

Wilkie in wonderland continues to mislead Democratic party CIP united and umoved by Coalition

he tone for the highly publicized and media reported Democratic Party hierarchy and One Cook Island Movement coalition meeting last week on Thursday 18 was set by Demo Party Leader Wilkie Rasmussen's misleading message OCIM Leader Teina Bishop had been offered the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance portfolios by the Cook Islands Party Prime Minister Henry Puna.

Earlier that week the PM had flown to Aitutaki to meet with Bishop but CIP representatives are adamant no such offer was made by Puna to entice the former CIP Minister to return to the fold. OCI was offered one unspecified cabinet post that did not include the Ministry of Finance or DPM. At a follow up meeting late last Thursday night after the Demo and OCI meeting Bishop met with four CIP representatives lead by the PM Puna at his Office. When asked what he wanted Bishop indicated he would decline whatever was on the table as he was going to be the Prime Minister in a coalition with the Demos. Surprised Bishop was unresponsive the meeting continued with philosophic talk then a late dinner before Bishop departed.

Rasmussen had without caucus clearance or in house circulation for approval preempted the Thursday night meeting by a media release to the CI News that morning stating the DP was unanimous that it would work with Teina Bishop and George Maggie.

At the "put everything on the table" DP and OCI way forward meeting on the Thursday night Rasmussen led the charge to form a coalition with OCI with

Bishop as the Prime Minister them to return to the CIP. and George Maggie a Minister leaving four cabinet positions and DPM for the Demos. This intent was further publicised in the CI News two days later.

That same night, the outer island Demo Punas were notified of the pending change in igniting Government instantaneous celebrations in the far north.

A the Demo Christmas the next night on Friday the euphoria of becoming the new government sooner than later was evident by the enthusiastic chest beating speeches being delivered. By now the outcome of Thursday's meeting had begun to filter through the Demo Party rank and file with increasing scepticism disapproval. and From Saturday Opposition Leader Simile Heather began receiving disapproving phone calls from Demo Party members asking for clarification and an immediate Conference to test the forced decision made by caucus.

Talk of going to see the Queens Representative His Excellency Tom Marsters to be sworn in was now driving the urgency for Bishop to be fully endorsed by the Demos without the need of a Conference as prescribed in their Constitution. Despite having breakfast with Tom Marsters prior to the Thursday night meeting and on Friday morning Bishop did not include in his Friday night Demo Christmas Party speech that Marsters informed him any attempts to change the government had to be tested in Parliament. Marsters was explicitly clear he would not intervene or advise the current PM Henry Puna to resign. It is understood at a previous breakfast with Bishop and Maggie, Marsters advised

None of these meetings with Marsters was in his official position as the Queens Representative. For Marsters, whatever was said or transpired he was a private citizen.

Desperate to grab power for self interests, Rasmussen and his small group of loyal Party Executives have contaminated the Democratic Party with misinformation and a stench of political pollution deliberately forfeiting their own Constitution in the process. PM Puna referred to the Demo and OCI political of convenience marriage as being "a clear sign of desperation by the Demos to get into Government at all costs even though they know they are selling their souls with such a deal."

Despite Rasmussen being a lawyer and a Parliamentarian for a decade he fails to exhibit a sound understanding of the Cook Islands Constitution and the protocols of the Queens Representative. His political insight is severely clouded by his greed to keep his nose in the lucrative government funded trough. Despite earning in excess of \$90,000 a year while in Opposition Rasmussen made no personal financial contribution to his petition or appeal costs. It is little wonder his former CEO side kick Eddie Drollet has a moratorium on releasing an authentic statement of accounts for the Party members.

The Rasmussen driven euphoria of being in government anytime now is a shameful exhibition of deluded fantasy that senior members of the Demo Party are increasingly finding tiresome and embarrassing. The facts are very clear; nothing in the immediate



Wilkie Rasmussen future will change. Henry Puna and his CIP government are firmly in control and excited as the Demos induce themselves nothing will eventuate. For a second time Rasmussen's clumsy attempts to become government will fail miserable because it lacks political substance and Constitutional correctness. All Rasmussen has manifested is he is void of strategic comprehension. If he had even an ounce of it he would have been the Prime Minister last February but the rare presented opportunity to oust the CIP was bungled by his no coalition mantra of political stupidity.

Now that intelligent discerning members of the Democratic Party have absorbed and filtered the coalition media releases made by the attention seeking Rasmussen there will be a growing resistance at the grass roots, their perception is this coalition arrangement is being tailor made to quench the agenda of a handful of Demo executives including Rasmussen who refuse to accept its the elected members of parliament

COOK ISLANDS HERALD POLITICAL COMMENTARY

who are responsible to forge a be justification for being tepid and his small band of loyalists government. To Rasmussen's coalition deal on behalf of the over Bishop's return to their Party.

Already factions within the Demo Party are becoming indicated there was some polarized over the readiness to crown Bishop the Prime Minister. Already Bishop is dictating the terms of the bye election in Vaipae/Tautu in Aitutaki which will be held on the 17 February. Letters to the CI News editor in the last few days are clear indicators alls not well in the Demo heartland.

The Demo OCI coalition with Bishop as Prime Minister will never happen simply because it will not get the endorsement of a Party Conference. Party officials Rasmussen, Drollet, Willis and Faireka know it, that's why they have resisted the persistent requests to hold a conference even after three years. All mentioned will not be re elected back in.

While both Parties are reluctant to openly address Bishop's current drawn out Police investigation for corruption there is plenty being said behind closed doors. All investigation reports have now being completed and it is expected charges will be laid against Bishop. For the CIP it will

Party.

The length of the investigation substance in the complaint. Ironically in a letter to the Editor of the Herald published on 5 February, Rasmussen claimed a moral stand referring to the corruption investigation, he stated "Did he (referring to Howard Henry) not know that this Opposition played a major role in the calling to account of his employer Minister Teina Bishop with the Chinese fishing deals? '

Rasmussen made no secret he had weekly meetings with fellow lawyers laveta Short and the complainant Ruben Tyler.

Hard core Demo members are calling for a halt to coalition talks with OCI until Bishop is cleared of any criminal charges resulting from the corruption allegations.

Nothing will provoke the QR to intervene while the Mitiaro and Vaipae/Tautu seats are unresolved. The CIP can remain in government regardless of both out comes till September 2015 when Parliament will have to convened. Bark at the full moon as loud as they want Rasmussen



Festive Season Trading Hours

Te Aponga Uira will close for the Christmas and New Year holidays from 1pm Wednesday 24th December 2014 and will re-open for normal operations at 8am on Monday 5th January 2015.

Customers seeking new power connections before Christmas will need to have completed administration work (application, inspections, etc) by 4.30pm Monday 22nd December 2014.

During the holidays, the following services will be available:

- 24 hour fault services remain available 7 days a week 1. throughout the festive period; call 25 257 for this service.
- Receipting of electricity payments only on your 2. accounts will be available at the Tutakimoa Office on the 29th, 30th and 31st December 2014 between the hours of 9am and 12 noon.

"We wish you a Happy Christmas and wonderful New Year"

The Board and staff of TAU



P O Box 112, Rarotonga, Cook Islands • Phone (682) 20 054 • Fax (682) 21 944

will achieve nothing.

The sooner the Demos have a Party Conference the sooner the desperate hangers on can be dumped and the renovation and reconstruction of the Democratic Party can begin. Unless the option being circulated among the Demos they combine with the CIP to commit to a defined purpose of reform and reinvent before a return to the polls is accepted they face the harsh reality of another term in Opposition.

At a meeting held in Aitutaki on Monday 22 December, present were Bishop, Rasmussen and Smiley Heather attended by Kete loanne and about 20 others predominantly Demo supporters. The discussion was the OCI proposal for the Vaipae/ Tautu bye election. Bishop's proposal is that the former Demo candidate Kete stand as the OCI Rasmussen and Bishop political candidate and the Demos don't have a candidate.

Rasmussen told the meeting everyone in Rarotonga agreed for Bishop to has lead a Demo/OCI

surprise contradicting Heather spoke after that informing the meeting not everyone had agreed and that very morning he had received numerous calls objecting to that arrangement including some caucus members who had changed their minds. Heather said there would be a caucus meeting on Tuesday to address this issue.

The meeting did not agree with Bishop's proposal but would accept OCI help to get their Demo candidate Kete Ioanne elected. Bishop appointed himself the campaign manager and would hand pick his campaign team. Bishop offered to pay \$3,000 towards the Demo's legal costs for Kete's petition and appeal and another \$6,000 he had raised from business associates in Rarotonga.

The CIP aren't fazed by the circus and are cautiously considering other options to ensure governance stability and public confidence throughout the 50th year Independence coalition Celebrations.



- Cover windows.
- Stay tuned in, TV may go down, radio is a better option.
- Gather family members and pets and stay inside
- Know how to turn off gas, water and electricity.
- Keep several torch lights with you.
- Keep a first aid kit with you.
- Keep water and snacks with you.

PM says CIP will await outcome of Vaipae/ **Tautu By-election and Mitiaro Appeal**

Comments from the PM posted on the CIP Facebook site on Monday

1. The Outcomes from the and international level. **Court of Appeal**

The decision by the Judges in the Court of Appeal for Vaipae/Tautu and by the High Court for Mitiaro created some challenges for us as Government. But even though our number of MP's has been temporarily reduced to 11, compared to the Democratic Party and the One Cook Islands movement, we still hold the most seats. We are aware that the Demos and OCI have been in discussions and have made their intentions known publicly. We wait and see what, if anything, comes out of that. In the meantime we have a clear understanding of our position and status as Government, a position confirmed by our legal advisors and the legal experts in Government.

The Cook Islands Party legal team has done a tremendous job representing CIP during the petitions and appeals. With all respect we are troubled by the High Court decision in the Mitiaro case in respect of one of our voter challenges, and will be appealing that decision to the Court of Appeal to obtain some clarity and finality on the issue of medical referrals. Should our appeal be successful, finality in the Mitiaro case should be immediate as it would then trigger the counting of the recent by-election votes which are still under seal and safe security.

accept the Vaipae/ We Tautu decision by the Court of Appeal and will contest the by election that has been declared for Tuesday 17th February 2015. It is a pity that the byelection and its processes will straddle the festive season but we will try and minimize any interference with peoples festivities. Our candidate Mona loane has proven twice that that he is the preferred voice and representative for Vaipae / Tautu and has the capability to represent the electorate, party and the country at the national

2. Negotiations with One Cook Islands and the Democratic Party

As Leader of the Cook Islands Party, I have been mandated by the party to negotiate with other parties to further advance the interest of the Government. I have met members of the One Cook Islands movement to explore a potential partnership with them in Government. With the current ministerial vacancy we have due to the decision in the Vaipae /Tautu appeal, we have offered a ministerial post to OCI. As the party with the majority, we felt that offering a ministerial post to OCI was fair because it reflected on the level of representation each party has in Parliament.

We are mindful that the Democratic Party offered Teina Bishop the Prime Minister's post along with a Ministerial post for George Maggie in exchange for OCI support. We cannot comment on their negotiations except to say that this is a clear sign of desperation by the Demos to get into Government at all costs even though they know they are selling their souls with such a deal. Our people will see this deal for what it is and will pass appropriate judgment on it. But it will not bring stability to this country, which is what is needed at this critical juncture of our history. The Demos and OCI claim that they now have the majority of 12 MP's to form a Government compared to our 11, but there is still a lot of water to pass under the bridge. Their number may change because of the up and coming Vaipae/ Tautu by election and our appeal for Mitiaro.

It is pleasing that thinking Cook Islanders like William Framhein are looking at the best options available for the best interests of the country rather than for a handful of people. That is what our priority should be. Our country needs stability and certainty, and it makes sense

that the 2 major parties consider in October and the Budget working together to achieve and deliver this.

3. Status of CIP as Government **Going Forward**

In my discussions with our legal team regarding CIP's status as Government especially after the appeal court decisions, the reduction in our numbers proposed and the alliance between OCI and the Demos, I now can confirm our status as Government and the options that are available to us.

Firstly, my role as Prime Minister and that of Government was confirmed in Parliament back in October with the confidence motion so there is and can be no doubt about my status or that of Government. We are still the legitimate Government in control. Any changes to the Prime Minister post or the status of Government can only be done in Parliament so I cannot pre-empt anything and force a change by resigning. Besides, as Prime Minister, my role is to safeguard the interests of the Government.

Secondly, the Demo-OCI proposed coalition resulting in 12 MP's does not automatically change result in a of Government, although Wilkie and Norm would conveniently disagree. Remember 2010 when we only had 6 MPs comprising government and they were able to govern for almost 10 months? Heaven forbid that we should go through a similar experience but Wilkie was one of them, so he knows full well what the score is. This proposed coalition has no legal standing at present until Parliament is called and they are able demonstrate that they have the numbers and have a clear and absolute majority.

Thirdly, а change of Government may occur in Parliament if and when we are dealing with motions of Confidence and Supply. Because position Prime Minister mv has already been confirmed

has been passed with the full support of OCI, we do not have any issues of confidence and supply to deal with at this time so there is no urgent need to convene Parliament.

Fourthly, as Prime Minister, I cannot and will not dissolve Parliament and call for another General Election. That would be irresponsible of me especially if further appeals and a by election is still pending which would present a clearer result and potential majority. Once these 2 major events are completed and the outcomes are clear, this will then determine if changes need to be made. Besides as we move into 2015 with all the celebratory plans that have been put in place for this milestone in our history, an election is the last thing we should have to worry about.

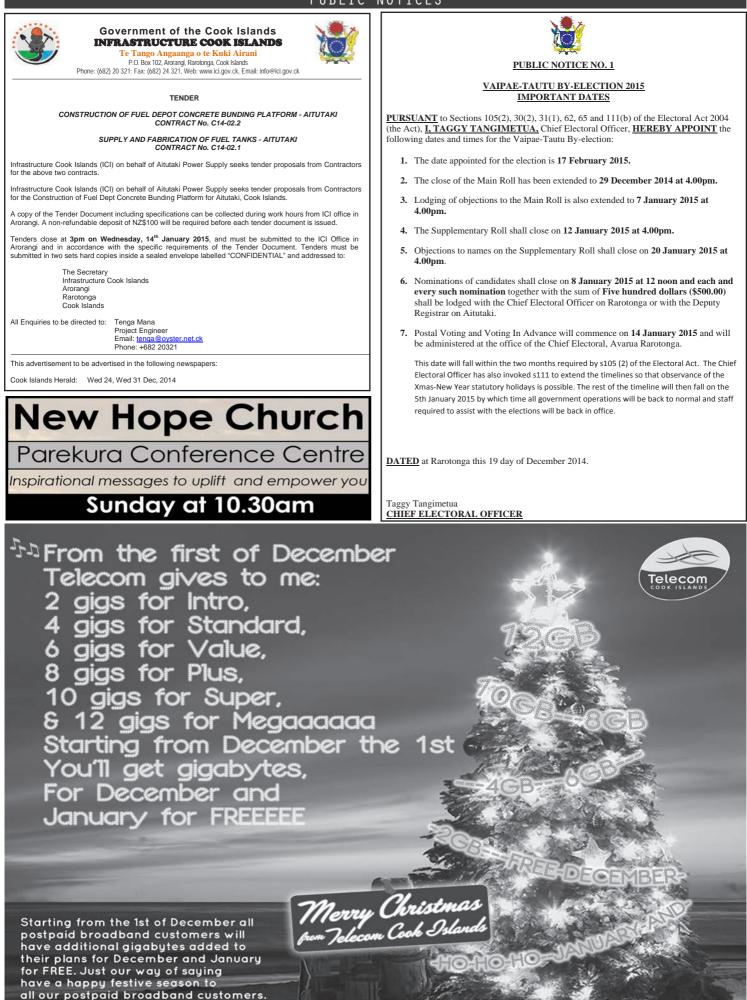
Our focus as a party is to appeal and potentially overturn the Mitiaro decision and win the Vaipae/Tautu by election. Securing these 2 seats will give CIP the absolute majority to govern on its own. We have offered OCI a ministerial post and with their 2 MP's plus our 11 at present; we can end this political gridlock and maintain stability in Government and move things forward. Stability is our main focus and we will not be deterred by the games and personalities that are trying to manipulate the political process.

As leader of the party with the most MP's, I feel that it will not be prudent for us to allow a minority party to take over the role of Prime Minister and Minister of Finance because it will show that we are desperate to hold on to power and are willing to allow the minority to dictate what happens in Government thereby holding Government and the country to ransom and create instability. As we prepare to celebrate our 50th Birthday as a nation, we want to demonstrate to the world that we are mature and sensible as a 50 year old country.

COOK ISLANDS HERALD

24 DECEMBER 2014

PUBLIC NOTICES



COOK ISLANDS HERALD NEWS Our Frontpage model



Our frontpage models to wrap up the year 2014 is Michaela and Gabrielle McNabb. They are the twin daughters of Andrea McNabb (nee Woonton) and Robert McNabb, grand-daughters of Frank and Teremoana McNabb and Shona Pitt and Andrew Woonton. The girls are back home with their older sister Hayley-Rose, for the xmas break. Check out our website www. ciherald.co.ck. and facebook page: www.facebook.com/ ciherald

Christmas **Message from** the Leader One **Cook Islands**

raditionally, Christmas comes once a vear. It is a special day. It marks the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ but it is also renowned as a time of celebration, commiseration, remembrance and sharing special moments with family, friends and loved ones

It seems like it was only yesterday when we were caught up in the frenetic flurry of political turmoil and uncertainty and yet, a full twelve months has passed by and the past week and more has seen us right back in the middle of Christmas ours and is our heritage. preparations.

We have come through a very challenging year where there has been economic uncertainty, social and political unrest and our elderly have been put to the test in terms of their own value and contribution to society. I believe we have also been put to the test in terms of our own Christian values and beliefs as taught by our forefathers and mothers and some of us have lost sight of the spirit of togetherness and respect for all the joyous sounds and each other.

Let us for this moment however, put that aside and come together as a people and as a nation to reflect on what has been and what could be.

Certainly we have come through some tough times recently. Certainly we are not as rich as we may want to be. Nevertheless, it would do us well to take stock, count our a very Merry Christmas and a manifold blessings of what we prosperous Happy New Year. do have and be grateful to the Almighty for the land and the sea and all its fullness that is



Teina Bishop

celebrate Let us this Christmas with verve and joy. Let us do the same for the first day of 2015 and onwards as we commence 50 years of self governance. Let us do so by sharing generously with loved ones, members of the family and friends, both near and far. Let us put aside our differences for a moment in the spirit of oneness, so we can truly say, we are One Cook Islands: One People: One Nation.

But then, in the midst of moments of celebration, let us not forget a thought for those less fortunate than ourselves and for those who have made valued contributions so that we may prosper. In the spirit of Christmas, it is my prayer that this time will be a worthwhile and meaningful day for each of you. Enjoy the moment, be safe and be well. I wish you all

Teina and Annie Bishop, families and the One Cook Islands Team.







Public Notice and Declaration

Dated 20 November 2014 Ref/Rarotonga Waterworks Ordinance, s3 (see table on next page)

supply is provided by sites intake

around Rarotonga on 12 streams: Avana, Turangi, Papua, Avatiu, Takuvaine, Matavera, Tupapa, Ngatoe, Taipara, Rutaki, Totokoitu, and Muriavai.

As part of Te Mato Vai Project most of these intakes and their trunk mains have been recommended for refurbishment gain entry to the meeting. and replacement. In addition, treatment Affected land owners are invited works and storage reservoirs are required to be installed to improve public water supply into the ringmains that distribute water around the island to the public.

owners of the parcels affected by the 28851 email peggy@kew.com.ws

Rarotonga public water proposed construction works. The Map showing the proposed location for Government intends to host meetings located with affected land owners.

> Where possible, invitations will be delivered to land owners to attend. Invitation may also be published in the newspaper and on television. All attendees must provide confirmation of their status as land owners in order to

to register their interest in meeting with the Government to discuss the proposed construction works. You can register your interest by contacting to the public. Peggy Turua, Te Mato Vai Project Invitation to Land Owners - The Management Unit Office, CCECC Government seeks the support of land Compound, Avarua - Telephone + 682

construction works is available from the Te Mato Vai Project Management Unit office, CCECC Compound, Avarua

Any objection to the use of water or land in the manner specified in this notice may be lodged by any person within 90 days of the date of this notice to: Hon Minister Heather, Minister for ICI

C/- Te Mato Vai Project Management Unit Office, CCECC compound, Avarua, Rarotonga Signed

Aller

Honorable Teariki Heather **Deputy Prime Minister** Minister for Infrastructure Cook Islands

Caught on Camera \$8,600 in prizes drawn



The McNab twins, Gabrielle and Michaela (15yrs) on holiday from NZ, at Punanga Nui Market Friday 19 December at 9am helping with the sale of hand printed tops made by their grandmother Shona Pitt. The twins and their older sister Haley Rose helped with the sewing and printing. The tops were all sold out within an hour. Photo by Poko Utia



By Poko Utia

On Monday morning George George, conducted the CITC draws for prizes at three outlets. At Oasis Energy, the gift pack prize valued at \$1,600 went to Leanne Kiria. At Foodland various prizes valued at \$2,000 went to Ngavai Amarama. At CITC Supermarket the various goods valued at \$5000 went to Sandy who was not present at the draw. All winners will collect their prizes on Wednesday.

Public Notice and Declaration

Dated 20 November 2014 Ref/Rarotonga Waterworks Ordinance, s3 For each stream Government proposes the following construction works:

Intake	Parcel affected	Proposed construction works	Land area required	Proposed start date
Avana	9N (Turangaare)	Intake	35m2	February 2016
		Settling tank	235m2	
		Filtration device	210m2	_
		Storage tanks	1,200m2	
	9K, 9N, 9J, 9I, 9G, 9E, 9F, 9C, 9A, 9B. 6Z, 6X, 6W, 6V, 6U2A, 6S, 6R, 6T, 6P, 6E, 6D	Pipeline replacement and access roads rehabilitation	Pipeline underground, access road per area shown on map	October 2015
Muriavai	No construction planned			
Rutaki	No contruction planned			
lvatiu	109F, 109E, 109D1	Intake	78m2	June 2015
		Settling tank	235m2	_
		Fitration device	170m2	_
		Storage tanks	1,200m2	
	77B2B, 109E, 109D1, 109B	Pipeline replacement and access roads rehabilitation	Pipeline underground, access road per area shown on map	June 2015
urangi	15L, 15M, 15N (Te Arapepe, Te Rua Kura,	Intake	75m2	June 2015
	Ruamoana)	Settling tank	230m2	
		Filtration device	170m2	
		Storage tanks	1,300m2	
	15L, 15K, 15I, 15G, 15H, 15F, 15D, 15E, 15B, 15C, 15A, 14Z, 14Q, 14A, 13J, 13I, 13K	Pipeline replacement and access roads rehabilitation	Pipeline underground, access road per area shown on map	June 2015
/latavera	15A (Ngaoro)	Intake	35m2	June 2015
		Settling tank	325m2	
		Filtration device	180m2	
		Storage tanks	160m2	
	15A, 15C, 14Y, 14X, 14V, 14U, 14T, 14S, 14Q, 14P, 14O, 14G, 14H	Pipeline replacement and access roads rehabilitation	Pipeline underground, access road per area Shown on map	June 2015
upapa	129G, 129H (Noakoa, Te Au, Uka)	Intake	35m2	June 2015
		Settling tank	230m2	
		Filtration device	170m2	
		Storage tanks	160m2	
	129G, 129F, 129E, 129D, 129C, 129A1, 129A3, 128I, 129A2, 127M2, 127M1	Pipeline replacement and access roads rehabilitation	Pipeline underground, access road per area shown on map	June 2015
Taipara	24B (Tuikatoti)	Intake	75m2	February 2016
		Settling tank	240m2	
		Filtration device	170m2	
	24B, 24A, 21B, 21A2, 22L0T3	Pipeline replacement		
	24B, 24A, 21B, 21A2, 21A1D, 21A1C, 21A1B	Access roads rehabilitation	Pipeline underground, access road per area shown on map	April 2015
Totokoitu	25B (Totokoitu ki uta)	Intake	75m2	February 2016
		Settling tank	235m2	
		Filtration device	170m2	
	25A, 23C, 23A, 26B1, 26B3B, 23B	Pipeline replacement		
	25A, 23C, 23A, 23B	Access road rehabilitation	Pipeline underground, access road per area shown on map	April 2015
Papua	4A (Papua ki uta)	Intake	35m2	February 2016
		Settling tank	235m2	
		Filtration device	180m2	
		Storage tanks	1000m2	
	4A	Pipeline replacement and access roads rehabilitation	Pipeline largely underground, access road per area shown on map	April 2015
akuvaine	116, 117, 119	Intake	35m2	January 2015
		Settling tank	240m2	
		Filtration device	120m2	
		Storage tanks	700m2	
lgatoe	Uninvestigated	Intake	35m2	February 2016
		Settling tank	230m2	
		Filtration device	170m2	
		Storage tanks	900m2	
	91H4, 91H3, 91H2B	Pipeline replacement and access roads rehabilitation	Pipeline underground, access road per area shown on map	ТВА

COOK ISLANDS HERALD 24 DECEMBER 2014 NEWS Te Mato Vai concerns raised

n November 12th, 2014 local resident Andrew Duncan wrote to Mr Latu Kupa, of KEW the Project Managers for the Te Mato Vai project.

In his letter, Mr Duncan expresses his concerns at the standard of workmanship by the Chinese, in particular their failure to follow the standards set out in the Master Plan.

Mr Duncan's letter is set out below. Also in this issue of the Herald is the completion of last week's story about issues raised by the House of Ariki. The photos accompanying the House of Ariki document, apply to issues raised by Mr Duncan in his letter.

"Dear Mr. Kupa:

Thank you for meeting with me today to discuss the progress on the Te Mato Vai project and to address my concerns which primarily revolve around pipe installation, pipe welding and pipeline testing procedures.

Rather than complicate my expression of concern by trying to address many aspects, let me focus on one component that is critical to the longevity of the system; therefore, as an outcome of our discussion, I am writing to formally express my EXTREME CONCERN at the Contractor practices with respect to the excavation, backfilling and pipelaying. From our conversation and the TMV Master Plan (4th April 2014) I understand that the Contractor is obliged to meet New Zealand standards and that the Master Plan serves as a substantial guideline for those standards.

The integrity of the bedding and backfill procedures are the primary determinants of the integrity and projected lifetime of the pipe. The issues arising from surface damage to the pipe through improper backfilling, and flexing or distortion of the pipe through improper bedding are exacerbated as the pipe ages, loses plasticizers and become more brittle and prone to cracking.

Sections 14.2.3 and 14.2.4 of the 2014 Master Plan clearly specify the New Zealand Standards that standards. include:

The bottom of the 1. trench being filled with well



graded gravel from 5mm to levelled by hand. 14mm compacted with а vibrating plate or vibrating roller than 100mm be compacted to compaction tool in uniform layers not exceeding 100mm and profiled to pipe barrel. (Sec. 14.2.4.2)

My observations were that a thin layer of ungraded material hand shaped with a shovel and without compaction served as the bed.

the backfill 2. That material be 5mm – 14mm (Sec. 14.2.3.3)

My observations were that the backfill material used was unscreened dirt/coral sand dumped through a coarse screen of approximately 50mm with no system to prevent completely ungraded "overspill" into the trench.

That the backfill be 3. placed uniformly and not dropped from a height greater that 300mm.

My observations were that the backfill was randomly dropped from a height of approximately Back filling the trench

That lifts of not more 4. create uniform surround for the a huge expenditure and it is pipe of not less than 200mm important that all the material compacted. (Section 14.2.3.3 and 14.2.4.1)

My observation was that, at most a single compaction was done and that the backfill was a clear set of guidelines and a incorrectly compacted, uneven, and commonly under 200mm.

That where two pipes 5. that there, there be a clear separation of 300mm minimum.

My observation was that throughout the system (back road from Atupa through Nikao) and through Ruaau, and Arorangi there are many long stretches were piles are laid actually touching or separated by a few centimetres.

Т DO understand the ambitious project, and recognize 1. that communicating that effectively across three cultures extremely is 2 metres (2,000 mm) and rough however, it is vital for the sake of Ph.D., A.C.P."

our children and grandchildren that – to quote the Master Plan:

"The Te Mato Vai project has components are to a high quality, correct specification and installed correctly,"

Mr Kupa, the Contractor has CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION to adhere to them.

Notwithstandingtheenormous were laid in a common trench cultural and communication issues, and the politics of this Project, I believe that it is the duty of the Contractor to fulfill his obligations, and it is incumbent upon The Project Management Team and the Government of the Cook Islands to take whatever steps necessary to ensure that the installation is done correctly and meets New Zealand standards throughout complexities of building such an the entire construction of Phase

Sincerely,

Andrew (Andy) N. Duncan. challenging; Dip.Ed. (Oxon), B.Ed., M.Ed.,

24 DECEMBER 2014

NEWS House of Ariki - Te Mato Vai issues

Continued from last week

Problem Area 2 Storage and Protection of Pipes (Section 14.2,2.1 Page 94)

Pipes shall be lifted using a centrally placed nylon sling or as per the manufacturer's instructions. *Pipes shall not be placed directly on the ground*. *Timber cradles shall be used* to keep the pipes clear of the ground.



Pipes stored incorrectly at Aroa placed on the ground instead of being placed in timber cradles

Ruaau

Pipe supported incorrectly on a metal bar instead of a nylon sling.

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Then placed on the ground instead of being placed in timber cradles.





Problem Area 3: 14.2.4.2 Pipe bedding (Page 97)

The trench shall be excavated to grade, with a flat bottom 100mm below the pipeline invert level. The bedding material shall be well graded gravel, 5mm to 14mm, for pipe diameters above 100mm nominal bore. The bedding material shall be placed in the trench by the contractor to a compacted depth of 100mm. The contractor shall use a vibrating plate or small vibrating rollers to achieve the compaction standard. The contractor shall profile the bedding and shall provide a uniform bedding surface for the pipe barrel except joint position. Where PE pipe is to be laid, extreme care should be taken in preparing the trench bedding.

The picture on the right taken at Aroa shows that the pipe is laid in an uneven bed of loose material – not compacted to 100mm.





These pictures show the pipe laid in the trench with little or no bedding material

Ruaau (left and below)



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Problem Area 3: 14.2.3.3 Backfilling (Page 96)

The backfill material around and to 200mm above the pipe shall be 5mm to 14mm well graded gravel for PE pipe and shall be well compacted.

The backfill shall be placed uniformly and not dropped from a height greater than 300mm, over the full width of the trench, on both sides of the pipe. Lifts of not more than 100mm thick shall be compacted to a relative density of between 95 and 98 percent (Proctor) according to BS 1377 Test 11, Standard Method of Compaction.

The contractor shall install the pipe surround cover to pipe to 200mm (minimum).

Aroa

Here the backfill, designed to cushion and protect the pipe, is stony sand and soil with stones over 50mm across instead of the 5 - 14mm.

Note: the 40 – 50mm screen and the lack of care in making sure no big stones fall into the trench



Picture on right

Reinstalled pipe by Larson's in Ruaau covered with sand, stones and dirt – not the graded fill!

Problem Area 3: 14.2.3.3 Backfilling (Page 96)



LEFT: Bottom of Hospital Hill.

Notice that this is not graded fill as required by the Master Pland, just excavated dirt thrown over the pipe.



COOK ISLANDS HERALD BY POKO UTIA

Continued

The backfill shall be placed uniformly and <u>not dropped from a height greater than 300mm</u>, over the full width of the trench, on both sides of the pipe. Lifts of not more than 100mm thick shall be compacted to a relative density of between 95 and 98 percent (Proctor) according to BS 1377 Test 11, Standard Method of Compaction.



Here the Contractor can be seen dropping ungraded dirt and stones through a 40 – 50mm screen from a height of 2,000 to 2,500 mm above the pipe – instead of the 300mm drop called for in the specifications



Similar drops were observed along the back road in Atupa and Nikoa

Problem Area 4: 14.2.4.1 Pipe laying

Where two pipes are to laid in a common trench a clear separation of 300mm minimum must be provided. The bottom of the trench shall conform to grade with the side walls cut vertically to provide sufficient width to enable compaction of side fill at each side of the pipeline at the horizontal diameter of the pipe.



Also note that in none of these cases does the bedding and backfill conform to specifications

It is obvious in this set up that when the backfill is compacted the top pipe will be crushed down into the lower one compromising (damaging) both pipes Ruaau Note that the pipes are laid on top of one another with little or no spacing



Improperly installed pipe at Inave



16

Raina Mataiapo Investiture Photos by Jeane Matenga















Xmas float parade

Photos by TeRiu Woonton

















erry Christmas

Management and staff of Friad Pacific Petroleum would like to wish all our valued customers a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

To show our appreciation for the support throughout the year we are giving to all our Pensioner customers (60+) food hampers

So come down and meet our friendly staff at our Triad Petrol Station in Tutakimoa to pick your hampers. (22nd December to 31st December 2014

What the stable & our heart have in common

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

In a few days time we will be celebrating the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. For this article of encouragement I want us to look at "What the Stable in which Jesus was born and our Hearts have in common." Stable is a place where animals live. It is dirty, stink and noisy. Yet Mary gave birth to Jesus in this place. The birth of Jesus means little or nothing to us if He has not been born in our hearts. Now let us look at what the Stable and our Hearts have in common.

1. BOTH ARE PLACES WHERE GOD HAS CHOSEN FOR HIS SON TO ENTER. God made the choice of where Jesus was to be born. we are. Micah 5v.2 is a prophecy of where Jesus is to be born. It reads "Bethlehem Ephrathah, you are one of the smallest towns in the nation of Judah. But the Lord will choose one of your people to rule the nation - someone whose family goes back to ancient times." Again, Galatians 4v.4-5 reads "...God sent His Son. and a woman gave birth to Him...so He could set us free from the law, and we could become God's children." God has also chosen our hearts, for His Son Jesus to dwell in. Ephesians 3v.17 reads ".. Christ will live in your hearts because of your faith. Stand firm and be deeply rooted in His love."

2. BOTH ARE PLACES THAT ARE UNWORTHY OF DIVINE ROYALTY. The stable is a dirty place; it's a dark place, and a defiled place, so as our hearts.

heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked..." It is because of our deceitfulness, our unworthiness that Jesus was born in the stable to show us of the extent of God's love for you and I. Remember that the birth of Christ means little or nothing at all, unless He is born in our hearts. When Jesus was born in the stable, no one cleaned the stable, or remove all the dirty and the filth, or even chase the animals out, Mary gave birth to Jesus the way the stable was - dirty and unclean. Jesus was born in a dirty stable. God want His Son Jesus to be born in our stable our hearts the way

3. BOTH ARE PLACES THAT GOD HAS CHOSEN FOR THE BIRTH OF HIS SON. The birth of Jesus was a spiritual birth. Just as Jesus was born of the Spirit, so the Holy Spirit wants to birth Jesus Christ in our hearts. The birth of Jesus Christ is what made all the difference in the stable and He can make all the difference in our lives when He is born in our hearts. II Corinthians 5v.17 reads "Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten. and everything is new." Has Christ been born in your heart?

4. BOTH ARE PLACES FROM WHICH GOD HAS CHOSEN TO REVEAL HIS SON. The greatest witness of Jesus is the witness from our hearts. Through the stable, people know Jesus Christ. Through our hearts others will know that Jesus is alive in us. If Jesus is to be Jeremiah 17v.9 reads "The revealed to the world it will Encouragement Column



be through our stables. THROUGH WHICH GOD DESIRES TO REACH A LOST God be with you during this WORLD. The stable was the gateway of God to reach the world. Amazingly, God Te Atua te aroa.

also chooses a stable, you 5. BOTH ARE PLACES and I to reach the world. May the peace and joy of Christmas and New Year period. May God bless you.

COOK ISLANDS HERALD

NEWS **Rising Stars impress**

<u>By Poko Utia</u>

he "Rising Stars" concert held at the National Auditorium last Thursday evening, which featured NZ film star Temuera Morrison and young talented Cook Islands performers, was a great success according to organizer Mike Tavioni.

I spoke with Mike Tavioni Monday afternoon about the show. He mentioned how impressed he was with the show and believes along with several others who attended that it was a fantastic show.

Outstanding performers whom Temuera was verv impressed with were opera buff Ridge Ponini, Ioana Turia, Helena Strickland and brothers Piritau and Samuel Nga. Overall Mike says everyone was great and he is so proud of them and that all the credit goes to the performers for doing such a fantastic job on

stage.

Mike and Temuera didn't have high expectations for a great turnout of people due to there being other activities going on like the Santa Parade and late night shopping however, the turnout was about what they expected.

Mike said the aim was to produce a good show which he believes they pulled off. Although they weren't able to cover all their expenses, they managed to pay most of them off but said he and Temuera would have been much happier if all the costs were covered.

Mike is still trying his best to get more sponsors for his film and says he is trying to put the word out that the purpose of all the events he will be putting up will all go towards his short film that he and Temuera Morrison will be creating.

He says if people want it on TV two days of rehearsal at the



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Mike Tavioni

it can come on TV and he very much would like it to be put up on YouTube for the whole world

Mike says people are amazed that he managed to pull the show off in just five days with

to see.

they can sponsor the film so that Auditorium. Mike himself is amazed at how he managed to bring everyone together and perform excellently.

> The twelve performers were so outstanding that Tavioni is considering taking several of the talented young singers to perform in Auckland next year.

Christmaaaaa

By Norma Ngatamariki

With Christmas just around the corner, people have been going nuts with all the bargains and great sales in town. Like the generous offer that Telecom has made, giving out free gigs on broadband numerous internet. The Christmas parties are done and dusted (which, I'm sure, everybody had great fun with all that food and alcohol), so people are focussing on their families and wondering which gardening tool set Nena would like most, or which toy truck is least likely to break when your baby brother unwraps Decisions, decisions. it. Christmas shopping doesn't come easy and it's mainly up to the women because, supposedly, they're the" smart shoppers". Men just whip out their wallets and hand out the cash, so their job is simple.

I do not plan to spend a going out for dinner instead the bottle and pretty much clean up afterwards).

lot of money this Christmas, of slaving away in our kitchen. walk away with it if I wanted like I usually do (Pfft, with the millions of dollars that I DON'T have. Plus, I'm saving for Uni next year) Instead, I will shower my family and friends with 'gifts of the heart' which easily trumps over something which was bought with money. I plan on baking cakes this Christmas. I hope that I make someone happy when they bite into a piece of oozing, chocolate-y goodness (as opposed to coughing and spiting it out). Not only is it a money saver, compared to the spending on individual presents, cakes are something that EVERYBODY loves and it can feed a whole family for the price of one family member. I find that it's the perfect solution to my financial woes.

Another change up this Christmas for the Ngatamariki household is that we will be

food (There are only three Christmas anyway. people in my family and yet we cook enough food to feed through town at night, take an army). Going out to dinner would be so much easier. the beauty of the Christmas Someone else cooks and cleans your dishes and food It's such a pretty sight. doesn't go to waste.

Christmas where I can actually drink alcohol with my family. I've always wondered how awkward it would be if I was holding a Cruiser in my festive season and showing hand with my parents sitting right across me. I'll admit, it decorating their homes and would be pretty weird (for businesses. Ah, the beauty me at least). For seventeen of Christmas! A time where Christmases, mum has kept a watchful eye on her Absolut drink with their families Vodka bottle and was always without a worry in the world slapping me if I got too close (with the exception of a to it. Now, I can just pick up lighter wallet and the massive

I've always moaned about the to. But I wouldn't do that early hours in which we have to her. I have a feeling that to get up to cook, the endless I won't be drinking with piles of dishes, the leftover them anytime soon. Not this

If you happen to be driving a moment to appreciate lights illuminating the night. Especially the trees at the This would be my first water filling station at the Tupapa Maraerenga meeting house (Great job, Action Man!). It's great to see everybody getting into the off their Christmas cheer by people get to relax, eat and

COOK ISLANDS HERALD CHOOKS

Attention seeker Wee Rassie grabbed the media lime light over the Demo win in Mitiaro. Couldn't wait to get his face in front of a camera to give the impression he is still the public face of the Democratic Party. Well it all went down like a lead balloon with the Mitiaro mob and the CIP interjecting with another legal challenge over the Mitiaro seat Rassie's media propaganda stunt may have been too hasty.

Rassie again hogged the lime light leading the "make my friend Teina the Prime Minister" in a One Cook Island and Demo coalition. Looks like he is doing his best to earn that seventh minister seat in Cabinet. A month or so with his snout out of the lucrative political trough and he wants back in immediately there's no joy living in the real world. His unendorsed front page media release to the daily dribble emphasising a unanimous united front by the Demos for Bishop to be the Prime Minister was publically misleading and without substance or with the support of a conference as per the Demo Constitution, again Rassies trying to exert his used by date leadership back into favour.

Heard about the Pastor's prayer's instant answer for a blessing. After the Sunday service a few weeks again to the surprise of the congregation there was a delivery of catered food. While the Church leaders thought it was provided by some members of the congregation in return the congregation thought it was the Pastor's doing. Anyway plates and utensils were provided and the feasting began. With so much food uneaten there was plenty to take home for supper. It turns out during the week the Pastor was told



the catered food was delivered to the wrong church. Those it was meant for were disappointed with the no show of their ordered food. The following Sunday the first church repaid for another order to be delivered to the other congregation. So watch out if Pastor prays for a blessing it could be so powerful it could divert food orders.

Who is the losing politician wanna be who is avoiding going back to his outer island constituency? He was stupid enough to make grandiose promises without the small print condition if I win. The voters still want those promises to be honoured despite the loss.

Captain's log, SS Daily, Saturday, shows the Captain has lost control of the vessel. On page two is the astronomically big news of the day about the political alignment of the Leaders and the lead fable on the front is a bit of fiction about a non-event that has no budget, is begging the public for support and is basically a fantasy.

It's a foregone conclusion chooks that the Vaipae by election due in February will not go the way of the CIP. So why would the CIP even bother contesting what is essentially a no win situation? We all know it's going to end up 11,11,2. We all know who is going to hold the balance of power. It's game over for the CIP unless PM Tuna falls on his sword.

Did you read the grimm fantasy tale in the Captain's Log of the SS Daily on Saturday? Notice how Government is trying a new propaganda tactic chooks? Government really does not have any big bucks to celebrate the 50th so they are now trying to transfer the costs to the little people. First they bombard the little people with tales of how it's up to the little people to take ownership of and make the event a success. This is to get the little people feeling guilty and willing to contribute money. The little people will feel obliged to contribute their time, food, limited resources and cash. This way the highly paid organizers can shift the cost and blame the little people if the event falls flat.

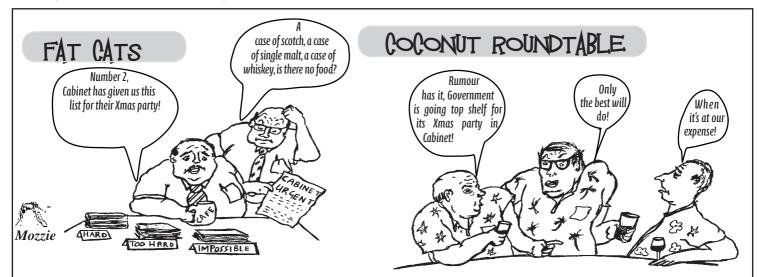
And the organizers of the big 50th bash will also call on the long suffering business sector to sponsor events. But it's really the poor, lowly people who will suffer because all businesses need to do is up their prices by a few cents and presto! They have some cash to donate!

How about a generous gift from government to all to mark the 50th bash event? How about government granting an amnesty to all workers who owe back taxes? That will go down well.

Tricky Dickie's job as chief shuffler of the bank notes has been advertised but guess what! His application is bound to be the first to hit the deck! He has even tried to re-invent himself by taking to pareu clothing and sporting a trim beard. All that is needed to complete the transformation are a pair of shorts and jandals. In fact, throw in a Barbie and some shrimps and he'd be a dinkum Aussie!

The current impasse in local politics reminds one of the classic Mexican standoff. Gunfight at the OK Corral is another version. So many different pacts, match ups, unholy alliances and odd couple pairings that when the bullets finally fly, will those left standing agree to a truce and sit down at the same table?

The CIP are heading to the Court of Appeal over the Mitiaro decision by the High Court and thus are prolonging the end result. Who do they say is holding the country to ransom? And if the CIP do not like the outcome of the Vaipae /Tautu by-election? Well they can always petition the High Court's decision, the CIP can go to the Court of Appeal! Prolong things even further! And there's still the Privy Council! When was parliament dissolved? April 2014? When was the general election? 9July 2014?



VACANCIES



This week's top vacancies available on Cook Islands Jobs as at 16/12/14

- Store Manager, The Good Life Store- Perfumes of Rarotonga (Rarotonga)
- 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)
- Full Time Barista- Reefside Rarotonga (Rarotonga)

To view full job descriptions and to apply for any of these roles, please visit www.cookislandsjobs.com today.



Due to continuing growth and high occupancies, The Rarotongan Beach Resort & Spa, have a wide range of employment opportunities seeking enthusiastic, motivated staff serious about a short or long term career, in our Spa & Salon Department, on a full time, part time or temporary basis, as a;

Qualified Spa Therapist with experience in:

- Soft & deep tissue massages
- **Beauty treatments**
- Manicures
- \square Pedicures

You will have excellent communication skills, be able to relate well to guests and staff alike and be able to work shift work.

Previous experience is preferred however full international standard training will be provided to the right candidates.

For more information on the position and the Resort visit our website www.TheRarotongan.com or apply to Human Resources on; Email hr@rarotongan.co.ck Skype address trbr.hr Phone (682) 25-822 ext 8014 or 25-800

PUBLIC NOTICES

24 DECEMBER 2014



Business Trade Investment Board

Cook Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Business Trade Investment Board (BTIB) would like to advise the public that our office will be closed for the festive season from Monday 22nd December 2014 and will re-open on Monday 5th January 2015.

On behalf of our Minister, Board members and staff we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and an enjoyable, safe and prosperous New Year. For any enquiries during the holiday season please contact the CEO Terry Rangi Ph (+682) 54299.





PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

Vacancy: Secretary of Select Committees (and Translation and Interpretation Services)

This position requires a person who is familiar with the Legislative Service Act 1968-69; Parliamentary Standing Orders; MFEM Act 1995-96; PERC Act 1995-96; Cook Islands Constitution; and other related legislations. It would be an advantage if the applicant is familiar with Parliamentary procedures and the government system of operation. A strong local community background and experience would also be an added advantage. Educational and academic qualifications are essential. Computer literacy with a strong report and letter writing ability with minimum supervision is necessary. A minimum of 10 years holding a middle or senior management position in government would be advantageous. Initially this vacancy will be on a temporary basis.

The successful applicant will be directly responsible to the Clerk of Parliament. The Job Description is available from the Office of Parliamentary Services, Nikao. Address applications to The Clerk of Parliament, Parliament Building, Nikao, Rarotonga, or sent via email to clerk@parliament.gov.ck Applications will close Monday 5th January 2015 at 4.00 p.m.



Merry Xmas and have a prosperous New Year to all our Tattslotto customers!



- Closing date for nominations is **Friday 23rd January 2015**. •
- There is no limit to the number of nominations made by individuals.
- Winners will be chosen by a judging panel representing business, civil society, youth, traditional leaders and others. ٠
- Winners will be recognised at the 2015 Development Partner's Meeting Awards Dinner on Tuesday 10th February.

Jaewynn McKay, the Awards Coordinator, is happy to answer any questions you may have. Contact Jaewynn by email: development@cookislands.gov.ck or by phone: +682 55 486

BACKGROUND

The 2015 Development Awards will recognise the country's best development achievements over the last fifty years. These 7 awards will honour organisations, individuals and the public and private sector for their efforts in creating positive change in the Cook Islands.

CATEGORIES

• Best Development 1965 – 1974 Best Development 1975 – 1984

Best Development 1985 – 1994

- Best Development 1995 2004
- **Special Awards**
- People's Choice
- Supreme Development 1965 2014

CRITERIA

Recipients of the 2015 Development Awards will have demonstrated to our experienced panel of judges that they or their project were at the forefront of the country's development.

These awards will recognise the most successful and innovative, people, projects, programmes and partnerships; entries will need to demonstrate how they have improved the physical or environmental quality of an island or islands within the Cook Islands or the economic or social well-being of a community within the Cook Islands.

Other criteria that might be incorporated include:

- The contribution and benefit to society and impact on community or nation by the individual/group/event or project being nominated.
- Their personal interest and involvement in the wider community.
- Details of any challenges faced and how they were overcome. ٠
- The length of time living in the Cook Islands. ٠
- Outline contribution to the Cook Islands development. ٠
- Outline degree of difficulty in achievement. ٠
- The involvement in establishing and/or setting the direction of a group, organisation or cause in which they have • been involved.
- Value of contribution to the Cook Islands.

TIMELINE

- Call for nominations opens Monday 15th December 2014. ٠
- Nominations close Friday 23rd January 2015. •
- Judging panel convenes Monday 26th January to consider nominations and to short list up to three nominations per category.
- The People's Choice Award will be voted on by the public from the short list published on Monday 2nd February. ٠
- The Supreme Award will be chosen from the category winners. ٠
- Announcement of Awardees at the Development Awards Dinner Tuesday 10th February.

Best Development 2005 – 2014

Nominee name/project/programme:						
Contact name (if different from above):						
Contact email:	Phone:					
Category, tick one:						
Best Development 1965 - 1974	Best Development 1995 – 2004					
Best Development 1975 – 1984	Best Development 2005 – 2014					
Best Development 1985 – 1994						

Supporting information

Please tell us the reasons why you believe your nomination should receive a Development Award (in about 250 - 1000 words). You can provide additional material in support if you wish. You can use this section to list the achievements. Please feel free to add additional pages or attach a separate document to this nomination form.

NOMINATOR GENERAL STATEMENT OF INTENT

I agree to the Development Coordination Division (MFEM) recording the personal contact details provided in this nomination, retaining and using these details and disclosing them to the judging panel for the purposes of selecting recipients for the Development Awards 2015.

I understand that my nominee's name and brief details about this nomination may be released to the media or appear in publicity material.

Your name:	
Signature:	Date:
Email:	Phone:

SUBMIT NOMINATION

- email to development@cookislands.gov.ck
- Post to Development Coordination Division, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, PO Box 120, Rarotonga
- Deliver by hand to the Development Coordination Division, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management