

COOK ISLANDS HERALD BUDGET COMMENT 01 JULY 2015 July 2016 - Economic melt down predicted

he latest Budget is a sure indicator our mismanaged economy is heading for apocalyptic Armageddon, an the Minister of Finance Mark Brown and his Financial Secretary Richard Neves has for the fourth successive year delivered a Budget riddled with creative accounting bordering on fraudulent forecasting. An analysis of this pretend budget and the template of the previous three miscalculated Budgets point to an unprecedented collapse of the Cook Islands economy in July 2016 if not before.

This huff and bluff economic statement (The Budget) has defined the pattern this misfit tag team has iced the true critical state of the fiscal condition the economy is in. Brown has regurgitated a gift of the gap rainbow statement saturated with carrot promises that both know are blatant political sweeteners to tickle the ears of the desperate private sector into a false hope of expectation this budget will bring the bacon home.

The 2015/2016 Budget Statement is littered with mistakes and analytical contradictions which will be published in a separate article. The fact the Minister of Finance Mark Brown signed it off as authentic brings into serious question as to whether he took the time to read and comprehend it line by line and cross reference the comparative mentioned items, if so there was no way he would of signed it off or is he as lazy as he is arrogant?

It is little wonder that when the "Guns of Navarone" Teina Bishop and James Beer began putting the blow torch to the Budget Statement, Puna and

the transmitted iPad advice from Neves they hastily guillotined the Budget and adjourned parliament sine die.

Given the broadest elastical benefit of doubt, time has proven Brown and Neves are novices and grossly incompetent sovereign fiscal guardians who should resign or be dumped before it is too late to head off lived up to their hype, each

Saunders who uses the Law as their basis of compliance psychology.

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the fiscal apocalypse at the pass. Their combined arrogance condoned by expat supporters in the hope favoured treatment would fall their way only served to mask the road map of fiscal destruction they have been prescribing the country.

Neves has never been on the money nor has Brown, they have never got it right in the past with their schizophrenic fiscal template and neither have they got it right this time around. Despite the discomfort of those who dared to question their fiscal madness of high risk unchartered and unproven adoptions, it has been full steam ahead with the backing of an equally incompetent Solicitor

time his six monthly financial statements proved off the mark, his financial credibility footprint has shrunk. It is little wonder he was tagged with the nick name Neneva and his fiscal achievement appropriately called Nenevanomics. Despite Brown persisting with him in the hope he would return a dividend, Neves has failed miserably to put runs on the board and has not enhanced the economy.

A time line analysis of Neves' performance it is clear he has a lazy cognitive that hides behind the security of the lazy Saunders who tailor makes legal opinions to blanket Neves dubious decisions. Neves' lacks the professional skills, creativity and capacity to

Brown began panicking and on General the gym junky Kim lift our micro economy a single digit percentage of its potential which literally has been an escape clause for departing Cook Islands

> Our eroding, depreciating economy is at high risk of imploding if not before July 2016 which will provide a takeover climate for the likes of cash strapped local investors in competition with Chinese bargain bin tyre kickers.

> What is predicted to happen in July 2016 will make the 1996 melt down a walk in the park. It took a one degree deflection thirty years to gobble the economy the first time but after an ultra prudent private sector driven recovery it has taken less than 15 years to return a full circle and the seed of death like previously is the mismanagement of the Public Service.

> Warned in 2011 by the John Tierny lead Economic Forum that the then 1700 plus Public Service was bloated and unsustainable, this vote buying jobs for the boys, the power intoxicated Cook Islands Party government backed by the politically appointed Russell Thomas as the Public Service Commissioner dismissed the red flag warning as irrelevant and scaremongering.

With all their predictions of a rainbow economy always within grasp or on the horizon failing to materialise after four years of fraudulent rhetoric , Neves is resigned to the certainty doomsday is a mere year away if he fails to stomach the task of shedding 500 people from the tax funded payroll.

knows Brown it but continues the charade with fingers crossed hoping his like mad the promises of our manganese nodules magically

COOK ISLANDS HERALD BUDGET COMMENT



Minister of Finance Mark Brown and Financial Secretary Richard Neves

attracting multi millions of advanced financial riches. Recommendations to adopt prudent principles of financial management have been ignored while the Puna government has recklessly gorged themselves in the self preservation of buying votes in their frenzy to hold on to the reigns of power and the continuation of concealing the corruption that is synonymous with the CIP administration.

The Paul Lynch propagated fantasy of manganese nodule billions of fiscal riches is an long standing pipe dream that gets revived whenever the government of the day has an Alice in Wonderland moment . Tangible harvesting in reality is another generation away. This stupid ploy cannot be used to manipulate an internet savvy public who can detect misused information. A simple Goggle search brings the whole blurred and politically fudged manganese nodule excitement into an intelligent focus by separating the facts from the fantasy propaganda.

Neves knew a year ago where the economy was heading but had a personality change and began placating his political masters in his desperation to get a contract extension, without moral conviction Neves' principle compromise is at the expense of the masses, for personal short term self gratification the rest of us will become the casualties of a lengthy painful fiscal upheaval.

A devious master of blame transfer, Neves' plan to extract himself from the responsibility of initiating the mass sacking of public servants is in bedded in a diversion hatched as a public consultation on the Public Service. The mass sacking will become a public relation exercise that points the blame at the feet of the public who contributed opinions in the consultations.

Like the Public consultations with the Tax review and the Te Mato Vai project the current Public Service strategic plan feedback is a smoke screen diversion to transfer the expected public fall out and social unrest onto the participating public.

In 1997 the total Budget was \$46 million, the current bloated personnel budget alone is now \$48 million, something has got to give and when it does the culprits of this organised disaster are Brown and Neves.

- George Pitt





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COOK ISLANDS HERALD BUDGET COMMENT 01 JULY 2015 The facts, fiction and fantasy of another Brown budget -**100% pure Nenevanomics**

or those who have fiscal discernment and take the time to mentally digest the 2015/2016 Budget Statement will guickly affirm the saying "the Devil is in the detail." After four years of replicated dribble, one can justifiably state this latest Budget is an insult to the intelligence of every taxpaying contributor. It is little wonder the Budget debate was guillotined with MFEM left to find excuses to defend the documented details should members of the public spot the discrepancies.

While the majority of Members of Parliament are Budget illiterate and don't bother to microscopically scrutinise the details, they ones that did are alarmed the copy they received is not the same as the one available to the public, the noticeable difference is their copy showed most Ministries in deficit but the issue for public consumption showed the opposite.

The Minister of Finance Mark Brown's response to his latest mumbo jumbo excuse for the management of the people's money is to chastise the critics for dumping on the fine educated young Cook Islanders who toil away at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM) under the tutorship of the worst performing Financial Secretary the Cook Islands have had to tolerate, Richard Neves.

Neves' track record of economic forecasting and basic accounting accuracy is juvenile and fraudulent to say the least.

Let's make reference to the hype of the good fortune that lay before us in the 2014/2015 Budget Statement;

MFEM estimated that they will get \$49 million last year in VAT but only received \$45 million.

\$21 million in income tax but only received \$16 million, \$11 million in company tax but only received \$9 million and the estimated \$11 million in import levies but were short by \$1 million.

The Total 2014/2015 tax estimated \$101,289,097 but only received \$89,870,765 a whopping shortfall of more than\$11 million. Despite Neves six monthly predicted surpluses mysteriously becoming excusable deficits, his boss Brown would Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga dismiss the alarmists and keep and Hawaii) Concerning the

Neves does not reveal how \$12 million is going to bridge the previous year's gap. Where exactly is the \$12 million going to come from? Maybe from increased commercial fishing licence sales through the Ministry of Marine Resources?

This is a gross misleading by Cabinet but more so of Parliament. Especially when MFEM is estimating that Tourism the main driver of the economy is at high risk of plateauing and shrinking because of our regional competitors. (Bali

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a straight face while publically Tourism appropriation, a closer declaring everything was ticking over nicely.

While MFEM will not deny the current economy is contracting with no credible factual signs this next twelve months will be better than the previous period they have the audacity to estimate for 2015/2016 tax revenue will be \$102,914,077 when the actual tax revenue received in 2014/2015 was \$89.870.765.

Had this Budget been debated in Parliament these nonsensical elasticised estimates would most likely have been questioned and challenged as they are illogical. examination of the figures doesn't quite tally up, let Brown conjure up an explanation for that faux pas.

Government estimated a total revenue of \$123,005,246 in 2014/2015 but only received \$109,092,854 million a short fall of nearly \$14 million and yet this year they are estimating a total revenue of \$134,595,433 despite no signs of economic development.

Had it not been for MMR Ponia's Secretary Ben controversial \$12 million windfall from the sale of fishing quotas to foreign interests the shortfall would have been pushed the economy within a whisker of fracturing.

The consequence of such wrong estimate is that there is a cut of budget right across the line Ministries, Government agencies and Island Administrations to the tune of more than \$1 million (\$1,149,560).

Based on Neves' previous roller coasting predictions and actual results that fell on the wrong side of the ledger, one can comfortably expect another miscalculation and deficit. This Budget's short fall is predicted to be an embarrassing \$37 million sending the fragile Cook Islands economy into recession.

Neves' sleight of hand side channelling (Robbing Peter to pay Paul) to meet government's portion to the aid funded WATSAN project was at the expense of the Manihiki lagoon rehabilitation which is critical the pearl revitalisation to programme.

In May 2015, a letter of variation was signed (Most likely by the PM Henry Puna as Minister of Marine Resources) that agreed to close off output 1-3 as completed and transfer output 4 -Manihiki Lagoon clean up with a remaining budget of \$390,000.00 to the sanitation upgrade programme in Rarotonga and Aitutaki.

The CIP government's hideous refusal to allow the integrity of the current Budget to be tested in the House by means of robust transparent debate is a fundamental abuse of the democratic right of the people who now have the right to question the political sincerity of the self serving Puna government. - George Pitt

COOK ISLANDS HERALD NEWS



Our frontpage model for Herald Issue 773 is Terena Koteka-Wiki, we managed to grab Terena while she was here on holiday. The young Cook Islander is currently studying Oceanography at HPU in Hawaii. Check out our website www. ciherald.co.ck. and facebook page: www.facebook.com/ ciherald

Our Frontpage model Design competition for Breast Cancer Awareness

he Cook Islands Breast Cancer Foundation is calling all local designers and would-be designers to craft designs for T-shirts, singlets and pareu commemorating this year's annual breast cancer appeal in October.

The competition is open to anyone and the only stipulation is that it should incorporate both the CI Breast Cancer Foundation logo (a pink CIBCF bow), and the 50thCelebrations logo. Apart from these two criteria the clothing designs can be as free flowing as one likes.

CIBCF chair Jaewynn McKay says, "We want the one-off clothing we sell during this year's Pink October to do the talking for all those who can't.Cancer is an insidious disease that strikes too many of our women folk, some are often too shy or live somewhere too remote, to seek early help; and early detection is the key to better survival."

Each July an incredibly caring and dedicated team of women all medical professionals come from Australia to carry out checks on our women; and the Foundation uses its funds to fly our Cook Islands women from the outer islands for examinations.

This year the Foundation will also be offering transport to and from the hospital for those who need assistance getting to and from visiting the mammogram team.

"In keeping with the celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of self-government, this year we're asking designers to show their support for Breast Cancer survivors, patients and their families and come up with a suitable design or maybe a logo that incorporates the CIBCF and the 50th logos. We want them to let their creative juices run wild and to come up with something that will be fun and appealing, but to the point and in keeping with the foundation's work. We're looking for local designs that boys and girls and women and men would feel proud and comfortable wearing."

The call for entries is open now, and will close on 31 August. A panel comprising members of the CIBCF Board and the 50th Commemoration Committee is being set up, and we'll announce the winning entries/designs which will be modelled by Miss Cook Islands contestants at a Pink Ribbon Celebrity Breakfast kicking off Pink October on Thursday 1st October at Café Salsa.

The reward for the winning designers will be seeing their designs being worn, potentially anywhere - and knowing that they have contributed to a great cause!

Last year 388 women were examined and 3 were referred to New Zealand for further treatment as a result of their screening, sadly one of these three passed away. In New Zealand where many of our women live, 8 women get diagnosed with breast cancer each day, and around 650 will die from the disease this year.

This October let's all look forward to creating awareness of the prevention and treatment of breast cancer through the wearing of creative local designs.

Nick Henry, Chair of the 50th Celebrations Steering Committee commented that "this 50th year of self-government will see the largest Te Maeva Nui Celebrations ever. With more than 1000 people from the Pa Enua it will be a perfect opportunity for the Health department to promote their early detection programmes to reach many of our Cook Islands mothers, aunties and sisters who otherwise might miss out. Our mothers are precious for they are the heart of our young nation".

For a digital copy of the 50th and CI Breast Cancer Foundation logos, please email: jaewynn@wovenpacific.com

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By Norman George

undamental to our civil society to protect life and property, to prevent crime, to ensure freedom and liberty is the role of the Police. Police are granted many statutory powers to carry out their duties. They are granted automatic powers of arrest when they detect or suspect that a person has committed an offence punishable by imprisonment. Such powers include the power to detain and search a person under certain Acts, which I shall highlight later.

What is critical is that the Police do not enjoy absolute right to do whatever they wish. To allow excessive Police power turns our country into a harsh brutal Police state. That is where the role of JPs. Judges and lawyers come into place. Police actions come under the scrutiny of defence counsels just before or after arrest!

The first issue for defence counsel to discover is what offence was alleged to have been committed. what evidence does the Police have and whether or not the Police had the power to arrest the The next concern is client. to apply for the client to be bailed from Police custody. This can be done by having the arrested person appearing in Court as soon as possible where application for bail is made to the presiding JP. The Police can oppose bail in a complicated case involving violence or requiring extensive investigations. If the JP agrees with the Police, the defendant is remanded in custody to appear again 7 or 14 days later. He is transferred to Arorangi Prison. The Police also have limited powers to grant bail.

If Counsel is successful in the bail application before a JP the defendant is bailed and released immediately. Sometimes the Police will demand certain conditions to be imposed on the defendant such as to surrender his passport to the court registrar, not to make

contact with certain named when preparing for jury trials. Police witnesses, not to drink or enter liquor licensed premises and sometimes to report to the Central Police station in Avarua at certain times once, twice or daily. This can be a controversial area which I will mention later.

Central to an alert defence counsel is to evaluate what evidence the Police have, what admissions and confessions their clients gave the Police, what statements they have made, both oral and in writing. Fundamental to all of this is whether any confessions made were voluntary and not the result of coercion or violence. like being beaten up by the Police!

A full written confession, not being extracted by violence is admissible in a Court of law. Such a confession is challengeable if obtained by force, trickery or other means of unfairness. Some rules of evidence come into play. There is protection of husband and wife giving evidence against each other in relation to certain offences. The sanctity of marriage is well protected by our legal system. Lawyer client discussions are protected and not for disclosure.

a charge is, I personally make a point of visiting the crime scene ASAP. I do this with a camera, measuring devices and my handy notepad. The type of scenes I am likely to visit includes homicide, fatal accidents or very serious ones, rape scene and other serious violence scenes. I travel to the outer islands to do this from time to time.

As an ex-NZ Police detective, I combine detective work with legal work. I do what they say in Police investigations circles as Crime Scene reconstruction. How it happened. It is necessary for me to do early scene examinations while the evidence is fresh. Most trials here don't happen before 12 months. By then memories

The investigations here are not committing a crime punishable of the highest standards. What our detectives need is mentoring from early retired NZ the Police have the right to Police Detectives or doing tours of duty in various New Zealand C.I.B.s for no less than 2 years. The more unfortunate aspect about our Police personnel is the high turnover of staff. How many member of the C.I.B are in their 50's? The Police service appears to be a young person's adventure. Once they hit about 40, they leave. So the service is missing this mature group in their late 40's to 50's to sustain their experiences. Whenever hard earned experiences are gained they leave and the service suffers.

When I was a Police Minister I have entertained the idea of recruiting two or three early NZ Police retired Detectives may be for 2 yearly terms to mentor our Police. We create a large house for them, rent 19 of this same Act. free, and pay them sustenance allowances as they will clearly be on their NZ pension. I am sure they will queue up to take the job. We need specialists in Drug enforcement, burglaries, thefts and serious crimes.

Evidence presentation in Depending on how serious Court is critical. Some Police officers show off in the witness box and lose their case. The way they dodge straight answers will beat politicians for evasiveness. I love the ones who lose their temper; I feed on it! They will not impress the jury when they show anger, bias and prejudice. All my offers to help Police personnel with evidential presentation and evaluation over the past 25 years have been declined. Too proud, too smart, too small minded. The offer is now withdrawn. Instead I offer to mentor both prosecution and C.I.B later when I am retired as a defence counsel; the Police will have to wait for a little while though!

A few quick takes under the Act: section 338 provides for fail. My early notes are revived the Police to have the power to

arrest anyone without warrant quality of Police who they find or suspect of by imprisonment.

> Once a person is arrested, search that person's house for evidence, incidental to the arrest. He does not require a search warrant to do this. His power of search is derived from the common law and not from statute. See Barnett and Grant v Campbell [1902] NZLR 484 (CA) at pp 491-492.

> In most other cases unrelated to an arrest, the Police must obtain a search warrant first, under section 96 of the Criminal Procedure Act 1980-81. The Police must file a written application to the Registrar, JP or Judge for approval to authorise the search. Other powers of search arise out of section 18(3) of the Narcotics and Misuse of Drugs Act 2004 (without warrant) and any internal search of the body comes from section

> In closing for this week, I comment on a nameless wimp who wrote an unsigned letter to the editor in the C.I. News last Saturday the 27th of June. He made reference to my two dollar publicity seeking stunts in my weekly articles, suggesting I am paying for the right to do this! Far from it my unworthy friend. I was invited by both the C.I. News and the C.I. Herald to make weekly contributions on whatever subject I choose; without pay, song or dance! Sister! I do not need the publicity! Judging from the positive feedbacks, there are readers out there who appreciate and enjoy my column. And this creep suggests that I donate my time to do class legal action for people like grey power etc, while hiding under the crevices of anonymity like a cockroach! Give us your name and I will demand what charitable work you must do if you have any talent. Thanks for nothing!

More about the Crimes Act next week.

COOK ISLANDS HERALD 01 JULY 2015 NEWS Where is the respect?

oes 'Te Mato Vai' and Government respect our Constitutional, Freedoms and Human Rights? Our Land rights passed to us by our ancestors. Our Constitutional Rights as Cook Islanders and our Human Rights and Freedoms as people, taxpayers, consumers, parents and care-givers. This is the Fundamental question that must be asked. Our Constitution articles 40. 64 and 66a.

The belief that when our 'waterworks' was covered by NZ Aid and the Landowners did not ask for compensation back then in the 60's compared to today is total dis-belief and 'negligence' of facts. The infrastructure was covered by NZ Aid and the people did not pay. In the TMV model the Landowners bring their lands and the water resource and are tax payers. The Tax Payers will pay for the 'distribution system' through loans, and what do the Government bring to the table? They want \$1.5 million in user charges from the annually.(2012/2013 people CI Government Capital Plan Book 3 p.14) Now you now have a 'commercial venture'. A totally different model to that of the past. The landowners were compensated for the solar projects up north. Is there a 'Northern Group' law?

Lets see what the Master Plan states, which according to the TMV Project Management Unit is their bible; (p7)

However, the legal . authority for MOIP to be involved in the provision of water services and ownership of assets is unclear.

Neither the • Government of the Cook Islands Property Corporation Act nor the Cook Islands Investment Corporation Act covers the management and ownership of water supply assets.

Service levels. construction standards and water quality standards have to be developed and agreed with consumers.

. Another important objective of the Act is to repeal the "Rarotonga Waterworks Ordinance 1960" which appears to be the main document of any Table 3 EIB Costs for upgrading the water supply system in Rarotonga (EIB, 2012)

No.	Component	Cost \$NZ
1	Rehabilitation of 12 intakes	\$3,070,000
2	Treatment (roughing and slow sand filters)	\$6,150,000
3	Storage tanks 5,000 m ³ total volume	\$3,200,000
4	Replace 9 transmission lines	\$2,920,000
5	Ring main, 50% replacement, 50% repair	\$7,110,000
6	Consumer water meters, 6,000 No.	\$340,000
7	Operation & maintenance equipment, material	\$250,000
8	Project management, training, commercialization	\$3,280,000
		\$26,320,000

supply on Rarotonga.

Lets look at the \$34 million dollar water piping (Trunk mains and Ring mains, table 1 p.iv). This distribution system once completed will provide improvements (p. 30);

"High velocities in the ring mains and the associated head losses are greatly reduced, corresponding to a slight improvement in pressures across the full extent of the network. The 2016 demand scenario has been built with the same underlying assumption as the existing scenario, that full pressures at the intakes will not be realised. "\$34 million dollars on pipes to achieve "a slight improvement in pressures." Was any of these issues put to the people before the project started?

We must all remember that the Turangi, Matavera, Tupapa and Ngatoe water intakes were built from 1990 to 1993. Check out standing orders and the PSC Act Part 20 on values and code of conducts; (a) honesty – acting honestly, being truthful, and abiding by the laws of the Cook Islands: or part (g) efficiency and effectiveness - achieving good results for the Cook Islands in an economical way. "Government and Government officials have put a proclamation to say in 90 days we are going ahead. The outcome to any disputes will be heard in the High Court". "There is no compensation for Landowners". Recently the article published in the Herald, "We apologise and want to offer Landowners half a cent for 1,000 cubic meters". That is 100,000

legal standing covering water litres at half a cent. Over 10 million litres is consumed by the public daily according to the Master Plan assumptions. All the Landowners on Rarotonga collect 50 cents a day. Is that fair and just?

Now let's look at the financial breakdown of the Te Mato Vai project. \$6 million to AECOM for a Master Plan which in most cases are assumptions and wrong. The PMU collect \$5.2 million over 3 years, they are 'dictated' by bureaucrats. The Project Steering Committee headed by the Financial Secretary and controlled by the ICI Minister and Cabinet. Over \$11 million for 'Assumptions and Bureaucracy'. Plus over the next 10 years an additional \$15 million dollars for user pays on the water. Totalling in excess of \$26 million dollars. The Landowners will pay for the water resource derived from their Lands and help the 'taxpayers' pay for the loans. Is that fair and just?

What about the EIB option costed at \$26.3 million?

The Watercare lab group who analyse the water quality of New Zealanders have inferred that our water quality above the intakes is as good as New Zealand water, so why the millions to be spent on treatment? Treatment plants will restrict pressure in all the water systems and that will have a further effect on supply to those farthest from the intakes and on high points in the dry periods.

The water treatment system in the Master Plan (p46,49) is not an engineering diagram and is wrong. There is also no back up units. Read the water quality and standards issue by Mr Thomson recently in the Herald dosen't make the standards and quality issues by Government full proof. Must agree that all these should have all looked at prior to the commencement of the project!

We hear that water catchment committees are aware of all these concerns are in agreement with the repealing of the 1960 water ordinances and why can't their be Partnership? Why were the locals concerns and options never considered, anyone remember the petition that was tabled in Parliament? Around 2000 people from a pool of some 8000 odd voters. Anywhere else in the world that ratio of voters in any democracy would automatically have immediate ramifications unless we are in Zimbabwe or some other regime governed by a dictatorship. One may think that if the PM says "He has the Law", Our Constitution, the "supreme law" as stated by our Clerk of Parliament, no longer protects our society but gives 'rights' to a few or even one person. That man he indicated on National TV was a foreigner which seems to sum things up!

How do the taxpayers of the Cook Islands and New Zealand feel about the issue? Everyone in the world needs water and that has been the case here before the arrival of Christianity, however one must ask the question, Does 'Te Mato Vai' and Government respect our Constitutional, Freedoms and Human Rights?

-"Law abiding Citizen"

COOK ISLANDS HERALD NEWS Cook Islands Herald Issue 773

TE KAVE KORERO Host: Tony Hakaoro, WEDS 24th JUNE 2015

PM Puna speaks to Kave Korero

Prime Minister Henry Puna was the guest speaker on Te Kave Korero on Wednesday 24th June 2015.

In his introduction, Te Kave Korero presenter, Tony Hakaoro, congratulated the Prime Minister for his son's achievement.

Published in the Cook Islands News on Wednesday 24th June were photos taken of the Prime Minister's son, Captain Edwin Puna, in the cockpit of Air New Zealand flight NZ106, having arrived into Rarotonga on Monday 22nd June.

Te Kave Korero believes the Prime Minister's son is the first ever Cook Islander, born and bred in the Cook Islands, to captain an Air New Zealand flight into Rarotonga.

In Maori Tony said that when we see one of our Cook Islands sons achieving that, or higher, it's a very proud moment for Cook Islands people.

"Toku vaerua, irinaki au e, me kite atu tatou i tetai tamaiti Kuki Airani a tatou, i te reira au turanga, e, runga atu, riro te reira ei ngakauparau no to tatou iti tangata, kare ainei?"

Puna was humble in his response, saying that he did not want to talk about the matter because the subject person is his son but he acknowledged that it was someone else who put the photos of his son in the newspaper.

"Kare au e inangaro ana i te pupu vaa i teia manako no te mea, naku teia tamaiti. Inara, mataora au e, na tetai ke, i taru mai i teia nga tutu i roto i ta tatou pepa i teia popongi. I aku ua rai, ko te au mea teia ka mareka to tatou iti tangata, teia au nuti pumaana, teia au nuti meitaki, teia au nuti te ka riro i te akamaroiroi i ta tatou anau mapu tikai, kia kite ratou e, te tuera nei teia takainga, it's up to them, tei runga i a ratou".

As to coming onto Te Kave Korero programme the Prime Minister said that he wanted to offer some explanations as to what lawyer and former MP Norman George had said in the Cook Islands News that morning.

"Ko tetai tumu mataora ia oku e Tony, i tae mai au ki runga i te ratio i teia avatea aiai nei, i te akamarama tikai ki to tatou iti tangata e, e aa tikai te aiteanga i teia tutu tuatua na Norman i roto i te nuti pepa i teia popongi".

Puna said that he's not happy to respond to someone's statement unless the person is before him and they communicate one to one.

"Kare i te mea mataora naku i te pau i ta tetai tangata tuatua, unless e, tei mua a ia i toku mata, tuatua atu, tuatua mai"

in the Cook Islands News on Wednesday 24th June George had suggested that the Queen's Representative should dissolve Parliament and call a snap election.

"It's very, very improper", said Puna, for Norman George, to refer to the Queen's Representative in the newspaper article.

"You know, people like Norman should stay

out of politics" said the Prime Minister.

Puna added that George was voted out by his own people.

"No roto mai a ia i konei, kua akaateia a ia e te iti tangata Atiu ki vao, ei aa e taru akaou mai i tona putangio, but of all people, kua roa a ia i roto i teia angaanga politics, manako tikai au e, kua marama a ia e, eaa te akonoanga tau, eaa ta te ture i akanoonoo no teia angaanga politics i roto i teia Basilea".

Puna said that Cook Islanders are not happy that there is a call for a snap election.

"You know, ko tetai tumatetenga ia. Kua kite au e, ko to tatou iti tangata, te maataanga, kare ratou e mataora na i teia kapikianga no te mea, kua oti ta tatou ikianga. Ra 31 o Mati, kua oti te by-election o Vaipae Tautu, ko te openga ia o ta tatou angaanga ikianga".

Te Kave Korero would like to invite George at some time to respond to Puna's comments.

PM : Opposition tactics repulsive

n Wednesday Prime Minister Henry Puna rubbished the continued scare tactics of the Opposition in trying to undermine the legitimate rule of the Cook Islands Party Government.

Puna said these failed tactics are getting repulsive. The Opposition is now smearing the Head of State and these ongoing sabotage attempts are making a mockery of the Constitutional authority of the Queen's Representative. Norman George's most recent speculation is unwarranted, the Prime Minister said.

"Unfortunately for Norman, none of his doomsayer speculations have ever eventuated." George's prediction that the Henry Government would fall any day goes back to December 2010.

"Personal agendas driven by emotion, and the thirst for power, are not the qualities that our people want in a government."

The CIP Leader has the confidence of a majority and despite every attempt to redefine and qualify it, majority still means majority. Continued haranguing of the Queen's Representative is unethical and an erosion of its Constitutional status.

The Prime Minister asked: how long can Norman George keep making failed predictions, and emotive driven speculation?

Cook Islands Herald Issue 773

TE KAVE KORERO Host: Tony Hakaoro, FRI 26th JUNE 2015

Atiu Day set for Weds 22 July

Nga Teao-Papatua, known as Aunty Nga, and Wilkie Rasmussen, former Member of Parliament for Penrhyn, were the guest speakers on Te Kave Korero on Friday 26th June 2015.

Aunty Nga was cheerfully happy discussing the newly completed Atiu hostel while Rasmussen's contribution was in relation to Government's offer of compensation for the lands upon which the renewable energy's solar farms in Penrhyn were built on.

Aunty Nga stated that the new Atiu hostel has been completed but fundraising initiatives are taking place for the purposes of furnishing and giving the hostel final touches before its official opening.

She said in Maori that the official opening of the hostel will be held on 18 December 2015.

"A te Varaire ra 18 no Titema i teia mataiti nei, ka raveia te akatueraanga i to tatou hostel".

Furthermore Aunty Nga said that prior to the official opening the Atiu people would hold a traditional function to formally thank and acknowledge the builders, labourers, volunteers as well as the sponsors, for their assistance in completing the hostel.

"Ina, te epetoma i mua ake i te akatueraanga, e peu enua ta tatou ka rave, ka rave tatou i teia i te Maanakai ra 12 no Titema. Teia taua angaanga ra, koia oki, ka 'umu' tatou i to tatou ngutuare, e te aronga angaanga katoatoa, pera te au sponsors tei tauturu i to tatou ngutuare. Ka raveia te utuanga i to tatou ngutuare, e te aronga angaanga, e ta tatou au sponsors. E tuatau tera ka oki tatou ka rave i ta tatou peu enua. Ka tae mai to tatou iti tangata mei to tatou enua anauanga".

Aunty Nga said that a big fundraiser, to be held on 'Atiu Day', Wednesday 22nd July 2015, is for the purpose of raising funds to furnish the Atiu hostel.

"A teia marama Tiurai nei, e kimianga moni maatamaata tikai, kimianga moni ranuinui, ka raveia ki roto nei i Te Atukura. E Pureruru teia ra, te reo Atiu, Pureruru, toou reo, Wednesday, e Potoru, ae.

Ka raveia ki konei i te Atukura i te Pureruru ra 22 no Tiurai nei, ae, mei tei popongi mai tatou e Atiu e, poiri atu tatou, i te kimi ravenga no teia akakoroanga. Ko teia porokaramu kimi moni, tona ingoa, Atiu Day, Atiu Day, te ra no te iti tangata Enuamanu. No reira te akateateamamao nei i a tatou".

Stalls of food selling Atiu delicacies will be the order of the day at Te Atukura.

It is hoped that \$50,000.00 will be raised on Atiu Day according to Aunty Nga.

Another fundraiser, an 'Island Night', will be held on Friday 21st August at the Rarotongan Hotel and funds raised will also be going towards furnishing the Atiu hostel.

Government Compensation for Solar Farms

In Maori Wilkie Rasmussen informed listeners that at the Land Court hearing held on Friday 26th June, the Court directed that Government's compensation for lands in Manihiki, Penrhyn and Rakahanga, where renewable energy's solar farms have been built on, be paid into the Court and held in a trust account until such time the landowners are identified.

"I nakonei, kua akaue mai te Akavaanga, kua ariki matou i te reira, kia akaue te akavaanga e, ko te moni, me kore ra, kia akatakaia tai moni, kia toroia, kia tauruia ki roto i te trust account i ko i te Court. Kua matara mai te reira mei roto mai i te Kavamani, tei roto i reira i te Court te nooanga o teia moni, kare ra e ko te tino moni teia kia tutakiia ki te iti tangata, no te mea, ko te au takainga i muri ake i reira, ko te akataka papu e, ko vai ua ai te au hatu enua, e, e te akataka papu katoa, kia tano

te compensation ki runga i te value o te henua, no te mea, te vai ra te au ravenga, kua kite koe, mei te mea e, e hare toou ka hoko, te reira au mea, ka na mua te value i te property kia kitehia hoki e, e aha tikai te capital value o teia property, e oti, kua hoko i reira ki roto i tahi moni, akahoki mai i taau tuhanga. Mei teia rai i reira te akanoonooanga i teia".

Rasmussen said that the next task is to inform and encourage land owners to come forward to succeed onto the lands so that they can be compensated.

"Ko te angaanga i reira i teia au ra ki mua, ko te akanoho, ko te akari ki te hiti tangata, e, ko te aronga e toto to ratou ki roto i te henua, kia papa mai i to ratou papahanga, kia o ratou i reira ki roto i te akapapahanga e, no ratou teia henua, kia taka te reira, te aronga kare i mono i to ratou au metua,

e, na te metua ratou i akatae ki runga i te henua, ka rapu ratou kia mono ratou i to ratou au metua, kia tae ratou ki runga i te henua, mei teia te tu i reira, e rauka papu mai ai e, koe mea, ko mea, ko mea, te au hatu henua hoki te ka compensate hia".

In relation to Penrhyn lands Rasmussen said that over \$100,000.00 compensation for Omoka and \$70,000.00 for Te Tautua have been paid into the Court's trust account.

"Hanere tuma tauasini to Omoka, hitu ngahuru tauasini to Te Tautua, kua haere ki roto".

The compensation case has been adjourned to September. The Court expects some indications from landowners or their lawyers as to the land values of the lands in question and who the landowners are, before the hearing in September.



Ariki Day and Vaitoko fishing competition

Puna Rakanui, Clerk of the House of Ariki, and David Akanoa, President of the Vaitoko Fishing Club, were the guest speakers on Te Kave Korero on Monday 29th June 2015.

The Ariki day and the Vaitoko fishing competition were the subjects of discussions.

Friday 3rd July is Ariki day and the Vaitoko fishing competition will take place on that day.

Ariki Day

Under law the first Friday of July every year is designated as Ariki day and is a public holiday in the Cook Islands. The Ariki day recognizes and celebrates the traditional leaders (Ariki) of the nation.

Rakanui said that all Arikis are members of the House of Ariki but today, not all of them are in the House of Arikis.

"Ko te au ariki katoatoa o te Kuki Airani, e mema ratou no te Are Ariki o te Kuki Airani nei. Omai i teia ra, kare te katoaanga o te Ui Ariki i roto i te Are Ariki".

Rakanui added that the spirit behind the Ariki day is to celebrate the Arikis and to give thanks and glory to God, and for the people to sit down and feast with the traditional leaders of the nation.

"Ko te vaerua o te reira ra, te mea mua, kia akararangi tatou i te au Ariki".

"E ra apaianga akameitaki teia na ratou, na tatou, i te akameitakianga ki te Atua"

"Te tamarumaru katoatoaia nei tatou e te Ui Ariki. I roto i reira i te mata o to tatou Ui Ariki, ko teia ra, ko te koikoi maianga teia i to tatou iti tangata ki te ngai okotai, e oti, ka angai rai tatou i a tatou rai. Okotai ra i te mataiti, kia aere mai na tatou, kaikai tatou, kaikai kapiti te metua e te tamariki, i taua ra nei, te ra o te Ui Ariki".

A formal function to mark the Ariki day will be held at the Telecom Sports Arena in Nikao starting at 9.00am on Friday 3rd July. All the traditional leaders are expected to attend the function.

Rakanui said that everyone should be there by 8.30am before the commencement of the day's program.

The Ariki Day celebrations continue on Moday 6th July with the Ariki Day Annual

General Meeting to be held at Parliament House followed by a series of 'Kai Korero' workshops at the Punanga Nui Market on Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th July.

Vaitoko Fishing Competition

Speaking in Maori, David Akanoa, President of the Vaitoko Fishing Club, said that the inaugural Vaitoko fishing competition would be held on Ariki day, Friday 3rd July in Arorangi, starting at 6.00am.

"Ka raveia tetai tarere tautaianga, kua tano mai te akatanoanga matou ki runga i te ra o te Ui Airiki, koia oki kua topaia teia tarere tautai, 'Ko te Tarere Tautai i te Ra o te Ui Ariki".

However, Akanoa said that only residents living in Puaikura are eligible to join the competition.

"Tera ra, ko te akanoonooanga, no Puaikura ua nei, kare oki e topa atu ki vao i te aronga no te nga oire mai".

He said that there are two days of competition, Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th July. Entries to the competition closes on Thursday 2nd July. He said that the entry fee to the competition is just \$50.00 for two days of fishing, Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th of July.

The overall winner in the competition will win two nights at the Edgewater Resort according to Akanoa.

"Ta matou i akanoonoo, te overall, koia oki e rua po i ko i te Edgewater, te island night, pera katoa te dinner i te po e te breakfast i te popongi, e rua po, to te overall, e plus atu i reira, te ra au re aere, i roto i te, koia oki no runga i te total aggregate, te akakatoatoaanga oki i taau weight, e a anere tara te first place" said Akanoa.

He said that the total aggregate wins \$400.00 and the heaviest fish will win \$200.00.

Main sponsors for the competition include the Motor Centre, Diesel Express, Edgewater T&M and others.

Anyone in Puaikura interested in joining the fishing competition should contact David Akanoa on mobile 51188.

Letter to the Editor

Review of Vanuatu disaster following cyclone Pam

ear Charles,

Thank you for sharing your thoughts in relation to the press release on the TC Pam Lessons Learnt event in Vanuatu.

It may please you to note the following comments and recommendations that came out of the Lessons Learnt Workshop:

FRANZ and MSG played a significant role in supporting government led interventions. These mechanisms need to be strengthened in the context of Pacific Island Countries supporting each other.

Key logistics agencies like police, army, military to help with logistics CIVMIL (civil military) coordination has to be integral part of the Logistics Cluster Any CIVMIL deployments need to conform with diplomatic channels and protocols

> Best regards, Suzanne Paisley, DRM Officer, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Suva, Fiji 28 June 2015

Are you eligible for New Zealand Superannuation or Veteran's Pension? Find out below

From 1 July 2015 eligible people can apply for New Zealand Superannuation or Veteran's Pension from the Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau.

Are you eligible?

You'll need to:

- be resident in the Cook Islands, Niue or Tokelau
- be aged 65 or over
- have lived in New Zealand for at least 10 years after the age of 20 with five of those years since the age of 50.

How to apply

If you are resident in the Cook Islands and think you might be eligible you will need to complete an application form that you can get from:

- the New Zealand High Commission in Rarotonga
- your outer-island administration official
- or by emailing the New Zealand Ministry of Social Development at international.services@msd.govt.nz

If you are already 65 years of age, to make sure you do not miss out on any payments you should collect a form before **1 July 2015.**



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA



The Great Fleet tradition to Aotearoa, history in review. Part I of II

by Te Tuhi Kelly

I want to talk to you about one of the holy grails of NZ and Cook Islands Maori whakapapa, the belief in the so called great fleet from Polynesia through the Cook Islands and landfall in Aotearoa. These are the names of the waka we have come to associate with the great fleet:

- Takitimu
- Tokomaru
- Kurahaupo
- Tainui .
- . Aotea
- Te Arawa
- Mataatua

These waka are immortalised in the NZ Maori waiata; Nga waka and is a waiata that symbolises the development, growth and history of NZ Maori from the days of the great waka fleet. I submit that the telling has somehow taken on a life of its own, to such an extent that people believe that these waka were the founding waka of many of the tribes of Aotearoa. Nothing could be further from the truth. Research your own whakapapa and you will see that the Polynesians of these waka intermarried with the local tangata whenua. Hence they contributed their dna and gene pool to those already present in Aotearoa and eventually became the dominant force in those times which is immortalised in their pepeha to this day.

I also submit that there never was a great fleet as we understand it as such and in fact the evidence would suggest that chinese whispers has created a rod for our backs in the telling of the great fleet tradition of NZ Maori and their relationship with Polynesia. This article will suggest that the telling of the story of the great fleet was more about the descendants of those waka embellishing their whakapapa lines and distorting the telling of the level of and importance of their station in life and social intercourse with Polynesia and Aotearoa. We know that there were more than seven waka that regularly plied their trade between Polynesia and Aotearoa over the centuries and the telling of these particular seven has somehow turned into a great fleet tradition. There is no archaeological evidence that can substantiate the great fleet story, only the stories and some evidence which have been passed down over the generations of what happened to them post-arrival. This article is probably going to raise a few hackles, and I am glad that it will and as it should. Not

from the perspective of my challenging the current accepted thinking but more from a perspective of the history of Polynesia, how our people interacted, and that the great fleet diaspora needs to be revisited because it doesn't quite add up. It's like a murder mystery novel, a who done it type scenario. One in which you have to sift through all the clues, establish who had the means, opportunity and the motive for setting us on the path of accepting the great fleet voyaging to Aotearoa. To this day the tourism, events and entertainment sectors in the modern Cook Islands will tell all and sundry about the great fleet tradition and that there were 10 not 7 waka that left these shores for Aotearoa.

Don't be misled into thinking that the current focus, cameraderie and brotherly pacific inter-island relationships on the modern voyaging waka typifys what went on all those centuries ago. It is not the same, the historical environment of Polynesia is like chalk and cheese when it comes to comparing the two scenarios and time lines. Modern Polynesians would probably struggle in the environment of their tupuna, where your station in life was determined before or at birth and then reinforced during your lifetime. How would you cope without modern conveniences, technology and all the trappings of the 21st century at your disposal let alone the ignomy of being a nobody in the scheme of things. No more being PC or thoughtful or talking your way out of an issue or confrontation. You either front up, stand your ground or get run over in the ensuing melee, because mana was everything. Mana and the gaining of it, the preservation and any opportunity to remove someone's mana were paramount to these leaders and this flowed on down to their villagers and in their relationships with other Ariki. Mana comes to a person tradition, apart from the story tellers, in several ways:

- by being high born
- by being first born

• by doing a great deed and being rewarded

- by a change in status
- by winning in battle
- in single combat

by removing the mana of someone else with same or higher mana

Mana thus gained is recognised within your own social circle of:

- Island
- Oire

- Tapere
- Village
- Iti Tangata
- Vaka
- Peers

Your station in life also determined the pecking order of whether you were tuakana or teina. I want to briefly discuss the role of tuakana and teina as these aspects of Ariki life determine how they saw themselves in respect of their environment and their relationship to the other Ariki. Tuakana is the term given to the eldest born and all others born after the tuakana are teina. Usually the relationship between the eldest born male to the youngest born males thereafter. This also is the relationship between eldest born female to the youngest born females.

So you are this leader of a vaka pa'u and you come across another Ariki of a vaka pa'u whom you may or may not know or may or may not be related to, are you going to let this person assert their mana over you? I doubt it, because a lot was at stake here. Not just in terms of your mana, but the mana of your people was very much on the line. I guarantee that you would not let this happen. At best there would be an uneasy relationship, with either seeking to assert mana over the other person in the back of your mind. Now you increase that to a fleet of vaka and what do you have. A freakin great mess of mana munchers and this is the whole area of which the researchers did not think about when they wrote the great fleet story down. They just accepted it as the truth rather than putting their intellect together and thinking it through. It was not the words that they should have paid attention to or how it was delivered, it was how they were interpreted that they should have paid attention to.

How did we learn about the great fleet these are some of the authors who you may or may not know who put creedence on the great fleet story which has become accepted as historical fact. Percy Smith, Apirana Ngata, Leslie George Kelly, Pei Jones, Peter Buck, Elsdon Best, Andrew Sharp etc etc. All without exception tell of the great fleet to Aotearoa circa 1350 and apart from some slight variations in the telling, have become part of the history of Aotearoa and the Cook Islands. These authors all say without exception that there were already people living and thriving on

COOK ISLANDS HERALD VIEWS

Aotearoa before the coming of the great fleet, so that debunks the, "we are all descended from those seven waka" theory. The question I ask is what if the great fleet story was not true: what if these venerated researchers were mistaken in their interpretation of the history they had been told. That the oral tradition they rely on and the history of how NZ Maori through the great fleet story came to Aotearoa needs to be revisited because the evidence suggests otherwise. I bet I've got your attention now, Yes?

Okay let's get the show on the road. I have read all these author's books over the years and it always puzzled me as to why a whole bunch of Ariki would bosom up and decide that they wanted to be pals and mates and cuzzy bro's and embark on a journey together and sail off to Aotearoa. I was barely into my teens when I started reading up on the great fleet, as at home we had a number of books about the subject. But instinctively the story line just didn't quite jell in my young and inexperienced mind at the time. It wasn't till much later during my working life that I began to undertake serious academic studies in the fields of sociology, anthropology, archaeology and psychology and applied these studies in my professional life and then it all came to me in a rush. I came to the startling realisation that what they had transcribed was a sterile depiction of the great fleet tradition. The words had no life to them, no energy, no ability to create that emotional attachment apart from "ah, is that where we came from" a sort of throw away comment but lacking in emotional content or connection. Our earliest researchers whose life's work was bound up in the books that they wrote on the great fleet did so without applying some sort of forensic analysis of what they had been told. You have to understand that a lot of the work that had gone into their books was not subjected to rigorous academic scrutiny using the tools of social science

and scientific peer review. In the main the researchers of that time were amateurs, and what they did have was a set of oral historical notes. They also had (if they were lucky) reference material written by those who had done some initial work, but they did not apply the tools of science to query what they had been told. They relied on memory and accepted the word of the teller as gospel. They were not research scientists who could look at the evidence dispassionately and arrive at a theory. They were ordinary men who had a deep interest in Polynesiana and they wanted to commit what they were told to paper. It's fair to say that they never questioned what they were told and herein lays the rub: they wrote it all down and referenced the teller and the stories being related to them. You also need to understand that the teller was not trained in scientific observation and did not question the korero handed down from their tupuna. Not having a science as westerners would understand it, they used faith and belief arising from their tikanga to observe, make an assessment and accept or reject it according to their belief system. The mana of the person relating the story was not to be challenged so all korero was accepted as the gospel truth and taken at face value as being correct. Not only this, the telling

of the great fleet is about a great story line bereft of any understanding of the daily dynamics of how our tupuna lived or interacted with each other. This is another clue that was not picked up by those relating the great fleet story. If you read the stories, it sounds as though they all got together became bosom buddies and decided to accompany each other to the Promised Land. I don't think any reasonable person who had their wits about them would agree that such a scenario happened. knowing what we all know about the Polynesian psyche. The following describes the Polynesian psyche to a tee:

"Me against my brother My brother and I against our cousin

My brother, my cousin and I against everyone else"

Those simple words are the basis for this article.

To understand why I chose this line of reasoning, we need to make ourselves aware of what that period in history was like for our tupuna and how they saw themselves in the scheme of things. In other words we need to get into their psyche to arrive at a number of possible inferences that will tell us whether there was a great fleet or whether there was not rather than just relying on the story teller. No matter how well trained in the recitation of whakapapa and traditions, there is always an element of Chinese whispers in the telling. hearing and interpretation, and you factor this over the centuries and without a written language and you can see the challenge that we all face. To give you an example, I played a game of Chinese whispers with some top academic engineering students from Auckland University School of Engineering over a 10 minute period. I lined 20 students in a circle at 10 metre intervals and gave the first student a message. I then followed each student as they passed the message on. By the time it got to the 4th student it bore no resemblance to the original message. If anything they embellished the message with what they believed was said to them. try that over centuries and you can see the problem straight away.

To get some inkling into this period in time, we need to go back to circa 1350 mode. I'm going to use a number of examples from our Polynesian history, to try and unravel this whole fleet story as well as drawing on a number of social science disciplines to try and give you some idea as to the psyche around how our tupuna thought in those days. It is important that we get some idea of what our tupuna Ariki were actually like and how they

thought and reacted in certain situations and we can get some insight from historical data and also use modern day Cook Islands life. From this we can draw up a psychological profile enabling us to draw some interesting inferences. Then we can make some predictions as to what sort of person they might have been.

We need to start from a base of what we already know from our historical research. In this example, we have corroborative historical data regarding Tangiia and his flight from his cousin Tutapua who was intent on killing him because of his intense jealousy. We also have corroborative historical knowledge about Karika who was contemporaneous with both Tangiia and Tutapua. I have mentioned these tupuna in a number of my previous articles, but if you are new to my articles I shall recap. For you others, just bear with me for a couple of paragraphs while we get these others on the same page as the rest of you. Tangiia's two sons who were residing in Tahiti were killed by Tutapu. He was the son of Maonga, Tangiia's aunt on his mother's side, who had a liaison with a Melanesian suitor. From this we can infer that Tutapu was not tall or fair skinned like his Polynesian cousins, nor was he the handsomest man, being of a dark complexion with wiry hair which is the physical characteristics ascribed to Melanesians of the time. It was pretty tough on a person like that growing up, with derision and scorn especially in a warrior based Polynesian society, always getting into fights and having to defend oneself from the daily taunts of one's peers and adults. Although his great grandfather Te Amaru Enua took great pains to treat both boys the same, Tutapu was not a happy chappy at all. His mother was of royal bloodlines while his Melanesian father was believed to be of common stock. In Part II I'll continue on in the same vein and discuss what I believe is missing from the writings of those supporting the great fleet tradition.

COOK ISLANDS HERALD NEWS

01 JULY 2015

Twelve candidates for Miss Cook Islands



ast night at Aroha Villa, Nikao, the identity of the twelve beautiful, young Cook Islands women who have thus far signed up for Miss Cook Islands 2015 was revealed.

"They are all stunning, intelligent, and passionate about their culture. As such they are all future ambassadors of our country. And if any of our other Cook Islands women want to join them, we'd be delighted to welcome them to the pageant" said Miss Cook Islands Association President Dianna Clarke-Bates.

There were over a dozen former Miss Cook Islands title holders and association presidents in attendance last night. One of former presidents of the Miss Cook Islands Pageant, CasseyEggelton, read out a message sent by Patron and herself a former president of the Miss Cooks Islands Pageant, Mousie Skews.In her message

Mousie thanked the Cook Islands government and the private sector for their sponsorship and support.

One of the night's MCs and Chair of 50th Celebrations Nick Committee Henrv confirmed government support of not only Miss Cook Islands 2015 but also the hosting of Miss Pacific Islands 2015 in December.

The twelve beauties range in ages 18 to 25. Eight of the ladies were present at the launch and as the photos prove - all looked stunning. Two of the four absent last night, Mariana Ngaputa and Natalia Short were in Auckland attending the final training camp for the Cook Islands Black Pearls - the national netball team prior to their attendance at the Pacific Games later this month in Papua New Guinea. The other two - Josephine Enjoy and Cecilia Hosking are currently in Australia. The twelve profiles will be published over the next few

davs.

Miss Cook Islands, 2015: Name Date of Birth

Mariana Ngaputa 27 January 1993

Josephine Enjoy 18 February 1996

Shontaylro 1 September 1992 Mona Taio 9 August 1995 Aloma Moore 26 April 1992 Grace Loki 20 February 1995 Renv Roi 4 November 1996 Natalia Short 8 March 1994 AhlissaSosene 26 February 1994

February 1994

1995

Cecilia Hosking 2 July 1990

The girls' identities was not the only revelation last night!

Also revealed for the first time was the new logo for Miss Cook Islands. Contemporary simplicity is the focus of this logo. With a light and vibrant look, the colours

are alive, crisp and modern. The twelve contestants for Designed by West Coast Graphics of Rarotonga, a company operated by Gus and Janine Meyer, the partially hidden face together with the graceful fall of her hair reflects humbleness, inner beauty and strength. Whilst the 'tattoo' signifies cultural creativity, it reflects the Pacific connection, terangi, temoana, teenua and with our maine being the 'tiare' of our Ipukarea

16

After the event, Dianna Clarke-Bates commented "I'm confident that exciting times lie Allanah Herman-Edgar 12 ahead for these young women who have put their trust in us. Tumanava Wilmott 27 August I wish them only the best and hope they enjoy the journey, have fun, learn, make the most of the opportunities that will arise and grow in confidence along the way".

If anyone else would like to join Miss Cook Islands 2015, please contact Mere Short on 54 409

Where to next for the Miss Cook Islands contestants?

he first official outing for the 12 Miss Cook Islands contestants will be this Friday at Ui Ariki Day.

"The girls have been honoured to receive an invitation from the President of the House of Ariki, Tou Travel Ariki, and are delighted to accept" Miss Cook Islands AssociationInc. President Dianna Clarke-Bates said.

"Whilst this will be their first official "outing", those who were on island over the weekend attended a service yesterday at St Joseph's Catholic Church and they will attend subsequent services as a group around the island between now and October.

The girls will also be showing their support of this Saturday's Red Cross Charity Ball by putting in an appearance as a group. The Red Cross are supportive of the 2015 Miss Cook Islands competition and to that end have an announcement to make later this week.

The programme for October is shaping up to be a busy one for the contestants.

This year the format will take the shape of a series of "mini events" in the lead up to the Grand Finale on Saturday 17th October. First up on Thursday 1st October is the celebrity breakfast launch for Pink October (the annual Breast Cancer awareness month), Saturday 3rd October is the 2015 Miss Beach Resort Wear & Pareu Competition, followed on Wednesday 7th October by the 2015 Miss Traditional Muu& Floral Rakei Wearable Art Competition and then the Miss Tourism & Miss Environment Pre-pageant Interview Competition will take place on Saturday 10th October.

The week of 11-19 October 2015 is Miss Cook Islands Week - the programme for this week is still being confirmed.

Saturday 17th October is the Miss Cook Islands Finale Gala Evening which will culminate with the crowning of Miss Cook Islands 2015. But the action doesn't end there! The following day the final event of the competition will take place, the 2015 Miss Cook Islands Prize Giving Luncheon. This is when all the contestants will be acknowledged one final time in front of their families and sponsors and the winners of the three competitions leading up to the 17th will be announced.

Some serious prizes on offer!

ast Saturday night at Aroha Villa the identity of the twelve beautiful, young Cook Islands women who have thus far signed up for Miss Cook Islands 2015 was revealed along with the Miss Cook Islands logo and theme song. What wasn't revealed then was the calibre of prizes the competition has so far attracted.

Miss Cook Islands Association Inc. (MCIA) President Dianna Clarke-Bates was delighted to announce today some of those prizes.

"Miss Cook Islands 2015 will win a new car (for the first time in the competition's history); a trip to Geneva with Cook Islands Red Cross; travel with Air New Zealand; cash; Black Pearl jewellery; a clothing, shoe and jewellery allowance for a year and more to be revealed as the competition progresses."

The winner will also represent the Cook Islands at the Miss Pacific Islands pageant on Saturday 5th December 2015 being hosted in Rarotonga.

The winner of Miss Cook Islands 2015 will not be the only one to win great prizes! First runner-up will take home a motorbike (also a first for this competition); Cash; Black Pearl jewellery and aclothing, shoe and jewellery allowance for 12 months".

Dianna commented "the MCIA executive is delighted to have been able to secure such a valuable list of prizes so far, and, we are still hoping to add to the treasure chest, and will continue to work hard with prospective sponsors".

If after reading about the prizes on offer anyone else would like to join Miss Cook Islands 2015, please contact Mere Short on 54 409.



Are rumours really worth it?

spread? How one person says something and the story just gets bigger and bigger and bigger. You could say that you saw someone at the movies and next week be confronted because you apparently said you saw them with a fake boyfriend there. Is truly is funny how rumours spread.

This week I have chosen to base my article around rumours. and how you should not always believe what you hear. I am sure I am not the only person out just makes you look weak and there who has been the victim of a rumour.

Every day I hear countless amounts of rumours, this person said this or I heard she goes out with him, whether you act upon these rumours is yapped on, I recall thinking,

sn't it funny how rumours a completely different story. If "geez is this what I used to look stop for a minute, gather your me, chances are that when you hear that someone said something bad about you, you go and find out if they really said it. This used to be my go to plan when I heard a rumour about myself. Used to be. Nowadays I try not to let these rumours get to me. I have found that going up to someone and accusing them of saying something does not usually play out well. It kind of stupid. For example, just the other day I was confronted by a girl who accused me of saying something I didn't. I stood and watched as she laid out all the gossip she had heard. As she

you are a bit of a hothead like like when I made a big deal out of rumours".

> The fact someone is always going to be out to get you for some reason, and sometimes the easiest way to do that is starting a rumour. Over the years I have learnt that acting upon these weightless statements is useless. More often than not the chitchat that grazes your ears has been exaggerated or created from a figment of someone's imagination. Why waste your time getting wound up over something that you know is not true? Why bother wasting time and energy pondering gossip? There is no point in it.

Next time you get wound up over something you heard,

thoughts and think about whether that rumour is worth getting worked up over. And if that still does not work, try remembering the last time someone confronted vou because of a rumour, think of how idiotic they looked standing there blowing smoke out of their ears, over something that never even happened.

The fact is rumours surround us; they are invented by people who...

a) are jealous of you or

b) are trying to get a wind out of you.

Either way it is blatantly obvious that they have nothing better to do with their time. Do not let the whispers of the world get to you. It is pointless to do so.

COOK ISLANDS HERALD NEWS

Debt-the bogey man in the closet How safe are we from the Angel of Debt?

By Charles Pitt

here's a bogey man in the closet. His name is "Debt." He is also known as the Angel of Debt and according to the Budget Bible 2015/2016 edition, he is due to come out in 2017.

In the Budget Bible, Book of Revelations, chapter 10.8 on page 110, the following is revealed. From the city of Neneva, the prophet Neves proclaims;

"Government is well within its fiscal responsibility ratio threshold of 35 per cent net Crown debt to

GDP. However, the commitment for debt servicing to remain under 5 per cent of total revenue will

be breached in 2017/18."

For a small country our debt level may seem high but what is in our favour is that we have set ourselves some very conservative controls and we are in a low debt position when compared internationally.

The internationally accepted definition of net debt is total gross debt (all public sector debt and currency on issue) less total financial assets corresponding to those debt instruments (this means like for like, for example cash). Under this definition the Cook Islands net debt position would be only \$71.9 million or 19.3 per cent of GDP in 2015/16.

Gross Debt + Currency on Issue = (\$109.1m) + (\$4.1m) = (\$113.2)million)

Less Financial Assets (Cash reserves and Loan Repayment Fund = (\$41.3 million)

Net Debt = (\$71.9 million)

Our benchmark for debt servicing of 5% of total revenue is considered by the ADB to be too conservative and in 2013 the ADB suggested we could extend it to 10%. There will be a review of this in August 2015 by the ADB and IMF.

What of the future? The Budget Bible prophesizes the effects of three possible scenarios over the next 20-30years.

The baseline scenario which is the current set up with planned repayments, no new infrastructure loans and prudent controls.

A high debt scenario which assumes that operational spending continues to grow at recent trends and that economic growth follows its long-term average. Capital is not allowed to fall below the amount of depreciation (current capital is fully replaced). Under this set of assumptions, cash reserves are depleted by operational deficits, and capital needs become increasing financed by debt financing. The recent increase in fisheries revenue means that despite pressure building within both the operational and capital budget, the 35 per cent debt to GDP ratio will be breached as late as 2026/27.

A low debt accumulation scenario which assumes that net operating surpluses are achieved over the medium term, with these surpluses being diverted into financing the capital budget in preference to debt financing. This becomes increasingly difficult over the long term however, with growth expenditures in outpacing revenue and the need for capital replacement keeping the pressure on the cash reserve. Debt financing of the capital program again becomes a dominant feature of the Budget from around 2030 onwards.

Both of these scenarios suggest that current expectations of expanding operational budgets cannot coexist with the recent levels of capital spending. At some point in the future, either capital or operational spending will need to be scaled back to match revenue growth. Importantly, neither scenario assumes major capital works beyond those already scheduled, despite major infrastructure needs still being prevalent after the current projects are completed. On the other hand, neither scenario includes major cost-saving initiatives in personnel nor operating, although both scenarios show that in the absence of strong revenue growth, such savings plans would eventually be necessary.

Another important consideration is the health of the cash reserve. The recent



City of Neneva prophet Neves at MFEM workshop warning what will happen if debt bench marks are exceeded.

capital spending has diminished be much higher. If not managed the capital reserve by investing in major infrastructure. Cash reserves should recover over the medium term if no new major initiatives are planned that involve the use of the Government cash reserve.

Of particular risk are the renewable energy projects in the Pa Enua. Combined, the northern and southern projects have cost as much as Te Mato Vai, but attracted little attention due to the use of donor grant funding. However, while the initial investment from the Cook Islands Government has only been the \$12.98 million ADB loan, the replacement costs for the systems over future decades will

correctly, the Government will not have sufficient reserves to replace such a system in 10 to 15 years time, and may have to rely on larger loans to fund the replacement capital.

Balancing the Non-operating Budget

The non-operating Budget concerns the funds used on capital projects, aid and local funds. At present there is an estimated deficit of \$29 million. However, this can be balanced when depreciation and cash reserves are applied. See table 16.2 below.

Also affecting debt repayments are moves in overseas currencies. See comments below.

Table 16.2 page 174Total Non-Operating balance 2015/2016 (meeting the costs of capital projects) - \$29,9m deficitTo be funded by:			
Operating Surplus	\$1,594m		
Depreciation	\$9,147m		
Unencumbered Cash Reserves	\$11,638m		
Contribution to Loan Reserve Fund	\$5,739m		
Economic Recovery Support Program	\$1,802m		
Transfer to Emergency Response Trust Fund	\$50,000		
Total Funding Items	\$29,970m		

Debt sensitivity analysis page 108

If the NZD/USD exchange rate was to depreciate by 10 per cent, (down to 0.63) gross Crown debt as at the end of the June 2016 year would increase by an estimated \$8.4 million. (Budget assumption 0.70).

Note

It was reported on TV One News on Monday 29 June that the exchange rate between the NZ/USA dollar was down to 0.68c. Good for NZ exports but more expensive for importers.

COOK ISLANDS HERALD RELIGION

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

this article For of Encouragement I want to talk about How To Build Friendship.

Choosing your friends is very important because they will have some influence on your life. Whether the influence is positive (good) or negative (bad). In Genesis 2v.18 it reads "It is not good for man to be alone." Loneliness is not part of Gods plan for us. God made us for relationships. We were meant to have friends.

There are basically two different kinds of friends. There are Casual friends and there are Close friends.

Casual friends is the result of circumstances. You happen to be in the same circumstance together. For example in your work place you interact with different people. Maybe living next door to somebody, or meeting someone in the 'Market place (Punanga Nui)', and so on.

But Close friends is the result of choice. You can't be close friends with everybody so you have to be selective. The closer you are to a person the greater their influence will be on your life, they can influence you in a "bad" way or "good" way. Therefore, choose your close friends carefully.

The Bible has a lot to say about the kinds of friends we are to choose. Proverbs 27v.19 (GN) "A mirror reflects a man's face but what he is really like is shown by the kind of friends he chooses." In other words the kind of friends we choose shows what kind of a person we're really like.

Proverbs 12v.26 reads "A righteous man is cautious in friendship." The Bible talks about some people we need to avoid as our closest friends. The Bible says Lazy people should not be your closest friends. Even a Bad Tempered or Angry person don't befriend a bad tempered person - you may learn his or her habits. Immoral (wicked,

corrupt, dishonest) people Greedy people - the Books of Ecclesiastes and Proverbs in the Old Testament talks about these kind of people. Avoid as your closest friends people who have chosen not to believe in God. The question is "What do you do with these people?" The Bible says we're to love everybody, but don't have these people as your closest friends because it will influence you.

According to the Bible there are 3 types of friends we ought to select as Close friends:

i) Choose as your Close friends those who Stimulate (inspire; motivate; encourage) you mentally. The Bible says, "He who walks with the wise will grow wise" and "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Friends are part of your education. Does your friends make you think? or do they put you to sleep? The Bible says choose friends that stimulate you, motivate you, that brings out the best in your life.

Choose as your Close ii) friends those who Supports you emotionally. A friend is somebody who walks with you when everybody else walks away. A friend is somebody who is there with you even when the going gets tough. Galatians 6v.2 says "Bear one another's burdens." A friend can be counted on in a crisis.

iii) Choose as your Close friends those who Strengthens you spiritually. I Thessalonians 5v.11 "Encourage one another and build each other up." Hebrews 10v.24 "encourage one another toward love and good works."

We all have a deep need for fellowship. There's a difference between fellowship and friendship. Friendship is based on our mind and our emotions. Fellowship is a function of our spirit. We can be friends with an unbeliever but we can only

Encouragement Column

fellowship with other Christians. The Bible says everybody needs a attract this kind of friends?" spiritual encourager, somebody we can share our struggles with, somebody who can pray with us, somebody who really lift us up and is an encouragement not a discouragement to our spiritual life.

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The question is "How do we In the next issue of the Cook Islands Herald I will focus on how to build friendships according to the word of God which is Part 2 of this article of Encouragement. May you have a God blessed

week, te Atua te aroa.



2015 Air New Zealand Tourism Award Categories

BUSINESS CATEGORIES

- 1. Accommodation - Hotels and Resorts
- 2. Accommodation - Self Catering
- 3. Accommodation - Private Holiday Rental
- 4. **Tourism Industry Support**
- 5. **Tourism Attractions**
- 6. **Festivals and Events**
- 7. Tourism Restaurants and Catering Services
- 8. **Destination Wedding Planners**

SPECIAL PERSON AWARDS

- The two categories by nomination are:
- Outstanding contribution to tourism 1.
- 2. Lifetime achievement in tourism

SPECIAL AWARDS

There are special awards that are open to all category entries.

- Environment award
- Culture Award
- Internet Marketing Award
- **Outer Islands Award**
- Customer Care Award
- Family Friendly Award

SUPREME AWARDS

The Supreme Winner is selected from the winner of one of the business categories. To be determined the supreme winner, applicants must have demonstrated excellence in a minimum of 50% of the judging criteria.

Entry Instructions

As of Tuesday 30th June 2015, we will have the full application form ready for your viewing and downloading via: www.tourismindustry.co.ck

Entrys close 31st July.

All entries are confidential to the assessor team. The written application must be completed electronically and emailed to the following address: ci.tourism.awards@gmail.com. Kia Manuia

COOK ISLANDS HERALD CHOOKS

Just keep swimming

By Lucianne Vainerere

First of all this story has nothing to do with water or swimming, it's simply a reminder to every other young folk like me who's going through a hectic mid year juggling assessments, Te Maeva Nui practices, catching up with friends from overseas, catering for family and working their butts off.

But before I go on, a high five for all of you going through exactly that and for making it this far. I know its hard and different for our generation because it obviously evolves over the years and our parents try to advise us because they've been through it but its not exactly the same as to how they went through what were going through now. For one, they would've had their work cut out for them physically, nowadays it's physically and mentally and because our country wasn't as developed with tourism and politics and benefits, expectations were lower. As up and coming young adults expectations flow like tidal waves which started since we entered 'teenage hood'.

From being the smartest, or the fastest, or the best speaker, and most promising student with diligence awards or dux or simply always coming first. It may not be what our parents say they want but it's exactly what they feel. They don't realize or admit it because they know it's wrong to feel. That's why they pester and push and growl and remind. Because of their love for each and every one of us and their belief that we can do better than we are doing now. It's not a bad thing at all, it just slowly starts to get old and we become blinded by the harshness of it and don't find the beauty behind it.

Parent teacher interviews are coming up which is roughly an hours worth of conversation our parents and teachers have about us while we're sitting right there listening. Not exactly fun but it's nice to know what people think of you. Good and bad.

What I've learnt growing up and observing is if you want to be respected you need to

- (1) listen
- (2) don't answer back
- (3) be patient and
- (4) do unto others what you would do unto yourself.

It's the only way you can ALWAYS move forward. Throughout the course of the year we forget all these small details and loose sight of everything and slowly fall apart. I'm a messenger here to tell you DON'T. Don't fall apart, don't give up, don't stop listening, don't stop trying and just keep swimming (like Dori did).

It's harsh and straight forward, yes, but in everything you do, every situation, every problem, every frustration starts and ends with you. And I learnt that the hard way, which wasn't pretty at all. But the outcome was. A more sophisticated and openminded person I became. And I'm still developing meaning I'm still swimming and so can you. We still got half a year left. So don't waste it.

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And here's a thought chooks. Remember the upgrade to Avatiu harbour was also designed to deflect the cyclone waves to the right to where the marina is. Rocks were piled up there to absorb the shock and energy of the waves. So why build a tourist office right on that spot? Surely that's madness?

Oh dear chooks! The first cracks are beginning to appear in Tourism's "Kia Orana" promotion. Three have popped up so far. Firstly, a local retailer asks, "Why is this promotion being done? What is the reason?" This has not been fully explained. If it is to get people being more friendly to visitors then it's a gross waste of time and money because visitors have always said it's the warm, friendly, smiling people that make their holiday worthwhile. A local kid remarks," Kids here don't talk like that. That's how kids talk in South Auckland but no over here." Wasn't the film maker, who was paid \$25,000, familiar with the way local kids talk? What research did he do?" A local boy who sells nu by the roadside said, "We're not dumb. We don't sell nu down a beach. We sell it where the people are." And one more reminder, the big kid is not a good show health wise considering the prevalence of NCDs here. And did you notice how all the young girls featured are slim and pretty while the males are all ugly.

Good to see over 30 people crammed into the lecture room at USP to learn to speak Chinese Mandarin. They must have paid a small fortune. Now what about the local lingo? Where are the training courses for this? Eh? Eh?

Just how much money is CIP favourite Mike Henry getting off the four government bodies he is on? As chair of CIIC he must be getting about \$3,000 per sitting. Why is he on so many Boards? Does the CIP owe him something? If there is a change of government, it's on the cards that Magic Mike and several others like him can start looking for other sources of income.

This week the bulldozer PM wannabe space cadet Heta is off to Mangaia to campaign the six CIP conference delegates to support his bid for the CIP leadership, while he is there he'll have another go at trying to convert one of the Demo MPs to party hop. Then there is the China donated heavy machinery to bless and like Mitiaro there is no work programme because Heta hasn't bought any diesel to operate the machines.

After Arorangi won CIFA's men's premier competition last year after trying for 19 years, the first time President got voted out by returning deserters. This year turned to custard and those who took control got decisively booted out by a huge landside that returned the winning former President, wow what a gas!

VACANCY



Trader Jacks Restaurant & Bar is looking for honest, reliable part time Day/Night waitresses & bartenders. Must be able to work weekends (Friday & Saturday)

Experience preferred, training will be given. Immediate start.

Please contact Rosa on 74315 or 26464 for an interview.



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Four months ago the Mitiaro water pump called it a day so the folk there had to start carrying water in buckets, what a sad sight to see the elderly women struggling to carry the heavy loads of water for their daily needs. During the CIP campaigning for the Mitiaro by election a month later, the wanna be Prime Minister bully boy on his begging knees Teariki Heta promised them he would get it all sorted out. Four months after it packed up the old people are still manually carting water each day. A close look at the Mitiaro budget and they've had it trimmed and still no indication the government is going to fix or replace the water pump. Now had this been in Manihiki Elvis would have dispatched his wife (sorry the First Lady as the Manihiki people have to address her) and her driver on a \$25,000 Air Raro charter to get it replaced with a \$2400 new pump. Then there would be another \$25,000 charter paid for the tax payer to have it blessed and turned on. The minita Brown gets an extra \$20,000 in the Budget but stuff the people of Mitiaro who only by one vote are Demos. Elvis can spend millions of dollars including a \$150,000 search and rescue for a stupid voter who went fishing with no safety gear but what about rescuing the old people of Mitiaro? No wonder the Grey Power said "Don't be Cruel". The sooner this cruel uncaring PM gets the boot the better.

The good news for Mitiaro is once the OCI members Bishop and Pinky heard about the daily suffering of Mitiaro's elderly last week; Bishop spent his own money (\$3000) and bought a brand new pump then flew to Mitiaro to have it



installed. Who do you think they are going to vote for next time? With a budget from the tax payers, the Demos get \$202,000 a year, but does their loser specialist hello Drolley think of helping their Mitiaro voters? After helping himself to \$1200 a week for attending the office to eaves drop on the Caucus meetings and checking his private business email (that's right he has a couple of businesses on the side) why should he care a chicken's poop about them? As long as the bland Smelly Heta keeps on dithering about blindly leading the blind, bludger Mr self praise hello Drolley will just keep milking the cash cow as if it were his own.

What's the Demo's raffle specialist hello Drolley doing about paying back the loans solicited to fund their stupid petitions they had no chance of winning? When is he going to get off his lazy backside any deal with the \$180,000 debt the Demos have? Hello Drolley is in fantasy land counting on his dithering leader Smelly to wrestle the government off the smarter Elvis so he can plunder the tax payers money to pay the Demo debt. These two dumb Demos are never going to do anything except lead the Demos to another defeat, its time Dumb Smelly dumped the Dumber hello Drolley, neither of them can organise a bus trip around the island let alone a change of government.

Never mind the daily grind that could be easily sorted out for the Mitiaro people and it wouldn't need the luxury of an Air Raro charter like the \$30,000 spent by Elvis for a charter to Penrhyn because he promised to return to turn the switch on for the \$1.4 million energy project, what a joke and waste of Rarotonga worker's taxes. Prodigal Puna could have just sent the \$30,000 to the 30 people left living there to share among themselves. What about the repeated promise to repay the savings raided from the Grey Power member's Bank accounts? What about the promise to immediately rebuild the burnt schools? What about the promise to reinstate Mona loane to cabinet? What about the promises about the Sunday flights to Aitutaki? What about the promise your government has no secrets? And so we could on and on and fill up this page with broken promises. How can Elvis justify spending Rarotonga workers taxes just because he made a \$30,000 promise and he can't find the \$2000 to fix the air conditioning at Parliament House?

What is it with the Ministry of Culture? Back in the day when the Public Service got slashed government insisted they would cease doing private sector work so why has Sunny Willie got into video production when the private sector has this business covered? No wonder the Public sector is bloated.

Mitiaro had their Chinese donated heavy machinery delivered last week but government didn't send any fuel so they had to raid the power station's diesel to drive the machines to their storage yard. They can't even use the machinery to cart water. The government got the heavy machines for free but the one thing they had to pay for, the fuel they couldn't. Elvis can charter Air Raro flights to Manihiki at his whim and fancy but can't find the money to buy five drums of diesel, what a joke!

Nice work you fellas down Avatiu harbour planting a new flamboyant tree to provide shade for harbour gazers. Just one minor concern, the concrete path which was installed earlier at some cost to the taxpayer, had to be torn up to plant the tree. A flamboyant tree creates a lot of leaf litter and someone will have to spend many days raking up the fallen leaves. Maybe Tupapa MP action man George Maggie will bring his air blower to do the job, and his pink suit. Noticeable was that it was the same workers who laid the path who then tore it up to plant the tree. By the way, what did the tree cost?



COOK ISLANDS HERALD

VACANCY



MINISTRY OF MARINE RESOURCES (MMR) TECHNICAL ADVISER – LABORATORY SERVICES

Applications are invited for a Technical Adviserfor the MMR Laboratory Services. The positionwill support the following outcomes;

(1) Short Term: An operational Water Quality &Food Safety Testing Laboratory capable of performing key microbiological, nutrient and chemical assessments.

(2) Medium Term:ISO 17025 and other accreditation

(3) Longer Term:Advanced chemical analysis,e.g. heavy metal toxicity.

This position will be a 12month contract with a salary package of \$88,900. Only applicants with post graduate qualifications will be considered. Please contact Uirangi Bishop for further information and a job description,email: U.Bishop@mmr.gov.ck, Ph 28730. Provide a CV with an application letter, addressed to the Secretary, P.O. Box 85, Rarotonga, email: rar@mmr.gov. ck. Applications close on Friday 10thJuly 2015

PUBLIC NOTICE



All Pensioners receiving the Cook Islands pension living on Rarotonga are asked to pick up your tax certificates for the period 01st March – 31st December 2014 from the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Tupapa from Wednesday 24th June 2015 and onwards.

Pensioners in the Pa Enua may collect their tax certificates from the Intaff Officer on your respective islands.

If you have already collected you tax certificate you are not required to pick up another one. For further enquires or information please contact the Welfare Division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on phone 29370 or email: welfare@ cookislands.gov.ck

Tuatua Akakite

Ki te au metua e koi nei i te moni pakari Kuki Airani e noo nei ki Rarotonga, te anoanoia nei kotou kia tiki mai i ta kotou tax certificate no te ra 01 Mati ki te ra 31 Titema mataiti 2014 ki te Tango Ropianga i Tupapa akamata i te Ruitoru ra 24 o Tiunu.

Te au metua pakari i te Pa Enua ka rauka mai ta kotou au tax certificate ki ko te Opita Tango Ropianga i runga i to kotou au enau.

Me kua tiki takere mai koe i taau tax certificate kare koe e anoanoia kia tiki akaou i tetai. Me e uiuianga tetai e taniunui mai i te tuanga o te Welfare i roto i te Tango Ropianga tereponi 29370 me kore emere welfare@cookislands.gov.ck



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

VACANCIES

Cook Islands Jobs

National Environment Service-ABS Project Coordinator, Rarotonga Ministry of Marine Resources- Technical Adviser, Lab Services,

Rarotonga

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



FOR SALE

Tourism Related Business - Cook Islands

Profitable, well established tourism related business. Good location. Opportunities for growth. Experienced management and large complement of staff with a good reputation for reliability.

Take over and enjoy the profits or use your experience to develop the business further.

Perse enail bidginidusisessons stating is the subject line: 'Tourism Related Business, Cook blands' and include your mane, address and telephone number. Qualifying respondents will be telephoned.

Louilou Cuikkinda Kraikkiiginkkuinanaane



The authority on selling businesses

بالأالكمار فالوخاط محفظ غفا

COOK ISLANDS HERALD

TENDER

REQUEST FOR TENDER

- SUPPLY OF OXYGEN PLANT
- 2. SET UP AND INSTALLATION OF THE OXYGEN PLANT AT THE RAROTONGA HOSPITAL
- 3. PIPING FROM OXYGEN PLANT TO RAROTONGA HOSPITAL WARDS

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

- 1. Supply of Oxygen Plant
- 2. Set up and installation of the Oxygen Plant at the Rarotonga Hospital
- Piping from Oxygen Plant to Rarotonga Hospital Wards

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

Tenders shall be submitted either:

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

Procurement of Medical Equipment 2014/2015 No.3 Cook Islands Ministry of Health P O Box 109, Avarua, COOK ISLANDS

OR

1.

Softcopy: By emailing the tender bid as a pdf file to tenders@cookislands.gov.ck with the subject line "Procurement of Medical Equipment 2014/2015 No.3". The receipt time on the inbox will be used as the receipt time for the purposes of ensuring a tender is within the time limits.

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

Tender/Offer Closing Time

Request for tenders will close on the 10th July 2015 at 4.00pm.

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

Meitaki maata



TENDER



Government of the Cook Islands INFRASTRUCTURE COOK ISLANDS Te Tango Angaanga o te Kuki Airani P.O. Box 102, Arorangi, Rarotonga, Cook Islands Phone: (682) 20 321; Fax: (682) 24 321, Web: www.ici.gov.ck, Email: info@ici.gov.ck

TENDER PURCHASE AND SUPPLY OF BITUMEN TRUCK AND MOBILE KETTLE CONTRACT No. C15-08

Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) seeks tender proposals from Contractors for the Purchase and Supply of Bitumen Truck and Mobile Kettle, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

Tenderers should ensure they are registered and have downloaded or received all files for the RFT including all prospective notices. Files can be obtained either online via www.procurement.gov.ck or from ICI office.

Tenders close at 3pm on Thursday, 16th July 2015, and must be submitted in hard copy format in an envelope marked "CONFIDENTIAL" and have the following information clearly exhibited on the outside:

TO:

TO:	The Principal			
	Infrastructure Cook Islands			
	Arorangi			
	Rarotonga			
	COOK ISLANDS			
FROM:	(Name of Tenderer)			
	(Tenderers address 1)			
	(Tenderers address 2)			
	(Tenderers address 3)			
TENDER FOR:	C15-08 PURCHASE AND			
SUPPLY OF BITUMEN TRUCK AND MOBILE				
KETTLE				
TENDER CLOSES:	3.00PM, THURSDAY 16			
JULY 2015				
All Enquiries to be directed to:	Solomona Solomona			
	Contact Officer			
Email: solomona.solomona@ici.gov.c				
	Phone: +682 20321			

PUBLIC NOTICE



Business Trade Investment Board

Cook Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Foreign Enterprise Registration and Approval to carry on business in the Cook Islands

All applications must be received by the 7th of each month in order for it to be considered in the Board meeting of that month. Your cooperation is appreciated.

For enquiries regarding the new change please email ria.arthur@cookislands.gov.ck

FOOTBALL UPDATE

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PNG prepped for home campaign

A month away from the hype of the XV Pacific Games has helped the Papua New Guinea U-23 side settle into life as a team as they prepare to challenge for gold on home soil.

ssistant coach Reggie Davini says it has been a learning curve for the young side who are being guided by former All Whites coach Ricki Herbert.

"It's been good, a huge learning experience," Davani says.

"It's been a week on the Gold Coast, a week in Kuala Lumpur and two weeks in Thailand, Bangkok."

And it isn't just the players who are reaping the rewards of an extended, professional buildup with one of the region's most successful coaches at the helm.

"It's been very beneficial for the coaching staff as well as a whole new educational experience for all the players as well," Davani explains.

"It hasn't just been about the football, but off the field as well. Travelling, the culture, living a professional life as an athlete and just looking after yourself – the daily stuff – it's been good."

The team played ten matches over the course of their build-up against professional clubs in each of the countries they visited.

"We've been able to really push the players and the first few weeks they went through a lot physically. On top of the games we really had to push them in trainings as well just to get them ready in terms of conditioning.

"They've responded well, we've had no injuries and everyone is ready to go."

In terms of the results they achieved over the ten matches it's been a mixed bag but Davani insists that the score line isn't the focus.

"Ricki is not too fussed about the result, it's more about the performance and the way we want to play. In terms of results it's been mixed but in terms of the overall objective we are where we want to be, we're on track."

Davani says one of the most memorable matches on the journey was against one of Malaysia's leading clubs in a stadium with a crowd capacity that has only been dreamed of.

"A lot of the players haven't played on artificial turf or in massive stadiums, and against professional players earning big money we did really well," he says.

"We lost 2-0 but we conceded in the 75th and 85th minutes and we should have scored two or three goals as well so we created opportunities, and we did that in all the games that we played against these professional clubs.

"Again it's a learning experience and it's about taking the opportunities in the big games on the big stage and that's one of the things we've had to take on."

Looking at the recently released line-up the side has some familiar names, the Komolong brothers Alwin and Felix, Patrick Aisa and Tommy Semmy, and some not so familiar.

But overall Herbert has selected a strong squad with the majority of them locally-based.

One name that emerged as a standout in 2013 at the OFC U-20 and U-17 tournaments is that of defender John Ray. He fell out of favour for the 2014 OFC U-20 Championship but Davani says a change in attitude and focus has led to the former U-17 captain earning a call-up for Port Moresby 2015.

"When we first started the whole process earlier this year, we had a chat with him. He's one that you can see has a lot of talent, but we just needed to get his mind right for football and get his body in the right shape," Davani explains.

"He's probably, on the tour, one of the most improved in terms of his attitude, because technically he's a great footballer with a lot of potential, and off the field he's really knuckled down, focused and got himself in the right frame of mind for the games."

Striker Tommy Semmy popped up on the radar as one of the stand-out performers for Papua New Guinea club champions Hekari United at the OFC Champions League earlier this year and is bound to be a key player for the side during the Games.

"He's definitely a big player for us Tommy," Davani enthuses, "just natural, raw talent".

"He's playing well for his club and he's done well in the tour. It's educational for him too because he's used playing in a big club with more experienced players at his side. Now he's with players his age and he's having to adjust.

"And not only is he a top quality player, but he's one we're also looking at to lead the group during the Games."

With their first match looming against the gold medal holders New Caledonia on Friday 3 July, Davani says the side is ready to get the competition underway.

"The tour has been tough as it's been a long time away and the players have had to get their heads around the whole programme and what's expected of them, because it was all foreign to them.

"They've come along really well and we're building that momentum now and to be honest I think we're ready. We're looking forward to a big tournament on home soil, in our conditions."

As well as the defending Port Moresby.

champions, the hosts have been drawn alongside defending Olympic champions New Zealand and Solomon Islands.

It's going to be no mean feat to emerge at the top of Group B standings but it's a challenge Papua New Guinea are approaching head-on.

"I think whatever group you're in you are weary of everyone, you can't take anything for granted or underestimate anyone," Davani says.

"The first one is going to be very important for us. We need a good, positive start against New Caledonia, but I think everyone needs to be on their toes in this competition."

What Davani and the team hope will make the difference is the vocal, unrelenting support of the home crowd.

Having carried out the majority of their preparations offshore they haven't been involved in the hype that has been building up in Port Moresby as the capital gets ready to host one of the largest editions of the Pacific Games to date.

And having been out of the loop for so long, Davani says the enormity of this competition is yet to hit the players.

"Only coming in about four or five days before our first game means it won't really hit them until we get home," he says.

"But we're looking forward to it. We're excited to be playing in front of the home crowd, in front of our family and friends.

"We're not just playing for the team, it's for the whole country."

Papua New Guinea get their XV Pacific Games and OFC Olympic Qualifying campaign underway against defending Pacific Games champions New Caledonia on 3 July at 3pm on Bisini Field 1 in Port Moresby.