

COOK ISLANDS HERALD

22 April 2015 \$2 (incl VAT)

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DPM Heather's two faced and self righteous hypocrisy exposed

Once a humble hardworking contractor who shared more than he got, Teariki Heather Deputy Prime Minister is better known these days as a bully unashamed of his perceived Te Mato Vai conflicts of interests and double standards. Once a generous giver, Heather has become a compulsive taker. When question on his political ethics and the public concern regarding conflicts of interests Heather's self righteous response is "I'm a Christian."

The politically ambitious Heather rarely responds to allegations of impropriety or questions about his political conduct in written form, he chooses to use live radio broadcasts to exalt himself above reproach and defame and verbally desecrate his critics rather than address the issues being asked of him. The DPM never discusses the issues raised; he attacks the messenger with vitriolic vengeance thinking that renders the message untrue.

In recent times Heather as the Minister of Infrastructure Cook Islands and the House of Ariki (HOA) has faced opposition from intake land owners about his intention to issue Warrants of Acquisition without compensating the landowners. In one meeting that included HOA members Heather's forceful insistence he has the power and authority to take the land has been met with a just as forceful resistance which resulted in a heated exchange of harsh words.

Heather's attempts to manipulate the intake landowners and their agents have failed to bring them into submission. The issue of compensation and the charging of water are the major issues of concern for the intake



DPM Teariki Heather

In recent times Heather as the Minister of Infrastructure Cook Islands and the House of Ariki (HOA) has faced opposition from intake land owners about his intention to issue Warrants of Acquisition without compensating the landowners.

landowners who are retaliating against the bullying tactics by the DPM.

Heather has a serious memory failure when it comes to the subject of warrant of acquisition for land he was a part owner along with six others in Arorangi. Four hectares of land was

acquired by warrant executed by the Queen's Representative Frederick Goodwin on the 31 May 2001. The land was for the public purpose of the establishment and management of a site for solid and liquid waste utilities and any housing purposes.

At meeting of landowners of the Part Section 106 Vairauara ki-uta chaired by Eddie Drollet on the 4 May 2001 held at the Prime Minister Dr Terepai Maoate's Conference room the minutes recorded in attendance was Lawyer Tina Brown, Rangi Pauka, Maria Maurangi, Rai George Rongoi, William Heather Snr, Manoa Heather, Teariki Heather and Ina Tapurua.

An extract from the minutes states; *Teariki Heather acknowledged that he was present during the survey and is happy with the survey. He indicated that he would settle for \$280,000 which is the same amount offered to Aroa landowners and the non-refundable deposit of \$10,000.*

Only Maria Maurangi disagreed as she wanted \$700,000 or have her family's share removed from the project. A count was made of those in favour and 6 of the representatives voted in favour of the \$280,000 while Maria Maurangi's family opposed.

On the 19 June 2001 the Honourable Dr Terepai Maoate as Minister for the Cook Islands Investment Corporation filed an application in the land division of the Cook Islands High Court to assess and award compensation for the land taken for public purposes. The application stated, THE landowners are entitled to compensation.

This exposes the hypocrisy of the self enriching Teariki Heather, whose land was being acquired by warrant and in turn was offered generous compensation after a cordial negotiating process with government. What happened to the cordial spirit of co-operation Teariki Heather? Where is the willingness of the government negotiators to consult with the

continued next page

New appointment for the Financial Services Development Authority

The Financial Services Development Authority announced today its appointment of Tamatoa Jonassen as its Chief Executive Officer. The FSDA was established in 2009 to promote the financial services industry. Board Chairman Brian Mason said 20 applications were received and many of the applicants were well qualified. "We had applicants from Canada, England, Indonesia, Australia, India, Denmark, Kenya, Fiji, New Zealand, Luxembourg, Anguilla, the Philippines and the Cook Islands".

Mr Mason said Mr Jonassen was chosen by the Board because his diverse set of skills fitted well with the offshore financial services two principle markets of Asia and North America. "Like his predecessor he is a Cook Islander with a law degree from that country and understands the culture of that country. In addition he is versed in Chinese culture and speaks Mandarin. The Board regards Mr Jonassen's Bachelor of Science degree

majoring in information systems and political science as a further useful skill relevant to the job Mr Jonassen is taking on."

Departing Chief Executive Officer, Cook Islander Jennifer Davis, granddaughter of former PM Sir Tom Davis, was tasked with the establishment of the FSDA office in 2009. "She had to start from nothing", said the Chairman, "and has built up the office and an extensive network of contacts which is important in our industry." Mr Mason added that Ms Davis has overseen the passage and promotion of captive insurance and foundation legislation as the FSDA tries to diversify the financial services industry. In addition Ms Davis has greatly assisted financial services providers and Government agencies in meeting an environment of increased regulation and information sharing between agencies internationally. "But perhaps most of all Ms Davis managed to bring all sectors and stakeholders together so the country has a shared strategic



Outgoing CEO Jenner Davis

plan for the future – a common purpose which is lacking in many other countries'. He concluded by saying the Board was grateful for the contribution Ms Davis has made over the last six years.

DPM Heather's two faced and self righteous hypocrisy exposed

From page 2

intake landowners rather than bulldozing them into compliance without compensation?

For what purpose does it serve this CIP government to have the unrestrained DPM create another stream of totally unnecessary ill feeling and volatile hostility?

Heather's manipulative argument the required land is for a public purpose therefore should be offered free as the landowner's civil duty is a double standard excuse the grand

master of hypocrisy Heather never applied to himself over the waste management site. If it was good enough for the Heather family to be compensated for their warrant acquired land then why not the same for the intake landowners? How Christian is that DPM? Is there one rule for your family and another for the rest of us?

Tupapa MP George Maggie is scheduled to have a meeting of all intake landowners on 23 Thursday at the Tupapa Meeting House at 7.00pm - *George Pitt*



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Cook Islands and China relationship knocking on door of Level Five

The dreaded obligation to reciprocate goodwill has arrived

The days of the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) handing the Cook Islands easy money through funding development projects has long gone; that was back in **Level two** of the PRC's **five Level** diplomatic strategy road map for the Pacific.

Level one really kicked in when our politicians started accepting invitations to visit the PRC, Prime Minister at the time Dr Robert Woonton was instrumental in firming up our PRC connection. This was followed by all expenses trips for media practitioners then government officials followed by sections of the private sector.

When laveta Short was the High Commissioner for the Cook Islands in New Zealand he signed a One China Policy Communiqué with the PRC in 1997, this document was one of a kind it that it secured the Cook Islands privileges other Pacific states did not have. The agreement lay dormant till the then Minister Teina Bishop used it as a point of reference during a visit to PRC in 2011, this resulted in the relationship being strengthened and the diplomatic protocols directly with PRC shifting to the PRC Embassy in Wellington NZ.

Level two introduced the visual presence of the developing relationship with PRC when the gifted Court House totally funded by them was opened in 2004 followed by the National Police Headquarters in 2006.

In monetary terms these two projects amounted to \$8 million. During **Level two** other funding was advanced for housekeeping assistance. PRC require prominent locations highly visible to the public for their infrastructure funded projects. Non visible service type capacity building projects are limited and not readily engaged.

Level three PRC offers low interest loans for development, preferable highly visible ones. To save face when the South Pacific Mini Games was under threat of being cancelled due to the lack of facilities the then Democratic Party Minister of Finance Wilkie Rasmussen signed off a \$13 million loan to build the new Telecom Sports Arena which opened in 2009.

In 2012 the PRC chipped in \$1 million to fund the hosting of the Forum.

Level four, in 2013 the PRC grants a commercial loan of \$24 million for their first tripartite project Rarotonga's infrastructure Te Mato Vai project. In 2009 Rasmussen had frozen the \$38 million loan meant for the upgrade as it put us at risk for if we couldn't meet the repayments the loan is converted to a grant that is loaded with strings attached. The discernable Rasmussen had the cognitive ability from the awareness of what happened when Samoa was faced with this



Terry Rangi

dilemma and didn't want the Cook Islands to be in trapped in that predicament. The Kingdom of Tonga is now unable to meet their infrastructure upgrade loan repayments. The level of interest repayments would push the country beyond the Asia Development Bank's

recommended limit of 35 percent of GDP.

In 20015 as part of the TeMato Vai good will the PRC donate \$6 million worth of heavy machinery. At the same time \$1 million of pearl farming equipment was handed over by

Continued next page

the PRC.

After the arson destruction of the Avatea Primary School the Cook Islands government lacked the funds to undertake Finance Minister Mark Brown's promise to rebuild the school. The PRC are approached for \$10 million to build a 500 student Apii Nikao that unifies Avatea and Nikao Primary schools.

Level five introduces PRC private sector traders and investors into the relationship, now well and truly buried in obligation to the PRC, the government will risk social unrest from the business community. The Chinese are coming and there is very little anything can be done to stem them. Last year PRC announced a US\$2 billion aid package for Pacific States that included funding for private sector economic development in Small Island Development States.

So far two delegations from different Provinces Zhoushan and Shenvizhen in PRC have visited Rarotonga, last month's delegation were scoping the country for business opportunities, at the end of this month another delegation from the Guangdong Province will be visiting. Chinese Groups and individuals independent of PRC endorsed visitors have been steadily landed here to kick the tyres and scope the service providers and investment opportunities.

Sizeable investors (over \$200 million) have recently expressed interest in the Cook Islands but request NZ passports, in this case 200 a year.

In a meeting with BTIB last month the visiting Shenvizhen delegation were unsuccessful in getting a lop sided favourable memorandum of understanding signed off by CEO Terry Rangi who predicts it's only a matter of time before their commercial presence materialises.

Rangi said "In the last five years there has not been any significant and large scale foreign direct investment in the Cook Islands other than infrastructure and energy projects through donor funding, the Vaimaanga hotel development is still in limbo five years after approval was granted to NZ based investors." He added "Those investors that have done reasonably well have been boutique and niche tourism accommodators,



Rohan Ellis

despite the increasing number of visitors over the last 5 years many tourism accommodators are looking to sell or looking for joint venture partners which are few and far between."

Rangi pointed out these conditions set the stage for high investor interest from PRC, "However investors from China will need to consider our investment policy which identifies areas reserved for Cook Islanders and promotes local participation through employment, shareholding and as joint venture partners. They should also attempt to blend in with the social and cultural fabric of the Cook Islands and its people because this is what makes the Cook Islands unique." On a broad base BTIB is optimistic investment from China into clearly defined areas provides unique opportunities for the Cook Islands to benefit from." alluded Rangi.

The dramatic impact of the Chinese presence in commercial enterprises in Pacific states is well documented and in most instances is the cause

of violent conflict with the indigenous population. In recent times Papua New Guinea has experienced the death of four Chinese people during violent clashes over commercial tensions. In Samoa copy cat micro businesses owned by Chinese nationals are surfacing at random and are seriously challenging the viability of local businesses. Letters to the Editor of the daily Samoa Observer indicate a growing tension against the Chinese businesses.

How wide our government opens the door to Chinese enterprises in the Cook Islands remains to be seen.

Chinese business is assertive and willing to push the envelope beyond set boundaries. When challenged they plead ignorance and suddenly can't remember how to speak English. Any continued talks with PRC that further enhances their presence or influence in the Cook Islands must be conducted with caution and prudence for the Government has placed the country in an extremely vulnerable obligatory predicament.

Businesses that are reserved for locals must be made absolutely clear and explicit to Chinese investors otherwise before you know it they will indulge in micro business activities, fast foods is a favourite entry point.

According to the former Pacific Forum Trade official Rohan Ellis, the Polynesian triangle of Samoa, Tonga and the Cook Islands are strategically located commercially and military. Ellis who spent six years working in Beijing from 2002-08 said the Cook Islands are in a good space with PRC and that we were highly regarded as a friend. "China looks upon the Cook Islands as a neutral state like Sweden, because we have a long standing and stable relationship with them and we have never faulted in our acceptance of the One China Policy."

Ellis said PRC are potentially great development partners but the Cook Islands have to be very specific in what we don't want and what our priorities are. "Micro business ownership is one specific never to be discussed." "The Cook Islands needs to be monitoring the PRC activities in the Pacific and learn from others experiences and mistakes."

The short term gains from the PRC loans could have very long term ramifications for us if we fail to manage the presence of Chinese private sector investment. It's a matter of keeping all the stakeholders in the loop and proceeding with caution. If Qatar can manage their country despite a foreign influx of contractors that represent 75% of the total population then there's a lesson there for us in how to maintain control of our economy.

Major private sector investment such as a five start Resort development will be constructed largely by PRC contractors then committed to employing Chinese workers in all the low visibly behind the scenes positions.

The PRC's **Levels** of diplomatic strategy has never been a secret, our successive government's readily dependence on PRC goodwill and funding has accelerated the time line of obligation to reciprocate this one sided relationship, Level five is now knocking on the door. We have been the frog in the slowly boiling water. - George Pitt

Opening of National Workshop on Copyright and Related Rights Workshop

By Noeline Browne

Today marks the start of a three day workshop to discuss Copyright, Traditional Knowledge and other related rights in the Cook Islands which runs from 22 to 24 April 2015.

The workshop is being held under the auspices of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) based in Geneva with overseas speakers: Ms Gao Hang, WIPO; Merylyn Temakon Vanuatu IPO; Anthony Healey from APPRA and Petrina Togi-Sa'ena an IP consultant and are joined by Cook Islander, Dr Jon Jonassen, songwriter, composer, producer and academic.

At the opening ceremony, Ms Gao Hang from the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) gave a brief overview of the history of the organization which has its official birthday on 26 April. Ms Hang said the 2015 theme is Music as a way to celebrate the value of musicians, their contribution to a vibrant society and to highlight their need for a fair deal in the creative industry.

Up for discussion on Wednesday are Relevance and Importance of Music, Dance, Arts and other cultural and creative expressions; the current status of copyright in the Cook Islands, Introduction of WIPO and the International Framework of copyrights of particular interest to the Cook Islands; Building a copyright system for economic, social and cultural benefits; and the status of copyright development in other Pacific countries.

Thursday discussions are about cultural and economic value of music performances; protecting and managing National music and arts in the international market; and Preserving traditional music, arts and other cultural expressions. Culture Secretary, Sonny Williams also invited all



Group photo including Minister Heather, Sonny Williams Ms Gao Hang from WIPO, Geneva, Anthony Healey from APPRA, & Merylyn Temakon from Vanuatu IPO & Petrina Togi-Sa'ena IP consultant

the participants to view the final rehearsals at the National Auditorium with the view to seeing cultural performances in action.

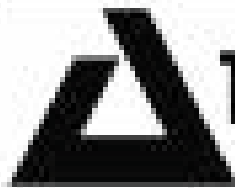
Participants at the workshop include Koutu Nui executives: Turi Mataiapo Maria Henderson, Paenui Rangatira Vereara Maeva-Taripo and Itaata Rangatira Noeline Browne on behalf of the Aronga Mana.

Friday 24 April is the final day with discussion on Relevance and Importance of Copyright policies and strategies: a critical tool and contributor and related rights in the Cook Islands – the way forward.

Funding for the event was provided by the Government of Australia and hosted by the Ministry of Culture and Development of Cook Islands, and welcomed by Minister Teariki Heather. The workshop is open to the public and discussions are sure to generate lively debate.



Marjorie Crocombe, Turi Mataiapo (Maria Henderson) and Petrina Togi-Saena



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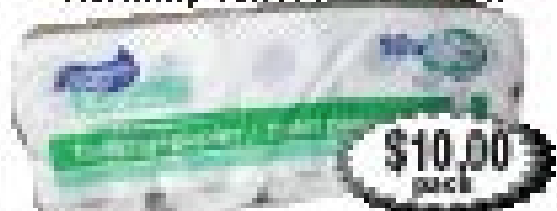
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NEW STOCK ARRIVING SOON

Sovereign Kingdom group explains its proposals

By Charles Pitt

On Easter Monday at Titikaveka, at 12 noon, the small group known as the "Kings and Queens of the Sovereign Kingdom of the Cook Islands," in their collective capacity as the "Sovereign Heads of State of the Sovereign Kingdom of the Cook Islands," revived the move proclaimed back on 12 June 2008, to revoke the current system of government by way of Letters of Patent registered in Wellington, New Zealand on 1 April 2014 in favour of government by the Ariki (to take effect on 6 April 2014).

Back in 2008, the proclamation at Taputapuatea had the support of 10 Ariki but this support later faded after government pressured the Ariki to back down and apologise to the QR before being allowed to be readmitted to the House of Ariki.

The recent move to Letters of Patent, involves a complex legal process and justification rooted in historical documents.

The group's key movers are Teaukura Teaukura known as Vaeruarangi Ariki of Aitutaki (not currently a member of the House of Ariki) and NZ Maori Vivian Bruce Gordon Mita also known as Ruatapu Ariki.

In this article, the Herald takes a closer look at the group and its proposals and policies.

Letters Patent

It is by way of a legal instrument called the "Letters Patent" which the group of Ariki known as the "Kings and Queens of the Sovereign Kingdom of the Cook Islands" say they have revoked the current system of government and can now legally claim to be the government.

The group is being promoted by Vaeruarangi Ariki of Aitutaki and Bruce Mita a NZ Maori who is married to a Cook Islander and who has had conferred on him by Vaeruarangi, the title Ruatapu Ariki.

The Letters Patent revoking the current system of government, and Constituting the Sovereign Kingdom of the Cook Islands and the Government of the Sovereign Kingdom of the Cook Islands, was drawn up by NZ Lawyer and Notary Public, Brian Griffith Jones.

It was duly authorized by King

Vaeruarangi (Ariki of Aitutaki) and King Ruatapu (Vivian Bruce Gordon Mita) on 31 March 2014.

(As explained in the Herald issue 761, Bruce Mita was conferred the title of Ruatapu by Vaeruarangi by way of a Warrant of Appointment issued on 10 February 2011. This appointment was then registered by lawyer Jones, with the NZ Ministry of Internal Affairs on 28 August 2013).

It was duly witnessed by two Cook Islanders.

The Letters Patent was then certified at Wellington on 6 April 2014 to take effect as from 1 April 2014. The document was registered with the NZ Ministry of Internal Affairs.

According to documents held by the Sovereign group, "Letters Patent" is defined in Black's Law Dictionary as a document granting some right or privilege, issued under government seal but open to public inspection.

Proposed system of government

There will still be a Prime Minister, a Cabinet and 24 MPs. The basic structure remains the same with the Ariki playing a more active rather than reactive role.

There appears to be a fusion of elements of traditional and Westminster processes.

Rather than a single QR, the highest authority is to be the Ariki in their collective capacity.

The governing body consists of an Upper House -Privy Council (Aronga Mana) which has 12 members headed by a President and two counselors. It shall vet, ratify or revoke all Bills passed through the Lower House. In this respect there will be similarities to the House of Lords in the Westminster system and the Senate in the USA system.

The Privy Council shall appoint an Executive Council which consists of two Arikis, two members of the Privy Council, the PM and Cabinet. There will also be an Administrator and a Secretary.

The Executive Government shall comprise a PM selected by secret ballot among the Ariki and Privy Council and 8 Cabinet Ministers selected by the PM from MPs elected to parliament by the people.

There shall be 24 MPs elected by the people but there will be no political parties. MPs will work for the betterment of the people, the economy, the nation and Kingdom not any political Party.

Some key financial, economic and social policies

Finance

There will still be an MFEM. There are no proposals by the group to review MFEM, its structure or functions and responsibilities.

A. There is a proposal to establish a Sovereign Treasury and Bank of the Sovereign Kingdom of the Cook Islands.

This Treasury and Bank will have 3 divisions;

1. An International Trading Platform to enable local traders to engage in international business on any stock exchange around the world. The top floor of the BCI to be converted into a Trading Floor. Trading to generate;

(i) funding for locals through trading of the natural resources above and beneath land and sea and commodities as the case may be, and

(ii) every Cook islander shall share in the profits.

2. A sovereign Treasury which will be the central banking arm and be responsible for monetary policy, retail and personal banking, currency markets, inflationary measures and strategies. The BCI to be converted into the CI Central (Federal) Bank or Sovereign Bank. Foreign Banks may be abolished.

B. There is a proposal to establish a Precious Metals Facility similar to "Fort Knox" in the USA, to;

1. Hold the securities of the Treasury and the Sovereign Bank,

2. to provide ongoing economic and financial security and stability in times of worldwide economic crisis, wars and instability.

3. to store precious metals acquired (eg US\$3-6 billion in gold, platinum) in vaults guarded 24 hours by armed Police, with security cameras.

Economic

Proposals which touch on the economy are scattered throughout the group's documents. The Herald has attempted to group those proposals here.

A. Employment

1. Locals to fill all jobs.

2. Businesses run by foreign

investors not to employ foreign workers. Foreign workers permits and conditions to be reviewed.

3. No foreigner or papa'a to be eligible to run for parliament or hold public office or any position in government.

4. All PR's to be reviewed.

B. Remuneration

1. Minimum wage to be \$12 per hour.

2. Penal rates to apply after 8 consecutive hours. Time and half for first 2 hours then double time thereafter.

3. Saturday to be paid at time and half for the first 2 hours then double time.

4. Sunday to be paid at double time.

5. Public holidays to be paid at double time.

6. Instant fine of \$10,000 for a breach of the law.

7. Review salaries of Health and Education staff.

8. International hotels and resorts to pay wages in accordance with international counter parts.

C. Manganese Nodules

1. resource to remain untouched on ocean floor.

2. Update valuation of Nodules and prepare for "Trading."

D. Telecommunications & internet

1. Buy out all foreign held shares in Telecom.

2. Update internet speeds, introduce fibre-optic cable.

3. Deregulate market to increase competition.

Social

While there is a commitment to social well-being in the oath of office for MPs there are no specific social welfare policies in the documents seen. Some major proposals under the reform of land laws may have the effect of reducing depopulation. See below.

Land law reform

1. Review terms of all land leases.

2. Consider "buy-back" of all lands from banks.

3. Banks to have no hold or caveats over any land and no authority, powers or rights to sell native title land or any land to overseas interests or investors.

4. All lands designated as "Crown Lands" to be returned to the landowners and government to hold tenancy agreements.

5. No foreigner to own land.

Congratulations to Dame Margaret Karika Ariki M.B.E

Congratulations go to Dame Margaret Karika Ariki MBE who is Woman of the Month for April and also the 100th person to be so nominated as Woman of the Month.

It is fitting that Dame Margaret should have the honour of being the 100th nominee as she is a person who is highly respected, much admired and greatly loved.

Makea Karika Margaret Ariki, known as Mama Margaret, is 93 years old. She is the second child of the La te

Karika Pa George Ariki and Ikae Mataiapo, born on the 12 December 1919.

She is sister to 6 sisters and 6 brothers.

Her paternal grandparents were Cook Islanders but her maternal grandfather was from England.

Mama Margaret was educated at Avarua Primary School and St. Joseph Intermediate and Secondary School. She was employed as a Sales Assistant at the Cook Islands Trading Corporation and the Farmers Store in Rarotonga.

She was married to Ernest Taripo who was also a traditional leader himself. He held the title of "Tearikitapurangi Rangitira."

Ernest died in October 1987. They had five children: 3 girls, 2 boys and over 20 grandchildren.

In 1949, she was appointed to the Rarotonga Island Council and served until Cook Islands became self government in 1965. She served on the Legislative Assembly from 1957 to 1962.

She is a very devoted member in various community initiatives, an advocate in the Girls Guides movement since

1928, and served as their President for over 6 years. A



Woman of the Month of April Dame Margaret Karika Ariki M.B.E

dedicated member of the London Missionary Society church now called "Cook Islands Christian Church", especially in her Avarua Ekalesia. She is also a great supporter of other denominational activities on Rarotonga.

In 1984, she was the Patroness of the Cook Islands National Council of Women. She was also patron for the Child Welfare Association and served as President for many years.

A very strong supporter of the Cook Islands National Environment Service. In June 2009 she was awarded the inaugural Environment Award.

Mama Margaret succeeded to the "Makea Karika Ariki" title on the 14 May 1957, when she was 29 years.

In 2009, the Nga ti Karika family

celebrated Mama Margaret's 60 years reign on the title, which is considered longest to serve on the Karika title.

She is one of the founding members of the House of Ariki that was established on 6 July 1967. She held the position of President in 1976-1978 and 1990-1993.

She represented the Cook Islands at the Polynesian Indigenous People in NZ, South Pacific Conference in Rabaul, PNG (1957), and was guest of honor at the PACIFICA Inc Ngaruawhia 1991.

She represented her community in sport, in the Takuvaine Sports Association involving tennis and athletics.

She excelled in the Cook Islands women's sprint championship in her youth.

She was the Cook Islands Sprint champion in 1939.

In recognition of Mama Margaret's services, she was awarded a Member of the British Empire (MBE) in 1993 for services to the House of Ariki and the Community.

She especially loves dancing - Ballroom and Waltzing and travelling.

She also loves sewing and any craft work - tivaevae and loves music.

Her aim is to fulfill God's purpose for her life.

What is important to her? Margaret says, "My commitment and services to my family, to my tribe Ngati Karika and to my country and people. And to always give honour and glory to my God for my life."

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15. Melina Tuiravakai

FAO funds new Business Mentors programme

by Te-Riu Woonton

Small Grants scheme of up to \$10,000 tied to Mentor's programme

Business mentors from the Business Mentors Programme have been coming to the Cook Islands, helping businesses in Rarotonga since 2005 and Aitutaki since 2012 and since its beginning, the scheme has been very successful.

Coordinated by the Chamber of Commerce, the programme matches professional, experienced and independent Business Mentors with local business owners who want assistance with their business planning, operations and strategy.

Up until November of last year, the programme was being funded by NZAID, but thanks to Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) who agreed that both mentoring and the YES programme at Tereora College were complimentary as part of education, the programme can continue and four mentors will be here early next month, to meet with a number of new and existing businesses.

With FAO funding comes a Small Grants programme, of up to \$10,000. It is for those predominantly with an agriculture focus as the funding is aimed to improve agribusiness; agriculture and business. Samuel says they are still working on the criteria which FAO has to approve, and then they can start taking requests for applications. However, one of the known criteria is that the business must have a business mentor which compliments the scheme, to guide them in that business. The small grant scheme will be completed and ready for release when the mentors touch base.

One mentor will be heading to Aitutaki,

and the remaining three will remain in Rarotonga.

Aitutaki has about 20 businesses, majority of them being agricultural growers, accommodators and shops, signed up to the scheme.

"In this intake there aren't so many from Aitutaki, the hard part with dealing with them is a lot of them don't have email, they give their information to their friends who have to send it on, so that's one of the drawbacks we have to work around in Aitutaki", says Lynne Samuel, Executive Director of the Cook Islands Chamber of Commerce.

Despite that, one of the schemes biggest successes is based in Aitutaki, "we've had two families who have been in the program since it's started and they now have kids who have finished their education and are back to run the business. One family is here in Rarotonga and one in Aitutaki", says Samuel.

In the application for a business mentor, the client will state what type of assistance they want, which can range from financial services to customer service and staff management and a mentor will be paired with them, "they prefer to go into the workplace so they can see where your business is at, how you operate and they come up with ideas that you don't see because you're there all day everyday and they find ways to help you".

Reefside Rarotonga has been a member of the programme for about four years now and Sharon Stott, Managing Director of Reefside Rarotonga says the scheme

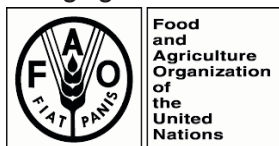
has helped a lot, "it's good to speak to someone who is off the island and has broader knowledge, it's very reassuring and they tell you formulas on how to read things", she says.

Samuel adds that a focus for Chamber of Commerce and the Business Mentors Programme this time round will be for those who want to start up a business, "what we've found is that there are several women wanting to start up in business but they've got no idea about business, so the mentors will look at running maybe one or two hour sessions after work hours during 4th – 8th May to give them some grounding start".

The programme can take up to five clients per mentor and once your business is a part of the program then communication is open and available 24/7 with mentors through Skype, email or their next visit. "It has been a very successful programme; one of the criteria is to agree to stay in the programme for 12 months. Over a period of three years they may be able to stand on their own two feet and don't need a mentor so the mentor will close their account, so what when they are due to come back again, we can take a fresh intake", says Samuel.

Previously, mentors are known to come back every six months and this year Chamber of Commerce hope to have them back on three visits; between now and October - end of July and end of October. Application forms for the Business Mentors Programme is available at Chamber of Commerce, or give Lynne a call on 20 925 if you would like it emailed through.

Supporting Agri-Business and Agriculture Value Chain Investment



REMEMBERING COOK ISLANDERS AT WAR>>

Warrant Officer Class II CSM Carl Marsters

These photos of Cook Islander Carl Marsters who served in the Middle East during the First World War and rose to the rank of Warrant Officer Class 11, were kindly provided to the Herald by his granddaughter Mona Vaevae Tetauru.

Military career

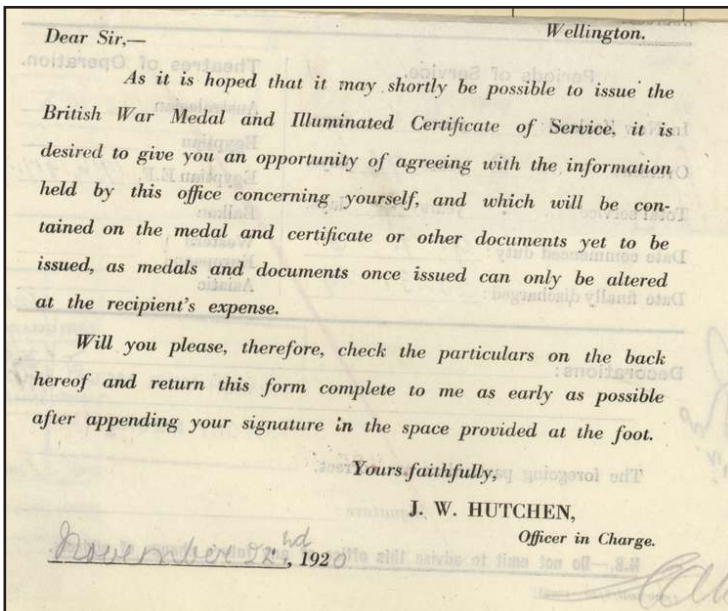
Marsters was born on 23 June 1894 on Palmerston Island. He joined the NZ Expeditionary Force on 9 July 1916. He was promoted to the rank of Corporal on 30 July 1916. On 27 August 1916 he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant while at Narrow Neck Base in Auckland. In December 1916 he arrived in Suez, Egypt. While serving in Egypt in 1917 he was promoted to the rank of Warrant Officer Class II and on 10 October 1917 he was appointed Company Sergeant Major.

On 14 December 1918, after hostilities ended, he departed Suez by ship for NZ. He was discharged from the NZ Army on 20 March 1919 after serving a total of 2 years and 255 days. His period of service overseas was 2 years and 74 days.

Family life

Papa Carl Marsters and his wife Mama Akatu spent some time as the caretakers of Manuae. At the age of 8, their daughter Mama Alice remembers leaving Manuae behind to return to Rarotonga along with her parents and siblings on board Captain Andy's boat. It was from here, that Papa Carl was then employed as the CITC Manager for Penryhn and the family then moved to Penryhn in 1950 where they attended school and it was here, Mama Alice's younger sister, Akakaingaro was born.

Papa Carl and his family were welcomed to the island with open arms. Mama Alice recalls living off the sea and a small shop that was managed by her father. After spending some time on Penryhn, on the 2nd June 1953 her father, Papa Carl passed away which was devastating news to them all. From here, her family then travelled back to Rarotonga to settle.





THE COOK ISLANDS
RETURNED SERVICES
ASSOCIATION,
IN COLLABORATION
WITH THE
GOVERNMENT OF
THE COOK ISLANDS

100th ANZAC COMMEMORATION PROGRAMME

SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2015

PURSUANT to the Public Holidays Act 1999 Section 2, ANZAC Day will be observed on the 25th April each year. The 2015 ANZAC Day function will be held on Saturday 25th April and the programme is as follows:

DAWN SERVICE

The Cook Islands Returned Services Association (RSA) will hold a Dawn Parade and fall-in will be at 5.35am at the eastern side of the Ministry of Justice. March in to the Cenotaph at 5.50am

All ex-Service (and serving) men and women, including visiting ex-Service personnel are invited to attend. Medals to be worn.

- 0535hrs VIPS and general public seated. Parade including Returned Service and Serving men and women in position
- 0540hrs Arrival of the Prime Minister, the Honorable Henry Puna
- 0545hrs Welcome from the President of the Cook Islands Returned Services Association, Mr Henry Wichman

Master of Ceremonies – Mr Charlie Rani

ORDER OF SERVICE

FLAG RAISING

“Te Atua Mou E” - Cook Islands National Anthem
(Curly Taripo and the Boys Brigade Band)

OPENING PRAYER

Bishop Tutai Pere

WELCOME

Mr Henry Wichman, President,
Cook Islands Return Services Association

ANZAC PRAYER

Padre Bob Kimiangatau

PRIME MINISTER'S ADDRESS

Hon Henry Puna

THE FLANDERS POPPY

Patricia Aratangi -
Nikao Girls Brigade Company

GUEST SPEAKER

Mr Derek Tinia Fox
E Pari Ra – Aotearoa Society/New Zealand
High Commission



ANZAC ESSAY COMPETITION WINNER

To be presented by Acting High
Commissioner for New Zealand,
Ms Aimee Jephson

ATATURK TRIBUTE

Rose Tamarangi –
Arorangi Girl Guides Company

Gallipoli - Memorial at Anzac Cove

*“Those heroes that shed their blood and lost
their lives... You are now lying in the soil of a
friendly country. Therefore rest in peace. There
is no difference between the Johnnies and the
Mehmets to us where they lie side by side here in
this country of ours... You, the mothers, who sent
their sons from faraway countries wipe away
your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom
and are in peace, after having lost their lives on
this land they have become our sons as well.”*

Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, First President of the
Republic of Turkey, 1934

ROLL OF HONOUR

Mr Uta Raitia

DEDICATION OF WREATHS

Padre Bob Kimiangatau

LAYING OF WREATHS

*Note: Any person or organisation, other than
those listed below, wishing to place wreaths may
do so after the service.*

For the Fallen: Cpl N. Masina; Cpl L. Wichman

The Cook Islands People:

Prime Minister, Hon Henry Puna

**The Government and People of New
Zealand:** Acting High Commissioner for
New Zealand, Ms Aimee Jephson

Leader of the Opposition:

Mr William Heather

President of House of Ariki: Travel Tou Ariki

President of the Koutu Nui: Turi Mataiapo

New Zealand Defence Force:

LTCDR Tony Grubb, VRD, RNZN; WO Rere
(Henry) Wichman; ASA Iosefa Mataora

Australian Defence Force:

WO Mr Kevin Grieves (ADF Rtd)

Cook Islands Police:

Commissioner Maara Tetava

CI Returned Services Association:

Dame Margaret Karika

Aotearoa Society: Mrs Bunny Tuoro

Honorary Consul of France:

Ms Patricia Barton

Honorary Consul of Germany:

Mrs Tina Browne

Honorary Consul of Spain:

Mrs Susanna Wigmore

28th Maori Battalion: Mr Eruera Nia

Cook Islands Red Cross: Mrs Fine Arnold

Girl Guides/Boys Scouts

Girls Brigade/Boys Brigade

LAST POST

Boys' Brigade Bugler

ODE

Maori – Acting Inspector
Rebecca Hosking-Ellis, Cook Islands Police
English - Mr Henry Wichman

ONE MINUTE SILENCE

REVEILLE

Boys' Brigade Buglar

“GOD SAVE THE QUEEN”

Boys' Brigade Band

CLOSING PRAYER

Bishop Tutai Pere

MARCH OFF LED BY RETURNED SERVICES ASSOCIATION



Grey Power vow to fight to end taxing of pensions

By Courtney Matai

Any hope government might have had that Grey Power activity had diminished were dashed when Grey Power members met last Wednesday and vowed to keep fighting.

At their meeting at the Sinai Hall at 10am on Wednesday 15th April the 37 Grey Power members present vowed to continue the fight against the taxing of their NZ pensions by the government.

The meeting opened with a prayer by Teoru and Stu Maxwell raised the bitter issue of the government back taxing the Grey Power members NZ pensions. It was announced that Grey Power had 32 paid up members since July 2014 out of a possible 274 pensioners.

All present at the meeting agreed to fully support Grey Power and to all stick together and keep the Grey power team going, as they felt Government could not attack them if they stuck together.

The Grey Power members continue to oppose paying the government back tax and demonstrated strong will and

intention to fight to the end to stop the Government from taxing their pensions.

Also raised at this meeting was the need to re-elect another committee leader as Dennis, the current leader isn't present at most meetings. They also spoke about rumours going around the island that Government is broke and that the country has no money. If that was the case, members asked how is it Government can afford to purchase new vehicles and waste it on things we the people of the Cook Islands don't need.

The Grey Power members spoke about how the Government was spending the old people's money and how government was relying on the Chinese to make profit for themselves (\$10 million from Fishing Licences). Members said they were willing to challenge the government by going on television and speaking out that what government was doing, was wrong.

The next Grey Power meeting will be held in May and they will be discussing how they are going to carry on.



Expert corrects muscular stress caused by postural imbalances

Teuvira has returned after three months in Auckland, where he used that time to both further his knowledge and see clients who suffer ongoing pain.

Many of these he has helped by giving a full body assessment before correcting muscular stress caused by postural imbalances. This method called, Articular Mobilization, can have outstanding results.

Teuvira is the only Cook Islander resident on the island

who holds an internationally recognized diploma in remedial and therapeutic body therapies.

Friday mornings between 9am and 12pm at his clinic in Punanga Nui Markets, he offers free body assessments with an explanation on how he is able to treat an ongoing complaint. This is by appointment only.

As he says himself "I don't have x-ray vision but I have developed a very good eye reading a body".

Call 79781 for your appointment.

A dream to heal his people

He took his dream of helping heal his people and travelled to New Zealand to gain the skills. Now Teuvira Upokotea works under the shade of a medicine tree called Miro at his Oceanside Clinic in Rarotonga, assisting those who come to him suffering a range of debilitating physical conditions.

They come to him from across the island and further afield with accidents and illnesses, overwork, stroke, age degeneration, poor nutrition, dehydration and following hard birthing.

It is almost as though destiny earmarked this role for Teuvira. His paternal great grandfather was a traditional

healer from Atiu in the Cook Islands; when Teuvira was born with club feet his mother and grandmother massaged and strapped them daily until his feet corrected themselves without surgery.

Teuvira went on to play every sport he could and worked a range of jobs from truck driver to onboard fishing vessels and in furniture factories until the calling he felt to help heal his people became too great.

"I long had a dream of gaining qualifications and moving back to the Cook Islands where I could set up a hut next to the beach and work on my people," says Teuvira, or 'Vira' as he is known.

Now his clinic lies under the

shade of a spreading medicine tree and is buffeted by the cooling breezes that flow with the trade winds. "I am very grateful to those who had faith in me when others may not have had," he says quietly.

Teuvira's quest took him to study in Auckland for 18 months, living on a small stipend from his government and, when that ran out, by working part time as a labourer on the Victoria Park Tunnel.

When Wellpark College of Natural Therapies learned of his dreams, they sponsored his way through his diploma courses and helped him as he fought to stuff his brain with new knowledge.

"When I came home to

the islands to begin my next journey I wondered if I had learnt enough to follow my dream of serving my people," says Teuvira, 42. "Could I remember all of the foreign words relating to parts and functions of the body as well as the various treatment options I had learned?"

"I find now how amazed that it has all become so clear to me and I find I have developed a very clear ability to read a body. I have at times detected situations that needed to be looked at by a doctor; I have no fear in referral and using the correct medical terms. Sometimes I wonder how did this happen when it all seemed so difficult?"

Satisfactory year for CIBCF, but still much to do

At last night's Cook Islands Breast Foundation AGM much time was spent discussing ways the Foundation could better encourage and support women during the annual Breast Screening Programme taking place in a few months' time.

There was also discussion around opportunities to offer support to women after they return from surgery in New Zealand – should they want it.

The meeting endorsed an idea raised by one of the Foundation's members – a fortnight of "Women's Wellness for the next 50 Years" and the executive elected last night have been tasked with making this happen during the time the breast screening team are here.

Re-elected president Jaewynn McKay welcomes this suggestion "For the last four years an average of 350 women have presented themselves for breast screening each year, if we have the opportunity to promote better health whilst they are at the hospital, we should. Everyone leads busy lives – women more than men has been my experience – and often it is our health and wellness that suffers in favour of "more important" chores and duties. But, in reality if we are not looking after ourselves properly the time we have left to look after our families and loved ones will be shortened. I for one, need to do much better.

"I'm imaging the "wellness fortnight" will incorporate a number of different activities, seminars and the like, the

final look of this fortnight will be known once the new executive has met and agreed on an approach. Working closely with the Ministry of Health will also be a priority."

The new executive elected at last night's Annual General Meeting comprises:

President – Jaewynn McKay
Vice President – Patricia Tuara Demmke

Treasurer – Alouise Kado
Secretary – Kelly Bullivant
Committee Members

– Noeline Bridge, Erika Kaczmarek, Mary Young
Helen Henry was re-confirmed as Patron of the Foundation.

"On behalf of the executive and our member's I would like to place on record how much the foundation has benefitted from the energetic and caring Liz Koteka. Liz has been involved with the Foundation for a number of years, with her most recent capacity being that of vice president. Liz chose not to seek re-election but remains passionate about the cause and ever willing to lend a hand.

In the president's report (copy attached) it was noted how technology and emerging trends are playing an important role in the way messages are delivered and received and also too in raising funds. But, that where we live nothing beats the tried and true face to face, fundraising efforts. Last October the variety of fund raising activities that occurred reached a new high for Pink October and the president extended a huge meitaki maata to all who contributed.

Working at Esther Honey

By Tiana Haxton

Annually, Rarotonga hosts what is called Careers EXPO. This Expo is a workshop for students all over the Cook Islands. For Expo, students are given the opportunity to experience what it is like to work at their dream jobs. This year, Mitiaro School sent over all three year 10 students to Rarotonga to attend this event along with a teacher. Last week I chose the career 'Veterinarian' and so I was placed at Esther Honey.

Esther Honey Foundation (EHF) has treated over 40,000 animals since their establishment.

On my first day, I was warmly welcomed by the crew there and shown where to get a baby-blue tee-shirt with the Esther Honey Foundation logo printed on. I slipped on one of the shirts (scrubs) and began to help out.

As I already volunteered at Esther Honey (last year), I had a pretty fair idea of what to do. We started with cleaning up. We opened the animal cages and tied up or transferred into spare cages the animals that would probably decide to run off if we did not. All the things inside their cages were taken out. Food and water bowls, Toys, Blankets and Sheets of Newspaper which act as a 'poop catcher'. The cage floor was washed with bleach, rinsed and dried before fresh newspaper sheets were laid down followed by a blanket and sometimes a toy. The animals were returned home before they were fed.

Doing the dishes, washing and checking the animals had water followed this. Once all our cleaning duties were completed, the surgery room was the main focus. I witnessed a cat being de-sexed, another having a leg amputated due to a terrible fracture and a piglets wounds being dressed.

A lot of de-sexing went on. It is now law that your dog(s) must be de-sexed. Many choose to also have their cats de-sexed as well. 'De-sexing' is when you give an animal surgery to stop it from being able to reproduce. Why would someone want to prevent this? Some may find that with their animal producing young, there will come a time when the young also produce young and this will continue on and on and on resulting in a very poor person unable to feed a lot of hungry animals. The de-sexing surgery is one of the most popular surgeries at Esther Honey with almost 5 a day. So many calls come in for de-sexing inquiries and so many animals are brought in that we run out of places to put the animals and have to tell people to wait till the following week at times.

While working at Esther Honey, I got a lot of scratches, helped in the surgery room, dewormed and de-fleaed kittens, washed kittens too, caught run-away cats, walked along the beach near black rock with the dogs, took phone calls, got animals adopted and helped fill in adoption forms, filled in forms regarding an animal's entry into the clinic, dissected a dead bat (which was actually very interesting) and went on home visits. A home visit is when we go out in the Esther Honey truck to pick up animals whose owners are unable to bring the animal in to the clinic. I also stayed at the clinic for a night and took all the emergency phone calls, checked the animals were still in their cages.

All in all, my Experience at Esther Honey was an amazingly awesome one, and a memorable one. I am now absolutely sure that I want to become a Veterinarian. A doctor to animals.

Ignorance of Cook Islands traditional healing lore affects the health and well being of Cook Islanders

by Tetuhi Kelly

How many times have you, your family or close friends been stricken by an unknown illness which clears up in 24 hours or less and in cases where you are absolutely bedridden for days, you have to seek medical help. In many of the medical cases handled by your doctor, he/she has very little idea about what is affecting you apart from making a general diagnosis or observation and then adopting a prognosis that you have a flu-like condition that presents as, a rash, aches and pains or a sore throat. Depending on the illness or ailment being presented, in many cases they prescribe antibiotics, tablets or a topical cream of some sort, tell you to increase your fluid intake and then send you on your way, with both of you really none the wiser as to what was ailing you. The medical profession has to take some of the blame for this as they have conditioned you into the premise that if you visit a doctor, the outcome is that you will always be given medicine of some sort no matter what the ailment, and unfortunately that's what we have come to expect. You have also been conditioned into going to the doctor for any imagined illness, even cuts and scratches that strikes you or your family because the knowledge you have about your body and its optimal well-being has been left in the hands of the medical profession. Look at all the advertising by the Ministry of Health here in the Cook Islands and you can appreciate that we are not in control of our health. We are told don't do this, take this check-up or that check-up, watch for these danger health signs and all manner of advertising to make us aware of our frailty as human beings. Traditional healing lore that would have helped you manage some of your family's minor ailments has been consigned to the history books and in effect you have lost control of the management of the health and well-being of yourself and your family and given this over to someone else, do you think this is right? What happens if there is

no papa'a medical help at hand?

What about when you have a severe case of vomiting, diarrhoea, sweats or a massive headache, the diagnosis by your doctor generally follows the same line, such as, "it must be something you ate" or "it's going round the community" or we have an "epidemic". Did you know that in almost all cases any of those symptoms you present can actually be ascribed to a myriad of biological, physical and environmental causes, and unfortunately for your doctor are just guess work and not that scientific at all, but are in fact a professional medical guess (if there is such a thing). Even with the most modern of technical medical equipment and blood, fluid and biopsy samples, it all comes down to probabilities as to what is wrong with you, apart from diagnoses that are indisputable. The facts is that the initial face to face medical diagnosis methodology practised by your doctor with you the patient is essentially a hit and miss approach that cannot be verified by the scientific method, despite what you have been led to believe. In fact some of the approaches of the medical profession are more akin to medical healing lore i.e. faith and a belief in a value system that cannot be verified by the scientific method 100% of the time, yet it is taught in the school of medicine in a university. It's roughly referred to as the 'doctor's bedside manner'.

The advantage of the scientific method is that it is unprejudiced. The result is always verifiable by anyone who follows the exact same methodology. The end result will hold true irrespective of who is involved or will be affected. No matter what the religious conviction or the state of the doctor at that time or the state of the patient, this will not affect the scientific methods results or outcome. Think how many times someone you know has had an unfavourable medical diagnosis and on a second medical opinion the diagnoses was incorrect. This is the flaw as well as a check

and balance in the medical professions approach to illness management, because a medical opinion is at best a professional medical guess given what the patient is presenting with and the provision of any background information that may assist your doctor to arrive at a prognosis for treatment. It takes skill in teasing out information to allow the doctor to make an informed assessment, however in this day and age of long hospital waiting lists and appointment queues, they are very very busy, only human and they make the diagnosis within moments of you presenting symptoms of an ailment or illness and therein lays the non-scientific method.

The basis of a scientific method relies on predicting a result from a theory or hypothesis such that the result or outcome is true or false 100% of the time. Like one of Isaac Newton's fundamental laws of physics, to 'every action there is an opposite and equal reaction'. This observation is indisputable and observable time and time again. Push against something and it pushes back at you with the same force. This experiment can be predicted, observed, confirmed and repeated 100% of the time by anyone. A medical diagnoses on a person presenting with flu-like symptoms on the other hand, cannot be predicted as being accurate or verifiable all of the time, nor can it be repeated or verified all of the time, therefore on that basis it is not a scientific method in the true sense of the word and is more akin to faith and belief in a value system called medical lore. Yet the whole medical profession absolutely believes in this approach, so do governments and so does the general population and herein lays the issue. If medical lore is not a truly scientific method and is given such credence by the medical profession and the general population, how is it that they can also in the same breath cast aspersion on indigenous peoples traditional healing lore, having basically the same approach and using the language of healing lore to develop a

treatment regime?

In a nutshell it is an historical role reversal in which for thousands of years traditional healing methods or lore for dealing with illness were treated through traditional knowledge of oils, fragrances, herbs, powders, tinctures, salves and medicinal plants. In addition massage and traditional trauma techniques were some of the established means for treating the sick, ill, ailing and poorly people. Admittedly there were charlatans and cranks who preyed on the ignorant or the desperate and who sold potions, pills and all manner of contraptions, devices and concoctions purporting to cure all sorts of ailments. This changed over the centuries as the medical quacks as they were called in those days became more prominent, more plausible, and more knowledgeable of human physiology and anatomy and people became more civilised and socialised into villages, towns and cities. The rule of government, the rise of powerful medical lobby groups and legislation to marginalise traditional medical lore arose (in NZ the Tohunga Suppression Act 1907), advances in specialist medical education (medical university), the introduction of scientifically trained people (doctors, surgeons, GP's), new drugs and medical inventions (X-ray, MRI, EEG), new scientific equipment (scalpels, sutures, autoclave), cleanliness (soap, washing hands, disinfectants) and hygienic practices all contributed to pushing traditional healing into the background and the medical profession into the foreground. Till we now find ourselves in modern times, with traditional healing that has a back seat and does not figure very highly on modern day medical intervention strategies, this is especially true in the Cook Islands. If traditional healing is used, it is used when the patient is in terminal decline, far too late to arrest and reverse the illness or ailment. We all have iti tangata who have resorted to traditional healing remedies, but

continued next page

far too late, as their headstones will attest.

In the time of our tupuna, healing lore in indigenous communities was in the hands of skilled traditional healers erroneously called witch doctors or shaman by European anthropologists with very little understanding of cultural and traditional dynamics. They observed, noted, recorded, interviewed and interpreted what they saw using some of the social science languages of anthropology, psychology, archaeology or sociology as their medium of communication and then publishing their findings in learned papa'a academic circles and thereby becoming the so called 'expert' in the study of 'us' noble savages and usually earning an advanced degree or doctorate in this field of study and if they were especially clever a professorship at a prestigious university. I don't presume to denigrate what those anthropologists did, because in some small way they highlighted our culture in the written word albeit from their perspective, they also delved into areas that were usually kept hidden or secret such as genealogy, which they then published. This gave following generations the ability to discover their family linkages but also ensured that those family linkages were able to be used in a court of law in land disputes and inheritance. The written genealogy also highlighted what people wanted to hide, such as skeletons in the cupboard of people and or misdeeds.

In the pacific islands our traditional healers were called, depending on which pacific island you came from, tohunga, taunga, kahuna and other indigenous healer names and were literally skilled healers and specialists in the field of village health and well-being covering the biological, physical, spiritual and mental states of the village community. They descended from such specialists or as children were observed as having the requisite mana to become a tribal or village specialist and they were then selected and schooled in the university of traditional knowledge, along with other children who would become the specialists in other aspects of village and tribal life such as warriors, hunter

gatherers, fishers, orators, navigators, carvers, tattooists, keepers of the genealogy and builders.

To say that we were not a civilised people is pretty rich considering what was happening to white people on the other side of the globe in England and Europe in those days. The religious persecution of so called civilised Europe is a case in point where people were killed for their beliefs or persecuted by the church in the name of god and they talk about us being the savages. The thousands of years of Polynesian lore meant that we were eminently suited to surviving and prospering in an environment we were in tune with. We didn't have a science as it is understood by Europeans, what we had was an absolute belief system of lore and an intimate knowledge of our environment and our place within it. We based this lore on observation and use and gave our own names to describe what happened within this environment, which were interpreted by these anthropologists and Christian missionaries as pagan worship, religious ceremony, demon worshipping or animism, rather than seeing our culture for what it was, a way of life and living within the means of our environment. I'm not going to say that living in this cultural environment was all a bed of roses, far from it; the point is without lore to govern how we lived and interacted, there was no law.

Remember I opened this article about being struck by an unknown illness and proceeded to give you an introduction and a historical perspective of the papa'a medical professions approach to illness management. In this part of the article I offer an alternative view as to why we get sick or ill based on our ignorance of Cook Islands traditional healing lore and preventative health strategy's.

Hands up all you Cook Islanders who at one time have sat their bums on a table or left a hat on the kitchen bench or put their feet up on the table or changed their baby's soiled nappies on that same table or mixed their undergarments, teatowels, towels and dirty socks in the same laundry wash. Of those who have their hands up,

how many of you have observed this happening throughout your life. I suspect that this is most of you. OK put your hands down, well I can tell you that this is a breach of healing lore and if you didn't know it, come along for a journey of enlightenment. Let me explain: as humans we share this planet with uncountable numbers of microscopic creatures called bacteria, you know the kind, our skin and our internals especially stomach and intestines are home to billions of bacteria and for the most part they and we live in harmony and like all organic creatures we have to regularly void bodily wastes to prevent the build up of toxic and harmful waste. This bodily waste contains billions of microscopic bacteria some benign and some malign.

This next part is not for those who are squeamish about personal bodily functions. However you need to get a perspective of what I am discussing. Your body tells you that you need to go to the bathroom. So you go to the toilet and have a kaka and wipe your bum, pull your undergarment and outer clothing back on and hopefully you have washed your hands and then you go and sit on the table or kitchen bench while someone is preparing a meal. I don't care who you are unless you use a bidet or immediately shower after having a kaka and fastidiously clean your nether region, there is always the probability of leakage through your pants or undergarments onto the table, and in fact it is almost guaranteed that there is leakage, however miniscule. Remember a pin prick size of faecal matter harbours millions of bacteria and you get the size of the issue. You leave the table or bench; a member of your family comes to the table with food and places their hand where you just sat. Faecal matter and or bacterial matter is transferred to their fingers, then to their food then to their mouth, bingo, the likelihood of a bacterial infection is almost guaranteed to occur, especially an infection such as hepatitis A. Upset stomach, diarrhoea, vomiting, you get the picture and for want of a better explanation sometimes labelled as food poisoning.

For the healthy person a slight fever or headache is the only symptom, for the elderly or ailing

or invalid the outcome could well be hospitalisation or death. All because you or someone else sat their bum where they shouldn't have and you did nothing about it. I notice this everywhere I go, Cook Islanders and papa'a absolutely ignorant of what they are doing, sitting on a park bench table or their children standing and running on the table after walking in the park where dogs have been running around, marking their territory, having a mimi and defecating and the kids walking through the mess and walking on tables where people go to eat. You have to remember that our children are dirty little grubs when it comes to hygiene and have to be socialised and trained into good clean habits. The same goes for hats and caps on tables, hair can and does harbour nits, the eggs fall onto the table from the caps and hats, you place your hand where the cap was, because of our black and long hair, we brush our hands through and transfer nit eggs onto your scalp, there comes the next kutu outbreak.

Feet on tables is definitely a no go zone, spores from tinea and other fungal bacteria between your toes is not a good sight, the spores transferring to the table, our hands pick up the spores and transfer them to a nice growing medium which is your mouth and a sore throat or a fungal infection occurs and we have no idea where it came from and usually it is a mild outbreak. We kiss our partners or our children and pass the infection on and soon we have everyone sharing the love. As we wear jandals and bare feet we walk through all kinds of animal waste on the ground and transfer this to our tables, our eating areas, our bedding and if we follow poor hygiene then we become ill without knowing the cause. That also goes for changing baby on the table or kitchen bench, this is a recipe for cross infection, from the baby's body fluids and soiled napkins rolled up and sitting on the table or bench just before we prepare the kaikai. Not to mention the fact that baby's hands are flailing all over the place and come into contact with the table or bench where those soiled napkins are or have been and they suck on their fingers. Laundry is a place where washing all those different types of clothing together

continued next page

exposes you and your family to outbreaks of infection because most bacterial pathogens are not killed by washing and then drying the laundry in the sun. Laundry here is mainly cold wash laundry powder and mixing soiled clothing with your teatowels means your kitchen can be a bacterial nightmare as those same teatowels are used on the dishes and utensils and sometimes just before we eat. If you have a cat if they are not trained to stay off the bench top where you prepare food, their paws are the biggest collectors of faecal material and bacterial pathogens. You'll notice because they leave paw prints all over the bench or table.

This is just an introduction into some of the traditional healing lore of our ancestors that deals with health, well-being and hygiene that the majority of local modern Cook Islanders and papa'a are blissfully unaware of. You go into their homes and see them breaking traditional healing lore time and again with no understanding or idea why they and their families are getting sick. NZ Maori brought up in tikanga Maori know that the scenarios I have just described are areas where you are liable to get a good growling and a telling off for breaching tapu. In this case tapu is not about sacredness, it is about being given a warning that there are serious consequences for breaking lore and the result is a mild fever, illness or in extreme cases death. Funnily enough those children of Cook Islands descent brought up on tikanga maori in Aotearoa are very aware of health and well-being and tapu from a NZ Maori perspective and wonder why it is not taken as seriously as it should be in the Cook Islands especially when they come back and visit their iti tangata and see lore being broken every day. You have to wonder how this came about and how we as Cook Islanders have regressed in our knowledge or the practices of traditional healing.

You can now appreciate that medical science does not have all the answers, and the training given to medical students is biased in favour of a scientific approach and the application of medical lore through the doctor's bedside manner to provide a diagnosis for the treatment of illness. It's incredible really

that this approach is given such credibility when in fact it should be seen as one of a number of medical interventions one of which includes traditional knowledge that are applied in treating illness or ailments.

The medical profession is also not to blame for our reliance on western medical management, we and it's not just Cook Islanders, have allowed our traditional healing lore to regress and have given away our own belief systems and adopted the papa'a one and guess what we only have ourselves to blame for allowing this to happen. The role reversal has the medical profession with the upper hand over traditional healing lore which is a pity really as they actually parallel and complement each other albeit from differing perspectives.

Unfortunately we are at a cross roads in our culture and if we take the right branch of the road and continue to follow the papa'a way of doing things to the exclusion of our lore, we will become the lost generation of Cook Islanders, strangers to our lore in our own land. Totally reliant on medical intervention and papa'a ways of healing we have become papa'a medical welfare beneficiaries when the solution is in our hands. However if we take the left branch of the road which is a journey fraught with challenges especially from our own people, entrenched papa'a trained health professionals and a government that gives very little credence to lore, we will at least ensure that our lore continues to grow and mature.

So remember cleanliness, hygiene, separate your clothes for laundry, headwear and feet off the table, chase the cat off as well and if you visit a local area that has tables, be aware that I can guarantee that someone will have sat their bum on it and if you do see someone sitting on any area where food is prepared or eaten, explain why they can't sit their bums on the table or bench, because ignorance is not a defence in lore not if you and your family want to stay healthy and well.

Careers Expo informative, enjoyable

By Haley McNabb

A Careers Expo was held on Tuesday 21 April at the Telecom Sports Arena for all college students from Rarotonga and the outer islands.

Air Rarotonga, BTIB, New Zealand Fashion Technology, Victoria University and Telecom were just some of the more than 30 exhibitors there.

They all provided us with very useful information that will help us gain a better understanding of what we need to do to keep going in the right path that will lead to our chosen future career.

They also gave us a lot of different options to look at if we are unsure of what we want to do when we leave school and as well as of all that, many of the exhibitor's booths had quizzes going so we could go in the draw to win prizes like top ups, T shirts, drink bottles or instant prizes.

The booths that got me interested were NZ Fashion Technology, Air NZ and Tourism. This is because I love everything about fashion from designing and sewing to styling and putting an outfit together. I also would like to do something involving travel as a dream of mine is to travel the world. Traveling must be in my blood. One of my Uncles has been around the world twice and lived in London for two years. A great Aunt also went around the world twice and in the 1950s traveled through China by herself at a time when very few westerners were allowed into China. My grandmother has also visited China and so have some of my cousins and other relatives.

However, I am still unsure of what I really want to do but the Careers Expo was a really enjoyable experience so I just want to keep my options open until I am certain.



COOK ISLANDS
Ministry of Education
Maraurau o te Pae Api'i

2015/2016 SHORT TERM TRAINING AWARDS (STTA)

Employers wishing to develop staff in New Zealand are invited to apply for assistance from the New Zealand Aid Programme supported Short Term Training Awards. This may include new studies towards courses at tertiary institutes (e.g Universities and Polytechnics), provided that completion is within a period of less than 12 months. Please note, degree studies, postgraduate studies, conferences and workshops will not be considered under this scheme.

STTA will not be awarded where the proposed training is available in-country.

The STTA awards are open to Cook Islanders from all sectors of the community, public and private, living here in the Cook Islands.

Scholarships and the STTA are offered in specific subject areas that are relevant to the development needs and employment opportunities of the Cook Islands. Applications will be prioritized according to the following HRD priorities for 2015/2016: Agriculture, Education (Secondary teaching in Mathematics, English & Science subjects), Health, Environmental Science, Waste Management, Fisheries/Marine, Renewable Energy, Tourism, Business/Entrepreneurship, Public Sector Management, Finance Management and ICT.

For further information and application forms, contact Anna Roi on ph 29357 ext. 245 or email aroi@education.gov.ck or MOE website: www.education.gov.ck. Application forms must be received no later than 12pm Friday 8th May 2015.

The name above every name

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

The well known William Shakespeare said 'there is nothing in a name!' Yet there are known tyrants or dictators in certain countries around the world even now-a-days who are regarded as 'monsters!'

There are also individuals in the scripture who are regarded as 'traitors'. During the days of Jesus the Emperor Caesar was regarded as the 'lord of lords!' Even Saul before he was converted by the Power of God, was a man greatly feared by all Christians because he crucified and killed them. But when Saul was converted to be the Apostle Paul, he realized that there is a name greater than any other name which is the name of Jesus Christ! Paul said in Philippians 2v.9-11 "God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name...that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow... and that every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

When we mention the name of Jesus, the devil will flee; God open doors of opportunities; the sick will be healed. When we mention the name of Jesus, Forgiveness will take place for the un-forgiven! Love for the unloved! Hope for the hopeless! Our sorrows will turn into joy! Tears into laughter! Pain into peace! Because Jesus Christ is the name above every name! and because there is power in the name of Jesus! Jesus said in John 16v.33 "...in Me you may have peace.

In the world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Too often people rely on their own human knowledge, understanding and wisdom to try and resolve their problems. Jesus said in John 14v.13-14 "...whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it." The condition to this is that we must believe in faith and recognise that Jesus Christ is the name above every name, and that He died for your sins, and receive Him as Lord and Saviour of your life. Having done that, then we should turn to Jesus for help regarding our challenges or problems! Psalm 46v1 reads "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." In Jeremiah 33v.3 God said "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

When we mention the name of Jesus it will open the gates of heaven and closes the gates of hell! It will draw us out of darkness into the light! It will maintain our relationships with one another, even in the family and also with God! It will bring peace and joy to the home! Because Jesus is our joy and salvation! In Acts 3v.6, Peter, one of Jesus disciples, said to the lame man, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." This lame man was healed and could walk normally. In Acts 4v.12 Peter

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi



also said "...there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.", except the name of Jesus!

People have been to the tomb of David; the tomb of Isaac; tomb of Joseph; tomb of Muhammad; and others, they're still there! But when they visited the tomb of Jesus, He wasn't there because He has risen and

is in heaven with God the Father being our Intercessor, our High Priest, and our Advocate.

The name of Jesus is above every name because He is The First and The Last! The Alpha and The Omega! He is from Everlasting to Everlasting! Praise be His Holy Name!

May you have a God blessed week!

Still strong Knowing Your Future

By Lucianne Vainerere

It's been a year and a bit now since the tragic fire at Nukutere College which destroyed the whole western section of the school. As an ex-student I find myself constantly going back to the place I spent 5 years of my life with friends and teachers that I soon learned to call family. As we grow older we start to fondly appreciate the things we were taught from our previous schools both academic skills and life lessons which we end up practicing in everyday events. Though the classrooms burnt down and it's been a year with little activity the school is still going strong. There is a new building hovering on the west wing of the school where the Year 11's are now based and although it's looking a bit gloomy with no electricity it's not stopping them from anything.

What I admired during my years at Nukutere was the constant support and encouragement that the staff gave us as individuals and as a group. If anything they really helped us discover more about ourselves and the people around us and that created our Nukutere Family. Personally, I strongly believe that though we have a small community, we are big at heart and that's all that matters if we are willing to move forward. Academically they provided us with more than enough skills to develop our abilities. Physically they taught us to appreciate our body and be healthy. Spiritually, though they practice the Catholic

Faith they helped us to grasp a better understanding of believing in a higher power, in believing in God and giving us food for thought for spiritual growth and stability. Socially, well, we meet life long friends.

The point is they're still going strong regardless of all the complications that they've been through and that can be a lesson for us as young people. Look at all the elders around you and appreciate all the small things that they sacrifice to make things possible for you. A whole community sacrificed more for all the students attending that school so they could learn what we have. The ones before them. Although the situation isn't as likely, we all experience a time where we get burnt down and don't know how to get back up and it doesn't matter how hot the flames were or how bad you got pulled down, it's how you choose to get back up that determines if you're strong... or better, stronger.

If you can see past the 'complications' and take it on as a challenge then that's a glint of your strength radiating. Always remember to appreciate the people around you, affected good or bad, they're the ones that mould you into becoming who you are and determining your strength, helping you withstand.

So if in time you can't seem to cope with everything, it doesn't hurt to go back to a place where you were happy, relaxed, vulnerable and weary it just shows that you're strong. Still strong.

By Teherenui Koteka

Tuesday was the 2015 careers expo, a day filled with information and opportunities, not to mention free chocolate.

I always enjoy the careers expo; it provides the opportunity for us who are still in school to face the fact that life will not always be so easy. For some this thought is frightening but I for one have always been a realist, and something about the careers expo just seems to knock a little bit of reality into our adolescent minds.

In a couple of years I and no doubt a lot of my fellow classmates will be off to university and will be forced to go manage our own lives. That means overseeing our own finances. Doing our own grocery shopping, paying for college expenses, and spending our own money on things we just want. Yes, we currently do some of these things ourselves but once we head off into the life of adulthood these things will become much more real and in your face.

The thought of finally heading off to pursue my dream of finishing university with my law degree makes me tingle with excitement. For someone like me who for years has known what they want to do with their lives, the career expo provides the perfect chance to glance at what path is the best one for you. By this I mean which university you want to go to, which university offers the most for you, and which

university you will thrive in.

By speaking to the many representatives sent by the many universities both here in the Cook Islands and overseas it is quite easy to gain a perspective of where you want to start the next stage of your life. For those of us who are still unsure about what path to take in the future, the careers expo exhibits many career choices that are available to us here in the Cook Islands.

Whether you want to have a career doing something practical, or something that leans more towards theory you will without a doubt find something that will suit you at the careers expo. I urge those who do not know what they want to do in the future to take advantage of the information and opportunities offered at the careers expo.

What many people do not realize is that to be given the chance to speak to representatives from these universities and establishments is very rare and should be seen as a privilege, so try to step away from the free goodies and gain some insight. Once you know what you want to do with your future you can finally begin to shape the path you're going to take.

The careers expo also sits as a good little reminder of what you're trying to achieve. The careers expo reminds us that there is something more to us going to school five times a week, it reminds us that we are working towards something more.

New Hope Church
Parekura Conference Centre
Inspirational messages to uplift and empower you
Sunday at 10.30am

Last Sunday after two GA pick up vehicles were seen family joy riding around the Island, without naming the abusers of privilege at the tax payer's expense one was from Infrastructure Cook Islands and the other from the Ministry of Health.



One young local rooster is chicken poop mimied off with his former boss. Paid \$150 a week he was told another \$100 would be banked in a savings account for him. After two years the young rooster wanted to buy a bike so asked the boss for some money only to be told there was none in his account. Shock of all shocks, did neneva Neves raid his piggy bank? Turns out there never was a savings account and the boss never offered to pay the money owing, come on boss give the young fella something or we'll out you for exploiting your own kind.



Fingers are being pointed at B Morse for slipping in an unpaid notice into the afterhour's automation programming for Radio Cook Islands while he was on the panel for Bully Boy Heta's CIP radio program on Friday. Later in the evening the death notice music starts playing and there is an advanced death notice for the Democratic Party, listeners are encouraged to get paid their outstanding monies owed before the final breathe is taken by the Demos.



When Bulldozer soon to be called PM Heta wasn't ranting and raving about himself or verballing his critics on the weekly CIP radio show he spoke very intelligently about the fishing industry and waste management, he even gave some pointers on dieting and the

importance of eating more seafood. Not only that, but he the Minita of Culture when he wasn't showing of his mastery of Maori (He should give his brother Smelly a few lesson because his Maori is very juvenile) he gave a good account of speaking English when he did.



The Demos media release after the conference in regards to the election of Leader and office bearers claimed it was going to be a fresh start. What a load of bollocks, with no new faces it's going to be the same old visionless losers doing the same old dumb things. What's fresh about being stale? The CIP must be laughing themselves silly all the way to the next polling day, as long as hello Drolley who with the pilot's help didn't become goodbye Drolley, has anything to do with the administration, the Demos will never win another election, then does he care? Of course not, being in the Opposition is better, on \$1,134 plus allowances a week and working less than half a week hello Drolley can carry on his routine of dropping off the grand children to school, come to work at nine then go early afternoon to pick them up, nothing new or fresh about that, why would hello Drolley want to

change anything, he's living the dream. The Demos could do something new and fresh and rename themselves the Opposition Party because that's where there they are going to be for the next ten years.



Rassie's chronicle made big advances his week from page 11 to page 2 and so it should, putting the first one at the back of the daily tribbel was an insult to the writer. Rassie is opinionated and has inner knowledge that might slip out from time to time filling in the missing pieces of the jig saw puzzle. Now Rassie is one of us, a part time commentator, he's the pink rooster, he's got a bit of slack, let's hope the daily dribble's etitor doesn't start watering down his bite.



Word in the coup is the Bulldozer Bully Boy Heta is pooped off with Elvis for not getting his \$1.5 million entertainment centre at the National Stadium and after Heta went on CI radio bragging and boasted to the outer Islands he had been to Tahiti (through the back door) and organised the transport to bring them all to Raro to see his entertainment pride and joy

Elvis had to go to Tahiti (through the front door) to organise the transport job properly. In 2016 we will probably find out what the French want in return for bailing out this cash strapped desperate begging CIP government. Or did Elvis go to see the Ravels about a shipping deal hatched by Poter and the Bishop with their mate Reefy? Thank our lucky eggs Heta isn't the PM or we would be plunged further into debt for another stupid white elephant.



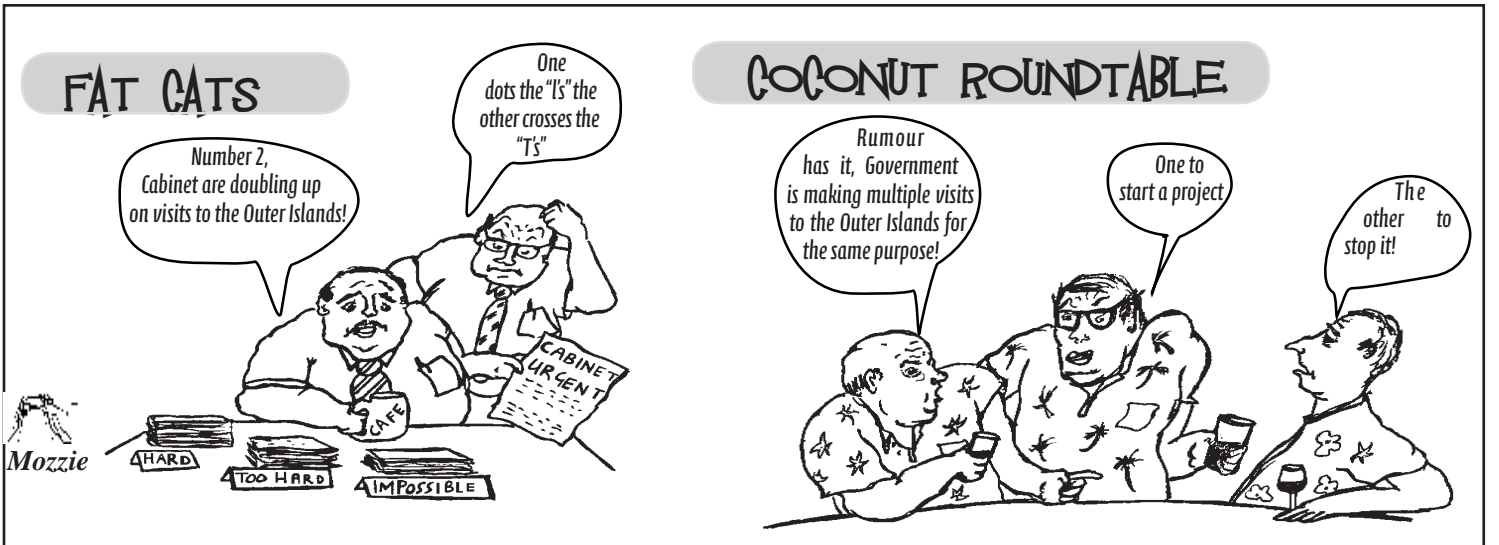
Oh boo hoo chooks! PM miffed the country's largest media company did not front up to his post Cabinet press conference. Like he has anything important to say. If he announced he was stepping down, maybe someone might show up!



It has come to light chooks that some holy rollers have been pumping botox into their faces in order to reverse the aging process imposed by the creator. If called to do God's work, it was on the basis of how they looked at the time. Be happy with the face God gave you. Botox is a product of the Vanity Industry.



Flick Benry who is trusted by PM Puna to come up with something exciting for the 50th bash has missed his big chance to really impress by re-organising ANZAC day into an international spectacular! We could have had visiting navy personnel from NZ, Aussie, UK, France and the USA parade downtown. There could have bagpipes blaring, US Marines twirling their semi-automatics in the air and the pop group Village People (who needs UB 40?) could prance around singing their hit, "In the Navy" while the Marching Boys from Sydney's Mardi-Gras Gay Parade ponce along at the front!



FAT CATS

Number 2, Cabinet are doubling up on visits to the Outer Islands!

One dots the "I" the other crosses the "T"

CABINET URGENT

HARD
TOO HARD
IMPOSSIBLE

Mozzie

COCONUT ROUNDTABLE

Rumour has it, Government is making multiple visits to the Outer Islands for the same purpose!

One to start a project

The other to stop it!

VACANCY



Pacific Resort
HOTEL GROUP

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We are currently seeking the following for our properties in Rarotonga & Aitutaki:

- Receptionist/Wedding Coordinator (Aitutaki)
- Chefs (Rarotonga)
- Kitchen Stewards (Rarotonga)
- Waitstaff (Rarotonga)
- Carpenter (Rarotonga)
- Handyman (Rarotonga)
- Porter/ Security (Rarotonga & Aitutaki)

We are always on the lookout for talented individuals interested in a career in the tourism industry.

If you want to be part of a high performing team then feel free to visit one of our resorts in person to complete an employment application form.

To apply : email – work@pacificresort.com



MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF AUTOMATIC WEATHER STATIONS AND TRAINING

The Ministry of Transport through its partnership with the SRIC-CC Programme is inviting suitably qualified groups/companies to submit a tender for the supply of eleven (11) automatic weather stations and to provide training to personnel's in the installation, operational and maintenance of the automatic weather stations.

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

Project Manager – Mr. Arona Ngari Cook Islands Meteorological Services Ph: +682 20603
Fax: +682 21603
Email: aronangari@cookislands.gov.ck

Closing date for the Tender submission is 3pm on Friday 15th May 2015, (Cook Islands time).

For general enquiries please contact Mr. Arona Ngari on +682 20603 or email.

OCF Champion League Standings

Team	Played	Wins	Draws	Losses	For	Against	Points	GD
Group A								
Ba	3	3	0	0	8	1	9	7
Gaitcha	3	2	0	1	13	6	6	7
Pirae	3	0	1	2	5	10	1	-5
Lupe Ole Soaga	3	0	1	2	5	14	1	-9
Group B								
Auckland City	3	3	0	0	9	0	9	9
Amicale	3	2	0	1	4	5	6	-1
Suva	3	1	0	2	5	7	3	-2
Western United	3	0	0	3	1	7	0	-6
Group C								
Team Wellington	3	3	0	0	7	3	9	4
Hekari United	3	2	0	1	6	6	6	0
Tefana	3	0	1	2	4	6	1	-2
Tafea	3	0	1	2	5	7	1	-2

PUBLIC NOTICE



COOK ISLANDS
Ministry of Education
Maraurau o te Pae Api'i

**2015/2016 NEW ZEALAND PACIFIC
SCHOLARSHIP (NZPS), REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP (RDS)&
COMMONWEALTH AWARDS**

The Government of the Cook Islands is seeking "Expressions of interest" for scholarship awards from suitably qualified Cook Islanders to study at a Pacific Regional Institute (excluding Australia) or a NZ academic institution.

1. NZ Pacific Scholarship – undergraduate study in NZ only
 - 5 multi year awards
 - 1 single year award – study options are at undergraduate, graduate or at postgraduate level that are designed to take no longer than one year to complete
2. NZ Regional Scholarship – are available for both undergraduate and postgraduate study at a Pacific based tertiary institution (eg. USP, FNU)
3. Commonwealth Scholarship – funded by 'Universities New Zealand' in collaboration with the New Zealand Aid Programme for resident Cook Islanders who wish to pursue their studies further at the PhD or Masters Level.

These scholarships are open to Cook Islanders from all sectors of the community, public and private, living in the Cook Islands.

Applicant selection will be based upon meeting the scholarship eligibility criteria, primarily that of academic merit and that the proposed course of study meets Government's HR development priorities.



Business Trade Investment Board
Cook Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Want to start a new business & need funds? Maybe the New Enterprise Loan Scheme can help you turn that business idea into reality!

The BTIB now offers the New Enterprise Loan Scheme (NELS), a low interest loan to start a business for new, unique or innovative loan product or services. Set criteria apply funds are limited and prioritized.

For more information see the BTIB team today!
For details: Ph 24296 or email btib@cookislands.gov.ck

Application closes 4pm, Friday 29 April 2015

PUBLIC NOTICE

A meeting will be held for the Landowners of T12 Ngati Nito and Taupiri in Matavera on the 30th April at 5pm at the lotua Residence in Matavera.
-Mama Rongo

TENDERS



REQUEST FOR TENDER

IMMUNO ASSAY ANALYSER AND LAPAROSCOPE EQUIPMENT

Tenders are requested for the supply of an Immuno Assay Analyser and Laparoscope Equipment for the Rarotonga Hospital.

Tender document and specification can be uplifted from the Funding & Planning office of the Ministry of Health in Tupapa and is also available on the Ministry of Health website www.health.gov.ck or contact Ms Vaine Ngatokorua on ph 29664, fax 23109 or email: v.ngatokorua@health.gov.ck

Tenders shall be submitted either:

Hard copy - Complete hard copies, packaged and labeled "CONFIDENTIAL" and have the following information clearly exhibited on the outside:

Procurement of Medical Equipment 2014/2015
Cook Islands Ministry of Health
P O Box 109,
Avarua,
COOK ISLANDS

OR

Softcopy: By emailing the tender bid as a pdf file to tenders@cookislands.gov.ck with the subject line "Procurement of Medical Equipment 2014/2015". The receipt time on the inbox will be used as the receipt time for the purposes of ensuring a tender is within the time limits.

The Tender Box is located at the Funding and Planning Office of the Cook Islands Ministry of Health in Tupapa (or submitted electronically to the email address detailed above)

Tender/Offer Closing Time

Request for tenders will close on the 30th April 2015 at 4.00pm.

For enquiries call Vaine Ngatokorua, Finance Manager on (682) 29 664 or email v.ngatokorua@health.gov.ck
Meitaki maata

VACANCIES

Cook Islands Jobs

The Cook Island's premier Jobs Website
www.cookislandsjobs.com

Jobs of the week

Graphic Designer/Creative Printer- CIPS, Rarotonga
Senior Criminal Lawyer- Crown Law, Rarotonga

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

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COOK ISLANDS HERALD**

FOOTBALL UPDATE

All Kiwi final set to conclude 2015 event

SUVA, Fiji – Auckland City FC have qualified for their fifth consecutive OFC Champions League final after beating newcomers FC Gaitcha of New Caledonia 1-0, while Team Wellington are through to their first ever final after downing host side Ba FC 2-0.

Coming out the other side of a tough match was a relieved Ramon Tribulietx, coach of Auckland City FC, who was pleased to see his side secure the win.

“I’m happy, obviously no wins come easy especially in a semi-final and obviously they knew they could make a final and that made it a massive game for both of the teams.

“We created a lot of chances actually, but unfortunately we didn’t capitalise so the game ends up in a situation where one little mistake can cost you a goal and the semi-final – so there was a bit of pressure there, a bit of nerves and that’s understandable.

“We both knew what we were playing for and we’re happy for the win.”

Auckland City certainly looked the more threatening side from early on, and Gaitcha’s nervous entry into this stage of the competition caused them to commit more fouls than they would have wanted, some of them in rather dangerous territory.

Midfielder Daewook Kim stepped into the role of set-piece deliveryman with Ivan Carril carrying an injury and Darren White suspended. Gaitcha looked shaky on corners and at times struggled to clear the danger.

Young striker Jim Ouka performed valiantly for the Caledonians chasing down loose balls and causing a nuisance in the box along with Bertrand Kai, while captain Emile Bearune patrolled the midfield gathering up what he could and distributing it well.

However against an experienced side like Auckland City a missed opportunity can come back to haunt you and several off-target attempts that could have been dealt with better.

Locked at 0-0 coming back from the break, Auckland City started to increase the pressure and the

lack of big match experience started to show through from the club from Gaitcha, on the island of Lifou in New Caledonia as the discipline they’d shown in the first half started to wane.

The set piece pressure increased and eventually they fell to it as Kim whipped in a free kick to the back post where a waiting Marko Dordevic headed it over a reaching Nykiene for what would be the game’s only goal.

Tribulietx says Auckland City’s opponents came out as they expected.

“They were very similar, trying to capitalise in transition, long ball in the second phase – that’s what we were expecting and that’s what happened quite a few times.

“From us, we played well, we had the ball and we knew how to break that pressure that was coming very quickly towards us and we created the chances,” he explains.

“Maybe there was just a lack of ‘freshness’ in there that meant we didn’t score that goal which would have given us a bit more confidence coming into the last few minutes.”

For opposing coach Kevin Coma, the match was the end to an impressive journey for the side celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, and one that has helped bring New Caledonia football to new heights.

“To be nil-all at half time was what we deserved at the break really. The players showed that we knew how to defend, that New Caledonia football isn’t rushed and that they know how to compete against a professional club – so I’m proud of them,” he says.

“We showed the Caledonian football is played with heart. This is a team with a big heart, but we lacked a bit in the game and, even against a team like this, we need to play our game.”

While disappointed not to be progressing to the next stage, there have been plenty of lessons learned and experience gained.

“The players have learned a lot, they’ve gained a lot of experience. It’s been extraordinary for this team to qualify for the semi-finals.

“We know we’ve done something major here and we

proved that on the field during this semi-final. We couldn’t quite make it to the next step but football is football, we’re not going to hide behind the referees or anything like that. We couldn’t quite put in place the game we needed to in order to win this.”

In the late match Team Wellington struck early to cement a spot in their first OFC Champions League in front of a near full-house at ANZ Stadium in Suva.

The lads from New Zealand’s capital city were direct and decisive as they applied pressure from the outset and coach Matt Calcott was pleased his side were able to make themselves comfortable so early into the match.

“We’re delighted, it was a great start for us. It was a very tough game in front of a very vocal home crowd, and now it’s great to have two New Zealand teams in the final,” he says.

“It was pretty chaotic the first 15-20 minutes, obviously we got the two goals and I would have liked us to play a bit more football in that second period of the first half, but it just didn’t play out like that.

“Sometimes these games, and the whole tournament so far, have just been a war of attrition and there’s some great stuff and some great performances from the boys.

The match was exactly as Calcott described in that first 20 minute period from kick-off with a lot of aerial balls and an exchanging of shots from both teams. Some avoidable errors set Team Wellington up with several threatening dead ball situations before an error in the 18-yard box from a Ba defender had Tahitian referee Norbert Hauata pointing to the spot.

Michael Gwyther was the man that was fouled and the one who stepped up to take the penalty, but the soft effort was put around the post by Ba and Fiji U-20 goalkeeper Misiwani Nairube – much to the vocal crowd’s delight.

However just a few seconds later Gwyther got his revenge as he headed home from the resulting corner to hand his side the lead. An early substitution was forced on Team Wellington after midfielder Jake Butler had

to be replaced, with Luis Corrales stepping in for the former Waitakere man.

It proved good timing for the visitors as, from the same corner, Gwyther nodded past Nairube a second time to give his side a more comfortable two goal cushion.

Ba continued to battle, and once they settled into the game and started keeping the ball low rather than booting it upfield for their strikers to chase, they began to look a lot more threatening.

Luck looked like it had turned in their favour when a Team Wellington foul in the box in the 27th minute had Hauata pointing to the spot for the second time in the match, with the honour of taking it falling to Keegan Linderboom on this occasion. Unfortunately the effort was poorly struck giving Michael O’Keeffe time to bundle it up and the first real chance of the match for Ba passed.

A couple of changes just after the break from Ba coach Shalen Lal looked to do the trick for a while as Ba continued to improve in possession, but the finishing was lacking allowing Team Wellington to make history, as Ba crashed out of finals contention for the second year running.

For Lal, it’s a disappointing end to what had been a great campaign for a side with such a mix of youth and experience.

“The two goals that we conceded in the first half decided this game for us, but otherwise my boys played really well, especially in the second half,” he says.

“I guess we were just really unlucky in the second half, we tried a lot but credit to the defence of the Wellington side; they were wonderful tonight.

“The only thing I can pick up to improve on from this match is the finishing. If it wasn’t for the finishing I guess we would have gone up by three or four goals so we will work on finishing and come prepared next time.”

The 2015 Fiji Airways OFC Champions League will conclude on Sunday 26 April with the final between Auckland City FC and Team Wellington, both of New Zealand, at ANZ Stadium in Suva, Fiji from 7pm.