

COOK ISLANDS HERALD

26 November 2014 \$2 (incl VAT)

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Law changes recommended by Court of Appeal in Mitiaro case

By Charles Pitt

Several disturbing aspects have emerged since the hearing into the Mitiaro case by the Court of Appeal on 17 November 2014.

The first is the erroneous assumption on the part of some CIP supporters that because the appeal was allowed, the CIP have won the seat and their candidate will be sworn in when parliament next sits. Nothing could be further from the truth as those who read the Court's decision will understand.

The second is the disappointing absence from the Court of key public service personnel. The important policy implications arising from this case should have seen government's policy makers in attendance. Nowhere to be seen were the Public Service Commissioner, Office of the Prime Minister policy officials, Justice Ministry policy personnel. The Court made several recommendations for legislative changes and these are highlighted below in the extracts from the decision.

Also of concern is the fact some members of parliament attending the hearing had no understanding of what was being said.

Extracts from the Court of Appeal decision heard 17 November 2014

Background

This appeal – by way of case stated – is made under section 102(2) of the Electoral Act 2004 (“the Act”). It is against a decision of Weston CJ given in the High Court on 18 September 2014. The Chief Justice dismissed a petition filed on 24 July 2014 concerning the election for the constituency of Mitiaro brought by the Appellant (CIP's-Tuakeu Tangatapoto). He held that, once that petition had been withdrawn on the application of the Appellant with the leave of the Court, there could be no consideration of a notice of opposition and a “counter-petition” brought by the First

Respondent (Demos-Tangata Vavia) on 6 August 2014.

2. Before the petition was withdrawn by the First Respondent, counsel for the First Respondent had sought an assurance from the Judge that, once leave to withdraw had been granted, the ‘counter-petition’ could have no independent life and should be dismissed. The Judge agreed with counsel and made the order sought.

3. At the time of the Judge's decision, the votes for the electorate of Mitiaro were evenly divided between the Appellant and the First Respondent. The Chief Justice therefore ordered a by-election as required by section 81 of the Act in such circumstances. That by-election has now been held but the votes have not been counted. No declaration of poll has been made by the Returning Officer. The making of any such declaration is dependent on the outcome of this appeal.

4. The questions for decision are:

a. Does this Court have jurisdiction to consider this appeal, should it be an appeal from an order because of in section 58(5)(d) of the Judicature Act 1980-81.

b. Can a ‘counter-petition’ brought pursuant to section 92(4) of the Act be considered by the High Court sitting as an Electoral Court given the original petition has been withdrawn?

Decision

16. Counsel for the First Respondent submitted that from a consideration of these cases there was good reason for allowing a ‘counter-petition’ to continue even after the original petition had been withdrawn or determined. The combination of sections 92 and 94 justified this conclusion. All issues before the Court ought to be dealt with given the urgency that must accompany election petitions. Section 96 provides an all-embracing jurisdiction to ‘enquire into and adjudicate in any matter relating to the

petition in such manner as the Court sees fit. Section 98(2) also so indicates. Section 99 gives the Court, not only a power to hear evidence not normally admissible, but also directs that the Court “should be guided by the substantial merits and justice of the case”.

17. The Court agrees with the submissions of counsel for the First Respondent. As Speight CJ expressed in *Re Ruauu*, there is initial surprise in the proposition that there can be a counter-petition in the absence of specific reference in the Act. However, in the special all-embracing jurisdiction of an electoral court, the aim must be to deal with all allegations regarding an election in the one proceeding. The reasons given by Speight CJ are adopted, supported as they are by the reasoning in the Samoan case. As the Samoan case opined the legislation deals with corruption generally and does not permit its exposure or concealment to remain the province of the respective parties.

18. The term ‘counter-petition’ or ‘cross-petition’ is simply a shorthand way of enunciating the effect of the Act confers the status of party on any other candidate or interested person (s94) in a proceeding required to be heard very quickly (s195) where the Court has jurisdiction to enquire into and adjudicate upon any matter relating to the petition in such manner as the Court sees fit (s96(1)) and when there are dire consequences for any elected candidate found by the Court to have committed a corrupt practice (s98(1)).

19. The Electoral Court should be able to enquire into any serious allegation made either by way of petition under section 92(1) or by way of notice under section 94.

20. The question in the Case Stated was:

“If a petition for inquiry into the conduct of an election is withdrawn, is the result that a counter-petition comes to and

end?: The answer is: ‘No’.”

21. The Appeal is therefore allowed. The ruling of the Court means that the Mitiaro election petition hearing has not been completed. It must be sent back to the High Court for hearing. It need not necessarily be heard by the Chief Justice since he did not embark on the merits. The High Court will have to hear the petition, if the petitioner (who had earlier sought leave to withdraw the petition) decides to proceed with it. Whether or not the petition proceeds to a hearing, the matters raised by the Appellant in the counter-petition will need to be investigated by the High Court.

22. Accordingly there will be an order under section 105(1) of the Act directing the High Court to consider and adjudicate upon the petition and the matters covered in the Appellant's section 94 notice (referred to as the ‘counter-petition’).

23. The Appellant is entitled to costs against the First Respondent which we fix at \$3,000.00. The Registrar is directed to pay this sum to the Appellant's solicitors out of the security for costs paid by First Respondent.

24. Before parting with this appeal we make the following recommendation to the Legislation for statutory procedural reform.

a. The Case Stated appeal procedure is inefficient and obsolete and requires unnecessary expenditure of time by the trial Judge and counsel. Section 102(2) should be replaced by a provision giving a right of appeal to this Court from any final determination of the High Court on a question of law.

b. The Electoral Act should be amended to require persons cross petitioning by way of notice under section 94, to pay a filing fee and to give security for costs. There should also be a time limit on a ‘counter petition’ - say 7 days from the filing of the petition.

Dated this 21st day of November 2014 at Rarotonga.

Local consortium looks certain to seal purchase of Telecom NZ shares

By Charles Pitt

As yet unconfirmed reports have reached the Herald that the sale of Telecom NZ's 60% share in Telecom Cook Islands may be sealed as soon as early in December 2014.

The Herald understands that the preferred buyer will be confirmed later by Telecom NZ as local consortium, Teleraro Ltd, a company formed by Brian Baudinet and a team made of up Telecom Management in conjunction with Bluesky Samoa Ltd (BSL). The Herald understands that Bluesky Cook Islands Investment Ltd (BCIIL) will hold shares on behalf of BSL in Teleraro.

If the bid is confirmed then Teleraro will have beaten out local bids by Kukicel Ltd (later Orama Ltd) and Bruce Mita-all lodged before the close of the advertisement period 10 June 2014.

Teleraro was set up by Brian Baudinet and the Telecom Managers group to promote the wish of locals interested in purchasing share in Telecom Cook Islands (TCI). There was a strong reaction by locals both here and overseas to the likely sale of Telecom NZ's shareholding to an overseas company, Digicel. Local artist Mike Tavioni had a strong reaction from Cook Islanders to his proposal that shares be made available for locals to purchase. While Tavioni limited his shares to one per person at \$1,000 each, many responded by indicating they were willing to invest \$10,000 or more. The Herald understands from Tavioni that he will align his supporters with Baudinet's

group. The proposal includes restructuring TCI to include the participation of Bluesky Samoa Ltd (BSL).

Bluesky Samoa Ltd (BSL) is a fixed line, mobile, internet and pay television service provider. It is part of the Bluesky Group which includes Bluesky Communications (fixed line, mobile, internet, pay TV provider in American Samoa); American Samoa Entertainment Inc (pay TV provider in American Samoa); American Samoa Hawaii Cable LLC (owner/ operator of the undersea fibre optic cable linking the two Samoa's with Hawaii).

BSL's annual revenue averages around US\$ 33m. It took over SamoaTel Ltd from the Samoa Government in 2011 and competes against Digicel. Some 25% of BSL's shares are held by Unit Title of Samoa and other local investors with 75% of the shares held by Bluesky Samoa Tel Investment Ltd.

Shareholding

BSL is to invest in the Cook Islands through its subsidiary BCIIL. BCIIL will hold 75% of the shares in local company Teleraro Ltd and its local business partners Teleraro MANAGEMENT Ltd will hold the remaining 25%. The Herald understands BCIIL has been incorporated and is owned completely by BSL.

Teleraro is the joint venture group that is buying the TNZ shares. The Teleraro Ltd group comprises BCIIL who the Herald understands will hold 75% of the shares, Teleraro Management Ltd which will hold 25% of the shares.

Teleraro will replace the

Telecom NZ Cook Island Holdings Ltd ("TCNZCIHL") which was the investment company formed for Telecom NZ which invested in the Cook Islands.

Teleraro Management Ltd (TML) will be owned completely by the TCI management and staff and local investors. The Herald understands they will own 25% of Teleraro Ltd. Its shareholding will be held in trust by BCIIL until all shares have been paid up by the local investors. The local investors

under Brian Baudinet will be allowed 6 months to pay for their 15% shareholding in Teleraro Ltd or 10 shares in TCI.

The remaining 10% of shares in Teleraro will be owned by Telecom Cook Islands staff and management. Their arrangement is slightly different in that they will be allowed 5 years to pay up their shares. The Herald understands these shares will be financed through a loan from ANZ taken out by Teleraro Ltd and guaranteed by BSL and its parent company.



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The Dragon's claws

China raises the intensity of its relationship with Pacific Leaders

By Charles Pitt

It's been quite a week for Prime Minister Henry Puna on the international stage.

He has met with the French President, the Indian Prime Minister and the Chinese President. While these meetings have been due to an initiative involving Pacific Leaders and not a one on one invitation, PM Puna may still be able to claim sufficient cause for ascendancy to Statesman level.

However that ascendancy can only be confirmed by his peers, the rank and file from all walks of life at home. While PM Puna may be able to comfortably assimilate and converse with other leaders, it is the general public which has to be convinced of his genuine representation of us all on the international stage.

His busy travel schedule leads us to focus on his contribution from his foreign meetings and this leaves us to contemplate his contribution to local affairs and developments.

The value of a Statesman is not only in the degree to which they can promote our country overseas and obtain some advantage for the country to ensure its development, but also in the degree to which they can protect us from undue influences by foreign powers.

In regard to foreign influence, it is timely to consider the intensifying relationship with China and pose the question whether PM Puna will be able to control or regulate this intensity.

PM Puna will not want to go down in history as the leader who sold us down the river because he was mesmerized by Chinese offers promising much where development is concerned but to the eventual detriment of our traditional way of life.

Since the signing of the One China Policy document in 1997, followed later by the construction of the Courthouse, Police Headquarters and the Indoor Sports Stadium, one

cannot help feeling the Dragon's claws have been slowly sinking in.

When Finance Minister, Wilkie Rasmussen did not like what he was seeing happening in Samoa he froze the Chinese loan of \$37 million offered for upgrading the roads and water supply.

The CIP government unfroze the Chinese loan and pushed ahead with the projects. We may never know the truth behind the NZ government's involvement in the projects. Perhaps their presence is to keep an eye on the Chinese.

The One China Document is the only one of its kind. No other Pacific Nation has a similar one.

What is clear from this Document is that it opens the door for China to provide us with a wide range of assistance.

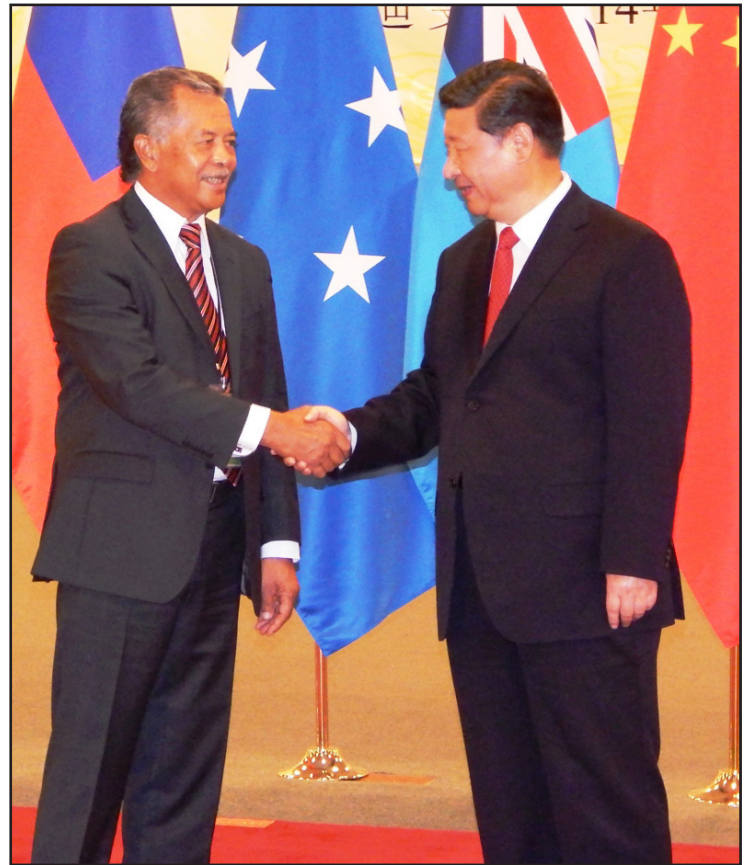
Therefore it should have been obvious to our Foreign Affairs people that some policy guidelines to regulate this involvement was necessary. The Chinese President himself referred to the meeting with Pacific Leaders as having its basis in the recognition of One China. This statement should have been enough to cause PM Puna to have another close look at the Document and its provisions.

The Chinese Presidents recent offer to PM Puna of \$4.1 million grant and more agricultural tractors to revitalize agriculture is further evidence of the relationship intensifying.

PM Puna responded, quote: "The Cook Islands is sincerely grateful for the help that China is providing, and we will certainly contribute to the growing relationship by stepping up our strategic and cooperative efforts in the months and years to come."

Comment: Not clear what these are.

In a media statement from the talks, quote: "Puna also raised several proposals, which were received positively for continued communication and



development with the Chinese Government.

Comment: No explanation what these proposals are.

The Prime Minister conveyed a special invitation to President Xi that he would be welcomed to travel to the Cook Islands for next year's celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary. The President extended his warm congratulations on the forthcoming milestone and confirmed that a high level delegation from China would be present for the celebrations.

The Prime Minister conveyed gratitude for China's assistance over past years and remarked that the maturing relationship meant the Cook Islands was ready to take the cooperative ties to another level.

Comment: Is the country ready let alone agreeable?

The President acknowledged that China was a willing partner, who was ready to help in several areas of expertise and exchange.

He said the practical steps of cooperation needed to continue and China would welcome the strengthening of visits at all levels, including youth, and artisan groups.

China will also do its best to improve the levels of tourism. The Cook Islands was recognised as a good friend and partner with the People's Republic, the President said.

The Cook Islands and China have pledged to work more closely together to strengthen their ties and elevate the level of cooperation to a new level of engagement."

Comment: What new level is this?

What is clear from PM Puna's talks with the Chinese President is that Puna has some further explaining to do.

It will be interesting to see what further carrots the high level delegation from China will dangle before our leaders at next year's celebrations.



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Vaka iron challenges day



Wednesday saw the start of the 6man Vaka Iron Challenge. Four races are to take place over distances of 12km and 18km depending on the weather. The races will involve U19 Juniors and Golden master men. *More photos on page 18*

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TattsLotto Sat 15/Nov/14, Draw 3477	
Winning Numbers	42 9 37 4 43 13
Supplementaries	23 1
TattsLotto Sat 08/Nov/14, Draw 3475	
Winning Numbers	16 22 19 20 35 27
Supplementaries	23 24
Oz Lotto Tue 18/Nov/14, Draw 1083	
Winning Numbers	29 38 44 14 37 28 30
Supplementaries	9 34
Oz Lotto Tue 11/Nov/14, Draw 1082	
Winning Numbers	43 25 10 33 2 41 21
Supplementaries	4 31
Powerball Thu 13/Nov/14, Draw 965	
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Ngati Uriarau investitures

Story and photos by Courtney Matai

On the 21st of November, the investiture of the Ngati Uriarau took place in upper Tupapa, where the blessing of the new marae and the anointing of the "Rangatira's".

The investiture started at 9am with the welcoming of the six Rangatira's with their 10-12 warriors accompanying them as they made their way towards the new sign for Marae Te Atukura Paepaepoto.

When they had arrived at the sign, the elders believed that the revealing of the new sign should be done by the younger ones because they are the future generation. The sign was then blessed by the Orometua, and a prayer was said afterwards.

From there, the sign was read to the public by a young man named Tanire Mokoroa who is currently attending Nukutere College. Each Rangatira and their warriors walked to their designated area and stood there, waiting to be anointed.

Nikao Maori school was among the crowd of people who attended this event to learn about their ancestry and culture.

The names of the Rangatira's are as listed, Tamakao Rangatira-Poko Heather, Puakaina Rangatira-Sam Crocombe, Tutemaeva Rangatira-Charlie Tamangaro, Parutu Enuia Rangatira- Maryanne Pirake and Teururenga Rangatira-Tui Nelio. When the Rangatira were anointed, a pig's head was bought to the Rangatira by warriors, and the ear of the pig was bitten.

This process was carried on by all Rangatira's followed by a speech and pe'e by the Rangatira and then they were seated with their warriors at their sides. After the anointing of the Rangatira's, the Orometua said a prayer for them, blessing them with their new title, followed by a procession on the marae. While all this was going on, the women and a few men prepared food for the Rangatira and the people who had come to witness this special event. The food was blessed by Orometua Moutaki.





Congratulations to Mrs. Tua Fariu

Mrs Tua Fariu nee Kamo, commonly known as Mama Su from Arorangi, is this month's woman of the month recipient. Her father is Kamo Tavaitai of Arorangi and her mother is Moeroa Taru Rongo of Atiu, she has 5 brothers and 8 sisters. Mama Su is married to the late Punua Fariu Arapari of Arorangi and together they have 5 beautiful children, 17 lovely grand children and 6 precious great grandchildren.

HOBBIES: Cooking, Baking, Gardening and Embroidery.

BRIEF BACKGROUND:

Mama Su grew up in Arorangi and began her education at the Arorangi Primary School at the age of 6 years old, and at the age of 16 years old, she left school to work at the factory-Ingram Textile and learned sewing materials. "Later I worked at the Manuia Beach and Rarotongan Hotel and learned a lot in cooking, cleaning, flower decorations and function venues and today it is my passion. I have assisted with many functions in the Arorangi village, even when I'm not invited", she says.

CHURCH INVOLVEMENT:

Growing up in Arorangi, she had early involvement in the London Missionary Society Church and today the Cook Islands Christian Church. During her youth days, she was a member of the Arorangi CICC Sunday School and the Girl Guides. She then went on to become the Sunday school teacher, to a member of the Girl Guide Mama Committee, and a strong member of the Murienua Tapere Ekalesia and Arorangi CICC Ekalesia and Women's'

Fellowship.

Her strong involvement in church has taken her to several places and seen her organise many church occasions to which she believes her strength and inner spirit are for God's work.

In 1980 she represented Arorangi Sunday School group to New Zealand to raise fund for the construction of the Arorangi Calvary Sunday School Hall. She later represented the CICC Boys Brigade Brass Band group, to attend the flower festival in Toowomba, Australia and tour Tahiti and Europe. Mama Su went to Tahiti to represent the CICC Sunday School camp, she represented the Girl Guide camp to Atiu, Mauke, Mangaia and the Prayer meeting group to Atiu, Mangaia, Aitutaki and Tahiti. She has also represented the Maungarei CICC Womens' Fellowship New Zealand group to the CICC Womens' Fellowship conference held here in Rarotonga.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Mama Su is a member of the Arorangi CICC Vainetini Tuitui Tivaevae group and a Committee member of the Akaoa Child welfare Association. She has assisted with the fundraising to build the Akaoa child health clinic, assisted the nurses on clinic days and during baby shows and she has spent a lot of time encouraging mothers to attend the clinic. Like many other local mamas, she can be seen helping out with community functions and fundraising through her membership of the Murienua Akaoa beautification group, she was a big help during



Woman of the Month of November Mrs Tua Fariu

the time of the refurbishment of the Murienua Akaoa meeting house and the Aroa Nui Hall construction.

SPORT INVOLVEMENT:

Mama Su has been big on netball for years now, she played netball for the Arorangi A team during her youth, "today, I still support the Arorangi netball team as a mama and I support the Arorangi School Sports through the PTA Committee," she says.

Acknowledgement:

"I wish to acknowledge my heavenly father for his guidance and directions. I am 70 years old now, and my children and family celebrated with me my birthday in October. I also wish to acknowledge my children, my late husband for they are the most important people in my life, who had the most influence and success, for their great support, patience, perseverance and assistance, I feel my family and I have been blessed. To them I dedicate this award to. To my immediate and extended family and my many friends, sisters in the Lord, to the Arorangi CICC

Orometua and wife, Assistant Orometua and wife, to the Arorangi CICC Ekalesia, to the T&M Heather Boss and your beautiful wife, Nooroa Baker and your beautiful wife and the Arorangi community for the many support and assistance you have given me. Also to the Woman of the month Organisation, for this delightful recognition that has also extended to all the Women of the Cook Islands and I also congratulate you for the wonderful effort."

CLOSING VERSE: PSALM: 91: 1-2, 1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. 2. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Irava: Salamo 91: 1-2, 1. Ko tei noo i raro ake i te tapoki o Tei Teitei, ka moe aia i raro ake i te Mana katoatoa ra. 2. Te tuatua nei au kia lehova, ko koe toku akapuanga, e toku pinanga, taku Atua, e taku e irinaki nei.

Congratulations Mama Su, an award well deserved. We wish you all the best with your future endeavours.

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Restaurant pioneer passes away

By Charles Pitt

The man who changed the way New Zealanders dined out, Robert (Bob) Sell QSM, passed away early on Monday morning 10 November at the Edmund Hillary Rest Home in Remuera Auckland aged 96yrs.

He was the first person to be inducted into NZ's Restaurant Hall of Fame and was awarded the Queen's Service Medal.

My sister Shona worked for Bob at his popular eatery the Hungry Horse in downtown Auckland as a night manager and I first met Bob when he arrived in Rarotonga to retire. He was recovering from a bout with prostate cancer and after a few days with me he set off to Aitutaki thinking he may retire there. In Aitutaki he was offered accommodation by Robert Woonton but returned to Rarotonga soon after and took up residence in KiiKii in accommodation offered by the Jonassens.

During his time in the restaurant business in New Zealand, Bob established over 10 well known restaurants such as La Boheme, Fisherman's Wharf, the Beefeater's Arms (Wellington) and the Hungry Leopard. His most popular restaurant was probably the Hungry Horse in Auckland which was managed by Cook Islander Tere Nicholas who employed over 300 Cook Islanders at the Hungry Horse during her time.

Bob also established Auckland's first night club the Colony, where top entertainers from NZ and overseas performed including a very young opera singer Kiri Te Kanawa.

Bob had a long association with the Cook Islands. He was in Rarotonga when the elections took place in 1965



Bob Sell and friends at Muri in 2010

and returned later on behalf of the NZ Tourist Corporation to find a site for a major tourist hotel and selected the site where the Rarotongan Resort now stands. Prime Minister Sir Albert Henry told Bob the Church would never agree to allow a hotel to be built in Muri. Sir Albert later asked Bob to manage the Rarotonga Hotel at the Banana Court site so the manager and his wife could take a holiday.

Bob retired to Rarotonga and lived in Kii Kii and later Matavera until ill health forced him to return to NZ in December 2013. During his time on Rarotonga Bob helped out with the bus that took old folk for outings. He also helped Harry Napa out when

Harry ran a shop opposite the Punanga Nui Market. Then he helped out at the Muri Beach Club Resort looking after the kayaks and snorkeling gear.

Bob was a World War 2 veteran who served in the merchant navy. He served on an oil tanker in Atlantic convoys also convoys on the North Sea and Mediterranean.

Bob was born in London, England. His real surname was Shenker. After the war, Bob with his fiancé, Stella emigrated to Australia where they were married. They had a daughter. Bob later moved to NZ and there, he married Jeane, who was a top fashion model in Auckland but she later died of cancer. I once

asked Bob how he came to end up with such a beautiful woman and his reply was, "Money and fast cars."

Bob was also a popular late night talk back host on Radio Pacific in Auckland. He made it a rule to never discuss politics and religion.

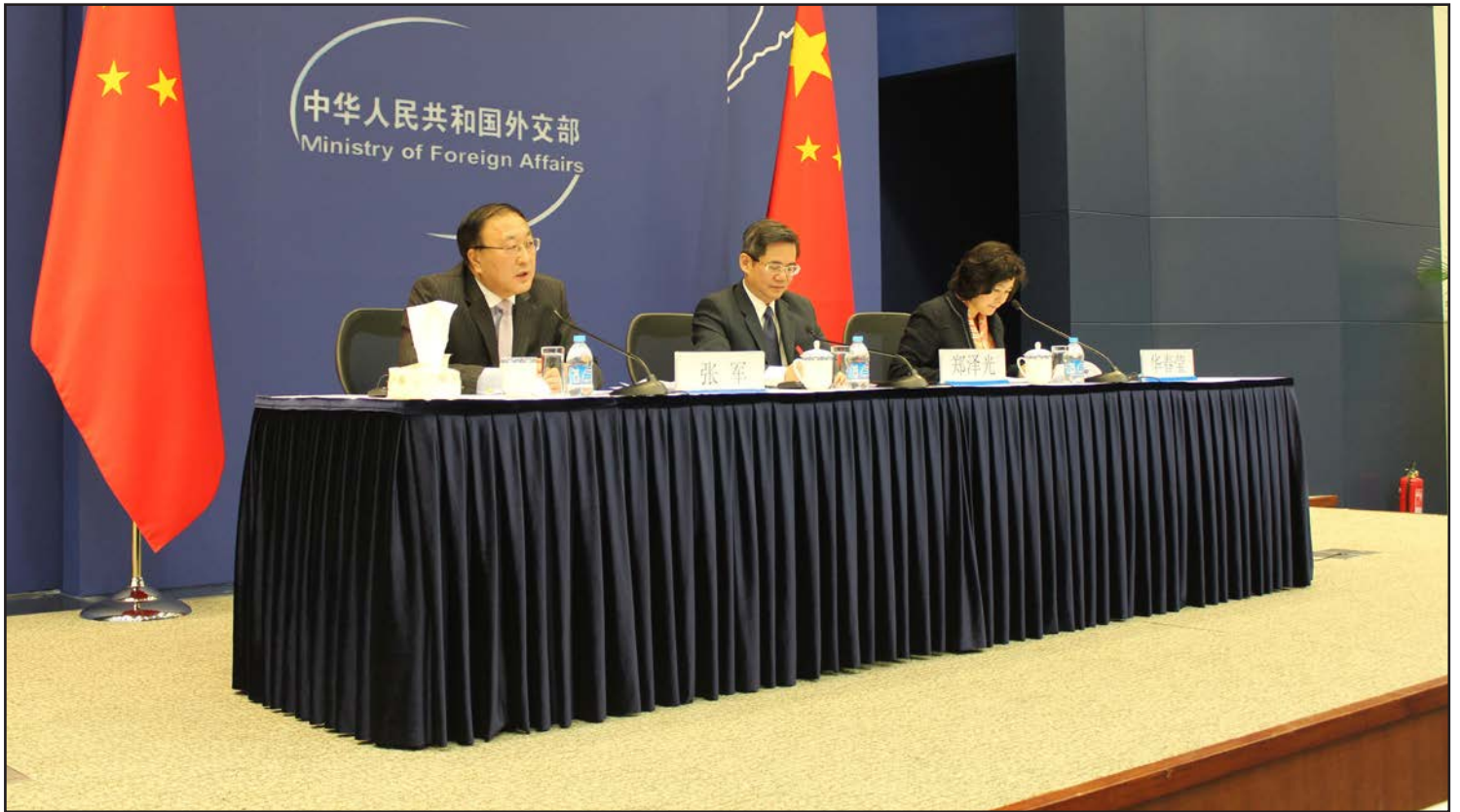
He is survived by a daughter from his first marriage and grandchildren who live in Australia. He also has close relatives who live in Australia.

Bob's funeral was held in Auckland at Waikumete Cemetery in the Jewish Cemetery on Wednesday 12 November at 10am.

One of Bob's popular sayings was, "You'll die if you worry, you'll die if you don't so why worry!"

The China Experience *Part 1*

A three part story on the recent Joint Pacific Press Delegation to China from the 13th to the 20th of November by the Cook Islands Herald Layout Design Artist turned Journalist Nga Glassie.



Media Briefing with the Beijing Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Being selected to be part of the Joint Pacific Delegation to China was a real honor; it's not every day you are selected to be one of the few chosen to represent the Cook Islands as a Journalist to China. Being given an opportunity to see China and report on it without being bothered on how you write is quite new for me. The whole journalist thing is new for me so bear with me as I try and entertain and depict China through my eyes, with my firsthand account of what I experienced. The trip to China was from the 13-20 of November.

With any foreign travel outside of the normal New Zealand Passport boundaries there is usually some hiccups. Mine were pretty much minimal although I spent a considerable amount of time stressing out about it. I flew to Auckland a few days earlier to be able to get my Chinese Visa sorted for the trip.

Tuesday the 11th I left Auckland bound for Singapore. The flight from Singapore took a whole ten hours, Running out of things to do while in the air for that long was slowly getting

sleeping while on the plane was somewhat difficult but I managed to get some shut eye.

Once we touched down in Singapore, there was the five hour layover before I would be bound for Beijing. Singapore's Changi airport has been classed as one of the world's best and it wasn't hard to see why. Information booths available once you stepped off the flights, a small strip of the terminal had an area for Asian cuisine, at the end of the food court area was the welcoming sight of Burger King, something that would ease your mind while looking for something to eat because I for one was not ready to try just anything outside of my comfort zone.

After scoffing down a burger and fries I went on to see where my departure gate would be and waited for the gate to open.

Beijing Leg

Arriving in Beijing after a five hour flight from Singapore had me feeling a little off balance. The ride from the Airport lasted almost an hour, and when we pulled up the Kuntai Royal Hotel I feel relieved to have finally

arrived. After checking in and getting myself settled in I took a stroll around the block before coming back to get some well deserved rest.

The next morning we met our liaison Officer Mr Ouyang Huifeng, Miss Song Xintao (Linda) and Translator Tang Hao (Trent). Our first stop was a joint media briefing with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs followed by a courtesy meeting with the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Zheng Zeguang. After meeting the Assistant Minister we met Mr Zhao Jian, Counsellor of Department of North America and Oceania Affairs and Miss Yan Jiarong, counselor of the information Department before heading off to lunch.

The rest of the day consisted of visiting the Beijing Carbon Trade Center and the People's Daily Headquarters.

The Beijing leg of the visit went by in a blur, from touring scenic routes, meeting the CCECC executives and asking them questions of the quality of their work in the Cook Islands, to meeting the Assistant Director for the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beijing. The highlight of the Beijing leg of the tour would most probably be the tour of the CCTV building which looks like a pair of trousers, and there was an area where you could stand on a glass floor and see how small people look from a height of 163 metres in the air. Followed by a tour of the Great Wall of China, and dinner in a small village at the foot of the wall tour road. We had rabbit, fish and other local dishes. I think all we have really been doing is eating while on this trip. Two, three servings for breakfast and Lunch, Dinner is more formal, and can tend to get long and boring. We left Beijing on Southern China Airlines, flight CZ3000 via business class. Thanks to the Beijing Ministry of Foreign Affairs for arranging that. Also thanks to a Mr Lee, and Mr Ouyang Huifeng for being hospitable to us while in Beijing, the front door guys at the Kuntai Royal Hotel... big ups for being friendly although I feel for you guys being out there in the cold. Next week I'll tell you about the Guangzhou leg of the Trip.

The China Experience *Part 1*



Pacific Media Delegation with Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Zheng Zeguang.



Kuntai Royal hotel



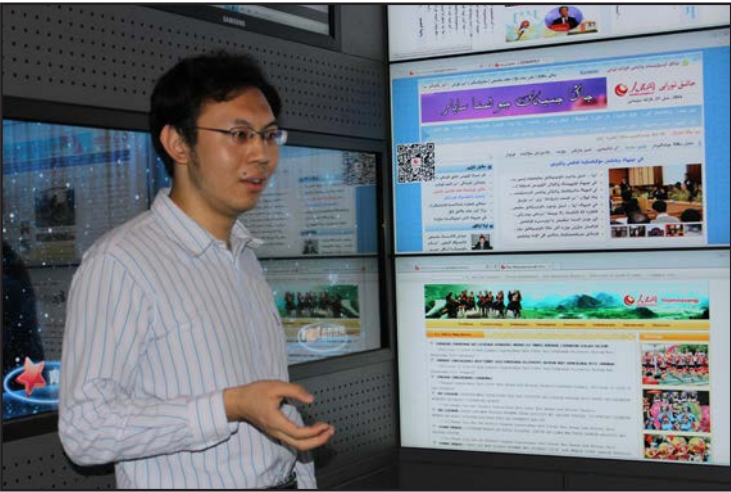
China Beijing Environment Exchange



CCTV Building in Beijing



People's Daily 3d hallway artwork



163metres in the air on a Glass Floor



Maika Bolatiki and Delegation Head Mereseini Tuivuniwai



Beijing Liason Officer Ouyang Huifeng



T.C Prize Giving

By Nadia George

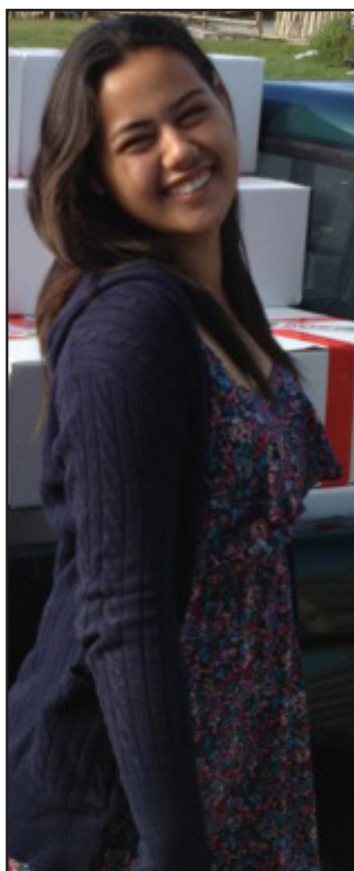
A bitter sweet finish to a five year journey had ended with a Big Bang last week Thursday with the annual senior prize giving of Tereora College.

The day started off with rain and lots of it, but that did little to dampen my spirits because it was my day to graduate! I woke up bright and early, slowly getting ready for the occasion, and wearing my green Student leader uniform for the very last time and pinning my badge to it as well. I felt such pride on that day not only for myself but also for all my peers of 2014 because we had finally made it and had accomplished what some of our peers had failed to do.

Skipping through the speeches and into the actual presentation of the prizes, I sat in the second to last row of prize recipients with my nerves running at an all time high and my mind constantly begging the question "what could you possibly win this year?" But one by one prizes flew out the door until finally it was our rows turn.

We all stood then moved to form a line in front of the stage and one by one, slowly the people standing in front of me had gone up onto the stage, standing, smiling and holding tier respective prizes until it was finally my turn. The announcement was made, first in level 3 media studies, digital technology, and drama and third in level 3 English. All the hard work I had put in for the year had paid off and I was reaping the rewards of that work.

I stood on that stage proud of my accomplishments and of my friends as well. After leaving the stage and special awards had been presented to those lucky few, it was time for me to say the speech I had been dreading. Standing in front of the hundreds of parents and students that



had filled the hall I slowly began my speech. I spoke about my gratitude for those whom had made an impact on my life, I spoke about the memories I had made during my time in Tereora, but most importantly, I spoke about the short lived journey that we had all taken and now it has come to and end.

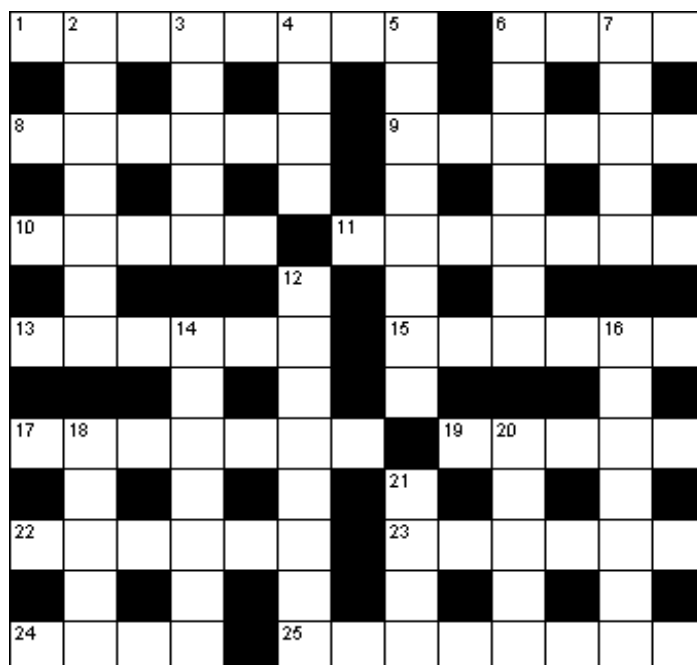
The day finished in true T.C style with four separate performances, the cultural performances of the girls, then the boys hip hop dance, next was the girls hip hop dance and finally a combined effort for the senior's farewell song of 2014.

So for the last time as a student of Tereora College, I say this, 'don't ever let the wall you're up against be greater than your imagination of what is on the other side because the world is your oyster. Or as Mr. Haque would always say "be the best you can be."

Kia Toa and Kia Manuia.

P.S. Good luck on exams and congratulations to all the prizewinners of 2014.

CROSSWORD

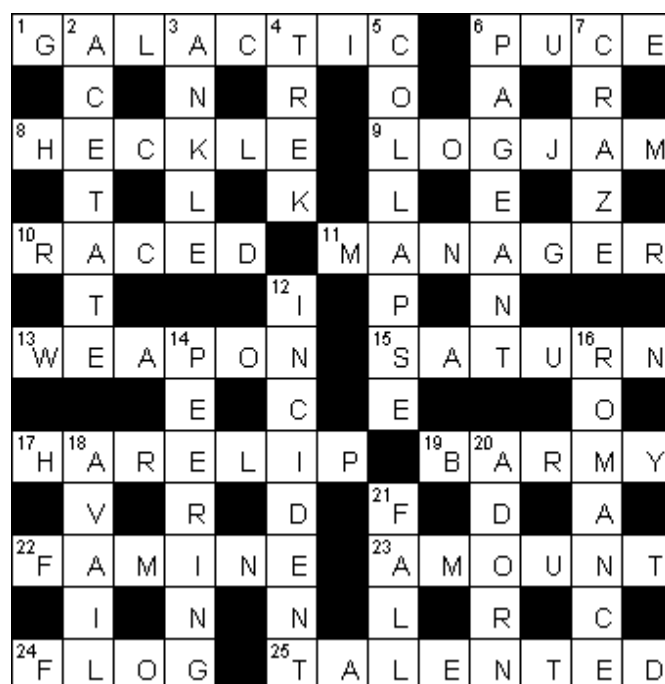


Across

1. Frozen dessert
6. Hawaiian native dance
8. Not pure
9. Sailor
10. Insanely
11. Collided
13. Safe
15. Inform
17. Walked like a duck
19. American Indian woman
22. Pit-workers
23. Lighted by twilight
24. Wagers
25. Wine and soda

Down

2. Companion
3. Brutal
4. Executive Officer
5. Mistake in printing
6. Earphone
7. Contract
12. Turns around
14. Disrobe
16. Easily broken
18. To one side
20. Silent
21. Agitate



Tri series Grand Final

Story and photos by Hannah & Tangi

The Avatiu swamp was the place to be on Friday afternoon. Local residents were crowded at the swamp to watch the local national Cooks team go head to head against the New Zealand Cook Islands team in the rugby league tri-series grand finals.

After tasting success with their first game against the Australia Cooks team 24-16, they had the urge to take on the Kiwi Cooks team in the finals hoping to take out the tri-series. The national team was leading at half time with a runaway try by a talented player JayJay Nicholas leaving the score at 14-12; at this point they were sure to win the trophy.

The way the two teams played – working together as a team, playing hard and giving it their all, proved that both teams were eager to win the rugby league tri-series trophy. It was a tough game between the two teams however the Cooks team came out strong, dominating the New Zealand team with a hard-fought score of 30-28, concluding the tri-series with a win, keeping local residents proud. Although the Kiwi Cooks team were increasing their score, nearing the national team they never gave up on themselves. They kept playing intensely, making sure that all the hard work in training that they have had, skills they have learned, and all the sweat and headaches they have been through is put to work. Even though the Kiwi's had a solid defense team, it wasn't enough to terminate the undefeatable Cooks team from smashing through to the try line.

The many spectators were delighted with the outcome of the regional talented players. The grounds were full of applause, people of all age groups screaming vigorously to cheer on their fellow residential players. Jerseys were also sold at the swamp to increase the encouragement for the players. This gave them the extra bit of support they need to maintain the success that they currently went through with their game against the Australia Cooks team.



Giving back to the community



By Poko Utia

On the 11th of November 2014 Nukutere college year 7 students took a trip out to Ngatangia to clean the Avana beach opposite the CICC church. This is part of Nukutere college special character week where they are encouraged to go out into the community, to partake in things like cleaning our water way and cleaning the beach as a means of giving back to the community.

Each year level is asked to go out and undertake a project which involves helping and giving back. The teacher in charge of this project is Nikki Griffin who states that the reason they are cleaning the Avana beach is because they've done a social studies unit on the environment 'the kids were keen to come out and clean up with Mr. Piho who taught math at Nukutere last year'.

Everyone was enthusiastic about being in Muri they all had their bush knives and rakes ready to clean just beyond the wall near the shore. It took half an hour to clean says Mrs. Griffin. When we arrived the kids were running around and feasting on sausage rolls and drinking Nu. They were all very happy and excited to go swimming after their meal which Mr Piho was going to take everyone paddle boarding.



Vaka iron challenges day

Photos by Poko Utia



How to succeed in life *part 2*

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

In Part 1 of this article of encouragement, I stated that in Philippians 3v.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! I have covered the first 2 points in Part 1.

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 need improvement in your life! Successful people never stop growing! They're always developing, growing and learning! 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! Paul said in v.13 "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! There

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

1.) Our failures

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!

3. CONCENTRATION

This is to do with 'focusing on the future!' Successful people are goal oriented! They focus on the future! v.13 reads "But this one thing I do...straining toward what is ahead I press on toward the goal." Paul is saying, concentrate or focus on the important thing(s) I Corinthians 9v.24 read "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to win the prize." There is a certain way to run, and that is, running the professionals' way! Paul said in II Corinthians 5v.9 "...so we make our goal to please Him." There is no better rewarding goal in life than to please God! Paul wanted to stand at the end of his life and hear Jesus say..."Well done thou good and faithful servant, you were faithful in a few things, come into the joy of your Master!"

4. DETERMINATION

This means, 'fight to the finish!' be persistent! Paul is saying "I fight to the finish!" Great people in life are just ordinary people with extra-ordinary amount of determination! They don't quit! They keep on, keeping on! They never give up! In v.12-13 Paul says "I press on, straining

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi



toward the mark...I press on to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." No pain! No gain! Paul is saying 'That's the way to live!' Paul wanted to finish what he started! God saved you and I for a purpose! Paul's last words were in II Timothy 4v.7-8 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of

righteousness which the Lord will award to me on that day..."

Galatians 6v.9 reads "Let us not grow weary in doing good. For at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Philippians 1v.6 reads "Be confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." May this article encourage you in life. God bless, te Atua te aroa.

Ending our senior year with a bang!

By Norma Ngatamariki

Hello, hello everyone! Yes, I am back to writing out my column as usual. I apologise for not having an article for y'all last week. It was a pretty hectic time, but now, all is done and dusted (with the exception of NCEA exams. Bleh!) I may have mentioned this a couple of times, but I have officially reached the end of my high school days. Nooo! I only came to realise that school took up seven hours of my day, for almost fourteen years of my life! What am I gonna do with myself now?

Thursday 6th October was the Senior Prize giving for Tereora College. Being the only national college in the country, attending the prize giving was considered to be an important affair. So important, that the Queen's Representative, New Zealand High Commissioner as well as the Prime Minister had been there! OMG! I showed up fashionably late, after a very late night making eis and plaiting a titi for the girls' item. I was really pumped up for that! For the first time in my life, I wanted to run on stage and dance in front of an audience, and that's saying something.

I was getting really fidgety while the speeches were said. I realised that this would be my last prize giving at Tereora and then I would be out, experiencing the real world. It was a scary thought. Finally, the prizes for Year 11 students were being announced. Congratulations to Zachary Cargill for coming first overall in Year 11! (He's so like his brother, that it scares me a little) It didn't take long for the Year 12 prizes to be announced. It wasn't surprising to hear that Debora Mataio had once again taken the first overall placing in Year 12. You go, girl!

And then it was time. The Year 13 prizes were to be announced. To be completely honest, I wasn't really hopeful. I honestly didn't think that I'd be receiving a first place in any subject (I had even told my mum to not be expecting anything great) Eventually, though, I had come to terms with it. I managed to surprise myself by getting 1st Economics, 2nd Accounting, 2nd



English, 2nd Media Studies and the KPMG Award for Commerce. (I'd like to congratulate my "rivals" Nadia George, Jessica Puri and May Myo Min. Well done, guys!) I was happy with what I got because it was more than what I expected.

Then it was the moment that we had all been waiting for. It was time to perform our Year 13 item. Yay! I had waited anxiously for the time when I could get up and dance around. Both the girls and boys had worked tirelessly to perfect our dances by attending endless rehearsals (even skipping out on a few classes). We were first up on the stage with our cultural slow song, To Matou Karere Teia. The dance was choreographed by my akasina, April Ngametua who did a wonderful job. Ms. Merle Pukerua also did a fabulous job with our ura pau. I felt like a true Cook Islander dancing to that beat. Then it was the boys turn to show off their stuff. For the first time in a long time, they weren't last to perform. I saw a lot of different reactions in the crowd, but I found it funny. Now, I reckon that it was the girls' hip hop performance which stole the show. It was fun and professional at the same time, thanks to my friends Nga and Michael, two stunning people who have a future in dance.

With that being said, I look forward to what 2015 will bring.

Chooks extra

When the Mitiaro rap opera began, Jaunders left the proceedings (for Zumba?) to another Crown Rapper to perform but she had to be corrected on a matter of procedure relating to the directing of a by-election under the Act. Again it was the Demo's whizz kid, "Barrister from Kiwiland" who performed some nifty steps which drew the "Band of Beak's" attention to the lyrics at the front of the song sheet submitted! The "Band of Beak's" response was to thank the Crown lawyer with their new song, "Unhelpful."



MIA-Missing in action, government's top policy rap artists! Why weren't these seat warmers not at the Appeals Court stage to hear the "Band of Beaks" perform their new CD "Reform of the law?" Where was the PSC? OPM's policy rappers? Little wonder government's policy sales don't make the charts!



High profile member of the world famous (in Rarotonga) Cook Islands Globe trotters (no relationship to basketball's Harlem Globetrotters) dropped the ball Sydney-side recently. That is, dropped his movie camera overboard as the Vaka entered Sydney harbour, losing all the team's valuable footage of their latest triumph! Somewhere out there chooks, is some great footage of the insides of a great White!



By all accounts, the "one minute I'm here, next minute I'm there" Leader, was mobbed by the cousie bros at Sydney wharf when the Vaka tied up! Such was the outpouring of emotion by the Aussie based cousie bros, it moved the Leader, resplendent beneath his rito hat, to tears! Pity the tearful Leader is not mobbed by the cousie bros back home!



Gosh the unruly kids were so loud inside the House last session, shouting and yelling as the arguments raged over the housekeeping money! When Mother Hubbard asked if all were in agreement with the household budget, some yelled "No" at the top of their voice! As item by item was examined, the kids got noisier! This prompted mother to tell them to stop yelling!



Governing Mandarins invited media to press conference with foreign consultants. Only one problem, media are not time travelers! Invite came on a Wednesday for a meeting two days earlier on the Monday!



There was dearth of workshops recently (two in one day!) presenting lower mandarins with a multitude of choices for avoiding real work! Decisions! Decisions! Three workshops underway in one week! All providing Earl Grey and tasty, finger sized morsels just for turning up! Government was certainly busy that week, but not on their work!



Heard about the Maritime lot dog paddling near the Avarua harbour entrance? Working for an outfit with the name "Maritime" one would have thought they would have been aware of the currents at the mouth of our harbours? Now there's another workshop possibility! In fact, haul everyone in for a workshop on currents! Our hard working Mandarins need another day off!



Back from his triumphant foray into the movie world in Kiwiland, the Master is set to carve another notch in his "belt of achievements!" Now he can add "A-List, film star" to his already hefty arts repertoire to be followed soon by, "Movie Director!" Is there no end to this local Leonardo's list of accomplishments? Where is his "Knighthood?"

Gripes and grumbles follow the postponement of the market day due to heavy rain. One disgusted mama expressed her disappointment at the unfair actions by the hosts. From the coconut wireless she discovered that BTIB had ordered for its entire staff plates of umu food from one of the vendors. But hang on she was prepared for the market day with her marinated meat and chicken let alone the kinaki and she should get compensation. Despite the initiative, BTIB should have given the same treatment to the rest of those vendors with food. By the way, would the PSC confirm whether this is this common practice among public servants to treat staff to a tax payer funded 'free lunch'?



One would think that the BTIB would check the weather forecast for the next few days prior to cancelling on a short notice their market day? They obviously did not learn from the wasteful gravel poured on the grounds opposite the Banana Court during one of their trade days of which cost them \$10,000.00. Come on guys, put someone at BTIB with better brains to run the place and stop employing lunatics that can't even think for their families let alone the tax payers?



So the Indian government is going to double the number of rupees it doles out to us! Big deal, it's still way less than a \$1m worth. We would be better off if they offered us scholarships, technical training and other valuable advice. For instance, India's manganese nodule industry

is well advanced so why not help us there? Their IT industry is world class, so why not help us there? Let's face it, we are a nation of beggars highly skilled at running around with buckets so where India is concerned, we've slipped up!



China's given us another \$4.1 million to blow! Whoop-dee-doo! Chooks, that's small change dropped on the floor from the Chinese leader's pocket. "Henri, you can pick that up!" And more agricultural tractors! To revitalize the industry-grow crops for China? How do we dispose of the rusted tractors when their life is over? Will China take them back to recycle the steel?



With the sky full of legal eagles swooping about the House of Laws recently, one would have thought all the local legal types would be getting out of their nests and flocking to the Appeals Court to learn something! A great opportunity to pick up some tasty tit bits has presented itself with some sharp Barris-stars and Beaks in action! Where were all the young gun lawyers? Surely the Law Society should

have encouraged the young up and comers of the local legal profession to attend the hearings?



The touring trio, "Band of Beaks" performing live on the Appeal Court stage provided plenty of entertainment according to one chook roosting in the public perches. Base guitar Patterson was described as "sharp" and "focused." Rhythm guitar and rapper Sir Ian was noted to have barked out that he was, "confused!" And lead guitar President David was seen to have summed up the other Beak's performance very well. Now there's a trio of rappers!



More grey haired know alls have been wheeled out from afar, the FAO in fact, to tell our growers how to revitalize agriculture! As if they did not know. On local goggle-box, one grey hair revealed he wanted to natter to stakeholders to find out what they want. Then there were mutterings of a policy to link the industry with health efforts to combat NCDs. There is already a policy decision establishing this link! Our growers already know what has to

be done in terms of organics, training and the like. It's the government that's dragging the chain with lack of funding to help the sector make some transition! What better way to drum up dosh by pleading ignorance and therefore access someone else's money! Think small is this grey hair's order of the day. Brilliant! Any fool can see our tourism industry is growing at the rate of 6% a year but our food production is not! That's why we import so much! Oh, Duh! There needs to be more effective linkages with the tourism industry, Tonto! This Kimasabe even referred to us as "Fiji!" Where did this turkey gobble from?



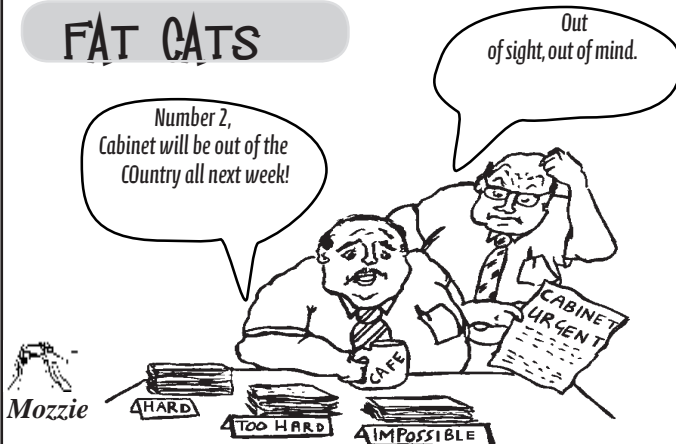
At the first concert of the Band of Beaks on the Appeals Court stage the Band dove into the much awaited Mitiaro rap opera sponsored by the CIP, rapper Sir Ian was heard to bark out, "Where is my copy of the Electoral Act?" To wit the Crown Law types frantically sought to respond but one was hastily offered up by the Demos whizz kid rapper "Barrister from Kiwiland." Later rapper Sir Ian barked out, "Why is the Act not in front of me?" Seems the lyrics to this song was among the papers in a folder!



The audience attending the "Band of Beaks" concert on the Appeal stage were somewhat perplexed to see well known Zumba jiver Solicitor General Gym Jaunders sporting black hair! What brought this on it was asked. Was Jaunders hoping to impress the "Band of Beaks?" Turn it into a quartet?



FAT CATS



COCONUT ROUNDTABLE



PM completes diplomatic sweep

The Prime Minister completed his diplomatic sweep of strengthening ties with a string of major development partners this week, contributing to the talks between the Pacific Region and the Republic of Korea, this week. The Government of Korea hosted the Prime Minister and regional Foreign Ministers in Seoul on Monday, the second such meeting since its inception in 2011.

The Prime Minister kicked off his visit to Korea by providing the key address at the welcome dinner for the Pacific delegations. Sessions on Development Cooperation, Fisheries, and Climate Change followed, providing Puna with opportunities to promote the level of progress of initiatives in the Cook Islands, and state the case for deepening regionalism and cooperation with Korea.

The summit outcomes include commitments by Korea to further its assistance to the Pacific by increasing its grants to the ROK-PIF Cooperation Fund up to USD1 million. Korea, the host of the Secretariat of the Green Climate Fund, also conveyed support for adequate and timely financing to fight Climate Change.

During his stay in Seoul, the Prime Minister met with both the Korea President and the Foreign Minister. These talks touched on areas of mutual interest, strengthening relations and working together on issues where cooperation can be expanded. Puna also invited a representative from the Government to the 50th anniversary, which has been accepted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

A highlight of the interactions in Korea was the Prime Minister's participation in a Talk Concert with Korean University Students. As a member of a panel, Puna was pitched a range questions by students on concerns like Climate Change, and about the lives of Pacific people, and his responses were well-received.

Investiture photos



VACANCIES

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- Head Chef- TeVara Nui (Rarotonga)
- Café Chef/Manager- Koru Café (Aitutaki)
- Front of House/Café Manager- Koru Café (Aitutaki)
- Farmer/Gardener/Plantation Worker – Paprei Bungalows (Aitutaki)
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TENDER



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**TENDER –POWER STATION - SCADA SYSTEM
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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

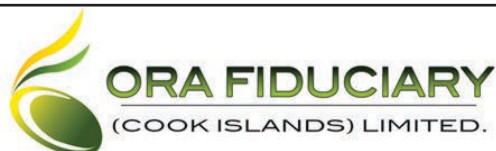
Email: alex.napa@electricity.co.ck

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

VACANCY



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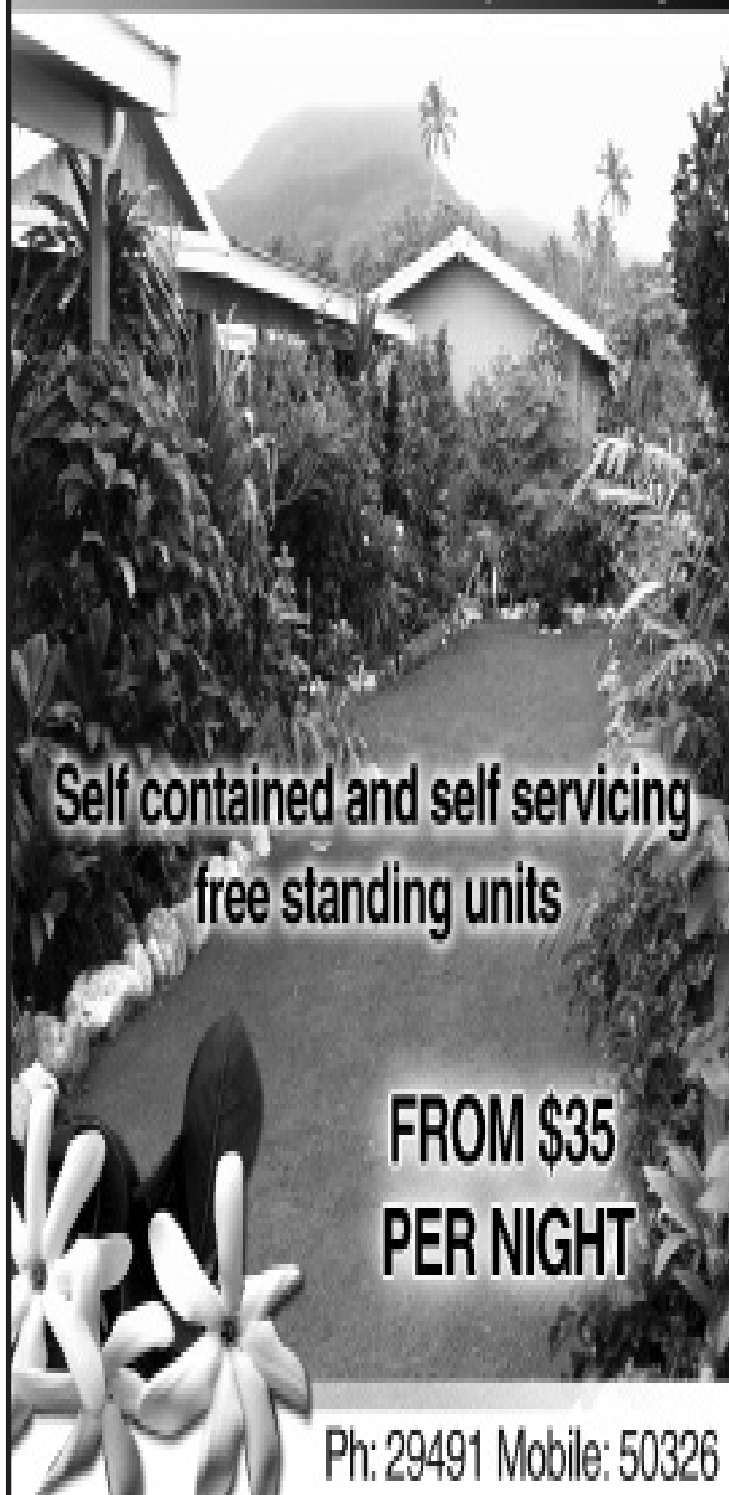
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TE REO MĀORI

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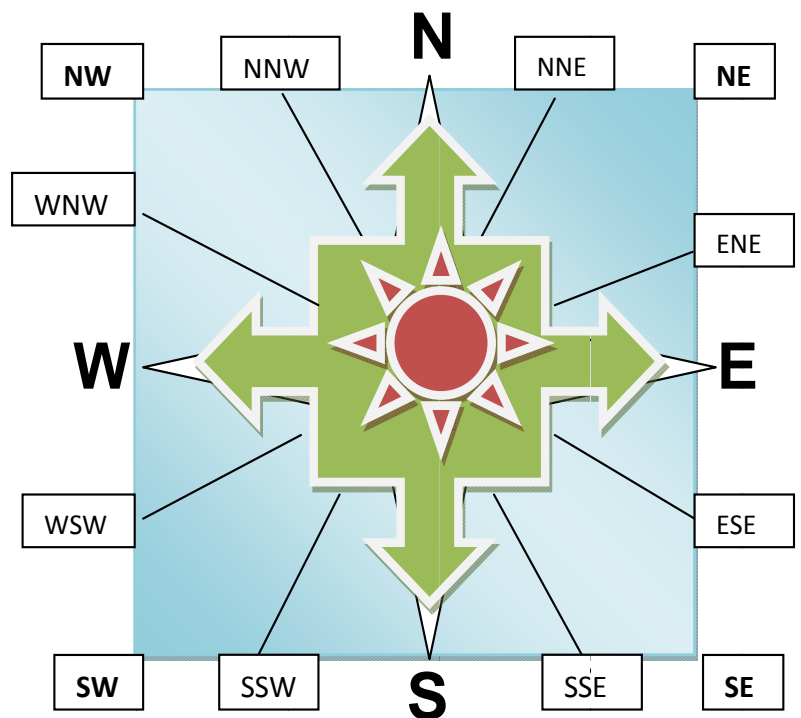
E tu`anga `akamātautau tēia na tātou no te au ingoa `ē pēra katoa no runga i te Rua Matangi i te Kūki `Airani nei.

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

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

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

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



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

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

Te au Tuātau o te Mata`iti

The Seasons of the Year

Raumati
`Iringa
`Akaā`u
Paroro

- Summer
- Spring
- Autumn
- Winter

