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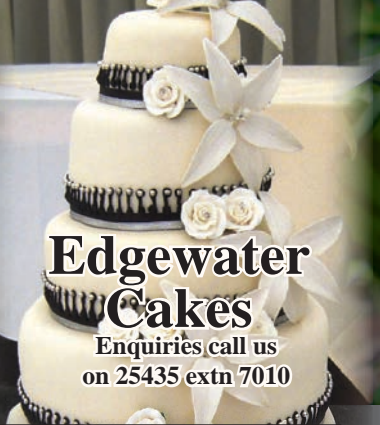
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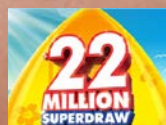
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NZ pension portability being jeopardised by PM Puna's Independence folly

The reaction to the Prime Minister Henry Puna's Independent bucket list with visions of himself sitting at the big table at the United Nations in New York is having a ripple effect in Wellington among some of their Members of Parliament not to mention overseas residing Cook Islanders who are in an uproar at this grotesque lightning bolt out of the blue.

Puna's lack of international protocol finery and sensitivity clearly he's a very small fish wanting to mix it in a big pond with the regional's big boys. New Zealand's Prime Minister John Keys out of politeness considered a 30 minute meeting was more than long enough to tell Puna to pull his head in and exorcise the silly notion the Cook Islands would get NZ's support to be admitted to the UN. Keys' tolerated an in person meeting with Puna so he could explicitly say, "Henry read my lips, there is nothing to discuss the answer is no!"

The self centred Puna is putting at risk the long awaited convenience of being able to collect the New Zealand pension while resident in the Cook Islands. Needing every incentive to slow our negative population growth down and arresting the outward flow of depopulation, winning the minds of not only Cook Island retirees but also any other NZer is a sensitive exercise to say the least.

Puna has lost perspective and the context of our realm relationship with NZ, as the Prime Minister of a micro sovereignty of 15,000 people after polling 74 votes Puna's developed an oversized ego that

shows no limits. Self governing for 50 years yet still tied to the apron strings of New Zealand and now China and France, Puna is strutting himself about oblivious overstating his presence where ever he goes.

Next time our loose cannon Prime Minister Puna goes anywhere as our Minister of Foreign Affairs he better brush up on his diplomatic etiquette. Puna needs to understand diplomatic politeness shouldn't be confused with endorsement or approval, there is a wide gap between acceptance and agreement. The rumblings and noises coming out of Wellington among the political representatives aren't comforting. After 50 years of being sustained economically by the New Zealand taxpayer Puna is talking Independence without consultation anyone other than with his loyal lackey Minister Mark Brown.

The reality is Puna wants his cake and eat it, in Parliament he called it the dream of every leader to be at the UN, what a load of gibberish nonsense, his grasp of reality is far removed from the actual, maybe after having spent too much of his time in the stratosphere he has developed space cadet syndrome.

After gobbling up \$20 million of NZ Aid for his northern group renewal energy projects Puna shuns NZ and turns to the French for help in transporting unlimited numbers of outer island residents to Rarotonga for the 50 year Independence Celebrations.

Puna wants all the benefits and privileges of being a New Zealand citizen but at the same time he wants autonomy and the



PM Henry Puna and NZ PM John Key

luxury of full Independence. This has got up the noses of some of New Zealand MPs. For those who question Puna's loyalty and passion to be at the UN they also question why should they bend over backwards to accommodate the wishes of New Zealand Cook Island retirees with pension portability while they feel insulted at Puna's abhorrent solo pursuit of independence.

Puna's blasé show of grandiose comment's were legitimately captured then published by two New Zealand journalists only to have his smart aleck choice of words cause an uproar among the international Cook Islands community. The PM responded in his usual condescending dismissive fashion dumping scorn on the two journalists with

threats of a complaint to the NZ Media Council. Puna's defence is to label anything critical or exposing of his unbecoming conduct as conspiracies that may wear in the northern group but not with the highly educated and politically savvy masses on Rarotonga.

Puna can blow as many smoke screens of diversions he likes, no one is being fooled by his attempts to extract himself from his loose lip confessions of UN grandstanding, he has foolishly drawn unwanted attention to the Cook Islands on the brink of the NZ lawmakers granting pension portability. Puna's timing has been grossly misjudged but what can we expect from the unpopular self serving pretender? - George Pitt

Budget speech wins Herald prize for worst delivery

By Charles Pitt

While Finance Minister Brown's Budget Statement to the House on Monday contained some useful information and data, it was the manner and tone of his delivery which raised eyebrows among listeners.

Many could not believe the Minister's behavior. Instead of maturing into the role of an effective, senior Finance Minister based on previous performance, Brown seems to have slipped backwards in delivering a statement expected of a junior Minister.

What Brown needed to do was deliver a credible performance not with flippancy but with some semblance of authority in order to steady a ship entering rough seas. In this second term of what is becoming a very unpopular government, people are becoming more cynical and harder to convince. That should have been evident to Brown in the election result.

It should be clear to Brown

that he is part of a minority government. The CIP only won 37% of the vote in the last election. The Demo party won 47% and OCI 15%. Together the opposition captured 62% of the vote.

On Rarotonga, the economic powerhouse of the country, the CIP only won 3 of the 10 seats. The seats held by the CIP on Rarotonga, are marginal seats. What does that tell the Minister about the confidence of those who drive the economy? The CIP is sadly out of touch with the majority of the private sector, the business community and tax payers.

Brown's Statement failed to address the most pressing problem of the decade which is depopulation. People are leaving because they have no faith in the economy. That is the true test of government's policies. Our people vote with their feet.

In his Statement the Minister is short on informing us how the Budget will stimulate the economy. While a great deal is poured into boosting government operations, peanuts

are thrown at small, cottage industry type ventures with no significant investment to boost the economy.

The Minister lauds the pension increases but overlooks the fact most pensioners need another income just to cope with the cost of living which continues to rise. Income tax takes a sizable portion off the pension. It is an absurd situation to place our elderly in. What happens when the elderly become unable to hold down another job?

This Minister still has not released details of a recent exercise to determine the average disposable household income. The Ministry of Internal Affairs was to release this

information once government was advised. Perhaps the results were too embarrassing.

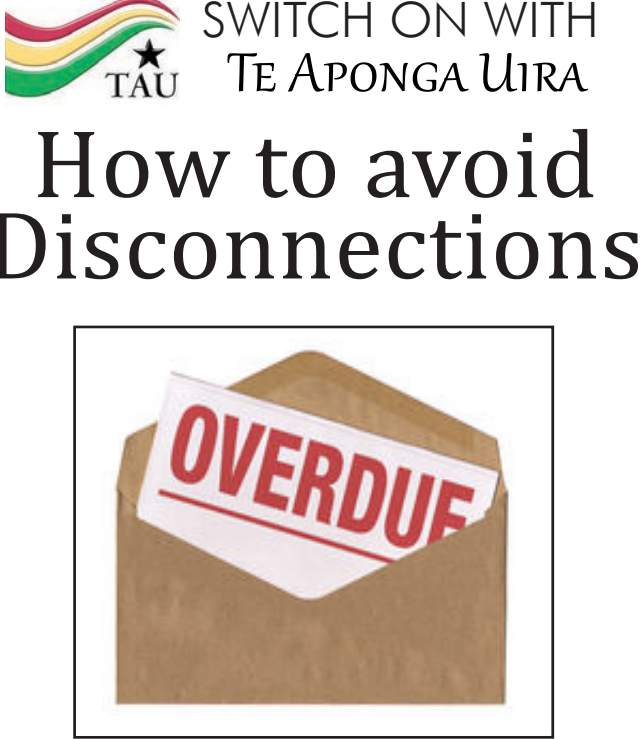
This is a government which cares more about complying with its FRR's (Financial Responsibility Ratios) and the demands of the overseas donor partners whose funds now make up one third of government's budget.

After 50 years we have become a nation of beggars dependent on someone else's money.

The Budget document itself was prepared by officials who it is reported, worked very hard and long hours to produce. It's a pity the Minister could not do their efforts justice. Instead he treated his delivery time in the House like an excited school boy.



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PERC's Damning Te Mato Vai report surfaces

With a vibrant, fearless, in your face media concealing politically damaging information from being aired for public consumption is self defacing. Eventually, suppressed, unflattering information becomes the evidence corruption is flourishing. The Cook Islands has a political underbelly that is fertilised and nurtured by elements of power abusing politicians and officials within the Cook Islands Party government.

The latest politically damaging fact sheet is a March 2015 released Public Expenditure Review Committee (PERC) report on a complaint levelled at the \$60 million Te Mato Vai project. It said; "Our report results from investigation by PERC of a complaint received in November 2014 that poor workmanship and poor contractual were placing the Cook Islands Government at unnecessary financial risk in the event that pipe failures occurred in future which would be an unexpected and substantial cost to taxpayers of the Cook Islands".

The New Zealand High Commission representing New Zealand as a part financier of the project had formed its own concerns in relation to the project and engaged its own consulting engineer from New Zealand to visit Rarotonga and report on alleged concerns. According to PERC Chairman Geoff Stoddart the report for the NZ High Commission was examined by PERC.

The report fails to list the Infrastructure Cook Islands Minister Teariki Heather as one of the six people PERC consulted in the course of their investigation. Despite a request for him to be interviewed the DPM Heather a significant financial benefactor from the Te Mato Vai project through his company T & M Heather Ltd defiantly refused to do so.

A government institution, PERC crafted their report to Parliament refraining from critical comment but acknowledged concerns raised about quality of workmanship were justified, PERC also noted in their 10 point report the concerns about the conditions of contract for the project were justified.

But reading between the lines PERC's report is politically dynamite; they report that an external consultant (No names) recommended the whole contract be renegotiated with

for an extension.

Any variation with the CCECC contract would have placed the CIP government's request for \$10 million for the rebuild of the arson destroyed Apii Nikao Primary in jeopardy. Neves fearing rejection by the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) minimised and watered down the serious concerns in the complaint to PERC. The PERC report's damaging findings are clearly detected between the lines of their at first glanced watered down report.

specifications were treated with disdain and complaints to our political masters who became irritant interferers on behalf of CCECC management. CCECC were able to exert enough political pressure to have their critics removed from the project.

For all the substandard work buried before and while work continued after complaints were tabled with several agencies until PERC became the attention of the legal representatives of the complainants. Rather suspend all work carried out by CCECC and T&M Heather Ltd and a speedy review conducted, the government's agencies responsible for protecting the interests of Cook Islanders bowed to the political pressure to resist from any delays, the reality is like the workmanship on the Justice and Police buildings the Te Mato Vai contractors CCECC's work quality is shoddy, substandard and should not be tolerated and must without compromise be rehabilitated.

Neves' failure and deliberate avoidance of pulling CCECC into uncompromised line for the sake of minimising offending the PRC, with our government's big suck up for more funding. Without shame Neves and his political puppets have compromised the integrity of our sovereignty.

The PRC has got our gullible politicians and their officials by the balls in a tightened vice grip and they are dancing to their tune. More handouts from PRC only serves to entrap ourselves long term to the whims and fancies of Chinese interests, be warned, the PRC wants the door widened for Chinese business interests or private investors.

This begging bowl secrecy shrouded CIP government must be subjected to transparent scrutiny disclosing the terms and condition of the loan being sort from PRC to rebuild Apii Nikao.

- George Pitt

It is evident from the PERC report CCECC have conducted their business with the arrogant attitude they are a law unto themselves and any challenges to them to meet the contract specifications were treated with disdain and complaints to our political masters who became irritant interferers on behalf of CCECC management. CCECC were able to exert enough political pressure to have their critics removed from the project.

the lead contractor, however this suggestion would provide a difficult political hurdle with the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) and in view of the project already being well advanced PERC does not recommend the Crown following this suggestion.

The external consultant didn't suggest such; he highly recommended the contract be renegotiated with CCECC. The diplomatic and political fallout would have cost the principle negotiator in the original contract Finance Secretary Richard Neves his job that he was grovelling with government

It justified the public concerns raised though when allegations of serious short comings and standard breaches were raised with the project watch dogs they were readily dismissed and information suppressed from public consumption. Serious concerns about the projects longevity and shelf life were being raised due to the proliferation of short cuts being blatantly taken.

It is evident from the PERC report CCECC have conducted their business with the arrogant attitude they are a law unto themselves and any challenges to them to meet the contract

Bishop Announces Coalition Partnership

The announcement in Parliament this week by Teina Bishop that One Cook Islands (OCI) has formed an alliance with the Democratic Party (Demo) in a Coalition Partnership has finally put to rest, speculation as to One Cook Islands political intentions and the future role and direction the Coalition will play in anticipation of a change of Government.

Although the Demos supported the merge with OCI at its conference earlier this year, nothing was confirmed however ongoing dialogue over policy and governance issues continued. "We are now happy with the policy agreement between both political entities and there is a positive optimism within the team that the time is right to cement this relationship formally."

"This new partnership is founded on the fact that in Parliament today at the

conclusion of the 2014 election, the coalition partnership represents 62% of voters in Parliament compared to 38% by the ruling Cook Island Party (CIP) Government. An alliance between CIP and OCI would have 53% so in terms of OCI's analysis of Parliamentary representation, it makes sense to merge with the Demos, said Bishop."

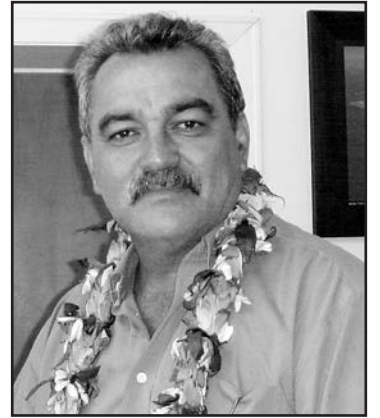
"Our priority is establishing some clear guidelines in an effort to genuinely work together to achieve a better future for our people and our country. These policy priorities will be released in due course but for now, the emphasis will be on addressing the Budget Appropriation Amendment Bill which is currently being debated in Parliament."

"It is also important to emphasize that the Hon William Heather remains Leader of the Opposition and I, Leader of OCI in Parliament. We're

excited by the joint prospects of working together and believe trust and flexibility are critical to maintaining this ongoing relationship. We acknowledge there will be challenges along the way, however Heather and myself are confident we have a very good combination with our joint policy directions and in nurturing the team together."

This Coalition Policy Agreement is the first step and naturally, the appointment of shadow ministers to look after the various portfolio areas where these policies lie will be next in line. A process of familiarization will also be undertaken regarding governance procedures and processes to ensure the team is equipped with the right skills and capability to undertake the huge responsibility of running Government when the time comes.

Finally, One Cook Islands



Teina Bishop

has been allocated an office at Parliament and I take this opportunity to thank the Minister responsible Hon Nandi Glassie and Madam Speaker for recognizing OCI as a political entity in allowing this to happen. This will enable us to meet our supporters and members of the public to drop in and talk to us concerning matters of interest to them.

2014 General Elections results

CIP	1743	38%
OCI	702	15%
Demo	2175	47%
Total	4620	100%
CIP/OCI	2445	53%
Demo/OCI	2877	62%

Norman George on: Law Reform

“The Crimes Act 1969 (The Act)”

By Norman George

Next to the Constitution, this is the mother of all our laws. The Crimes Act gives every citizen the penal code protection for all freedoms and guarantees granted by the Constitution. It is the largest Act of Parliament in existence going up to 420 sections.

We will not be able to traverse all sections of this Act but I will highlight the more interesting ones.

We begin by referring to section 28 of the Act; “ignorance of the law” is no excuse. Never never consider using this in Court or you will be laughed at all the way to the prison cells.

The top of the list for the most serious crime is treason and murder. Both carry life imprisonments as punishment.

Under section 75 of the Act, treason includes (1) inciting or assisting any person with force to invade the Cook Islands or New Zealand or (2) using force for the purpose of overthrowing the Government of the Cook Islands or conspiring with any person to do anything mentioned in this section.

Comment: A word of warning to those thinking of changing the Government, do it peacefully with the well proven confidence motion if the Speaker will let you, or face a charge of treason and life in prison...

Section 113 – corruption and bribery by a Minister of the Crown is liable to 14 years imprisonment who corruptly accepts or obtains or agrees or offers to accept or attempts to obtain any bribe for himself or any other person in respect of any act done or omitted, or to be done or omitted by him in his capacity as a Minister.

Section 114 – corruption and bribery by Members of Parliament carry a penalty of 7 years imprisonment.

Reading The Riot Act under section 90 of the Act – where twelve or more persons are unlawfully, riotously and tumultuously assembled together in any place to the disturbance of the public peace, any Judge

or Justice may, at the request of the senior member of the Police for the time being acting in that place, go to the place where the assembly is, and, among the rioters or as near to them as he can safely come, with a loud voice, make or cause to be made a proclamation in the following words or to a like effect:

“Her Majesty the Queen commands all of you to disperse immediately and to go quietly to your homes or to your lawful business, upon pain of being charged with an offence punishable by imprisonment for five years.” “GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.”

Comment: Police tactics have long since changed since 1969; one can expect the last part of the section to be put on the chopping block. We now move to how our criminal Court system works, before continuing to highlight some interesting section in the Crimes Act next week.

There are 3 levels of jurisdictions in our Court system; all functioning as part of the High Court of the Cook Islands. We start with the Justice of the Peace Court, the First Court.

The First Court is headed by a single Justice of the Peace (J.P). This person is selected from the community based on their good reputation, outstanding characters, good educational standing, and being highly respected, they are not lawyers but are expected to apply common sense when interpreting the law. J.P.s regularly hold workshops to learn the law and associated legal procedures. All lawyers as officers of the Court are expected to help J.P.s wherever necessary.

This is the Court that handles the bulk of all criminal and traffic cases every Thursday of the week. They also handle limited civil cases and overnight arrest cases from the Police.

A single J.P can impose up to 12 months imprisonment, normally up to \$500 fine and where specifically stated by a particular Act, up to \$1,000 fine. In the Civil Court they can award up to \$1,000 to \$1,500 in damages.

This is an excellent example of real justice, or justice at your doorstep.

The men and women who preside on the J.P bench have direct rapport with the ordinary people. They impose very few terms of imprisonment and when they do, those receiving it deserve it.

When a lawyer is displeased with a verdict, they appeal. All J.P decisions under appeal are heard by a visiting Judge.

The next level is the Second Court made of up 3 J.P.s. They are quite powerful. The most senior of the 3 acts as the President. They can impose up to 3 years’ imprisonment and fines stated in the Act. They have been given jurisdiction to hear burglary charges under section 15A of the Judicature Act 1980-81. A burglary charge carries 10 years imprisonment.

Sometimes it is quicker to have a burglary charge heard by 3 J.P.s than wait for a jury trial, presided by a Judge from New Zealand.

Again I find a 3 J.P system very good and available. Convincing 3 J.P.s to go a certain way is like trying to persuade a 3 man jury. I rather enjoy the challenge of dealing with judicial officers living on the ground here, to feel and wear the consequences of their decisions.

The Third Court is the highest in our structure. It is presided over by a Judge from New Zealand. Under the Constitution, Judges from New Zealand are appointed to sit in our High Court benches. The appointment is by the Queen’s Representative on the recommendation of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The Judges can hear criminal or civil cases. Some Judges specialise in Land Court hearings under the civil division. The same Judges can preside on criminal cases if called upon.

Judges can hear criminal trials either by a Judge alone or before a Judge and jury. A person charged with an offence punishable by over 6 months imprisonment can elect a trial by a Judge and jury.

Why elect trial by jury? I have personally conducted trials by juries over the past 25 years

more times than I can remember. These range from murders, manslaughters, robberies, rapes, drug related crimes and so many more. For my innings record, I have won more cases than the few I lost and winning acquittals for all 3 murder trials I represented. Now I better pack it in before being accused of writing about myself or show off – akaparau. Sorry I slipped up!

I have absolute faith in the Jury system. The jury is made up of 12 men and women, one of them is chosen as the foreman or forewoman. The jury are Judges of facts. They decide based on the evidence before them whether a person is guilty or not guilty. The trial Judge cannot do this.

The trial Judge decides what evidence is put before the jury. He or She plays a critical role in the overall conduct of the trial from start to finish.

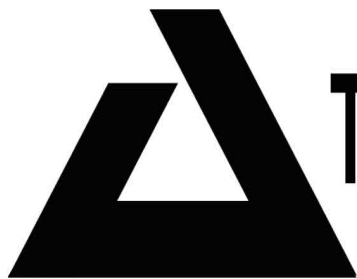
Some trials can run for days and weeks. The jury is made up of ordinary men and women of all walks of life. You do not have to have special qualifications, just ordinary law abiding citizens representing our community.

What appeals to me about the jury system is that you have 12 ordinary men and women hearing the evidence. I am not too keen on one brain deciding, but 12. But there are highly technical cases which I would prefer a Judge alone to hear. While a unanimous 12 person verdict is preferred after 4 hours, a 9 out of 12 majority is acceptable.

Serving on the Jury is a humble and important civic duty. It puzzles me when people look for excuses to abscond from their jury duties. It is an important and interesting experience. A juror’s position is so highly revered that, that critical moment in your life makes you a Judge of Facts that you are in charge of the fate of the person being tried. Nothing is more challenging than it.

I will close by quoting this line, which I have put before some juries in the past – “It is better that 10 guilty men escape than one innocent suffer.” Justice William Blackstone 1723-1780.

Ka kite – more next week.



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These Papaaroa students were part of a food selling fundraiser at the Punanga Nui where they also learnt enterpriseship and perhaps one day will be part of the YES programme.

Students to present at Dragons Den

Funded by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and administered by the Chamber of Commerce, the Young Entrepreneurs Scheme (YES) is in its third year now in the Cook Islands, and the year 13 business studies students of Tereora College completed the first phase of the YES programme late last month.

The YES programme involves students working through the process of setting up and running a business, utilizing the skills learnt in business studies class, in the safe environment of a classroom. Business Mentors Terry Gillespie and Janet Brooker were present to observe the programme and oversee each team's plans. Gillespie says all teams learnt a lot from the mentors, who ran through basic business structures with them.

The three teams in last month's YES programme, which consisted of up to six students, produced some excellent products with very effective business plans, says Business Mentor Terry Gillespie, "one especially stands out". Their products included air fresheners and scented sprays with cold pressed coconut oil; 'Fresh 4lo', eco-friendly shopping bags; 'Simplicity' and a safety restraint for infants/toddlers who travel on a motor-bike with an adult; 'Kuki & Co'.

The three teams are now preparing to present their prototype and business plan to the 'Dragons Den'. The Dragons Den is a panel of five judges, who will look over their product and business plan. They will then decide which team will get prize money, which is to help them further the market of their product. Executive Director of Chamber of Commerce, Lynne Samuel says they like to encourage agriculture in the programme, such as team Fresh 4lo who did all the handwork on their coconut based products themselves. However, the business plans and products are just as acceptable without the agriculture aspect. Following the Dragons Den, the teams will have enough time to organize themselves to market their product at the Punanga Nui market, in October.

Last year, four groups took part in the YES programme and presented their plans to

the Dragons Den. It was a very successful night, with some pleasing results. Team 'Maine Purotu' produced traditional oil and received \$600, 'Te Pare Kura' and their bucket hats received \$400, Aroma Cook Islands and their bath salts and Ura Time with their DVD showing pareu tying received \$250 each. They then went on to market their products at the local market.

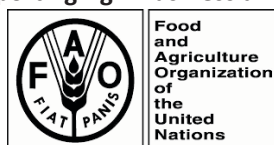
The YES programme is currently being delivered to the year 13 business studies class of Tereora College only, with plans in the future for it to be delivered at other Colleges who have shown interest.

The Dragons Den will be held on Thursday 18th June at Crown Beach Resort at 4.30pm.

The public is most welcome to attend and watch these future entrepreneurs take action.

The Dragons Den will be held on Thursday 18th June at Crown Beach Resort at 4.30pm.

Supporting Agri-Business and Agriculture Value Chain Investment



TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, WEDS 10th JUNE 2015

Beer explains what happen to motion of no confidence

The guest speaker scheduled for Te Kave Korero on Monday 15th June 2015 did not come to the radio so in lieu of the summary for that day Te Kave Korero is happy to present this summary of the interview with the Honourable James Beer held on Wednesday 10th June 2015.

Wednesday 10th June was the first sitting of the Cook Islands Parliament in 2015.

Tony Hakaoro, Te Kave Korero presenter, directed the following to the Honourable James Beer, Member of Parliament for Murienua:

"I read in the paper today, there were going to be, at least, a 'motion of no-confidence in the Prime Minister, now, what happened today James, what happened in Parliament? It didn't come across, no body heard it."

"Well, you're certainly right about that. When you have a 'vote of no confidence', you don't have a vote of no confidence in the Prime Minister, you have a vote of no confidence in the Cabinet. What's important about that motion that we placed before the House which didn't appear on the Order Paper for several reasons. It's particularly for one reason and one reason only, is, the people of the Cook Islands who are crying out for some change in the Government, the way it's been able to administer the country, and all the allegations of corruption are very concerned and they need to know that the Democratic Party, in opposition, is making sure, that their voice gets heard and a vote of no confidence needs to be discussed in Parliament, if not, then at least, raise the concerns of the people that we are hearing their voice, because when we look at the whole political situation, particularly inside the House of Parliament, there's something that stands out completely and very very clear, and that is this, is that the total number of politicians in the House, marking 24, and 12 held by the opposition including our friend from RAPA,

the Honourable Albert Nicholas, makes up 64 per cent, or if not, 63, just over 63 per cent of the total voting public of the Cook Islands. Now the voting public of the Cook Islands have confidence in the One Cook Islands and Democratic Party Coalition and if you look at those numbers, they are pretty profound, they spell out quite clearly that the opportunities for the Government of the Cook Islands should really be taken by the opposition and its coalition partner because the people have given us their vote. In a normal democracy, that would be the case".

When asked as to why it wasn't tabled in Parliament Beer said:

"It was supposed to be on the Order Paper from yesterday. I spoke with the Clerk today about it, he regrets to announce that it couldn't be accepted. Now, Notices of Motion, which is a Parliamentary Procedure situation, should have been accepted but we have to bear in mind that the ruling of the Speaker in most cases such as these, stands".

With regards to the Prime Minister's recently reported views concerning New Zealand citizenship and United Nations Beer said that "the people of the Cook Islands are quite concerned particularly over his comments in the Listener Magazine where he was saying I'm quite happy to give up the New Zealand citizenship and New Zealand Passport to be able to further the aims of the country".

Beer said "as much as we respect the wishes of the Prime Minister, the concern that we have is, this is a unilateral decision and a unilateral decision is not a democracy. As far as we're concerned it should be done in a way in which the people are given the opportunity to have their say".

However, Te Kave Korero host said, "to be fair to the Prime Minister he did say in Parliament this afternoon, didn't he, that he never spoke to Dr Colin Tukuitonga



Honourable James Beer

and furthermore the Prime Minister stated that Dr Tukuitonga did contact him, apologising. Surely that's the end of the matter isn't it?"

Beer replied that "the vote of no confidence and as well as the motion with regards to the discussion over our ties with the United Nations and with New Zealand, pre-empted his explanation. However the matter is not over yet because as you may have heard a motion was passed and seconded and approved by Parliament for a full and thorough debate on the entire issue in the next meeting after the Appropriation has been passed and that every single Member of Parliament will have the opportunity to dialogue with their constituents to understand what they're concerned about, what do they want and to bring those views to the House and I think it's an important debate because we have a situation in which we want to be independent but we're in self-government and free association with New Zealand".

According to Beer the people of the Cook Islands have no confidence in the Government. He said there are very urgent issues "that need to be addressed, and address now".

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, WED 10th JUNE 2015

Transportation for the Outer Islands to TMN

Te Kave Korero interviewed the Honourable Mark Brown, Minister of Finance, on Wednesday 10th June 2015.

Brown advised that Government has secured the assistance of the French Government and the use of two private ferries to transport Cook Islanders from the northern group to Rarotonga for the 2015 Maeva Nui and the 50th anniversary celebrations of self-government.

He said that a French Navy aircraft will assist with transporting the elderly and children from Manihiki and Penrhyn to Rarotonga as well as a navy vessel to bring their cargoes.

In addition private ferries Lady Naomi and Tahiti Nui will also assist transport the remaining members of the groups to Rarotonga.

Brown said the French Navy aircraft and cargo vessel have been offered by the French Government free of charge.

Te Kave Korero believes that the ferries will cost \$400,000.00 each for the one way trip from the north to Rarotonga. That will be a total expense of \$800,000.00 one way for both ferries, almost a million dollars.

When asked as to the transport arrangements returning the people to the north Brown stated that the Government is considering chartering a new boat or the same ferries.

“Ae, te akateateamamao nei te reira tua no te mea ka tae mai tetai au pou aere so te akarakara nei e, me ka rauka i a tatou i te akaoki i to tatou iti tangata na runga i teia pai ou, me ka charter akaou tatou i teia nga ferry koia te Lady Naomi, pera katoa te Tahiti Nui. Inara ko teia te apinga maata ka akara tatou, koia oki ko te safety o to tatou iti tangata i te akaokianga i a ratou, pera katoa te comfort, te comfort o to tatou iti tangata, kare tatou e inangaro e, kia oki akaou tatou ki te tuatau e, na runga tatou i te deck me aere oki tatou, me oki oki tatou. Me kare teia pai ou te aere mai nei e, ka rauka i te apai i to tatou iti tangata, ka charter akaou tatou i teia nga pai te Lady Naomi pera katoa te Tahiti Nui”.

Brown stated that the new boat is owned by a local company but refused to name the company.

“Ko teia oki taku e akakite atu nei, na ratou

rai e akakite atu ki a tatou katoatoa e, ko ai oki ratou, karanga taua, e consortium teia apinga, e au aronga aere, kua maani ratou i tetai company, te tamanakoanga, kia o mai ratou ki roto i teia, teia oki tetai tamanakoanga a te Kavamani, no runga i te subsidy no te outer island shipping, ka o mai teia ki roto i ta tatou akapapaanga moni”.

Asked as to the dimensions of the boat Brown said he did not know.

“Kare i papu i aku, penei paa me tae mai tetai nuti, me rauka i a ratou i te announce i teia company nei, ka kite tatou i reira eaa te maatamaata o teia poti, eaa tana ka rauka i te apai, me ka rauka i te apai i te tangata, cargo te aa mai”.

And when asked as to whether Taio Shipping is not good enough Brown said Government is looking at improving the shipping service to serve the Cook Islands “at least every six weeks”.

“No te aa, no te aa, ko te au ona poti ta tatou e akara nei, i te rave i ta matou e tamanako nei kia putuputu mai to ratou tuatau e aere ra ratou ki vao i to tatou pa enua. Te kite nei oki tatou, tetai taime ka tae te poti e rua paa taime i te mataiti ki tetai au enua aere. Ta matou e tamanako nei, inangaro matou i tetai poti kia tae ki vao i to tatou pa enua at least every six weeks”.

Brown said that money to subsidise shipping is in the next financial year’s budget.

Prime Minister announces record budget for education

Prime Minister and Minister for Education, the Honourable Henry Puna was proud to outline that the Government would further increase the budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Education.

“Education is a crucial service delivered by the Government, the additional ongoing increase of \$182,000 is a sign of our commitment towards education. Since our election in 2010 the allocation towards education has increased from \$11.9 million in 2010/11 to \$14.8 million in 2015/16”.

The Prime Minister outlined that of this additional amount \$132,000 would be provided for school based management which will allow for improved local management.

Extra resources will better enable school based management teams, led by the Principal to improve day to day operations and management of the school along with governance activities such as policy development, qualification accreditation, and curriculum management and student pastoral care.

In recognition of these additional responsibilities, “management units” are allocated for particular tasks within a school. The number of management units available to a school will depend on the scope and size of the school as well as the level of accredited qualification they offer.



Hon Mark Brown, Minister of Finance

“Kaore, teia budget, teia akaputupuanga moni, kua akapaeia kia raveia teia angaanga. Naai e rave, na ratou e tuku mai i ta ratou proposal”.

He added that Government would be seeking ‘expression of interest’ from local shipping companies so that one one misses out.

“Ka pati oki te Kavamani i tetai ‘expression of interest’, so e tikaanga to tetai au company aere, to tatou company especially to tatou local, kia o mai ratou ki roto i teia ta tatou e tamanako nei, kia kore oki tetai e miss out”.

Cook Islands Herald Issue 771

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, FRI 12th JUNE 2015

Bishop comments on Sunday Flights

The Honourable Teina Bishop MP was a guest speaker on Te Kave Korero on Friday 12th June 2015.

Te Kave Korero took the opportunity to discuss the Sunday flights issue with the One Cook Islands leader and asked him whether banning Sunday flights would affect his business in Aitutaki.

"I te mea oki e tangata kimi puapinga koe i te enua Araura, you're a businessman, eaa i reira toou turanga no runga i te takoreanga i te pairere? Ka iri mai ai nei te reira ei kanga i taau pitinititi?"

He answered by saying 'no' to the question and stated that at the time he supported Sunday flights it was not for his business.

"Simple answer no. Kite koe, i te reira tuatau kua akakite au ki toku Komiti, i toku turanga akatika, kare e no taku kimi puapinga, kare au e vai ana i toku toa i te ra Sunday, kare katoa au au e rave ana i taku cruise i te ra Sunday".

Bishop elaborated that he supported Sunday flights because of an experience having to help a family whose baby had passed away on Rarotonga. Owing to financial issues keeping the baby at the hospital morgue he assisted in seeking Air Raro's assistance to return the baby to Aitutaki.

"Ko toku turu e Tony, ka inangaro au kia marama koe i te reira tuatau, kua o ana au ki roto tetai turanga i tetai kopu tangata taiti i te tumatetenga i Rarotonga nei, mate te pepe i te po Maanamaa, kare oki e moni i te tutaki i te morgue, te anoano i reira o te family, kia akaokiia teia pepe ki te enua anau. Ora toru i te tatauata, kua akara au i te ona pairere".

Bishop said he is well aware that the community supports Sunday flights in case of emergencies or death but in cases where there are no schedule flights and where one has to charter a flight it can be expensive for that individual or family.

Bishop added that having a regular Sunday flight eliminates the need and the expense to charter a flight especially for an emergency whenever such an emergency arise on a Sunday.

Te Kave Korero asks Bishop why is it that the Minister of Civil Aviation is unable

to reverse the decision allowing Sunday flights and start banning Sunday flights right away and why is it necessary to go through Parliament to effect it.

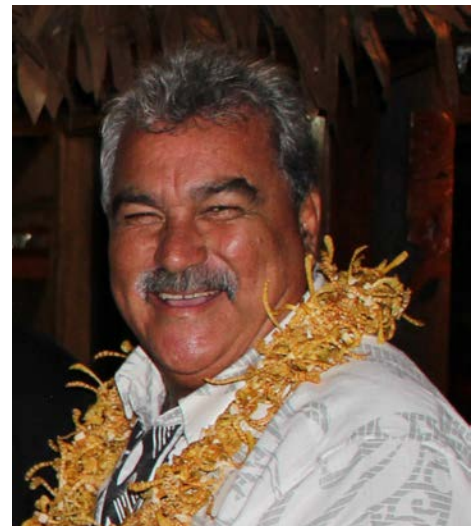
"Eaa i reira e kore e rauka i te Minita i teia ra, me kare, apopo, i te tauu akaou i te reira tika, takore te rereanga o te pairere? Eaa ka manonoia ai e, kia tomo roa ki roto i te Paramani?"

Bishop answered saying that there is no need for a referendum.

"Kua autara ana au i teia manako e Tony, e, karanga te reo papaa e, 'you've hit the nail on the head'. In other words, what you're saying is, there is no need for a referendum naringa te manakonakoanga o te Minita o te Civil Aviation, kia tauuia, inara, ko te karere oki i aere, ko te referendum, kia akatupuia te referendum no te mea ko te atura oki te reira i raveia i te reira tuatau"

In clarifying his position regarding Sunday flights Bishop says he supports Sunday flights because of the social benefits to the community.

He says that he would also support and protect the rights of those protesting against Sunday flights as well as the rights of those needing a flight for emergency or death.



Honourable Teina Bishop MP

"As a Member of Parliament, ka inangaro au i te akakite ki a koe e, te tikaanga o te au protesters kia tu ratou peacefully, i ta ratou e rave nei on Sunday, as a Member of Parliament, I will protect it no te mea, to ratou tikaanga i raro i te Papa Ture Metua o te Basileia, ka paruru au i te reira. Inara, te tikaanga o tetai tangata tei rokoia e te tumatetenga, me kare ra, e maki tona ka inangaro a ia i te rere mai ki Rarotonga i te reira ra, e, kare ana moni i te charter i te pairere, i te mea e, e rereanga tetai, mama ka rauka i a ia i te rere mai no te tumatetenga, no tona maki, ka inangaro katoa au i te paruru i tona tikaanga".

Minister for Marine outlines further investments

Prime Minister and Minister for Marine Resources, the Honourable Henry Puna announced an additional \$200,000 over four years to establish fish aggregating devices around the Southern Group of the Cook Islands.

The Ministry of Marine Resources are targeting a total of 13 FADs on Rarotonga, seven on Aitutaki, and four on each of the remaining southern island groups. Presently there are just 11 on Rarotonga, three on Aitutaki and one on each of the southern islands.

In outlining the benefits of the fish aggregating devices Secretary of Marine Resources, Ben Ponia, outlined that the devices had been shown to significantly increase catch rates and are particularly important for the southern islands where the waters are less productive and catches are highly seasonal.

Prime Minister Puna added that "Catches from fish aggregating devices provide a valuable source of income to locally based fishers and contributes towards overall food security. I understand that around 250 tonnes of tuna are caught by the artisanal or game fishers around the coastline which are consumed or sold locally.

The fish aggregating devices are moored bouys set at 1,500 meter (deep water) or 300 meter (shallow water) which aggregate schools of tuna and provide around 70% of the catches caught around the coastline by artisanal fishers and game fishing charters.



MEITAKI MAATA!

Kia Orana I te Aroa Maanaana o to tatou Metua Atua !

“Mou piri tikai tei rauka iakoe, e, auraka taau korona kia riro I etai ke”.

Ereo akameitaki'anga teia na matou kia kotou katoatoa, no to kotou ngakau turuturu I te anga'anga manea ta tatou I na roto mai ana I teia epetoma I oti uake nei, koia, ko te 'akarangī'anga I te tumu tāpura manea o te vaerua 'KIA ORANA'.

Kua riro katoa to kotou piri'anga mai, ei mea ngakau parau e te

'oa'oa nui rava kia matou.

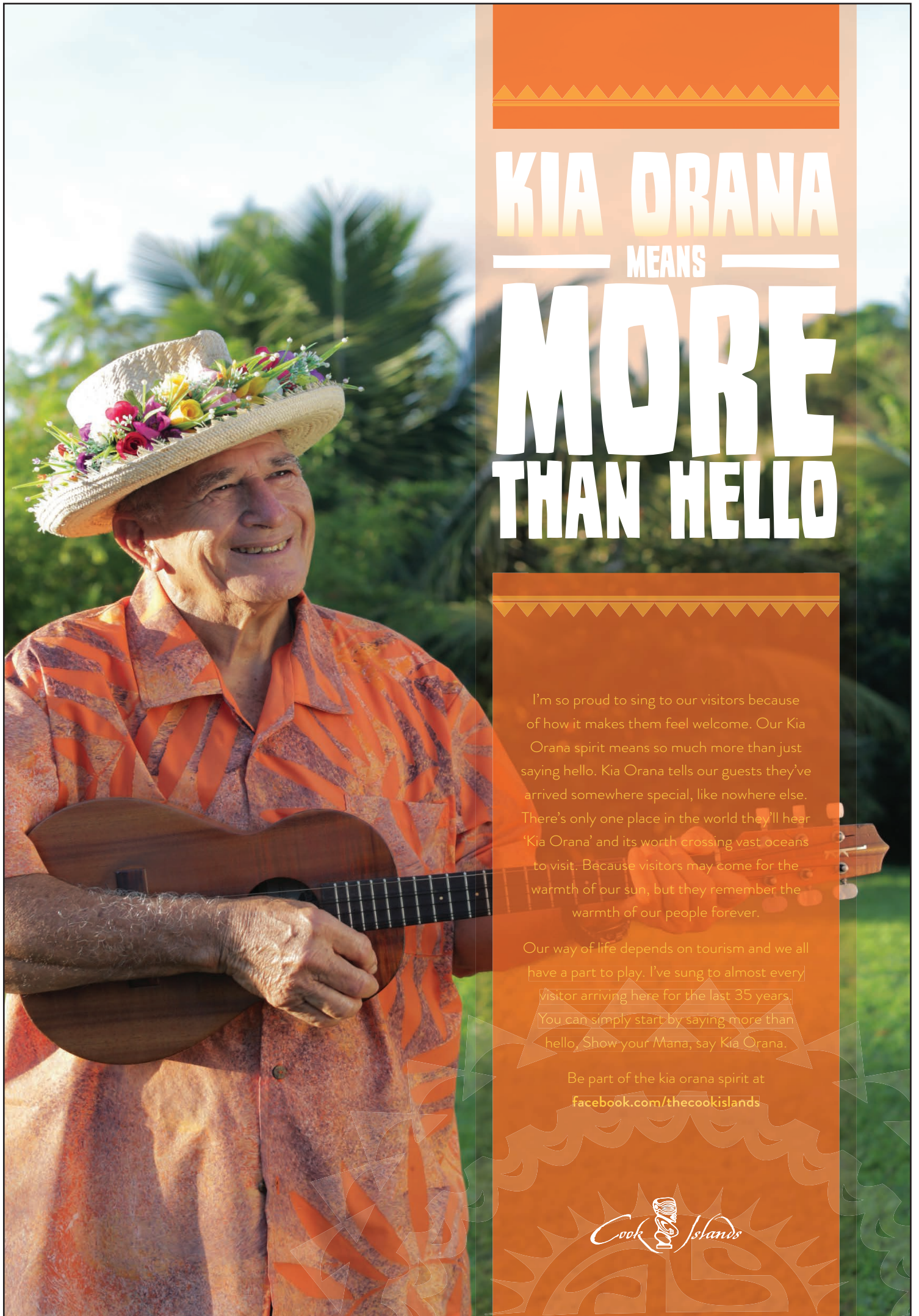
Te karanaga nei te irava manea no tatou.

“Kare aku auro ete ario e oronga atu na kotou, ko te aroa nui rava ra o to tatou Atua, ko taku ia e taoi atu kia kotou”.

Otira Ua!

Tama Akatere o te tu'anga Turoto.





KIA ORANA
— MEANS —
MORE
THAN HELLO

I'm so proud to sing to our visitors because of how it makes them feel welcome. Our Kia Orana spirit means so much more than just saying hello. Kia Orana tells our guests they've arrived somewhere special, like nowhere else. There's only one place in the world they'll hear 'Kia Orana' and its worth crossing vast oceans to visit. Because visitors may come for the warmth of our sun, but they remember the warmth of our people forever.

Our way of life depends on tourism and we all have a part to play. I've sung to almost every visitor arriving here for the last 35 years. You can simply start by saying more than hello. Show your Mana, say Kia Orana.

Be part of the kia orana spirit at
facebook.com/thecookislands

Cook Islands

The coming of the Missionaries – What price a silk purse (lore) for a sow’s ear (law)?

Part 1

by Te Tuhi Kelly

The House of Ariki is that body of traditional leaders of the Cook Islands who were finally sold a sow’s ear for a silk purse of lore in 1966. Quite apart from the fact that they introduced the biting of the sow’s ear after 1975. In this article I contend that with the arrival of the missionaries in the 1800’s the Ui Ariki have become no more than a living relic of a bygone era, they have been relegated to the status of dial-a-leader. Increasingly there appears to be no enthusiasm or fore thought as to the role they could or should be playing in a modern Cook Islands Society. Who did this to them? Well let’s have a squizz at what contributed to this sad state of affairs. There were several factors involved:

- Missionaries (Christian Lore)
- Traditional leaders who could not, would not and did not change (Traditional Lore)
- Disenfranchised and disempowered iti tangata (English Law)
- New Zealand influence (English Law)
- Legislation (English Law)

Here we go background material coming up. Let’s put some historical context into this discussion and then that will give you some idea of how each of those factors just mentioned tie in with the demise of our culture.

Let me take you on a voyage of discovery into the past. Gosh I sound like Alfred Hitchcock and the late night TV shows of yesteryear. You know I always seem to return to the past and okay, all you naysayers out there will say here he goes again talking about the past. “We should be thinking about the future and not dwelling on past events”. It’s amazing how that expression forms the basis for a lot of people’s thoughts and expressions when it comes to discussing indigenous people’s aspirations. We hear it all the time not only from ordinary people but also from politicians where ever they may be, using it as a justification for denying any meaningful discussion on how to manage capital works, the state of the economy and land or cultural grievances. Actually I’m glad you brought that up about my continually dwelling on the past because there are compelling reasons why I do this from three perspectives. I’ll digress philosophically here before I return to the substance of this article so bear with me on this ok. Sweet.

We carry on our daily lives blissfully unaware that the past is such an integral part of our lives. In this first perspective, did you know that the basis for a lot of

legal decisions is based on English law and specifically the common law of precedent? Essentially in common law legal systems, a precedent is a principle or rule that was established in a previous legal case. This precedent is either binding or persuasive for a Court when deciding subsequent cases that arise with similar issues or facts. Previous means in the past and therefore any legal stoushes in the Cook Islands jurisdiction that you are involved in requiring a legal outcome will rely on similar verdicts established in the past.

The second perspective is that our Cook Islands society and the quality of life that we enjoy is based on the work ethics and the visionary people who made it so, who just happened to live in the past so that we in the future could benefit and hopefully learn from the mistakes of our past. All manner of modern conveniences, clothes, equipment and machinery exist because someone in the past thought about it and invented it and thus their total contribution is the modern society we currently enjoy. Oh and we also reap both the upsides and the downsides that go with this modern society.

Thirdly, this perspective is based on scientific fact, but bear with me on this too, ok ra? To describe the transission from daylight to night time, we invented a term called ‘time’ and then we developed discrete measurements of time as seconds, minutes, hours, days etc. We then went on to describe time as a linear measure, i.e. it travels in a straight line. From a science perspective, we live our daily lives in the past because everything we see, feel, touch, smell and hear occurs nano-seconds or seconds in the past. Still with me? Our perception of time is that we observe it as 3 separate and discrete events, the past, present and future. So for things to occur in time increment B the present, there has to be a stimulus in time increment A in the past and our response occurs in time increment C the future, all this with reference to time increment A, because our response is after the fact. For example, our sense of sight relies on light photons reflecting off an object (A), being picked up through our eyes by the optic nerve (B) and interpreted by the brain (C). There is a miniscule delay between the reflection and the light photons being picked up and interpreted by the brain. The delay is even more pronounced when we look at the sky at night and see light photons that have left our closest stars and at the speed of light still take 4.3 years to get to our optic nerve before we observe it twinkling in the heavens. That light we observe is

from the past. Cool eh? This also happens when we burn ourselves; the brain has to receive the signal from the pain receptors that we have burnt ourselves before we react. This might take a fraction of a second, but there is a fraction of a second pause before we react. So we see and feel everyday objects in the past because of that delay. The reality is that to all intents and purposes, the past, present and the future occur within fractions of a second. In that respect one can predict the future. The reflection or stimuli takes that small fraction of a second for our brains to analyse the signal, assess what it is then make an inference as to what it could be against a database of historical information stored in our brains and this takes time. We interpret this as being in the present but the reality is that by the time we realise what we understand, time has moved on and the stimuli may well have changed and the process starts all over again. This is how we interpret being in the present, but we are actually existing in the past. The time interval is so small that our perceptions are that the stimuli and our reaction to it are to all intents and purposes instantaneous. In reality we will forever be playing catch up to our past. Whew is that a heavy heavy trip, never mind, I digress, can I move on know that I have established why I always return to the past, great.

All nations of the world at one time were made up of loose family groups, clans, tribes and villages. Gradually over the millennia they were absorbed by their neighbours, joined, conquered or expanded into other territories. They developed their languages, arts, religions, culture and their leadership structures and conquered their environment or lived quite sustainably within the constraints of their environment. If they came into contact with those who were more technologically advanced, they could do a number of things. Welcome this contact with open arms, take up resistance or pack up and leave. Whichever path they took, they were irrevocably changed as a nation because this contact would be the stuff of legends and passed down through the generations. Isn’t it funny when we talk about down rather than up, through the generations to come. Technology in such situations can mean the demise for low tech subsistence agricultural peoples and their culture. It doesn’t have to be that way, but unfortunately for indigenous peoples such as Cook Islanders, contact with papa’a had a profound effect on our ways of life. This still occurs to this very

continued next page

day, where less sophisticated countries have tied themselves into global capitalism, received vast loans and are unable to service them. They have been turned into being global consumers and effectively prostituted their economies and their ways of life to the detriment of their children's futures in their inability to pay their way. I'm not just talking about third world countries either, just look at the mess Greece is currently in, not long ago it was Brazil and Mexico and the list of such countries goes on.

More importantly contact with Christian missionaries had a profound effect on our traditional leaders as it was intended to. You have to remember that at first contact, there were a number of nations flexing their international muscle across the globe. Imperial expansionism was top of the agenda for Great Britain, France, Germany, Spain, USA, Portugal and other nations. Christianity had spread its tendrils into the four corners of the world. During this period of Christian expansionism, the rise of the industrial revolution had a profound effect on the relationship between an educated ruling class and a relatively unsophisticated and undereducated common folk. The industrial revolution helped usher in a new period of science inventions, democracy, mechanisation, education, capitalism, improving living standards, the opening up of new territories, and the expansion of global economies and inevitably contact with indigenous people. Those heathens or savages as we were called needed to be civilised and brought under the guidance and wisdom of the one true god. The missionaries were well placed to bring about this Christian revolution and armed with two thousand years of historical biblical knowledge, bible scriptures and a strategy to bring these 'ignorant savages' under their benevolence, began their assault on indigenous peoples belief systems where ever they were found around the globe. The missionary fathers sent their disciples out into the world and one of their two-pronged

strategies was to ingratiate themselves with the ruling classes of those they wanted to convert to Christianity and then at the same time convert the common folk. They learnt their languages, customs, and spiritual beliefs and thereby created a strategy to convert. The missionaries brought with them trade goods such as seeds, books, tools (metal), new husbandry methods, medical knowledge, building skills and writing materials, mirrors, combs, brushes, iron nails and all manner of technological advances that appealed to us savages. Many of these missionaries were poorly educated and after being given rudimentary Christian training in their home countries, continued their apprenticeships in the land of the heathen. They tended to be absolute martinets when it came to meting out discipline for infractions or breaches of Christian lore. They also had to provide interpretations of the bible scriptures because of their isolation and distance from their Mission Superiors. There are horrendous stories of Missionaries mistreating their converts all in the name of God over what they perceived as reluctance to completely give up their heathen practices. Some were absolutely fanatical in their Christian beliefs and with no ready references or models of proper conduct, meant their main point of social etiquette came from their backgrounds and their home country upbringings. These rules were what they used to bring the heathen savages to God's word.

The influence of some of these missionaries in the Pacific Islands had a profound effect on pacific island culture and those effects are still being felt to this very day. The burning down of so called pagan images, the covering up of the naked body, and the disfigurement of male symbols of fertility went hand in hand with Christian fanaticism, no wonder we have such a low opinion of ourselves and how we look. In Rarotonga today you can still see the handiwork of some Christian influenced zealot who has disfigured the statue of Tangaroa on the

back road of Ruatonga Tapere; you know the one outside the furniture shop by Ariki Restaurant. Tangaroa is facing inland supposedly because his very maleness is an affront to the Holy Ladies across the road. For goodness sakes whoever did this, get a life, stop hiding behind scripture and sort out your own inner demons and the mess that's going on in your own homes before you go on a crusade of indignation and righteousness. Another example of Christian zealotry relates to the monarchy of the current Tongan Royal family who owe their existence to the influence of the Wesleyan Methodist missionaries who involved themselves in ensuring that the Tongan family of those days whose turn it was to be the next Tu'i Tonga, were usurped. They were not Christian friendly and the Wesleyan missionaries on realising this used their influence to ensure that Tāufa'āhau at Ha'apai, stayed in power. Initially the missionaries struggled to turn the minds of the Chiefs to their one god, but as they converted more commoners over this created a groundswell of conversion to Christianity. The missionaries were very successful in Christianising Tonga as the chiefs in those days had a very low opinion of their subjects whom they believed were soul less. The Christian teachings that all mankind had souls were especially attractive to the common Tongan people so they converted in droves. Some but not all of the Chiefs realising this also converted as a political statement which suited the missionaries perfectly to ensure their positions and their Christian beliefs were secure. Within three decades, the rapid conversion of Tongan society to Christianity was complete. What I'm describing here is on public record, you only need to seek it out and you will find it.

You will see a lot of negative press in the news and social media about the fanaticism of those who are of a Muslim faith. I say a Muslim faith rather than the Muslim faith, because as we all know like Christian beliefs, there are several Muslim and Christian

faiths. The only thing they have in common is the one god ethos or Allah. History tells us from the letters and diaries and the meticulous records the Christian missionaries kept, that some of them were just as fanatical. Their writings told how they were "so proud and ecstatic that they were preaching the faith to the heathen and that at times they despaired but with God's help they would not be denied". In the Cook Islands of the 1800's we can see the influence of the missionaries through the adoption of papa'a customs of our traditional leaders and then down to the ordinary rikiriki. Old photographs of the time show our people being decked out in the clothes and fashions of the papa'a. We were no longer the half naked heathens of yesteryear. The human body was to be covered up least we look on each other with unbridled lusts and passions beyond our control. The timeline moves forward to the 2000's and what do we see, G-string bottoms and bikini tops are the fashion and lingerie is worn as everyday wear on the streets, what would those missionaries think about those scenes now I wonder. We had to walk, talk, dress and act in a manner befitting a civilised and Christianised people. Our traditional leaders looked very regal in their Punch and Judy costumes and if only they knew that all this pontificating was leading them down the path to their own destruction and the destruction of their culture. By taking on the trappings of the missionaries, the traditional leaders distanced themselves further and further from their iti tangata. It was enough that they saw themselves as the chosen ones who were the conduit between the Gods and common folk. Bad enough when they sought to elevate themselves to an even higher plane of existence on the back of missionary largess. Even worse when they manipulated the inheritance of titles and protected their privileged economic position by restricting or prohibiting common folk from certain business enterprises without their approval. Part II continues on the demise of the Ui Ariki

Infrastructure Ministry plagued by inefficiencies

By Charles Pitt

The Audit Office has issued an "Adverse" opinion on the Ministry of Infrastructure & Planning's financial statements for the 30 June 2012 financial year.

Significant issues raised in previous years have yet to be addressed.

It is also not known if an Audit Office recommendation to recover \$145,000 overspent by the Ministry in the 2013 year was ever implemented.

The Audit Office's finding is very damning for such an important Ministry given its level of funding, level of donor funding and its critical role in our development.

Audit Office listed its concerns in its fourth quarter report, 1 April 2014-30 June 2014, submitted to Minister Mark Brown on 10 June 2015 and tabled in parliament this session.

Audit's adverse opinion was

issued on the following basis;

Inventory-total inventory of \$843,871 was qualified as Audit was unable to determine the existence, valuation or allocation of inventory at year end.

Infrastructure Assets- total assets of \$6,862,113 was qualified due to opening balances. The lack of supporting documentation substantiating adjusting entries amounting to \$596,479 posted in the prior year.

Accounts payable-qualification was due to limitation of scope, no supporting documentation was provided to substantiate the variance of \$96,970 between the subsidiary ledger of \$902,204 and the general ledger of \$805,234.

The Audit Office also found that the Ministry's doubtful debts amounted to \$462,274. Ineffective controls surrounding debt collection meant the Ministry only expected to recover about 62% of total debts

by year end.

Of great concern to Audit was that 8 serious issues raised in previous years still had not been addressed while 3 had been cleared.

At the heart of all the above issues is the standard of financial control and administration. However it is noticeable that there are few recommendations relating to the need for proper financial training.

In the period to 30 June 2013, the Audit Office also identified the Ministry of Infrastructure as one of 10 of the 52 government entities which overspent their budgets.

The Ministry overspent its budget by \$145,332 which amounted to 6.03% of its budget appropriation.

While the findings revealed the Ministry actually overspent its budget by \$201,287, it made savings in personnel expenditure of over \$50,000.

Audit uncovered a number of unbudgeted expenses related to waste management.

Waste Recyclable Collection: T&M Rubbish collection's contract was not renewed and the current rates were higher than the budget given, based on the load and volume collected each month. MFEM denied a request to increase the budget

but T&M continued to collect the rubbish and the Ministry had to pay up an additional \$46,310.

Waste Compact, Cover and Seal: The Ministry used a T&M machine for compacting waste and this cost an extra \$7,041.

Total over expenditure by the Ministry's waste management division was \$105,624 due to extra work not being budgeted for.

An amount of \$6,000 was overspent on the opening of the Arorangi Jetty.

Audit also found a total cost of unbudgeted events from outer island capital projects of \$24,131.

Audit Office stated the overspend of 6.03% was significant and unacceptable. It also said savings in personnel should not be used as justification to cover for the shortfall in operating expenses and neither should it be used as a basis for justifying the overall overspend.

There was a government directive at the time to reduce expenditure by 2% in personnel and 5% in operating costs.

Audit Office recommended the overspend of \$145,000 be recovered however it is not known if this was actually implemented.

Realm Islands Pension Bill Progresses

Tuesday, 16 June 2015, 9:34 pm
Article: ParliamentToday.co.nz

The committee stage of Social Assistance (Portability to Cook Islands, Niue, and Tokelau) Bill has been completed with general agreement, but efforts to make it more generous were voted down.

The bill gives greater portability of superannuation to those from the Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau. Under the Bill a person from those places who has lived in New Zealand for 10 years, five of them after the age of 50, will be able to return to these islands. When they turn 65 they can then apply for Superannuation or Veteran's Pension.

To gain 50 percent of NZ super entitlement a person has to have had worked in the country for ten years and 20 years for 100

percent

All parties supported the bill, though there was some objection to the requirement to have to live in NZ for five years after the age of 50 with MPs saying this was less than generous and would lead to less economic benefit to the islands. NZ First promoted amendments on this issue arguing residents of the Realm Islands were New Zealanders and should be treated the same and given eligibility on the same basis.

These amendments were voted down with National, Maori Party, ACT and United Future opposed. The Government argued the bill put people of the Realm Islands on the same basis of other New Zealanders who were also required to spend five years in New Zealand between the age of 50 and 65 in order to qualify for superannuation.

A chook in the House

In parliament, the member for Rakahanga took the action man Tupapa's MP George Maggie to task over his achievements. The northern MP accused Maggie of not achieving anything while he, the Northern MP had a load of machinery delivered for his island. What the Rakahanga MP forgets is that he did not have to work for that machinery. It was a gift from China. The MP also forgets Maggie polled the highest number of votes of all MPs-498. This demonstrates the considerable confidence the voters have in Maggie. How many votes did the Rakahanga MP get? The public knows it was Fairy Godmother PM Puna who coached him to say these things but the Rakahanga MP is too mesmerized by the smooth talking PM to realize this. What projects does the Rakahanga MP have for all this machinery? None that the public can see.

Our Frontpage model



Our frontpage model for Herald Issue 771 is Moana Strickland, eldest daughter of Dr. Mata Strickland and Agnes Strickland. Check out our website www.ciherald.co.ck. and facebook page: www.facebook.com/ciherald

Exams time

Hayley-Rose McNabb

It's the time of the school year where we are working hard to work and focus a lot more and harder for our upcoming internals and also for our practise exams next term as well as end of year externals.

For English we have been studying the movie the Dark Knight and the book Montana 1945. These two texts are helping us get more involved with the idea of justice as it is one of our major themes we are studying this year.

All the work we are doing at the moment is going to benefit us for our end of year exams where we have to write essays on the text and how they connect to the key idea of justice. In our economics class we have just finished our topic on unemployment. That was a long one had we been learning it for most of this term but now that we have finally finished it I can say I think I did well on it.

We have now started our new topic of international trade and I think it is going to be very interesting.

For physics we are learning about linear motion. This topic is an external and is about acceleration, speed, displacement. Everything about how things move in a line whether it be a ball, car, or a person.

In accounting we have also finished the topic of accounts receivable. This one was about how businesses sell items on credit to customers and how they can better manage and control the accounts receivable so customers will pay them back.

And my last subject is maths and we haven't really been doing much in this class just revising over our work for our test next week.

So I am getting quite tired of all the school things we are doing, and also because I have to fit in work and practises for the Te Maeva Nui that's coming up in a few more weeks. But all I need to do is keeping moving forward so I achieve to the best I can.

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A little effort for a lot of difference

Hey Soul Sisters

By Teherenui Koteka

Just the other day I was reading a Facebook status that belonged to one of my friends who had recently visited Aitutaki. In this status she highlighted the fact that the youth of my generation should make more of an effort to visit their grandparents. She pointed out that her sudden interest in this issue branched from a conversation she had with a Mama in Aitutaki. She broadcasted the fact that this Mama was saddened by that fact that her grand children hardly made the effort to visit her. The Mama said that if her grandchildren stopped in for five minutes or made a short phone call, it would mean the world to her. My friend then rounded up her status by stating that our generation should make more of an effort to communicate with our grandparents. I saw that she was right.

I am slightly ashamed to admit in fact that I do not always make the effort to visit my grandparents. I would say that on average I visit my grandparents at least once every two weeks. The reality is that this is not a substantial enough amount. I would say that I visit my grandma at least once a week, but I tend to neglect my obligations to visit my other grandparents. I figure that if I only visit my grandparents once a week, then there must be those of us who only make the effort to visit once in a blue moon.

I thought about my grandparents who are now retired. I thought about how happy my grandparents look when I come to visit, how their faces brighten up when I surprise them with a knock on the door. I thought about all the tasks they must try to accomplish alone, but no longer have the energy to complete. It occurred to me that my grandparents need to see me a great deal more than they currently do. I then thought about how much energy it took for me to stop in at my grandma's house, the answer, not that much. I contemplated about the amount of time it would take me to visit my grandpa, the answer, not that much. When looking at these little visits with that certain teenage mindset, it seems like visiting your grandparents is a terrible, horrible inconvenience in your day.

However when looking at the bigger picture, taking a slight detour on your way home from school and spending five minutes with your grandma or grandpa is not going to take up hours of the time you would usually spend doing menial tasks or activities.

So in the future do try to make an effort to visit your grandparents, even if it is just to stop in for five minutes and say hello. It is task that may be a little bit of an inconvenience to you, but will definitely make all the difference in the world to them.

By Lucianne Vainerere

There are two particular people who always manage to keep me sane (apart from my parents). And I'd just like to share my sincere gratitude toward them. They're the kind of people that you don't get annoyed with no matter what mood you're in. One helps me with my spiritual connection and listens to my ranting and philosophical misunderstandings and the other fills my mind with big words I never thought I'd ever use.

What they both have in common is – one: they're both my friends and – two: they have both fully accepted my weird, yet colorful persona. In high school it takes a really longtime to find these kinds of friends. It took me roughly 5 years to figure out that these were my soul sisters (I have many but these two haven't been recognized yet). What I love about them is their consistency in their subjects and our friendship, their big hearts when they share their food (in their defense they really love food so sharing is a very big deal) and just being who they are.

Their the kind of friends that lend you money and tell you not to pay them back, who mock you without offending you, who laugh at your dry jokes, and makes you drive them around because you're the only one who has a license between the three of us. Their the kind of friends that you can grow old with and pick from each others food, the kind of friends that make school feel like home, and the kind of friends that are like your family. You fight, you disagree, you cry and then you make up and slightly forget about everything - slightly.

These two soul sisters are beautiful. Inside and out. I strongly believe there's a difference between being pretty and being beautiful and these two are simply beautiful. The same beautiful you would use for Mum, and the same beautiful you would use to describe a woman with child. But I guess the point is these are life long friends. The type of friends you need. The type of friends you can cook with and crash at their homes unexpectedly. The kind of friends that you can ask to be Godparents of your children. It is hard to find them, or to be and have a loyal friend like this. But with time and mutual understanding you'll be fine. It's a friendship you know will always be there and you don't have to pay much attention to.

That's my friendship with them and that's what I value. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors and hope to meet again one day in the future. I wish them success and happiness in their individual journeys that their hearts desire. Find you're soul friends, not because you want but because you need them – it can be anyone even a sibling or a parent. Be soulful and go with happiness.

How to live with integrity

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

There are people around us who are always watching how we behave, to see what kind of people we are especially when we claim to be Christians or believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Whether we like it or not they are watching us. In 1 Peter 2v.12 it reads "People who do not believe are living all around you. Live such good lives that they will see the good things you do and will give glory to God." They watch to see if what we say we believe matches what we do. People watch to see if we have integrity - meaning Honesty, Truthfulness, Reliability - this is the life of a Christian.

Peter says that there are 3 things that test our INTEGRITY and people are going to watch how we respond to these things:

- (1) TEMPTATION,
- (2) AUTHORITY,
- (3) SUFFERING.

How we respond to these 3 things will determine whether we are good witnesses for God or not, whether we have positive influence on others or not, and whether we have integrity or not. The main Bible reading for this Article of Encouragement is in 1 Peter 2v.11-25. In this passage Peter is saying, in living with INTEGRITY we need to do 3 things:

- 1). STAY AWAY FROM TEMPTATION

Peter is saying if you don't want to get stung, stay away from the bees. If you don't want to get burned, stay away from the fire. When we live around people who repeatedly take the Lord's name in vain, pretty soon we start saying, "That doesn't bother me." It should bother us because Jesus' name is taken in vain. If you watch enough sex and violence movies on television and DVD's and says "It just doesn't bother me." Peter is saying that you're slowly giving in. If you don't mind watching other people do it, eventually

you're going to end up doing it. v.16 in our reading says "Live as free men, but don't use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God." As Born Again Christians we are free. We can't lose our salvation. But we shouldn't use that as an excuse to sin. Because integrity demands that we don't do what is not right in the sight of God. John 8v.36 reads "Whom the Son sets free, is free indeed." We are free and we will not lose our salvation. In v.15 of our reading in 1 Peter 2 it reads "It is God's will that your good lives silence those who foolishly condemn the Gospel without knowing what it can do for them, having never experienced its power." God's will for our life is that we live with integrity, that our life matches what we say we believe. It is God's will that we are to be an advocate for the Lord Jesus Christ, in our workplace, at school and where ever we are. We are the only Bible some people will ever read. In other words people observe how we behave.

II. SUBMIT TO THOSE IN AUTHORITY FOR THE LORD'S SAKE

Our integrity is tested on how we respond to authority -- people in government, people in law enforcement, our boss, spiritual authorities like Pastors, any authority figure in our lives. v.14 in our reading reads "For the Lord's sake yield to the people who have authority in this world: the king, who is the highest authority, and the leaders who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right." Peter is saying that a mark of a believer is to submit to those in authority. Submission is not a sign of weakness it is a sign of self control in accordance to the Word of God. Those in authority are ordained by God. God allows Government in order to establish order, to set

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi



up laws. Even bad government, we are to respect them. Why? Because it says, "For the Lord's sake." You don't respect them because they deserve it. You respect them because the Lord has allowed them to serve you in that way. Peter is saying that "If you call yourself a Christian, you represent Christ."

v.14 reads "Make the Master proud of you by being good citizens. Respect the authorities, whatever their level; they are God's emissaries for keeping

order." Does that mean Tax Laws? Unfortunately it does! Traffic Laws? Of course! Show respect for authority! For the Lord's sake! v.17 reads "Show respect for everyone. Love Christians everywhere. Fear God and honor the government."

Peter is saying 3 things here that reveal if we are genuine believers or not. I will continue with Part 2 of this Article of Encouragement next week.

May you have a God blessed week. *Te Atua te aroa.*

On the opening day of Parliament last week the Speaker and the 74 votes PM both from Manihiki couldn't resist bathing themselves and their Island in glory over the rescuing of a missing fisherman and his six year old nephew. Elvis also lavished praise on Short Smify for taking the time away from a function to organize a chartered flight to Manihiki, no doubt temporarily stalling Smify's dumping from the chairmanship of our overly indulged Tourism Corporation. Short Smify is in the plane hiring business so what's so special about making a cool \$24,000 for the charter; he would have woken up in the middle of the night to arrange that, it's all money in the bank, no heroics in that. What did that exercise cost the hard working tax payer? With the cost of NZ's Orion included at least \$150,000? Not a pip squeak about how irresponsible the fisherman was having no safety gear with him, no life jacket, no flares, no mobile phone, no; just praise, praise and more praise, irresponsible like their Member of Parliament, no expense when it comes to keeping the Manihiki vote. How come when its money needed for our Nikao Primary School children it's all a lot of Chicken poop? Incidentally Samoa Air who has a maritime surveillance plane could have done the job a lot quicker and for a fraction of the cost. How about a few lashings of the tongue over irresponsible fishing practises by Manihikians who waste tax payer's money? With them not making any contribution to the nation's treasury, they should be told to buck up and stop taking a casual caviller approach when fishing outside the lagoon, if this was anywhere else in the world the stupid fisherman would get a bill to pay for the whole search and rescue. Just ask the Chinese for another million dollars to waste on Manihiki to buy flares, life jackets, mobile phones, Rarotonga tax payers have had enough of propping up the hand out mentality culture to get votes, just a crock of chicken poop. Maybe things will change for the better if Elvis got dumped for a PM from Rarotonga.



Refreshing to hear on the marvellous Radio Cook Islands live broadcast of Parliament the Opposition sounded organised and prepared for debate, not like in the past, totally disjointed with only one or two saying anything. Obvious they met before hand and briefed to take on the government, Elvis sounded uncomfortable in question time with his biased, colluding Speaker intervening every time he got



rattled. The Elvis patronising Speaker has got to stop trying to sanitise the debating and robust challenges to her government, any more of that nonsense and she will become the subject of ridicule. It's about time we had a real Opposition who commanded the respect of the listening audience.



For some, silence is golden, but sometimes silence is yellow. So which category does the Amuri CIP MP Toa Isamaela fall into? He doesn't say a word even at voting times; even the audience in the honourable house (what nonsense) have noticed he doesn't even utter the mandatory "aye". Come on Toa show some rooster testicles you've been a MP for five years even the new Mangaiaans have said more in the few days they have been in the House, at least make one of those silly greetings to your constituency in Aitutaki, you'll get a big welcome at the airport, "our member has spoken" they will sing.



With interviews for the advertised Heads of Ministries now completed no real surprises in existing Heads who didn't make the short lists. After all his grovelling and sucking up to his Minister the bully boy bulldozer driver Heta the Minita of Culture Sunny Willy didn't make the Cultures' short list, so let's see if he can get his friend to sway Cabinet to keep him on. Word is Ants Turua has the early running and should get the nod at Culture if he misses out to Gail Townsend for the top job at Education. Ned Howard also missed out with Transport after being there for an extended period with Airport's king pin Joey Ngamata lined up for the job if Mark and his go to man Mikie get their way and have him dumped for not playing politics and for rejecting their instructions to give CIPC a dividend if these two can overcome their damaged egos Joey will get another term with the condition he helps mentor a successor. It seems Toti's nine lives as the Environment Director after 15 years

has come to an end at the hand of the man he nominated for the CIP candidate for Matavera in the last elections. Also on the skids is Tinkerbell at Justice, but in the end its Cabinet who have the final say and it won't be the first time the selection panel's recommendations are circumnavigated. Drollet is ultra safe at Internal Affairs but would be a walk in as Public Service Commissioner if she was political and wanted the job. Can't imagine any change at Marine Resources or Agriculture, but there's a long list for departing Terry Rang's CEO job at BTIB after being there for 12 years but with the salary slashed by \$15,000 it may not appeal to most of the hopefuls.



Ewen Smify takes the cake for CIPC time machine travel back to the Kia Orana Days of 1997, after wasting over a million of dollars hiring expensive overseas marketing consultants plus hundreds of thousands on overseas production companies the creative, innovative bankrupt Tourism Board with nowhere to turn has gone backwards and as long as J. Turney can keep his matey Short Smify there that's where Tourism will keep going, backwards at an escalating cost to the tax payer, just like they did when they were Directors of the CIPC board. Short Smify has had his turn and failed miserably and at a great cost regressed tourism so he should bow out before he makes it worse and give someone else with a non self vision a turn at the helm.



Elvis attempt to justify his wife and driver's chartered flight to Manihiki, has anyone kept count how many there have been since the CIP got back into power? If the flight was for the Energy lot why was their equipment and some street lights off loaded to give the weight to the First Lady? The Energy staff had to pick up the off loaded freight on the Monday morning after the Saturday flight. Elvis called it a conspiracy, just smoke screen bollocks, why

did the driver have to go to Manihiki to help clean the houses? Are the Manihikians so lazy they couldn't help out, what another load of crock and chicken poop.



Let's hope Elvis wasn't telling another plane load of codswallop when in Parliament he promised to keep his promise to Mona Ioane and the Vaitau voters that if Mona won he would be returned to Cabinet, in fact he stated Aitutaki deserved to have a seat at the Cabinet table, but with seven not going into six who is going to get the boot? Elvis is hoping his DPM Teariki the menace would eliminated himself with self inflicting incriminating misadventures paving a way for the second coming of Mona.



What about the second hand out of date reporting by the daily tribble? They must be the laziest bunch of third rate reporters who regurgitate Radio Cook Islands live broadcasting of the latest Parliament sitting. Nothing probing, just all praise for the 74 vote Prime Minister and his baby sitting minder Licky Rattle. Talk about free publicity with the added spin no wonder the paper isn't passed around in the House like this glorious scandal breaking best selling most sought after notorious publication, wow what a mouthful of excellent descriptions.



Notice how the call me DPM the only cabinet member who can drive a bulldozer, no neck Teriky Heta hasn't uttered a word in response to his fiasco waste management site under his ICI portfolio? That's his method of dealing with critical scandalous issues that get exposed by this media group. The waste site is a complete disaster zone when it rains solid. Come on Heta speak up get your head out of the sand and fix the problems you have helped create. You can't fix the water and waste problems in your own back yard and you want to run the country? Get real or get out.



Its time Smelly Heta gave his overpriced side kick hello Drollet the boot, the lazy Drollet contributed absolutely nothing to the Demos budget debate. Claiming to be an economic wiz bang but couldn't even come up with any pointers to challenge the budget yet he without a conscience picks up his \$1200 a week pay for working, oops sorry, attending the workplace for 20 hours a week. 25% of the Opposition budget goes to feed the loser specialist who doesn't bring anything to the table, looks like the tail is wagging the head, come on Smelly show

some leadership or step aside for Jimmy Lager.



Elvis made a bold chilling statement in the House of time wasters last week when he claimed there were no secrets in his CIP government, what a load of rooster poop! If that is so why all the secrecy over the Civil List? Come on Elvis pop down to St Josephs and go to confessions and purge yourself for blatant lying on a live Radio broadcast to the Nation.



Very noticeable by his silence in the House the bully boy DPM Heta is brooding over his rejection by the Demos to form a coalition with his four followers as Elvis' deputy he is supposed to come to the PMs defence when under attack in the House but it's cold chilly silence from the only one in the CIP who can drive a bulldozer. Imagine him as the PM with his brother Smelly as the DPM, what a disaster for the country, both are a penny short when it comes to a working knowledge of the Constitution, the standing orders and the MFEM Act.



Elvis thinks we are all a bunch of dummies, after 14 months with only eight sitting days in parliament and the budget on the table he wants to shut up shop on Friday because his baby sitter protector Speaker Nikky Rattle and the Clerk are going overseas on Saturday. Why should the country's business stop because two people have the country's priorities wrong? Don't we have a deputy Speaker and a deputy Clerk or are they holding those positions as decorations, the fact is without his shoddy colluding Speaker Rattle to interject every time he's under the hammer Elvis is left to the wolves to devour? Stop stuffing the country around Elvis, do the right thing for the people instead of serving your own

interests.



Here we go again and we've heard it all before now Aldumdo the white Negro is opening his big mouth up talking the new better TV service Bluesky is going to launch, better than what, how can anything you have to pay for be better than something we are getting for free? What's next computer sales because Bluesky can do it better? Didn't John Ternie say the same thing a few years ago? His monkey Nick Enery was going to deliver a latest technology better TV service that never got off the ground, then there was the French then there was the Tahitian Whola who said the same thing. How about a better internet service before you start mouthing off about other services.

Now we know why the Demo opposition is so dead useless and unproductive, their support budget is \$202,000 with \$147,000 going on personnel and a miserable \$48,200 on operations. What a rort being orchestrated by the Demo's specialized loser and raffle organizer hello Drolley. Coalition partner One Cook Islands has no budget and with volunteers, by far outstrip the productivity of the sit and wait highly paid Demo layabouts.



Parliament has sat 8 days in the last 12 months before this current sitting but this Friday the PM wants to close off debate because he says his sidekick the Speaker has an overseas trip. So where is the deputy speaker? And when Parliament is sitting why is the Speaker got an overseas trip what is more official than her official duties in the House?



Apparently the reason why listeners can't hear the debate in Parliament is not because of Radio Cook Islands but because the old air conditioning has failed and the

new floor models are making a racket that listeners tuned in can't make out. Anyway it's all a whole lot of hot air and at least the air conditioners make more noise than some of the Govt MP's, some haven't spoken for a whole year!



Is it me or is the Speaker point of ordering James Beer each time he talks? Is the Speaker doing the job of the government by point of ordering James Beer oh thats right she is the PM's secret weapon, she ain't just the Government Speaker of the House she is also the Puna Baby Sitter. Wiping up after him and running out to protect him.



Talking about James Vini Lager and his speech on Tuesday nights late sitting, the person that should really be given a hearty hand shake and a pat on the back is the Clerk doing his translation of the speech. The Clerk did an incredibly good job, not only did he follow the ebb and flow of the Lager speech but the choice of words to help translate has set a new level of translation expertise unseen and unheard for many years. The Clerk must have some holy spirit to help him after all its takes a spirit to translate a beer.



Unlike previous Pacific Games, our administrators have not stated how many medals our team is going to return with. When will this announcement be made?



So government is working on a pension package for retiring public servants at the age of 60 yrs because there's too many old ones occupying seats which could be filled by younger staff on much lower pay! Is it more to do with cost saving rather than creating jobs for younger staff? But most know public servants actually stop working at 40 yrs. After

that they go into "paid retirement" on full pay, until 60yrs when they collect an extra \$6,000 per year in the local pension!



The PM admitted himself that with the country moving out of "development" status and into "developed" status, it will be harder to seek funds for projects. As we are not independent, we cannot join the IMF or World Bank and access their funds! But why are we trying to access other people's funds? Why not develop our own economy, increase our exports, reduce dependency on imports, cut government expenditure, stimulate our economy by abolishing taxes and transfer more costs to foreigners exploiting our assets? It all sounds too hard for a government now accustomed to begging.



Check out the new NZ High Commissioner's hairstyle. Does he dye his hair? It looks jet black with no grey at all! Does this mean local pharmacies will need to stock up on black hair dye again? Next to Viagra, men's hair dye must be the next big seller!



How can our donor partners take us seriously when our Minister of Finance thinks it's more important to be at the Pacific Games in PNG rather than be in parliament debating the Budget? When will government take the Budget seriously? Political reform must address one important issue in regard to parliament and that is, MPs must work all year not just when the House is in session. Their salary is a yearly one so work all year!



Why is government dishing out a tax cut next year for those at the bottom of the ladder? Not because of any sense of community but to drop within its FRR (Financial Responsibility Ratio) for income tax as a percentage of GDP. At the moment government's tax take is 2-3 percent above its FRR of 25% of GDP.

FAT CATS

Number 2, Cabinet has lost its copies of meetings so cannot confirm which ministers met when and agreed to what!

The twilight zone!



COCONUT ROUNDTABLE

Rumour has it, Government has lost valuable records of Cabinet meetings!

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At least they know that!



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**eat less
move more**

Relocation

By Taja Vaetoru

The point where I can give 100% of myself to someone. Where no care needs to be shown in order for me to return it.

Heeeey, here's my love.

It's all yours.

I know you have issues with trust but that's okay. I don't need it to show my loyalty and commitment. You're not a dog. I won't hand out treats if you behave.

I've become dependent on others. Desperate for their love and affection. With an open mind, the point is now in sight. Realisation that the only one I need to receive trust, honesty, love and respect from is myself.

If you give yourself happiness
You do not give others permission to take it when they leave.

*Description:
19 year old graphic designer.
Taurus. Born and raised in Manihiki.
Life motto is YOLO.*

PUBLIC NOTICE



Business Trade Investment Board
Cook Islands

Notice to all Foreign Enterprises (companies and Individuals)

Pursuant to the Development Investment Act 1995-96, Part VIII, section 34 Annual Filing of Information notice is hereby given to all registered foreign enterprise and individuals that Annual Filing of Information is due on 30th June 2015. Forms are available at the BTIB office at Ruatonga 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



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Penalty payments are credited to your employee's superannuation accounts.

For more information please contact the CINSF Office on ph25515 or email: enquiry@superfund.gov.ck

VACANCY



Government of the Cook Islands
OFFICE OF THE HON. KIRIAU TUREPU
Minister of Agriculture, National Environment Service, Business
Trade and Investment Board
PO Box 26, Avarua, Rarotonga Ph: (682) 29-030
e:kturepu@ministerkt.gov.ck

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

The National Environment Service or Tu'anga Taporoporo is a Crown funded agency and is responsible for the National Environment Services or the Tu'anga Taporoporo.

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- Effective communication skills, written & oral;
- Experience and proven results in a similar position;
- Be responsible to the Minister for Environment for carrying out the functions and duties of the National Environment Service or Tu'anga Taporoporo;
- To comply with obligations pursuant to the Performance Agreement entered into between the Director and the Minister of Environment including the attaining of output approved therein;
- To comply with obligations under the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management Act 1995/96 and subsequent amendments;
- 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;
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Chief Administration Officer
National Environment Services or Tu'anga Taporoporo
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Written applications together with a current CV may be sent in confidence to:

National Environment Services or Tu'anga Taporoporo
c/o The Office of the Minister responsible for Environment.

Avarua

Rarotonga

by Tuesday 4pm 30th of June, 2015

FOOTBALL UPDATE

Ferns exit with heads held high

The Football Ferns have been knocked out of the FIFA Women's World Cup in dramatic circumstances, drawing 2-2 with China in their final group match.

New Zealand broke their scoring drought with goals to Rebekah Stott and Hannah Wilkinson but the talking point of an absorbing contest was a controversial penalty decision that saw China level the scores minutes before halftime.

The Football Ferns needed a win to progress to the knockout stages from one of the tournament's toughest pools, and defender Rebekah Stott produced the moment of brilliance coach Tony Readings had called for, meeting a 21st minute corner at the back post with a blistering half volley of which any striker would be proud.

China equalised from the penalty spot four minutes before halftime when Betsy Hassett blocked a ball with her chest and was harshly judged to have handled the ball. Lisi Wang made no mistake from 12 yards.

The Chinese then went ahead on the hour mark with striker Shanshan Wang beating Erin Nayler to an enticing cross on the counter attack but Hannah Wilkinson restored parity three minutes later, scrambling the ball home after Amber Hearn headed an Ali Riley cross back across goal.

New Zealand pressed for the winner late in the game, spurred by player of the match Annalie Longo, who played through to the final whistle with a suspected broken bone in her foot.

There was more drama late in the match with Chinese



Annalie Longo celebrates her opening goal against China.
Credit: FIFA via Getty Images

coach sent from the field for interfering with Ria Percival as she tried to take a quick throw in with pressure mounting on China.

The Football Ferns weren't going to die wondering as Tony Readings rung the changes with time ticking down, pushing numbers forward and rejigging the formation to create overloads but ultimately the Football Ferns ran out of time.

After the match head coach Tony Readings said they done everything they could and that the game was ultimately decided by an 'uncontrollable.' "We were very attacking throughout the game and became even more attacking as the game went on," he said.

"It's the third game in a row where we've said the same thing. The performances we've

put in haven't got the results we deserve in this group.

"In terms of overall performance we couldn't be any prouder of the players today. They left everything out here because this means a hell of a lot to them and they worked extremely hard."

With Canada and the Netherlands also drawing, 1-1 in Montreal, China finish in second place behind the hosts while the Dutch are almost certain to join them in the knockout stage as one of the four best third-placed teams.

New Zealand ended with two points from two draws – its best ever Women's World Cup haul – but that was scant consolation for a frustrated Football Ferns camp.

Readings vowed that the Football Ferns would deliver

on the promise they showed in Canada next year in Rio.

"We felt like we were one of the better teams in this group across the three games we played yet we haven't got the results," Readings said.

"This is a special group of players. It's been one of the two toughest groups in the tournament.

"We've underachieved but we haven't underperformed. Football is such a close game; a referee decision or a ball bouncing the wrong way can make all the difference. But we need to be better so that these things go in our favour.

"This team has massive potential. Despite the fact we've got a few centurions, two of them are 25 years old and we're going to have the core of them at the Olympics and even the next World Cup."