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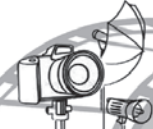
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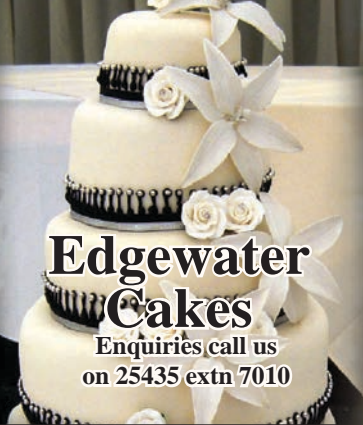
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Immigration left to muddle in the wilderness with antiquated policy and technology

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration must be the most complained about government agency, staff are regularly the butt of frustrated criticism especially from local businesses who are now reliant on imported labour for their very existence. For many who have had to interact with Immigration it's been described as endurance up against a siege mentality and a gauntlet of obstacles.

At the very core of the problems the public have with the Immigration Department is the Entry Residence and Departure Act 1971-1972. While the public can be very vocal in venting their frustrations in dealing with Immigration staff that are duty bound to be guided and to enforce that antiquated legislation, the equally frustrated staff having no means of catharsis, tolerate complaints and abuse from individuals which is masked and suppressed within, any reciprocity criticism of individuals or the government only serves to get more complaints. Seldom are Immigration staff appreciated instead it's an ongoing barrage of invectiveness from a disgruntled public.

If some paint the Immigration Department as grossly dysfunctional then don't blame the staff, the politicians have failed to give them the tools to be efficient and effective. Times and circumstances evolve and change but government simply hasn't oiled or equipped the immigration machinery, it's a wonder they have any staff.

There is glaring absence of political will to address the

complex issues Immigration officials have to deal with everyday, under stressful pressure to improvise and navigate through the antiquated policy maze pleases some but angers others. In some cases current staff are unknowingly perpetrating practises devised by previous staff that were constantly directed to "just fix" it by the

With the Immigration Ministry tied to the past, three cycles of population cycles have evolved but inconveniently to the staff and public unmatched by relevant policies. Not only is the legislation three generations out of date, the manual administrative technology needs digital investment. The positive return on foreign workers is the collected revenue, over \$600,000; surely some of these funds could be used to improve the administrative technology.

political masters.

A review of Immigration was undertaken in 2003 but little changed, then another was completed in 2008 but again there was a serious prudence of political will to make any changes to the 1971-1972 Act.

Fast forward to 2015, earlier this year prior to the Elections, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented a new set of policy

recommendations to Cabinet but again it was deferred indefinitely due to the amount of work the changes required also it is very controversial and possibly too hot a political potato.

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by relevant policies. Not only is the legislation three generations out of date, the manual administrative technology needs digital investment. The positive return on foreign workers is the collected revenue, over \$600,000; surely some of these funds could be used to improve the administrative technology.

Previous reviews found

new ways to restrict migrants from working or becoming Permanent Residents which is now out of kilter with the current demand for foreign workers. In the past jobs were protected for locals as was some specified businesses. Immigration policy was to keep foreign out of local employment or restricted to owning 30 percent of a business venture.

Today the majority of medium to large businesses are owned by papa 'a immigrants who are the major demographic of non Cook Island resident/workers. It is estimated 35 percent of the work force are immigrants.

The migration of Cook Islanders since the 1996 melt down of the economy saw many public servants transitioned not only from the government pay roll but right out of the country. It is estimated within three years 5,000 residents left and there has been an outward bound trickle ever since. While depopulation is noticeable on Rarotonga the alarm bells ring very loud when one visits the outer Islands where locals are becoming an endangered species. In the last two months up to 13 young people have left Atiu, some are in Rarotonga with others gone overseas. Employment opportunities are the primary reason. After students from Atiu and the other outer Islands have the attended the Ministry of Educations Career's Expo their futures are challenged, they realise they have to leave their home Island to pursue further education or to explore career opportunities.

Our reality is the Cook Islands have a labour pool crisis that

Continued next page

has become a pain in the neck to manage and monitor. Take the Fijians out of the country's tourism driven economy and our tourism dependent economy would collapse, there is something like 1,000 Fijians employed in that sector. At least 300 Philippine nationals are employed predominantly in retail businesses and a sprinkling of Indonesians. Samoans are recent arrivals and their numbers are likely to grow as the Polynesian Leaders Group formalises their memorandums of understanding. With direct flights likely to commence between Apia and Rarotonga within the next year Samoa could provide low skilled labourers especially if agriculture is to reinvent itself with niche crops and a return to the basic produce.

With our League and Rugby codes struggling to field teams, Samoan players are making a huge impact on the sports field. Two years ago in the Rugby grand final between Takuvaine and Titikaveka 13 players were Samoans.

The plain fact is Cook Islanders who have immigrated overseas are highly unlikely to return to work especially those at the base of the work force; these opportunities are attractive to our current source of labour because it is an economic step up for them.

The Cook Islands are no longer a homogeneous society, whether we like it not we are now a multicultural society more by default rather than design that will continue to attract a wider diversity of ethnic migrants.

The Permanent Resident ceremonies will no longer have a predominantly European look about it with the fusion of ethnic diversity.

A Chinese couple who have lived and worked in pearl farming in Manihiki for 15 years are putting their hand up for Permanent Residence status. To their shock their intentions appear to be discouraged by their Member of Parliament, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Immigration, Henry Puna. Earlier this year a number of spanners were introduced to the works when the same couple tried to buy a food

related business that despite being advertising couldn't attract a local buyer.

While some papa'a expats have been able to get their PR in less than two years at the discretion of the Minister, others have to go the extra mile. The Chinese are coming and that isn't a secret, they will apply for PR if that status remains as it is. The government cannot expect to receive millions of dollars of aid from the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) and turn down their citizens who apply for PR. Anyone who has stuck it out working in Manihiki pearl farming for 15 years deserves to receive their PR. Not only that, two of their children were born in the Cook Islands.

Whether anyone likes it not, Chinese migrants will soon be more prominent as investors and workers in Rarotonga, if they tick all the antiquated Immigration boxes how can they be turned away? While non European migrants get the diversionary attention, the Europeans seem to have an open door to come and go and even work if they please. The biggest imbalance in our demographic will be from the European migrants who largely fly under the radar because they blend in largely unnoticed. There are more of them working in the Public Service now than ever before including the pre Independence colonial era.

What purpose does PR have in the context of our current circumstances? Does it serve any real purpose?

With thousands of refugees incarcerated in Australia plus those being housed off shore, replacing lost skills could be sourced from this pool of people at the expense of Australia who are spending millions of dollars keeping boat people out or locked up on shore for years. Skill sets needed by the Cook Islands plus a stringent selection process ought to be given some positive thought; many refugees are Christians who have fled persecution by the Muslims.

The Powers to be need to set the agenda and design a population policy to give immigrant dependent businesses clearly visibility off

the way ahead. The changing demographic landscape can no longer be left to chance. Qatar's indigenous population (less than three million) has a well managed foreign residents and work force which is 75 percent of the population.


The Cook Islands economy is stifled due to the lack of labourers; very few are going to return so migrant labour needs to be stream lined with recommendations of supply sources. Depopulation isn't going to go away but surely the government ought to be inventive and at least attempt to stall the out flow. To anyone who has basic maths skills Cook Islanders are heading towards becoming a minority in their own country.

For a start, Government can obliterate the tedious manual operations of Immigration with a computerised management system especially for border operations and data collecting. Customs did this; it streamlined their operations and increased revenue. With the tourism




New immigration boss Nane Samuela having to deal with an antiquated system

spiking and an increasing expat work force it is imperative Immigration follow suit, then again, is it a priority for our politicians? It will go a long way to operational efficiency in Immigration. - George Pitt



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\$30 million up for grabs - Chinese contractors to bid for Te Mato Vai stage two? Another done deal? What about local contractors?

It's about time the locals stood up and claimed their fiscal share of the multimillion dollar Te Mato Vai (TMV) project stated a traditional leader who also says Cook Islanders are too passive and expect others to fight their battles for them.

Some land owners have observed the uprising of the Grey Power movement and are reading themselves to be reactionary if government plays hard ball over their demands for compensation if their lands are warranted for TMV stage 2. Preferring to negotiate an amicable win win outcome, militant social unrest is a last resort option. "It seems if you don't make a noise and protest this government interpreters we are in full agreement."

In a tripartite development project the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) contributed a \$24 million loan that is conditional on a PRC contractor responsible for the component their funds are allocated for (Stage one). New Zealand has funded \$15 million which is designated to mainly cover the costs of NZ consultants and management with the remaining \$22 million being contributed by the Cook Islands government.

Some intake land owners are in preliminary discussions that will include local contractors to lobby Government to engage local expertise to construct stage two. One source said "The Chinese got their loaned money back, New Zealand were the same so any contribution by us should be restricted to local contractors, we have the expertise and we need the money circulating in our own economy."

In a stagnating economy the Cook Islands needs every dollar to remain on shore, when the

global financial meltdown rippled around the world, the USA spearheaded a \$700 billion plus stimulus package to keep their economy afloat, other country's followed suit, NZ devised a \$7 billion stimulus package to ward off unemployment during the economic down turn.

One of the projects that got wide media attention in 2009 was the \$50 million New Zealand Cycle Trail which created employment for over 500 people mostly from rural areas. The tourism benefits from the Cycle Trail are projected to create over 3,000 job opportunities throughout NZ.

TMV stage two is a gifted opportunity that must be seized as an economic stimulus package for Cook Islanders, while the construction is a one off financial benefit that could inject up to \$15 million into local circulation. Our government's piggy bank has been empty for sometime which meant during 2008/2009 a stimulus package could not be delivered.

With the next Budget expected to be significantly lean and meaner than those of the recent past the TMV stage two could bring some relief in a looming fiscal famine. The Financial Secretary Richard Neves has insisted the contract tenders be open to overseas contractors, already the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) are confident they will be engaged in some of the contracts.

With 35 percent of our work force imported there is about 1,100 Fijians and more than 300 from the Philippines who regularly remit money to their home countries. Conservatively if each one remitted \$50 a week, that's over \$36 million annually

that's not being circulated in our local economy. At the moment there is no way of accurately knowing just how much money is remitted off shore but the next time Parliament sits and passes the tabled Financial Intelligence Bill it will enable the FI Unit to capture the data on all out going funds instead of just transactions over \$10,000.

Ask any retailer how is business and no one is surprised when told it is a daily struggle and grind just to make ends meet, many owner operated businesses have closed and the vendors heading off shore virtually as economic refugees.

Government has advertised tenders for TMV stage two contracts and will close in about a month's time. Before contracts become binding Neves should resist acting in haste as he did with CCECC and consider the ramifications of land owners denying land access to foreign contractors.

Intake land owners will play a game changing role in making access conditional on the work being done by local contractors instead of the DPM Heather favoured Chinese. Our stagnant economy needs stimulating, as predicted by the fiscally discerning government revenues are falling seriously short of Neves' fantasy projections; the Cook Islands need the TMV stage two millions to infiltrate the economy.

Some land owners are now taking a wider consideration as part of their settlement negotiations, without the use or access to their property there is no TMV stage two, their land issues are a lot more expansive than themselves, they have a significant contribution to make concerning the economy, this is a time for their opinions to



Will the PM demonstrate leadership?

be heard and acted upon by government. Landowners are passionate about not being taken for granted or walked over; there is an undercurrent of resistance that won't be bullied.

It's about time the Prime Minister Henry Puna intervened and put Cook Islanders first instead of pandering to foreign enterprises who are preferred by our foreign employees. Puna has to stop pointing his finger at Neves and saying "He's got the power!"

What's the point of Cook Islanders returning from overseas only to be overlooked by government officials who contract foreign enterprises to do work the local was trained and qualified to do overseas?

If Puna will not show leadership for his own people it is left to BTIB Directors to protect the welfare of local contractors and shut the gate to foreign contractors taking the bread off the tables of Cook Island families. BTIB is not beholden to the erratic behaviour of Neves nor do they have to comply with decisions that bellow uncontrollably out of the misfits at MFEM. - George Pitt

Congratulations to Mrs Tapu Enjoy, Woman of the Month

The National Council of Women (NCW) had the pleasure of nominating Mrs Tapu Enjoy as this month's Woman of the Month. She has been involved in the organization for 8 years as a hardworking, active and faithful member. Her involvement with the NCW has taken her to many places to attend a number of International events.

In June 2001 as President for the Vaka Te-Au-O –Tonga Vainetini, she was responsible for organizing the programme for the previous New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark, when she visited the Cook Islands. The President for the National Council of Woman at that time was Francis Topa- Apera.

In 2005 she represented the Cook Islands and the NCW at a Price Control Conference in Fiji.

She attended the Pacific Nations Science and Art of Tobacco Control Conference, representing the NCW, the Conference was held in New Zealand in October 2013 and saw over 600 participants from Pacific Islands Nations attend. That same year, she went on to become a Committee member on the board for the Road Safety Council, she was elected by the NCW.

In addition to these roles, Tapu holds the position of Treasurer for the Womens World Day of Prayer Executive, Assistant Treasurer and Secretary for the Cook Islands Child Welfare and Secretary for Koutu Nui.

She is a proxy for the Mauke Island Council of Women and has been the Treasurer for the Organization since 2012.

Throughout her life, Tapu has been actively involved in generally everything, her impact and outlook on life has been a great

example for all, and she gives great credit to her grandmother. She remembers following her grandmother to Brownies, Girl Guides and any women meetings and gatherings.

Family/personal Background

Tapu is the third child and first born daughter out of 14 children. Her mother is Mama Tamakeu also known as Mama Petero and her father is Papa Kaokao Teariki Aue Ngaau of Tikioki, Titikaveka. "I am very proud of my parents for being very faithful to one another because all 14 children have one father and one mother. My dad would always tell us, this is because my mother is so beautiful that he gave her 14 children and plus during those days, there was no TV".

Her mother is currently living in NZ with Tapu's brothers and sisters, "she is a beautiful widow and we salute her".

Tapu is married to handsome young man, Mr. Ah Young Enjoy, together they have 6 children; three boys and three girls who were all born here in Rarotonga. They also have 12 lovely grandchildren and one on the way.

Tapu enjoys tennis, netball, gardening, meeting people, embroidery and housekeeping management. During her school years, she attended Titikaveka Primary School and Tereora College.

Memorable Experiences

"I remember when we were children, we would eat fish, tiopu kuru, tiopu raiti or rukau ta akari with half a tin of corned beef just to make it taste better. Sundays were a special day, where we would eat nice food like pork, chicken- local chicken as we had a chicken farm, taro and corned beef. My dad was a fisherman

so we would always have fish on the table. I would go with my parents on the reef, we had our own canoe and the neighbors would come and borrow it sometimes. The neighbors back then were friendly and we would have big feeds together and be one family, nowadays I don't see this happening. We would be allocated or limited on the amount of food between us, everyone had equal share, this was the treatment from the parents and grandparents."

"Some other funny memories in those days; it was hard to buy an umbrella. We would use the rau kape, rau tarua or the banana leaf to cover us and when we get to school we would be wet anyway and the teacher would send us home to get changed. Some kids would get angry, but we couldn't show the teacher we were angry so we would keep it to ourselves. Our lunch in those days was uto, tuava, anani, nu or akari. Sometimes if we were lucky, we would go to school with buttered bread. After school, because we were tired our first question would always be- Mama, what's to eat? Mamas reply would always be the same- tiopu kuru, tiopu raiti and we would say te iu te kai teia kai. However, we appreciated whatever food was given to us, and Mama would always say that physical food wasn't important but spiritual food was more important and that's why she would encourage us to always go to church".

"My grandmother would make sure that we went to church without missing it. She would say God created you to go to church and give thanks to him. Without him, you would be nothing. When we started going to college- Tereora, everything



Woman of the Month of May Mrs Tapu Enjoy started to change; kua kite i te akavaine. We had a different look on life; we knew what life meant and how important it was to gain a good education".

"Even though this was our life back then, we were happy and appreciated everything we had, when I look back, life then was way better than now".

Goals

Her goals in life include encouraging young women to put God first in everything, "ask God for knowledge and wisdom like King Solomon did". She also likes to encourage young women to respect the wisdom, knowledge and understanding of God, because she believes God is a God of Wisdom.

"Some people today think that their success in life and in their jobs is gained on their own understanding as it may seem, but without the knowledge and help from God, they are nothing. When you learn to respect God first spiritually, it will be easy for you to respect others not only in your home but in your workplace and where ever your path will lead you"

Matthew 6:24- Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you. "I have used this scripture in my life as a guide and this has shaped me into the woman I am today"

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Norman George on: EBA blood tests

In many appearances in the High Court before Justices of the Peace, I have stressed the need for people required to give blood samples to be treated with respect and dignity and not simply treated like animals to extract blood from. The presence of uniformed Police inside the accident emergency ward, mingling with patients while impatiently demanding blood samples extraction places stress and pressure on doctors, nurses and medical professionals. This could lead to mistakes and poses a threat to the survival and recovery of injured accident patients. My opinion is that Police officers be banned from entering the Accident emergency ward; an adjacent consulting office be set aside for them.

Better still, as in all major Police stations in New Zealand, the Police should have their own rostered Police doctors who can be called in to extract blood samples, take DNA samples, examine sexual complainants and sometimes commit persons with mental problems to an appropriate institution. We are long overdue for the appointment of Police doctors.

There are two types of Police referrals to the hospital for blood sample extraction. One is where a person is involved in an accident and is admitted to the hospital as a patient. The other is a Police referral where a person has failed a breath test, and asked to be given a blood test. Another Police referral relates to there being no breath test equipment available and the Police wishes to extract specimens of blood from that person. In the last 2 categories a person who refuses to accompany a Constable to the hospital to extract his blood sample or once at the hospital refuses to give blood is guilty of an offence under section 28A of the Transport Amendment Act 2007 (the Act) and is liable to imprisonment for a term of 12 months, \$1,000 fine, disqualified from driving for 12 months (compulsory) and could

face community service for an unspecified period. Where the referral is purely for blood tests and not accident related the person being referred have no right of refusal. He will be arrested and charged if he refuses to give blood.

With respect to people involved in accidents being admitted as patients, there are strict procedures to be followed by medical professionals. Before dealing with the law, I wish to comment briefly that it is common knowledge that between 80 to 90% of local people involved in motor vehicle accidents have consumed alcohol. The bias against alcohol affected victims at the Accident Emergency Ward is well known; they are not given top priority attention, compared to non alcohol related victims. To be fair to health professionals, when there are no other emergency admissions, the alcohol tainted patient get prompt attention.

My area of most concern is the head injuries' concussion issue. Many clients of mine suffering from concussions cannot recall consenting to the taking of blood samples (not essential under the Act) or signing the advice documents to give blood. Some even dispute the signature they had supposedly signed. This will remain a contestable area in Court.

WHO MUST GIVE A SPECIMEN OF BLOOD

Section 28C of the Act says (1) A person shall permit a medical officer to take a blood specimen from the person when required to do so by a constable if:

(a) the person fails or refuses to undergo a breathalyser test having been required to do by a Constable under section 28B or

(b) the person has undergone a breathalyser test and (i) it appears to the officer that the level of alcohol in the person's breath exceeds the limit by 150 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath and (ii) within 10 minutes of being advised by the Constable of the result of

the test, that person wishes to undergo a blood test

(c) a breathalyser testing device is not readily available

(d) the person arrested without warrant and the constable has good cause to suspect that person has committed offences under sections 28 or 28A of the Act or

(e) the person is under examination, care or treatment in a hospital.

The law lays down very strict procedures under this Act and the slightest departure from it by the Police or medical professionals will result in the case being dismissed in Court. Lawyers are forever feasting on loopholes and non compliances in order to help their clients.

Let me highlight some loopholes. Under section 28D(2) when a blood specimen is taken from a person, the medical officer must cause the specimen to be divided into 2 parts (a) each part must be placed into a separate bottle and each bottle to be sealed and (b) each part is a blood specimen for the purposes of the Act.

If the specimen originally obtained is insufficient to fill two parts (two bottles) a further specimen must be extracted and treated as part of the original extraction.

Major failures I recently discovered is that medical officers and Practitioners have gone slack in this area, they have only been obtaining one bottle of specimen, absolutely contrary to section 28D. It has to be 2 parts (bottles). I succeeded in having a case dismissed because only one sample was obtained. Why two? It is not only a backup but offers opportunity for the defence to refer it to an independent analyst.

Medical officer is defined as a medical practitioner, a nurse, a medical laboratory technician and a person working in a hospital or doctors' surgery who in the normal course of their duties takes blood specimens.

In relation to an admitted medical accident case; only

a doctor who is a registered medical practitioner can authorise the extraction of a breath sample or a blood specimen, only after the medical practitioner has examined the person and is satisfied that it is safe to administer the EBA not prejudiced to the person's proper care or treatment. This falls under the heading Protection under section 28E. A doctor can decline to extract blood samples if it is likely to prejudice that person's treatment. In that case the doctor must report the circumstances to the Commissioner of Police later.

Other duties include informing the patient or a next of kin about the extraction of blood or breath test sample.

What lawyers will look for is whether the doctor has completed the examination, care or treatment of the patient before extracting the blood specimen.

I had an example in Court recently where the doctor failed to comply with this. He was still examining the patient and had not completed it before extracting the blood sample. He x-rayed the patient after the blood samples had already been obtained. Doctors have a responsibility of complying with the Act when carrying out these functions. This is where the domineering presence of uniformed Police officers forces doctors to take shortcuts. This has to be stopped.

Next week, do we want changes to reduce our road fatalities, crippling injuries, maimings and inflicting hurt and loss of a normal lifestyle through motor vehicle accidents? The everyday example of seeing young motor cyclists zigzag their way on public roads, speeding and road rage behaviour has to be stopped.

I will offer deterrence and heavy punishment, not by increasing fines, terms of imprisonment or disqualification but something else...now be patient and get your copy of this newspaper next Wednesday. Ka Kite!!



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Bras – connecting women

Almost 3000km of the Pacific Ocean separates Keri-Keri in Aotearoa's Bay of Islands from Rarotonga. But for two of the last three years the 250 members of Curves gym in Keri-Keri have thought of the women in the Cook Islands each October when they have donated their new or nearly bras destined for here.

The owner of Curves, Sonya Marsh and her husband Brian are in Rarotonga at the moment. Frequent visitors – Sonya has been coming here in 1996 and Brian since 1989 – it goes without saying they love our paradise. So much so that Brian wasn't fussed when his most recent fishing expedition on Seafari failed to land a fish (naturally there was ONE BIG ONE – that got away) – he says that's why it's called FISHING, not CATCHING!

But back to the bras. Each October for the last eight years Sonya has been collecting bras

from her members and sending them to places where they are needed or in short supply. The bras have been sent to Samoa, after the tsunami, to the outer islands in Fiji (twice), and here twice. After 2011's collection the bras were donated to Dargaville's Girl Guides and assisted in their effort to create a chain of almost 170,000 bras breaking the previous world record of over 166,000 bras set in Australia in 2009.

The brassieres hooked to each other and laid out in a zig-zag pattern was about 135 kilometres long, that's more than three times around Rarotonga! It took two years to collect those bras, after the record was established the bras were dismantled and bras were donated to women in the Pacific Islands and Africa.

The Cook Islands Breast Cancer Foundation last year gave the "Curves bras" the bras to PPSWEA and homes were found



Taking charge of Keri-Keri's bras! Sonya Marsh, owner of Curves Gym handing over last year's donated bras (over 200) to CIBCF's Dawn Baudinet (former president and Jaewynn McKay, current president)

for them in Manihiki, Rakahanga, Mangaia, Pukapuka and Atiu. The Foundation has yet to decide what to do with the 200 or so bras in this year's package, suffice to say something "fun" might be in store for some of them!

The Foundation are grateful to a former NZ High Commissioner

and now Mayor of Northland John Carter for connecting Sonya and Curves with the Foundation's former President Dawn Baudinet, it served as the beginning of what we hope will be a long and positive relationship.

Jaewynn McKay, President CIBCF, 26 May 2015

Minister Glassie attends review of WHO

Minister Nandi Glassie accompanied by Secretary of Health Elizabeth Iro attended the sixty-eighth session of the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland from the 18–26 May 2015. The meeting was attended by Health Ministers and officials from 194 countries to review annually the activities of WHO and set new priorities for the future.

The main functions of the World Health Assembly are to determine the policies of the Organization and review and approve the proposed programme budget. The Health Assembly is the supreme decision-making body of WHO. At this 68th WHA, Health Ministers and Officials discussed resolutions and decision points on antimicrobial resistance, Ebola, epilepsy, the International Health Regulations, malaria, nutrition, polio, public health, innovation, and intellectual property, substandard/spurious/falsely-labeled/falsified/counterfeit medical products, surgical care and

anesthesia. Angela Merkel, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany was the guest speaker at the opening of the WHA this year and she affirms that "The WHO is the only international organization that has universal political legitimacy on global health issues."

Chancellor Merkel paid tribute to all those working to safeguard human health worldwide, urging them to "work together", noting that there is critical need for urgent collaborative action in emergencies and the importance of having efficient structures in place.

In addition Chancellor Merkel pledged that under Germany's presidency, the G7 would focus on fighting antimicrobial resistance and neglected tropical diseases. She emphasized the need for all countries to have strong health systems and highlighted the key role of health in sustainable development.

The Pacific Health Ministers from Cook Islands, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Papua New

Guinea, Kiribati, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands who were in attendance at this WHA meeting took the opportunity to confirm on the outcomes of the text from the recent Pacific Health Ministers Meeting held in Fiji last month. Minister Glassie states that the "Pacific Health Ministers agree that maximising of opportunities from these international meetings to ensure that the Healthy Islands vision which aspires to a place where;

- a) children are nurtured in body and mind;
- b) environments invite learning and leisure;
- c) people work and age with dignity;
- d) ecological balance is a source of pride; and
- e) the ocean which sustains us is protected;

will continue to be the focus as we pursue the support from our regional and international partners"

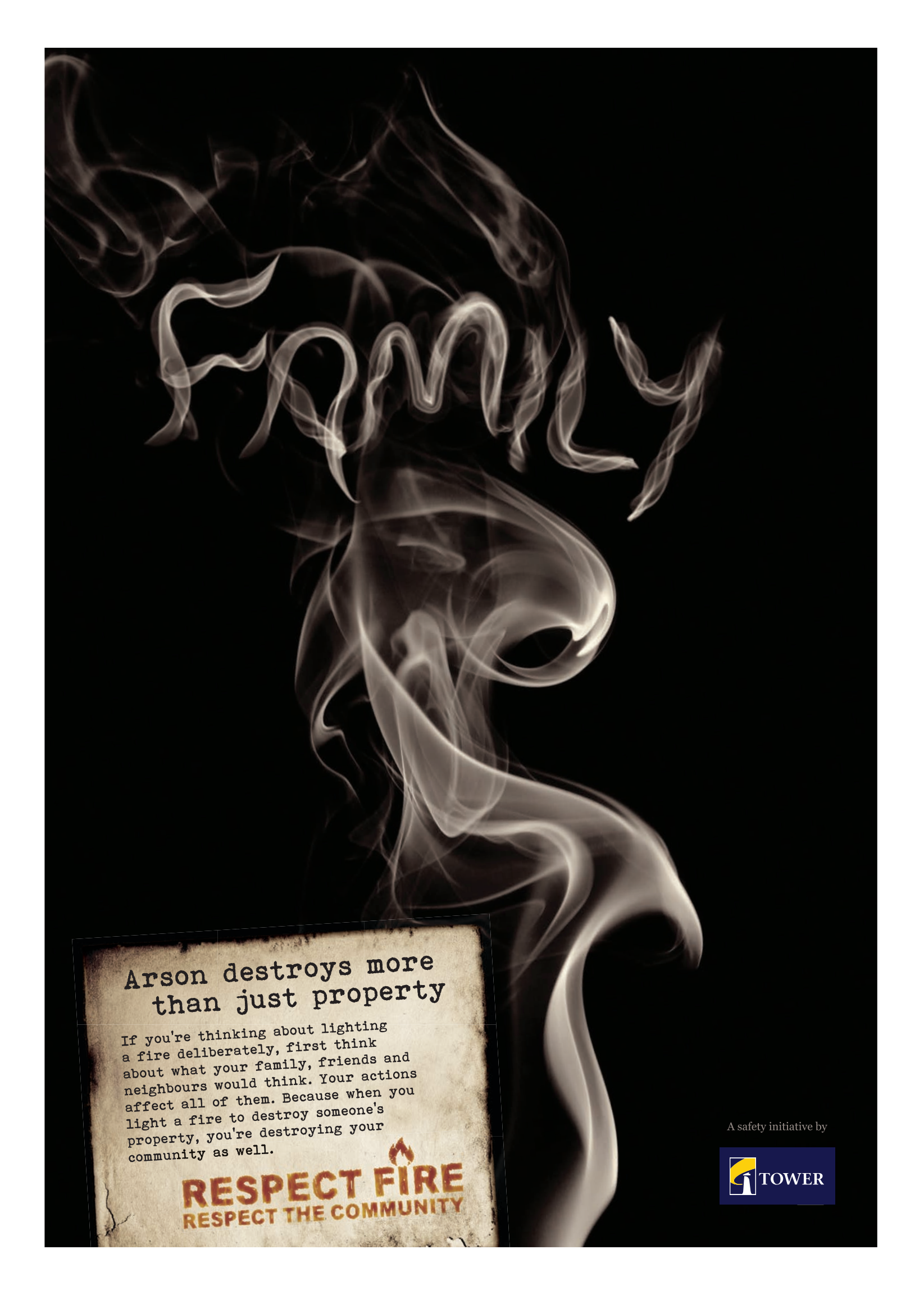
The Cook Islands delegation participate in sessions at side events on Antimicrobial Resistance, Ebola, Rheumatic Heart Disease, Climate and Health and session on

strengthening emergency and essential surgical care and anesthesia as a component of Universal Health Coverage.

Intervention to support the draft global action plan on antimicrobial resistance was made by Minister Glassie on behalf of the Cook Islands. This is an area that the Cook Islands Ministry of Health will need strengthening through awareness campaigns on antibiotic use (and misuse), training for our health care workers and strengthening laboratory capacity.

In addition the Cook Islands also made an intervention to support the inclusion of emergency and essential surgical care and anesthesia as a component of universal health coverage.

The Cook Islands also co-sponsored in an intervention on the programme budget for 2016-2017 with Australia supporting an increase of 8% for voluntary contribution and for member contribution (assessed contribution) of 5% not to be included in the programme budget 2016-2017. -Release



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Paikea: Professor Ivan Sutherland - an unfinished life

Cook Islands Library & Museum Society staff and ladies of the 60 Plus Club, together, held a morning tea on Wednesday 20th May 2015 at the library and museum at Taputapuata, to thank Mr Oliver Sutherland and his wife Ulla, for their gifts to the Society. The gifts included a large collection of photographs taken by Ivan Sutherland, Oliver Sutherland's father, as well as the biography Oliver wrote about his late father. The black and white photos depicting island scenes, and some of the well known island personalities of the time, were taken by Ivan Sutherland when he visited the Cook Islands and French Polynesia in the 1930s.

The impeccably researched biography, entitled *Paikea: The Life of I.L.G Sutherland* (480 pages) is available at the Library and Museum for borrowing.

Ivan Sutherland, born in 1897, was a brilliant scholar and committed social psychologist. He worked closely with Ngati Porou in New Zealand and was a lifelong friend of Sir Apirana Ngata. As a mark of respect Ivan



Morning tea at the library with Oliver Sutherland on Wednesday 20 May where he gifted a copy of the biography of his father and some photos to the library.

was given the name, *Paikea*, by Ngati Porou. In 1937, Ivan Sutherland became a professor of philosophy at Canterbury University College. Sutherland, who suffered a mental and physical breakdown, committed suicide at the age of 54, leaving

his wife, Nancy, and five children. Oliver Sutherland is a retired scientist who worked for the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research from 1969-2003. Sutherland and his wife will be spending next week in Mauke, the original home of

Paikea, a tupuna (ancestor) of the Ngati Porou, before returning to New Zealand.

Some of the photos below, taken by Ivan Sutherland during his 1930s travels, also appear in the book.- *Cook Islands Library & Museum Society release*

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Office of the Prime Minister wishes to advise the public that Monday 1 June 2015 will be observed as a Public Holiday in respect of the Queen's Birthday as stipulated under the Public Holidays Act 1999.

Genealogies in Ross Holmes book challenged

By Charles Pitt

In last week's issue we featured a letter to the Editor which raised two issues which challenged the genealogies in Ross Holmes book, "Southern Cook Islands History, Custom and Land Tenure," relating to Makea.

Last week we printed Ross Holmes response to the first issue concerning the genealogy which the letter said was in fact written and signed by Stephen Savage.

This week we bring you the response by Ross Holmes concerning the second issue which was raised relating to Willie Browne. See remarks from the letter below;

"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 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"

Chart 1 in this issue shows the Willie Browne genealogy together with the comment from the Appellate Court presided over by MJ Morgan on 19 August 1950.

Response from Ross Holmes re Willie Brown-20 May 2015

Hi Charles
My amended reply in relation to the Willie Brown issues is as follows:

Dear Editor

Your writer is factually incorrect in their allegations.

The matters which your writer refers to are dealt with on pages 70 to 72 of Volume 2 of my book.

In Charlie Tau-Puru-Ariki Cowan's Collection of Genealogies, Legends and Histories he recorded: "Rangi Makea, alias Rangi Makeakea (whose eldest son was Putua ARIKI)."

In 1939 in Re Makea Ariki M.B. 12 pages 289-290 Willie Parau Browne (Putua rangatira) gave evidence (which he was not cross examined on, and which was not disputed by other evidence given at that hearing) that his ancestor Putua ariki was the eldest son of Rangi Makeakea and that Te Pa a Tuakino was an adopted son of Rangi Makeakea.

In Tereora Sec 106B, Nikao, Avarua, which was a rehearing of the investigation of title directed by the Native Appellate Court contested by Makea Nui

Teremoana ariki, the evidence given included the following by Makea Nui Teremoana):(MB 22 page 281): "I never knew that Putua was a son of Rangi Makeakea until the Makea case (MB12/289). I agree that Putua was a son of Rangi Makeakea but not wholeheartedly".

On 18 March 1955 Chief Judge H.J. Morgan held in that case at M.B. 22 page 345 "Nor has the Court been able to find that any objection was raised to Willie Browne's genealogy given in the Makeanui case in 1939."

In the Makea Nui ariki case Mere Raita who was called as a witness for Mrs. Tavioni stated in answer to my cross examination:

Question: "Now do you accept then, you've said basically that Putua Ariki is a son of Rangi Makeakea and that Te Pa Atuakino is also a son of Rangi Makeakea. So according your evidence they're part and parcel of the same bloodline, is that correct?"

Answer: "Yes . . ."

It is your writer who has been guilty of creativity. To say that my book failed its first judicial test

in the Pokoinu case, when no decision has been made in that case, is wishful thinking on the

part of the writer.

Regards

Ross Holmes LLB.(Hons).

Pukapuka Beach Burr control program

A team from the National Environment Service, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Arorangi Boys Brigade, will head to Pukapuka on Monday to formulate a plan to control and manage the invasive Beach Burr (Piri-piri) species.

The program is formulated under the National Environment Service's Invasive Alien Species (IAS) Project and is coordinated by Senior Environment Officer, Elizabeth Munro.

The team includes NES GIS Officer Olaf Rasmussen, Media and Outreach Officer, Moana Vaevae-Tetauru, Mauke NES Officer Basilio Kaokao, Moe Tutira from the Ministry of Agriculture and Daniel Apii of the Arorangi Boys Brigade.

On Pukapuka, the team will hold discussions with the Pukapuka Island Council, as well as conduct an Invasive Species Workshop, map, control and manage all Beach Burr sites, visit all Motu's and Raui areas, and carry out education and awareness programs.

Moe Tutira from the Ministry of Agriculture will educate the people on invasive species eradication programs carried out on other islands, present his findings on IAS from neighboring Pacific Islands such as Pago-Pago.

Arorangi Boys Brigade Leader, Daniel Apii will share his experiences on the successful Cuscutta or Tiea eradication program.

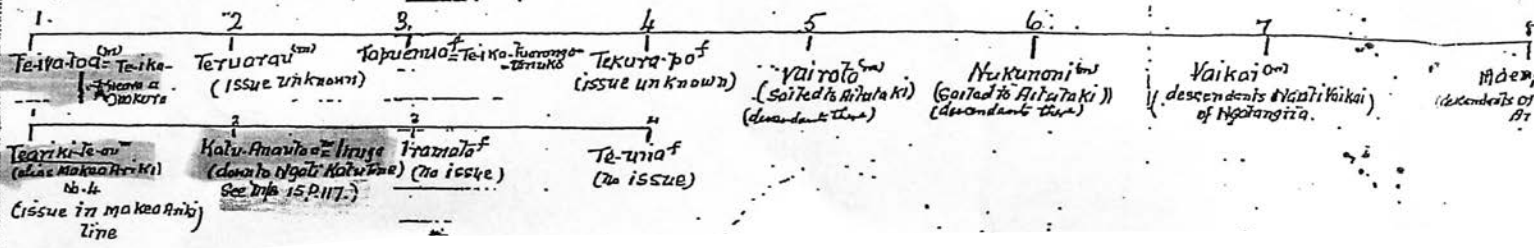
The team will also conduct school visits, and meet with the community before returning to Rarotonga on Friday.

CHART. I

1949.

TE ANAU TOA A "ARERA UKAKAU KATU I TE RANGI"

ARIKIS



The Appellate Court in dealing with this genealogy from Browne stated "In further support of his claim the applicant submits a genealogy tracing his right from Tinorua, claimed to be one of the early Arikis of Rarotonga. This genealogy is entirely unsupported and the applicant admits it has not been previously given in Court. He says he obtained his information from one V Ruariki, now deceased, but that person in giving a genealogy in Parako Sec 134 case, M.B. 12/183(3) does not mention Mataranga a Kainuku as a wife of Tinorua, nor does he show the people mentioned as descendants of Tinorua."

No. 2.

Korika-Tataape^(m) = Mā-ni-i-te-rangi.

Pu-ta-hi-ta-ho^(m) = Te-matama-kau-pouri
(alias Makao Arikis)
(No issue)

MOKORO-Ki-aitu^(m) = Te-matama-kau-pouri
(issue in Arikis and Makao Arikis line of Tinorua)

No. 16.

Issue Ngali A-teta-Amarua^(m) = Nga-upoko-te-rā a Tinoro E TINOREI = Mataranga a Kainuku.
(see chart V) (issue Ngali A-teta-Amarua) (alias Ngali A-teta-Amarua)

No. 7.

Taruia^(m) = Tarangi a Hupe-kau-takau
Toroa^(m) = Te-Wai-rangi

Makuta^(m) = Rangī-ono
(alias Rangī-ono)

Rangī-iroa^(m) = Mata-kāka-ika. Tekiri^(m) = Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā.

See Chart VI

Rangī-Makeo^(m) = Te-veve-kiri.
(alias Rangī-Makeo)
(alias Rangī-Makeo)

Mii-o-motora^(m)

(1) Putua-Ariki^(m) = Te-hoo-poto
(alias Te-hoo-poto)
(16 wife issue living)

(2) Kapa^(m) = Keturua a Teoro

(3) Pava^(m) = Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā
(alias Makao Arikis, alias Makao Arikis)

Toeta^(m) Anau^(m) Tumuariki Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā Te-pou-o-te-rangi Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā Kao^(m) Mauka^(m) Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā

Note: All above children No. 1 to 7 were murdered by Te-pou-o-te-rangi's children: (1) Tautu

Gravest. M.B. 3/204 - Parakoti - Rara - (2) Paenui

- all Putua's sons murdered except Mautau. 3 Kao & ots.

1. Tarau-mautau^(m) = Kefekē
(issue living)

2. Te-paera^(m) = A.H. Brown
(issue living)

3. Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā^(m) = Mā-ta-keu-i-hu
(issue living)

4. Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā^(m) = Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā
(issue living)

5. Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā^(m) = Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā
(issue living)

6. Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā^(m) = Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā
(issue living)

7. Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā^(m) = Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā
(issue living)

Nilie Tarau Brown^(m) = Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā
Te-ā-tua-nui-mā-matā^(m) = John Taripo.

Note: Kapa issue in today's

The Journey continues: Am I a descendant of a Cook Islander? You be the judge

by Tetuhi Kelly

My grandfather, Leslie George Kelly or Te Putu an ancestral name he was given by his relation, Te Puaea Herangi of Tainui, began a journey to discover his Maori roots over 80 years ago. With the help of his sister-in-law, Aira Totorewa Ueke, who was his relation on the Rongomate, Waikato, line of descent, the result was the publication of the renowned book *Tainui* and the driver behind his continuing interest in searching for his Polynesian roots and connections. There was some controversy when the book was first published as Pei Te Hurunui Jones felt that his contributions to the book *Tainui* did not receive more recognition. A number of NZ writers supported Jones's stance including the late Michael King and aspersions were cast against Te Putu with accusations of plagiarism. If they had properly done their research they would have found the accusations were false and I wrote in defence of my grandfather in my biopic of him in the *Dictionary of NZ Biography* in 1998. In 1950 he came to the Cook Islands and stayed briefly in Rarotonga and Aitutaki painstakingly researching his whakapapa. He was very clever with his hands and our whanau have many examples of the whakairo and Maori weaponry and the wooden toys he made over the years. He was also an accomplished amateur photographer and he took many black and white snapshots of the local tangata whenua and then colouring them by hand, no mean feat in those days. Those photos are the only record that iti tangata have of their tupuna and I have made these available over the years. The really sad thing is their Cook Islands descendants have very little or no idea who these people are from 60 years ago. He also journeyed to Fiji, Samoa and Niue in his quest for knowledge about his roots and whilst he learnt much about his connections, he was not able to make as much headway as he would have liked. In many instances the whakapapa was incomplete, people with the knowledge passed on or unavailable and he could not make the connections that would close a chapter for him. He passed in a tragic train crash in 1959 and with him might have been the end of a legacy of tireless research, inquisitiveness and adventuring. However this was not to be as his eldest son had an eldest son and that grandson, first born or in NZ Maori terms, 'mataamua' had taken up the challenge which began all those decades ago. That grandson is me, born in 1954, five years after the publication of the book *Tainui*. As soon as I was born he registered my names after a Tainui paramount chief called Te Tuhi and my second name after a Ngapuhi paramount chief called Tauratamaru, much to the disgust of my mother who wanted

me to be called Leslie (hello!). Te Putu got his way (thank goodness) thus honouring the family connections between those two tribes, through our Waikato ancestress twins, Reitu and Reipae.

In keeping with the tradition, many of my whanau have continued to name their children after tupuna, including my youngest son who is named after me. In NZ te reo maori, the word tuhi or tuhituhi also means to write, so the loose translation apart from the ancestral connection, is he who writes or he who maintains lore, appropriate don't you think? My youngest son and I, you will recall he has my name as well, came out to the Cook Islands in April 2010. I was contracted by the Cook Islands Ministry of Education to set up a new HR Division. It was also an opportunity for me to pick up where Te Putu had sown the seeds all those decades ago. I married a local and the Cook Islands are now my home. My transition during those troubled decades sparked my interest in picking up where my grandfather had left off. I always had a keen interest in marae protocol and whakapapa passed down from the writings of my grandfather Te Putu of Tainui and also whakapapa from my mother Pirihiira Rohe Tiki of Ngati Pukenga. Having worked with many Maori over the years, I learnt their protocols and greetings as well as connecting their whakapapa to mine. I was always concerned that where we lived in South Auckland, my feeding children might get hooked up with a close relation so my children used to dread bringing home their Maori boy or girl friends, because my first question to them was "No whea a koe", where are you from? "Ko wai tou ingoa whanau? What's your family name? From the whakapapa I would tell them that their whanau was not from that area and that their tupuna had moved to those areas during the late 1940's early 1950's and they would tell me that their family had never told them this, they thought they were Ngai Tahu, but in fact they were Ngapuhi. Then I would tell my children that they were closely related to this person and 'sorry bout' it you can be friends only.

I am privileged that I can walk and talk quite comfortably in the pakeha world and I have spent many years studying for academic qualifications, knowledge and skills that would assist me in my later life and my CV attests to my background. My late Koro, Tiwene Ngarunui Tiki on my mother's side was of Ngati Pukenga on his father's side and Ngati Hine on his mothers gave me good advice. He told me when I was growing up that to get an excellent education was paramount and not to limit myself in my job and life skills endeavours. That to be competitive in the job market

and get recognition from pakeha, I had to have better qualifications than they had, I had to be better than them. So where a job called for school certificate as a minimum, I had to have university entrance and when the minimum was university entrance a university degree. There was a downside and that was being called "an over educated nigger" by this pakeha fullah who incidentally was darker skinned than I was, as I was the only Maori trade qualified engineer in this marine workshop, with our trades assistants being Maori, Tongan, Samoan and Niuean, basically skilled labourers. Going for other engineering jobs and being told by pakeha employers that I was over qualified for the job, used to annoy me no end and in the years I was an apprentice, I was the only Maori in my year. Funnily enough Australia with its shocking treatment of Aboriginals, took me in with open arms because they wanted my engineering skills and judged me on that unlike NZ. Before my Koro Tiwene passed he gave me the korowai for the Tiki whanau in Whangarei, literally the cloak which the chief wears, bypassing his last surviving son and my two eldest male cousins whose father was from Ngati Kahungunu ki Heretaunga and their mother was the eldest daughter of Koro Tiwene.

I always had this sense of standing on the edge of a sea cliff in NZ looking out across the ocean to the horizon. My whakapapa spread out behind me trailing into the distant landscape like strands of pearls on a necklace, ending abruptly at my feet, with the waves pounding the bottom of the cliff. It was like being cut off from my past, present and future and what had been missing until now were my Polynesian whakapapa connections into the Pacific, Moana nui a kiwa. NZ Maori had preserved their whakapapa for generations which was a good start for research, with reference being made to waka and who the people were and the islands they came from but it all ended pretty much at that sea cliff. The only way to connect with Polynesia was to actually go there and see for oneself. It was made the more challenging by the different Pacific island names and spellings given to the same person and then being misinterpreted by later followers of whakapapa, anthropologists and Christian missionaries trying to make sense out of something they struggled to understand. We also had families experimenting with the truth about their lineage to push forward their claims for titles, land, kaimoana access, you name it they were all being economical with the truth. We had also adopted the pakeha way of genealogy by using their familial terms such as father, mother, grandfather, uncle,

continued next page

nephew, niece and cousin with unfortunate results. So we ended up with a confused whakapapa and the confusion led to names being omitted others being added to ensure the whakapapa aligned chronologically. This has led to some confusion with family relationships not being quite accurate, but still giving an insight or a picture into what had gone before.

The reader may be familiar with the tales surrounding Tangiia and his 1st cousin Tutapu son of Moanga, younger sister of Ka'ungaki ki te Marama and a liaison with a Melanesian suitor. Some of you will have a different version depending on which vaka you come from: Takitumu, Puaikura or Te Au o Tonga. What is confusing however is that at birth Tangiia's name was Te Euenga and he was born sickly and was eventually nursed back to health by his Gt Grandfather, Te Amaru Enea who then adopted him and gave him his new name of Tangiia. Other authors say it was Te Pou Vananga who adopted him and herein lays the confusion. So this made Tangiia a son and Gt Grandson to Te Amaru Enea, a brother to his Grandfather; Te Pou Vananga Roa and an uncle to his mother; Ka'ungaki and her siblings and a grand uncle to their children which made Tutapu his grandnephew and 1st cousin all at the same time. This means that any subsequent genealogical research with Tangiia as the central figure will depend on Tangiia's status as a son or greatgrandson of Te Amaru Enea or nephew of Te Pou Vananga. Herein lays the challenge of following genealogical lines down through the ages which can sometimes turn into a case of Chinese whispers. It also shows the lengths to which some families will go to preserve their version of history despite seeming evidence to the contrary. The current Makea stoush seems to be a case in point, refer Crocombe and Holmes, Southern Cook Islands – Customary Law, History and Society'. From my research I have found that I descend from Toi down to Atonga Ariki of Upolu Samoa also called Whatonga and Hatonga. This takes me 10 generations down to Akimano who begat Iro or Whiro or Whironui or Hiro with Moe Tera Uri who descends 5

generations from Tu'i Tonga Ariki Tapu Kura of Tonga on his father's side to Tutu Mauri Ariki of the Marquesa's on his mother's side. Next we connect across 12 generations from Toi to Tamatea Ariki Nui of the Takitumu vaka a grand nephew of Tangiia Nui and Great grandnephew of Akimano then down 26 generations to Kahutaramoa of Aotearoa who married Tumanawahoe and when you trace the genealogy back I can whakapapa to all the vaka. Thru Motoro the first Tinomana down to Paikea and then again across to Kahutaramoa and I can establish another link of my genealogy or whakapapa as the 45th generation from Toi and establish that I am a descendant of a Cook Islander from another journey began over a millennium ago.

Tom Davis's book 'Vaka, Saga of a Polynesian Canoe' and Ron Crocombe and Ross Holmes's 3 volume 'Southern Cook Islands – Customary Law, History and Society' were very helpful in providing background material for this feature article. Along with my own research and library of books on NZ Maori and whakapapa and especially my life experiences growing up was instrumental in my being able to finally continue and complete Te Putu's work and make my Polynesian connections. I struggled at first making sense of the Polynesian family connections because errors had been made by the authors in describing who was related to whom, to the extent that those connections and relationships clearly could not have been as they described until I transposed all the names to paper and manually connected them up. This was especially so when it came to Te Pou Vananga being described as Tangiia's uncle by some authors adding to the confusion. If we consider that Te Pou Vananga was the father of Tangiia's biological mother, Ka'ungaki Ariki ki te Marama, patently that would make Te Pou Vananga his grandfather and not his uncle; otherwise his mother would have had a dual role which included being his cousin along with her siblings, and Tutapu his 2nd cousin. The same with Te Amaru Enea being called his Grandfather when as the father of Te Pou Vananga he would be Gt Grandfather.

That's what happens when

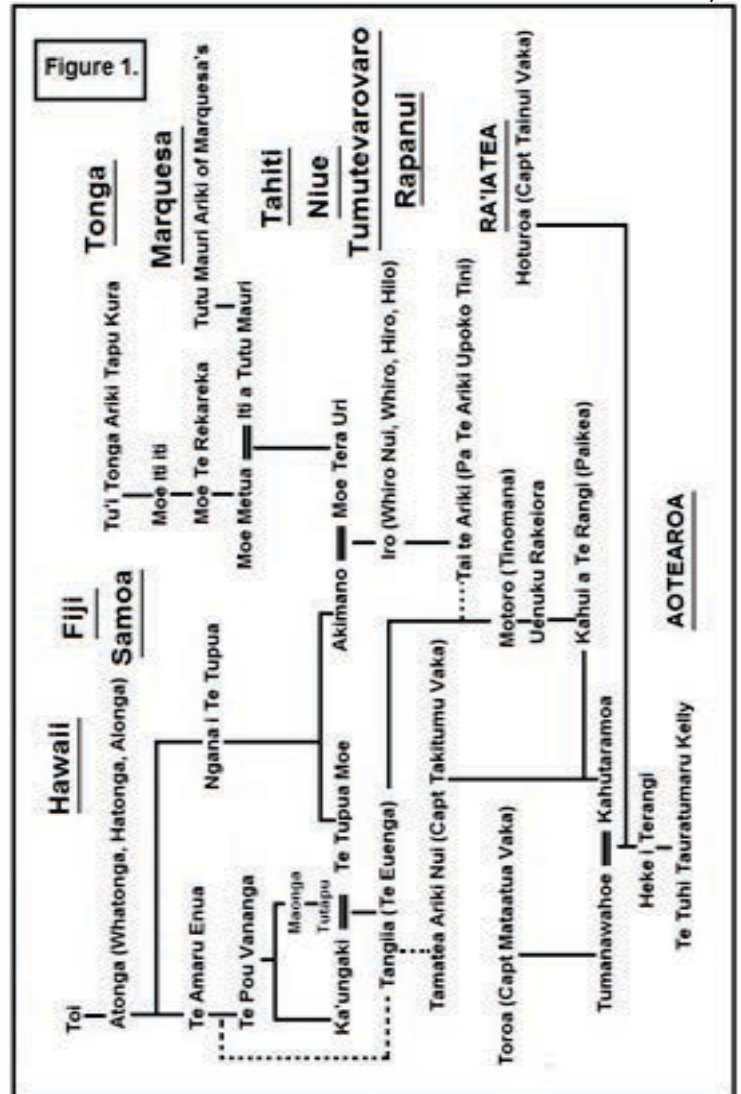
the whakapapa lines get confused and pakeha terms are used to describe the familial relationships. So the challenge is to get your head around the connections and make sure that they are crystal clear. The other challenge was finding out where the connections were that would create that linkage to the other pacific islands. My whakapapa clearly shows that I am a descendant of the Cook Islands, Niue, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, the Marquesa's, Rapanui, Hawaii and Tahiti. More importantly it traces my Cook Islands links to Pa te Ariki Upoko Tini of Takitumu, Tinomana of Puaikura and Makea through Karika of Te Au o Tonga.

I finally discover my Polynesian links, which allows me to stand once again on that NZ sea cliff with my whakapapa necklace of pearls now laid out in front of me connecting me to Polynesia and beyond. More importantly establishing an unbroken connection to the landscape behind me. Thus I complete that

aspect of the work begun all 80 years ago by my grandfather, Te Putu, which tells me who I am and how I came to be related to all my Polynesian cousins. The sad thing about all this whakapapa is that I still cannot call myself a descendant of a Cook Islander by law only by lore and herein lays the next challenge.

I don't apologise if anyone takes umbrage at me for any perceived errors or inferences I have made in this article. I also don't apologise for the whakapapa, this is my journey and I am eternally grateful for those who managed to preserve for posterity sakes their whakapapa and for those who recorded it and made it available for us their descendants. Finally, I know who I am, do you? If you don't know, go and find out and start your own journey, you'll be the richer for it. Who knows we could be cuzzy bro's.

In Fig 1, my Cook Islands whakapapa is an abridged version a snap shot if you like with names omitted for brevity.



So reader what do you think, do I qualify as a descendant of a Cook islander?

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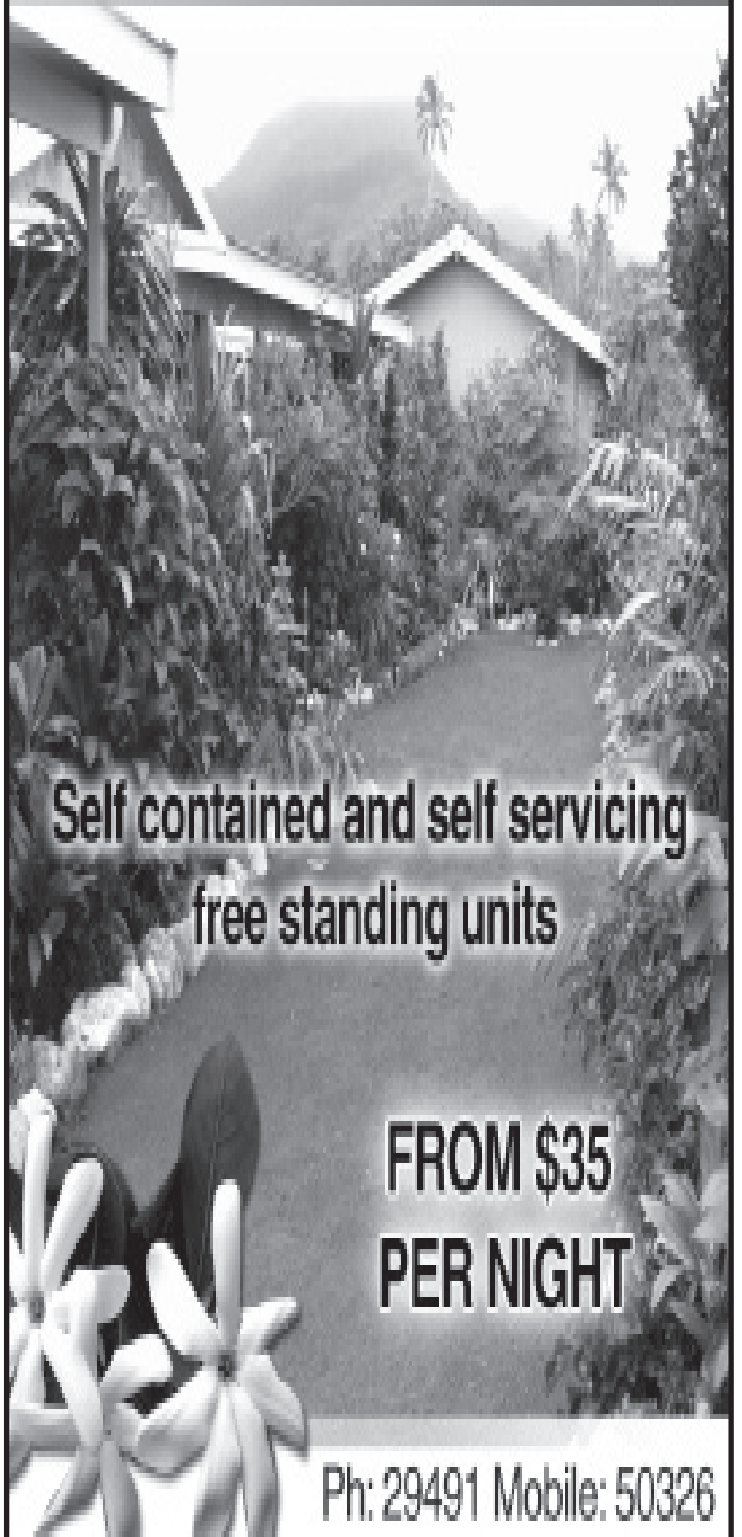
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Letter to the Editor

The following letter was sent to the CI News on 20 February 2015 but was not printed.

Leave Ponia alone

Dear Editor,
This letter is in response to an article which appeared in the CI News titled "Ponia stays silent over Auckland hotel incident" dated 17 February. No one is perfect, unless you are Christ, every Christian man and woman falls short of the standard that Christ has set for us. Cook Islands has the habit of sacrificing its most competent, capable and promising industry leaders, assisted by your paper's sensationalizing journalism. Have your readers ever wondered why Cook Islands is irrelevant on the world stage? Regardless of what they may think about their small world?

diverting public opinion by handing out shortfalls of young competent Cook Islanders, who are self taught in terms of "private international" etiquette, so to speak. You don't develop all rounded civil servants over night, a much needed human resource indicator according to the World Bank assessment of our paradise. Let's get some answers on the state of the economy, where are we on the world stage? Why are we losing Cook Islanders to NZ & Australia? Why are we the 3rd fattest people in the world? An opinionated Cook Islander made some staking comparison with Singapore, let me answer the writer.

Singapore nurtures and develops its human resources, Politicians are masters of

regardless of their shortcomings, polishing them along the way, until they shine for the whole world to see. They treat every Singaporean as an uncut diamond. What do we in the Cook Islands do with our limited, young competent human resource leaders? We let politicians get away with incompetent economic indicators. CIP would not have to deal with Bishop if their leader had any real political acumen, and our Papas and Mama's would have celebrated their last Christmas without worries, if Demo Minister Rasmussen had given the young Ivaiti a chance to get his footing. Political expediency is a barrier to our growth and development as a nation, those that have passed on even owe us an explanation, Dr Sir Terepai Maoate has to answer

for the Chinese architecture and repairs; if he had groomed John Tini we would not be dealing with all this nonsense and irrelevant talk about the Chinese assistance today. Leave Ben Ponia alone, give him room to grow, he's an uncut diamond. Let's put it in to some contextual perspective, without Ben Ponia, reading the CI News would be a boring exercise if not for those attacking some innovative ideas Ponia has implemented without consulting them. Ponia is an industrious young leader, his policies are globally evidenced based, he's ours, let him bloom.

Tangaroa Vakalalabure
Jiangsu, PRC

Tangaroa Vakalalabure is a Cook Islander currently attending University in China.



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

COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA COORDINATOR

Applications are invited from qualified, motivated and experienced professionals for this position to:

- Develop and manage the Ministry's annual media programme
- Create and manage content for the Ministry's Website
- Support staff in the development and use of multimedia for professional development and presentations.

Applicants should have

- 2-3 years' experience managing communications or media projects.
- Knowledge of and operational experience with media hardware and software (Final Cut, Photoshop) including website management
- Excellent Communication (oral and written) including report writing, preferably in both CI Maori and English
- A tertiary qualification major in the following areas: marketing, communications, journalism, public relations or equivalent.

A full job description and application pack is available from the Ministry in Nikao or website at: www.education.gov.ck Please send completed application forms with CV and references to:

Director - Human Resources Management
Ministry of Education
P O Box 97
Rarotonga
Cook Islands
Ph (682) 29357, fax (682) 28357 or email vacancy@education.gov.ck
Applications close on Friday 5 June 2015.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

Request for Tender for the Supply and Installation of Audio-Visual Equipment for the Ministry of Cultural Development

The Development Co-ordination Division (DCD) of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM) and Ministry of Culture seek suitably qualified groups or companies to submit a tender for the supply, installation of audio-visual recording and production equipment. The request for tender requires that the equipment be installed in the Ministry of Culture's sound studio in Rarotonga replacing existing outdated equipment. Training for several staff of the Ministry of Cultural Development is also required as part of this tender.

Tender documents can be obtained from the Development Coordination Division, MFEM, Level 3, Cook Islands Government Building, Takuvaine Valley Road, Avarua or downloaded from the Cook Islands Government Procurement website: <http://procurement.gov.ck> Tender documents are also available from the Tender Manager.

For any enquiries please contact: Tender Manager, Mr Boyd Ellison

Email: boyd@akairoconsulting.com; Ph: +682 22226 or +682 54221.

Tenders Close: 1pm Friday 5 June, 2015 (Cook Islands Time).

**ADVERTISE WITH THE
COOK ISLANDS HERALD**

Our Attitude Towards God : The Back or The Face – Which?

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

“When man rides a horse he forgets God, and when he gets off the horse he forgets the horse.”

Human beings are generally very absent-minded. Jeremiah 2v.27 (NKJV) reads “..For they have turned their back to Me, and not their face. But in the time of their trouble they will say, ‘Arise and save us.” The Good News Bible reads “..you turned away from Me instead of turning to Me. But when you are in trouble, you ask Me to come and save you.”

John 3v.16 says “For God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” In spite of our unrighteous ways, God never turns His back on us. Because God saw many people wandering aimlessly, He sent His Son Jesus Christ to bring all towards Him. Jesus is our Way, our Truth, and our Life. God never turns His back towards us, but rather His face.

Let us look at The Attitude of Man Towards God. Either our face or our back is turned to God. Those who turned to God, are...

(1) SEEKING HIM. Jesus said in Matthew 7v.7-8 “..Seek and you will find...he who Seek find..” Psalm 27v.8 says “Thy face Lord will I Seek.” God said to Solomon in II Chronicles 7v.14 “..if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and Seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins and heal their land.” If we seek God,

we will receive blessings. But if we don’t, then we will continue to experience difficulties and problems.

(2) TRUSTING HIM Instead of trusting God, Adam and Eve trusted the devil, and they got removed from the Garden of Eden. Psalm 37v.39-40 says “But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord, He is their strength in the time of trouble. And the Lord shall help them and deliver them, He shall deliver them from the wicked, And save them, Because they TRUST in Him.” Those who turned their faces to God trusted Him completely regardless of their situation. In the Bible is an illustration of a man called Job. When Job lost everything, his wealth and possession, this was what he said in Job 13v.15 “Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.” In chapter 42 of the Book of Job, God “..restored Job’s losses and gave Job twice as much as he had before.” and in v.16 of chapter 42 “Job lived 140 years, and saw his children and grandchildren for 4 generations.” Jeremiah 17v.7 says “Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord. And whose hope is the Lord.”

So friends, let us all turn our faces to God, SEEKING and TRUSTING Him. Finally, those who turn to God are...

(3) SERVING HIM Joshua said in Joshua 24v.14-15 “..fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth,... choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” The Apostle Paul said in Acts 20v.19 ‘serve the Lord with all humility.’ Our

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi



reading in Jeremiah 2v.27 says “..For they have turned their backs to Me, and not their face. But in the time of their trouble they will say, ‘Arise and save us.” I’m sure all of us can identify with this verse, either during our past when things were going well for us, or even during these present times. The question is, “What should be our attitude towards God?” The answer is, SEEK HIM by reading and

studying the Word of God, by going to church regularly, and by praying to God. TRUST HIM completely, regardless of our situation. Job said “Though He slay me I will still trust Him.” Jeremiah 17v.7 says “Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose hope is the Lord.” SERVE HIM sincerely and in truth. Serve Him with all humility.

May God bless you and your family! Te Atua te aroa!

Mitiaro School Good Looks – ecstatic over new playground

By Teherenui Koteka

A few weeks ago, Mitiaro Schools new playground was opened. As I flew in from Rarotonga after EXPO (work Experience) that day, I did not attend the official opening. Instead, I shall write about what it is like presently.

Underneath the schools large Flame Tree, Pumarumaru is a fenced off area. As you walk in through the gate, you step on a line of round bits of wood, embedded in the ground. These stepping stones each have a number or letter printed on them. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and A, E, I, O, U.

Further Inside is a shiny silver see-saw. To its side is a large grey slide with two smaller plastic slides near-by. A makeshift swing (made from rope and a floater) hangs from one of the sturdy tree branches. Strong Rope Nets tied to Sturdy Plastic Cylinders and strung onto strong branches created two hammocks/swings. A little plastic play-house for the pre-school students dominated a space near the gate.

Only the pre-school students up to grade 3 are allowed to go inside to play while grade 4 – 10 take over the field playing soccer.

I ventured into the playground to interview a few of the school students at play.

One young student named Arerangi, told me her favourite place in the newly established playground is the Net Hammocks. 'Reka au i te kanga ki roto i tera ngai' 'I really enjoy playing in the new playground' Arerangi says she is happy (mataora) the playground was established for her and all the other students to enjoy themselves playing in.

Young Maiata explains that she too, is overjoyed they now have a new playground. "Kare rira au e maromaroa akaou" 'I won't be bored now' she says with a bright smile as she swoops down a slide.

Pre-School Students Pare and Makiroa giggle happily as they bounce up and down on a see-saw While Young Aggie favours the miniature play house.

All In All... everyone is really glad the playground has been established. All the younger students look forward to play time while we senior students are relieved there will hardly ever be young students in the soccer field which is great as we will not have to be as cautious as we usually are when children wander over and there is the risk of an accidental collision with either the ball or with another student running after the ball.

Good Looks and Personality

By Lucianne Vainerere

A major debate that runs through our hormonal teenage minds is the whole good looks versus personality talk. What is it exactly that attracts us to people? We all have our own preferences bias or not it's just the way we are. Its part of human nature.

So lets start with good looks. Obviously we'd prefer to date someone who is physically beautiful and that's kinda what makes us biased. However its been scientifically proven that people who have symmetrical features are said to be beautiful. In terms of opposite gender we are attracted to people who look similar to ourselves because our mind subconsciously trust them and that's a fact.

In terms of personality, everyone has his or her own personal view of what makes a great personality. For girls, stereotypically, it's more a man who is strong and not afraid to be sensitive with you and only you and a major one is someone who doesn't react to other women whom try to pursue them. He has to be down to earth and willing to put your feelings before everyone elses.

But still the question remains. What is it exactly that attracts us to people? The answer is simply both. Personally I believe 85% or 80% personality and 15% or 20% looks. One simply compliments the other and that's what makes us attracted to them. Sometimes we seem to be attracted to their passion and belief for such things and how well they know what they believe. So meeting someone who is equally as philosophical as you, makes it a double thumbs up. Other times it could be terms of height or age, being attracted to older or younger, shorter or taller or even size, petite and healthy. But we all have our tastes in people and that's what makes each and every single person in this world unique. No more and no less.

In everyday living we always let our physical attractions blind us from the pearl within the shell. And because of that the statistics reverse making it %80 looks and %20 personality which is a real bummer. We judge by first glance and that takes away all the interest and fun you miss out on when trying to get to know people branding yourself with a real low in being sociably acceptable.

It could be significant when we have that 'perfect ideal' in our minds of the opposite attraction. Where subconsciously, constantly search for the 'one'. But sometimes it can happen in strange ways. Being attracted to personality and then they slowly become physically beautiful to you because of how well you know them. Or the opposite, their personality grows over a period of time making them compatible to you and every single generation is equipped for what they have to deal with. And at this moment it's all about living in the now, not the yesterday or the tomorrow. We were made for this day and age.

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COOK ISLANDS HERALD

50 year Celebration co-ordinator Niki Enry is the latest victim of bully boy bulldozer Heta's wrath, hoping to find a little niche in the Culture's Maire Nui committee, Niki got the boot because Heta and his suck up Sunny saw the Samoan Captain of the high seas as a threat to their tunnel vision. Take it in your stride Niki and just keep soaring like an eagle while that introverted lot bury their heads in the dirt.



Speaking about the Maire Nui, Sunny's lot don't have enough sleeping arrangements for the 4,000 who are expected to arrive from the outer islands and overseas. If Turkey can accommodate 5,000 refugees a day pouring in from warring neighbours surely we can find room and space for our own people. Schools are being checked out for accommodation and if you have a spare room or bedding, ring the hot line and volunteer to house, feed, transport and do the washing for some of our visitors.

Word is the unpopular neneva Neves the architect of Nenevanomics has applied for a job at ADB.



The vindictive DPM Heta was at is berating best last Friday on Radio Cook Islands. During the CIP government's weekly programme he took the owner of the radio station to task attacking and criticising the messenger instead of addressing the issues raised about his questionable activities. The shallow bulldozer never commits his responses in writing but resorts to vicious verbals which continue to manifest his unsuitability to be leader supreme.



Nine boats were ordered for pearl farmers in Manihiki under the NZAID project. Two of these were originally allocated for small farmers who will share their use

with one located in each village. After a late application by the mayor, her husband got given one of the small farmers boats. A few months ago the mayor without the knowledge of other Councillors gave the remaining boat to a staunch supporter of hers and whose farm is barely operating while other better performing farmers were ignored. When the manufacturing of these boats started in Manihiki over a month ago, the first two boats to be built, (one completed and the other, nearly completed), were allocated for the two government reps, (Manihiki is unique as it is the only island with two government reps, one for each village) One govt rep is the very person who was given the small farmers boat by the mayor. The serious farmers who were on the original list for boats, go to the back of the line. Doesn't something smell fowl in all of this?



The time has come chooks to red card this minority government. The CIP seized the treasury benches on the basis of number of seats won and not on the basis of a majority vote. They got less than 38% of the vote. The Demos got 48% of the vote and One CI got 15%. Of the 10 seats on Rarotonga, the economic powerhouse of the Cooks, the CIP only got 3 seats, some

with marginal votes. Prime Minister by barely one third of the votes, Crown Prince Puna struts the Earth like a peacock but he may be about to be plucked!



Crikey chooks! Ports Authority must be in dire need of money to pay off that ADB loan! They are after any bit of cash they can get their hands on! Woman selling produce across the road from the CITC supermarket was approached by a gentleman flashing an invoice book and demanding she pay up \$20 for setting up her stall there. When she asked what she gets in return for her fee, like toilets, the gentleman pointed to the rocks by the Marina! What sort of crappy answer is this? How come there's no sign or notice up for vendors to pay? Isn't this piece of land part of the CITC Supermarket? Why don't Ports Authority staff carry official identification and produce this?



50th celebrations are becoming scariest by the day chooks! Latest frightener is government's suggestion schools adopt outer island visitors. Some 1,400 visitors are expected to arrive from horizons yonder and need places to sleep and eat and perform their toilets. It was clear when the Pacific Mini-Games were on that government was

obliged to fund the sleeping bunks, transport, food, showers, toilets and toilet paper! But where is the money coming from this time? Parents are wary because just recently parents were forced to raise money for school items which government should have paid for! Where's the \$500,000 Flick Benery was allocated? How is that sum being spent?



The recent visit by an unannounced, "flying under the radar" Chinese delegation apparently is fourth of such "on the quiet" softly, softly, visits so far in 2015. Sound scary? Seems the silent, Sino infiltration is via their one-China policy visa. Soon we will notice the impact on our small nation. Chook notices the MMR Secretary receiving some of these Chinese so to kill two birds with one stone, why not appoint him as our Chinese Honorary Consul to the Cook Islands complete with a chauffeur driven limousine fluttering the red Chinese flag and convert his mansion up Sanatorium Hill into a Chinese Embassy. This should set him up for retirement.

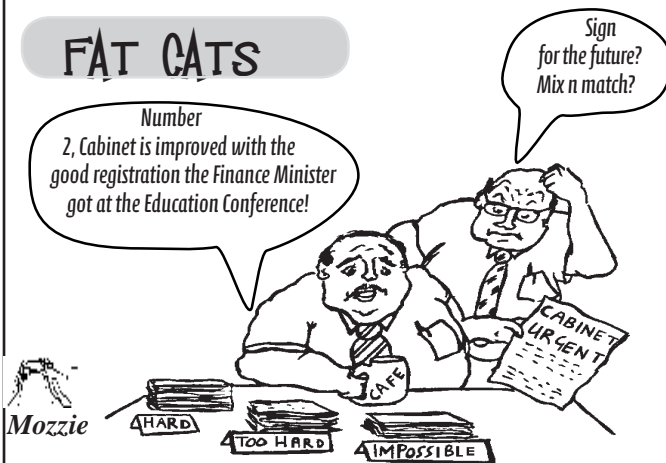


Hen wants to put the record straight! CIP's Aitutaki MP Moana loane does not have an office! This former Minister who is under Police investigation has no official office, desk, phone or chair on which to park his nether regions! Contrary to reports he has two staff, he does not!

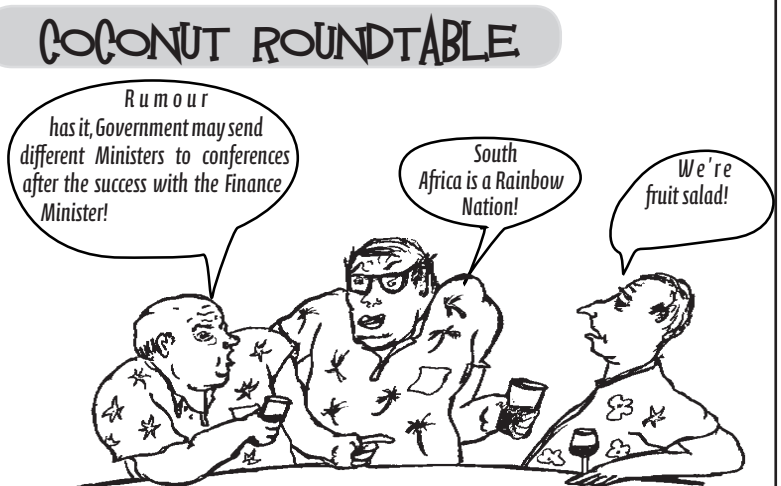


CIP MP Moana loane was sent off by PM Crown Prince Puna to a pow wow in the land of Thai but failed to show for his allotted session. Rather than leave an empty desk with the Cookie nameplate for all to see, Demo MP Selena (present for a different chin wag) slipped into the chair to avoid a severe embarrassment for the Cooks!

FAT CATS



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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

VACANCIES

Experienced Resort Electrician wanted. Ph: 25800 or email hr@rarotongan.co.ck

Experienced Maintenance Handyman wanted. Ph: 25800 or email hr@rarotongan.co.ck

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.

FOR SALE



SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

1. 3 X 4,000 Lt Fuel Tanks \$4,000ea
2. A.K.P T600 Vibrating Pile Driver and Short Arm Extension, \$65,000 suit 30-40 tonne Excavator. Near new approx 100 hours use.
3. Fiori 1.8m3 4 Wheel Drive, All Terrain Concrete Mixer \$95,000 self loading approx (800hr use)
4. 150mm High Volume Diesel Water pump. Near new, approx 50hrs use \$35,000
5. Concrete Compression Tester – Near New \$13,000
6. 60KVA Generator. Approx 250hrs \$35,000
7. Sheet Piles U Type. 65 No. X 6m Long \$23,400
8. Steel I Beams. 200 U.C 52 Hot Dip Galvanised \$8,000 8 No. 6m Long

Telephone 23415

PUBLIC NOTICE



HEALTH SPECIALIST VISIT
Uro-Gynaecologist

The public is hereby advised that the Uro-Gynaecologist will be at the Rarotonga Hospital from June 5 to June 12, 2015.

If you are experiencing the following problems;

- Incontinence of urine or bowel : (leaking urine, leaking bowel motions)
- Genital organ prolapse (sense of something falling out from birth canal)

Please phone the Rarotonga Hospital on 22-664 and ask to speak to the Obs & Gynae Clinic Nurse for screening before the last week of May 2015.



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 Ruarotonga 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.

85975

VACANCIES

AUCKLAND NEW ZEALAND
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VACANCY



Business Trade Investment Board
Cook Islands

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Business Trade Investment Board (BTIB) is a crown funded agency that exists to promote trade, promote & monitor foreign investment in the Cook Islands and encourage Cook Islanders in business.

A management position exists for a CEO with a proven track record in strategic planning and project management.

The successful candidate must have strong leadership and team development skills and the ability to network and build relationships with a broad cross section of stakeholders both local and international.

The candidate should also possess the following:

- Tertiary qualification in either law, business management or marketing
- Effective communication skills, written & oral
- Experience and proven results in a similar position
- Ability to analyse & interpret a variety of work scenarios and recommend workable solutions
- Sound understanding of business management principles and the Cook Islands investment climate
- Good understanding of Government policies and procedures and the need to meet reporting deadlines
- Ability to develop and manage budgets, monitor expenditure and improve in house administrative systems
- Ability to lead a high performance team to outstanding results
- Excellence in database & file management
- Knowledge & understanding of Cook Islands Maori/ culture and the values and aspirations of Cook Islanders
- Commitment to achieving the goals, outcomes and standards of the Business Trade Investment Board

A competitive salary package commensurate with qualifications and experience is offered. A detailed job description can be obtained from:

Isabelle Terekia
Finance & Administration Manager
Business Trade Investment Board
Ph (+682) 24-296 or email: isabelle.terekia@btib.gov.ck

Written applications together with a current CV may be sent in confidence to:

CEO Position (BTIB)
c/o Office of the Prime Minister
Avarua
Rarotonga
by 4pm Friday 13 March, 2009

FOOTBALL UPDATE

Fiji fall hard to Hungary



Fiji U-20 are relishing their first step up onto the world stage at the FIFA U-20 World Cup. Credit: Phototek

After two respectable 3-0 and 2-1 defeats to Mexico and Colombia respectively in Sydney, the Fiji U-20 national team's first hit out since arriving on New Zealand soil didn't quite go so well as they went down 7-0 to Hungary in Cambridge on Monday.

However coach Frank Farina says the result wasn't too much of a shock for several reasons.

"It wasn't really a surprise once we saw the conditions, and they were the same for both teams to be honest," Farina says.

"But Hungary are much more used to the cold conditions, they had to move where we played and to be brutally honest our boys were ill prepared in terms of their footwear and basically everything else.

"On the whole of the game it didn't come as a surprise but it was a good learning experience for the boys that this is what they've got to expect here in New Zealand particularly, even worse, in Christchurch."

With just under a week to go before the big match against football powerhouses Germany,

Farina says Monday's result won't change his approach to the team's preparations.

"I'm not overly concerned about the result. I think conditions, particularly the pitch, will be much better in Christchurch and I'm confident the boys will bounce back.

"We played some good spells on Monday but I just think that we weren't in the game. It was like they were playing on glass and obviously that's something that they've got to learn, in terms of the shoes that they wear they couldn't stay on their feet so as I said, good learning curve for them.

"It was a reality check and I think that's a good thing."

Farina says spirits in camp are as high as ever as the players gear up for one of the most exciting matches, and events, in their lives.

"It's an exciting time for them. As I said, a learning curve, and not just for the players but all the staff and representatives of Fiji Football Association, of what this level is."

Continuing on that theme,

Farina says expectations of this team and what they can realistically achieve need to be kept in check.

"I've been saying that since the day that I came in, that none of them including the staff and representatives of Fiji Football have come to this level. We've seen in previous tournaments at youth level for example when Tahiti qualified and got some pretty poor results.

"For players from the Pacific it's a big step up, it's not like playing in Oceania. It's not an excuse it's just a reality and you've got to keep pointing out reality to people because sometimes their expectations, particularly back in Fiji and Fiji supporters, believe that the team is competitive at this level.

"The reality is they've never played at this level and are coming up against some very good sides and professional players - and all of these boys are just part-timers."

Looking back to their preparations in Sydney Farina says it's possible to look at those results against some impressive

footballing nations and say that the gap is closing.

"In Sydney against Mexico and Colombia the circumstances, conditions were a lot different, the surface was much better and you could play football on it hence the reason why the results were so good."

With the opportunity to play against the world's best players at this level, and future stars of the world's top leagues, one of the key messages for the players is also just to enjoy the experience.

"Fijians generally love to enjoy their football and they are. Albeit Monday's result wasn't a good one, but their spirits were high after the game, we discussed a lot of things.

"But it is a great opportunity for them, and also a great experience and not only for them but for Fiji football."

The Fiji U-20 get their FIFA U-20 World Cup campaign underway against Germany in Christchurch on Monday 1 June.

For more on the FIFA U-20 World Cup visit FIFA.com