a friends. Maggie said he is now known as "Mr 500" (referring to the votes he received, actually 498) –previously he was known as the "Action Man."

Speaking in support of the Bill, Maggie mentioned his experience in mediating disputes and other issues. Alcohol was a main problem he said. He said you could not always rely on Police to solve problems.

Maggie said he drank alcohol for 24 years but has been sober for 25 years. He said the cost of cigarettes had risen through increased levies but not the cost of alcohol. He said no accidents were caused by smoking.

(Proceeding).

backdated to 9 April 2014 and if s5 repealed the whole of the 2009 Act.

In reply, Minister Glassie began with a tribute to Nga Valoa and mentioned the need for young people to have regular medical checks to detect illnesses at an early stage for treatment to be effective. He also lamented the road accident rate to young drivers.

Glassie then addressed his Atiu electorate highlighting government's achievements with the new highway, upgraded airport and new crane for which he thanked the people of Aitutaki. He also expressed condolences to the Kautai family for their recent loss.

Glassie spoke to the Bill emphasizing it's importance to trade in the Pacific/Asia and also

Australian Letter of the Year

This is an actual letter sent to the DFAT (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) Immigration Minister. The Rudd Government tried desperately to censure the author, but got nowhere because every legal person who read it nearly wet themselves laughing

Dear Mr. Minister,
I'm in the process of renewing my passport, and still cannot believe this.

How is it that K-Mart has my address and telephone number, and knows that I bought a television set and golf clubs from them back in 1997, and yet the Federal Government is still asking me where I was born and on what date?

For Christ sakes, do you guys do this by hand?

My birth date you have in my Medicare information, and it is on all the income tax forms I've filed for the past 40 years.

It is also on my driver's license, on the last eight passports I've ever had, on all those stupid customs declaration forms I've had to fill out before being allowed off planes over the past 30 years.

It's also on all those insufferable census forms that I've filled out every 5 years since 1966.

Also... would somebody please take note, once and for all, that my mother's name is Audrey,

my father's name is Jack, and I'd be absolutely astounded if that ever changed between now and when I drop dead!!

S...! What do you people do with all this information we keep having to provide??

I apologize, Mr. Minister. But I'm really pissed off this morning.

Between you and me, I've had enough of all this bulls...!

You send the application to my house, then you ask me for my f..... address!!

What the hell is going on with your mob?

Have you got a gang of mindless Neanderthal arse holes working there!

And another thing, look at my damn picture. Do I look like Bin Laden?

I can't even grow a beard for God's sakes.

I just want to go to New Zealand and see my new granddaughter.

(Yes, my son interbred with a Kiwi girl).

And would someone please tell me, why would you give a shit whether or not I plan on visiting

a farm in the next 15 days?

In the unlikely event I ever got the urge to do something weird to a sheep or a horse, believe you me, I'd sure as hell not want to tell anyone!

Well, I have to go now, 'cause I have to go to the other end of the city, and get another f..... copy of my birth certificate - and to part with another \$80 for the privilege of accessing MY OWN INFORMATION!

Would it be so complicated to have all the services in the same spot, to assist in the issuance of a new passport on the same day?? Nooooo, that 'd be too f..... easy and makes far too much sense.

You would much prefer to have us running all over the place like chickens with our f..... heads cut off, and then having to find some 'high-society' wanker to confirm that it's really me in the goddamn photo! You know the photo, the one where we're not allowed to smile? You f..... morons.

An Irate Australian Citizen.

P.S. Remember what I said

above about the picture, and getting someone in 'high-society' to confirm that it's me?

Well, my family has been in this country since before 1850!

In 1856, one of my forefathers took up arms with Peter Lalor.

(You do remember the Eureka Stockade!!)

I have also served in both the CMF and regular Army for something over 30 years (I went to Vietnam in 1967), and still have high security clearances.

I'm also a personal friend of the president of the RSL and Lt General Peter Cosgrove sends me a Christmas card each year.

However, your rules require that I have to get someone "important" to verify who I am;

You know... someone like my doctor - WHO WAS BORN AND RAISED IN F..... PAKISTAN!!!..... a country where they either assassinate or hang their ex-Prime Ministers - and are suspended from the Commonwealth for not having the "right sort of government".

You are all f..... idiots!

Changes to employment contract review

From 1 November 2014, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration will no longer require the Ministry of Internal Affairs to check employment contracts before it issues a foreign worker's permit. This responsibility is being placed on the parties of the employment contract, or their legal representative.

For the past several years, the Immigration Office has required the vetting of employment contracts by the Labour Division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs before a foreign worker's permit has been issued to ensure that the contract meets minimum legal employment requirements.

This review of contracts by the Ministry of Internal Affairs is not a legal requirement of the Employment Relations Act 2012, or the previous Cook Islands Labour Ordinance 1966.

This change reflects that the scrutiny of employment contracts is the primary responsibility of the employer and the worker. The Government does not have a direct role in that relationship.

For the past month, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration have been advising employers that the current service of reviewing contracts through the Ministry of Internal Affairs is

being phased out and will be discontinued from 1 November 2014.

Employers and workers will need to seek independent legal advice in future regarding the legality of their employment contracts within the laws set out in the Employment

Relations Act 2012.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs will continue to provide information on the Cook Islands Employment Relations Act 2012. Further information on employment related information can be found at www.intaff.gov.ck.

New Hope Church

Parekura Conference Centre

Inspirational messages to uplift and empower you

Sunday at 10.30am

Movember is a time to think seriously about prostate cancer – Derek Fox shares his experience

There was a time when I had as big and bushy a moustache as you'd find anywhere, check out the picture, and I had it for a while too –over thirty years. My older children didn't know a time when I didn't have one; but then one day out of the blue, I shaved it off.

I haven't decided yet, but I may just grow it back again next month for Movember. Just as we're coming to the end of 'Pink October' the month to draw attention to and educate people about breast cancer, next month we do the same to raise awareness and warn men in particular about prostate cancer.

Movember is a bit of fun, a chance for blokes to give their facial hair free rein, but prostate cancer is deadly serious, as deadly for men as breast cancer is for women.

It's a fundraiser too but raising awareness and getting very reticent blokes to go and get checked out is the really important thing.

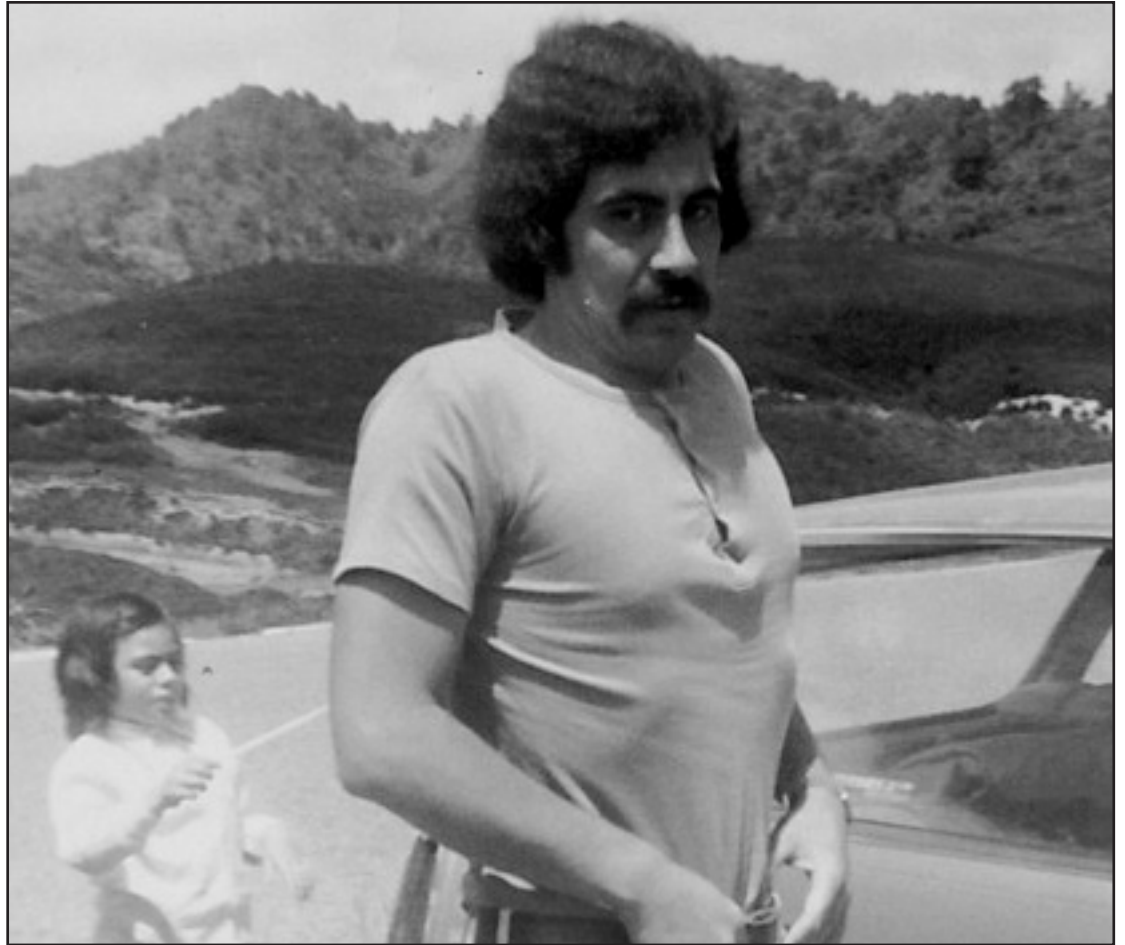
We talk a lot about prostate cancer, but what is a prostate. Well it's the gland that transports sperm during ejaculation. As men grow older it naturally enlarges and sometimes presses down on the tube that carries mimi to the bladder causing all sorts of problems.

There are highly visible and hard to ignore signs that a bloke has got an enlarged prostate gland, I know I've been there.

First of all you could be having the urge to mimi often; having to get up several times during the night for example, and often with very little output.

An enlarged prostate and the symptoms I outlined above don't automatically mean you have 'cancer', and like all conditions like this, early detection and treatment work best.

When I started having those symptoms I knew I had a problem that needed seeing to and consulted my doctor early. He had some tests taken and referred me to a specialist. I was a little lucky in that many



Derek Fox

years before I'd taken out health insurance. The specialist told me I had three options, firstly do nothing, second take pills to alleviate the condition – but there was a warning that that could affect blood pressure and finally surgery using a laser.

In reality there was only one option, surgery. It was done pretty quickly, there wasn't any sign of cancer, and I got back to having a decent mimi a reasonable number of times a day. Everything else worked fine too.

The point of my story is to encourage the blokes out there who have the symptoms I've outlined to go and see your doctor – now. You ladies might need to give a bit of encouragement too.

Blokes over 40 should have a prostate check along with their regular health check – that's something you should do too. By

the time we're in our mid-70's one in six men are liable to have prostate cancer. It's a killer of men, but just like breast cancer early detection and intervention is hugely beneficial.

I've lost some pretty good mates to prostate cancer, I don't know whether it would have happened anyway, but I do know they ignored all the warning signs and by the time they sought help the writing was on the wall. Who knows what might have happened had they checked earlier.

Don't let that happen to you, get to spend more time with your mokopuna, get checked out a.s.a.p.

I'm still thinking about that moustache, the last one I had was black and bushy – I got a feeling this one could be grey.

Some Background notes

Movember is about bringing men's health issues into focus

and this year we're focusing on prostate cancer. To register to become a Mobro you can visit the CITC Pharmacy or do it online at movembercookislands.com - it's free to register you just need to be clean-shaven on the first of November, and raise a minimum of \$30 to get your Movember t-shirt.

If you can't grow a Mo - you can support our Mobros by donating to their efforts and supporting the campaign. All funds raised go to the Cook Islands Prostate Cancer Foundation outreach programmes and education.

Local businesses are encouraged to support their staff and run in house sponsorship competitions to help them raise the funds.

We've got George George on board as our Ambassador he'll be rallying blokes to join the campaign. George can be contacted on 55 898

Scenes from Monday's Nuku



A quiet school holiday period in Mitiaro

By Tiana Haxton

Mitiaro/Nukuroa has a population of about 170. A quarter of this number endeavoured to attend the 'MANEA Games 2014'. The Mitiaro contingent of about 40 participants travelled to Mauke where this year's 'fun' Games was hosted. They went by boat and plane. Another 20 people of Mitiaro descent who live in Rarotonga made concerted effort(s) to travel and contribute to the team. Together, at 60 strong, they represented our home island within 'The Inter-Southern Group Tamataora.' They were away for the entire School Holidays. On Mitiaro this period has been particularly quiet.

This is not unusual. It is atypical of Mitiaro especially when 'team Mitiaro' travels in number to Rarotonga for 'Constitution Celebrations' or goes 'tere tere' for other reasons. They leave family and friends to maintain ways of life here. Family and friends who are entrusted to visit the older generation and assist them where necessary in the absence of their nearest and dearest. They are also called upon to feed and water livestock; to keep family and to secure homes. Often, there is official avenue to look and listen out for updates or progress reports over phone and/or radio; of those away.

A week before the school holidays, Mum's sister arrived from NZ. She is following her heart and coming home to live. We relate; having also moved here to live; four and a half years earlier. She is an awesome aunt, practical, and with positive energy. She insists that we stay with her at her new place with 'phase one' of her build previously complete and before launching into 'phase two'.

It's been a fabulous month living together. The adults have endless tasks to continue on

with and have to actively make 'build free' time. A good time to pause for a picnic lunch at the beach on the other side of the island. This is the perfect opportunity for shell collecting, sand sculpting, rod fishing and a swim. We kids feel included. We help out with the usual chores at home, we need help with school homework and I am assisted with my writing of topical stories for the paper; we behave for the most part. For us, the highpoint of the holidays was being presented with new modes of transport for our old bicycles have been outgrown and are broken down or derelict.

I now have a 'DAYTONA' replica of a Swiss Army Bike with foldable and compact features. I must mention it's valve cap with dual function as lights for added visibility. These lights are friction activated and flash on and off; electric blue. This groovy silver bicycle used to belong to my Granddad who kept it in immaculate condition. He lives in NZ and was ready to part with it and gifted it on to me. With moving country, Auntie was resourceful to carry it all this way. She even sourced a MADD scooter for my 8 year old brother Clay so he too could be super impressed with owning and sporting new wheels...he is learning and practicing new tricks and stunts. Already, he looks like a whiz though he has scraped knees.

We are back to school. It is great to hear first-hand accounts of the MANEA Games Sporting events and happenings of team Mitiaro while they were away. They are pleased with their collective medal haul of 5 gold, 7 silver and 8 bronze; kia upoko tu. As a reminder, lime green 'team uniforms' are worn by the athletes or recent travellers... when they are out and about, their shirts spell NUKZ POWER ...



TE REO MĀORI

Tātā'ia `e Ruterā Taripo

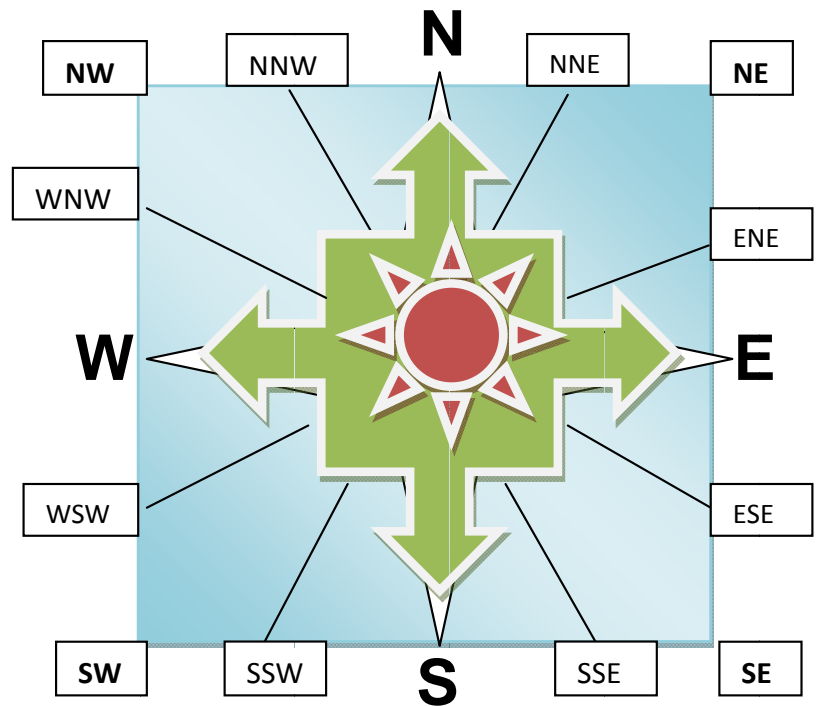
E tu`anga `akamātautau tēia na tātou no te au ingoa `ē pēra katoa no runga i te Rua Matangi i te Kūki `Airani nei.

This section is to assist us in becoming familiar with the Cook Islands names of the winds and also their directions.

Ko te au Rua Matangi Rarotonga tēia, e tā`anga`anga putuputu`ia nei i Rarotonga nei i runga i te nūti Rātio `ē pēra katoa i runga i te nūti `āvata- teata no te tūranga o te reva.

These are particularly the main Rarotonga Wind directions or channels that are frequently used here in Rarotonga on Radio and Television News Weather forecast.

<u>English</u>	<u>Māori</u>
N	AKARUA
N.N.E	Maoake ma Akarua
N.E	Maoake
E.N.E	Maoake Opue
E	MARANGAI
E.S.E	Muri Marangai
S.E	Muri
S.S.E	Tonga Opue
S	TONGA
S.S.W	Raki
S.W	Iku
W.S.W	IKu kaka
W	PARAPU
W.N.W	Tokerau Ngae
N.W	Tokerau
N.N.W	Tokerau-Tu



Tēia katoa tēta`i au kupu pu`apinga nā tātou i tēia rā, `ē kāre tātou e tuatua putuputu ana, pēnei kāre rāi tēta`i pae i kite, me kore pēnei te varenga `ua nei i te tā`anga`anga i te au kupu `Ingareti.

Today, here are some important words for us, and often we do not use them, perhaps some of us do not know them or perhaps just too used to using the English words.

Te au Tuātau o te Mata`iti

The Seasons of the Year

Raumati	- Summer
`Iringa	- Spring
`Akaā`u	- Autumn
Paroro	- Winter



Living above average

part 2

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

God never meant for you and I to live an average life. We are designed for excellence!

God called us to do great works for Him, He purposes us to be achievers! Too often God's people settle for less, too often we are self accepting of a lot less than God has for us. In the Old Testament Book of I Chronicles 4v.9-10 is a story of a man called Jabez (Iabeza). The question is "What sets Jabez apart from the crowd?" Here in the midst of 600 other names, his name stands out as a man who was above average. If we want to start living above average:

1 WE NEED A DREAM!

Jabez had a Dream that God would give him more land! In I Chronicles 4v.10 Jabez called to God "...Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory." If you don't have a life dream then I encourage you to seek God earnestly in that direction. People who have a dream stand out in the crowd. Dare to dream of something great for your life, dare to dream great works you can do for God. Jabez thought big and he spoke big "...bless me and enlarge my territory..." In v.10 it says "...so God granted him what he requested."

2. WE NEED A GROWING FAITH

We need to believe that God can accomplish the dream through us. Jabez not only had a Great DREAM, but he CONFESSED it. The Book of Romans tells us that "Faith comes by hearing..." (Romans 10v.17). As we CONFESS our Dream we hear it, and we become inspired, and we become committed to it! It charges us with hope and belief that it can be accomplished. In Mark 9v.23 Jesus tells us that "Everything is possible for

him who believes." No dream is without it's opposition, that's why Jabez said, "...keep me from evil..." Jabez was a man of no special talent but he had a growing faith, he believed in his confession to God.

3 WE NEED A GENUINE PRAYER LIFE.

When we first read Jabez's prayer, we think he is selfish, because he wanted more than he had. Yet, God approved what Jabez asked. Ambition is neither good or bad, but it is the motives behind it. Proverbs 16v.2 (CEV) tells us that "...the Lord is the judge of our motives." James 4v.2(b)-3 (CEV) says that "...you won't get it by fighting and arguing. You should pray for it. Yet even when you do pray, your prayers are not answered, because you pray just for selfish reasons."

It is not so much what we ask for, but rather the motive behind it! If it is self glorifying, self promotion, self pleasing, then don't expect God to bless you! If it is within the scripture of ...seeking first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness.. then God will pour out His blessings upon us!

In a genuine prayer life before God, Jabez shows us THREE Things we can pray for.

First, GOD'S POWER in our lives! Jabez prayed "Oh, that you would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory..." More land means more power! Jabez needed more power than his own to accomplish his dream! Ephesians 3v.20 (CEV) says "...His power at work in us can do far more than we dare ask or imagine."

Secondly, we can pray for GOD'S PRESENCE in our lives! Jabez said to God (v.10) "...that Your hand would be with me..." More responsibility means a greater need for

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi



God's presence. Being successful can often cause us to become independent of God rather than depending more upon Him. Too often we call upon God when we're in trouble. God wants to be in our successes and failures! If we do not desire God's presence in our successes, then pride has taken charge of our lives.

Thirdly, Jabez prayed to

God "...Keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!" Jabez prayed for GOD'S PROTECTION over his life. We too should do the same. Remember, pray for GOD'S POWER Pray for GOD'S PRESENCE Pray for GOD'S PROTECTION. May these words encourage and help you live above average to do great things that God purposed for your life.

The Final Days... Long weekends

By Norma Ngatamariki

Hey there! So how was everybody's long weekend? It was probably a much needed holiday for all of us and a well deserved one too. I just want to mention that I only have SIX official days of high school. That's some scary stuff, right? I can't imagine a life without teachers who are always on your case, meeting assessment deadlines and driving my bike on the main road. Next year, it's going to be a totally different story. I'll be catching a bus instead of riding a bike and the lecturers in Uni won't care if you don't hand in your assignments (means less work for them).

It seems like it was only yesterday when I arrived at Tereora for the very first time (When it was actually five years ago. I'm so old!) I was a junior squirt and I was intimidated by everything in sight. Now, five years later, I made it to Year 13 without dropping out or repeating a level. I am so proud of these achievements. Now, alongside eight other people, I am a potential scholarship recipient for the Cook Islands. To sum it up, I've done pretty well as a senior student of the national college.

I've applied at exactly three universities in New Zealand. Auckland, Waikato and AUT. I have, by some miracle, been accepted into one of the courses at Waikato. For me, this feels like I'm taking a major step towards my future as a successful career woman. If I'm truly honest with myself, I am still debating on whether or not to accept that scholarship. I know I'd be an idiot to turn it down (I mean, hello! You are basically getting PAID to go to school!) The scholarship has its benefits, but it also has limits. Argh, it's



so hard to decide!

Right now, all of the Year 13 students are getting ready for the item that'll be performed for the prize giving day. Since it's our last year ever, all of us have surprisingly made the effort to attend the meetings and practices. I'm really glad that we got started early, because I don't want to perform something that was put together last minute. I don't want to be remembered as the "last minute dance crew from 2014."

With that being said, my days of attending Tereora are coming to an end. The senior prize giving as well as the NCEA exams are just around the corner and I'm not sure if I'm ready for it. What if I don't get an invite? What if I fail my exams? I'm always asking these questions in my head and wondering what the answers are. The fact that this is my final, FINAL year of secondary school is just flat out scary. I won't be coming back after the school holidays. I'll be on a plane, heading off for one of the most recognised and well renowned universities in the world.

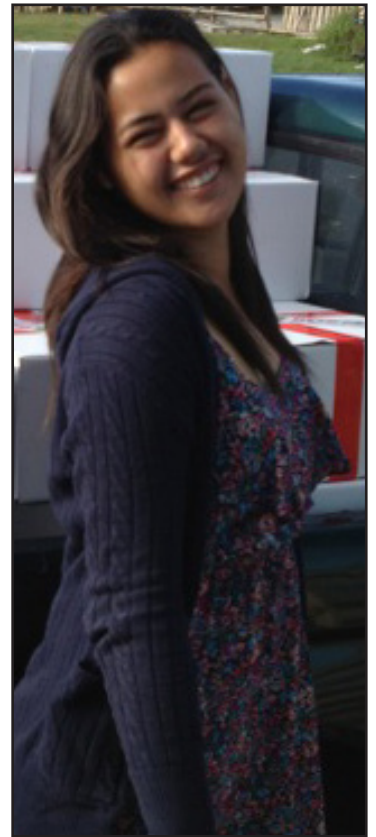
By Nadia George

There's nothing like an extra day of rest and relaxation to start you off for the week. I for one love long weekends because not only do they give me an extra day off from school but also because most of the time, the public holiday falls on my least favorite day of the week... Monday.

Okay let's be honest, I'm not the only one who hates Monday's right? You could have the greatest weekend in the world, but nothing could ever prepare you for the "Monday sickness", as most teachers like to call it. There's just something foul about Monday's, perhaps its because they seem to be so close to the weekend or may because they're always there to remind you that the fun is over...for now that is.

Okay so anyway, moving on from Monday's and back to long weekends, I actually had a rather enjoyable break away from school, assessments, work and house hold chores (thanks mum and dad). Instead of doing what I'd normally do, which is sit around and stuff my face with a lot of oily goodness, I spent most of my weekend with my friends, nothing fancy, just good company and lots of food. That doesn't sound very exciting now that I think about it, but you actually had to be there to appreciate it.

We also had a paddling prize giving for all the clubs on the island, which was honestly the highlight of my weekend, to be honest. I mean what could be better than free food? Not to mention all the delicious deserts that followed later on in the night. Sadly I still had to work later on but at least I didn't leave on an empty stomach so that's a good thing I guess. But it wasn't so much the prize giving that I enjoyed the most, but rather what happened after hours, if you know what I mean?



Sunday passed by fairly quickly and was spent cleaning the mess from Saturday's events as well as eating all the left over food. Monday, (there's that day again) crept up on us all too quickly and sadly my weekend was coming to an end. My highlights for Monday was not the food for once but actually the workshop we had for sprint kayaking with Josh Utanga at the Avarua harbor. It was a lot of hard work and loads of fun my friends more than myself, tbh. If you're wondering why, well let's just say, that I've come to the conclusion that I now have terrible balance. In fact I spent more time trying to get back into the kayak than actually paddling it. But it was an awesome first attempt made by me and the others that turned had up and I'm definitely looking forward to the next training session we have.

Monday slowly came to a close and with two days from this week already gone, seniors have approximately six days of high school left. Make it count guys.

Last Friday's big CIP trip to Mitiaro to kick start their by election campaign ended before it started. With all the big guns were lined up to spend overnight to party and promise Chinese machinery big time but Air Raro had other ideas. Smiffy must have got wind he's going to get dumped after the Demo appeals from the Tourism CI chairman's job because he's a supporter of OCI leader Bishop. It just happened there were no spare planes due to maintenance so the trip got the chop but the CIP forgot to let their Mitiaro crowd know in time so the mountain of food that was prepared and cooked couldn't be given away in case their candidate got accused of treating.



The Tinomana Kopu Ariki meeting last Thursday night ended in a shouting shambles, Rakanui was the chairman who read the decision of the Judge to the meeting and got a hammering from some of the audience and the atmosphere was getting toxic, when Rakanui was asked if there was a still a Tinomana he replied he couldn't answer that question. How strange some of the families can't understand that the Judge clearly stated in black and white the current Tinomana was not eligible to hold the title. Caught in the angry wild west cross fire of harsh words Rakanui got accused of trying to manipulate the people with more stuff ups, Rakanui was fortunate the meeting got adjourned till tempers could cool off but he let the meeting know that was the last one he was going to Chair. Word is, if Smiley Heta could only speak as forcefully as he did on the night when he is in the Parliament the Demos would be a real handful for the unpopular CIP



government.



Tuesday's daily dribble reported there were a record number of offenders sentenced for drink driving. It seems the slap on the wrist our Courts dishing out are not deterring the offenders. Why not sentence them to a Love your Coast clean up gang where they have to wear yellow overalls with "I'm a Drink Driver" printed on it. Plus a monetary fine, groups of cleaners can spend each Monday to Friday two days a week supervised by the Prison cleaning up the rubbish in full view of the public. This should include politicians who offend. Repeat offenders should be made to wear pink overalls with "Slow Learner, I'm a repeat offender," printed on them.



Big week for Sevens Rugby, local clubs are going all out importing players to add to the excitement. Tupapa we are told have seven Fijians imports joining their ranks. With airfares, accommodation, food and drinks, transporting and some spending money it works out about \$2,000 a player, ouch.



What further proof does one need that government does things back to

front? Government recently put a horde of staff through a policy analysis training course conducted by foreigners. But how many of these staff actually know how to write policy? Unless you have firstly been trained and know how to write policy, how can you analyze policy? You may as well ask a blind man which way to the yellow brick road?



To curb politicians drinking, driving then crashing, maybe they need a supply of small, portable breathalyzer kits so they can blow before they go.



Seems our international airport has many uses. It once doubled as a golf course, then for a short while as a race track for fast cars. Now solar panels have taken up residency. Who knows what's next. Perhaps water can be collected off the concrete runways. If we run out of burial sites, use the airport!



Te Minata o te Moni Brown Marks on goggle-box mutters government finances are in good shape and the country is doing well! But chooks what planet is he on? There are many businesses that are not doing well. Some have closed down

or are in the process of closing down. And how much does government owe the private sector? Government should pay its bills so the private sector can pay their bills!



So former CIP stalwart Nick Henry is to return from overseas to be in charge of our 50th celebrations for self government! Can he be trusted to spread the jam fairly so everyone gets a decent spoonful? Or will he butter and jam some people's bread more generously than others?



Of course with big celebrations comes a ton of drinking! Will the crew in blue be out in force? Can we afford their overtime pay? Late night buses to run the drunks home?



Chooks, who is going to put up their big passenger ferry so we can bring our outer island cousie bros to Raro for the big party next year? Samoa? Tahiti? Maybe we pati pati them! A pity we could not have had our own large 300 plus passenger carrying vaka in time! What about air travel? NZ Air Force lend us a Herc or two?

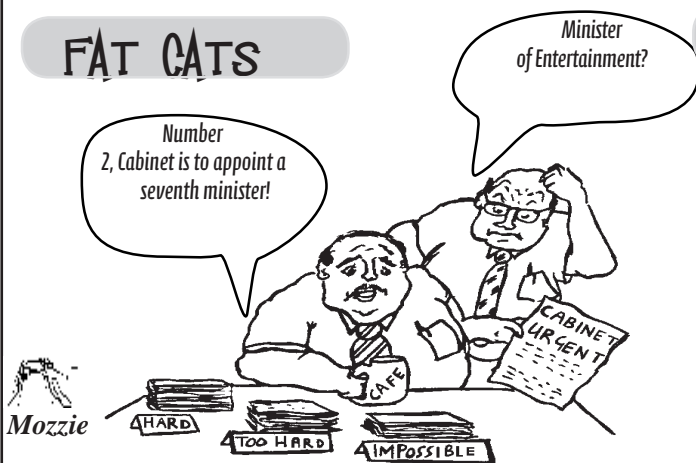


How are we going to foot the bill for this big bash next year chooks? Run around the island with a bucket? Works for some! Pati pati our long suffering donor partners? Run a few sausage sizzles? Win lotto?

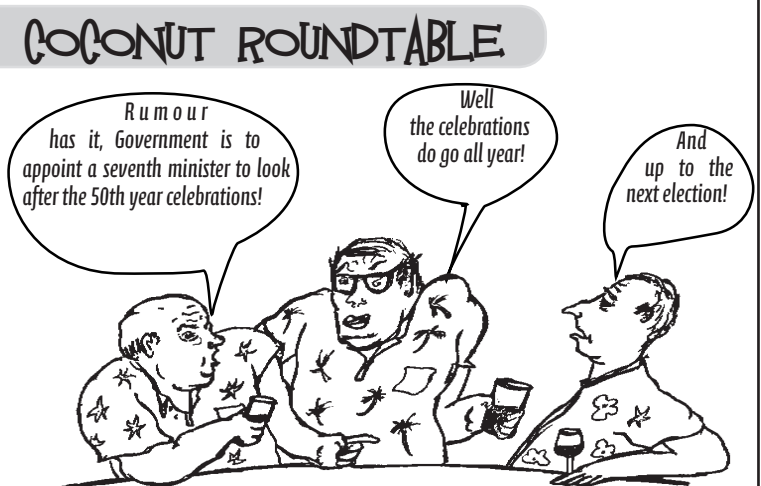


Only damper on the celebrations next year may be if we are walloped by a series of hurricanes next February like back in 2005 when five hit us one after another! Funds may have to be diverted to repair serious damage. Could be a party pooper!

FAT CATS



COCONUT ROUNDTABLE



TENDER



TENDER - STUDY FOR PUMPED HYDRO SCHEMES

Te Aponga Uira is inviting suitably qualified groups to submit a tender for a pre-feasibility study into pumped hydro schemes on Rarotonga.

Registration and Tender Documents can be requested from the following contact person:

TAU Project Manager – Alex Napa
Te Aponga Uira, Rarotonga, Cook Islands
Ph: +682 20054
Fax: +682 21944
Email: alex.napa@electricity.co.ck

Closing date for the Tender submission is 3pm Wednesday 12th Nov 2014, Cook Islands time.

For general enquiries please contact Alex Napa on 682 – 20054



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL STATIONERY AND CONSUMABLES
TENDER NOTICE**

Tenders are invited for the bulk supply of School Stationery and Consumables for the 2015 school year. Stationery and Consumables quality and specifications can be uplifted from the Ministry of Education office or download from MOE website: www.education.gov.ck or contact Terangi Charlie of Finance Management Division on phone 29357, fax 28357 or email terangi@education.gov.ck

Tender submission will close @ 4.00pm Thursday 6th November 2014

Tenders shall be in a sealed envelope
MOE Stationery and Consumables Tender15
Secretary of Education,
Ministry of Education, PO Box 97
Rarotonga, Cook Islands

VACANCIES



ONLINE SUPPORT

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

The Cook Islands Tourism Corporation invites applications for the position of Online Support. The successful applicant will be reporting to the Marketing Manager – Head Office and will be required to provide and deliver an efficient support system to the online division of the sales and marketing team.

Applicants must have the following expertise:

- Have a sound knowledge of website design and development, content writing, SEO, SEM and social media marketing
- experience in Tourism sales and marketing
- Have excellent interpersonal and written communication skills
- Multi-task and able to manage many projects at one time
- Have sound knowledge of general office and administration procedures
- Have excellent organisational skills and ability to prioritise work and meet tight deadlines
- Have sound knowledge of the industry, activities and service personnel
- Have advanced knowledge in the use of office software – Word, Excel, Power point, Access
- Have experience in In design software (Adobe creative suite)

A detailed terms of reference is available at www.cookislands.travel/jobs

Applications with a CV should be addressed to Executive Assistant, PO Box 14, Cook Islands Tourism Corporation, Rarotonga or emailed to applications@cookislands.gov
Applications close 4pm. Wednesday 5th November 2014



**COOK ISLANDS RUGBY UNION
POSITION VACANT
HEAD COACH FOR CI 7'S MEN'S TEAM**

They will be responsible for overseeing our Men's 7s programme, the ongoing monitoring of players and team assembly for the Oceania Olympic Qualifier in Oct 2015. Please note this is a voluntary position.

Applications should be in writing stating your relevant background and addressed to:

CIRU President, PO Box 898, Rarotonga.
Please email to cirugby@rugby.co.ck

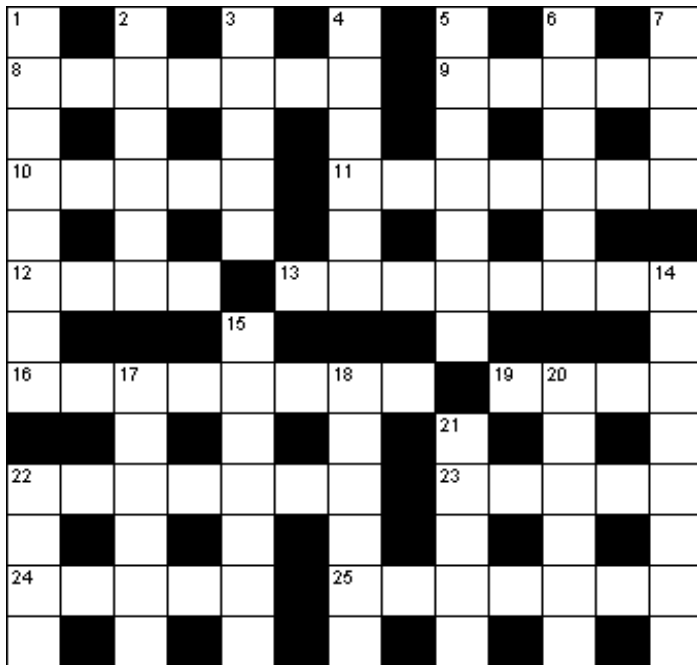
Applications close on Sunday 02nd November 2014.
For further enquiries contact Ben Koteka MOB 54469

EAT LESS

MOVE MORE

HEART FOUNDATION

CROSSWORD

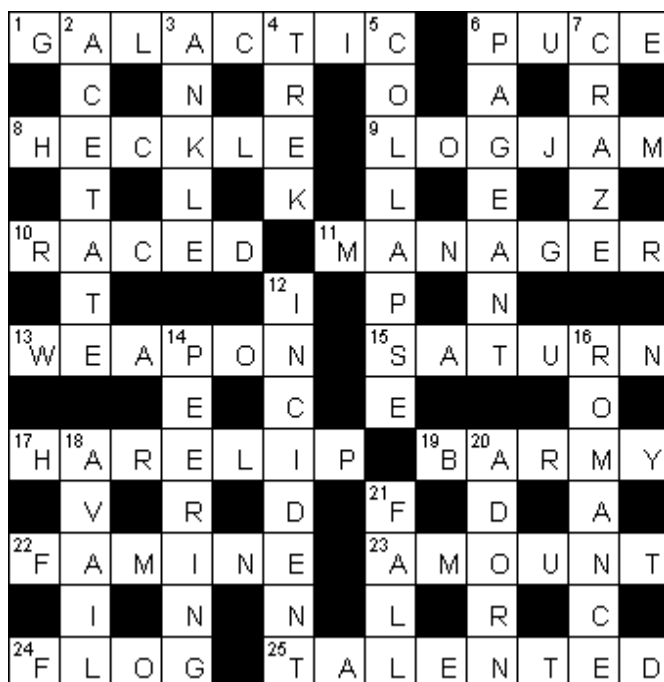


Across

- 8. Bravery
- 9. New Zealand aboriginal
- 10. Native of Switzerland
- 11. Vertical
- 12. Barbarous person
- 13. Small box for holding tea leaves
- 16. Sink below the surface
- 19. Lockup
- 22. Small house
- 23. Rest on the surface of a liquid
- 24. Overjoy
- 25. Scoffed

Down

- 1. Cutting instrument for paper
- 2. Of lower rank
- 3. City in central Belgium
- 4. Decline
- 5. Hug
- 6. Counterfeit
- 7. Liquid measure
- 14. Christmas season
- 15. Informal
- 17. Be unfaithful
- 18. Oily
- 20. On board
- 21. Tender
- 22. City in NW France



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Scenes from Monday's Nuku

