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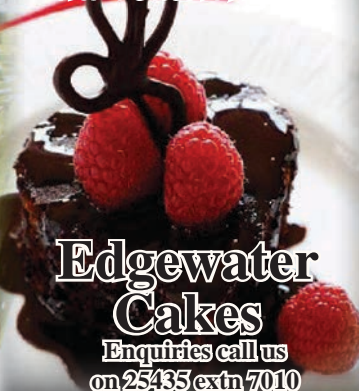
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DPM Heather must be dumped as Minister of Culture and House of Ariki

Supporters of the Deputy Prime Minister Teariki Heather who have come to his defence against critical media reports claim he is a hard working person and they are right, this fact is not and has never been in dispute. Teariki Heather unashamedly is a hard working individual who without reservation promotes that virtue himself when and where ever he proudly can compare himself with others he discredits.

Yes, Teariki Heather works very hard at undermining the leader of the Cook Islands Party the Prime Minister Henry Puna, Heather is working very hard in more ways than one to replace Puna in both those positions. Heather works very hard engaging in dirty politicking to be crowned as the CIP leader and the PM. Yes, Heather works hard at using his position as the Minister of Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) honing his self enrichment skills and conflict of interest rebuttals to be a recipient of the multimillion dollar Te Mato Vai (TMV) contracts.

Yes Heather worked very hard to get a \$290,000 compensation for his family's land acquired by the Demo government for the waste management site in Arorangi. Heather certainly works hard for himself but will he do the same for other families when the government wants their land?

Right now Heather is working very hard to grab private land without compensation for TMV's stage two. He is working hard to ignore any constructive negotiating process to achieve a win win outcome with intake land owners in the spirit of the Cook



PM Henry Puna and DPM Teariki Heather

Islands Constitution. We can now reveal the DPM has no regard for the sanctity and integrity of the nation's Constitution which is elevated above all legal references we use in the governance of the Country.

The fundamental rights and protection of individuals is enshrined in the Constitution (PART IVA FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS) yet is ignored by Heather. It is PART IVB CUSTOM 66A Custom (4) that has riled a prominent Traditional leader who is calling for Heather to be stripped of being the Minister of the HOA and as the Minister of Culture.

Wishing to remain anonymous

due to the vindictive bullying tactics Heather dumps on those who have the courage to defy him, the well known traditional leader said "Heather can do what he likes in the confines of his political realm, he can engage in his brand of dirty disloyalty to dispose of the PM and the Leader of the CIP Henry Puna but the moment he defiles the integrity and sanctity of our Constitution he is committing an inexcusable violation against every single Cook Islander."

The traditional leader who is well respected by his peers said Heather had become obsessed with power and has become arrogantly disrespectful

of intake land owners who have now become hostile and defiant against him. They said some of the landowners have a suppressed anger brewing away that wouldn't take much more to become explosive.

As the Minister of the HOA and Culture Heather has shown little empathy for those he was supposed to be serving and whose rights he is meant to be protecting, instead he arrogantly lords over them, "He should not be allowed to continue with these Ministries."

66A Custom (4) says *For the purpose of this Constitution, the opinion of the Arona Mana*

Continued next page

of the island or vaka to which a custom, tradition or value relates, as to matters to and concerning custom, tradition, usage or the existence, extent or application of custom, shall be final and conclusive and shall not be questioned in any court of law.

The DPM has made it forcibly clear to the HOA he has the power to take private land for the TMV project stage two without having to compensate the land owners. When HOA representatives challenged their Minister's statement he silenced them by threatening to review their budget. The Constitution makes reference to the opinion of the Arona Mana not the whims and fancies of the Minister.

Further reference to the Constitution section 40 No property to be taken compulsory without compensation, is conveniently over looked by Heather who makes reference to the colonial Rarotonga Water Ordinance, a pre Independence legislation which he wants to amend to give him greater powers to access privately owned land.

For Heather to propagate his power to acquire intake land is invested in the Rarotonga Water Ordinance of 1960 is a reflection of his deluded comprehension in the context of the Constitution being the supreme reference point of our democracy. The consequence of Heather's Constitution trampling must be severe and swift as it is an insult and offence to every Cook Islander.

Prior to Parliament being dissolved in early 2014, when Norman George put the question to Heather in Parliament about compensation for acquired land for TMV, Heather made it explicitly clear there will be no compensation as it would just increase the cost of the \$60 million project. Heather also added that while he was conducting the public consultations land owners agreed to surrender their land without compensation.

That claim cannot be validated by Heather because he deliberately misled and lied during public consultations stating there would be no charge for the household consumption of water. To show he had mana and desperate to please his Chinese masters by starting the project on time (February 2014) knowingly Heather lied in the public



House of Ariki members

consultation meetings because in June 2013 Cabinet agreed TMV would be a user pay out come as required by the NZ government who were committing \$15 million to TMV.

In the Cook Islands Government Budget Estimates 2012/2013 Book 3 Capital Plan under a section called Rarotonga Water Upgrade on page 14 it states *The increased operational costs associated with the supply of improved water quality are planned to be sustained by introducing user pay charges once water quality reaches "potable" (drinking water) standard. This income is estimated at \$1.5 million per year from 2015/16.*

For TMV to have operational integrity in stage two Heather cannot be allowed to compromise the sanctity of the Constitution. With no expected China contractor involved we are freed from their influences over the operational processes which will bring a transparent dimension to the project's second stage.

The blame for stage two commencement delays which will be substantial fall at Heathers feet, he alone is responsible for the looming fiasco and drawn out legal tussle the CIP government are going to become entangled in. Heather's oversized ego has made his terminating mistake; he has trample on the integrity of the Constitution.

Teariki Heather is a political misfit who idolises himself as the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands in waiting. Highly unpopular on Rarotonga Heather's Party support base is in the Outer Islands where he has crafted a patriarchal image that is benevolent of them.

Heather held his seat against

a new comer novice politician Nooroa Baker by a slim majority but had those he had alleged to have bribed for votes had the courage to give evidence in a Petition hearing would have seen the end of Heather's political ambitions.

It is no secret Heather claims to have seven other MPs who are willing to support him in a leadership challenge against Puna, with the two One Cook Islands he needs three or four

from the Demos to sign up to form a new government. Numbers count for nothing if the execution is flawed and for certain Heather has no one aligned with him who can think strategically.

Heather is impatient which is characteristic of political misfits and with Parliament likely to reconvene on 26 June 2014 a failed challenge will see the kamikaze end of the hypocrite bully.

- George Pitt



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Letter to the Editor

Genealogies in Ross Holmes book challenged

Dear Sir
For those who have bought Ross Holmes book *Southern Cook Islands History, Custom and Land Tenure*, and are planning to use it as a basis of Land Court claims, please be warned that two important points came out of the hearing of Pokoinu last week that directly affect the credibility research and preparation motive of this book.

The first is a genealogy claimed to have been written by Judge Gudgeon. **(Editor's note: see opposite page showing the full page as is held by the Hocken Archives. Holmes book does not show the complete page).** After vigorous cross examination in Court, it has been established that the genealogy was in fact written and signed by Stephen Savage and had found its way into Gudgeon's collection of Cook Islands Maori genealogies held by the Hocken Library at Otago University. The

fact that it was with Gudgeon's papers does not give it any additional status. For a researcher not to have picked up such a basic error, (a genealogy signed by Savage, being attributed to Gudgeon), leads one to question the motivation in producing such a book. Is this tourist fodder? Or is it trying to become the accepted guidebook for Judges sitting on the bench. Perhaps the latter as I have heard Mr Holmes explaining to judges "if only you had read my book your Honour, you would understand."

The second issue regards Mr Willie Browne. In accountancy we have creative accounting; in the early land Court we had Creative Genealogies. **(Editor's note: The Browne genealogy will appear in next week's Herald).** In his book Mr Holmes is adding to the creativity of Mr Browne by re-birthing Mr Browne's genealogy in his book. The FACT that the Appellate Court dismissed his claims as his genealogy was

unsubstantiated has not deterred Mr Holmes. Holmes book relies heavily on Willie Browne being of Ngati Arera descent and Makea Ariki descent and also relies on Vaike Ruariki's genealogy at M.B, 12/183(3). The evidence that came out in the hearing last week is that such claims made by Willie Browne were a fabrication and the Appellate Court dismissed his claims as his genealogy was unsubstantiated. Holmes now revives the same information which clearly is wrong and is now promoting it as fact. Let the buyer beware, this section of the book has failed its first Judicial Test.

In another case Mr Holmes wished the Court to go back to 1775, to take into account HIS view of how and what took place. To quote Judge Savage "I think we will leave the War of the Roses to be fought another day".

Cheers

Search for the truth

Response from Ross Holmes

20 May 2015

Dear Editor
The Pokoinu case was heard last week. I was not there and cannot comment save to say that no decision has been made in that case.

In Volume 2 of my book, from pages 46 to 47, I have set out all the major lists of Makea ariki title holders. On pages 60 and 61 I have compared all of those lists of title holders in a chart which establishes a very large degree of agreement on who those title holders were, with some disagreement on the order in which they held the title. That was the purpose of those pages.

As detailed in my book, the copy of the genealogy reproduced in the book was obtained by me personally from Sir Peter Buck's collection at the Bishop Museum in Hawaii which I visited when carrying out research for my book. Due to the thorough nature of my research I also obtained a copy of a manuscript containing the same genealogy which is certified by the Hocken (not Hockin) Library, University of Otago as a genuine copy. It is headed "Cook Islands Maori genealogies, collected

by W.E. Gudgeon," as detailed on the attachment which I have sent you. Some of the pages in the collection of genealogies were initialled by Walter Gudgeon (whose signature I have from his manuscript "A Journal of My Residence in the South Seas" which I obtained from the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington), and some of the annotations were written by him (including an add on to the genealogy which is referred to at page 10 in the collection). Stephen Savage's signature appears on page 3 (followed by a handwritten annotation initialled by Walter Gudgeon), and on page 5. Whether Stephen Savage typed those two pages cannot now be determined. What is clear is that Walter Gudgeon had them, and edited them.

Unfortunately tourists are not likely to purchase my book. It was written as a resource book and incorporates the late Professor Ron Crocombe's book *Land Tenure in the Cook Islands*. It has received praise from academics and Cook Islanders.

Regards

Ross Holmes LLB (Hons)

Minister Brown to address World Forum

Minister Brown will address the plenary of the World Education Forum in Incheon, Korea later today (Thursday). Joining the UN Special Advisor on Sustainable Development and Ministers from the Ivory Coast and Brazil, the plenary will discuss the issues of education's contribution to addressing health, eradication of poverty and the impact of climate change.

Resilience and opportunity are the themes of the Minister's address. Resilience not only in infrastructure and systems but also ensuring young people learn the skills required to be resilient to change by being creative, adaptable, innovative and entrepreneurial. An education system and broader economy and environment that provides opportunity for people to develop and maintain livelihoods will also promote the achievement of the Education Master Plan.

In preparing for the plenary Minister Brown said it is a great honour for the Cook Islands to be invited to speak on behalf of Small Islands Developing States at the World Education Forum. "Our leading role in building resilience to the challenges of climate change and significant work in the area of Education for Sustainable Development mean that I can share good practice as well as our experiences of overcoming the special challenges that face SIDS in relation to these issues".

Minister Brown is the only Minister of Finance present at the meeting where participants are predominantly from the education sector. However, the issue of financing development in education has underpinned many of the discussions and the need for joint planning between education and finance to achieve the new goals for education through to 2030 will be a necessity if are to be achieved.

Karika-tara-apape = Ina-nui-te-rangi
Te-makorua-kī-ā-tu = Tangiā-nui

Pu1: (pronounced: as Pu¹l.)

karika-tira-apeape == Ina-nui-te-rang
Te-mkora-ki-ai-tu == Tangia-nui
puta-ki-te-tyi == Te-i-tatua-ki-Avaliki
Te-ari-ki-moo-marie == Te-tura-moe-ari-ki
Te-mkurateora == Te-rangi-tero
Tane-taputapu-o-Pinowena
Te descendants in Rangatira said
to have come to their grandfather's tribe
of Rangatira tribe.

Tue-yao == Ngamau
Tioroi == Ngamata
Pohiki == Teutira
Mangunu == Te-vaenui

Arctea went to thea and remained
(during the time Naika was living at
Mamuka) subsequently Naika was driven
away from Mamuka.
Eui sailed South and it is said he
went to Rangi Make or Awaikauau
as that place was lately called.

1-211
en-Ek

(2) Jumlah = Rang1-kura

(2) Tumpu == Rangl-kura

Aramai-te-anuana == Te-ra-tu-nuku
Te-anuana == Te-upoko-uri.

anua = Te-upoko-uri.

Te-konako == Te-etu-o-te-rangl.
Rangl-makeakea == Tekuraparau-o-Potiki-Tu

makeaker = Tekuraparu-o-Potiki-Ta

Təpə-a-tua-kino = Pouna-a-Mia
kau.

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Tokao = Ngataraia

Ngatai

KARITKA -- Juaupokoo--Pa
mak'ea Pa -- Ngupoko--Pa

Pa. = Ngupokoro = Pa. = A.T.I.

Makqa. Tuvlvi. = Ja-upokq-o-nga-avik
Tavakq. = Natliroeroe

Matlroerco

Takau - Teatiki - Tamarua

1

Hand-makesakee = Tokuraparu-o-Potiki-taua
 = Puaara-o-Tamaiwa

Ta-pa-atua-ki-no = Pua-pa-a-o-Tamaiva
 Pih-i = Pa-i-a-Ka-ten Porotito Rutunga Kauare

Pinl = Parl-a-Katen Porolito Kutunga
Tindrau = Tauarikl-a-Tepal

Tindau	==	Yauariki-a-Topai
Topo	--	Kuragi-a-Urtana
		Maore
		Port
		Takau
		Tavaerna
		Daniela
		Abéda

Tekura	
Mangrangi	
David	
Namari-giki	
Taka	
Tavaera	

Тепово-те-ра
Мелес Даниел

101-44-11416-1

*. Dampangan-gana was the language of Awa-te-ariki-patana nga firim
 & the language the Ngati Wakatani the parents of was born

Note

Descent of Teora-o-Vakaatini:
Teora-o-Vakaatini = Tuongo-o-Mau
Teora = Pua Apai Rikino Bengata
Boreas & Maui X *Aotearoa* X
Descent of others given, i.e.: Teeriki-mero-kura, Tairi-mapuapue. (Kaitake-o-Aroha had no descendants)

Of the Takela line, from Takela-aungnangnang, the first up to Takela Purnakittah this family was the Chief High priest family of the Maketah during the period of Takela purnakittah and Terata there arose a quarrel and Takela deserted Maksa and joined Araya Ariki, and was Araya's taungia up to the time that the Missionaries arrived here.

HOCKEY COLLECTIONS ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPTS

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5/3

Our Frontpage models Time to seek alternatives to personal income tax

By Charles Pitt

One wonders if it makes sense to continue with personal income tax when the tax take is dropping and the current economic outlook is "tight."

GDP is at a virtual standstill, economic development is poised to go into reverse, growth is barely noticeable and estimates set by MFEM under the Budget are forever being revised downward.

Income tax once brought \$26m to \$27m into government coffers. Now MFEM's latest estimates (Dec 2014 Half Yearly report) are that the income tax take will be down to around \$20m over the next few years.

Perhaps the time has come to consider abolishing income tax and look for sustainable, alternative revenue streams to make up the \$20m.

Coupled with this should be initiatives to increase government efficiency, reduce government's operating costs, reduce reliance on imports and encourage greater spending by locals and tourists alike.

To avoid increasing the cost of living, government should be looking at innovative ways to recover this \$20m without increasing current rates on consumption taxes such as VAT, company tax and local fees for domestic related services such as electricity.

Abolition of income tax would put more money in worker's pockets and if this was accompanied by a drop in VAT from 15% back to 10% it may encourage greater spending and also increased savings deposits. What inflationary effect this may have is for MFEM to assess.

Our greatest assets are currently, tourism and tuna fishing.

The fishing license fee for foreign vessels at \$60,000 per year is too low and could be raised to \$500,000. While this may seem startling, the returns are still attractive and the world still needs to eat. As mentioned in an earlier article, the fishing industry can be partly compensated through incentives such as cheaper fuel, free ice and waiving port fees, VAT and company tax.

Through short term funding assistance and start up incentives, government should encourage more locals into the tuna fishing and processing industry so as to retain more export dollars locally.

In the tourism sector departure tax should be raised. We are a six star destination being marketed to budget visitors. A higher standard of accommodation is required and a refocus in marketing.

Lets make people pay through the nose for the privilege of coming here and enjoying our 6 star environment. Anyone who has been to Penrhyn would realize the tourism goldmine that exists there. A \$100 increase would bring in an estimated additional \$6m. Tourists will still come however, we need to market ourselves better and be smarter about it. We have assets other Pacific nations do not have and these should be emphasized with more clever marketing.

Wipe the Air NZ subsidy and save \$12m. To help attract more tourists, encourage lower room rates (most of which are too high for 3-4 star level facilities) by allowing tourism accommodators to claim the difference on their tax returns.

A simple move such as doing away with most of the government's vehicles except for essential services such as field officers, police, etc, would generate immediate savings in purchase costs, fuel and maintenance costs.



Our front-page model for Herald Issue 767 is Ritia George and Glover Numanga. Check out our website www.ciherald.co.ck and facebook page: www.facebook.com/ciherald



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Happy Birthday & Haircutting **Jan-Dominique Sijp**

From your Dad and half sister's, and all the Napa
Families, the Wichman's and the Peyroux's

Our boy, Jan-Dominique Sijp,
(better known as JD) turns 14
this Friday 23rd May and will
celebrate it, together with his
hair-cutting ceremony this
Saturday. As the eldest
grandchild of mama and
papa- Eric and Lydia Sijp and
the eldest child of Verena Nia
and the only brother of
Savannah and Klaasje, it is a
milestone for the family.
We love you JD, may God
bless you with many more
years.



Women in sport media workshop in Qatar



I met up with two friends I did the the Young Reporter's Programme in Nanjing, China with..Jerick Sablan from Guam and Krystel Sanhe from Lebanon.

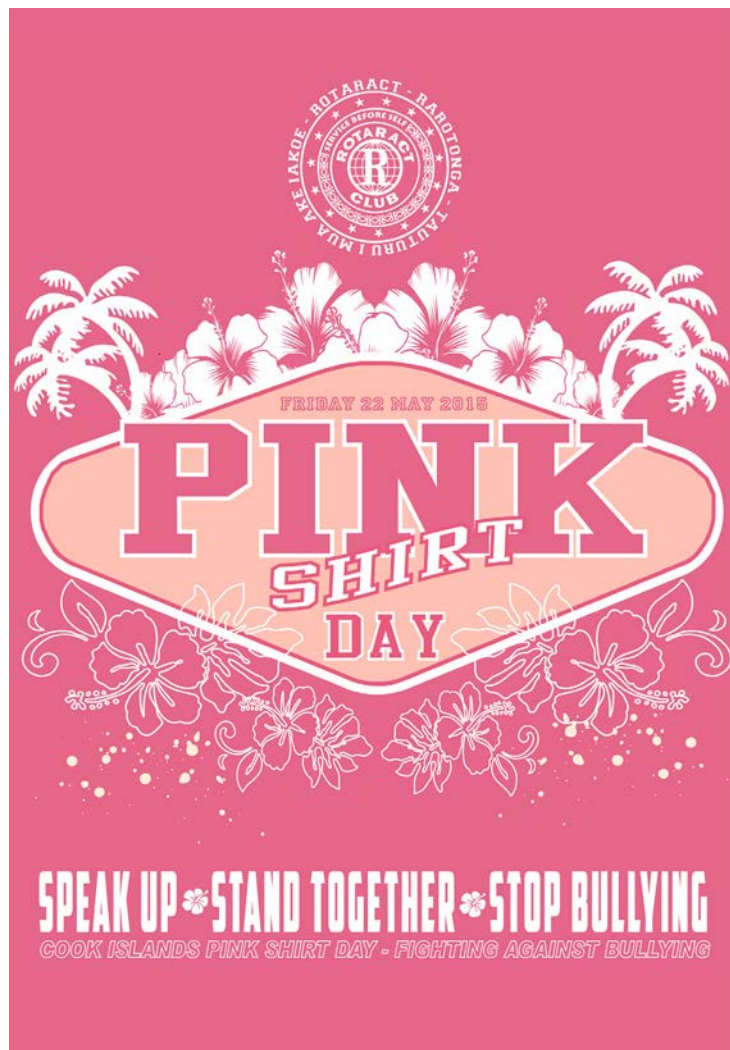
Sports is a basic human right, and it's alarming to see a number of countries across the world whereby women and girls are undervalued in the sports field and don't exercise their fundamental rights. We in the Pacific are lucky that our women and young girls make the most of their right to play sport.

A Women and Sport Media workshop, organized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Olympic Council of Asia in cooperation with the National Olympic Committee of Qatar held in Doha, Qatar, brought together 113 registered delegates made up of experts from the National Olympic Committee and media from 68 different countries. A total of 17 media and National Olympic Committees (NOCs) from Oceania made up that number.

The workshop was mainly to discuss issues relating to the empowerment of women in 2015 and beyond, as well as raise participant's awareness

on the importance of the media to achieve gender equality in and through sport. There were a number of speakers who spoke at the two-day workshop, all of who filled important roles in different media fields or had some involvement in sports committees. Topics covered media coverage on women's events, the role men can play in advancing gender equality, challenges posed by the media and their impact on gender equality and promoting leadership of women through the media.

The delegates from Oceania worked very well together and came up with a draft plan, after two fruitful discussions to help the media in the Pacific move forward in terms of women and sport. We looked at some of the challenges the media in the Pacific face and solutions to it. Mr. Mataiasi Akaulo, Oceania National Olympic Committee Communication Officer chaired the discussions, and was to present the draft plan before the IOC. -Teriu Woonton



TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, WEDS 13th MAY 2015

RIGHTS OF LANDOWNERS

Mr Tingika Elikana, lawyer and Head of Ministry at the Ministry of Justice, was the guest speaker on Te Kave Korero on Radio Cook Islands on Wednesday 13th May 2015.

Rights of land owners in the Cook Islands was the subject of discussion.

According to Elikana a report by the Asian Development Bank recommended that Government considers making changes to the country's land laws to free up lands for commercial activities.

Elikana stated that Government has received the report and is still considering whether to implement the recommendations or not.

If Government agrees it would cut across the rights of indigenous land owners notwithstanding the current concerns regarding mortgagee sales of leases on Rarotonga.

In relation to lands subject to Occupation Right Orders Elikana stated that there appears to be some misunderstanding with regards to one's occupation rights over land.

Elikana stated that in a landmark case decision in the Land Court in 2012, Chief Justice Weston ruled that one's rights over land under an Occupation Right Order is limited to that occupier's life time only. In other words there is no perpetuity of rights when an occupier dies.

According to Elikana the Chief Justice's ruling clarified the situation regarding lands subject to Occupation Right Orders. Speaking in Maori, he said that a land subject to an Occupation Right Order goes back to the land owners following the death of the occupier of that land. He said that there is a misrepresentation or misunderstanding that the occupier's children have an automatic right to occupy or inherit the land after their parent or parents passed away. He said that this is not the case at all.

The decision highlights the fact that no one inherits one's rights under an Occupation

Right Order, not even the occupier's children. This is because the land reverts back to the land owners once an occupier dies.

Speaking on Cook Islanders living abroad Elikana said that there have been misleading information concerning landowners' rights, especially those residing overseas.

Elikana stated that there is a difference between a landowner and an occupier of land under an Occupation Right Order. He elaborated that the situation with regards to Occupation Right Orders, is that, if an occupier of land reside overseas, and has been so for seven years or more, and has not built a house or dwelling on the land, or not making use of that land, the landowners may, and are entitled to, apply to the Land Court to revoke that Order and take the land back or have the Court grant a new Occupation Right Order in favour of another person.

Elikana added that anyone can apply to obtain a Occupation Right Order. He said that one does not have to be a landowner to be able to apply and obtain

an Occupation Right Order. So long as a majority of landowners consent to one's application for an Occupation Right Order, that applicant can be anyone and not necessarily a Cook Islander or landowner. That applicant can also be a visitor or a foreigner who is on a valid permit working or residing in the Cook Islands.

On the issue of mortgagee sales Elikana said that Banks or mortgagors often exercise to enforce their rights under a mortgagee agreement where the mortgagee has defaulted or failed to keep up with the mortgage repayments.

Although the first opportunity to rectify a default is often offered to the mortgagee's families, Elikana said that most Cook Island families do not have the financial resources to remedy the default and often result in the bank or mortgagor having no other alternative but to exercise their rights under the loan agreement and undergo a mortgagee sale to recover their money.

Te Kave Korero is very grateful and expresses its sincere gratitude to Elikana for coming onto the programme and for clarifying the above matters concerning lands in the Cook Islands. Meitaki maata.



Photo of Norman George with Police Commissioner, Maara Tetava, taken at the ceremony welcoming back Te Kukupa, after its six million dollar refit in Australia.

Norman George was Minister of Police back in the days when the idea for a patrol boat was mooted. George says the idea was that of the then Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke's. George says that he received a lot of flack for his decision to accept a patrol boat. Opposers were concerned with how the country would fuel and maintain the patrol boat. It was Sir Geoffrey Henry KBE who later sorted this issue out.

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TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, FRIDAY 15th MAY 2015

SUNDAY FLIGHT REFERENDUM AND TE KUKUPA

The Sunday flight referendum and the Cook Islands maritime patrol boat, Te Kukupa, were the subjects of discussion on Te Kave Korero (TKK) on Friday 15th May 2015.

TKK's guest speaker was the Atiuan Warrior, former Member of Parliament, lawyer, and now political commentator, Norman George.

The Sunday flights referendum, with regards to banning Sunday flights to Aitutaki, was held in April in Aitutaki. Over 600 local Aitutakians voted in the referendum.

Speaking in Maori on Te Kave Korero, George said that Prime Minister Henry Puna and his Government has no excuse not to honour the outcome of the referendum.

"Kua oti te referendum, kare roa i karangaia na, i te tuatahi i te by-election e, e non-binding, kare e pipiri, kare e tika, me kare, kare e oonu tona turanga, kare ona turanga, kare e tuatua akapera . . . ;".

When it was put to him that there have been criticisms that the total number of people voting in the referendum was low and that only sixty one percent voted in support of banning flights to Aitutaki, George responded:

"We only need fifty one".

With regards to statements made that 500 local Aitutakians would leave the island and move overseas if the Sunday flights were banned, George responded in Maori saying they are lies.

George said that banning the Sunday flights can start now, that the Prime Minister can tell Air Rarotonga to start this month.

"Te irinaki nei au e, ka rauka teia ture i te akamata i teia marama, ka rauka i te Prime Minister i te akakite ki te Air Rarotonga e, scale down, start scaling down, countdown, ta marama".

A number of listeners rang Te Kave Korero and expressed support of George's views and of banning Sunday flights.

In relation to the Cook Islands patrol boat, Te Kukupa, George said that he was very pleased to have been invited to the

welcoming ceremony held at Avatiu wharf last Thursday 14th May.

Te Kukupa and its Cook Islands Maritime Police crew were formally welcomed back home following a six million dollar refit in Australia, paid for by the Australian Navy.

According to George, in 1985 the Australian Government through former Prime Minister, Bob Hawke, announced an offer to all Pacific Island Forum countries, that the Australian Government would build and provide patrol boats for them.

George was the Minister of Police and Foreign Affairs and realised at the time that it was an excellent opportunity for the Cook Islands so he took up the offer and made a submission to Cabinet to put an order for a patrol boat to the Australian Government. Cabinet approved the submission accordingly.

However, according to George, the late Sir Papa Tom Davis who was Prime Minister at the time cancelled the order because he wasn't seeing eye-to-eye with New Zealand Prime Minister of the day, the late David Lange, owing to New Zealand's anti-nuclear policy.

George stated that he wasn't happy with the cancellation so he spoke to his colleagues in Cabinet and as a result made a second submission to Cabinet which was approved.

However, George said there was a change in Government in 1989, the Democratic Party lost Government and the Cook Islands Party came in.

Prior to the change of Government, one of the objections to placing a request for a patrol boat, according to George, was the cost of diesel. There was a general opinion among Cook Islanders that the Cook Islands couldn't afford the diesel.

George stated that fortunately, the late Sir Geoffery Henry, Prime Minister in the new Government then, negotiated with the Australian Government and as a result of those negotiations, the Australian Government agreed to provide the diesel free of charge.

George disclosed in Maori that during the negotiations an official in the Australian Government reported to him that one

of the Cook Island's close friends did not want the patrol boat armed with weapons.

George did not want to disclose who the close friend was but Te Kave Korero believes that it was New Zealand.

George said that he told the Australian Government that he wanted the patrol boat armed with heavy firearms, machine gun, or a small ship to surface firearm.

"We want to have the ability to sink", George told Te Kave Korero.

He said that we needed our patrol boat to be armed so that our young policemen can defend or protect themselves while patrolling our waters and our exclusive economic zone in the event that illegal fishing vessels are armed or shoots at them.

George added that he recalls stating in 1989 that one of the reasons he gave to justify having a patrol boat, was for emergency needs, such as a plane crashing into the sea, that the patrol boat would be used for search and rescue purposes in such an emergency.

Sadly, and in an irony, the domestic Hawaiian Airline flight crashed into the sea some years later, while returning from Aitutaki to Rarotonga. Sure enough according to George Te Kukupa was directed to the crash site to undertake a search and rescue mission.

Speaking in Maori, George said that he was particularly happy with Police Commissioner, Maara Tetava, that, for the first time ever, he (George) has been formally acknowledged as the person who negotiated with the Australian Government in 1989 to obtain a patrol boat for the Cook Islands.

"..., mari ake teia manga taime nei, mari ake te Commissioner Tetava, maara mai i a ia a Papa Norman, na Papa Norman teia pai i akatupu, ae, tana e akakite ra, tai nei au ka akamaaraia mai,".

This year marks 25 years of Te Kukupa patrolling Cook Islands waters. She is now fitted with new and up-to-date electronic and computer equipments as well as a brand new engine. She is expected to serve the Cook Islands for the next four years till 2019 when a brand new patrol boat will replace her.

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, MONDAY 18th MAY 2015

SURVEY ON BANNING SUNDAY FLIGHTS TO AITUTAKI

On Monday 18th May Te Kave Korero conducted a survey of its listeners with regards to banning Sunday flights to Aitutaki.

In Maori, the question put to listeners was:

“Ka ariki ainei koe kia takoreia te rereanga pairere (tari turoto i te ra Sabati) ki Aitutaki Enuā?”.

“Would you agree to cancelling flights (taking tourists on Sunday) to Aitutaki?”

Te Kave Korero host Tony Hakaoro emphasised that the survey does not apply to emergency flights such as one picking up a sick person from Aitutaki.

In Maori, he invited listeners to call in and give their responses or answers to the question by a mere ‘yes’ if one supports the ban and a ‘no’ if one does not support it.

However one caller was not happy with the question and asked that the host correct it. She said in Maori:

“Te ringi nei au no tau uianga hoki e ui ana koe a? Me kauta hoki taua i te vananga e, ae, me, uru atu hoki au ae, te ariki nei au kia takoreia a? Ka hano taua tuanga vananga ra ki hia, me ki roto i te akatika kia to, me oti me uru atu au e, takorehia atu, me aiteite ua te ae e, me te takore? ko tena, tetai aronga, te ae nei, tetai aronga te kare nei, no tau uihanga oki e tuku ana koe, me ka ariki ainei koe, ko tetai aronga te karanga ra e, ae, ko tetai aronga te karanga ra e, kare, takorea atu, ko te aronga i reira i takorea atu i reira, haere mai tei roto i te tuanga o te akatika a? Ko tena oki, no reira maramakore te tangata i tau uianga. Te aronga e takore na, e uru atu na takore, te aiteanga takore, ko te aronga ra e ae atu na, no te uianga oki, me te ariki ainei koe kia takoreia, e te aronga ae atu, te aiteanga kare, te aronga ra ka takore atu e kare, e ae. Akatano koe i tau uianga i runga i te ratio, bye”.

Another caller said that she was sick and tired of the debate regarding Sunday flights to Aitutaki but however still supports cancelling the flights.

“..... Aue te iu i tenai pairere e, iu au i te akarongo. No reira au e tuku akaou atu nei i toku manako, kare au e akatika i te pairere kia rere i te Tapati tari tourists.....”.

Another listener rang and said that there have been no benefits to the locals in Aitutaki and supports cancellation of Sunday flights.

“Teia toku manako i reira, kua roa tera pairere i te tari tourist anga mei tera e te Sabati atu....., kare o matou puapinga o te Aitutaki, Papa, takoreia atu”.

One caller rang and spoke on behalf of an elderly woman, said that she opposes Sunday flights because it's God's day. God has one day only in the week, business people have six.

“Papa, te karanga mai nei a mama e, teia mama ruau, e ringi atu au i a koe, i te akakite e, kare, kare e akatika i te pairere kia rere i te Tapati, no te mea, no te Atua ia ra. E tai rai o te Atua ra i roto i te week, te aronga maani moni, e ono”.

In support of Sunday flights one listener said that he is a land owner and his family operates a business next to the airport in Aitutaki and he supports Sunday flights so that his family can earn some income.

“No runga i tena rereanga pairere i te Sabati ea, e atu enua au i runga i tena enua i kona i te airport ana, e, toku kopu tangata te maani business ara i runga i tena ngai i tetai tua mai i te airport ana, toku manako, ka akatika au i te pairere kia rere i te Sabati, kia rauka mai tetai moni na ratou.....”.

Another listener called and stated that much of the debate is focussed on Sunday and expressed concern for those who

worship on Saturday, referring of course, to members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

“Te akara nei au, te tuatua ua nei tatou no te Sabati, Sunday. Ka akapeea i reira te aronga e akamori ra i te Maanakai, e Sabati rai te ra? E aa kotou i noo ua ai okotai ra, no te mea, kare te reira pupu tangata e komakoma ana”.

In response, Te Kave Korero host said that Saturday flights, on the Seventh Day Adventist Church's Sabbath, has never been an issue in so far as members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Aitutaki are concerned. He said that they have never expressed disapproval or objections to flights occurring on their Sabbath day, which is Saturday to other Christian denominations. He said that the issue is not the flights on Saturday, but the flights on Sunday.

At the end of the programme, the survey result was that, there were eighteen callers in favour of banning Sunday flights and six callers support Sunday flights continuing.

The survey result represented 75 percent support of banning Sunday flights to Aitutaki.



NCD study indicates community wide health interventions are very effective

Part two of a report on the Monitoring and Evaluation of a Health Intervention Program in a Rural Island Community of the Cook Islands

*By Tevita Tangaroa Vakalalabure,
Jiangsu University, China*

The outcome of the 2012 NCD study in Pukapuka indicates that community wide health interventions are very effective, especially where the community takes ownership of the programs and the health staff plays a supporting role instead of their usual role to lead the programs.

Summary

Background: This is the second part of a two part series reporting on the monitoring and evaluation component of a health intervention program in a rural island community of Pukapuka in the Cook Islands in 2012.

Methods: The target population was 133, consisting of everyone on the island who was above the age of 20 years. We conducted a "before" and "after" test, and used the World Health Organisation ("WHO") standards and protocols to measure body mass index ("BMI"), blood sugar level and blood pressure and cholesterol of the participants. The data was analysed using SPSS version 18.

Results: There was a significant reduction in measures of the NCD risk factors at the end of the program compared to baseline measurements at the beginning of the program. Statistical analysis reveals that empowering females with health promotion and intervention responsibilities can have a great impact in the prevention, control and reduction of NCD risk factors in this community.

Conclusions: This study demonstrates the importance of having a monitoring and evaluation component of all NCD health initiatives to inform health planners and policy makers in developing appropriate policy responses to reduce morbidity and mortality due to NCDs.

Introduction

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) cause more than 35 million deaths every year and account for more than half

of deaths in every region. In 2011, the UN General Assembly adopted a political declaration that committed member states to the prevention and control of NCDs. Subsequently, countries agreed to adopt nine global targets, including an overarching target of reducing premature mortality from the four main NCDs (cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases, cancers, and diabetes) by 25% relative to their 2010 levels by 2025. The growing global burden of non-communicable diseases in poor countries and poor populations has been neglected by policy makers, major multilateral, bilateral aid donors, academicians and researchers. Despite strong evidence for the magnitude of this burden, the preventability of its causes, and the threat it poses to the already strained health care systems are well documented.

The current state of human condition in South Pacific Island countries ("PICs") threatens the quality of life for a large proportion of population. At the same time, it poses a major developmental challenge due to high incidence of NCD. The most cost-effective approach to containing this emerging epidemic is primary prevention based on comprehensive, population-based programmes. Fortunately, the major risk factors for common NCDs: tobacco, alcohol use, physical inactivity, unhealthy diets, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol are all amenable to prevention. Although most of this evidence comes from developed countries, it appears that the causal relationships are broadly similar in developing and poor countries. In the context of NCDs, surveillance is the ongoing (continuous or periodic) collection and analysis of population-based data to measure the magnitude of the problem (risk factors or disease) and trends over time. It also implies timely dissemination to users.

Cook Islands have a total land area of 240km², spread across 15 small islands dispersed over 2million km² of the South Pacific Ocean. Changing food availability, increasing consumption of foods low in nutritional value and declining physical activity and energy expenditure have been acknowledged as contributing factors to increased body weight among the Cook Islanders in the second half of the 20th century. These studies provide early evidence that the burden of chronic disease risk factors had existed in the Cook Islands for some time, but had attracted little public health response until recently. To our knowledge, there was no national and comprehensive epidemiological survey carried out in the Cook Islands to examine the extent and scope of NCD and their risk factor till then. In 2004, the Cook Islands implemented its STEPS which produced its first national epidemiological data. There has not been a repeat of the STEPS surveillance in the intervening years; some argue that is due to the lack of funding, lack of expertise and lack of staff to undertake the work. Public health initiatives and health promotion programs have been ongoing since 2004 in the Country, but there have not been any tangible outcomes of NCD risk changes recorded to our knowledge to date, due to the absence of robust monitoring and evaluation of those public health initiatives. Recent studies have also indicated a bias in the ministry of healths, public health intervention initiatives in favour of urban population as opposed to rural communities.

This paper to our knowledge is the first monitoring and evaluation report from the Cook Islands, reporting on the changes in NCD risk factor outcomes following a health intervention program designed by the local community stakeholders with the assistance of resident health staff.

Methodology

Study Setting and Population

The setting of the study was the island of Pukapuka. It is located to the north of the Cook Islands group of islands. The island is closer to Samoa and Tokelau than to Rarotonga, the Capital of the Cook Islands. The population census on the island as of 2011 was 451 with the majority being children. There are three villages on Pukapuka: Roto, Yato and Ngake. The study participants were island residents over 20 years of age which brought the total number of participants to 133 (63 females and 70 males). There was no attrition rate or withdrawal of participants.

Study Design

The corresponding author and the resident doctor were responsible in designing the study, with the assistance of the MOH health promotion unit. Due to the small number of NCD kits available for the study, it was decided that the study sample needed to be limited to residents over the age of 20 years. The attrition rate was nil, and all participants completed the program from May to October.

The major aim of the study was the idea to enrol the community to take ownership of the program with the Resident doctor and his staff playing a supportive role and collecting the relevant data. As such, all the island stakeholders and leaders were approached by the resident Doctor and the three hospital board of visitors' members. The stakeholders included traditional leaders, church groups, women's group and each government department. The program activities were drawn out and endorsed by all the stakeholders. NCD Committees were established in the three villages to monitor the planned activities in their respective villages.

Health promotion awareness workshops were held every second Friday at the island's cyclone centre. The daily physical activity component of the program was designed and organised by the heads of the

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government departments in consultation with the respective village NCD committees. The activities included daily walks, sporting activities of weekly inter-village football, and volleyball and cricket games for both gender and all age groups.

The vegetable gardening component was designed and organised by the Mayor, Island Administration and the Agricultural Department staff in consultation with the respective village NCD committees. Each household established a vegetable garden that included the vegetables, viz. Chinese & English cabbage, reddish, cucumbers, lettuces, tomatoes, cauliflower, bitternut, long beans, French beans, watermelon, rock melon and corn. Visitors to the island also sponsored the purchase of numerous vegetable seedlings to support the program.

The Ministry of Health (MOH) provided the NCD Kits for the surveillance component of the program for the pre and post testing of the program participants.

DISCUSSION

A recent study observed that in the Cook Islands from the years 2002 to 2009, no NCD health intervention program has specifically targeted rural island communities. All public health initiatives has been undertaken in urban centres, except three programs in 2007, two of which were for workplace programs and one program undertaken in all school settings in the nation. The study also highlighted that no monitoring and evaluation was undertaken in all the programs in those seven years to inform the ministry of health whether there were outcome changes in NCD risk factors that they were targeting to reduce or control. The obvious biases in NCD health intervention distribution between urban and rural settings could be taken to explain the high evacuation of NCD related cases from rural island communities to Rarotonga. The costs of these medical evacuations are astronomical in the context of the Cook Islands fiscal budget. Perhaps, an equitable distribution of community based health intervention to the rural communities could help in dramatically reducing health costs due to NCD.

The analysis of the monitoring and evaluation component of

the health intervention programs that were implemented by the NCD committees were effective because there was a significant reduction in measures of the NCD risk factors studied at the end of the program compared to the baseline measurements at the beginning of the program. However, in comparison between genders and ages groups, it was observed that in relation to weight loss, females benefited most from the intervention compared to men and though not statistically significant in this study, weight gain seems to have an association with aging. This association between weight gain and age could be further investigated in future studies. An explanation could be drawn that women are more interested in healthy living, healthy weight loss than men, and are more disciplined in following the designed programs. The implication of these findings is that women are more consistent and reliable than men in following health advice and health intervention programs. This information is actionable evidence for health planners; so far as this community is concerned, targeting and empowering women in their communities to take charge of health intervention tasks will definitely reap results. This outcome is logically sound, given that women in this society are responsible for feeding the family and nurturing the young. Introducing healthy eating habits and lifestyle modification to the family viz. the women of the family will certainly have a significant impact on the family's health, hence community and population health.

In this study it was also observed that the younger age group benefited more from the reduction in body mass index compared to the elderly. A possible explanation for this could be that in this community, the young of both genders are engaged in intensive agricultural activity throughout the day compared to the elderly who mostly play supervisory roles. A comparative study between rural and urban young people based on this fact alone, could provide interesting results, which could give an insight to health planners on designing appropriate health interventions suitable for this age group

depending upon their resident (rural or urban). An interesting factor worth noting is that the physical activity component of this intervention were organised and centred on the participant's available resources. Engaging in intensive farming activities for 30 minutes a day is a more meaningful and cost effective way of losing or controlling weight; the double benefit of this activity is that families have access to healthy vegetables and root crops to improve their diet. Perhaps health planners and policy makers could look into developing physical activity programs centred on vegetable gardening or farming at the taro patches as an alternative means of saving funds for more capital intensive activities.

As a whole, the health intervention program was found effective when supported by adequate statistical analysis. These contemporaneous findings of effective health intervention designed and implemented based on baseline data are consistent with other studies in both developed and developing countries. This is the first health intervention program to have a monitoring and evaluation component in the Cook Islands, the analysis provides interesting findings that could be immediately translated in to health policies for improved health intervention strategies. For instance, it has been discussed in various quarters that changing population attitude to live a healthy lifestyle is difficult, hence the increasing prevalence of obesity in the Country.

The analysis of the monitoring and evaluation results in this study reveals that targeting females, particularly mothers, could get this desired effect as opposed to designing programs for the whole population. This information is particularly important in financially constrained settings, like the Cook Islands, where limited funds have to be wisely maximised to obtain the greatest health impact of the designed interventions. Therefore, monitoring and evaluation of processes and impact of health intervention programs must be considered by MOH to be made a mandatory component of every MOH health intervention program to assess the success/effectiveness of the programs. Otherwise, there is

no tangible evidence to inform their health planners that their intervention programs are having its desired effect in preventing, controlling or reducing the NCD epidemic and its risk factors of Cook Islands.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The results of this monitoring and evaluation of the health intervention undertaken on Pukapuka Island demonstrates the importance of program evaluation. The information obtained from the analysis could be immediately translated into health policies and intervention strategies and be implemented to improve MOH responses in preventing, controlling and reducing NCD and its risk factors. The complexity and dynamic nature of NCD epidemic and its risk factors, both primary and secondary causes, requires a lot of flexibility on the part of health planners in designing appropriate responses, if and when compelling evidence are made available to them. The responsibilities they face are enormous but the challenges must be met with ingenuity in planning and cost effective innovative processes, especially in the context of geographically dispersed small island nations, to rely and work closely with the community leaders and stakeholders. The outcome of this study indicates that community wide health interventions are very effective, especially where the community takes ownership of the programs and the health staff plays a supporting role instead of their usual role to lead the programs.

There are limitations in this study that might have affected indicators that were studied; this is due to the fact that we did not have any scientifically designed methodology per se catering for variables that might affect our study. In addition, the lack of quality mechanism in the management of the data could also have compromised the results that were analysed. Despite these limitations, the information obtained from this monitoring and evaluations provide useful information that can be used effectively by health and policy planners, and it contributed to the very sparse literature on NCD studies in the Cook Islands and the Pacific Region.

A journey of discovery: From humble beginnings

by Tetuhi Kelly

Part 2

We tried not to discuss treaty issues around our pakeha mates for fear of derision or getting into a punch up with them. Some of our own people saw us as not much better than kupapa (seen by some as a derogatory term, a pakeha sympathiser) and at first we did get into some stoushes, usually after a skin full. In the cities we Maori, all from different tribes, could whakapapa together so some of us did have a fair idea who we were related to. So we tended to work together, played sports and drank together and there were a lot of pakeha who attached themselves to our groups. In fact this happens when we are overseas too. There was a sense of camaraderie because we looked out for each other, had the wickedest parties, the best feeds. Kaimoana, hinu paraoa, takakau and rewena bread, pork bones and watercress boil ups with mutumutu and hangi's. We also attracted lots of pakeha girls and some of the boys married them and our pakeha mates married our sisters and our daughters. The pakeha girls were attracted to us because we were always taking the mickey out of ourselves and each other, we always laughed, and we were good fun to be with. However once they married us, they turned us or tried to turn us into caricatures of male pakehadom, the very thing they found unattractive when they met Maori boys for the first time. Go figure, anyway there were a lot of break ups but also plenty of children and unfortunately domestic violence from Maori men to their pakeha wives and children and pakeha males to their Maori wives and children. Having witnessed my aunties bearing the brunt of domestic violence and getting the bash and having to step in to

stop both my Maori and Pakeha uncles left a deep impression with me to this day. For some pakeha mates we mustn't have been that good of a mate if the pakeha wouldn't take us home to meet their daughters, girl friends or wives unless it was absolutely necessary. But like good Polynesian boys where there's a way there's a willy, just ask those pakeha girls.

Hesitatingly we began to relearn our reo and relearn our marae protocols. Many of us were invited to and began to speak on the marae atea, began chairing Maori trusts and going home to reconnect with our ahi ka roots. We began to take on more chiefly and leadership roles according to our tuakana or teina status through whakapapa, and this coincided with some of us going back to wananga and pakeha universities to round out our rough street smarts. Our land, language and culture were increasingly under pressure from the so called modern ways of life. The education system at the time was resistant to any Maori aspirations for opening our own language and cultural education systems. After all we were continually being told that we were one united people, weren't we? I can recall the white generation of my parents, who could not understand why we were not like the last nice Maori generation who did not complain or resist being good New Zealanders. The problem was this white generation did not ask us Maori what we thought or how we felt; they just assumed we were happy with our lot; we were all New Zealanders weren't we?

Many of us succumbed to the negativity, many couldn't be bothered and many of us resisted. Those who

succumbed stayed or migrated and have now created several generations of those with maori ancestry but no idea of who they are related to or very little about their culture or what it is like to be Maori. For those who resisted they ended up on the wrong side of the law for antisocial behaviour, but they instilled in their children the same tikanga Maori values and a spirit of assertiveness that was missing in our parents' generation. More importantly news media coverage and international focus on New Zealand created a guilt complex in the hearts and minds of the more liberally minded pakeha, what we called bleeding heart liberals. Here NZ as a nation was bagging the South Africans for their apartheid pogrom, yet keeping quiet as our nearest neighbours the Aussies were doing practically the same thing with our cousins the aboriginal nations and NZ hypercritically supporting this by their treatment of Maori aspirations. Gradually we fought back to claim our lands, oceans, rivers, lakes, mountains, intellectual property, language and culture. We used the very same system of Westminster English law that the pakeha had used against us for over 150 years to justify their land grabs and the desecration and destruction of our taonga, reo and tikanga maori. They didn't like that one bit.

At the polls we influenced changes in how the NZ governments of the day addressed our grievances under the Treaty of Waitangi Act and with the money as compensation in-lieu of the return of confiscated land, we developed business models that gave us economic independence but at the same time incorporated unique

tikanga Maori values. We sent our children off to university to become lawyers, doctors, accountants and judges. In doing so we built up a critical mass of Maori with university degrees in law, finances, medicine and the social sciences. We used those academic skills in courts of law at every opportunity to thwart government, local government, the church and big business interests which we believed were counter to the principles of the Treaty. In fighting the church we sued for the return of lands gifted to them for religious purposes over the last 150 years. As soon as the churches decided to turn these gifted lands into real estate for sale instead of returning said gifts of land to us as was required under the original deed, we took them to court. Guess what, the church officials were our own people who were doing this to us, they had been well trained by their pakeha church peers. We engaged international support in our battles with the NZ government and caused considerable embarrassment as the NZ government came under fire from the international community. Despite the trials and tribulations we marched valiantly on and re-established kohanga reo, kura kaupapa, and wananga and runanga Maori education models with a modern twist. We ensured that our language and dialects were promoted and supported for each of our rohe. With our pakeha mixed marriages we were committed to the browning of Aotearoa. We now number in the hundreds of thousands and occupy two countries: Australia and Aotearoa and we contribute both financially and culturally to both those countries and the major sports

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in both countries reflect a high Maori and Polynesian influence.

We'd done such a good job of pulling ourselves back from the brink of cultural demise that along the way we didn't pay enough attention to our relationships with our Pacific island brothers and sisters. Some of you may well remember the infamous days of police and immigration officials arresting Pacific island overstayers in NZ and deporting them back to the islands whence they came in the 1970's. The oil crisis and high unemployment were catalysts which among other things focused the government on Pacific island overstayers. I can recall relations and friends of the time applauding the government's actions in deporting those coons, coconuts, boonga's and any other derogatory term we used at the time. They were taking our jobs weren't they, getting jobs for less hourly pay than we would work for, gosh, even three or four families staying under one roof, that definitely was not on. They didn't even know how to use electric appliances, or a bloody electric stove and a flush toilet, well, and forget about talking proper English, I mean to say! Oh and forget about using a washing machine, bloody niggas, bush pigs and FOBs, but that was what it was like back then in those circles.

I served an engineering apprenticeship at the now defunct Astley Tanneries in New Lynn in those early 1970's and the Personnel Manager in those days used to recruit from Tonga. That whole industrial area was a hive of activity with Crown Lynn just up the road. The Tongan workers used to stay in the company flats straight across the road from the tannery. The orientation and induction of these workers was rudimentary at best and they struggled with the language, the cold, the modern appliances and all manner of city life, things that we took for granted. We used to have business house rugby tournaments with the local factories and as our Tongan workers some of whom were

from the Tongan national rugby team, we used to clean up all comers. The boys all had impressive physiques, chiselled, six packs, very muscular and hands on them like softball mitts, huge, and they ran with the ball one-handed whilst bashing people out of the way with the other huge hand. Needless to say matchups with the Samoan workers was a sight to see, swearing at each other in their languages and fisticuffs for any imagined slight. A lot of the boys stayed on after their contracts ended and married local Palangi girls, their descendants are well known sports personalities these days. So while the 'Dawn raids' were going on, hypocritically, we also forgot that we had other foreign (white) nationals who were also overstayers but appeared to us as though they were being treated differently by the authorities and not subjected to such harsh treatment.

Looking back, we didn't know any better, we were so tied up in our own misery that we forgot that there were other people who were worse off than we were and who wanted a better life for themselves and their families. Consider that prior to this, NZ was a major player in the Pacific and that the overstayers were Pacific islands in which previously the NZ government had exercised colonial power over and we had strong cultural, economic and political links with. That historical connection was of no benefit to Pacific islanders and they were treated as petty criminals by the police and immigration authorities of the time. As a consequence an under-pressure Muldoon led government over reacted and thus ushered in the infamous 'Dawn raids' on Pacific islanders. We were so bad in our treatment of Pacific islanders that we watched and cheered as blood was spilled in the streets as Samoans and Tongans fought running battles in South Auckland under the banner of the Crypts or Bloods or gang wannabees. The Stormtroopers, Black Power, Mongrel Mob, Head-hunters, Kelston Sharks,

Highway 61 and a whole host of gangs with predominantly Maori and Polynesian members was always in the news, for usually the wrong reasons. Thank goodness we have begun the long process of growing up and many of us are now turning to those same Pacific islands to reconnect as our forefathers did many centuries ago.

So heading into the late 1990's and early 2000's, a subtle shift had been occurring as Pacific islanders and other immigrants began adopting Maori English because our kids had begun in the school playgrounds to influence immigrants into our ways. I think it was because white NZ were still xenophobic about Maori's and Polynesians and untrusting of these new immigrants and were pulling their kids out of those schools to go to higher decile schools, basically ghettoising the schools they left behind. Did we worry, no way and neither did the immigrants kids worry and once they mixed in with the melting pot of Maori, Pacific Islands, Sikh, Indian, Kurdish, Pakistani, Somali and other white immigrants kids so naturally they gravitated to us. Before too long they began talking school ground Maori English and adopting Black American gestures of greetings with a Maori flavour. You know the terms, cuz, bro, choice, sweet as, yo, brudder, sup, what's the haps, the finger gestures, slapping of hands and fists in greeting, bumping shoulders, the lifting of the eyebrows and the chin when meeting mates or bro's and speaking as though they had just come off the marae. If you had watched any of the Billy T James comedy shows of the 1980's and 1990's and the NZ made movies with Maori characters you will know exactly what I mean.

In 2006, as a NZ Cadet training officer, I overheard a conversation between new cadet entrants, two brothers and others outside my training office window. They were unaware I was listening. The conversation went something like, "Yo brudder, man what a sweet looking chick, shit yeh,

awesome bro, cheh bro, ya egg, catch ya later cuz, sweet as". A rough translation for those who don't know Maori English goes like this: The boys meet up, head, eyebrow and chin nod, hands and fists come into contact, shoulders drop and touch. "Hello my friend, that girl over there is very pretty, absolutely my friend, she is beautiful, wow, one boy makes a rude gesture, another replies, silly fullah, got to go, see you later friend, you're welcome" How maroke is that? The most amusing thing was that they were Sikh and Samoan boys, complete with the Maori accent; they sounded more Maori than we ever did. At the time I thought it was some of the Maori cadets and I had to laugh. Things have improved since those decades but I think more from a Maori perspective than for Pakeha. I still think they have some way to go before they can let go of their xenophobia, they are getting there, as NZ English is liberally dosed with Maori English being used in all walks of life. The users are not even aware that they are using the language of the tangata whenua in their daily lives and their body language and gestures are influenced by Maori.

So in 2010 I came to the Cook Islands officially to set up an HR Division for the Ministry of Education and I quickly came to realise that I had some unfinished business to attend to. I had begun a journey of discovery many years before and I had one more journey to go and that was to complete the whakapapa connections between NZ Maori and Cook Islands Maori, begun by my grandfather Te Putu when he started out on his own personal journey over 80 years ago. I had spent so many decades 'discovering' myself and now was the time to put all those experiences and knowledge together to find out where in the greater Polynesia we all came from. Be sure to read my upcoming article, 'The Journey continues', which closes out the chapter in my grandfather Te Putu's quest.

“Norman George on” law reform-the EBA breath test laws

By Norman George

No law has such severe direct effect on motorists than this one. The penalty for a first offence is 12 months imprisonment, \$1,000 fine, disqualification from driving for 12 months and community service with no time limit provided in the Act. The Act we are discussing here is the Transport Amendment Act 2007, which I shall refer to as (the Act). Fortunately for the convicted so far, no

Justice of the Peace has sentenced anyone to imprisonment on the first offence. No one has been sentenced to community service either. Twelve months disqualification from driving is compulsory. This particular penalty is painful for those who need to drive for a living, there is no exception to the rule. The going rate for fines range from \$200 to \$500.

After a period of 6 months disqualification, the motorist can apply for a partial lift of the disqualification to allow the person to drive during working hours only, day or night. This is where we need to draw the line in the Cook Islands. In New Zealand they have demerit points for the first EBA offences. Only after a third conviction will the issue of disqualification come into play in New Zealand. Why did we not do that here in the first instance? Has the strict draconian approach reduced road accidents in Rarotonga? I think not. There is a tendency in the Cook Islands to follow New Zealand laws by the coat tails. Where New Zealand laws are well researched, our legislators, while studying the New Zealand draft try to out tough them by increased absurd penalties. Some of our worst examples of over the top penalties are in the Misuse of Drugs and Narcotics Act. The same shoot first ask questions after cowboy legislators have their paw prints all over these overly harsh and cruel laws. I will address the

Narcotics Act at another time.

I am sure the readers will be interested to know how the EBA (Breathalyser test) is applied, by what legal authority and be able to judge whether it is fair or not. I will add my own opinion and criticism from hard earned experience in the High Court.

This is what the law says under section 28B of the Act.....” Where a constable has reasonable cause to suspect that a person....

a) Is driving or attempting to drive or is in charge of a motor vehicle on a road.....My comments, you do not need to be seen driving, just suspected of driving, “in charge” of a motor vehicle is not defined, so you could be some distance away from your vehicle, you could be resting or sleeping it off on the roadside, the law is unforgiving, no escape. “Road” is defined as a street, and includes any place where the public have access whether as of right or not, Transport Act 1966

(b) Where the Police suspects a person has recently been driving or attempting to drive or has been in charge of a motor vehicle on a road.....”recently” is not defined in the Act but my Oxford dictionary defines it as not long past or shortly before the present. I have known the Police to stretch this provision for many long hours into the future, a clear abuse of the law (my comment)

b) Was the driver or person in charge of a motor vehicle which was involved in a motor vehicle crash. My comment, I have no criticism of this provision, if you are involved in a crash, accept the full consequences.

Opinion and Comment: There is a complete absence of a driving fault drawing Police attention to the driver. This is a random breath test law.

Not even evidence of alcohol consumption, speed, careless driving and other driving faults to justify a police stoppage to apply the breath test. The police



Norman George

can stop you without reason. This random testing system must stop. That is the reason behind roadblocks and checkpoints, a major inconvenience to law abiding citizens. Changes in the law should require roadblocks and checkpoints to be used on special occasions or events authorised by a Justice of the Peace, when intended for EBA purposes. Otherwise normal roadblocks can be used for law enforcement purposes by the police.

Back to the actual breath test. The Constable may, subject to Section 28F require that person to provide without delay, a specimen of breath for a breathalyser test.

(2) A person who undergoes a breathalyser test shall remain at the place until after the result of the test is ascertained.

(3) Such a test can be conducted where the person is apprehended or at the nearest police station.

(4) A person who refuses to undergo a breath test or refuses

to remain at the place is subject to all the penalties mentioned earlier.

COMMENT The problem here is when the police patrol does not have breath test equipment on them. They use this excuse to take sometimes innocent people who do not drink, back to the police station and keep them there for hours without justification. I recommend that if they do not carry the EBA equipment in their patrol car, they lose the right to use one later at the police station.

Having covered the breathalyser test part, we shall discuss the blood test provisions in next week's column. A member of the Road Safety Council Mr. Brent Fisher, approached me recently to ask my views about the Transport Act laws as they are reviewing it. This is my response; to my friends in the Road Safety Council, many thanks to Brent. I will cover other parts of the Act after I have finished with the blood test provisions next week.

Ka Kite.

How to experience God's Blessings

(according to Psalm 128)

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

I have never met anyone who does not want to be blessed in life, and most importantly to be blessed by God!

In Psalm 128 are important lessons that we could learn from if we are to be blessed by God. There are two parts to this Psalm;

(1) is our attitude towards God which is to respect (or fear) Him, and to obey His laws (or walk in His ways), and
(2) is the blessings of God.

In other words if we do what God wants us to do, then He will bless us. In the home environment if the children listen and do what their parents ask them to do then they will receive some form of blessings. This is no different from the things of God! In other words the Psalmist is saying "Don't expect God to bless you if you don't respect Him and obey His laws!" "No pain, no gain!" "There's no such thing as free-lunch!" v.1 reads "The Lord will bless you if you respect Him and obey His laws."

The question is 'How do you respect God?' The answer is 'We respect God by doing what is right in His sight!' One important question is 'What are the laws of God?' The answer is, read your Bible and you will find the laws of God! Anyway, here's one of God's laws "You shall have no other gods before Me!" (Exodus 20v.3) Many people treat TV as their God, and are too lazy to go to Church! Some spend too much time doing things that take them away from God! Things that prevent them from reading their Bible or praying to God, or even singing to God! That

is why the Psalmist said "The Lord will bless you if you respect Him and obey His laws." v.2 reads "Your fields will produce, and you will be happy and all will go well." This verse is speaking to us as individuals.

The work that you are doing will prosper because you respect God and obey His laws. The root-crops that you're planting produces manifold because of Him! Your boss is pleased with your work performance because you're doing it honestly, faithfully, in the fear of the Lord, and in accordance to His ways, His laws, His righteousness! v.3-4 speaks about you and the family. It reads "Your wife will be as fruitful as a grapevine, and just as an olive tree is rich with olives, your home will be rich with healthy children. That is how the Lord will bless everyone who respects (fear) Him." This is speaking about the joy, the peace, the respect, the love of God in the home – the father, the mother, the children and everyone else in the home! It doesn't mean that life is plain-sailing, smooth, no! A little argument now and then is expected because of our human nature. But what the Psalmist is saying here is that, most of the time life is good in the home! But this can only happen if we "...respect (fear) God and obey His laws (or follow His ways!)" v.5 reads "I pray that the Lord will bless you from Zion and let Jerusalem prosper as long as you live."

This verse speaks about the city Jerusalem. For us today, Jerusalem is the community we are living in. Even the island we are living on – this is

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi



our Jerusalem.

Friends, I'm sure all of us want to see things happening for the 'good of all' during our lifetime! According to the Psalmist, this will only happen if we "...respect (fear) God and obey His laws (or follow His ways!)" v.6 reads "May you live long enough to see your grandchildren. Let's pray for peace in Israel." This verse is speaking about the future generations and the peace in the nation of Israel. This verse is also speaking

about the future generations in our nation, and the 'peace of God' in the Cook Islands! As individuals, God will bless you! As families, God will bless members of the families and those in the households! God will also bless our community, the future generations and also the nation!

Therefore, we need to respect God and obey His laws! And do what is right in His sight! May you have a God blessed week! Te Atua te aroa.

Infliction of Cruelty

By Teherenui Koteke

Last week while I was playing chess with my brother I caught a glimpse a travel show on that was playing on the television. What I saw shocked me! I cannot recall the name of the show but it featured man who travelled to Asia on a gastro vacation. What shocked me was a particular scene in which there were two sea turtles atop a table. The poor creatures were turned upside down and made to struggle in fear while cruel people taunted them. The cruelty these people inflicted upon these poor creatures truly SHOCKED me! I think this inhumane action shocked me because I would never have witnessed such behaviour here in the Cook Islands. Here in the Cook Islands we would never taunt a creature just for the mere fun of it. Yes these people would have sold these turtles to people, who would most likely eat them, and some may see this as a justified reason for their capture, but I do not. They would turn them over and watch them squirm; attempting to get free, and just when the poor creatures thought they had the chance to run away they would scoop them up and place them on their shells. I watched as these merciless people spun the turtles around inflicting further pain upon them. This behaviour truly saddened me. That night I could not help but to ponder as to why these people would behave in such barbaric ways. Not only is this behaviour cruel but it is also illegal. It is illegal in most countries (including the country in which this show was shot) to capture sea turtles. I asked myself why these people would risk being caught capturing sea turtles, it was not like they had nothing else to eat, there was a variety of food shown on the show. In my mind this act of cruelty is dirty and unacceptable. Protected species such as sea turtles should not be caught. They are protected for a reason. Green-Leatherback sea turtles and Hawksbill sea turtles are on the list of official endangered species. If behaviour such as this continues, soon there will be no more sea turtles left. Imagine a world without sea turtles. This might seem like a minor issue, but in actual fact it is not. The statement might seem major, but to think that my children will never get to see a sea turtle, that another one of gods amazing creatures will never again be seen breaks my heart. This logic can be applied to many other things. If someone somewhere is capturing sea turtles, then we can surely bet that somewhere else there are other endangered species being captured. We really need to start realizing the impact of our actions and we need to start caring more about our endangered species, because once their gone there is no bringing them back.

Animated Chronicles

By Lucianne Vainerere

It's only fair to assume that every kid-teenager imagined themselves as a cartoon character, picturing the hectic adventures we'd go on and taming the untamable. That life you wish you had only because your imagination seemed better than your reality. An animation I've recently watched is The Book Of Life. It's quite different from other animations that I've seen, if anything it makes you think more about life and the extents you're willing to go to for the sake of your loved ones.

Let me break it down for you, the story starts in the center of the Universe, being Mexico. And in the center of Mexico stood a small town called San Angel. The ruler of the land of the Forgotten (which lay below the land of the Remembered) got sick of running the lifeless realm and wanted to exchange realms with his Amor, so they set a wager that held the life of all of humanity.

They chose 3 best friends, 2 boys and a girl where both boys loved the girl, Maria. The wager was that they each chose a champion (one of the boys) and whoever married Maria in the future would win and rule the land of the Remembered (which lay below San Angel), which was always colorful and festive. And so Maria's father sent her to Spain to become a proper lady, and the boys grew and waited for her till she came back and the story unfolds where the best friends fight for Marias heart.

The moral of the story I guess is that love conquers all and as cliché as it is I can't help but believe it (yes, I'm a hopeless romantic, don't judge). Its that true sort of love that's been there for a long time and you can't seem to let it go because of how much it means to you- how precious it is, how true it is and how its from the heart. I know we're young and we shouldn't even be thinking about that kind of thing, but for some of us you can't help but yearn for it only because all we really want to do is feel loved, and be happy – the worlds subconscious dream.

Anyway, back to imagining ourselves as animations, its only natural that we have a major part as well. From the hero to his/her lover, to the villain and his minions to however far our mind allows us to imagine.

Imagining is like the foundation of our childhood memories and that sticks with us forever regardless how much we mature and grow up. So don't be in a hurry to grow up, when you're 18 reality slowly starts to kick in, being truly independent and writing your own story and the worse part, separating from the people you've practically known your whole life. But life's a climb and worth every journey, may your heart be pure and courageous and "Always play from the heart."

When the NZ government's delegation arrived to visit Penrhyn and Manihiki to introduce them to the bright lights of civilization and 24 hour tv NZ Opposition members were included the reason no local Opposition members were included was because when Elvis got feed back the Demo expert on renewable energy Vini Jimmy Larger was unavailable no one else was invited, the Demo leader Smelly Heta would have been out of his depth at that level so to avoid embarrassing him he was shelved and Miki Enery from Aitutaki was taken to light the Chinese donated fire crackers. Mrs Preserlay was rewarded for her Manhiki mat placement and bed making skills with a trip to NZ.



With the \$1 million NZAID funded pearl farming equipment and materials, the \$1 million China funded pearl farming materials, the millions spent on the harbour development, the heavy machinery donated by China, the millions of dollars worth of solar renewable energy project, numerous charter flights and who knows else for less than 200 people on Manihiki, they are sure getting much more than their fair share of the goodies with less than 1% contribution to the national budget. Per capita they are street lights ahead than the rest of the population. How come so few people have had so much lavished upon them? Is it because 78 of them voted for Elvis who took those 78 votes and made himself the Prime Minister? What a lucky people to get millions of dollars put around their necks like eis. Lucky, lucky people just breathing to get millions of dollars spent on them. Wish we could all be Manihikians. Is there anything for the biggest constituency of Tupapa? What else has their glorious leader and their First Lady got for their handful of supporters? It's little wonder vindictive

Bulldozing hypocrite Heta wants to be the Prime Minister but for all his warts and deficiencies Elvis is preferred to Heta as leader glorious any day of the week. Crawl back under your bulldozer Heta and stay there.



Oh dear chooks! Patients turn up to get their eyes checked following earlier surgery only to be told examinations had been cancelled and rescheduled for the next day! Poor folks trundled all the way in only to be sent home again! Has not the Health lot been advised of the invention some years ago of the telephone?



Note the way PM Puna was strutting around up north on the kikau walkways, waving his arms in the air like some modern day Julius Caesar? If PM Puna knows his history he will recall what happened to Julius Caesar!



Talking of that marvelously convenient invention the mobile phone, when will people realize that highly trained scientists worked long hours to design a phone small enough to fit in your pocket and take with you where ever you go so anyone can contact you immediately if need be? Seems people leave their mobile phones at home,

in their cars, at work, every where it seems except in their pockets!



If the solar power project was really a "cross party" national initiative, why is it none of the opposition leaders went north for the opening celebrations? The Kiwi delegation included Representatives of the opposition in NZ, Shearer for Labour and Peters for NZ First. So where were the leaders of the Opposition in the Cooks? Where was Smiley? Where was the Bishop? Trust PM Puna to hog all the limelight for his greedy self.



What's PM Puna up to chooks? Flying other CIP MPs about willy nilly, hither dither to pow wows when really they have no business to be there. What was Albert and one back bencher doing up in Manihiki? Cookie delegation to a high powered chin wag in Bangkok for high flyers were shocked to come down to breakfast at their digs only to run into Aitutaki MP under Police investigation, Moana Ioane! None knew he was turning up so far from home but why was he there? It's PM Puna again playing his little power games, moving CIP MPs about like chess pieces! Well one day someone is going to say to PM Puna, "Check mate!"

And that day may be closer than PM Puna thinks!



Chook poses the question, "When does Bank Policy overrule an Act of parliament?" Answer, "When the Bank is the BCI and the job is too fiddy." Chook refers to the Act which reduces the cost of a vehicle registration by the number of months left in the registration period. Apparently it is BCI policy to charge the full registration fee although there may only be three months of the year left to go. What is the Ministry of Transport doing about this? Remember, computer systems are there to serve mankind not the other way around!



When the agricultural research station was closed down chooks, what happened to all the equipment left over? What happened to the two Chinese donated motor bikes left on the premises? C'mon Audit Office- are they on the asset register?



And on the auction coming up of government vehicles, buyer beware most vehicles are up for auction "as is." Whisper is two vehicles from Agriculture will cost more to transport to the auction venue than they will fetch at auction!



Word is now the northern group has 24 hour power, they can watch videos all night. Certainly be able to keep their beer cool longer! But will power charges actually go down?



Kiwiland dignitaries to the north for the solar launch would have been impressed with the display put on for the visitors by the local sharks in the lagoon. But with Neves aboard the boat, were the sharks impressed?



FAT CATS

Number 2,
Cabinet is being pestered by the
chamber of commerce to lower taxes, cut
spending, abolish fees and reduce VAT!

In
return for what?



HARD
TOO HARD
IMPOSSIBLE

COCONUT ROUNDTABLE

Rumour
has it, Government is
expecting us, the business sector
to lift production, increase wages,
pay more taxes and agree
to a VAT increase!

Total
Madness!

Well
they run the
assylum!

Private sector competition will drive down costs

By Charles Pitt

Ordinary people are now expressing genuine concerns about the cost of living. Despite MFEM's data showing the CPI (Cost Price Index) indicating relatively low inflation, the increase in prices of imported goods is plain to see. Bank interest rates remain high but are influenced by factors outside the control of ordinary people and government.

While it is clear private sector competition to date, has failed to drive down costs, a group of local developers are of the view the economy should be private sector driven and that government should refrain from intervention or providing incentives such as cheap loans or tax breaks. Such action would be a temporary fix only and would not be sustainable.

This local group, the Merchants of Paradise (MOP) is a group of local developers who propose to turn things around by introducing

a Comprehensive Development Project (CDP) which will drive economic recovery across key sectors of the economy including tourism, agriculture, fishing, transportation, shipping and banking.

The group's proposals would see development of outer island tourism, agriculture and fishing all with outer island involvement and a unique concept of ownership.

Affordable transportation and shipping will compliment the development and sustain it. Lower bank interest rates could follow if the group takes up an option to establish a new bank offering lower interest rates on loans, more vigorous competition, marketing and services.

Rather than weaken an already weak economy through government restructuring, downsizing, staff layoffs and cuts to operational expenditure, the group's proposal is that a strong central

government administration be retained and the private sector re-invent itself and try a different approach.

There can be less government in our lives but that only follows when there is a strong and developing private sector which can provide jobs at decent wages, a sustainable export sector to draw in overseas funds and stable government to impart confidence and attract investment.

Merchants of Paradise is advocating several innovative approaches to hotel

development and ownership, to agricultural development and to fishing which are achievable. It will be able to introduce these initiatives with little or no special government concessions or assistance.

Their aim is to prove that locals can do it for themselves and the wider community will benefit from increased competition which will drive costs down while at the same time providing a better and affordable standard of living.

Further details will be released by the group when authorized.

Greeting and serving

By Hayley McNabb

After a few months of no job, which meant no money apart from the notes my Nana gave me, I finally found myself a new job. About two weeks ago my friend and I went searching for jobs around the island.

We came to Marekos/Gift Shop and asked if there were any jobs available and just with our luck we got the job straight away. It had been they had just happened to be wanting two new employees. So there we had the job which was every Saturday at the Punanganui Market from 6 in the morning until around 2 in the afternoon. But because we have to start at 6 it means I now have to wake up at 5:30 on a Saturday morning and that is honestly one of the most hardest things I have to do because I just love sleeping. So once everyone arrives, we set up the stall by putting tables up to display all the items on sale and wait for the people to start coming in.

However despite the little things I particularly don't enjoy, I can say I really like this job. This is because not only does it mean earning my own money but it helps me learn the skills of working in a business. Greeting and serving customers, helping and making sure they get exactly what they want and making sure they pay the right amount of money and get the correct change back are the skills I learn by working at the Marekos/Gift Shop Market stall and from this it helps me get a more better understanding of how businesses work because one of future careers is to have a business of my own.

We have many items on sale ranging from all sorts of jewelry to pareus, clothing, souvenirs that tourist loves, hats to prevent you from getting sunburnt and just everything you need and they are all affordable for everyone. So come down to our stalls on Saturday morning and support a local business.

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Experienced Chief Security Officer & Security Officers wanted. Ph: 25800 or email hr@rarotongan.co.ck



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- Cashier (Rarotonga)
- Guest Services Agent
- Chefs
- Wait & Bar Staff
- Porter/ Security

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TENDER



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – NEW POWER HOUSE

Te Aponga Uira invites bids from suitably qualified companies or groups to procure all materials and construct the main platform where new containerised generation plant will be located at Avatiu Power Station, Rarotonga.

Upon registration at the following email address below, Tender Documents can be requested from:

TAU Project Manager
Te Aponga Uira, Rarotonga, Cook Islands
Fax: (682) 21-944
Email: alex.napa@electricity.co.ck

The proposed timeframes for the bidding process are set out below:

Deadline for submission of questions:
3:00pm 3rd June 2015

Deadline for submission of Proposals:
3:00pm 10th June 2015

Notification to preferred Contractor:
17th June 2015

Contract and budget negotiations:
From the week of 15th June 2015

This timeframe is indicative only and may be subject to change.

ADVERTISE WITH THE COOK ISLANDS HERALD

TENDER



REQUEST FOR TENDER

1. HAEMATOLOGY ANALYSER (5part differential)
2. HAEMATOLOGY ANALYSER (3part differential)
3. ULTRASOUND EQUIPMENT

Tenders are requested for the supply of specific medical equipment for the Rarotonga Hospital. This tender is in three sections:

1. Haematology Analyser (5part differential)
2. Haematology Analyser (3part differential)
3. Ultrasound Equipment

The tenderer is permitted to tender on any one or more parts of the tender, but the tender must be for the whole requirement of that section.

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 No.2
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 No.2". 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 22nd May 2015 at 4.00pm.

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

Meitaki maata

PUBLIC NOTICE



Business Trade Investment Board
Cook Islands

Notice to all Foreign Enterprises (companies and Individuals)

Pursuant to the Development Investment Act 1995-96, Part VIII, section 34 Annual Filing of information notice is hereby given to all registered foreign enterprise and individuals that Annual Filing of Information is due on 30th June 2015. Forms are available at the BTIB office at Rarotonga or can be sent via email, postal on request. Failure to comply with this notice is an offence and on conviction shall be liable to a statutory fine.

FOOTBALL UPDATE

Messi: This incredible Barça team still wants more

Lionel Messi wants to put an exclamation mark on what has already been a title-winning campaign for Barcelona.

The Catalan giants clinched La Liga's trophy, their seventh in the last 11 years, at the weekend with Messi's goal sinking Atletico Madrid at the Vicente Calderon.

Now Barça are taking aim at the Copa del Rey decider on 30 May against Athletic Bilbao, before turning their attention to the UEFA Champions League final against Juventus on 6 June.

Messi wrote on his Facebook page: "La Liga title is very special as it always rewards the best. But this team is incredible and still wants more this year. Força Barça!"

Messi has scored 54 goals in 54 appearances in all competitions for Barcelona this season.

The club has the possibility of winning a second domestic and European treble in the space of six years.



The Catalan giants, coached by Luis Enrique, have won 30 league games this season and end their league campaign at home to Deportivo La Coruna on Saturday.

9 days to go to FIFA U-20 World Cup

Traditional welcome greets first official team arrival

Ukraine became the first team to arrive at their FIFA U-20 World Cup New Zealand 2015 venue, and they were greeted not only with a taste of home, but by a traditional Kiwi welcome.

On arrival at Auckland International Airport, coach Oleksandr Petrakov and his team were treated to a performance from Tainui's Haka Legend group and words of welcome from representatives from the city council. They also received a rousing reception from members of the local Ukrainian community, clad in the nation's traditional blue and yellow colours, who sang the country's national

anthem and presented the team with a traditional gift of sourdough bread and salt. Ukraine, of course, have the distinction of taking on the hosts in the tournament's opening match at 1pm on Saturday 30 May.

Similar scenes will await each of the 22 other teams jetting into New Zealand for the U-20 showpiece over the coming days, while the Kiwi hopefuls will be officially welcomed to the tournament at Auckland's Aotea Square on Tuesday 26 May. In welcoming Ukraine to the city, Martin Fairweather of Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development Limited spoke of the diversity that the tournament is



helping to showcase. He said: "Despite being a long way from home, the Ukrainian expat community is rallying its support, and we look forward to some spectacular football."

Each competing nation will receive their own official

welcome upon landing at the venue at which they will be based during the group stage. And with Auckland having taken centre stage today, Wellington and Dunedin will be the next of the seven host cities in the spotlight.