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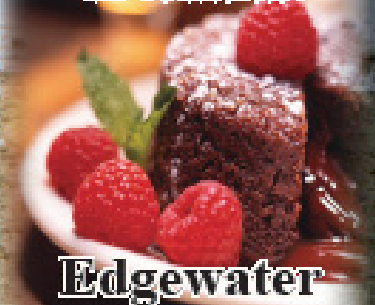
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A holding Budget on toast with scrambled eggs

The Herald looks at the Budget breakfast hosted by Mark Brown and Richard Neves

By Charles Pitt

Some 80 people who attended the Budget breakfast held at the Islander Hotel last Thursday, heard Minister of Finance Mark Brown announce that the Appropriation Bill tabled the day before (Wednesday) in parliament, was a "holding Budget."

It was the third Budget breakfast to be hosted by MFEM for the public and began at 8am. Brown and Secretary of Finance Richard Neves were at the door to welcome guests.

Those attending were treated to a hearty, hot, breakfast buffet consisting of toast, crumbed fish bites, grilled tomatoes topped by melted cheese, fried onions and mushrooms, sausages, bacon and scrambled eggs. Tea and coffee were also provided. The all up cost for this sumptuous, delicious breakfast, was \$20. It certainly put the crowd into a good mood and the Hotel staff are to be commended for their excellent preparation.

Private sector groups from various companies, Non Government Organizations and staff from government ministries such as MFEM, BTIB and Infrastructure, sat at assigned tables and a projector was used to display Budget figures and statements.

A relaxed, but polished Brown and Neves, dressed casually but neatly, conducted the session presenting different aspects in turn.

At the outset, Brown explained he and Neves were growing beards which would later be shaved off, to support a good cause-prostate cancer awareness.

The presentation began with advice of a change to financial classifications to bring our reporting into line with international formats, then it covered a breakdown

of government revenue and expenditure, a breakdown of capital expenditure also debt (public and private) and new initiatives. There were also a series of comparisons with other countries in relation to departure tax and income tax and expenditure.

Brown also spoke of the Cook Islands involvement globally in terms of donor assistance and the importance of the Prime Minister's overseas travel to secure funding for important projects such as infrastructure and renewable energy.

Brown said events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of self government would begin on New Year's Day and carry on throughout the year. He welcomed the participation of the private sector.

Referring to this Budget as a "holding Budget," Brown said government would be looking

at introducing a Supplementary Budget perhaps next February which would be clear of the current political uncertainties and begin the process of moving the country forward.

Those present applauded when Brown congratulated MFEM's young staff Kristina Kauvai and others for their work in preparing the Budget document.

Question time followed the presentation and there were just two questions asked.

The first by John Webb a member of the Tourism Board who said the timing of the Budget did not allow sufficient time to market the new Air NZ 777 service which sees an increased number of seats available. Webb said in tourism some 18 months lead in marketing is needed but in our case this is not happening which meant there may be a need for us to pay Air NZ more in subsidy.

Brown said the timing was due to the political situation and normally the Budget would be done in June/July. He said the increase in the marketing budget was with this in mind.

The second question was from Brian Baudinet and he asked when would the fire affected classrooms at Avatea School be re-built. Brown said this work was scheduled under the Nikao Maori School allocation as both schools were to merge.

In conclusion Neves said the Budget document would be on line for access.

The session ended just after 9.30am.

A point to note from the session was that those seated some distance from the screen were unable to read the words as these were not projected large enough. Perhaps some hand out notes would have assisted.

Wrong speech notes handed out, then withdrawn amid excuses

By Charles Pitt

It was to be his crowning achievement, a brilliant set of notes comprising his Financial Statement to the House, introducing the second reading of the Appropriation Bill (Budget).

However, instead, the Minister of Finance, Mark Brown found himself trying to escape a series of complicated knots applied by parliament's most experienced member, Teina Bishop.

The Prime Minister left the House possibly to avoid getting caught up in an embarrassing situation leaving his Finance Minister gazing down between his legs.

MPs had been given the Minister's draft notes not the final version. The draft contained much missing information, contained errors and in some parts information was missing, making sentences meaningless.

This raises the question about the Ministry's performance. Someone needed to be kicked, and hard. Whose responsibility was it to ensure the Minister received the final amended version? How

did the Minister and MPs end up with a draft?

The draft was later withdrawn and replaced with a new set of notes under the heading "Minister's Statement." According to Bishop this was not correct procedure.

While Hansard records the correct set of notes but it is not Hansard which is tabled in the House.

Later, the PM and other MPs tried to play down the mistake as a minor technicality however, they were brought back to earth by Aunty Mau who reminded the members of the need to preserve the integrity of the House.

Examples of errors in the draft handed to MPs

1. Reference to the Cook Islands Party and not the Cook Islands government.
2. Missing names and figures.
3. Incorrect names and spelling.
4. Incomplete sentences.
5. Duplication of words.
6. Incorrect terms for organizations.
7. Missing words.

Government shifts \$17 million from Reserve Fund to help balance the Budget

Government has avoided making any mention of the fiscal deficit in the Budget. The Herald's sources say the \$5.1 million fiscal deficit reported in the last fiscal update, has blown out to \$12 million.

By Charles Pitt

Anyone reading Budget document No1 will sense that putting this document together must have been like forcing a square peg into a round hole.

The trick has been to make a fairly bleak economic outlook appear a lighter shade of grey.

There's little encouraging news and one senses the real meat will be in the Supplementary Budget due about February next year.

There are many cautionary notes throughout the document and the bottom line is Government is tightening its belt in an attempt to rein in spending. In fact the document hints that if spending and debt are not controlled, something will have to give and that will put the frighteners into the 1,800 or so people paid by the taxpayer.

Government has already made some moves to control spending and the document shows that Minister's Support Offices, Ministries and the outer islands have all had budget cuts and this has not gone down well with some CIP MPs especially those in Rakahanga, Mauke and Aitutaki.

Rakahanga has had \$50,000 cut from its budget.

The writing may be on the wall for some public servants as staff cuts may soon be inevitable.

Especially disturbing is that while government has emerged with a small operating surplus of just \$9,000 this year, there is expected to be worsening budget deficits of \$0.090 in 2015/16, \$3.1 million in 2016/17, and \$0.335 million in 2017/18 as projects and contracts come to an end.

The fiscal deficit, one MP says has blown out from \$5.1 million in the last fiscal update to around \$12 million.

On page 179 of the document, we see government balances its sums by dipping into the reserve fund and pulling out \$17 million.

Unless new work comes on stream for the private sector construction and building industry, growth will slow and drop.

Growth is expected to drop from 4.5% in 2014/2015 to just 1.1% in 2015/2016.

Figures for tourism growth have been revised downwards.

What this scenario is signaling is that government must now turn its attention to stimulating growth with productivity incentives for the private sector to assist growth in projects and tourism. This growth needs to flow through to the outer islands.

The worry posed by debt

"In Chart 10.12, two alternate scenarios are presented relating to the expected profile of debt for the next 20 years.

The high debt accumulation scenario assumes that operational spending continues to grow at recent trends and that economic growth follows its long-term average. Under this set of assumptions, cash reserves are depleted by operational deficits, and capital needs become increasing financed by debt financing. The persistence of overall deficits in the face of continued infrastructure needs leads to a breaching of the 35 per cent debt: GDP ratio in 2024/25.

The low debt accumulation scenario assumes that net operating surpluses are achieved over the medium term, with these surpluses being diverted into financing the capital budget. This becomes increasingly difficult over the long term however, with growth in expenditures outpacing revenue.

Debt financing of the capital

program again becomes a dominant feature of the Budget from 2026/27 onwards.

Both of these scenarios suggest that current expectations of expanding operational budgets cannot coexist with the recent levels of capital spending. At some point in the future, either capital or operational spending will need to be scaled back to match revenue growth. Importantly, neither scenario assumes major capital works beyond those already scheduled,

despite major infrastructure needs still being prevalent after the current projects are completed. On the other hand, neither scenario includes major cost-saving initiatives in personnel nor operating, although both scenarios show that in the absence of strong revenue growth, such savings plans would eventually be necessary."

The Budget documents can be downloaded from the MFEM website.



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Speaker Rattle losing credibility and benefit of doubt



Nikki Rattle



Kim Saunders

Speaker of the House Nikky Rattle's honeymoon probation is over and the cultural niceties tolerated while she's been learning on the job are being now over looked with unsympathetic demands and expectations of professional standards of a 50 year old democracy based on the Westminster model. Now in her second term Rattle has shown little to give public confidence that after fifty years of self governing the current business of the House has evolved beyond a primary school equivalent.

If the Parliament's business is as good as the Speaker then the standard of its matrix of operations and duties will continue to be shambolic and sub standard. Rattle has let Parliament's performance slip into a vortex of political manipulation and bullying. The Speaker has bowed into submission to her appointee the Prime Minister Henry Puna a novice himself in Parliamentary

procedure. The sheer lack of Parliamentary knowledge and details of the Standing Orders and the Constitution is clearly evident among a vast majority of the Members of Parliament. The evolution of 50 years of independence shows no clear signs of maturity and elevated political intelligence. The very fact collectively hours of debating time is wasted by the MPs and the Speaker herself greeting people in their constituencies is evident the intelligence of debate is very basic. Spending time greeting each other in the House is so nonsensical.

It's about time the Speaker put both feet down and limit greetings to three minutes then get on with the real business of dealing with the huge pile of deferred work before the House. The irregularity of Parliamentary sittings cannot be wasted on the trivial and meaningless unintelligent

waffle that is becoming the pronounced characteristic of Rattle's tenure.

Listening to the live Parliamentary Radio broadcasts one begins to understand how easy it was for the Richard Neves' led bureaucrats to become the real political force of the Country. There was no wrestling engagement over who is really running the Country, in practise this CIP government is leaderless, Puna's continued absence and abdicating was instrumental in handing the control of the economy on a plate to the unpopular expat fat cats who are relishing in the political freedom do as they please.

While the unpopular Puna has no hesitation in publically blaming the Financial Secretary Neves for the taxation troubles bombarding his government, Puna crafts his accusations on radio talk back in the Maori language to mask his finger pointing. Because Puna

has irreparably voluntarily surrendered control to the foreign lords of the economy he is bankrupt of ideas how to reign in the loose cannons at MFEM.

Rattle's superficial pontificating as the Speaker of the House is so shallow she has to refer even the most basic points of procedure to Crown Law's Kim Saunders a close ally of Neves. Rattle's threats of contempt, suppression of questions and debate on her irregular appointment considered by many as invalid as the Speaker for the 48 Session borders upon being bullish and an abuse of her position.

If Rattle has in her possession a legal opinion from Saunders that her appointment is legal why does she refuse to table that advice for the record? What credibility and integrity is there when she rattles that comment off the tip of her

continued next page

tongue? Rattle can no longer be trusted with her adlib hip shooting comments without the proof of evidence; anyone can say "I have had legal advice".

Crown Law's Saunders advice can hardly be blindly accepted as accurate just because she says so. Saunders has manifested her penchant for tailor making her legal opinions to suit. It is now widely perceived Saunders has compromised the integrity of her position by her politically laced comments in defence of an inexcusable CIP government.

Instead of pointing out the errors of their ways, Saunders readily leaps to the defence of her political masters covering and justifying the CIP government's misdemeanours with hairline legal rhetoric. The Speaker would earn more public credits and support if she simply admitted her shortcomings and consulted the likes of John Scott on things procedural in Parliament. Better still get some coaching, because in the absence of the experienced former Clerk Tupuna Rakanui whom she sacked, Rattle's reliance on bluffing her way in the House has become intolerable. For the enormous amount of money she is getting paid Rattle needs to scrub up and give the Country our monies worth.

The issue of standing orders being suspended at such regularity must be stopped by Rattle. To suspend the Standing Orders is an ongoing disgrace and offence to the rules that

govern the business of the House. It simply means the propagators of this tactic wish to bypass the rules and the terms of engagement. The Standing Orders is the rule book, can one imagine a rugby game being played with half the rules not applicable?

Parliament is the National forum to establish laws, yet so often the politicians want to short circuit that process by suspending their own rules. Rattle must stop pandering to the political manipulation of our democratic process and give firm guidance to her string pullers to follow their own rules. If Rattle cannot impose some discipline and lead the House in session without fear or favour and impartially then she must relinquish the position before it loses all public credibility.

Continued deviations from our democratic processes and checks and balances eventually bring the position into question. The fact Rattle no longer has the public's confidence will eventual be detrimental to the status of the position of Speaker as opposed to the person of Speaker. Rattle must make every effort of redemption if not for her then for the sake of the position and the Country.

The other deep concern of the deterioration of our democratic values and standards is the habitual guillotining of debate over contentious matters in the House. This manoeuvre has been abused at the ignorance

Code of Conduct a farce

Included in the Standing Orders is a Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament. While superficially this is very good as it specifies the checks and balances that are to be avoided from being or becoming corrupted. But what is very hazy and blurred is how this component of the Standing Orders is monitored or enforced and what are the punishments for compliance failure? There is no reporting mechanism of any breeches of the COC nor is it clear who the Authority to judicator is. One can only presume that the Speaker is the judicator or possibly the Clerk of Parliament. The media has reported incidents whereby there are perceptions the COC have been breached but

no action was ever taken. What then is the purpose for the inclusion of a COC in the SO if it serves no purpose than to be a political decoration and good governance window dressing? If our politicians have a smidgen of conviction political reform is overdue then they can start by cleaning up their own back yards and household. The COC needs to have compliance teeth and the penalties must be explicitly defined. As it presently stands it is unenforceable and not worth the paper it is written on or will the Speaker Nikky Rattle delete it all together? Former MP Iaveta Short has been an advocate for such a COC since 1998 but like John the Baptist he has been a lone voice trumpeting in the wilderness. - George Pitt

of the Speaker. Rattle must do her homework and brush up on the protocols and rationale of guillotining, as the director of Parliamentary traffic Rattle must impose a clear directive on the practise of guillotining in the House under her watch because it is in no uncertain terms being abused by governments.

There must be no guillotining of the Budget now before the House just because the Puna wants to hop on a plane for an expensive wasteful frivolous first class trip to some

meaningless engagement that has no relevance to the critical affairs of the Cook Islands.

The Speaker must authoritively advise the House the hours of sitting will be extended till the Budget debates are exhausted and completed. At such a critical time with a scary make shift Budget of an unprecedented amount of over \$220 million, this CIP must be scrutinised and held accountable to the Nation on the responsibility and risk exposure of their Budget.

- George Pitt

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Our frontpage model this week is beautiful Allandrah Donnelly. Allandrah recently won Staircase Restaurant and Bars Junior Voice Competition in the intermediate section. She is also a student at Nukutere College. Check out our website www.ciherald.co.ck and facebook page: www.facebook.com/ciherald

Wednesday, 5 November 2014, 9:21 am

Press Release: New Zealand Government

Social Development Minister Anne Tolley welcomes the first reading of legislation to allow greater flexibility for people to move to the Cook Islands, Niue, or Tokelau, and receive New Zealand Superannuation or Veteran's Pension.

Under the Social Assistance (portability to Cook Islands, Niue, and Tokelau) Bill a person who has lived in New Zealand for 10 years, 5 being after the age of 50, will be able to return to these islands. When they turn 65 they can then apply for Superannuation or Veteran's Pension.

"A declining population, and the related social and economic consequences, is a long-standing issue for small Pacific nations. This Bill will allow a person to return and contribute to the local work force and still get superannuation or Veteran's pension at age 65.

"This change will be restricted to the Cook Islands, Niue, and Tokelau to recognise our close constitutional relationship, shared citizenship, and unique legal arrangements," says Mrs Tolley.

"Immigration data suggests 245 people will become newly eligible for New Zealand Superannuation or Veteran's Pension when this Bill is passed, and this is likely to increase by an additional 16 people each year.

"The numbers may be small but New Zealand is a proud Pacific nation and we want to ensure New Zealanders have as much freedom as possible to choose where they live," says Mrs Tolley.

Cook Islands Confirms Participation in the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Pilot

The Cook Islands Government has confirmed its participation in the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Pilot (PCRIP), which was renewed for its third season with five other Pacific island countries: Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Cook Islands. The third season will run from November 1, 2014 to October 31, 2015.

As of 1 November 2014, the Cook Islands is covered against emergency losses caused by major Tropical Cyclones for a 12 month period until October 31, 2015. The premium of USD100,000 paid by the Government was able to secure catastrophe risk insurance coverage which will provide an immediate payout of up to USD2.8 million in the case of a major tropical cyclone hitting the major centres of Rarotonga and Aitutaki.

The premium cost was shared between the major SOE's (Ports Authority, Airport Authority and Te Aponga Uira) and the central government.

Minister for Finance, the Honourable Mark Brown, outlined the PCRIP was part of the Government's active policy of improving the economic resilience of the Cook Islands.

"The coverage provided through the PCRIP as well as increasing the Natural Disaster Response Fund to \$0.636 million provides the Government with the financial capacity to respond confidently and immediately to the needs of the community in the case of a significant natural disaster. It is not a case of if, but when we are struck by a cyclone we want to be focused on meeting the immediate needs of the community to ensure their lives get back on track. These two initiatives of the Government will let us focus on that as opposed to worrying about the financial impacts. We are putting money away for the eventual rainy day."



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Better health another way

If there are people out there who have made a conscious choice not to undergo invasive methods to fight their illnesses and prefer to turn to the more gentle methods of alternative medicine and therapies to regain their good health, then they might be interested to know that there is such a facility on Rarotonga.

Better Health Centre based in Arorangi is run by one time Hollywood movie maker Richard Wachter who married local lass and has lived here for the last forty years. For the last 15 years the now youngish 70 year old health fanatic has had the sick and multitudes near death beat a pathway to his door.

I doubt it very much if Wachter will become rich through his practise, half of what he does seems to be for free. Once in demand in USA, Australia and NZ he has scaled down his travels now preferring to coach and teach others this alternative health resource. Wachter has patients travelling in his direction from as far as the USA..

For Wachter whose boundless enthusiasm for his work originally stemmed from his own health problems and his own road back to wellbeing, he says it all started when our Public Health predicted a death sentence but rather than accept it and lay down and die he responded to and got cured by a naturopathy treatment sent to him by his brother.

He uses a machine capable of detecting the type of disease that the person is suffering from and even what causes them.

All of the diagnosis is taken by a special device based on the technology and research by a brilliant scientist from the 1920s named Dr Royal Raymond Rife. A search online reveals, Dr Rife invented and built a special microscope that was so technologically advanced that he could see live viruses and bacteria and that they gave off their own light frequencies.

Through much experimentation, Dr Rife discovered that the bacteria and viruses could be destroyed by use of slightly modified



Master controller Richard Wachter with associate Paioro Te Ariki

light frequencies to that of the parasitic microbe without any harm to the host.

In his experiments, Dr Rife discovered that by using a certain frequency the parasites would burst without causing any harm to surrounding tissue or any ill effects at all.

However, his revolutionary work was not welcomed by the medical establishment and actively opposed by the powerful pharmaceutical companies and by the time Dr Rife died in the 1940s, his work was all but forgotten. His work was not used again until rediscovered some decades later and now is in use as an alternative therapy.

Think and say what you like about Richard Wachter he's a man with a mission and he's so passionate no amount of critical comment detracts him. This reporter was dragged to his clinic by a friend who was converted as a result of being cured by Wachter's treatment. A chance meeting followed by an invitation to have lunch was the platform to hear the gospel of whatever it was Wachter was doing. Nothing really new because other friends have spoken in glowing terms about Better Health even a Medical Doctor friend.

Next day my friend turns up

with another patient and with much enthusiasm prompts me to get into the car. I admit I was not in good shape in fact health wise on a down ward slide. On arrival to the Clinic I was ushered inside and sat among four others all getting some sort of treatment plus an aging visiting Cook Islander from New Zealand who was there as a student, she took copious notes. Initially all my news was seriously bad as my diagnosis was being verbally rolled out but at the same time Wachter was pumping out the good news with enthusiastic evangelical fervour. Once adjusted to others hearing my personal health deficiencies Wachter's verbal group therapy was very therapeutic and disarming.

What sounded quite comotive was in fact mentally and spiritually up lifting, Wachter verbally punched the air nonstop with advice on healthy eating, explanations about the treatment, case study examples and a lot more about a lot of things that made sense. Wachter was the commander, conductor, director and a performer par excellence. Sometimes he switched his dialogue bouncing from the group to an individual, no matter what question was put to him his bank of knowledge

seemed to know no end plus it had a serious lacing of wisdom. Using every trick in the book, Wachter bullied, motivated, manipulated, coaxed, goaded, provoked and inspired his captive audience to become converts to a better health life style.

For nearly four hours as Wachter did his naturopathic wizardry and in an atmosphere that was positively charged and electric the time flashed by. I began to understand why my friend was so passionate about the results of his own treatment because an ailment I had evaporated. I was not aware when it happened just that I thought to myself the pain I had suffered and put up with for the last two years wasn't there anymore.

I didn't say anything at the time because it was difficult to believe the continuous discomfort just vanished, that triggered a paradigm shift that in less than three weeks of doing the right thing by myself the improvement in my health is very self motivational. The results so far are the driving force to keep at it thanks to the injection of positive thinking and the power of positive confession showered upon us by the master zapper Richard Wachter.

- George Pitt

Strange device found on a beach

Sometime in the early hours of Sunday morning on November 2 a strange looking black cylindrical floating device landed on an undisclosed beach somewhere on Rarotonga. During the night the weather was reportedly windy with rough seas. The device weighing approximately five to seven kilos and when it was first discovered was lying upside down in the sand.

Once it was up righted there were observed four miniature solar panels, obviously used as a source of energy within a watertight dome. In the centre of the devices dome is a six inch long round tube that appeared to be made from glass, inside the glass at the base of the tube are what seems like satellite or radio tracking numbers. It had obviously been in the water for some time; attached to its base is about 20 metres of black 18mm rope with some sections covered in ocean barnacles.

Roughly written with white paint on the dome is the name "Daniela 454", inside the Dome there are the names Zunibal Within 5 minutes of the dome being up righted it started

emitting a red strobe light that even during the day would be easy to catch. Obviously, this as a result of the solar panels being able to convert solar energy.

The finder took the device home, where he was met with questions such as, is that a bomb? Or that looks alien. A search of the internet for the name Daniela showed that it has Spanish origins and a search of the manufacturer showed that it is also Spanish. Its new market price US\$5000.00 with the data that it carries its real worth must be tenfold.

A search of the internet for this name in fishing vessel registry files showed up nought. Speculation is that this device which is used to track tuna is really owned by Spanish Purse Seine Fishers and that there is no mystery that Spain is lobbying the Cook Islands Government and the Ministry of Marine Resources to get purse seine fishing licenses for its fleet.

The finder wishes to remain anonymous while they endeavour to extract the data contained within the monitoring device or a reward is offered



from the owners for its return.

That this device has been employed in the Cook Islands waters to track tuna schools and as soon as the Spanish Fleet gets their purse seine fishing licenses from a desperate cash strapped CIP government they will not waste any time tracking where

the tuna is, they will already know. Right now it would appear that the Spanish fishing fleet is crouched ready and waiting to pounce on the tuna. The only question is who really is the prey here, the tuna or the Cook Islands Party Government?

- George Pitt



Teimurimotia Stallions supporters at the Sevens tournament held last week.

Budget Speech by Minister of Finance Mark Brown *(amended version)*

Wednesday 29 October 2014

Madam Speaker, within two months, we will be commencing the celebration of our Golden Anniversary as an Independent Self Governing Country. The 1st of January will be the start of a year of reflection, celebration and hope.

It will be a time where we commence to honour those that helped us to get to this point and to reflect on the efforts of individuals such as Papa Albert Henry and Sir Tom Davis and Sir Geoff. There are many who have contributed to our success Madam Speaker and we need to remember their efforts in our special journey.

On the 1st of January Madam Speaker, it will be a time to step up and remind the world that we are Cook Islanders and that we are a proud nation. We are a proud nation with a long heritage, a culture that is industrious, motivated and determined to forge our way in the world. After all, our forefathers launched from the Avana Harbour to colonise Aotearoa and we're still colonising them today.

Madam Speaker, it will be a time for discussion and debate about setting the path for our nation towards the next 50 years to the year 2064. The path needs to be one of prosperity, of self-reliance and finally most importantly of dignity. Not only must we continue to uphold our dignity in all levels but we must prevent those things that can erode it and that requires an effort that Government level at business level and at a personal level.

Almost 100,000 Cook Islanders woke up this morning across the Cook Islands, Australia and New Zealand. These people woke up first and foremost as Cook Islanders, not as members of the Cook Islands Party or the One Cook Islands movement or the Democratic Party or Rarotongans or Manihikians or Manganians but they woke up as Cook Islanders.

The simplicity of our flag says it all. A circle of fifteen stars of the same shape and size representing each island is clear. It represents us all at the table equitably sharing the same dreams and confronting the same challenges. We cannot do it in a divided fashion. We are not strong if we all go in a different direction. United we are strong, divided we are conquered. When we all walk in this Chamber, our Party labels divided us but first and foremost, we are all Cook Islanders and we're been put here to do what is best for the Cook Islands.

Establishing our Economic Independence

To our people listening today, our national ability to forge our way to invest and care for our people to protect our vulnerable to maintain justice and law and order and to build our future generations to welcome those that want to come here to make a life here and to engage with the rest of the world and to protect our culture. This is all dependent on our continued economic independence.

Economic independence Madam Speaker does not come easily as it needs a continued hard and productive effort from all of us, from the public sector, the private sector and the individual households. But as I mentioned Madam Speaker, we are a strong and resilient people. We can do it and we will do it and this Government will ensure that yes we can do it.

The lessons of the mid 90's economic reforms were harsh. Those times demonstrate what can happen if we do not maintain our discipline. Our lack of economic discipline cost us our dignity. Many nations today confront those same issues, just ask Ireland, Greece, Portugal, Spain more closer to home take a look at the transformation that New Zealand had to undertake as well.

Economic governance is not easy. There are always hard decisions that need to be made and there will be those that cry poor but we must govern for all not just for some for that is the just way for if we don't make these decisions then others will make these decisions for us.

We are a resilient and resourceful people Madam Speaker and the Government is her to unlock the potential of our people to assist them down the corridor towards greater prosperity. There is just not one door to unlock there are many doors that need to unlock and the journey is long.

Papa Arapati often commented that no one in the tribe should be left behind and he was right but we also need to ensure that we move everybody along forward for we do not advance economically; we will go backwards in many other sectors and in debts.

Our Tax System

Almost a year has passed since December 2013 when the Government embarked on an ambitious journey of reforming our taxes. Many people focus on the increase and VAT from 12.5% to 15% but we have moved our tax environment to one where the burden is eased on our people. On the 1st of January 2013, every worker in the Cook Islands received more money through a tax cut.

Not just a small cut, the average worker earning \$20,000 a year received an extra \$70 in their pocket every month. Our changes Madam Speaker were monumental, earlier this year when I spoke to the ADB President Nakao he pointed out to me personally that he had seen the changes we had made and admired the courage of the Government to make changes which was not particularly politically popular were good for the economy.

Our Pensioners

On the 1st of March 2013 Madam Speaker, every person receiving the local pension got an increase. Those who were

between 60 and 70 received a \$100 increase to \$500 a month and those over 70 are now in receipt of \$625 a month.

And from the 1st of January next year, Madam Speaker, I am proud to say that the over 70s will go up again to \$640 a month as part of our commitment, part of our commitment to increase and look after our over 70s.

There are those that argue, Madam Speaker, that we should not tax local pensioners. I say that we are trying as hard as we can to give you more and if that means taking it off some of those of us who are more fortunate and earning more income, then so be it.

My voice and those of the Government will continue to outline the benefits of those changes to all 1,700 pensioners who are receiving a Government pension at the moment.

To those in the Grey Power, we heard your issues and we worked on the law to remove the back tax. It has been done. It was the Government's first Act on re-election to Government and now the situation has been put to rest. The Government estimates that this action will cost around \$400,000. The time for division is over and we should now work together for the betterment of the whole community.

As of today, Madam Speaker, 42 of those Grey Power pensioners have come into the MFEM and have received refunds totalling \$121,000. I know that MFEM has been visiting some of the Outer Islands that have a number of New Zealand pensioners to assist them with this process.

The time has come to move on from this issue and look to more positive aspects. To this end the Cook Islands Party will now move onwards as per our Manifesto to the creation of an Elderly Gold Card.

This should allow for discounts on goods and
continued next page

services across the public and private sector regardless of whose pension they are in receipt of. Such a card would help nearly 2,000 of our elderly people across the Cook Islands.

Additionally, later in this Parliamentary Session, the Government will amend the Welfare Act to assist those that have been away from the Cook Islands for medical reasons, to be able to resume and receive their Cook Islands pension without having to wait one more year to qualify.

This year, Madam Speaker, we will spend \$11.8 million on 1,790 pensioners and a further \$2.7 million to 3,400 recipients of the Child Benefit. These are the efforts, Madam Speaker, of a Government who governs for all, not just for a few and let those who oppose our actions explain themselves.

Tourism and Our Economy

Tourism continues and will continue to be the key to our economic success. MFEM estimates that around 65 per cent of our GDP is from tourism. Our balance of payments, i.e. the moneys we get from the services we sell, far outstrip our imports and that is a crucial aspect to understand. Comparing just the export of goods with the import of goods is looking at one part of the story. We need to remember, Madam Speaker, that on average every tourist that comes into this country spends around \$1,600 a visit.

When we first came to Government, Madam Speaker, total visitor arrivals were reaching just over 100,000. Now they are reaching 121,000. That increase of over 20,000 people means an extra \$35 million being injected into our economy from our main tourism activity.

Where would we be, Madam Speaker, without those extra 20,000 people? It would probably mean a lower Budget, probably around \$10 million lower. What would that mean for our pensions? What would that mean for spending on education? What would it mean for health spending?

This Government is committed to tourism Madam Speaker. It will provide a further half a million dollars over two years to boost the marketing

efforts of Cook Islands Tourism. Cook Islands Tourism will have from the Government a total of \$2.25 million for this 2014 Budget and another \$2.25 million for the 2015 Budget to assist with the new 777 aircraft which will service Los Angeles and the Sydney routes.

Since coming into Government we have done a lot for tourism. We have continued the on-going commitment to the provision of the long-haul services from Sydney and Los Angeles, services which bring us additional tourists from different markets.

How distant is the memory of the queues at the Airport to pay departure tax at the Airport?

It took the strength and fortitude of the Cook Islands Party Government to bite the bullet and tell the airlines put it in the ticket price. Our departure tax now, Madam Speaker is \$66.30. Compare that with the \$49.40 for the passenger service and security charge in Auckland or the \$145.60 for coming out of Suva or the \$124.50 coming out of Sydney, \$45.50 coming out of Papeete, \$60 from Noumea, and \$48 from Vanuatu and around \$81 for Los Angeles and Honolulu.

We have a fair departure tax, Madam Speaker that remains competitive and reasonable and our investment in tourism, Madam Speaker tops 20 million dollars per annum. In departure tax and landing fees alone we receive 13 million dollars.

Fishing Revenues

I turn now, Madam Speaker to fishing revenues. This year we anticipate revenues of over 6 million dollars from our fisheries which consist of licence fees, catch revenues and penalties. These are significant and the government is cautious of achieving the balance between sustainable exploitation of a renewable resource and maximising financial outcomes.

Ultimately, Madam Speaker we believe that we could work towards a figure of ten million dollars from our existing fishery. This would not be an increase in the quantity but rather an increase in the price we get for our fish.

Health

The government will be

spending 13 million dollars on health this year. We will provide additional base funding to recruit the next branch of 12 students into the Cook Islands Nursing School. The Nursing School, Madam Speaker was a Cook Islands Party initiative, a policy aimed at reinvigorating our nursing cohort with Cook Islanders.

Currently there are 14 students at the Nursing School and 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 the end of 2016. This week they will be starting clinical work.

Additionally the government will be purchasing two new additional pieces of equipment a new immuno assay analyser and a laparoscope machine. On top of that we will now start further works on the fit out of the pharmacy at the Rarotonga Hospital, building on the recently completed renovations of the Outpatients part of the hospital.

It doesn't stop there, Madam Speaker. We will also be purchasing additional laptops and computers and will also be purchased to replace the old and out of date ones in both the Pa Enua and in the Ministry.

Madam Speaker, let me refresh the short memories of the Members of the Opposition and remind the House that it was the Cook Islands Party Government that last year increased the Budget for Specialist visits and pharmaceutical supplies.

Education

The investment in our children, Madam Speaker is significant and our operational spending this year on education will be the highest on record. The Members will see that actual budgeted spending on education which excludes depreciation will amount to just over 14 million dollars the highest amount ever allocated for education.

I will just repeat what the translator has said there, education spending will represent approximately 13 percent of the government's total appropriation and if we exclude the cost of the under

write for our Los Angeles and Sydney routes that percentage actually increases to almost 15 percent of the total budget dedicated to education. The total personnel budget of 9.6 million dollars in the education Ministry amounts to nearly 21 percent of the government's total personnel budget.

A further 4.4 million dollars, Madam Speaker is provided in operating expenditure and payments to private schools. Previously families hosting students from the Pa Enua and providing them with room and board as well as pastoral and other support during their time in Rarotonga were paid \$50 a week. This will now be increased to \$100 a week.

In addition, Madam Speaker this scheme also meets the cost of return transport by air where possible from students to their home islands. On average, Madam Speaker there are around 45 students who benefit from the support of the allowance which amounts to a total of around 230,000 dollars a year.

Additional spending on the 50 year anniversary

Madam Speaker, the government has put aside \$700,000 for a very significant Te Maeva Nui next year to be held on Rarotonga. This will be a time for our brothers and sisters in the Pa Enua to make the journey to Rarotonga and celebrate our comradeship and togetherness at the 50th year of our self-governance.

Additionally the government will make half million dollars available during the 2015 calendar year for the various events to be held across the Cook Islands.

Putting extra away for a rainy day

The capacity to respond immediately, Madam Speaker when a natural disaster occurs is paramount. The Cook Islands Party Government, Madam Speaker has two forms of insurance. The first is parametric insurance with the Pacific Risk Insurance Scheme.

This insurance scheme, Madam Speaker is one where we pay an insurance of around \$120,000 and it gives us coverage of over \$15 million, Madam Speaker in the event

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Future of Nukutere College

Statement by Bishop Paul Donoghue sm (Catholic Administrator)

Nukutere College faces an uncertain future as the 99 year lease expires on 30 November 2014. Negotiations with present landowners and counsel reveal that the 1.1752 hectare lease piece of land known as Ngatairi 46 and 46A on which the school is situated in Tutakimoa, does not have a perpetual right of renewal in the Deed of lease.

Furthermore, according to the Deed, the land and all improvements on it, return to the landowners when the lease expires. These improvements include:

- all the school buildings;
- the Bishop's residence;
- the historic cathedral;
- the early priests' old house, and
- the old cemetery where Fr Bernardin Castanie and some early missionaries are buried.

While all of the landowners are open to a renewal of lease, the holders of 6/10th of the land, most of whom reside permanently overseas, have taken the view that they are entitled to full value for their land.

First, they want the Church to meet its obligation to pay the rental arrears on a review that should have been conducted in 1981. The first review, in 1948 was done by Bishop Ubald Lehman in 1952. At the same time, he tried but was not successful to obtain a perpetual right of renewal of lease of the land. The court at the time raised the rent from the original 10 pounds to 20 pounds per annum.

Unfortunately the 1981 rental review was overlooked both by the then Catholic

Administrator (lessee) and the then sole owner of the land (lessor). The Church continued to pay the 20 pounds (\$40) due per annum until the present.

The valuers for the landowners, Curnow and Tizard, have now assessed the capital value of the land for 1981 to be \$65,000.00. This could mean that the Church's arrears could be over

\$107,000. (i.e. 5% of the capital value of the land) if we were to follow their valuation.

We have been advised to make a counter-offer, but even if that were accepted, there would be still arrears to be paid.

Second; that 6/10th share of the present landowners also expect the Church to pay for the school buildings which were burnt in the fire in 2012. They estimate the cost to be around

\$580 000. The burnt school buildings were paid for by New Zealand Aid in 2006 on condition that there was an agreement by the landowners to renew the lease and that the buildings were insured. At the time the sole owner had died, but New Zealand Aid was satisfied on the basis of an assurance by a representative of broader family.

It has been made clear to us that only if these debts are cleared - the arrears, possibly the burnt buildings, the cost of valuation - would the landowners who own 6 out of 10 shares of the land, consider a renewal of lease.

We have an immediate problem. As from 1 December 2014 those

landowners say that if we remain, they wish us to pay rental payments of \$4,800 (plus vat) per month. \$2,400 for the accommodation part and \$2.400 per month for the school area (plus VAT) paid in advance. Neither the Church nor the School can afford these figures.

We are indeed very grateful to the owners of 4/10th of the land who have been sympathetic towards the Church and who have not made such huge demands because they want the school to continue. However, there is no way we can avoid dealing with the majority of owners and their demands - once the lease ends, the land and the buildings are, 6/10ths anyway, theirs to do with as they please.

Do we want Nukutere College to continue?

Many people in the Catholic Community and beyond would certainly prefer that this school remains. It has a proud history and enjoys a high reputation in the community, The real question is: "Can the Catholic Community afford to pay out the huge financial costs which would enable this to happen?"

Government has been sympathetic to our plight and is willing to help. It is considering taking some or all of the land by warrant. However, compensation by way of payment to the landowners would still be the responsibility of the Catholic Community and is likely to be a very large sum of money.

At this time, we do not know what the full amount of the compensation would be. Registered NZ

valuers, Curnow Tizard, recently assessed the bare land at a current capital value of around \$830,000. Government will engage their own valuer, but it seems clear that compensation could well be over \$1 million once the land plus the buildings are valued at capital value.

The advantage of a warrant, of course, is that once compensation is paid, the land remains for our use for as long as the purpose for which the land is warranted remains the same.

Background

Some of you may ask what the Catholic Church has been doing all this time in terms of negotiation with the landowners and who are they?

Ngatairi 46 and 46A was partitioned in favour of then sole owner, Pari Savage who leased it to Father Bernardin Castanie on 8 September 1915. Pari in turn was succeeded by sole owner, Annette Savage Knightley - who died in 1998. Her only daughter Caresse died in June 2004 without having succeeded her mother and without leaving any issue. So there were no owners for the Church to negotiate with from 1998 until April 2012 when Annette was succeeded by the 10 children of her two Rarotonga-based brothers. However, the Church had been trying to get relatives to succeed to the land since 2006 because of the

condition required by New Zealand Aid before they would rebuild Nukutere College after the fire.

Since becoming Bishop of the Cook Islands in 2011,

Bishop Paul Donoghue had tried to find landowners in order to renew the lease. From February 2013 until the present, efforts have been made to meet with the "new" landowners, and through relatives, to search for the children of three of the deceased owners all of whom have now been succeeded by 10 new owners. Meetings with the landowners in Rarotonga, succession of new owners, meeting of assembled landowners (MOAO). and court proceedings in October 2014 have taken time. Information has been kept quite confidential until now in order not to jeopardize these

negotiations and in order not to disperse misinformation. However, the time has come for the Catholic Community to join with the Catholic Administrator in making this difficult decision. We all need to weigh up the costs, and the advantages and disadvantages of the various options that we face as a Community in considering the future of Catholic secondary education. Options, for example, range from (a) accepting Government help to take the whole or part of the land by warrant and then we pay compensation to the owners (an amount unknown) which would

include costs for arrears, costs to lawyers and valuers, cost of capital value of the land and buildings. (b) withdrawing altogether, paying our debts (see above) and then handing over the responsibility of educating the students to Government. (c) staying on for another year paying monthly rentals (set by the landowners at \$2,400 for the school area, \$2,400.00 plus VAT for the accommodation area). while we take time to consider the options and financial implications. The Catholic Church has served the people of the Cook Islands since July

1894 through education and community and church activities. This land holds precious memories for many who were educated, baptized, married and had loved ones buried from here. We would be sad to have to let it go. However the question remains: Can we afford to stay? This is the question I invite all of you to consider deeply so that whatever decision we make in this matter, it is one that all of us can look back on and be confident it was the right decision in all these difficult circumstances. **Editor's note:** Pitt Media Group is a strong supporter of the College.

Scenes from the Sevens in Heaven



that our islands are hit with a cyclone.

The second is a further \$100,000 which will be deposited into the Natural Disaster Response Fund which will take its total amount to \$636,000 in the Disaster Response Fund.

The second form of insurance Madam Speaker is one that the Cook Islands Party government started three years ago just after we came into government, where we established the disaster response fund with a starting balance of zero. That Fund will now have a balance of \$636,000.

In the unfortunate circumstance that we have a state of emergency, the Government will be able to fund an immediate response for activities to affected communities to get them back on track.

Madam Speaker, this is the Government that has revolutionised our approach to debt. There can be no doubt, Madam Speaker, about what our debt levels are and we all know our debt position. Our net debt position, Madam Speaker, rests at 22 per cent of GDP, well below the fiscal hurdle of 35 per cent.

We are the Party, Madam Speaker that introduced the Loan Repayment Fund. This is to ensure that we manage our debt prudently and we are the Party that has borrowed for infrastructure development for water, for roads and for renewable energy.

There is no doubt, Madam Speaker that the Government has focused on infrastructure. We are now moving close to our 50 per cent target of renewable energy by 2015 with the help of the New Zealand Government.

Our next step, Madam Speaker, is the Southern Group where we will have a total of \$27 million from various funding sources to be spent on renewable energy.

Let's look at the work, Madam Speaker. People have often made naïve comments about travel but let's look at the efforts, the results of those efforts. We will have obtained nearly \$50 million of investment in renewable energy and our contribution is \$13 million of that investment.

This sort of money, Madam

Speaker, doesn't fall on to your head by you sitting in your House and doing nothing. Our country is like a person. If you need help, you go out and look for it. You don't sit at home and expect someone to come and see you. If you want to buy a motor bike you go out and work for some money. If you are feeling sick you go out and see the doctor. Sitting at home will get you nothing.

This Government is delivering results, Madam Speaker and reducing our reliance on diesel. We will be moving on sanitation following on from the success of the Muri pilot project

where we are working with New Zealand to expand the program across Rarotonga and Aitutaki.

Kukupu Refit

Madam Speaker, I turn to our patrol boat, the Kukupu which is the busiest ship of its class in the Pacific. It has now gone to Australia for a \$6.5 million refit. Our patrol boat, Madam Speaker, has done 11,000 hours of work.

The next closest patrol boat in the Pacific has only done half of that. It is a testament, Madam Speaker, to the efforts of our Police Force and the patrol boat crew who have worked hard to maintain the integrity of our waters and protect our fisheries stock.

This is an important input and the Government is serious about the management of our fisheries and this not only means ensuring that we maximise sustainable levels of revenue, but that those who infringe in our waters are dealt with appropriately.

So far this year two fines have been imposed totalling \$1,225,000 in total. Due to confidentiality clauses in the agreements that were signed up to, we cannot go into any more detail on these fines but needless to say that all intents and purposes are well intended. We believe we can extract more than \$5 million we now receive from the issuing of licences and catch revenues.

If there is any example of the need to be one as a nation, it is a fact that our fishery is rich in the northern waters and whilst the benefits of tourism are mainly in the Southern Group, the benefits of our fisheries

arrive from the Northern Group.

Modernising our Public Service

Madam Speaker, we are modernising our Public Service and making it more productive, this means less forms and more IT systems. The new payroll and HR system provides a professional way of paying our staff and managing our leave.

The statistics on public sector employment which will be available in our Budget books to be distributed demonstrate some of the benefit of the information that we now have at our fingertips.

The automated customs, goods and processing system is now operating with the majority of importers using it and reporting a more efficient and easier processing of goods. We will then shift and move on to the next phase of automating the Immigration system which is still a highly manual process.

The Government will now continue to make investments into pushing the RMD system online enabling businesses to submit their monthly tax returns online and will greatly help business administration.

Our new online Asset Management System. This system will now be the repository of the Government's assets providing detailed data on the state of assets and when they need to be replaced. It will be used by all agencies of Government, including the SOEs.

MFEM have new created a payment gateway so that people can start purchasing goods and services off Government online. This will assist Cook Islanders overseas in particular who will be able to pay for their birth certificates online.

The new centralised network continues to grow providing for greater security of our information and a more systemic and considered approach towards our IT network across Government. Nearly 20 agencies and 500 public servants are accessing this system.

New Currency

Next year, Madam Speaker, we will reintroduce our Cook Islands coins and cease our importation of New Zealand coins. Coins are used

by everyone and contain important symbols of our nation.

On the 4th of August we will introduce the new coins to celebrate our independence. These coins are slightly smaller, similar to the size of the New Zealand coins and are made of different alloys.

The \$1 and \$2 coins will retain their shape but they will be gold in colour. The new \$5 coin, Madam Speaker, will feature a voyaging Vaka.

A testament to our Voyaging Society and our voyaging heritage and especially special with the landing of the Marumaru-Atua and the other voyaging Vaka yesterday in Australia.

But the best of all, Madam Speaker from the Minister of Finance perspective anyway, this will bring money into the government as opposed to us having to give it to the Reserve Bank of New Zealand.

Heavy Equipment

Many of us will be aware, Madam Speaker that the government has signed a contract with the Chinese providers of our heavy equipment. It has been two years in the making of this particular project.

It's been some time but we are now very happy that around six and half million dollars' worth of equipment will be provided to all of our Outer Islands in the new year and I know that the Minister for ICI and also the Members of Parliament for our individual islands will have an opportunity to explain the specific machineries that will be going to each of the islands.

All good things come in good time, Madam Speaker and although we have waited a while for this machinery, I can say that it is coming at a very, very appropriate time.

Madam Speaker, to conclude after a very difficult election we can now confirm the business of governing. Let's get on with the business of governing and investing in our people and in our communities and our nation and together let's forge a path for prosperity as we hold our heads up high and march on to the next 50 years and Madam Speaker with that I commend the Budget to the House.

Thank you very much.

Cook Islander is Oceania Handball General Secretary



Today 23 October, the Founding Congress of the Oceania Continent Handball Federation took place in GuToday 23 October, the Founding Congress of the Oceania Continent Handball Federation took place in Guam. Led by IHF President Dr Hassan Moustafa, 12 Member Federations from the region gathered in the offices of the Oceania National Olympic Committees in order to establish the Continent's Handball Federation as a first step towards membership in the International Handball Federation.

Mr Ricardo Blas, President of the Guam Handball Federation, was elected as President of the Oceania Continent Handball Federation receiving more votes in the process than Mr Alex Gavrilovic (AUS). Mrs Makiroa Mitchell-John (front right) from the Cook Islands was elected as Secretary General, and Mr Robert Doko, President of Papua New Guinea Handball Federation,

will serve as Vice-President of the Oceania Continent Handball Federation. Mr Carl Floor from American Samoa is the elected Treasurer.

Additionally Mr Ishmael Nori from the Solomon Islands has been elected as additional member of the Executive Committee.

Besides the election of the positions in the Executive Committee, the Oceania Congress elected the chairpersons of the OCHF Commissions. Mrs Joann Aquino from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands was elected as Chairwoman of the Commission of Organizing and Competition (COC), Mr Charles Nelson as Chairman of the Playing Rules and Referees Commission (PRC) and Mr Mark Dawson from Australia as Chairman of the Beach Handball Commission (BC). Mrs Helen Boyd from Australia will be the Chairwoman of the Arbitration Commission.

Clarifying Issues Around Applicable Standards for Te Mato Vai

Recent press on quality assurance processes around the Te Mato Vai ring main construction has not captured the level of quality assurance processes which are being undertaken to ensure the quality of the ringmain pipeline.

The previous quality assurance process which was applied during the construction of the pipeline laid through the "Project City" project involved only testing for water pressure.

As Mr Latu Kupa, project manager Te Mato Vai clarified in his letter to the Editor of the Cook Islands News, the laying of the pipeline for Te Mato Vai has undertaken a more stringent two stage testing process. The first stage being water pressure testing, to test for leaks in the pipes, the second test being peels tests to check the adhesiveness of the electro fusion welds that join the separate lengths of pipe.

Of the twenty joints which have been tested since the commencement of the ring main, of these 19 have passed and the testing of one sample is currently being reviewed by CCECC and Kew.

The recently completed detailed design for Te Mato Vai has outlined that the maximum pressure existing anywhere along the pipeline will be 7 Bar. Testing is being undertaken to 9 Bar as per the New Zealand Standard 2566 (2008).

Kew is contracted to supervise the quality of the work being done and has engaged a quality assurance specialist. This quality assurance specialist is inspecting both the work and the subsequent two stage testing.

The arrangement between Kew and CCECC is working well and there is a high level of confidence amongst all stakeholders that the standard of work being undertaken will meet accepted New Zealand and Australian standards.

Stallions gallop off with Seven's title

By Poko Utia

What a lovely day to start such a spectacular event. 7s in heaven 'Pride 25' was the theme of this year's 7s this was to "commemorate twenty five years of wonderful rugby moments and memories and friendships forged along the way" quoted by the president herself Lara Sadaraka.

The majority of the spectators there were the Fiji community cheering and supporting their team Tabusoro another lot of spectators were supporting the stallions a popular team that's been attending 7s for three years now.

There were quite a few people cheering for other teams such as the Tauea bulls, T.K.V, Tupapa panthers, Avatiu boys, Bad boys, Bombay Hawks last year's champions, stallions, Tabusoro, Rebels, Araura enua, Atiu warriors, Royals and lastly the Angels. These were the lucky teams that made it to semi finals but were unable to beat the mighty Tabusoro and stallions, each team giving it their all though they lost they left with pride walking around the stadium with their trophy's while there fans screamed and took their photos even though they'd lost each team was as determined as the next team to make a comeback and win next's years 7s in heaven.

While the games carried on there were stalls lined up side by side selling delicious food from BBQ to kebabs, chicken rolls, steak rolls to dessert and the children's favourite lollies. A new vendor there was the Reef side café which became very popular with the people buying their ice mocha and ice coffee.

Before the finals began between the Tabusoro and Stallions people were asked to sign up for the dash for cash and you won \$100. There was a males section and females section, the first race was the females section a young lady won whose name won't be mentioned due to this person wanting it to remain confidential, the second was the males section where a young man won Morgan Wichman winning it two years in a row.

When the 'dash for cash' was



2014 Sevens Champions, the Stallions - photo by Courtney Matai

over there was the best costume awards this filled the stands with excitement seeing the different lot of costumes walking down the track to greet the judges in front of the grandstand. The outstanding costume there were the characters from Rio, their costumes captured the audience and judges swelling.

Not only was 'dash for cash' or the 'best costume awards' exciting but there was also a dance performed in front of the grandstand which is performed every year at the 7s but this year's one was different and more surprising then the past years 7s in heaven. The people who performed were spectacular with their dance

routines and choreography was just heartwarming especially for the parents whose kids were a part of the dance. What made the dance lively weren't only the adults but the combinations of both teenagers, adults and the little one's was just amazing.

After all that excitement the finals began the audience began to cheer as their teams ran onto the field heads held up high, eager to win the this year's tournament. The games kicked off, both team determined to win you could feel such intensity of the game, not being certain who was going to win the Fiji community cheering and singing in the grandstand. First goal going to Tabusoro scoring

5 points on the board wasn't a successful conversion therefore leaving them with 5 points, but stallions wouldn't render they fought back and earned 5 points on the score board therefore coming to a draw. Unfortunately for the Tabusoro team the Stallions were able to sneak past their defenses and winning the game by 5 points extra.

Lara Sadaraka was overjoyed and says that this year's 7s in heaven has meet her expectations but is going to find ways of bettering it by gathering more overseas teams to come down a play and is looking for more local women's team to come and play at next year's 7s in heaven.



Pearl farmers begin to receive equipment

The Manihiki Island Government has commenced dispersing pearl equipment supplied as part of the Cook Islands and New Zealand pearl revitalisation programme. The programme aims to encourage the sustainable growth of the Cook Islands pearl industry through an increase in production and quality.

Eighteen pearl farmers on the Manihiki atoll in the northern group have qualified to receive a portion of the \$1.15 million grant. This will be injected into their businesses through the provision of various types of equipment which will assist them to improve production and quality. The equipment include items such as ropes and floats, which are used directly to suspend the pearl producing oysters in the lagoon, as well as building equipment used to revitalise seeding facilities. To be eligible to receive equipment farmers were required to meet specific criteria:

- being an active farmer who has produced at least 500 pearls per annum for at least the previous two years;
- be a member of the Manihiki Pearl Farmer's Association (MFPA); and
- a current permit holder, compliant with all relevant conditions.

Additionally, farmers are required to sign up to the Manihiki lagoon management plan to help protect the lagoon.

The equipment being supplied forms part of a subsidised grant scheme whereby farmers are required to pay 20 per cent of the cost of the equipment into a revolving fund administered by the Manihiki Island Government. Those funds will then be used to maintain a bulk store of equipment for further pearl industry development.

The initial list of equipment requested by farmers was vetted and agreed to by representatives of the Manihiki Pearl Farmers Association, the Ministry of

Marine Resources and the Manihiki Island Government.

A major bonus of the grant programme is a potential cleanup of the Manihiki lagoon. Under the new arrangements, successful pearl farmers are required to sign up to the new management plan to protect the lagoon. It will also provide an orderly procedure for the licensing of new farms.

Mayor of Manihiki Ngamata Napara outlined that after the long wait the farmers are very pleased to get their equipment. "The farmers are very keen to get to work. Two farmers have already been in to pay their deposit and we expect more to come in next week."

Each farmer has received a mixture of material specific to their individual farming needs:

- farming equipment such as ropes, floats and baskets;
- construction material for the rehabilitation of seeding houses, such as cement, timber, roofing iron and nails (seeding houses are often shared amongst farmers); and
- diving equipment, such as tanks, snorkels, flipper and masks.

The farmers who have been deemed eligible to receive equipment are as follows:

- Trainee Samson \$9,349
- Apii Piho \$13,462
- Bernadino Kaina \$3,865
- Helen McKenzie \$24,295
- Kaina Karaponga and Reni Karina \$18,861
- Makira \$40,515
- Tangi Toka \$11,658
- Mataio Johnson \$73,531
- Tina Browne \$10,300
- Ricaldo William \$14,748
- Tuatai Piniata \$19,485
- John Koteka \$8,419
- John Mc Leod \$39,689
- Kora Kora \$58,807
- Mehau and Mokoha Johnson \$51,091
- Vavia Dean Nimau \$15,932
- Sam Karaponga \$61,500
- Tangi Napara \$15,736

TUATUA AKAMEITAKIANGA

Kia orana it e aroa ranuinui rava o to tatou Metua Atua. Te oronga atu nei au i taku akameitaki anga nui rava kia kotou te aronga angaanga o te CITV, (Mauke Day Promotion te aronga angaanga o te Ratio Aunty Nga Teao Papatua ma (radio thon) e pera teia au aronga i raro nei no ta kotou tauturu maata, ranuinui, atupaka, ngao ia maua ko taku tamaine per ate ngutuare Tangata katoatoa it e tuatau o te TAREKARAKA MANEA i Mauke.

Makiroa Mitchel John te tokorua e to tatou Metuavaine Uritaua Mataiapo Keu Mitchell, Hon MP Aunty Mau, Papa Ngari Munokoa, ta korua aronga angaanga, Macan, Martha e te ngutare Tangata pera Aunty Henrica Marona e te iti Tangata Democratic Party e noo ki roto iakoe e Nikao pera Katoa Nikao Oire, Aunty Moe Van Eijk e te nguare Tangata pera ta korua aronga angaanga

Hon Selina Matenga, toou tokorua to korua ngutuare Tangata e tae uatu kite au Democratic Supporters o Titikaveka, Michelle e Aunty Tuaine Wigmore te family, Vainerii e te aronga angaanga, Dr Janet Matenga toou tokorua ta korua anau, Paeru Matenga to kotou Metuavaine Tutai Matenga e te ngutuare Tangata, Aunty Renne, Te au Ona Business Prime Food, CITC SUPERMARKET, Raro Mart.

Aunty Moe e te aronga angaanga o te SAVA, Sean Willis te au pilots, Timaau Mokoroa e te aronga angaanga katoatoa o te Air Rarotonga, Kurikuri Rangatira Tina Maoate e te family, Tupakau Rangatira Pauline Kirikava e te family, Mike Henry e Kuraono, Papa Mayor Fred Tereva te enua Tangata Nukuroa, Rev Nooana e Mama Orometua, Aunty Linda e Uncle Tangata Vavia, Mami Akamoe Tereva e te family, Tokai e te tokorua, Babe Pokino, Hon MP Wesley Kareroa e te family, Rev Yakilia Vailoa e te family, Vaikaute Paio e te family. Papa Tei Paio e te family, Uncle Alan Aunty Tuaine Tuara e te family te tere o te Iitangata Auau to kotou au kopu Tangata katoatoa

Rev Frank Williams Mama Orometua e te iti Tangata Enuamanu, Hon MP Nandie Glassie e Uncle Man, Hon Rose Toki to kotou au kopu Tangata, Teva Simiona, Aunty Naomi Mataio Brothers, Tiraa Arere and familye te iti Tangata Araura Enua, Uncle Tapi Taio te family, Te aronga angaanga o Taio Shipping, Fonga e Josh, Malcom Sword, Okirua Apera. Takau Ngaoire Capt Joe e te aronga angaanga o te Kau, Te Kamupani RVK, Jay e te aronga angaanga katoatoa, Rima David e te Aronga angaanga o te muri Outlet Tina e Marie, Moeroa, Inangaro Love Tupuna toou tokorua te anau per ate iti Tangata Akatokamanava i Rarotonga nei, Justina Nicholas & family, Nane Hand e Onasis Oaariki, Toto Mariri e te tokorua per ate ngutuare, Munokoa e Tauu Porea per ate ngutuare, Tuakana Ngaro (Kapuere) ete ngutuare, Teuru e Ngere pera ta korua family,

Irene Tupuna e te aronga Bowling o Rarotonga nei, iti Tangata Mangaia o Rarotonga nei Uncle Tua Papatua, Aunty Nga, Rennie e Noo Ngametua, Kumiti o te Mangaia Hostel Iti Tangata Tupapa e to kotou au Kumiti o te tupapa Club House, Iti Tangata Golf te Tianara George e te aronga Golf katoatoa o Rarotonga nei (Ambrose Golf)

Papa Mayor Tini Ford e te Iti Tangata Tongareva, Papa e mama Orometua o Omoka e Tetautua, Papa Saitu Takaikura, Papa Tauturu Orometua, Iti Tangata Housie katoatoa o Rarotonga nei (Super Housie), Mr and Mrs Mataira Ake, Jollum e Merei Akarana (Pere Manga), John Tumaka Short e Non opera te ngutuare Tangata, Kia kotou katoatoa tei kore i taiku ia kia tae Katoa te aroa o te Atua kia kotou. Ei te Atua tatou katoatoa e te araara mate tuatua i tona aroa ua. AMENE

**TUNGANE AERENGA WILLIAMS ETE FAMILY
MAUKE**

How to succeed in life

part 1

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

The purpose of this article is to encourage you to live a successful life by re-looking at yourself and see how things can be improved. The main Bible reading is Philippians 3v.12-21. Although our model is the Lord Jesus Christ, we will look at the Apostle Paul as our next example. Paul is an incredible person. He lived life to the full! In Philippians 3v.1-11 it speaks about Paul's past. This is his 'autobiography'! From v.12-21 it speaks about Paul's present life and also the future as he sees it. Paul encourages us to follow his example. v.17 reads "Join with others in following my example, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you." The question is, "What is Paul's pattern?" In our reading, Paul explains 4 main points to successful living!

1. EVALUATION

This is facing our 'faults, our mistakes!' Admit that you have a long way to grow! You're not perfect! Look at your life! Know your situation before you move on! Know the areas that needs improvement in your life! Paul was honest about his faults! In v.12-13 Paul said "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect. I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it." The Good News Bible reads "I don't claim that I have already succeeded or become perfect."

Paul at this stage is an old man, yet he never claimed to have it all. Yet Paul wrote most of the New Testament. He single handedly spread Christianity throughout the Roman Empire, which eventually impacted the whole world. Yet, Paul is saying "I don't have it all

together, I haven't arrived, I'm not perfect, I'm still growing!"

The point here is, successful people never stop growing! They're always developing, growing, expanding, learning! Today, too many Christians have this mentality "No problem!" Thinking that they're Mr/Mrs Perfect! Friend, the more we grow, the more aware we are of our limitations, our weaknesses! The beginning of Successful Living is to know our Faults! to be Honest! Evaluate ourselves! We're always good at evaluating others faults, but never ours! Proverbs 28v.13 (GN) reads "You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. Confess them and give them up, then God will show mercy to you."

2. ELIMINATION

Forget the former things, let go of your past! v.13 reads "This one thing I do, forgetting what is behind." Paul is saying, if I want to be what God want me to be, then "I'm not going to waste any more time on yesterday!" "My past is gone, I'll get on with the present!" Success involves learning 'to forget!' Isaiah 43v.18 reads "Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing..." "...to forget..." means..."Don't let the past affect you anymore". "Don't let it control you, or have power over you!"

Jesus has eliminated your past on Calvary! Successful people learn from the past without dwelling on the past! When babies touch the fire for the first time and it burns, then next time round, they don't touch it.

There are 2 things we need to forget if we're going to follow Paul's pattern.

1.) Our failures

Too many Christians rehearse things in there

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi



hearts, that God has long forgiven and forgotten! Paul said "I've learn to forget the past!" Everybody makes mistakes! We have mistakes in the past we regret doing! Paul is perhaps the worse! He persecuted the Church! He killed believers! Yet Paul forgets his past!

2.) Our Successes

It is easy to 'rest on our past successes' and to think

of "Those good old days!" Let it go! 'Success' if not handled carefully will bring 'pride' (parau) ! and then, you will stop growing and learning, then you will fail! Jesus said "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." (Luke 9v.62)

I will continue with Part 2 of this article next week. God bless, te Atua te aroa.

End of High School

By Nadia George

The end of school is upon us. Monday marked the first day of my last week of high school or college. It's a bittersweet moment for most year thirteen's as we gear up for the finish line. We've been impatiently waiting for this moment for four years and now all we want to do is hit pause and slow it down so we can enjoy our last fleeting moments of our high school life. What an experience it has been so far, the ups and downs, the friends we've made along the way and the friends we've lost too. The countless hours of studying, learning and growing as individuals ready to set sail into the big bad world. I can honestly say that my college years have been the best years I've had and am saddened that on Friday my journey will come to its end. What a journey it has been.

I imagined my final week at school this year to be like ones I had experienced in the past but it was far from it. There was no fire truck spraying us in the quad, there was no shared lunch and the worst part of it all was that teachers still expected us to do school work. Well I guess that's the real world.

My week had been chock-a-block full with dance rehearsal after dance rehearsal and assessment due dates creeping up on me all too quickly. Like my teacher always says 'if only I had enough hours in the day'... All my free time, after school time and lunch times had been poured into practicing for and perfecting our final girls senior dance number that we'll be performing on stage this Thursday. I think it's pretty safe to say that our dance will kick some serious butt on its debut and will definitely be a performance that we can all be proud of. With the boys having logged a lot more hours of practice into their performance than the girls, we'd had to work extra, extra



hard to get ours in tip-to shape and I'm certain that our dance is as good, if not better than the boys.

This has become warfare between the two genders, seeing as the boys were the first ones to throw down the challenge, but all I can say is the girls are looking pretty strong this year. Not being bots, just saying lol. From the seductive tones of the infamous Pussy Cat Dolls and the Queen herself, Mrs. Carter, to the funky, fun loving sounds of Taylor Swift and Megan Trainor, our dance is sure to be a crowd pleaser.

Well here's hoping...fingers crossed and if it doesn't turn out how I've imagined it to be then forget everything I've said today.

So as I sit here writing my article instead of revising for exams, I am left to ponder and reflect on all the memories made here at Tereora. From all the good times to the bad ones, I will always remember my time at T.C and be proud of my accomplishments and the person I am leaving as. I am a product of Tereora College.

Tanu Maniota

By Tiana Haxton

After breakfast, Mum sourced a clean, 20 litre, plastic bucket with a lid. She started up the motor bike and rode back and forth from home to a nearby church; ferrying water. The bike is missing a muffler and Mum sounded like she was speeding carrying water in a trustee bucket atop an especially noisy bike. The church is 500 metres down the road and with an anticipated 10 trips to make; Mum paced herself. She achieved filling a 200 litre 'Wheelie Bin'. This is our dedicated stow for water.

Living here on an outer island, it is not unusual to run short of water. Of all the possible weather conditions; Clement or Inclement; Mitiaro is most susceptible to 'Drought'. Our 6,000 litre, rain catchment tank was empty and the church 5,000 litre tank down the road was brimming...from time to time, like us, others in the community are able to supplement respective water supply(s) at home, from here. Meanwhile, we, as an island nation, look forward to much needed rainfall on parched land to replenish crops, animals and people; restoring wellbeing.

The dry season is from September through to the end of January. We manage in the knowledge that it takes ten 20 litre buckets to fill a 200 litre Wheelie Bin; requiring ten trips on an old patikara matini me turituri. This volume will sustain our household of 4, for about 2 days. Every second day, Mum or mums partner Ron, perform this task weather permitting, all over again.

Papa Neke oversees the upkeep of the nearby church and was mowing the lawns there on the very same morning mum was ferrying water/amuamu vai. It was a Saturday, the day before father's day in September

and according to the arapo/moon calendar, it was also tangaroa/full moon. It is important to a planter to be ever aware of moon phases. He invited us as a family to accompany him inland later in the day. He suggested we, together plant arrowroot/tanu maniota or cassava. Mum accepted and it was then decided we would go when morning chores were complete or as papa simply stated at 11:30am when it would be low tide. Apparently, it is timely to plant 'root crops' that bear their goodness below ground to coincide with low tide.

While Papa Neke was completing mowing lawns and mum was waiting for a bucket to fill, along came Noo Pouao who was enquiring after Papa Neke. Noo wanted to know if Neke had yet picked up maniota plants earlier offered for replanting. Papa assured his source for new shoots that we were about to head inland to pick up, transport and replant maniota.

Papa Neke has a Blue Honda 90cc motor bike which he picked my younger brother Clay up on; doubling him inland. Mum left without me promising to return for me a little while later. She understood she would be put to task to carry a load; a load to heavy to carry as well as double me.

They travelled inland along the Takaue- Auta road/aranui till they arrived at a fork ormanga where they veered right cutting across more of inland now headed toward Teinu. Teinu is coastal on the other side of the island. There was no need to venture so far for their first stop is to remain inland of there to pick up pre pulled up and unearthed plants already harvested of their edible roots then the remaining plants placed in the shade to be transplanted later.

When the PM gets to Sydney town to meet up with the Vaka crew and sail through Sydney Heads to the jetty, how will he be transferred to the Vaka? Lowered by chopper? Jump from a boat to the Vaka? We await the event with interest as it is to be filmed! Will the PM slip up and land in the water? Hope not! Plenty of sharks around that spot, especially those with the white tips!



that he tripped up on the stairs and almost kissed the concrete!



Want to pick up some easy dosh? Just run around the island with a plastic bucket! Get some of your mates involved. Don tee shirts, shorts and sports shoes and run! Fundraising by this method has become so common now that people seldom ask what the collection is for and just throw money into the bucket.



Has te Minita o te Health been paying attention to the Budget allocation for his Ministry? While crowing about the overall increase in his allocation, te Minata did not detect a cunning move by Dick the Taliban who stealthily cut back some items in the Health Budget! It seems te Minita was so busy focusing on his PhD studies, his mind was elsewhere! And so it would be if your PhD Supervisor was the one and only international high flyer and former MP thorn in NZ PM Piggie Muldoon's side, Marilyn Waring!



alongside the jetty downtown! Why? So the foreign fishers can sail in and offload! Where's Mike? He may be able to get his boat, the Tiare Taporo in as well!



Servant of the Public, laid up in the house of medication and pills on the hill, will be surprised upon his return to base after a two month confinement, to discover someone has landscaped his property! Gone are the former bumps-now flattened and also the grass! Not the puffing type!



the doo dahs? Te Minita said he was not blaming anyone but what of Dick the Taliban?



Oh dear chooks! How the mighty have toppled! Or been demoted from the "A" list! Elite group, not unlike the Hollywood wives, are sore their highly anticipated invites to a large end of year soiree did not appear! This is one of the highlights of the year, an exclusive event on the high society calendar not to be missed. But this Chardonnay sipping group, having been overlooked by the event organizer, beat a hasty trail to him at the higher level. But he was having none of it! Better luck next year girls!



Another way to make easy money is to run a workshop and invite government ministries to send staff. The topic does not have to be anything relevant as workshops have become so common, ministries just send staff to them whether they are relevant to their work or not. It's one way for public servants to avoid real work. Select a topic that is totally useless to anyone but provide plenty of coffee and finger food. Get your info off the internet.



Yet another brilliant, easy way to make some cash is to run a competition for cash prizes. For instance, a fishing competition where the entry fee far exceeds the prize money so what's left over is a tidy sum for yourself.



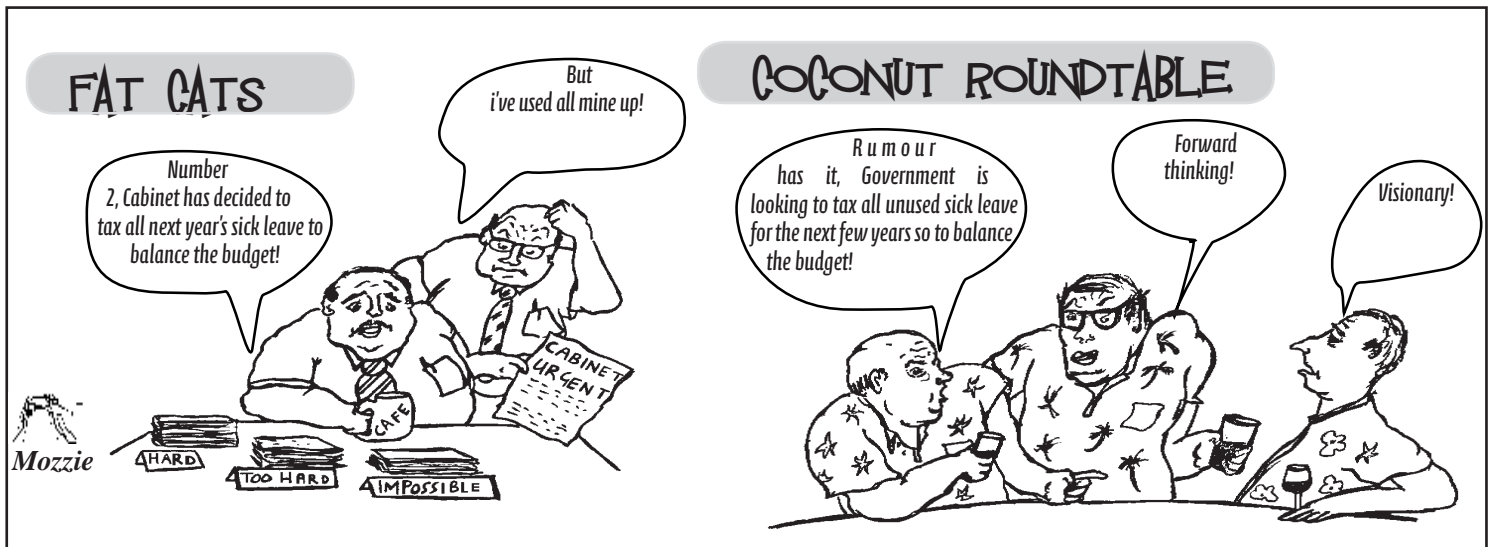
Who is the group of high ranking foreigners who landed and lo, were frowning-"Where is the welcome?" They were soon whisked off to the Eden up north to place one foot on an island and lo! They were so impressed, they donated \$20,000 to a local organization! Red faced PM hurriedly summoned his troops to meet the group-on Saturday! Did Foreign Affairs fall over?



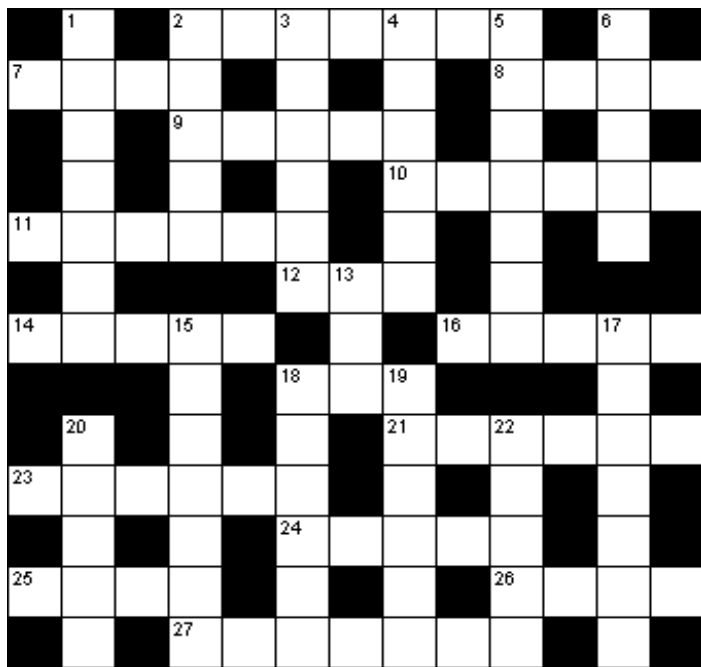
Te Minita o te Moni lapped up the budget breakfast buffet on Thursday with eggs and sausages going down his guzzler but chooks, later on, the egg went on his face when mysteriously, the wrong speech notes of his statement ended up in Aitutaki hands! Te Minita later admitted he was red faced but muttered it was a genuine error which was later put right! "It's the putting right that counts!" Mr LV Martin of LV Martin's appliance store in Wellington used to say. But chooks, did anyone in Tricky Dicky's palace get the boot up the backside for dropping their Minita in

Whisper chooks is the harbour passage at Aitutaki may at long last be dredged deep enough to allow bigger vessels to enter and tie up

What's a bloke to do when the call of nature is heard? When you are the only bloke on duty, do you cross your legs and think of a nice place? Or do you make a run for it? The nearest bushes or portable loo? The sole camera operator at an event made a run for the portable, "Little John," made a dash for splash (not a dash for cash) and was back in a new sprint record of under ten seconds! In fact he was back at such speed



CROSSWORD



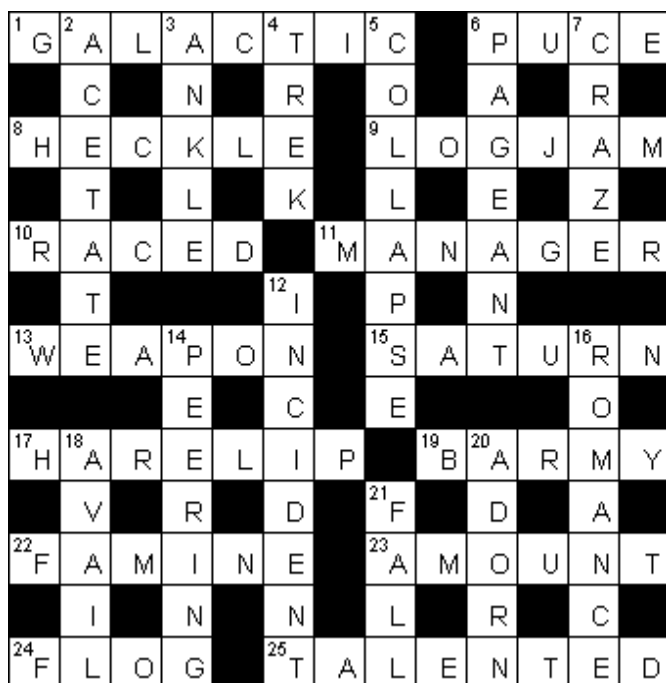
Across

- 2. Fishermen
- 7. Seed containers
- 8. Temperate
- 9. Pools
- 10. Demented
- 11. Flag
- 12. Yonder
- 14. Poisonous fluid
- 16. Aromatic fragrance
- 18. Flow back
- 21. Eraser
- 23. Island in Western Samoa
- 24. Having a specific number of sides (Suffix)
- 25. The power to reject
- 26. Metal

27. Convent for nuns

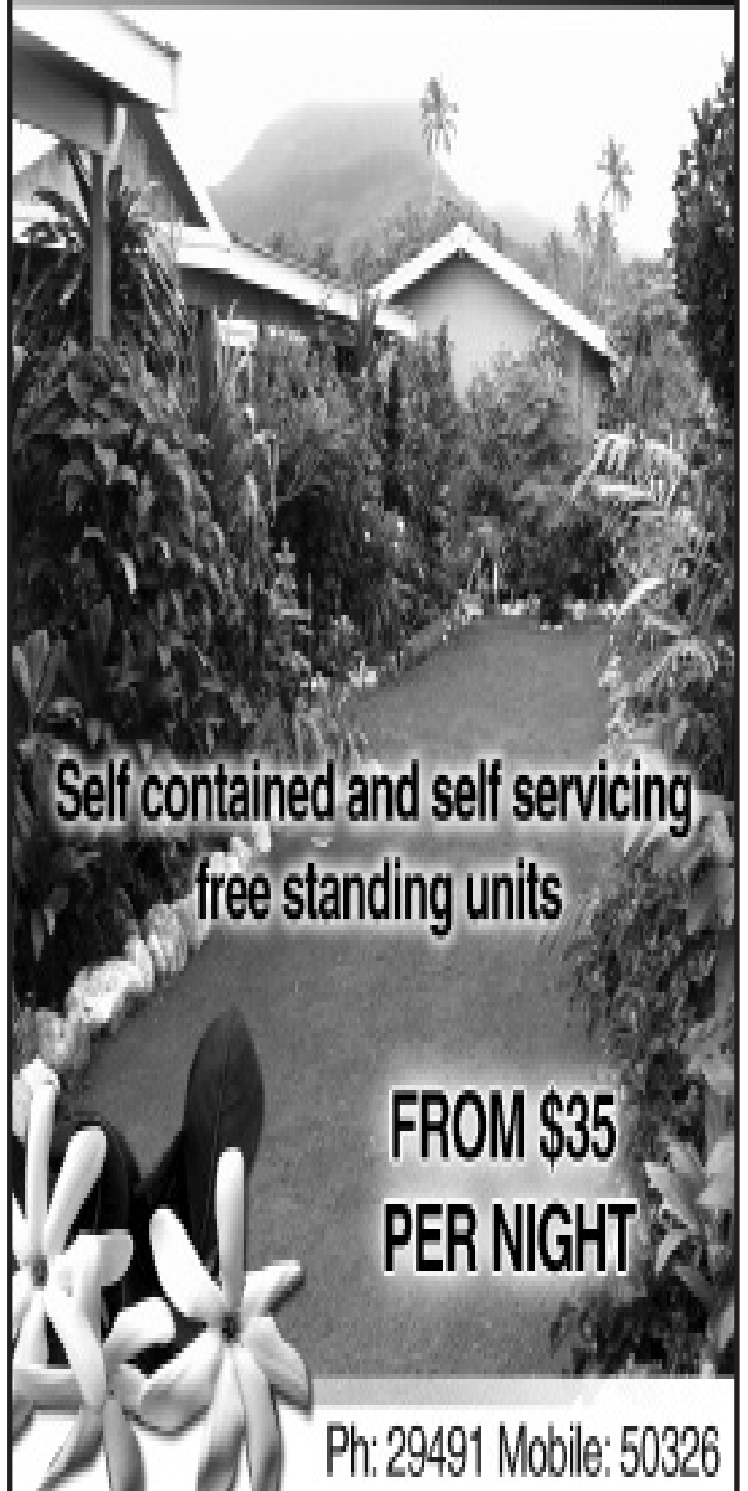
Down

- 1. Mail charge
- 2. Trembling poplar
- 3. Well-bred people
- 4. Banner
- 5. Wreck
- 6. Open and close the eye
- 13. Globe
- 15. Polygon having eight sides
- 17. Member of a crew
- 18. U.S. inventor
- 19. Horse restraint
- 20. Creates
- 22. In an inadequate manner



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TENDER



TENDER –POWER STATION - SCADA SYSTEM PROJECT

Te Aponga Uira is inviting suitably qualified groups to submit a tender for the design, procurement, supply, installation, commission of new SCADA system for its Power Station, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

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 12NOON Wednesday, 3rd Dec 2014, Cook Islands time.

Visit us on our website www.teaponga.com otherwise located on www.ppa.org.fj or www.mfem.gov.ck

For general enquiries please contact Alex Napa on 682 – 20054

TENDERS



TENDER – POWER HOUSE GENERATION PROJECT

Te Aponga Uira is inviting suitably qualified groups to submit a tender for the design, procurement, supply, installation, commission of new generators for its Power Station, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

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 26th Nov 2014, Cook Islands time.

For general enquiries please contact Alex Napa on 682 – 20054



TENDER – TO SUPPLY MANAGEMENT OF VEGETATION AT THE RAROTONGA AIRPORT PV FARM

Te Aponga Uira is inviting suitably qualified Individuals or Groups to submit a tender to supply management of vegetation at the Rarotonga Airport PV Farm.

Interested Individuals or Groups must registered their interests before 11am 6th November 2014, and which time there will be a Site Visit at the PV Farm for those registered to view between the hours of 12pm to 1pm on Thursday 6th November 2014.

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

Marlene Cuthers
PA
Te Aponga Uira, Rarotonga, Cook Islands
Ph: 20054
Email: marlene@electricity.co.ck

Closing date for the Tender submission is 3pm Wednesday 12th Nov 2014.

For general enquiries please contact Marlene Cuthers on 20054



Ministry of Marine Resources
GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS

MMR IT UPGRADE

The Ministry of Marine Resources (MMR) invite tenders for the supply of specialty IT hardware and software for its IT maintenance & upgrade.

Specifications and requirements can be uplifted from MMR office in Avarua downloaded at: <http://1drv.ms/ZZDHOL>. Tenders must be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to: MMR IT Equipment Tender 2014, PO Box 85, Cook Islands. For additional information contact IT Manager Dion Wigmore on 28721, email: d.wigmore@mmr.gov.ck. Tender closes on Friday 14th Nov 2014 at 4pm.



**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 Tender 15
Secretary of Education,
Ministry of Education, PO Box 97
Rarotonga, Cook Islands

New Hope Church

Parekura Conference Centre

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Sunday at 10.30am

Ui Ariki and Mataiapo Tutara of Enuamano declare two new Rauai on Atiu

The Ui Ariki and Mataiapo Tutara of Atiu have declared two new Rauai areas as of Wednesday 29 October 2014. The first Rauai is an area called Vai Piake to Te Miro, on land that belongs to exclusively to Ngamaru Ariki and Rongomatane Ariki and their immediate Kopu Ariki. The other Rauai site is a bijou coastal area known at Te Vai, on land that belongs to Paerangi Mataiapo Tutara and his Kopu Tangata.

The declarations of Rauai were decided upon after very lively discussions at the Iri Iri Kapua held in relation to Rauai and customary law, held on Tuesday 28 October at the community hall in town. The workshop was facilitated by the delegation from the House of Ariki and Koutu Nui who were hosted by the Ui Ariki of Atiu viz Ngamaru Ariki, Rongomatane Ariki, Mono o Parua Ariki and their four Mataiapo Tutara.

The format of the Iri Iri Kapua was to divide into three groups for their own discussions with simple questions (in Reo Maori) of where, by whom, how and when for Rauai, which were written on the large sheets of paper as a guide to participants. Their team leaders wrote their own conclusions on the sheets of paper provided for the purpose. All teams were enthusiastic about reviving the ancient practice of Rauai as a conservation tool.

Two teams, those with the Arikis and Mataiapo Tutara wanted to declare their Rauai that very day, (Tuesday 28 October 2014)



Ui Ariki and Mataiapo Tutara Declaring Rauai at Te Vai

whereas the third team decided on 2015. After some debate, the Ui Ariki in conjunction with the Island Council and the CICC Orometua decided that it was best to wait until after church on Wednesday 29 October and hold a dedication ceremony on-site at each of the two sites chosen to begin the Rauai system declared under the mana of the Ui Ariki and their Mataiapo Tutara with the support of the Island Government.

The deputy Mayor, and three team leaders were presented with a copy of the Legal Review Part B on customary law as it pertains to the Marae Moana, which was written by former Solicitor General, Janet Maki LLB. The Ui Ariki and Mataiapo Tutara had already been presented with copies of the same at the National Rauai Workshop held in Rarotonga in July 2014. The Rauai project is funded by IUCN-Global Blue and is to further the aims of the Marae Moana marine park.

TENDER



REQUEST FOR TENDER

PURCHASE AND SUPPLY OF VAIMARU GALLERY WATER PUMP, AITUTAKI CONTRACT NO. C14/07

Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) seeks tender proposals from Contractors for the Purchase and Supply of Vaimaru Gallery Water Pump, Aitutaki, Cook Islands.

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

Tenders close at 3pm on Monday, 17th November 2014, and must be submitted to the ICI Office in Arorangi and in accordance with the specific requirements of the Tender Document. Tenders must be submitted in hard copy format in two (2) separate envelopes marked accordingly, Envelope 1 or 2, labelled "CONFIDENTIAL" and addressed to:

The Secretary
Infrastructure Cook Islands
Arorangi
Rarotonga
Cook Islands

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

All Enquiries to be directed to:

Solomona Solomona
Contact Officer
Email: solomona.solomona@ici.gov.ck
Phone: +682 20321