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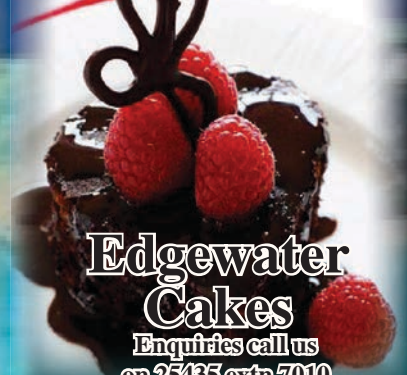
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# CIP Leadership to be settled next week

## Puna's brain expected to be too smart for Heather's brawn

It's all smiles and pleasantries between the Prime Minister Henry Puna and his Deputy Teariki Heather till this week's festivities is over, while both are putting on a superficial performance of unity and togetherness its anything but that behind the scenes as both are and have supporters lobbying delegates for their conference vote scheduled for the 10 August 2015.

Unless Puna can convince the Executive and delegates to defer a vote for the Leadership of the Cook Islands Party, it is expected Teariki Heather MP for Akaoa will challenge him for the position. Heather has made no secret of his ambition to become the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands and has been proactively building his support base for the last two years.

Heather has had to tamper his patience after he failed several times to have the Conference date advanced when his support had peaked, over the last six weeks Puna's handling of the Celebration administration has clawed back some of the lost ground. The hearts of the outer islanders are fickle and can be won or lost on a whim or fancy, timing is the decider with Puna appearing to the more accurate.

Both Puna and Heather have turned down overseas trips to remain in the 50th Independence spot light capturing the celebratory feel good vibes, being the PM, Puna's light has shone brighter than Heather's giving him a slight edge.

Keeping Heather's converts focused has been tender, today's yes can be a no tomorrow, keeping the percolator on a constant smouldering flame has tested Team Heather yet they keep telling their leader what he wants to hear.

Executive CIP positions most noticeably that of the President will be well contested. Experienced Executive representatives Temu Okotai, Nga Jessie, Robert Graham and Soko Roi are likely candidates.



PM Henry Puna



DPM Teariki Heather

Heather's inner circle is now confident they have the voting delegate numbers to topple Puna. They remain adamant it was their man's efforts in the outer islands who engineered the CIP electoral victory in the face of defeat by the Democratic Party last year, a credible point that they say should be rewarded with the elevation to Party leadership. Whether electioneering 'X Factor' Heather is able to achieve what he has failed to on three previous occasions is debateable. In his electorate his popularity is marginal and since his slim victory at the 2014 polls the DPM has not advanced his support base.

While the call for the Prime Minister to be a Rarotonga MP is gathering momentum Heather is not a compelling option for the voting Rarotonga constituency delegates with the exception of the three in the Puaikura vaka. Heather's strength of support is likely to come from the southern outer islands with Pukapuka and Rakahanga marginal.

If there was a leadership run off between Puna and the non controversial moderate Matavera MP Kiriau Turepu, the wider masses would be more hopeful of change.

Unpopular as he is on Rarotonga, the 74 vote PM Puna is for reasons different from

what issues the public has with Heather who is perceived as an unsophisticated bully bathed in layers of conflicts of interests and allegations of abusing his authority.

Political observers who have been monitoring Heather's aspirations of political elevation have regularly crunched the numbers and are of the opinion his brave hearts will wilt when faced by Puna. Several times when he has been the acting PM in Puna's absence, Heather has over stepped the mark instead of deferring decisions till his return, this has not gone unnoticed by other Cabinet Ministers.

In the unlikely event of Puna loosing the Party leadership to Heather he will definitely deny his opponent the Parliamentary leadership of Prime Minister which is determined by the MP who commands the majority of the House.

Heather needs to get the message loud and clear he is risking his political career; he is putting everything on the line. If he fails to unseat Puna he will be purged from Cabinet and left to be devoured by the wolves of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM) whom he has defied over his refusal to comply with their concerns of non appropriation expenditure.

Blinded by his appetite for power Heather has raised the stakes and pushed Puna to the point of high risk politics. High risk has great rewards but failure comes with devastating consequences and that must be considered by Heather's inner circle that are placing their jobs on the line unlike their boss who has his MP pay to fall back on.

Heather's expulsion from Cabinet will be a game changer for Puna; his leadership will be solidified and firmed. Puna could additionally strengthen his Prime Ministership by Deputising Kiriau Turepu with Mark Brown the Acting Prime Minister in his absence. Puna could then honour his promise to the CIP Vaipae/Tautu constituency and restore Mona Ioane to Cabinet.

There is little for Puna to fear from Heather defecting because the Democratic Party will not compromise their political integrity by way of a coalition with the Akaoa MP, that avenue has been explored and decisively rejected.

In summary; the looming political heavy weight stouch is a match of contrasts, Puna's brain verses Heather's brawn. Heather's the classic hard worker who is up against the smart working Puna who hasn't sweated his entire working life. Put your money on Puna.

- George Pitt

# Cook Islands 50th Anniversary Constitution National Celebrations

By Noeline Browne

The Cook Islands 50th anniversary Constitution celebration began with the National Thanksgiving service held at the Are Kareioi. Dignitaries from all over the world came to join in with our traditional, religious, political and community leaders and people of the country on this very special occasion. As a prelude, the Apostolic Church choir sang wonderful Gospel songs as all the guests - international, regional and local - streamed into the auditorium. Once PM Henry Puna and Mrs Akaiti Puna, and Queen's Rep Tom Marsters and Mrs Tuaine Marsters entered the hall, the service began.

Chairman of the RAC, Apostolic Bishop Tutai Pere began proceedings with the text of the day from 1 John 4:16 followed by a traditional hymn sung by the CICC and theological students from Takamoa, and the opening prayer and an opening message delivered by Rev Aratangi in reo Maori.

This was followed by SDA Rev Eliu Eliu introducing the Seventh Day Adventists youth choir who sang with great enthusiasm for the audience. A brief message in English was delivered by Diocesan Bishop Paul Donoghue from the Catholic church followed by a prayer of thanksgiving by District President Piltz Napa of the Mormon Church.

The first guest artist for the day was Andre Tapena whose rendition of the great hymn, 'How great thou art' was truly moving. This was followed by Pastor Beresford Rasmussen from the AOG who delivered the prayer of intercession. The other guest artists for the day were Ephraim Taokia joined by the Titikavaka CICC choir, and a solo by Mrs Curley Taripo. The

closing hymn was sung by the Apostolic Church choir after which the service ended with a prayer.

Faith and Family Values – Prime Minister Henry Puna

Prime Minister Henry Puna made a special address at the Thanksgiving Service and spoke of the importance of faith in the Cook Islands culture and how the country's faith has been enshrined in the preamble of the Constitution (in the 20th amendment 1977), while noting that long before 1977, 1965, or even 1901 (when we were annexed by New Zealand), that our people held to our faith.

First he acknowledged the New Zealand PM John Key and his delegation, and the presence of so many dignitaries from countries from all over the world, so numerous that if he tried to acknowledge every country individually, he might inadvertently miss one out.

The PM also acknowledged the Government Ministers, the Opposition MPs, the Kaumaiti and Are Ariki, the Koutu Nui and Aronga Mana, and the Iti Tangata for coming together on this very special day to celebrate history and also to make history (on our 50th anniversary of self-government). He returned to his theme of the importance of 'family' and the different levels of family: there is the immediate family, as he acknowledged the Puna family that he could see in the audience; then there is the 'island' family referring to his 'Manihiki 'family' who had come to Rarotonga to join the celebrations, and then there is the 'national' family which includes those that now live in NZ, Australia and elsewhere. He also thanked those from Palmerston for being at the celebrations.


Noting that family is not

always by ties of blood but also of friendship, the PM also spoke of the 'regional' family: Tahiti, Fiji, Samoa and Tuvalu, Kiribati, Niue, Aotearoa, Hawaii, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Papua New Guinea. And of course, the 'international' family whose dignitaries had come together for this special occasion.

Continuing with the theme of family, he added that just like any family, the Cook Islands family might argue and quarrel or even not speak to each other for a time, but eventually, family come together again. That is because family accept you for who you are, and love you no matter what and that if you have a home and a family, then that is a blessing. The ripples of approval and applause


from the guests and people at the auditorium showed that everyone appreciated the message of togetherness in faith and family values.

Dignitaries were whisked off for a special lunch while everyone else headed down to the New Constitution Park (reclaimed area next to the Punanga Nui market) for more festivities that continued for the whole day. The highlights were the gun salute by NZHMS Otago, the cutting of the 'birthday' cake for our 50th anniversary with more dancing and celebrations, culminating in the 'Light up the Night' event with a neon float parade and fireworks. Happy 50th Anniversary of the Cook Islands Constitution on 4 August 2015. Kia manuia.



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# Cook Islands 50th Anniversary Constitution National Celebrations

*Photos by Noeline Brown*



# Norman George on: The next 50 years

*By Norman George*

**H**ello I'm Back! While I have not abandoned my trek into law reform, I have decided to seize the moment of the 50 year hangover to peek a glimpse of how I would like to see our country in the next 50 years, when it arrives in 2065. I will split them into different subject matters for clarity and dexterity.

Role of the Ui Ariki, Koutu Nui and the Aronga Mana:

I was disappointed with the response by the House of Ariki to PM Puna's challenge of defining their future role, which was published on Saturday 1st August this month. The response, with respect, I find to be like an air freshener spray, thin, light, quick to fritter away in the wind, with no solid philosophical foundation to hold it in place. Here are my thoughts on this subject:

The 3 houses, or shall we call it the 3 Estates, the Ui Ariki, Koutunui and Aronga Mana form the foundation of our Maori people, our Tangata Fenua, who are the guardians of our history, traditions, culture and Maori custom according to each island....

The three Estates are the living archives of our oral history who on a daily basis remind us who we are and why things are done or should be done in a certain way.

They are the preservers of our Maoriness and Polynesianess.

They are the protectors of our lands, traditional titles and Maori way of life.

They are the protectors of our Maori language, Maori lifestyle, Maori manners and protocol, our traditional chants, challenges, and karakia.

With the pressure of the I.T. computer technology world upon us now, the challenge of the new generation of plastic Maoris who cannot speak Maori, show no respect for their elders, speed on fast motorcycles while speaking or

texting on their cell phones, drinking and smoking openly, drenched in heavy lipstick and makeup, swear obscenities without remorse, they fight and brawl, young men and women alike, with sexual preferences openly on display, they don't eat taro, just fast food. Many dabble in drugs and so it goes on. This has to be contained. I rely on the 3 Estates to help us contain the situation. Shall we add a fourth Estate? The Religious Advisory Council? I will address the R.A.C. subject later.

The challenge for this group is to prevent us from being swallowed by the growing plastic Maori civilisation threatening to destroy and obliterate our priceless Polynesian Maori traditions and customs.

The 3 Estates should play a role in the granting of permanent residents. Their seal of approval should be sought.

They should play an active role in the issuing of work and residency permits, there is a fear now of out of control immigrant workers dominating jobs that should go to locals.

Where is the balance? Why is there not a quota system introduced?

If an employer brings a migrant worker, he can only bring a replacement if the first worker goes home.

There should be a strict quota system introduced and enforced.

Immigrants brought in to work here should only be allowed to enter into business that locals cannot perform.

There ought to be no conflict with local business.

The expatriate population of workers and permanent residents must be set at 25% of the total indigenous population and a Constitution amendment put in place as soon as possible.

Only the three Estates of the Are Ariki, Koutu Nui and Aronga Mana can give us a watch over surveillance role for

our protection and long term preservation of our Polynesian Maori People.

Politicians cannot be trusted to do this. They swing with the winds of change and convenience. Politicians are prone to making populist decisions to win their party the election and not necessarily to win the best protection or prospect for the nation.

There are too many opportunist corrupt and risk taking politicians around who will do anything to be Prime Minister.

Too many of our past Prime Ministers won that office not by ability, not by popularity, but by their manipulations and those of their supporters.

I call them Lotto Prime Ministers. They won the Lotto to be PM without earning the right from a public mandate. Some use threats and political extortion to win office.

The downside to it all is their pitiful performances. These former PM's have little pride in their lacklustre performances. History will reflect on them by being part of a huge catalogue of unmentionables.

I myself was offered the chance of becoming a Lotto Prime Minister on 3 separate occasions, but I turned down the offers as I was not given a mandate by the people to lead cabinet and I do not believe in political manipulation and trickery to become the Prime Minister.

There are two more things I will argue that the 3 Estates should have.

They should enter the field of drafting legislation, then handing it over to the Government of the day to debate, discuss in a select committee, then legislate into law, or into an Act of Parliament.

The most sorrowful example of the lack of attention to the House of Ariki and Koutunui are the failure to legislate the House of Ariki and Koutu Nui

Report of 1970 on matters relating to traditional titles, ownership of land, distribution of land, the family, what is a common ancestor, child adoption, residence with another tribe, marriage into another tribe, banishment, long absence from the tribe, Marae, title lands, election, investiture and removal of an Ariki and so on....

I plead guilty to my neglect to enact this report in my time. It is not too late to do it now. Prime Minister Puna asks the Are Ariki to define their future role. This is one answer, legislate this 1970 Report and other new laws to be drafted by the 3 Estates!

My last point PM Puna is for you and your Government to grant the 3 Estates headed by the President of the House of Ariki an annual budget of \$250,000.00.

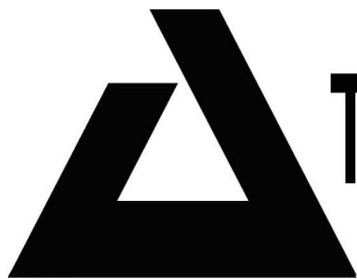
That is what Ministers are paid for their office support budgets. You don't need to spread it six times like you do with cabinet ministers. Just one budget allocation to support our traditional protectors.

The 3 Estates do not need to compete for popularity. They are there for life. That is why they have stability, reliability, and longevity.

My challenge to our traditional leaders is to reach out. Don't be afraid to step on toes. If you stay humble and quiet, the arrogant politicians will treat that as a weakness and not only ignore you, but walk all over you.

Next week I will go on to cover my views and position on political reform. Our relations with New Zealand, the role of the Religious Advisory Council and how I would like to encourage, protect, preserve and contain our expatriate worker community to allow us all to live a rich and prosperous life without feeling threatened by the other.

Ka Kite.



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# TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, WEDS 29th JULY 2015

## Observations of the Te Maeva Nui 2015

Listeners to Te Kave Kōrero on Wednesday 29th July 2015 were invited to express their observations of the Maeva Nui 2015.

One caller started off with thanking Te Kave Kōrero.

“Thank you no tēia programme, oh too good, tano rāi tōna ingoa e Kave Kōrero”.

She stated that if she was one of the Judges she would give every group ten points each.

“E a`a tāku i kite no te turanga o te `anga`anga o te Maeva Nui? Ko te au Judges, te au `Akavā, te `Akavā o tērā ngā`i o te float, e te `Akavā i te au choir i te pō Sābatī ra, ē te choir i te pō Mōnitē ra ē napō, tiaki atu i tēia pō, nāringa ko au tētāi Judge, ten, ten, ten te katoatoa”.

She added that standard of the costumes is so high this year and that the outer islands have really demonstrated the natural beauty and richness of their respective islands in the costumes they have produced in this Maeva Nui.

“Te costume atu, real, real outstanding i te au mea i `akamata`ia mai ana. E tēta`i me `ākara atu au, te vaerua o te teateamamao`anga i tēia rima nga`uru mata`iti `aka`epa`epa`anga o tātou i te Kūki Airani, very high standard tikāi te costume, even te tua o te pe`e, tūkē rāi i tēia ngā mata`iti ara, me `akatau atu koe, e vō tītā `ua, rau tī `oki tātītā `oki i te aronga `akatūtū. I tēia, `āe, `akāri mai a Manihiki mā, a Māngarongaro mā, Ngā Pū Toru mā, you know, te au `enua `aere `eā, i te au rākau, te au mekameka o runga rāi i to rātou au `enua `aere”.

She said that the standards this year has doubled or trebled to that of 1965 especially the standards set by composers and choreographies in each performing group.

“Kua `akāri`ia mai, te `akamata`anga te first constitution i te sixty five, no, not like this, not like this. But, tēia, ē, `aere oti i rēira, tāporo te standard ki runga ake, treble atu ki runga ake i te `akateitei`anga tēia stairs o te `akameitaki i te au raverave`anga a te au ta`unga i roto i te au pupu”.

Another caller said that the Maeva Nui has been of very high standard this year.

“Tōku manako i runga i te au `anga`anga e ravea nei, mei te `akamata mai`anga, turu atu rāi au i te manako o tērā māmā i mua ake, mei te `akamata mai`anga, ae, kā`ore atu, kā`ore atu, pākau ai mei te `akamata mai`anga e, tae mai ki te `openga.

She stated that as far as she is concerned, there is no second, no third, no fourth, everyone is a winner.

“I āku ua`orāi, karanga au ē, kāre e second, kāre e third, kāre e fourth, all first” Kāre au e `iki ana i te second, third, fourth, `aere `ua atu, no, `iki au e, first, all first. Te tumu, `ākara `oki au ē, `āe, kāre au i kite ē, e a`a te `ikianga a te au Judges i te pupu `ura `aere i tēia taime”.

She added that if you watch the costumes, it is difficult to choose the best, everyone is so beautiful.

“Ākara koe i te costume, kāre koe i kite ē ko tē `ea tā`au ka `ākara, ko tē `ea tā`au ka `iki, karanga tērā reo o mātou e, so beautiful”.

She said that it is not the same as before. In the past there were no marquees outside but this time everything is perfect.

“Ākara `oki koe i va`o, ki ā va`o i te tangata. Kāre e `akapērā na i te taime mua. I te taime mua, kāre e ngutu`are i va`o, rapu rāi koe i a koe, rapu rāi koe i a koe kia tae ki roto. Tēia taime rā, ō, koia tikāi, koia tikāi tēia taime te au mea katoatoa”.

She concluded that everything is nice and

that every group is a winner.

“Te au mea katoatoa, very nice, very nice te au mea katoatoa. No rēira, ko tōku manako tērā e Tony, first pouroa rātou katoatoa. Kia orana”.

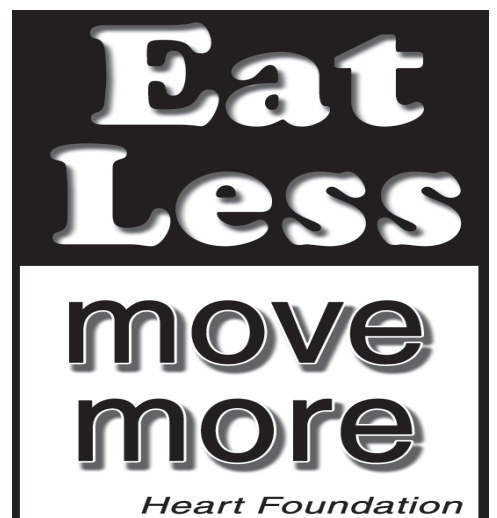
One caller said that televising the Maeva Nui ‘live’ to the outer islands is excellent and is joyful that the outer islands are seeing what is happening on Rarotonga.

“I runga roa atu rā i tērā, te mako nei te auditorium, te ‘live’ tivī, mainly ki te pā `enua. Kua mataora tikāi tōku ngākau e, te `ākarakara mai nei te pā metua i tai i tēia e tupu nei i runga i to tātou `enua. No rēira `e Tony, mānea te porōkarāmu, mānea katoa tā`au tumu manako e tuku mai nei”.

“The standard of compositions, performance, presentation and costume designs in this Maeva Nui is unprecedented and as Tina Turner puts it in one of her hit songs, ‘it’s simply the best’”, says Tony Hakaoro, Te Kave Kōrero presenter.

Te Kave Kōrero congratulates all the performing groups, tutors, performers and costume designers/makers, for a very high standard of compositions, choreography, performance and costumes in this Maeva Nui.

All the best and kia maeva.





## Televising Te Maeva Nui

On Te Kave Kōrero on Friday 31st July the talkback questions put to the listeners in Māori were:

Is it alright to televise the Maeva Nui every year, especially to those of us here on Rarotonga? Is it okay to see the Maeva Nui on television?

“E mea tau āinei kia `akāri `ua ia te Maeva Nui i te au mata`iti katoatoa, no tātou tikāi i Tumutevarovaro nei? E mea tau āinei kia kite tātou i te Maeva Nui i runga i ta tatou āvata tūtū?”

One caller said that televising the Maeva Nui should be done every year because at times when it's raining, cold and when one does not have transport, it would be difficult to attend the national auditorium to watch the Maeva Nui.

“Kia orāna Tony. Āe, tēnā ui`anga nā`au, e tano ai, kia continue rāi tēia `akāriari`anga, kia continue rāi te on kia `aere nā runga i te tivī, i tēta`i tuātau `oki, ka uaua `oki `eā, ē, ka ngatā i tēta`i aronga i rēira i te kimi i tēta`i pere`ō `oki kia tae `oki ki kō i te auditorium, no rēira i rēira, pāra`i `ua i rēira ki te kāinga i rēira, ē, tēta`i taime kāre e pere`ō, ē, mei tēia tuātau nei `oki e anu nei, ē, kāre `oki i rēira e meitaki te `aere i rēira, no`o ki te kāinga i rēira, ē, me `akatau atu koe i rēira, tēta`i tū rāi i rēira ē, tei roto rāi koe i te auditorium e `ākarakara nei i tēia tivī `oki i rēira i tērā aronga i roto i te auditorium”.

The caller said that television coverage of Te Maeva Nui should continue especially given Bluesky's assistance in enabling it to be televised to the outer islands.

“Ko tōku manako ia, you know, kia continue rāi tēia tivī, tēia `oki te Bluesky kua `ōake mai i tēta`i chance mānea kia kite mai tikāi to tātou pā`enua `aere i va`o mai i a Rarotonga nei. Yes, te `āriki nei au i te manako `oki ara e, kia continue tēia `aere nā runga i te tivī”.

Pāpā Tātā Tōnitarā, Tauturu Orometua (Assistant Minister) in Omoka, Penryhn, said that the television coverage of Te Maeva Nui has been wonderful and that they have been receiving very clear pictures.

“Kite koe, mānea i runga i ta mātou tivī i konei, clear hoki te tivī i Māngarongaro nei, `āe. mānea, mānea te tivī, e kore e motumotu ana, haere roa ē, tae ki te hopenga, kua haere `akahou mai “Ae, manea, mako tikāi, tāku ngāhi hua i reka ai au i tēia Maeva Nui nei, mānea tikāi au te tūranga e `ākarakara nei”.

Rob Ioaba of the Ministry of Cultural Development and Manager of the National Auditorium, said that through the assistance of the Office of the Prime Minister, aid was successfully sourced from the Government of Korea enabling the purchase of cameras and modern internet or broadband television equipments and thus allowing a partnership with Bluesky, the new owner of Telecom Cook Islands, therefore being able to successfully televise the Maeva Nui.

“Tēnā kua kite to tātou `iti tangata i tēta`i ono marama i topa ake nei, na roto i te tauturu a te `ōpati o to tātou Prime Minister, kua rauka mai tēta`i moni tauturu no Korea, ē, `akamata atu ai te `anga`anga kāpiti ki ta tātou Telecom, ta tātou e kite nei i tēia rā ko te Bluesky, kua `akamata takere ki te Tauranga Vānanga. Kua `akamata takere te tanu i tēta`i au tu`anga o tēia teata”.

He said that the intention has always been to serve the interests of the outer islands and to be able to televise the Maeva Nui to them.

“Ko te vaerua i konei kia mataora to tātou `iti tangata i to tātou pā`enua i te kite i te peu karioi e tupu nei i runga i te ta`ua o te Karioi Nui kore ake ē, ti konei rātou”.

Ioaba said that the new equipments are also able to film events happening outside the national auditorium and televise them on national television for everyone to see.

“Ko tēia te au matīni, ē, ka rauka i a tātou i te tāviri i te teata, ē, `ōke ki va`o, ē pērā katoa, tēta`i au matīni i rauka mai i te Tauranga Vānanga, tēta`i au `anga`anga ka rave`ia ki va`o ake i te Tauranga Vānanga, ka kite kōtou i te teata”.

Te Kave Kōrero congratulates the Government, the Ministry of Cultural Development, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, Sonny Williams and Rob Ioaba and their pool of staff and volunteers for bringing to the people of the Cook Islands, for the first time ever, on national television, 'live' coverage of the Maeva Nui 2015.



# TE KAVE KÖRERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, MON 3rd August 2015

## Positive comments about TMN

A variety of positive comments from listeners, regarding the Maeva Nui and Te Kave Kōrero, were evident on Te Kave Kōrero on Monday 3rd August 2015.

One caller said that she would like to congratulate the organizers of the country's 50th anniversary celebrations particularly in regards to the 'live' television coverage which they, in Aitutaki, have been watching.

She said it is almost as though they are in Rarotonga.

"Inangaro au i te akameitaki i te au akateretere o to tātou akakorōanga o tēia rima nga'uru mata'iti o to tātou Bāsileia. No runga i tēia pi'a tūtū oki e pō'ā nei mātou i Aitutaki nei. 'Irinaki au ē, te au enua i tai mai, ē kore ake rāi ē, 'e pō'ā nei mātou i Aitutaki nei ē, tei Rarotongā na rāi mātou, kia akameitaki'ia te Atua no tēia au kimi'anga rāvenga tei rauka i a tātou kia akapērā".

She said that one good thing is, outside the auditorium where people have been watching on the big screen, when the television camera pans and captures the audience, they could see their families, friends and relatives and they are waving and dancing in front of the camera, it is almost as though they know they are being watched on national television.

"Pērā katoa, tēta'i āku mea mataora au i kite atu, te au taeake oki o mātou i, tērā ngā'iti tikāi e no'ono'o ra i va'o i te, i va'o ake oki i to tātou ngutu'are, me tano oki te nene'iti ki runga i a rātou, te tārevareva mā ra, te koni mā ra, pāpū meitaki i a rātou ē, te pō'ā'ia atū ra rātou. 'Āe, tē text mai nei, oh mum, te kite mai nei koe i āku, baby, te kite mā ra koe i āku?"

She said thanks God for these progress and developments, that they in the outer islands no longer have to come to Rarotonga because what Rarotonga see, they can also see it.

"Kia akameitaki'ia te Atua no tēia au rāvenga tei nā roto mai i te au papa'ā, te au aronga kite, i te kimi'anga i te rāvenga no tēia au, mataora ia ai tēia akakorōanga i roto i tēia mata'iti, kāre i rēira mātou e aruaru atu ē, kia ēre atu mātou ki Rarotonga kia pō'ā, te mako ua nei mātou e no'o nei i konei, tā kōtou e kitē ra, tā mātou rāi ia e kite atu nei".

She also expresses her appreciation of the songs being played on Te Kave Kōrero that evening.

She said that songs by Tāuanui and Pāpā Akaperepere, brought fond memories of her younger days.

"Inangaro ua au i te akameitaki i ā koe no te au reo imene e akatangitangi mai nei koe ki runga i ta tātou rātio i tēia ai'ai, te au imene ta'ito, tērā imene oki a Tāuanui rāua ko Pāpā Akaperepere, 'e reka ua ana rāi au i te akarongo i tēia au imene, te āite'anga o te imene, me no'o tāua akarongo, mea rāi to tāua ngākau, ka oki rāi tāua ka akamanako i te tuātau mua i to tāua māpū'anga".

She said the ūtē, a traditional type of group singing, being sung these days, are not the same as those sung in the past. She

stated that these days, young people like fast songs and they find slow songs boring.

"Pērā katoa, tēia au reo imene ūtē, mei tā te ngā māmā e autara mā ra i nakōnei ua ake, no te a'a, te tano ua ra rāi tā rāua, tūkē rāi te au reo imene o te tuātau mua, kia akarongo tāua, i to tēia tuātau. Tāku akatau mamao'angā atu, i tēia tuātau kia panapana ua te imene, kia, eā, karanga tāua kua tiēni oki te ora'anga i tēia tuātau, panapana ua te ora'anga o te māpū, kāre rātou e inangaro i te au mea mārie, karanga oki rātou, boring".

"It has been a wonderful journey this past week. It's so beautiful seeing our people embrace the Maeva Nui, getting right into it from day one and joining together to celebrate our biggest milestone, our 50th anniversary of self-government", says Tony Hakaoro, Te Kave Kōrero presenter.





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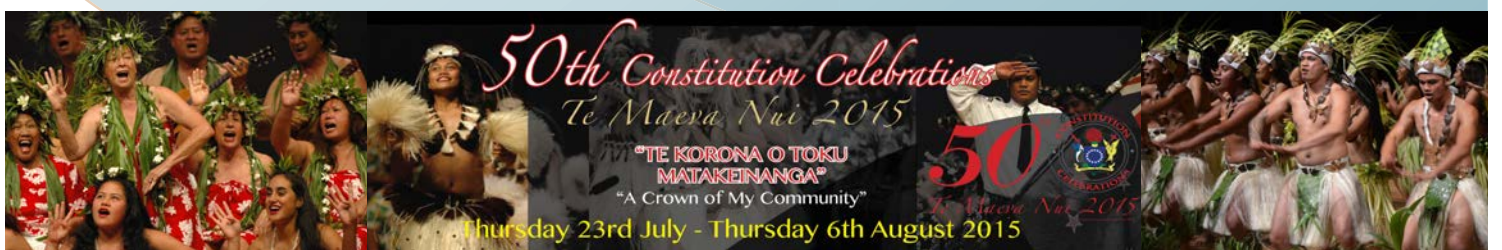
50<sup>th</sup> CONSTITUTION CELEBRATIONS  
*Te Maeva Nui 2015*  
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*Te Maeva Nui 2015*



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*50th Constitution Celebrations*  
*Te Maeva Nui 2015*

"TE KORONA O TOKU  
MATAKINANGA"  
"A Crown of My Community"

Thursday 23rd July - Thursday 6th August 2015



# MCIPA proudly presents Miss 2015 contestants Group 1



**Name: Angel Candy Williams**

**Age: 26**

**Current Occupation:**

Fashion - Store Manager and is also studying to be a fashion and make up artist.

**Hobbies:**

Angel enjoys playing netball, spending time with family and friends, staying active, dancing and travelling.

**Ambition:**

She hopes to be an inspiration to young women by helping them to believe in themselves, to feel beautiful and confident inside and out.

**Representing:**

Fashion and Beauty Station



**Name: Casey Maree Viti**

**Age: 25**

**Current Occupation:**

Art Student and works part time as a Special Needs Assistant.

**Hobbies and Interests:**

Enjoys playing netball, volleyball, listening to a wide range of music, fishing, meeting new people and especially drawing and designing motifs and hand painting fabric.

**Ambition:**

Casey has started an Art course at USP and hopes to take on more art courses in the future.

**Representing:**

Prime Foods

# Cook Islands



**Name: Mamia Opuu**  
**Age: 22**

**Current Occupation:**

Student - Studying bachelor of Social Work (Biculturalism in Practice) at Te Wananga O Aotearoa and is also a casual worker at Subway Auckland Airport.

**Hobbies and Interests:**

Mamia is very passionate about Cook Islands history and culture, dancing & listening to gospel music, reading books (Nicholas Sparks is her favorite author). She also loves socializing with her family and friends, staying active, travelling and meeting new people.

**Ambition:**

Mamias ultimate ambition is to graduate with her degree in social work so that she is able to help people who are in need and to also empower them. Furthermore, with the experience she gains she would like to return home to help her people here in the Cook Islands.

**Representing:**

Northern Group ( Manihiki, Rakahanga and Penrhyn)

# TAV SALE



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Te Maeva Nui 2015



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Peter & Jolene Heays  
Teariki Heather

# Cook Islands the place to work, stay and live, why would you? – Part Ia of I

by Te Tuhi Kelly

**A**s a nation of 15 little islands spread out over 2 million Kms of ocean we are slowly but surely losing our ability to remain a viable, prosperous and sustainable Cook Islands. We barely have a population of 15,000 people and to all intents and purposes we are the same size as most towns or villages on the mainland. The only difference is that our country occupies an area the size of New Zealand. Not only are we losing our intellectual property, we are losing our culture, our people and our livelihoods as people leave the Cook Islands in droves. Governments have come and gone, all on a portfolio of, "Our people are important, we will create conditions so that they will stay and build a prosperous nation, a country to be proud of". What a crock of kaka, in the Cook Islands this is just a party manifesto ruse to get themselves into parliament and onto the gravy train, the public trough and international travel. All governments have been failures in providing the necessary incentives to reduce the brain drain of our nation. It's all rhetoric and talk and very little substance has come out of their policies.

At this very moment there are meetings after meetings in which the same old policy analysts and government officials are meeting and making the same old comments which we have heard for the last 50 years and they still haven't got it right. They seem bereft of any original thinking and keep flogging the same old tired korero, "We must entice and incentivise overseas Cook Islanders to come home and work". Yeh, right, you policy makers are away with the fairies. They are not going to come home despite all your well wishing and your hopes, so why do you insist on flogging the same old horse. Let's have a look at why there is no incentive for them to return and then I'll make a few suggestions as to how we can get the Cook Islands onto a level playing field with the rest of the world:

- Wages/salary
- Cost of living
- Education opportunities for their children
- Access to commodities
- Transport
- Roothing
- Aged care
- Health
- Travel ex-NZ
- Land rights
- Corruption

- Job opportunities and Employment bias
- The rule of law
- Internet
- Family commitments
- Customer service
- Government department apathy

That was 2 minutes of thinking off the top of my head that produced this wee list of why Cookies will not return in the numbers required to create an economic step change.

For a start the relatively low wages and salary being paid here are a definite disincentive to return but only if you compare this to NZ or Aust where many of our people reside. If you compare this to Asia or the America's or our other pacific neighbours, our people are very well paid by their standards. That is why we have immigrants from those countries queuing up to come here as we are queuing up to leave. If you were earning under \$1 an hour as many of these people are, the Cook Islands is a paradise in any ones language. On the other side of the coin we do not have mineral wealth, oil deposits or any other unique commodity (apart from black pearls, fish, minimal agriculture, people and unexploitable manganese nodules) that we can sell on the global market. The sums of money needed to pay some higher wages or salaries cannot be done without Aid or donor intervention. Even worse we cannot fully fund our capital works without Aid, grants or loans, especially with us cosying up to China. It's the sound of "Ching Ching in the till coming from the Han' on the bill". We also have a small pool of people in employment and therefore the tax take by the government is very small in terms of what this country wants and needs to meet its future expenditure. As we have moved away from subsistence farming to shopping as a convenience, we have paid the price for this change in our living standards. These commodities have to be imported from thousands of Kms away, levies, and taxes applied and a margin applied by those importing and selling. This is passed on to us the consumer and this is our reward, a high cost of living for the ability to become global consumers.

Whilst the level of education is reasonably on a par with NZ or Aust, the issue for a lot of parents is quality, choice and opportunity for their children's education. Here they have very little choice as to which school they can go to for specialist academic study or for special needs. One of the

biggest disincentives for returning Cookies is access to all the modern conveniences and commodities that are available on the mainland. They have an established routine of going out and purchasing whatever they want in whatever quantity they want, because it is available on tap, not here. They don't have to wait; their lifestyles have conditioned them to expect their wants and needs to be fulfilled without having lengthy delays or impediments to getting what they want, not here. The road speed here is a maximum 50km/hr which is about right for the condition of the road and no footpath to speak of. Everyone knows that you go up to the 'aremakei' at your peril, misdiagnoses, crowding, queue's, poor customer service and waiting times are the norm and just as an aside, people only go there if they want to die quickly. Otherwise you go off to NZ for your medical diagnoses and treatment, if it's not already too late. There is no proper aged care so there is no incentive to return if you are elderly because the level of care that you expect is woefully inadequate, given that you can get better care on the welfare system in NZ. NZ and especially Auckland is the central hub for domestic and international travel ex-NZ. The cost to fly NZ to the Cooks is very high considering that the number of tourists flying into Raro is rising every year. NZ to Aus fare return can be the same as a single travel journey NZ to Raro. Many Cook Islanders have had challenges and issues with their rights to family land being usurped by their relations and the Land Court. They have many stories of losing or their relations losing their rights to their inheritance, just because they reside outside the Cooks. The issue that a lot of Cookies are pretty strong and clear about is the ongoing issue of corruption and cronyism in the public service. Jobs for the family, mates and hangers on, parliamentary privileges and snouts in the public purse are all things that Cookies overseas do not support; it falls on deaf ears here. Another issue for returning Cook Islanders is the apparent employment bias that they face when applying for jobs. Despite them being of Cook Islands descent, they face prejudice from public service employers who treat them as though they were not Cook Islanders. There is no incentive on the part of Cook Islands government employers to employ the best person for the job. This is especially so when you get political interference in the short-listing process for HOD's, HOMs or Snr public service roles.

# International Trade Day

*Photos by Poko Utia and Courtney Matai*





# Bring on the next one

By Hayley McNabb

The Maeva Nui has been one of the best by far events that I have ever had the opportunity to take part. Everything, from the practices that started at the beginning of the year to all our fundraisers that helped us for our preparation towards the competition has really paid off. Getting to be able to perform on the auditorium stage in front of hundreds of people, representing Manihiki, and learning more about my culture has been an amazing feeling throughout this whole experience.

Manihiki 2015 has been a true success. We had three teams altogether, one from Raro, Auckland and of course Manihiki. Manihiki based at the Manihiki hostel, the group that came from Auckland had a few classrooms at Avarua school and our Raro lot stayed at Nukutere school. Our camp started off with long, tiring practices as we were polishing ourselves up for the choir that was on that Sunday night. Our kaparima was the next item we performed on the Tuesday night and I thought that was a heart melting performance that we put on the stage. After our show we got many comments saying how beautiful and how well we really signified cyclone martin because it was an event that caused Manihiki horror and still to this day. We also made over



\$400 that night and that was another bonus.

Because our numbers had all been done first for the Raro group we spent the rest of our time in camp bonding as we realized that even though we saw each other at school, and or practice we never really had a proper conversation and got to know them as well as we do now. We spent our days hanging out and about as a team in our uniform top that was wonderfully designed thankfully by one of the girl's dad. We

spent our nights going to sleep at around 3 in the morning from twerking all night long and having competitions as to who could do it the best. Playing spotlight, watching movies and eating heaps of lollies was just fun and it reminded me of the camps I used to go on in primary. We all regretted it in the morning because we all had to wake up early for breakfast and clean up. Some of us even had excuses like, I'm not hungry or I'll clean up by myself because we were just so tired.

Overall I loved every moment of it. And unfortunately it has all come to an end, meaning I'm back living at home not that it's a bad thing haha. But I'm going to miss everyone, and miss bonding with them because maybe we won't talk as much as we do now and things will go back to how they were but I guess that's life. Our practices during the week I will also miss even though they were a bit exhausting at times I will miss having some commitment to go to. All I can say is I can't wait for the next one!



## The great Yam sale

By Charles Pitt

Once again it seems the Ministry of Agriculture has managed to upset someone during its Agriculture Days.

Last Thursday morning an 87 yr old mama went to the Agriculture Day to buy some Yams. She was told to come back at 2pm at which time the Yams would be for sale to the public.

The mama returned at 2pm to discover all the Yams were gone. She was told the Yams were all sold out at 1pm to mainly Fijians.

Needless to say the mama was quite upset and informed the Herald.

What the Herald would like to know now is what does the Ministry intend to do about putting things right with this mama? After all, it was Ministry staff who misinformed her.

It is suggested a good response would be for the Minister of Agriculture to direct the Ministry to put together a bag of Yams for this mama. If it was delivered to the CITV, it would be passed onto the mama.

And a word to our Fijian friends, leave some of this delicacy for the locals to also enjoy.

# Hapi 50th borndei to the homeland



Cook Islanders working at FFA in the Solomon Islands were part of a small but special dinner function on August 4th in Honiara. FFA's Social Club President Peter Graham, who is also the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

Program Advisor in the FFA's Operations Division, led formalities with a short welcome speech for family and friends of the very small Cook Islands community in the Solomon Islands. He shared a little of the nation's history and significance of the 50th anniversary of self-

government with the dinner gathering, which featured an island floral flavour and Cook Islands music. Not to be left out, kids led the fun part with the lighting, blowing and cutting of the cake duties shared by Paul Eirangi and Ruth-Imela Lahari, and Teara and Tapungariki Graham.

Guests enjoyed a menu of home-style favourites-- ika mata, mayonnaise and poke, thanks to the talents and hard work of our leading host for all the Cooks families and visitors to Honiara, Maine Graham.

*Lisa Williams-Lahari  
Media Officer*



# How to make successful decisions

Part 1

## Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

The purpose of this article is to assist you in making wise, sound and successful decisions that will benefit you, your family or your household. Success is largely a matter of making good decisions. The problem is, with every decision there is an element of risk "Did I do the right thing?" "Did I make the right choice?" "Was it the wise thing to do?"

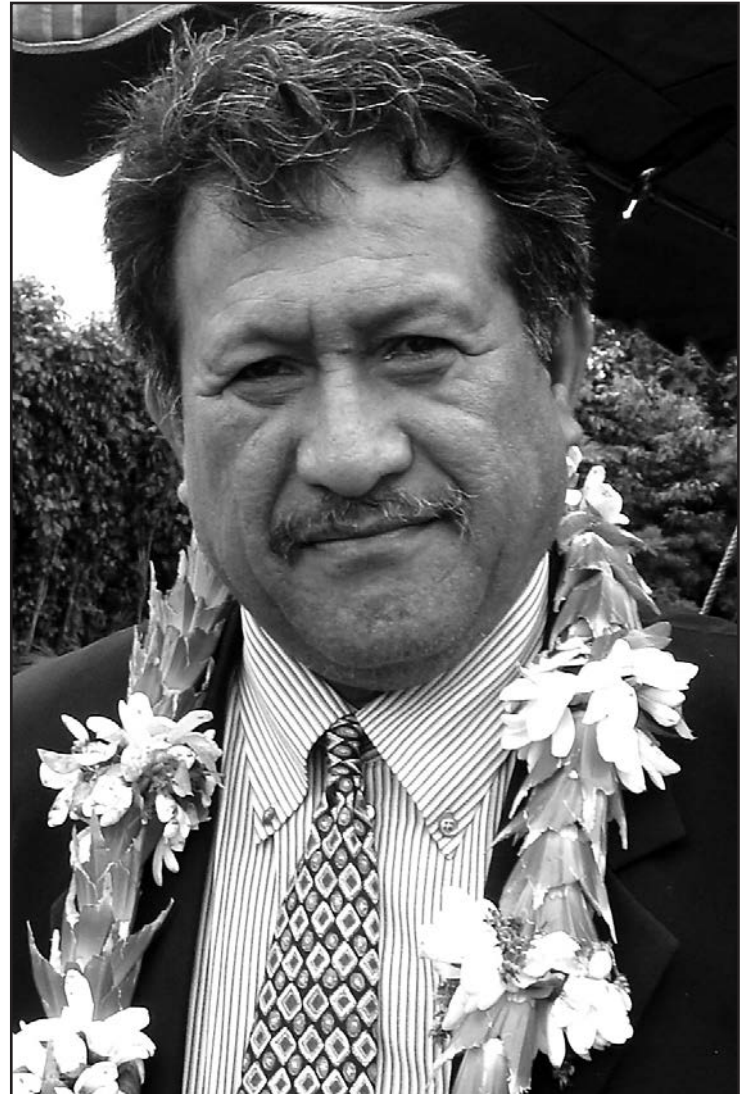
The Apostle Paul was a professional at decision making and also at taking risks. Acts 15v.26 reads "Barnabas and Paul are men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Because he took risks he accomplished amazing things in life. Many of us have great dreams. Dream to begin a business, to start a new career, to go back to school and get a degree, . But we're afraid to get started because of the "risks" involved. For this article I want us to look from the Book of Proverbs at eight principles, eight steps, or lessons on How To Make Successful Decisions.. This article (Part 1) will cover 4 of these principles or lessons, and next week's article (Part 2) will cover the other 4.

**STEP ONE: PRAY FOR GUIDANCE** – this is the Principle of Inspiration (motivation or encouragement) Proverbs 28v.26 (Living Bible) "A man is foolish to trust himself. But those who use God's

wisdom are safe." Don't just depend on your own opinion. Proverbs 2v.6 "It is the Lord who gives wisdom." You start in any decision making by getting God's perspective. How does He see it? The Bible says there is a way that seems right to us but it messes us up; it ends in death. James 1v.5 says, "If any man lacks wisdom let him ask God" and he went on to say that, "...the reason you don't have what you want is that you don't ask God for it." (James 4v.2[c])

**STEP TWO: GET THE FACTS.** Proverbs 13v.16 "Every prudent (wise; careful) man acts out of knowledge." Don't make a decision out of ignorance. Find out all you can to help you decide. Don't assume that what people say is true. Proverbs 18v.13 reads "What a shame -- how stupid -- to decide before knowing the facts!" Think before you act. Proverbs 23v.23 reads "Get the facts at any price" When in doubt, check it out. Whatever it takes! Find out the facts! before you get started. The Bible says knowledge is more important than strength.

**STEP THREE: ASK FOR ADVICE** Talk to somebody who has already taken the risk. Proverbs 24v.6 "The more advice you get, the more likely you are to win." Proverbs 20v.18 reads "Get good advice and you will succeed." Learn from the experiences of others. Proverbs 20v.5 reads "Counsel in the heart of



man is like a deep well but a man of understanding will draw it out." You can learn from anybody if you learn to draw it out by asking the right questions. Proverbs 18v.15 reads "The intelligent man is always open to new ideas. In fact, he looks for them!"

**STEP FOUR: SET YOUR GOAL** Proverbs 17v.24 (GN) "An intelligent man aims at wise actions, but a fool starts off in many directions." Do you know anybody like that? You cannot chase two chickens at the same time. You've got to select. In life, if we want to succeed we need to be clear in our minds what

to do. Make our "Goals" clear. We need to have a clear cut purpose. Never take a risk simply to prove ourselves. If you're going to make a decision, you've got to know what you're aiming for.

"An intelligent person aims at wise actions but a fool starts off in many directions." Remember 1) Pray for guidance, 2) Get the facts right, 3) Ask for advice from experience people, and 4) Set your goals. I hope you will find these 4 steps or lessons useful in making successful decisions in your life. May you have a God blessed future.

*Te Atua te aroa.*

# Increasing engagement with the regional programme for Pacific Parliamentary Development



**H**on. Nandi Glassie, Minister of Parliamentary Services today voiced his support for the Cook Islands engaging with the Regional Pacific Parliamentary Development Project.

The intention of the project is to increase Parliament's capacity to engage and improve response to key development issues and to increase youth and women's political participation. This initiative is part of a Pacific Regional work programme of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which runs until 2018. The project will be a partnership led by the Cook Islands Parliamentary Services, international and local organisations including schools and Island Councils.

"I'm confident that my Cabinet colleagues will take little persuading to see the opportunities this project opens up for our country" Minister Glassie said at a media conference today.

"The opportunity to strengthen and enhance local government by increasing

the voice of young people and women and increasing their political participation is in my view a no brainer. We already have in motion Pa Enea development plans that focus on strengthening Island Governments. For example in the Mangaia Island Plan "increasing capacity and responsibility of local government" is identified as a key theme and "strengthening local government" is identified as a key priority area.

"This project also aligns with the National Policy on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Implementation Plan for which the goal is to advance gender equality and enhance women's empowerment ensuring the active contribution and meaningful participation for both Cook Islands women and men in all spheres, and at all levels of development and decision making".

"If Cabinet approves this engagement, and I will be strongly advocating that we do, we will be in good company, joining a regional partnership that includes 15 Pacific Island

Countries".

"This project cannot provide significant new financial resources, but significant impact can be made by improving the leadership capacity of the Cook Islands Parliamentary Services to share knowledge available through the programme, to improve coordination and increase cooperation with existing partners already investing for these goals".

"I'm excited about this project. I'm excited about building the capacity of MPs to engage on key development issues; I'm excited by the prospect of increased support for MPs from Parliament's Secretariat; I'm excited about the potential to increase the participation of women in Parliament and Island government".

"The timing of this project in the year that we are celebrating 50 years of self-government couldn't be better and fills me with great hope for our next 50 years" concluded Mr Glassie.

Parliament Speaker, Hon Niki Rattle, stated – "UNDP has been working with Parliaments across the Pacific to improve

their legislative, oversight and representation functions. I fully support the Cook Islands Parliament to engage with this initiative as we look to see how we can make our Parliament work more effectively and efficiently for the people of our country. We have already agreed that we will be holding in October a seminar to discuss in detail the role of MPs and the way that Parliament works. The seminar will coincide with a visit from our twinning partner from the Western Australia Parliament and compliments the work we do with other jurisdictions such as the New Zealand Parliament. We envisage that these professional development opportunities for MPs will be a central part of any work programme between the Cook Islands Parliament and UNDP".

For further inquiries please contact Man Unuia, CEO of Minister Nandi Glassie's office at 20261.

*Hon Nandi Glassie  
Minister of Parliamentary  
Services  
Friday 30th July 2015*

Hot on the heels of the Chinese \$10 million Apii Nikao gift, loan or whatever it will turn out to be New Zealand has gifted for our 50th birthday \$11.7 million to do up Tereora College. Unlike the Chinese and their small print let's hope there are no strings attached so for the sake of circulating some money in our economy that the work is restricted to local contractors who are more than capable.



When Elvis was invited to go to New York to address a meeting in a side room in the third basement level about climate change security and found out most of the audience of less than thirty were from small island states like Niue and Tokelau, he passed it over to his side kick Markie Brown to make his mark.



Elvis and neneva Neves have got their fingers crossed the Chinese will cough up \$10 million next week to rebuild the Apii Nikao, as Neves said it was the best political opportunity to do it on our anniversary date. It's fine to take the Chinese hand out but racist of Elvis for not wanting the Chinese pearl technician and his wife to file an application for permanent residence after working in his Manihiki constituency for the last 15 years. Maybe the Chinese Ambassador from Wellington needs to whisper in Elvis ear to open the door for 50 Chinese resident business investors in exchange for the \$10 million. Don't say you weren't warned, it's what they do everywhere else and it is about to happen here.



What's with these recorded messages? People do not want to chat to a recording. Chook rang a local bank where a voice reels off a lot of numbers to dial depending on the service you think you require. On pressing the number for general enquiries, this sent the caller back to the start of the number reeling! On holding on for a real person, after many rings, a voice says,



"Your call did not go through." Then you were back once again to a voice reeling off numbers! This is not "service." It's a "diversion."



While it seems all performances at the Auditorium were the same duration-(7 minutes? ) the time spent on the introductions in two languages seemed to vary greatly with some commentaries almost as long as the performances! So who was performing here? The dancers and singers or the commentators?



Word is during the Maeva Nui many food outlets did very well financially thanks to the great influx of visitors. This will also greatly please the tax man provided the retailers have not diverted the takings to their own pockets!



In regard to NZ Super, poor John Key cannot understand the difference between the realm of NZ countries and the other independent Pacific countries! He keeps trying to lump them all together! The Realm nations are NZ citizens Johnno! And as Sir Kiwi Keith said back in 1965, Cook Islanders are NZ citizens, entitled to all the privileges NZers enjoy. Johnno must have flunked Geography at school as well as History.



Why did the Royal Aussie Air Force jet

plane park so far away from the terminal building when it arrived to deliver the Aussie DPM? The Aussie DPM had a very long walk to the terminal. Was it so the Aussie spying electronic equipment provided by the CIA would not interfere with Airport tower transmissions?



Last night of the concerts at the Auditorium, last performance by the Chinese and the invite goes out to all sitting outside to come into the Auditorium. Were they embarrassed the crowd inside was so small? Where was the martial arts display? The Gung Fu? This would have been more exciting than the Chinese ballet and music. Some intricate sword play would have had all the kiddies on the edge of their seats.



Bernard's impromptu duet with the Chinese singer reveals a talent that should be on tour. The secret songbird tweeted like a true pro.



Agriculture Minister Kiriaua would be better off out planting a few crops rather than waltzing about with the likes of John Key. At the PM's office after meeting Key, Kiriaua looked lost. The chap is more happy among the dragon fruit than the suits.



John Key granted the opposition a moment to voice their opinions but where was the "Bishop?" He too is a leader of the

opposition!



On the independence aspirations of PM Puna, at the media conference following the meeting at the PM's office with PM Puna, John Key did most if not all the talking on the issue. Key quite rightly said it was up to the UN Security Council, something our educated, brilliant PM should know. Right?



NZ would be better investing in a Science Block at Tereora College not a Technology block. NZ has gifted \$11.7million to upgrade Tereora College as its gift for the 50th anniversary. Biology and Chemistry form the basis of agricultural and marine sciences and if we want the agriculture and marine sectors to prosper, advance and enhance the economy, then we need students to do these subjects, not dancing and twiddling on musical instruments.



The Minister of Health has announced that the growing of tobacco will soon be banned. Has none of his highly paid advisors informed him that overseas some nations like Sth Africa are growing hectares of tobacco for converting into fuel to power aircraft and other engines in place of fossil fuels. Why can't we grow tobacco for these reasons?

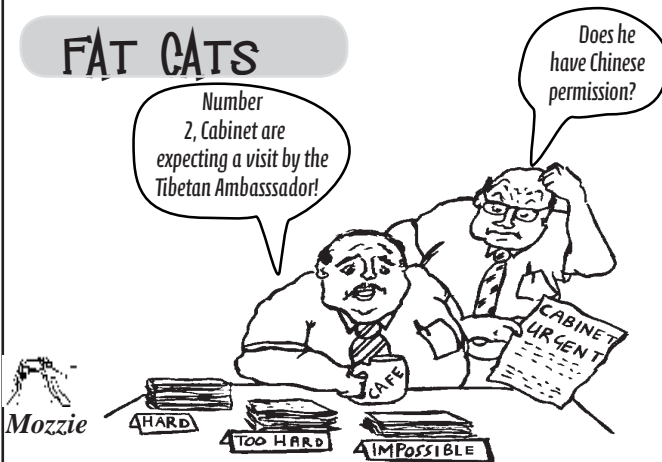


According to NZ PM Johnno Key, the NZ Ministers of Finance and Foreign Affairs are at logger heads over the 5 year rule for NZ Super. Here in the Cooks, the Finance Minister (Brown Marks) and the Foreign Affairs Minister (Puna) are in sync, singing the same tune, in the same bed, under the same sheets. That's unity for you! An example to all!



Japanese rep attending the 50th birthday bash was not impressed when a Korean made car, Hyundi, arrived to pick him up! Did not Foreign Affairs realize the embarrassment this would cause the Japanese? Someone's bum should be kicked because it's like trying to dish up pork fried rice to an Israeli!

FAT CATS



COCONUT ROUNDTABLE



# Police Parade on Monday to recognize Officers achievements



TENDERS



MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

Request for Tender for a Maritime Technical Advisor  
for the Ministry of Transport

The Development Co-ordination Division (DCD) of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM) and Ministry of Transport seek a suitably qualified company or individual to submit a tender for the provision of a technical advisor to work in the Maritime division. The technical advisor will be based at the Ministry of Transport in Rarotonga.

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

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

Email: [boyd@akairoconsulting.com](mailto:boyd@akairoconsulting.com); Ph: +682 22226 or +682 54221.

Tenders Close: 3pm Thursday 13 August, 2015 (Cook Islands Time).



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOR PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES FOR THE REVIEW OF  
NATIONAL BUILDING CODE, BUILDING CONTROL AND  
STANDARD REGULATION FOR THE COOK ISLANDS

RFP REF NO. 141544

Infrastructure Cook Islands, (hereinafter called the "Principal"), in collaboration with the office of the Prime Minister, Emergency Management Cook Islands intends to procure the consultancy services for the "REVIEW OF NATIONAL BUILDING CODE, BUILDING CONTROL AND STANDARD REGULATION FOR THE COOK ISLANDS."

Tenderers should ensure they are registered and have downloaded or received all files for the RFP including all prospective notices. Files can be obtained either online via [www.procurement.gov.ck](http://www.procurement.gov.ck) or from ICI office.

Tenders close at 3pm on Friday, 21st August 2015, and must be submitted in hard copy format in two separate sealed envelopes and have the following information clearly exhibited in red on the outside:

Envelope 1: "TECHNICAL PROPOSAL"

Envelope 2: "FINANCIAL PROPOSAL"

"DO NOT OPEN WITH TECHNICAL PROPOSAL"

All Enquiries to be directed to: Solomona Solomona  
Contact Officer

Email: [solomona.solomona@ici.gov.ck](mailto:solomona.solomona@ici.gov.ck)

Phone: +682 20321

TENDER



Tender for the Maintenance of TE APONGA UIRA  
Motor Vehicle Fleet

All interested parties should register their interests by contacting the following:

Marlene Cuthers on 20054.

VACANCIES

RESORT PLUMBER  
JOB DESCRIPTION

The Resort Plumber is responsible for the overall installation, operation, administration, repairs and maintenance and liaison with external contractors, consultants, suppliers and other trades of the following systems for a beach resort of 160 rooms and oversight of a further private island resort of 36 bungalows;

1. Sewerage including grease traps
2. Water Treatment including filtration, UV and RO experience would be an advantageous
3. Gas and Oil Reticulated Hot Water Boilers both storage and instantaneous system
4. Gas and Oil Kitchen appliances
5. Laundry washers, dryers and ironing rollers
6. Swimming pool filtration
7. Storm Water Drainage
8. Fire Hydrant System including hose reels and onsite fire fighting equipment
9. Installation of sanitary equipment including bathtub, spa baths, toilet bowl and wash basins.
10. Irrigation System
11. Solar Systems

In addition, the Resort Plumber would need to be qualified and experienced in;

1. Copper Pipework Installation
2. PVC
3. Pumping Equipment
4. Computerized Hotel Maintenance Management Systems

Please call 25-800 or email [hr@rarotongan.co.ck](mailto:hr@rarotongan.co.ck)

SHORT-TERM JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Due to high occupancies we have the following short-term job opportunities available for males and females over 18 years old;

Housekeepers – to assist with the cleaning of guest rooms.

Cleaners – to assist with cleaning in the Restaurants, Bars, Kitchen and Public Areas.

Grounds man – to assist with lawn mowing, hedge trimming, raking of rubbish etc.

There are other opportunities available in addition to these depending on your qualifications and experience including Receptionists, Carpenters, Activities staff, Restaurant & Bar Servers etc.

These short-term job opportunities are available on a casual basis;

- 8am to 2pm with further hours available including evening shifts; and
- Minimum of three shifts a week any day of the week.

Please call 25-800 or email [hr@rarotongan.co.ck](mailto:hr@rarotongan.co.ck)

## FOOTBALL UPDATE

# Di Mariadelighted to sign for PSG

Argentina winger Angel Di Maria has said that he is "delighted" to be joining French champions Paris Saint-Germain.

The 27-year-old has yet to officially sign for the Qatari-backed Parisians ahead of a move from Manchester United. But in an interview with Beln Sports, who are owned by the same Qatari Sports Investments group that includes PSG in its portfolio, Di Maria spoke of his joy at securing a move to the big-spending outfit.

"I'm delighted to sign for PSG because the club has done everything to bring me here," said Di Maria, who passed a medical in Doha on Tuesday. "I'll try to do my best, I'll work

hard to give my utmost and if everything goes well, we'll win a lot of trophies."

The former Real Madrid star said his goal was to bring more than just domestic glory to last year's French treble-winners. "Paris won all the trophies in France and that's important for such a big club. My aim is to help Paris get past the Champions League quarter-finals."

PSG have been knocked out in the UEFA Champions League quarter-finals the last three years (twice by Barcelona and once by Chelsea) and their best result in Europe's premier club competition remains a semi-final appearance in 1995.

Di Maria's arrival will be PSG's biggest in the current off-season following those of



German goalkeeper Kevin Trapp from Eintracht Frankfurt and French midfielder Benjamin Stambouli from Tottenham. The Argentinian spent just one season at Manchester United, who have agreed a £44.3 million (63 million euros; \$68.9 million

dollars) fee with PSG.

Having helped Real win the Champions League in 2014, Di Maria moved to Old Trafford for £59.7 million. Di Maria - who has 65 caps for Argentina - scored four goals in 32 appearances for United.

# Palestinian breakthrough as Gaza and West Bank teams cleared for AFC Cup play-off

August 5 - A symbolic breakthrough in Middle East football relations will take place on Thursday when a Palestinian team from the Gaza Strip will host West Bank opposition for the first time in 15 years after Israel gave permission for the latter to cross its territory.

The Gaza Strip's Al-Shejaiya and Al-Ahly from Hebron in the Israeli-occupied West Bank will play the first leg of the Palestine Cup in Yarmuk, a fixture that appeared in doubt before Israel, whose territory separates the two areas, allowed it to go ahead. The return leg in Hebron is scheduled for August 9 with the winners competing in the next Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Cup.

Prior to Al-Ahly's arrival in Gaza, Palestinian officials claimed Israel was blocking the team's entry. The Israelis appeared to have relented after a complaint by the Palestinian FA to FIFA which has been endeavouring to play a mediation role in the area. At the FIFA Congress in May, the PFA at the last minute withdrew a proposal for Israel to



be thrown out of world football but only after FIFA agreed to send observers to monitor the situation. The PFA has long complained that Israel restricts the movement of players and officials to and from Palestinian territories.

The PFA admitted that at one point it had threatened to call off the game. "The association decided to annul the match after the Israeli authorities banned the football players in Hebron to cross from the West Bank to Gaza through Israel," said a statement.

"The PFA immediately addressed urgent letters of protest to the international football federation (FIFA) and its executive board as well as to the European Union and as well as the Arab and Asian football unions," it said.

Palestinians hope the historic move could lead to unified competitions for Gaza and West Bank teams while the players also expressed their joy. "I am full of honour and pride, this is the first time I have ever visited Gaza and I can't find the words to describe my feelings," Al-Ahly

forward Khalidon al-Halman told Reuters.

Al-Ahly President Kifah Al-Sherif said he hoped the match, which could attract up to 10,000 fans, would ease political tension in the region, as much among Palestinians themselves as between them and the Israelis. "We hope that the match will be a way to embody the unity of our people, especially since our politicians are so divided," he said. "If it goes ahead it will be proof that sport can achieve advances that politics cannot."