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CIP full steam ahead while the Demo Party dithers

A new Cook Islands Party Executive is wasting no time in positioning the Party for campaign readiness. A comprehensive master business plan is being prepared that micro scopes the entire structures and operations of the CIP. No stone good, bad or ugly is being left unturned in this exercise to reinvent and modernise the administration of the organisation.

Included in this master plan to elevate the Party to a new level is the acquisition of land and the construction of their own national headquarters. Strategic time lines are being developed that break down the business plan into five sections of goal setting and action plans to achievement.

While confirmations are not forth coming it is believed MBA graduate and Party General Secretary Soko Roi and successful business man Taoro Brown the Vice President are the driving force and master minds behind this smart move.

Interaction with the visiting political delegation from New Zealand for the 50 year self government celebration was a revelation how sophisticated electioneering has become, these are being reviewed and considered for contextualising.

In a leaked, what appears to be an in house brainstorming document, a SWOT analysis indicates the biggest threat to the continued governance of the CIP is the new One Cook Island Movement. The Democratic Party is not considered a threat under the current leadership of William Heather who is graded as weak where as Murienua MP James Beer is considered strong and their potential threat in the Opposition. The media is considered as being more of an opposition.

Immediate attention is being given to debt remission with the Party having very serviceable debt unlike the huge debt anchoring the Democratic Party



Soko Roi



Taoro Brown

The Democratic Party is not considered a threat under the current leadership of William Heather who is graded as weak

into a stupor and passive state. The CIP surprisingly are adopting a worst case scenario strategy for some areas of attention as to not become complacent and over confident. An assessment of the OCI suggests they could win five or up to eight seats in the next elections as the voting public are losing faith in the two party system.

Eight potential candidates are listed to be approached to contest seats considered winnable or retrievable at the next elections. Titikaveka, Nikao, Ngatangiia, Mitiaro and Tamarua are among those listed. Potential candidates will be groomed, trained and readied for campaigning.

A diagnostic survey and evaluation of every constituency

is planned with all of them being systematically visited by the President Nga Jessie and Brown/Roi.

When questioned about the new direction of the Party Vice President Brown said the Party Officials responsibility was to engage the Party machinery in all that involves ensuring those standing had the best possible advantage to win by margins that denied petition opportunities. "The politician's job is to govern the country; our role is to ensure we provide the resources for our candidates to gain the ascendancy to govern out right."

"Yes we are adopting a proactive approach, we are just getting on with the details that contribute to our desired end,

other than that no comment," answered Roi.

The Herald understands the Business Planning team are adamant finance will not be a contentious issue; sponsors have been attentively approached with the responses very encouraging. Once the comprehensive business plan has been completed a non confidential one will be compiled as a prospectus to encourage membership and elite donors.

Overseas Cook Islanders have had the feelers put out to them and surprisingly the CIP brand is strong and able to attract financial support with the bulk of the building fund likely to come from overseas members who prefer to see something permanent from their contribution to the new CIP dream.

A post Elections fund is being subscribed to as a precaution for Petition cases.

Digital technology has evolved the way people communicate and interact; the use of the new mediums will be incorporated in their media strategy. While media access to the details is restricted the Herald will publish information when sourced.

While the CIP are gearing for the continuity of government the Democratic Party are being smothered by the failings and inabilities of their leader William Heather who under advice of his CEO Eddie Drollet has happily adopted a wait and see position of inactivity. Having nearly lost the last elections the CIP are making every effort to win the next one.

The legacy of the Heather and defeat specialist Drollet administration of the Democratic Party will be their demise to third party status after the next elections behind One Cook Islands. The Demos will win no more than five seats if a snap election is called by Puna before the end of 2015. - George Pitt

RETRACTION AND APOLOGY

There appeared in last week's issue of the Cook Islands Herald in 'Chooks Corner' an item which implied the new incorporated society running a rival Miss Cook Islands contest to the one which has run it for many years did so because the old incorporated society was burdened with a debt arising from queries by Customs in Samoa about clothes brought in by TAV for sale in Samoa.

While Chooks Corner is meant to be taken with a grain of salt the editor of Cook Islands Herald records here that the statement made went beyond acceptable standards for satire.

The Cook Islands Herald acknowledges that there was no evidence to support the suggestion that TAV had any issue with Customs in Samoa or that the Cook Islands pageant was burdened with TAV debt or that TAV had any debt at all.

Consequently, its apology to TAV for any slander that may have occurred and its apology to Ms Ellena Tavioni for any defamation suffered by her as a principal of TAV, is unqualified and without reservation.

Response to article about the Chief Justice Weston

The article in the Herald on 2 September 2015 which questioned the impartiality of the Chief Justice Tom Weston requires a response from the Cook Islands Law Society.

A fundamental principle of the rule of law in any system of government such as in the Cook Islands is the separation of powers. This means that the powers of the Judiciary, of Parliament and of Executive government must be allowed to operate separately without interference by one in the other. This requires an impartial and unbiased judiciary and any allegations of impartiality are very serious. It is important and necessary that the judiciary is able to function independently of parliament and the executive.

It is not uncommon for the unsuccessful party in a hearing to criticise the Judge for the outcome of their case especially where political matters are involved and anger about the outcome can be a result. That is something that Judges expect and must weather.

Judges are unable to defend themselves against criticism and allegations such as those in the article and such allegations are all too easy to make. Judges must remain neutral despite the likelihood of criticism about their decision. Criticisms in the article are not only about the Chief Justice but are about the whole system of governing the country which is based on the rule of law.

Judges must uphold the rule of law in all that they do, that is a fundamental principle which underpins their role in a fair and just society.

Catherine Evans, President



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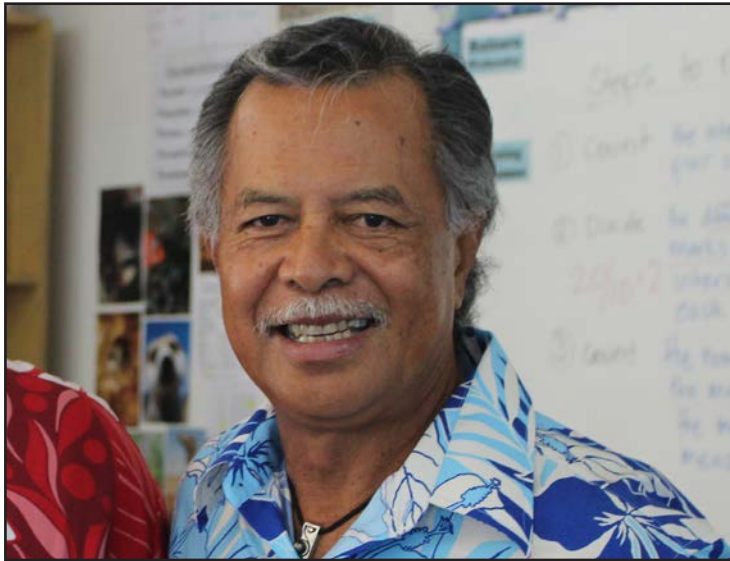
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Manihikigate takes another turn - the evolving excuses stinks of corrupt coverup



PM Henry Puna



Mayor Ngamata Napara

The Manihiki landowner's windfall to the tune of \$41,000 to defuse a threat of vandalism and the destruction of Crown assets is blatant corruption of the compensation process and the sympathy greasing Prime Minister Henry Puna in a media statement said, "I don't blame them."

When the Minister of Finance Mark Brown stepped up to the plate to defend his absentee PM's pathetic excuse for another political fiasco he only made things worse. The more the hard questions are answered with evolving excuses the stronger the odour there is of corruption emissions. Breaking down the walls of secrecy of Puna's 'no secret' government has unveiled a government shrouded in secrecy. Eventually the sheer weight of corruption can no longer be contained by the walls of secrecy.

Rather than present a full feature explanation or a three part miniseries each fronted by Puna, Brown and Neves the

Manihikigate fiasco is turning into a soap opera played out by daily scripted excuses gibberished by the three principle culprits.

What a hideous thing to say in defence of his close friends who threatened criminal action if the government did not meet their demands. It is little wonder Rarotonga tax payers who grudgingly fund the Manihiki hand out life style cultivated by Puna have had enough. As the Member of Parliament for Manihiki, the 78 vote Prime Minister Henry Puna has spared no expense in buying votes to the tune of an excess of \$4 million and counting. It is his own admission the money paid was so his Manihiki supporters could go shopping.

The Financial Secretary Richard Neves and the Office of the Prime Minister CEO Liz Koteka sprung to the defence joining Puna's chorus of spin doctoring the wise counsel of crime prevention. Only one with the Wisdom of Solomon could come to the conclusion threats to public property was

the right solution. Neves and Koteka concluded all is well as the Judge had given permission for their corrupt act.

Under pressure to justify the payments to non landowners, Neves unwillingly disclosed the payout had come from the contingency fund which is appropriated for civil emergencies such as cyclone damage. The payments followed within hours of the High Court's decline for an application by the Crown to advance compensation funds due to unresolved ownership issues.

When a complaint was filed with the Police by a Manihiki landowner Neves added another layer to the pile of insults to the public's intelligence by more pathetic explanations now saying the money was a loan that would be reimbursed when the landowners get their compensation from the Crown. No sooner a corrupt act was exposed Neves now the front man to repel the accusations would invent a new lie to cover

a previous lie.

There is no legal provision for government to lend money as the Cook Islands Investment Corporation have pointed out to Neves. Neves knows this but has advised a requesting unpaid landowner to seek loan funds from the CIIC. Whoever instructed the CIIC to pay out the money is in breach of the MFEM Act and has committed a criminal offence. Why the hesitation of PERC to act proactively and decisively in exposing the corruption so freely permeating in government?

In a matter of a few hours from the decision of the Court to the CIIC payout from the Contingency Fund who prepared the terms and conditions of the loan and how was it legalised?

How come Mrs Tangi Mama Teare Poiri received the biggest payout of \$5000 when she doesn't even have a land claim current before the Court? Other landowners strongly claim if she is a landowner then a very minor

Continued page 6



Richard Neves



Mark Brown

From page 5 one at that?

The fact monies were paid from the contingency fund evoked a hostile public reaction because it was unjustifiable, well the public can take it all back according to Minister of Finance Mark Brown who now claims the PM, Koteka and Neves got it wrong, the funds were drawn from the compensation fund a fund unbeknown to all that existed and had a pile of forgotten money in it.

What a magic moment, money appearing from nowhere, just another load of 100 percent crap dumped on the Rarotonga taxpayers who are expected to be passively enlightened to know Treasury has a secret vault reminiscent of Aladdin's Cave.

Just who are these threatening Manihiki landowners Mr Prime Minister? Were you threatened directly through a third party? Did you promise your supporters money will be paid to them when they attended the Te Maeva Nui celebrations?

Embarrassed Manihikians refute Puna's account of events to the point of claiming emphatically there was no threats but a charade created to give weight to the irregular irresponsible payout. Their account of events is that the Manihiki Mayor Ngamata Napara who is also the Chairman of the CIP committee advised Puna to keep his promise of a payout during their visit to Rarotonga; she gave Puna a list of people

who they should appease.

The earlier mentioned Mrs Tangi Mama Teare Poiri added weight to the Mayor's request. Poiri is supposedly the most vocal of landowners threatening the Crown, Prior to their return to Manihiki her husband Papu was sworn in as a Justice of the Peace by the Queens Representative Tom Marsters. This couple returned to Manihiki last year after living in Australia for ten years. Papu's son is the PM's driver and the husband of the Mayor's daughter.

In the context of Puna's story that landowners were threatening to turn the power off in Manihiki and destroy the solar installation are Tangi Mama and her husband Papu part of the group threatening criminal offending? If so why is Papu being rewarded with being a Justice of the Peace? What is the PM condoning here? A disturber of the peace being sworn in as a JP! Where is the morality of this nonsense?

Puna's latest lame diversionary tactic is to now blame the faceless Manihiki Council for his exposed vote buying fiasco. He makes the claim it was they who decided who were to get paid when in fact no such premeditated exercise took place, the public no longer and have not for some time accepted the lies that freely flow from the mouth of Puna and his CIP colleagues, show us the minutes of the Manihiki Council meeting where the advance payment issue was discussed and decided upon.

The public need substantiated proof of Puna's claims as he seeks to distant and absolve himself from the corrupted advanced payments to nameless persons who are yet to be confirmed as landowners. The ten were his supporters who wanted some money from their MP to go shopping, the names were provided by his Island Mayor.

Initially we were told the criminal threats was a spontaneous reaction by one or two angry supporters to the likely hood Puna was not going to honour his promise of shopping money, then caught out we are told this was not a reaction of hostility but something that had been discussed and decided by the Manihiki Island Council, what a load of hog wash, whenever Puna says Island Council he is in reality referring to one autocratic person the Mayor Ngamata Napara.

To suggest the situation would escalate if the Police were involved in diffusing the threats is again absolute nonsense; the Police would have squashed any perception of an uprising. Why weren't the Police and Crown Law immediately summoned to be briefed and involved in the solution remedy? Was it because the whole thing fabricated to give some rational justification to the illegal payout?

Puna and Brown must be the laughing stock among other Pacific States Leaders. In Fiji and Samoa threats against the state have been dealt with without fear or favour including

armed force, but in the Cook Islands the weak kneed Puna and Brown cowardly financially reward dissidents, this amounts to aiding and abetting crime, to condone physical threats against the state is unacceptable and must be punished in the most deterrent manner.

In China this sort of criminal activity is punishable by a death sentence.

Then again are we that gullible to believe any violent destructive threats were made in the first place? We put it to the yellow belly Henry Puna no one is convinced the evolving excuses exonerate him but quite the opposite he perpetrated a corrupt act of bribery to secure sufficient votes to retain the Manihiki seat in the event of a snap election.

Left to face the music in the absence of the PM, Brown's attempts to pacify a grumpy public has just added more wood to the fire, why wasn't Crown Law given the opportunity to advise a solution? The simple answer to Brown's 'simple solution' comment is two crimes can't justify anything.

Under the blow torch of public scrutiny Puna, Neves and Brown are found abundantly wanting. Puna regurgitates lies; Brown has spasms of amnesia and Neves talks like an Aussie car salesman trying to sell the customer a dud. Scratch the political skin and corruption seeps through like the puss from a boil.

- George Pitt



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The destruction of our Parliament

By Norman George

The institution of Parliament is now in ruins, desecrated, vandalised and allowed to fall apart. Why is this happening? Because the government of the day has relegated the Parliament into an institution of inconvenience, disuse, misuse. Abuse, neglect and abandonment.

Before I continue, let me declare that the purpose of this article is to highlight critical areas of disregard, remissness and default by those running the country today. This is not to be cheapened as politics; I leave that role to the opposition team to execute.

I seek leave from you the readers to be treated as an interested and experienced

Parliamentary observer. Why is our Parliament only sitting a few times a year? Why are there no active Select Committee meetings of Parliament? Why are there so few laws being passed when there is a huge backlog of completed Bills ready to be tabled? Why is law reform being neglected to the extent of making our legal system obsolete? Why is our budget being permanently guillotined without proper debate? The degradation of our Parliamentary system continues.

Are we truly following the Parliamentary practices and standards of New Zealand and Australia?

Absolutely not! I am afraid we are more in line with the Republic of Nauru where the Parliamentary system and the rule of law has been strangled to death! The chaos that is surrounding us at present is pointing the way to a failed state. The Prime Minister cannot hide behind a postage stamp. That is how thin his excuses and reasoning's are for the volumes of bad decisions, mistakes and blunders being made.

No one objects to honest mistakes, It is when the mistake maker looks down on us the recipients of the deceptions and misrepresentations that

reflects his poor judgment or is it his contempt and arrogance?

I was a member of the Special Select Committee formed to study the Judicature Amendment Bill formed on the 12th of February 2012. It was chaired by Prime Minister Henry Puna. The purpose of the Select Committee was to study the implications of heavy handed actions, by commercial lawyers when enforcing court imposed judgment debts. Imprisonment of those who fail to pay their judgment debts were recommended by grim reaper lawyers.

The issue was quite intense and full of public interest at the time. It is the duty of the chairman of each Select Committee to set the date of each meeting, unless the committee sets the date at the end of each meeting. In the instances where the Select Committee is chaired by a Minister or the Prime Minister, it is left for them to set the dates of hearings to suit their work schedules.

That particular Select Committee last sat on the 12th of March 2012. It has not reconvened since. It must have died of natural causes from a condition called travel exhaustion. I personally can chair 3 meetings a day, morning, afternoon and evening. I have done this a few times in my Parliamentary career depending on the urgency of the Bill or subject matter. There is no stress involved in these meetings and I cannot understand why it was not completed.

For PM Henry Puna, this unfinished Select Committee work is called "angaanga ngatoka otikore

(unfinished work) " In Atiu folklore to be labelled angaanga nagatoka, is of deep shame, equivalent to the akatamariki in the Pukapuka culture.

These failings by the Select Committees to sit, meet and deliberate on Bills and petitions are serious breaches of our Parliamentary system, not to be

glossed over or taken lightly.

Let me demonstrate to you why one particular outstanding modern piece of legislation called the Family Law Bill 2015 is researched, drafted and ready to be passed, but for a Parliamentary Select Committee to be formed to study and hear evidence from the public. Let me highlight provisions in the Bill which will solve so many domestic problems.

Divorce is completely simplified by a no fault system, which replaces the old system where one party has to find fault with the other in order to secure a divorce. The Bill enables instant divorce if both parties request it. If on the other hand only one party demands it, a 12 months separation period is all that is needed. The Registrar can issue the divorce order rather than wait for a High Court Judge to do so.

Domestic support is no longer referred to as maintenance support. One spouse if married or partner if not can be ordered to pay domestic support to the other, for the children of the relationship.

Either parents or one of them can be ordered to pay child support to a third party looking after their children. DNA testing is provided for paternity purposes. Parenting arrangements includes a declaration that the child's interests are paramount. The concepts of parenting responsibilities are defined. The wrongful removal of children from the Cook Islands is prohibited.

Care and Protection of children are declared a State responsibility. Protection against child abuse and neglect are in the Bill.

Domestic Violence for the first time is covered by a comprehensive civil framework provided for the safety of victims of domestic violence. It specifically includes physical, sexual, economic, emotional and psychological abuse. It includes provisions against stalking as well as threats against victims.

Protection orders can be issued to protect victims of violence,

which includes children. The Bill compels the Police to investigate when domestic violence complaints are filled with them.

I acknowledge the excellent work of the Law Reforms Committee (2006) and inter departmental working group who under UNDP, prepared the ground work for the changes. In February 2010, 22 participants from key government departments, the Religious Advisory Council, Punanga Tauturu and the House of Ariki prepared the ground work leading to the draft Bill. This is one of the best reports and draft Bill that I have ever seen and read

Prime Minister Puna, what are you waiting for? The Bill is ready to be passed, but for my deep respect for the institution of Parliament, I am tempted to suggest the draft Bill is good to go. Put it before Parliament now and pass it. Tut! Tut! I cannot argue for the proper compliance of Parliamentary rules and procedures while postulating a short cut to this tremendous Bill. It is like condoning guillotine motions for budgets which is a clear no no.

And the list goes no. There are petitions to be heard and law reforms to be considered. There is so much work to be done. How pathetic, hopeless and unconscionable can you get?

I volunteer to participate to chair or be part of a Select Committee to catch up to the backlog for a fee. I know it is an elected MPs right to do this, but if the work needs to be done, change the rules by tabling a motion in the House. I am sure other former MPs will be happy to participate. What else can we do?

To my esteemed readers, please allow me some sabbatical leave time again to handle two major Judge and Jury trials I have in the next 3 weeks. As I will be tied up with research, trial preparations and Court appearances, I will not have time to work on my column. Ka kite.

Grey Power March on Parliament



The planned raid by MFEM on Grey Power members will be the second carried out by the C. I. P Government. The Prime Minister Henry Puna apologised after the first bank raid in December 2013 and reimbursed all stolen \$30,000. Now with the Prime Minister's full knowledge, the second bank raid is happening again in stages which will bring in over \$100,000! The victims? 70,80, 90 year old great grandparents. All former Cook Islands Prime Ministers respected and never treated pensioners this way.

**Dennis Tunui
Grey Power President**

Occupation right interpretation

Land occupation rights, a subject very close to the hearts of landowners in Rarotonga, was the legal topic of the day on Te Kave Kōrero on Wednesday 2nd September 2015.

A panel of experts in land law was on the programme discussing and offering explanatory information regarding the subject.

Members of the panel were Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, Tingika Elikana, former politician and lawyer Wilkie Rasmussen and land agent Tere Carr.

At the start of the panel discussion lawyer Wilkie Rasmussen said in Māori that new practice notes regarding proposed changes to occupation rights have been issued by the Court recently.

“I nga ra ua ake i topa ake nei kua tukuia mai, karangaia oki i roto i te reo papa`ā e, e draft practice note, e practice note teia, mei teia te tu, teia te akatereanga ou ta ratou i akanoo mai no runga i te occupation right, akataka mai ratou no runga tikai i te au application o te occupation right, akataka mai ratou i reira e, te aronga e rave angaanga nei i roto i te Akavaanga, mei aku, mei a Tere e te au roia keke aere, teia ta tatou, karanga taua e, methods, ka aru tatou i teia, e tikai oki i reira ki ta raua i manako e, ko te akatanoanga ou teia”.

Asked for his comments regarding the practice notes Elikana said in Māori that it is inappropriate for him to comment until the matter is discussed with the Chief Justice when he arrives in Rarotonga. But it is not to say that his colleagues on the panel can not discuss the issue.

“Kare paa e rauka i aku i te tuatua no teia tuatau, teia taime no te mea ka tiaki roa kia uipaanga matou, te Law Society e te Chief Justice, e reira e akatanotanoia ai oki te au takainga. No te ra te aere ra te au tuatau na roto i te mareva, e te akarongoia ra e tona ngateitei, te Chief Justice, e, te tae ra ki ko i a ia, me tae mai a ia ki Rarotonga nei, e reira i reira e uriuri manakoia ai no te mea,

mei konei i aku te Tama Akatere Au o te Tango Tutara o te Ture, te Ministry, e mea tau kia tiaki au ki te reira taime, kare ra te tāpū nei i toku nga taeake i to raua manako no runga i te reira tamanakoanga”.

Referring to the practice notes land agent Tere Carr said that the Court is not necessarily changing the law but rather defining it in accordance with the law.

“I toku manako kare na te Akavaanga i tau i te ture, te vai ra te ture, e, e tumu tetai, e ture tetai, te akatano ua nei te Akavaanga i teia tuātau kia tau ki te ture, taku tera i marama”.

Continuing on the subject matter Rasmussen said there are also proposed changes to the previous practice notes issued by Justice Hingston. He stated that if the proposed changes are major perhaps then Parliament should make the changes and change the law accordingly.

“Kua tau i rai, kua tau i rai i reira, i roto i ta raua akarianga mai, e au akatuaiaanga ta raua i te practice notes i mua atu, na Hingston teia i tuku mai, e, i konei i reira, ka tano rai i reira te tuatua e, penei paa, mei te mea e, ka ririnui roa te tauiaanga, na te Paramani i reira e tau i te ture, kare oki e, na te Judge e tau i te ture”.

Rasmussen added there are concerns regarding the practice notes especially with respect to occupation rights in that one is not permitted to exceed 60 years if there is a 60 year occupation right.

“I roto i te uriurianga manako o te au roia, kua kite au i te au kopi, penei kare a Tingika i kite, me kua kite a ia, pinga tikai te manako o te au roia tei akari mai ki runga i te taravake o te au manako i roto i teia akapapaanga practice notes, raveanga akavaanga enua no runga i te occupation rights, maata te au uianga e te au tamanakoanga, mei teia te tu kua karanga mai oki e, i roto i reira, kare koe e akatikaia kia tere atu i te ono ngauru mataiti, me occupation rights toou, e ono ngauru mataiti”.

Assignment to children is not permitted under the new practice notes according to Rasmussen.

“Te rua, kare e akatikaia kia assign koe ki taau tamariki, mei te reira te tu, no te mea, te assignment, mei te lease rai oki, ka akatikaia koe i te assign i te lease ea, kare e akatikaia i roto i te reira practice”.

Rasmussen said that the practice notes also has guidelines for the Court and the Registrar of the Court, in terms of their responsibilities, to expedite cases before the Court.

“E maata te au mea keke aere, inara, i roto katoa i teia practice notes te akatakaanga i te Akavaanga e te Retita o te Akavaanga, i te raveraveanga i ta ratou angaanga, e viviki ai te apaianga oroanga ki roto i te Akavaanga”.

Speaking specifically about occupation rights Rasmussen said that in a recent Court decision involving two sisters, the Land Court ruled, telling the sisters, that a person is entitled to one occupation right only.

“Teia ta te Judge ki a raua, ka inangaro au i te akakite atu ki a korua e, te maani nei au i tetai akatakaanga tuatua no runga i te occupation rights. Tuku a ia i reira i tana tika, e te akamatakite ki teia tokorua, e ko te tika, e tai rai occupation rights i te tangata, kare e akatikaia e rua”.

Te Kave Kōrero sees the decision as being fair in terms of limiting rights to someone attempting to obtain more than one occupation rights on lands.

Such was the interest and the high number of callers ringing the programme Te Kave Kōrero has invited members of the panel to another panel discussion on Wednesday 9th September 2015 if they are available.

Te Kave Kōrero thanks members of the panel for their participation as well as the listeners for calling in with their opinions and questions.

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, FRI 4 Sept 2015

Travel costs, Pacific Schooners, Manihiki

Mark Brown, Minister of Finance, was the guest speaker interviewed on Te Kave Kōrero on Friday 4th September 2015.

A number of financial issues were put to the Minister.

Firstly, in responding to criticisms of one of his overseas trips with his wife with airfares costing more than \$27,000.00, Brown said in Māori that the answer to the question is to ask what the benefit was.

“I te pau i teia uiaanga no runga i te moni tei akapouia, kare, ka ui tatou, e a`a te meitaki tei rauka mai?”.

Brown said that the answer is in numbers, three million, 10 million, 15 million etcetra. He said these are millions obtained for developments in the country.

“I aku ua rai e Tony, ka pau atu au na roto i tetai au numero aere, e toru mirioni, e tai ngauru mirioni, e tai ngauru ma rima mirioni, e te vai atu ra. Ko te au mirioni aere teia taku e tuatua atu nei tei rauka mai no tetai au angaanga aere i to tatou Basileia”.

Brown said that in his capacity as the Minister thousands of dollars have also been obtained for smaller projects as a result of him attending international conferences.

“Kare au e tuatua ana i te tauasini, ke rai te moni tauasani no runga i tetai au project rikiriki kua rauka mai na roto i teia au uipaanga aere taku i aere ana au in my capacity as the Minister”.

In relation to money paid to Pacific Schooners Ltd Brown said that he did not know and was uncertain exactly how much money the Ministry of Finance paid to Pacific Schooners.

He said that given there is a breach of the contract the money paid to Pacific Schooners would need to be refunded.

“Kare au i kite, kare i papu i aku e a`a te moni ta te Ministry of Finance i tutaki ki te Pacific Schooners, tei roto oki teia i ta raua contract, karanga ana a Richard i runga i te ratio e, kua contract oki te Kavamani i tetai tuātau e kia tae mai te Pacific Schnooers kia rave i tetai au angaanga i te tari i te patete e pera katoa te kako, inara kare teia pai i tae mai ana ki to tatou enua te tiaki nei rai tatou so, kare teia contract e, karanga taua kua aatiia teia contract, e ka inangaroia tetai moni tei tutakiia ki teia company, kia akaokinaia mai”.

In relation to money paid to Manihiki land owners Brown said that the original recommendation was to pay the money out of the contingency fund but it was paid out of some left over land compensation money still with the Ministry of Finance.

“Ko te tamanakoanga mua, e kia kimi mai na roto i te contingency fund, inara, i muri mai ake, kua akakiteia mai ki aku e, kare, e akapapaanga moni rai tetai no te land compensation, te vai ra rai i ko i te MFEM, kare i pou i te tutaki ki vao”.

Te Kave Kōrero presenter, Tony Hakaoro, responded saying that the Minister’s statement sounds flat and out of tune, in that, according to the Minister, the money paid was not from the contingency fund.

“Aria e te Minita, kua tangianga ereni takiri ta taua tiunu e te Minita, te akakite mai nei koe i teia taime e, ko te moni i tutakiia, \$41,000.00, kare mei roto mai i te contingency fund?”

Hakaoro said (translated), ‘Who among you is telling lies? At first, Government had said that the money paid was out of the contingency fund?’

“Ko ai i reira teia e pikikaa nei i a kotou? I mua atu na, kua karanga te Kavamani, e, ko te moni i tutakiia, mei roto mai i te contingency fund”.

Hakaoro further stated (translated) ‘You guys are telling lies Minister, you are telling

lies’.

“Te pikipikikaa nei kotou e te Minita, te pikipikikaa nei kotou”.

Brown responded repeating what he had said previously, that the original recommendation was that the money would be paid out of the contingency fund but it was found out later that there are funds with MFEM especially set a side for land compensation and so the money would be paid out of that fund so the contingency fund would not be touched.

“Ae, ko taku oki teia e akamarama atu nei ki a koe, ko te tamanakoanga mua, kia kiriti mai i teia moni na roto mai i te contingency fund, inara, i muri mai ake, kua kitenaiia mai e, kua akariia mai ki aku e, kare, e moni ke rai tetai i roto i te MFEM, i roto i te budget, kua akapapaia tetai moni no te compensation, kare oki te katoatoanga i tutakinaia ki te Akavaanga, te vai ra rai tetai tuanga i roto i te MFEM, so ka rauka i te kiriti i teia moni tei akanoonooia no te compensation, i te tutaki i teia manga tuanga tei patia mai kia kore oki te moni o te contingency e amiriia”.

Brown said that at the end of the day, once the account is prepared, the money would have been paid out of the land compensation fund.

“Ko te moni, at the end of the day, me oti te account i te maani, te moni tei tutakiia, mei roto mai i te moni tei akapaeia no te compensation, mama ua i aku”.

Te Kave Kōrero believes that Brown was trying to cover-up for money already expended from the contingency fund and is now trying to justify the expenditure and coming up with an excuse to rectify it by way of a transfer of funds from MFEM to the contingency fund.

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Restaurant of the Year Awards 2015



In a series of stories about the participants of the Cook Island Restaurant of the year 2015 we will be visiting restaurants exploring the atmosphere and sampling their Cook Islands style menus, paired with matching wines/ beverages:

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Sails Restaurant – Muri

Review Date: 31st August 2015

Framing the picture is Motu Koromiri to the left and Motu Taakoka to the right and the waves crashing on the reef in the distance, all brought together by the stunning turquoise lagoon, where else would you have such a beautiful view to gaze out to whilst enjoying a beautiful 3 course Cook Islands style Menu all matched and paired with wines? Welcome to Sails Restaurant – Muri Beach.

We were greeted by a very attentive and very knowledgeable host Josie who immediately made us feel at ease as she showed us to the table, seated us and went over the Menu and it's concept and origins.

The entrée set the evening with a deconstructed version of a Cook Islands classic "Ika Mata" matched with a Sparkling Reserve Cuvee from Te Hana and an additional touch in the flute of local Vanilla Bean and sugar syrup. All components on the plate were treated and presented in their prime, the Yellowfin Tuna such a beautiful deep red in colour you knew it was freshly caught that day, the addition of thin Taro crisps and fresh sliced Red Onion, juicy Cherry Tomatoes and Lime segments gave the experience a very light but powerfully flavourable marriage which was offset by the creamy delicate Coconut Jelly. The wine match paired well with this with hints

of crisp Apple and Grapefruit.

The Main of Pamati Parrot Fish in a Coconut, Curry Leaf and Kafir Lime Broth, Maniota Croquettes, Steamed Pinapi and a very good Chilli, Renga and Coconut Sambal was not only cooked well but ate well too highlighting a lot of local ingredients available on the island. The Sambal was what brought this dish together Chilli, grated Coconut and Rengawrapped in a Banana leaf package met the criteria of Island-style creation. The wine match didn't fail either with the Alpha Domus "The Pilot" Sauvignon Blanc with its crisp palette, passionfruit nose and ripetropical fruit flavours complimented the dish with

each sip.

The finishing course of "3 Sweet Treats" consisted of a Rich Chocolate Mousse, Banana Toffee Springroll and Poi. Poi is an ancient Polynesian technique of pounding cooked starches such as Taro, Kuru (Breadfruit) and then it's usually eaten with Coconut cream or thinned out with water for different consistencies and applications. Banana Poi was actually the Beverage Pair to the dessert with Frangelico Liqueur adding a real smooth nutty finish!

Overall a very good evening and definitely worth the experience! BOOK NOW – Quote "Restaurant of the Year Menu" and indulge! Phone: Ph: 27349

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TE KAVE KÖRERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, MON 7th Sept 2015

Public toilets inaccessible to public

The women's toilets on the Avarua wharf was the subject of discussion on Te Kave Kōrero on Monday 7th September 2015.

Tamarii Tutangata, Chief Executive Officer of the Cook Islands Investment Corporation (CIIC) was the guest speaker interviewed on the subject matter.

In a recent letter to the editor of Cook Islands News, Te Kave Kōrero presenter, Tony Hakaoro, had questioned why the women's toilets on the Avarua wharf were being locked at night and over the weekends.

In his letter to the editor Hakaoro invited a spokesperson from CIIC onto Te Kave Kōrero to answer the question.

In explanation as to why the toilets were being locked Tutangata brought with him four photographs showing damages to the women's toilets and stated that it is for that reason (the damages) that the toilets were being locked.

"Te mea manamanata oki, kia kite tatou katoatoa, kua oronga atu au ki a koe tetai au tutu no te au angaanga taravake te raveia nei ki runga i te are meangiti i ko i te uapu i Avarua. Te kite nei koe, mei te mea ra e, ko te ututua tangata e tamanamanata nei, e taviivii nei i teia ututua are meangiti, mei te mea ra, kare paa i te Kuki Airani".

Tutangata said that in the past damages have also occurred to the public toilets in Nikao and to the one opposite the Police station in downtown Avarua.

"Inara, kare ko teia te taime mua ua i akaperaia ai, kua roa, tai taime mako, e, tai taime, kua makokore, kare ko te are meangiti ua i runga i te uapu i Avarua, kua akapera katoaia na te are meangiti i Nikao i ko i te social centre, kua akapera katoaia na te public toilet i mua ake i te Akava, te are o te Akava i Avarua.

Tutangata said that the damages to the toilets appear to have taken place during the weekends or at night and possibly caused by intoxicated people hence why it is necessary to lock the toilets at night.

"No reira ko ta matou ravenga ua rai, no te mea te tuātau e raveia ai teia tutua angaanga viivii aere, i muri ake i te ora, working hours. Te maataanga o te taime, te tuātau weekend, me kore, tuātau, i te

po. Me akara koe, mei te mea rai e aronga kona aere paa tetai i taviivii akapera i to tatou are meangiti, no reira i rokoia ai i te po".

In responding to Hakaoro's suggestion that CIIC should employ night watchmen to look after the toilets Tutangata said there is no fund to employ them.

"Kare oki a tatou moni no te tuku aere i te security aere ki runga i teia tutua are meangiti aere".

Tutangata added that it is reasonably expected that locals would look after the toilets.

"Ko ta tatou ka irinaki, e, ka akaperepere to tatou iti tangata i teia au ngai aere".

Tutangata said that locals cannot expect that only the Government is responsible of addressing these issues but we all have to play a role in looking after our public amenities.

"I toku manako ko teia tutu maki, kare oki i reira e, ka irinaki ua mai te tangata e, na te Kavamani ua e akatano, tei roto teia i te tu o to tatou oraanga, te tu o to tatou oraanga tangata, kia mārama ta tatou tamariki, tatou katoatoa e, e ngai teia no te katoatoa, tei akanooia e te Kavamani, no reira kia akono tatou i teia tutu ngai aere".

"E akamaroiroi ua teia i a tatou, mei ta Tony e akakite ra, me kite oki tatou i tetai angaanga taravake e raveia nei e tetai ua ake i a tatou i runga i teia nga, e tuatua oki tatou i te reira taime. Kua kite au i tetai taime me kua kona kava te tangata, ka oki mai ka tanga mai ki runga i a taua me tuatua atu taua, inara, kia akamaroiroi tatou i te reira tua, kia neke atu to tatou oraanga ki mua e kia kore to tatou apinga e akanooia nei no te katoatoa, e takinokinoia".

A caller to the programme speaking in the

Penrhyn dialect suggested that one way of addressing the issue is to have user-pay toilets like those in New Zealand.

"Tony, penei paa e hamani tahi toilet me to Nu Sireni, toro te moni ki roto, kua sura te ngutupa, e aha to manako, tera au mea stainless steel ara, tamou tera mea, tera maka i runga ra, e green hoki to enter, te red e tangata to roto, penei ka meitaki paha kia tamou tera, toku manako hua ia".

Another caller suggested using a security camera.

"Tena tuatua no te are meangiti ra, tukuna tetai security camera ki roto kia kiteia e, ko ai".

One caller reflected on the old toilets in front of the Empire theatre, that they were locked at midnight and there have never been any issues with them at the time.

"Te oki nei au i te akamanako i te public toilet taito i ko i te Empire. E tangata pakari te tiaki ana i te reira toilet i te reira tuātau. Tiaki a ia mei te ora itu tae ki te tuaero, roko tera toilet. Kare roa tera toilet i kangaia na e, na te uria a ia i apai".

The caller suggested that the toilets should be looked at midnight just as her dad did with the one in front of the Empire theater. Her dad was the watchman at the time.

"Irinaki au i reira e, tuaero i te po, roka te toilet, popongi vai akaou. Taku oki teia i kite au i te taime mua no te mea toku papa oki te tiaki ana i te toilet i ko i te Empire i te taime mua, i te reira tuātau, kare roa te toilet e kangaia na. Tuaero tikai i te po, rokaia tera toilet, oki a ia ki te kainga".

Te Kave Kōrero thanks Tutangata for coming onto the programme and also thanks callers for their contributions to the discussion.



MCIPA contestant's kick-start NES Clean Up the World campaign

Today, 6 of the 7 Miss Cook Islands Pageant Association (MCIPA) contestants joined National Environment Service officers by kick-starting the Clean Up the World campaign.

The contestants today were accompanied by MCIPA President, Cleo Marsters and the reigning Miss Cook Islands Teuira Napa and was one way of giving back to the community before the crowning of the new Miss Cook Islands on Saturday.

The 'beauties' managed to collect a staggering 44kg of waste within 1-hour from the Takuvaine Stream towards the new Constitution Park with glass bottles being the majority of the waste collected.

The Clean up the World campaign coordinated by the National Environment Service kicks off next Friday, but with the pageant final night looming this weekend, MCIPA President Cleo Marsters said it's a great way for the contestants to be part of a campaign that's been ongoing in the Cook Islands for many years and to give something back to the community.



Miss Cook Islands Pageant Association contestants

Today's waste collection was an eye-opener for the Outer Island contestants who were stunned at the amount of waste not being disposed of properly and is a program they will happily take part in on their home islands.

Last week National Environment Service officers, Elizabeth Munro, Mii Matamaki, Moana Vaevae-Tetauru and Rimmel Poila conducted a development session with the contestants on 'Issues facing our Environment' mainly focusing on waste, compliance and biodiversity. Another session will be held on Friday before Saturday's crowning.

The National Environment Service would like to thank MCIPA for being part of the Clean Up the World campaign which officially starts next Friday. Registrations is still being received for next week's event, and for those who are interested, can contact the National Environment Service on phone 21256 or by emailing matthew.rima@cookislands.gov.ck.



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Tender closes at 3.00p.m. Friday 18th September 2015

Speaking for the fossils

Derek Fox

My mother used to say "If you haven't got anything nice to say about somebody, don't say anything at all." I greatly admired my mother and she was taken away far too early in life and her mokopuna and I could have enjoyed her and her wisdom for an additional 30 years had she lived as long my fathers 90 years.

So when I was asked by a researcher recently to comment on the state of Maori journalism I found myself in real difficulty.

I dithered for days. Despite having been involved in the media for a couple of years short of half a century now, I am no longer a daily journalist. I do have reservations – some of them grave – about the state of Maori journalism but I'm not sure that anyone is interested in my views anymore or ever was.

As I dithered I thought about what I might say; just being negative wasn't an option and in any case would not only be counter productive but would fairly quickly be tossed into the waste basket of history.

I also recalled something one of the bright young things of the new Maori media said to me on the night after the funeral of the late and great Maori Queen Dame Te Atairangi Kaahu.

Along with Julian Wilcox - who incidentally took to broadcasting like a duck to water - I had hosted the mammoth presentation of the funeral starting on the marae at Turangawaewae before following the casket and tupapaku as it made its way down the Waikato river by canoe to Taupiri, and being carried aloft on the shoulders of stripped warriors to the top of Taupiri for burial.

It was a great broadcasting event watched by possibly a million or more people around the world. We sat at our Spartan post out of sight at the marae using the multiple cameras as our eyes, from just after 8 in the morning through until just after 2pm. I felt it was one of the best things I had ever done and was very appreciative that I had been asked to do it because at that stage I had been out of television for some years. But

the producers view was that because of my many years of experience I had the institutional and historical knowledge to carry the lengthy 'live' presentation; we had worked in some tricky live situations in the past.

That night though, possibly aided by a drink or two, one of the leading lights of the new Maori reporters confronted me. "You were bloody awful today", she said. "You're a fossil, your time is over, move over it's our turn now."

So there we have it, me done and dusted in a couple of crisp sentences. I didn't really have anything useful to contribute to the conversation so maybe remembering my mothers words, said nothing. After a short uncomfortable silence she moved off to more entertaining company.

There have been major changes in the media and massive development of the Maori media since I first started as a very junior broadcaster in 1967. I started pretty close to the bottom, not quite sweeping the floor and making the tea but not far off that. I had a lot to learn and it took time to do that; but I had some really good senior mentors who took me through it. In my time in what was then the quite tiny TV News team led by a guy called Doug Eckhoff, I recall sometimes writing a small script to accompany a piece of film up to four times with Doug patiently suggesting little changes which would make it just right.

Every word had to earn its place and work its passage. Then that night I would have the private satisfaction of knowing word for word what the newsreader was going to say next on that particular item. It may seem like only a little thing now, but back then it represented progress.

I like to think I played a small part in the development of the new Maori media. Like many soldiers who fight the good fight I had hoped I might share in the benefits that followed the battle, but it wasn't to be.

I always knew as we developed Maori radio and tv in particular that we only had a thin veneer of experienced people to work the new media, I hoped there might

be enough people like Doug Eckhoff to mentor and give our bright young things the grounding that they need to be good, fair and non-partisan broadcasters, helping them develop the institutional knowledge and historical perspective to make their reports credible and worth reading or listening too.

Alas there are few or no Maori Doug Eckhoffs readily at hand. Rather there appears to be a short cut in use to fast track people who's main qualifications are that they look good and have the benefit of a Kohanga Reo and Kura Kaupapa education, to go straight on air. Journalism is non-existent or a very low priority.

I know that's too much of a generalisation and unfair to many of the hard working young people wanting to make journalism and broadcasting their life-long career as I did, but the recent ructions at Maori TV suggest all is not well and that

the ship may not be the safe and steady platform that we need to deliver the credible, fair and unbiased programming we deserve and some of us fought for.

Maybe the 'move over you're a fossil' philosophy is alive and well.

In my 48 years in the media I have witnessed generational change, in iwi, political parties and many other institutions. I accept too that it has taken place in the media. Which is one of the reasons I dithered.

As I said I do have reservations, but really my view is unimportant. Sadly for fossils like me the great changes we went all the way to the highest court in the land over, will not be realised the way we envisaged.

Being a fossil my not be too bad, sometimes – unfortunately usually centuries later – people end up learning quite a lot from fossils. But it seems like such a long time to wait.

PROCUREMENT OF MATERIALS FOR THE COMMISSIONING

of the ringmain for Te Mato Vai project stage 1 RFP reference no. TMV-RFP.002/2015

The Te Mato Vai project invites Requests for Proposals (RFP) from qualified parties for the Procurement of Materials for the Commissioning of the Ringmain for the Te Mato Vai Project Stage 1, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

RFP documents will be available from WATSAN watsan.gov.ck, Pacific Water and Wastes Association www.pwwa.ws/, NZ Government Electronic Tenders Service www.gets.govt.nz/ from Cook Islands Government Procurement www.procurement.gov.ck/ and Te Mato Vai www.tematovai.com/

Interested parties who have not registered at the time of downloading a copy of the RFP document will not be eligible to bid. All registrations must be emailed to peggy@kew.com.ws

Proposals must be delivered to the address below by 12:00pm, (Cook Islands time), 18 September 2015 in sealed envelopes and clearly marked as specified in the RFP document, to:

**Te Mato Vai Project
Management Unit, Avarua,
PO Box 3286, Rarotonga,
Cook Islands**

**All enquiries to:
Russell Abrams, Project Manager,
Project Management Unit
russell@kew.com.ws
Phone: +682 28 851**

CC to **Adrian Teotahi, CWS Team
Leader/Asset Management Coordinator
Project Management Unit
adrian.teotahi@kew.com.ws
Phone: +682 28 851**



Letter to the Editor

Rugby Union penalties inconsistent

Dear Editor,
I have rekindled my interest in following Rugby after having drifted off because of the standard of the game had dropped and the competition was being dominated by the same Clubs. My interest returned when the Fijian and Samoan imports began playing here because of the shift of many of the local players overseas.

The brand of competitive attitude reflected in the Samoa's playing I am told is their natural style back home where they play with a lot of assertiveness and aggression which some locals find over the top. Whenever Samoan and Tongan teams play at any level it's an all out confrontation with plenty of biff. It seems our referees have yet to adjust to the style the Samoan boys have introduced to local

rugby.

After years of being nothing more than a feeder club for the big guns of Tupapa and Avatiu the Takuvaine club with the help of some Samoa imports have turned the club around and were unbeaten last year and about to win the championship for the third year running.

In a clash of the Avatiu Samoans and the Arorangi Tongan ex All Black, two Samoans got dealt some heavy suspensions for throwing a few punches. Heck Avatiu was playing Arorangi, with them you have to fight fire with fire otherwise they will trample you in to the ground. One got a 30 week suspension which was later reduced to 15 weeks due to protests from the Avatiu club, the other Samoan player got 10 weeks which got increased to 15 weeks after a review.

Fast forward to 30 August to

the game between Tupapa and Takuvaine, a Takuvaine Samoa player kicked a Tupapa Fijian player three times in the face and his penalty was a two week suspension.

My question to the CIRU CEO Ben Koteka is why is the union so inconsistent in the penalties for over vigorous play? A foot has a boot on it with sprigs unlike a bare knuckle; surely a two week suspension is totally inappropriate? Now that Takuvaine is the glamour club are you going soft on them? It seems for some reason the Avatiu Club is being victimised.

I think the Samoan imports have made a great contribution not just to Union but also to League and the local referees have to stop nit picking in over refereeing the Samoan boys and be consistent if they are going to penalised for playing their

natural passionate kamikaze style, even the national Manu Samoa are well known for their physicality.

In the Titikaveka Bulldogs and Takuvaine Reds grand final two years ago there was something like 13 of the players who were Samoan either local or imported. Please Ben all anyone wants is a level playing field. And as Vase Samania has already said refs have to be aware of the very provocative taunts the Samoan players have to tolerate.

The "K" word is very, very offensive culturally and socially and it automatically evokes an aggressive response so don't blame the Samoan player's ingrained culturally expected retaliation if others are going to taunt them with the "K" word.

Revitalised Rugby Fan

PINK October for Breast Cancer awareness

With this year's Breast Screening programme over for another year, the Cook Islands Breast Cancer Foundation is gearing up for this year's PINK October, October being the universal month for Breast Cancer Awareness.

In the July/August annual breast screening programme, over 380 women were screened.

"A similar number to last year" noted Foundation president Jaewynn McKay. "Although this year there were more women from the Pa Enea included in this number."

"From this number, 41 women needed an ultra sound and to be seen by the visiting specialist, 2 women needed a fine needle biopsy and one woman has been referred to New Zealand for further attention.

"For the first time, this year woman were offered the opportunity to have a pap smear whilst they were up at the hospital for their mammogram. Over 120 women took this opportunity, and the Foundation are keen to build the annual breast screening fortnight in a

women's wellness fortnight next year.

To kick off this year's PINK October, the Foundation is delighted that Anne Thorp, Maori Queen of Cuisine, breast cancer survivor and an ambassador for the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation has agreed to speak at the launch breakfast on Thursday 1st October at Café Salsa.

"Air New Zealand have generously agreed to sponsor Anne's return flights from Auckland so that she can participate in the Cook Islands' Breast Cancer Foundation's launch and hopefully also visit Aitutaki where we know there is a group of woman keen to formalise their affiliation with the Foundation" said McKay.

Anne will be in the Cooks for about a week and is keen to meet as many people as she during this time.

If you have any events planned for PINK October, please let the Foundation know or register them on our Facebook page, they are keen to complete a calendar of events before 1st October



Anne Thorp

or phone or Email jaewynn@wovenpacific.com or phone or text 55 486, or contact any of the other board members.

Cook Island weightlifters win Gold, Silver

16 year Cook Islands girl, Manine Lynch, has won the gold medal in the 2015 OWNZ National Secondary Schools Weight-lifting Championships on Saturday 5 September held in Auckland.

Her total over 6 lifts was 126kgs. In her final lift, she was able to edge out an experienced competitor from the NZ Youth team by 1 kilogram, and win gold with a successful Clean and Jerk lift of 75kgs.

Manine was born in Rarotonga and is the daughter of her proud parents, Paul and Shona Lynch of Ngatangia. She is a former Tereora College student and currently is studying in Year 12 at Epsom Girls Grammar in Auckland.

She only started weightlifting at Tumuora Crossfit in Arorangi 8 months ago on the Christmas break. This NZ Secondary Schools

Weight-lifting Championships was only her second Lifting competition. She enjoys the sport of Weightlifting and she holds humble hopes to represent the Cook Islands one day in the future.

Manine would like to thank God, her coaches, her friends and family for all the support and encouragement so far.

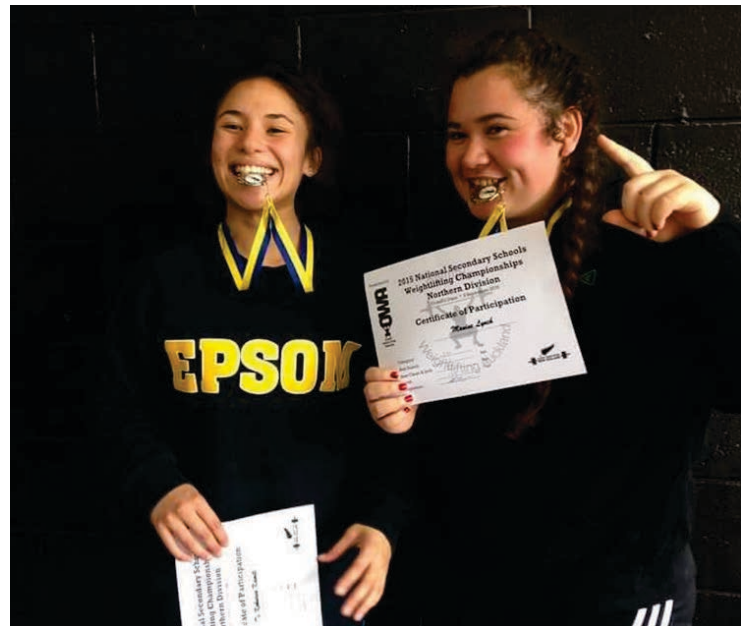
Note
For the Northern Region held in Auckland on Saturday, here are the 2 Epsom girls results:

Manine Lynch – 69+kg weight category – Came 1st- GOLD MEDAL

51kg snatch
75kg clean & jerk
126kg Total

Kohu Kawiti – 58kg weight category – Came 2nd – SILVER MEDAL

54kg snatch
68kg clean & jerk
122kg total



Kohu Kawiti and Manine Lynch

Free-to-air TV including rugby tests will be available in the Pacific next year

September 9 2015
Anthony Phelps

NZ Prime Minister John Key is a big sport fan and has announced a broadcasting deal that will see more sport shown free-to-air in the Pacific.

Sport is coming to the small screen in the Pacific after John Key announced a free-to-air deal that will provide up to eight hours of coverage a day.

The Prime Minister is in Papua New Guinea at the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) where leaders are meeting to discuss a range of issues including climate change, fisheries, health and human rights abuses in West Papua.

On Wednesday Key announced high quality television content would be available to Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, Niue, Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea from early next year.

This will give the Pacific nations access to selected Super 15 matches, Rugby Championship tests and ITM Cup matches along with news, documentaries and entertainment at a cost to taxpayers of \$400,000 a year.

“Given the Pacific’s love of

sport we are particularly pleased that a number of sports rights holders, including SANZAR, have given their support to the project,” Key said.

The move comes on the back of the Australian Federal Government last year pulling millions of dollars of funding from a broadcaster contracted to provide content in the Pacific.

ABC was only one year into a ten-year broadcasting contract that was providing coverage to more than 46 countries in the Asia and Pacific region when the Government scrapped it because of concerns contract obligations weren’t being met.

Key said currently the Pacific has access to about 11 hours a week of free-to-air coverage and with an ageing population it made sense Pacific Islanders would want more news and sport available.

He acknowledged some Kiwis who didn’t have free-to-air sport would be frustrated by the announcement but said that came down to broadcasters like SANZAR choosing where to utilise their broadcasting rights.

“The decision for rugby to be included in that comes because

of the generosity of SANZAR... the explanation seems to be that a lot of rugby players come out of the Pacific and they’re very keen as the rights holders there to promote their support.

“In essence by showing more rugby, I’m guessing they hope there will be more Pacific Island players who take up rugby,” Key said.

New Zealand’s broadcasting package would “significantly increase the amount of content available to Pacific audiences” while also showcasing New Zealand talent.

“As part of the project New Zealand will also support Pacific broadcasters with additional technical assistance and training to help create more local content,” he said.

Earlier on Wednesday Key announced an additional \$100 million in aid to the Pacific taking the total amount provided over the next three years to \$1 billion.

The Pacific’s aid makes up close to 60 per cent of the total \$1.7 billion New Zealand provides in development assistance internationally.

Key said the majority being spent in the Pacific was reflective



NZ PM John Key

of the “importance we place on our neighbourhood, the challenges we collectively face and the enormous potential our region has.”

Fisheries, tourism and agriculture in the Pacific would be the big focus of future investment along with education and continuing to build infrastructure including roads and health facilities.

“New Zealand has been at the forefront of efforts to shift the Pacific from reliance on fossil fuels to renewable electricity,” he said.

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi

How To Be Saved God's Way

Part 1

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

Because last weekend we celebrated "Fathers Day" I want to bring an article of encouragement that applies to the Fathers, while at the same time applies to everyone else. The main scripture reading is in Acts 16v.25-34. I want to draw your attention to verse 30. The jailer brought Paul and Silas out of their prison cell and asked them "What must I do to be saved?" This is the most important question in our lives while there is still breath in us. "What must I do to be saved?" Although the question from the Jailer who is a father was meant for himself? But the response in v.31 was "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, you and your household." God does not purpose just the Father to be saved, but rather the Father and all the members of his "household....the family.... everyone!" According to our reading, in order for us to be saved, these are the 'conditions'.

1. BELIEVE ON HIM and be saved.v.31 reads "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved,..." In Matthew 9v.27-31 two blind men came to Jesus and wanted their sight restored, and Jesus asked them whether they believe He could do this? They said "Yes Lord", then Jesus touched their eyes and said "According to your faith let it be to you." The problem with some people, including some who claim to be Christians is that, they believe in too many things. Some people believed in some 'blessed water' and 'five gods' for them to be saved. But the Bible is very clear "Believe on Him and you will be saved!"

2. RECEIVE HIM and be saved. John 1v.12 reads "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name." Romans 6v.23 reads "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." It was never God's plan for us to be separated from Him through sin. That is why God sent us His beloved Son Jesus Christ that we may Receive Him and be saved.

3. COME TO HIM and be saved. Jesus said in Matthew 11v.28 "Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." He further said in John 6v.37 (GN)"...I will never turn away anyone who come to Me." The sick came to Jesus and were healed, the blind came to Jesus and their sight was restored, the sinners came to Jesus and were forgiven. Friends, Come to Jesus and be saved.

4.TRUST IN HIM and be saved. Psalm 2v.12 reads "Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him." Our friends, our best friends, sometimes do fail us. Even our brothers, sisters, relatives, even our bosses at our work place do fail us. Some years back, many government and private sector workers trusted an insurance company with their investment, but the company later had some financial problems and these workers did not receive their full investment back. But the good news is Jesus never fail us. Even on that Cross, He never fails us. So Trust Him and be saved.

I will conclude this theme in Part 2 next week. May you have a God blessed week. Te Atua te aroa.

Self-Definition

By Lucianne Vainerere

How do I define myself? Every teenager subconsciously believes in the stereotypes of cliques: the popular girls, the jocks, the goths, the loners and the nerds for instance – and then we compare ourselves to them and try to figure out where we fit inside our own clique.

That's the problem. We pay too much attention to the Western high school experiences we see in movies and reality TV and we try to apply their principles to how we live. We add labels and brands to how things 'should be done' and we let it get to our minds. Not only do we let the situation get to our minds but the people who thrust it in the first place and that's the worse thing you could do. And it sucks. We can't help it, its completely inevitable. But we can alternate it and make it something kind of beautiful.

Step 1: Observe and think about your status (it's not completely important but we think about it all the time so it kinda is).

Step 2: Stop comparing yourself to how well other people achieve their goals. Reflect more on how they get there.

Step 3: You don't need other people to manipulate your mind on where you stand in your click or group. Be tough.

Step 4: In everything you do never forget that there are two sides to everything. Dwell on it and learn it.

So our insecurities have a serious effect on how we see ourselves, how we treat ourselves and how we define ourselves. You could define yourself with the simple definition of a man or woman or you can take it in your own hands and give yourself a definition.

People say not to care what other people think about you and what you wear but firstly it doesn't matter what 'they say' we end up caring anyway in some form or another and secondly the clothes we wear also reflect our personality. People are made up of personality bursting with colorful aspects of positives and negatives and in between. It makes up our character and builds our confidence and that's when we accept ourselves for who we are and who we're going to be.

We become comfortable in our own skin and we give our names a meaning. We live by it. But still, what does that even mean? It's simple really, but its something only YOU can figure out and understand in your own style. It doesn't matter how many friends you have as long as they're true. It doesn't matter how smart you are as long as you're considerate. You can start with: I am a young and confident woman whom embraces the finer things in life and tries everyday to live by my word. I am ME.

In the end it's not about popularity or even getting the guy or girl, its about understanding that no matter what label is thrown your way, only you can define yourself.

A weekend of food

By Hayley McNabb

On Thursday of last week my Nana Shona and I went to the opening of the Atiu Tumunu Experience that is placed in Tupapa next to the O'Oa water station and is operated by Terry Rangi. Our dog Cyclone was also there as he had already turned up before we even got there. So we went inside and everyone was greeted, there was then a few speeches talking about what this place will be and the importance of it.

The Atiu Tumunu Experience is made of bamboo logs on the outside and in the inside there are benches made from coconut trees keeping the building as authentic as possible. It is going to be used as a tourist attraction on Rarotonga and will be open three nights a week. It will be used to supply sampling of homebrew that has been sent over from Atiu, teach people how to cook the umu and different ways of using a coconut and they will also be taking people on little tours down to the Arai Te Tonga. They also explained to everyone that the Tumunu wasn't going to be used as a drinking place but simply to show the tourists the essence of our culture.

After the speeches we all then went outside for the official opening of the Tumunu. It was a little bit embarrassing for my Nana and I though because as the oremetua was talking our dog Cyclone came around and sat right in front of him. After that there was a tasting of the homebrew and though I didn't taste it I heard it was pretty good. We then had an umu that the workers had prepared earlier and then made our way back home.

My weekend was a good one just filled with food, and I mean a lot of it. It was my friend Roberts mum Joanes birthday and she was turning the big 40. Though she wasn't too excited about the number she was still very pleased that she was able to celebrate her special day with all of her family and friends.

There were tables stacked with plenty of food and it was just like one of those massive feasts where the food never runs out. There were burgers, barbeque, pig that was on a spit, smoked chickens, salads, pasta and so much more. And then to make it even better and top it off we had heaps of cupcakes and cakes that were from Avarua Bakery and a big bomb Alaska that was filled with lime ice cream which was.

Then on Sunday, Rob came along with me to New Hope Church as that is my family's church and met my Nana Shona for the first time. He said that she's really cool and it was nice to finally meet her after this whole year of being friends. Anyways after church we had another big kai kai as it was our church's 14th Birthday and also for all of the Fathers as it was their special day.

Clean Up  the World

18 September 2015

Call Matthew Rima or Moana Vaevae
to register

Phone: 21 256
or email: matthew.rima@cookislands.gov.ck

Let's be Aware

By Teherenui Koteka

Last term my group in drama preformed a devise piece based around the life of a schizophrenic girl. I have been meaning to write an article about this for weeks now, but have only now managed to put my thoughts into words.

I personally think that here in the Cook Islands we are quite advanced in our treatment towards those with mental health problems. However I cannot help but notice the lack of consideration we show our peers who suffer with schizophrenia. I'm not claiming that we all treat schizophrenics unfairly but I am stating that we do not make a big enough effort to treat them with the same respect we treat others with. I know no one is perfect and I will admit to at times getting frustrated with my brother who has schizophrenia, but I attempt to always keep a leveled head when it comes to him.

I know a schizophrenic man, I will not name him but he was my inspiration for my devise production. I see this man often and I know he has a serious case of schizophrenia, every time I see him I can't help but to feel sorry for him. I have heard stories of him being picked on and shoved around merely because people don't understand why he acts the way he is. In my experience schizophrenics tend to isolate themselves and I know that people look at this man weirdly because he tends to isolate himself. His intimidating looks often scare people and they react by taunting him as a result of something he cannot control.

I cannot bear to imagine the suffering schizophrenics endure on a daily basis. To constantly have to go through life hearing voices and never having a moment of silence scares me. My brother used to have a bad case of schizophrenia. People used to and still do judge him based on the mistakes of his past. I will not sit here and defend him by saying he shouldn't be punished for the things he did, but I do ask that we the public look at schizophrenics with more open minds.

I am aware that it can be difficult to bear with people who make you uncomfortable but we must try to bear in mind the struggles that these people endure on a day to day basis. So next time you see a schizophrenic try not to think of them as scary or odd. Instead attempt to understand the reasoning behind their crazy weird behavior. Remember we are all a part of God's grand design and we are all made in his image. No one deserves to be shunned and treated differently than any other person.



Pacific Resort

— HOTEL GROUP —


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We are currently seeking the following for our properties in Rarotonga & Aitutaki:


- Overnight Security – part time (Aitutaki)
- Housekeeping Staff (Rarotonga & Aitutaki)
- Wait Staff (Rarotonga & Aitutaki)
- Barman (Rarotonga)
- Beach Hut Attendant (Rarotonga)
- Porter Security (Rarotonga)

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Minita Brown Makie took exception to having his excessive travel costs made public, word is Brown was harassing staff at Parliament Services claiming privilege was totally out of order, information concerning public funds can be access by applying the Information Act. 


Elvis' foot in the mouth dumb comment to the New Zealand media the Cook Islands doesn't have a depopulation problem was a seriously embarrassing moment for him. In the last six months Atiu has lost 22 young adults, most have left for employment opportunities. The former Mayor Taoro Super Brown got chastised by the voters for suggesting some of the oldies retired from their government jobs to allow some vacancies to be filled by the next generators. At least the retirees would be getting a pension. Elvis has only got to attend a few rugby matches to see most Clubs who could easily fill seven teams are struggling to get two adult teams on the field and if it weren't for the Samoans and Fijians there would be only one team per club. Mangaia could field six adult teams from their different sub villages, now its play soccer or nothing. 


Talking about rugby, the Takuvaine MP has failed to turn out to support the champion Reds team but can travel all around the globe plus attend international sporting events. This week he again fails to show his face on the sidelines because he is in NZ playing for the Masters League team. 

Before the local anti Lee Harmon brigade gloat about the Cook Islands





soccer team's failure to advance their World Cup position by a loss to former easy beats American Samoa need to be aware this time they had 12 imports from the USA. The CI Team only failed to head the tournament which was won by Samoa (a team they beat) on goal difference. 

Speaking about Samoa, their permanent unbeatable no beating about the bush Prime Minister Tuilaepa announced last week their next General Elections will be held in seven months on 8 March 2016. No panic, just pure confidence even with so much lead time the Opposition is certain to come second. 


Things don't look too good for MP under investigation for bribery, Aitutaki's Mona loane it's now six months since he re won the by-election. After considering the Police investigation file Crown Law has despatched the Police investigating team back to Aitutaki for more muck raking. 


When it comes to political speaking Minita Makie is a motor mouth sprinter verbalising faster than his brain thinks, but when it comes to answering


questions on the Schoonergate scam he has suddenly turned into being injury prone tongue tired and showing signs of amnesia. There are mates, friends and buddies and for Makie and Mickie Eney they are all three, 100 percent piri. There is no way Makie is going to say anything detrimental about his childhood friend Mickie that's why he said to the Media I'm not going to say anything until PERC complete their investigation. By the time the PERC report gets air in Parliament the Tiare Taporo could have sailed around the world twice. 

Still no announcement on the Heads of Ministry, now its wait till there is a full complement in Cabinet including the return to the building of Elvis. Crown Law has made it clear to the Ministers the Public Service Commissioner has the final say in the short listing of HOM and if a Minister's choice isn't on the list there is nothing the Minister can do about. No sympathy for DPM Heta who promised two of his unwanted HOMs Sunny and Moko they would not lose their jobs. Even the re advertising of the jobs is out of the question. 

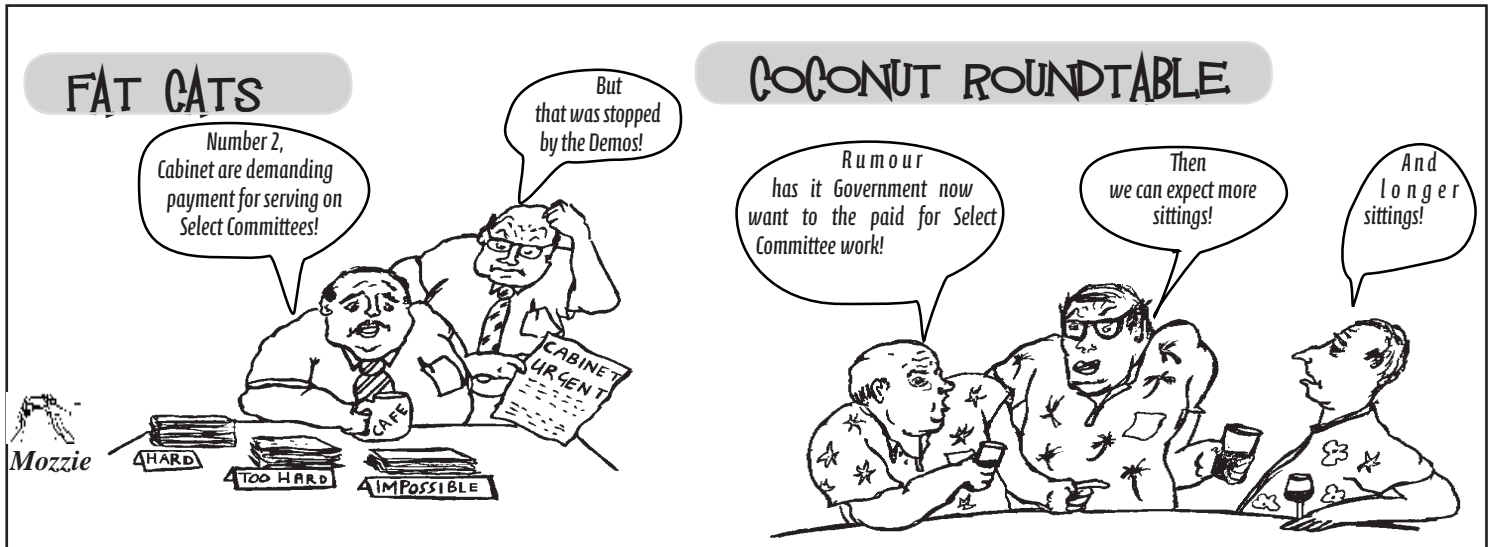
It's no secret Tiki Matapo has packed

his bags and booking his return trip to Titikaveka so the hunt is on for a new High Commissioner to NZ, while a few names from within Foreign Affairs Ministry are being suggested the CIP heavy weights are pushing for dumped John Henry to alleviate the RAPPa debacle over who will be the next CIP candidate for the looming snap election. 

With the great Tiki looking to come home, who will warm the High Comm seat in the Kiwi capital? This government needs to appoint a career diplomat to the position. Right now we need a person able to network with other diplomats effectively to secure us export markets for our produce. The position is not intended for people to just network with Kiwi based Cookies. That is not the role of the job. There are many able Cookies who can take up this job and do it well. And we certainly do not want a yes man or woman who the Kiwis will push around. 

The DPM heads for PNG this Friday to attend a conference about water. The PM who is already in PNG cannot it seems attend this chin wag and knock off two birds with one stone. 

What will our financial wizards do now? The US dollar has sunk to 63c against the Kiwi dollar and the Euro and Chinese Yuan have sunk more than 10 per cent against the Kiwi dollar. Can't switch our US dollar loans to other currencies while this situation prevails. According to the little Aussie battler's comment in the Budget, a drop in the US dollar to 63c against the Kiwi will add another \$8.4m to our loans. So what now? Sausage sizzles outside MFEM?



PUBLIC NOTICE



**MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS
Social Impact Fund (SIF)
Project Funding**

The Cook Islands Social Impact Fund (SIF) is a contestable fund administered by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and financed by the Cook Islands and New Zealand Governments until June 2016. Registered Cook Islands Civil Society Organisations can apply to SIF for funds to deliver services to vulnerable groups in 3 areas: Gender equality (including domestic violence), Children and Youth, and Disabilities (including mental health, physical health and care for the elderly).

For further inquiries please contact the SIF Manager on Telephone: 29378 or email: angeline.tuara@cookislands.gov.ck, www.intaff.whupi.com, Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Closing date for Project Funding Application is Friday 25 September 2015. No applications will be accepted after this date.



PUBLIC NOTICE – AVATIU VALLEY ROAD

Residents and users of Avatiu valley road are advised of an impending project start for TAU civil works at the Power station that will affect road traffic between now and November 2015. In particular they are asked to show:

1. Carefulness in the area in question from the Power station to the intersection at Avatiu Ara metua.
2. Awareness of heavy vehicles, plant and machinery which may be parked on the Avatiu valley road
3. Adherence to speed limit, warning signs, traffic direction from time to time etc.

TENDER



**MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
Social Impact Fund (SIF) Board Member**

EOI's are now invited from CSO's, Private sector and Individuals who wish to be considered for the above. There are 3 positions available for one year.

For further inquiries please contact the SIF Manager on Telephone: 29378 or email: angeline.tuara@cookislands.gov.ck Ministry of Internal Affairs www.intaff.whupi.com.

Closing date for Expressions of Interest is Wednesday 9 September 2015.

TENDER



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
LAPTOP AND IPAD MINI TENDER NOTICE**

Tenders are invited for the bulk supply of Laptops and IPAD Minis for schools in the Cook Islands. Quality and specifications document can be uplifted from the Ministry of Education office or download from MOE website: www.education.gov.ck or contact Director of Information Technology and Communication Mr Robert Matheson on phone 29357, fax 28357 or email itcdirector@education.gov.ck

Tender submission will close @ 4.00pm Thursday 10th September, 2015

Tenders shall be in a sealed envelope
MOE 2015 Laptop Tender 151608
MOE 2015 IPAD Mini Tender 151609
Secretary of Education,
Ministry of Education, PO Box 97
Rarotonga, Cook Islands

VACANCY



GIS AND DATA MANAGEMENT OFFICER

Full-time position available for the provision of Geographic Information Systems [GIS] services to the Authority – including preparation and management of mapping services to assist in the allocation and management of SBM licences, the Register and Data management needs for the Authority as required under the SBM Act and in line with best international GIS standards expected of a governmental minerals management agency.

For details contact Caroline Tiria on 29-193
Email Applications and CVs to carolinetiria@seabedminerals.gov.ck
Closes- 3pm 9 September 2015

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PUBLIC NOTICE



AGM NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Cook Islands Chamber of Commerce will be held on:

Date: Thursday 17th September 2015

Time: 4.30 p.m.

Venue: Trader Jack's Restaurant, Avarua, Rarotonga

Agenda:

1. Confirmation of Quorum
2. Proxy Votes
3. Welcome by the President
4. Confirmation of Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting 30 October 2014
5. Matters Arising from these Minutes
6. President's Report
7. Treasurer and Auditor Reports
8. Election of Officers
9. Nomination and approval of Auditor for 2015 – 16
10. General Business
11. Associate Membership
12. Other

The Chamber of Commerce is your Private Sector Organisation in the Cook Islands

For further information, please contact the Chamber office

Phone: 20 925 **E-mail:** chamber@commerce.co.ck



**COOK ISLANDS TOURISM
INDUSTRY BREAKFAST UPDATE INVITATION**

Cook Islands Tourism invites you to attend our first quarterly update of this financial year.

When: Thursday 17 September 2015

Time: 8.00am with an 8.15am presentation start (expect to conclude by 11.00am)

Venue: Edgewater Resort & Spa Conference Room

Presentations will be conducted by the Corporation CEO and Department Directors on the following:

1. Year in review – 2014/15 Scorecard
2. Current year plans
 - Aviation/Investment - Halatoa Fua
 - Communications Strategy/Destination Brand Consultation – Karla Eggelton
 - Kia orana Ambassador Programme/ Vaka Pride – Metua Vaiimene

Light refreshments will be provided and the Cook Islands Tourism Industry Council will hold their Annual General Meeting following the industry update

For catering purposes, please **RSVP by 12pm (noon) Tuesday 15 September** with names and numbers to Tina on email tina.kae@cookislands.gov.ck or phone +682 29 435.



**COOK ISLANDS TOURISM
MARKETING CORPORATION**

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
ACCREDITATION FOR PROVISION OF GOODS
AND SERVICES
(DESTINATION MARKETING)**

The Cook Islands Tourism Marketing Corporation (CITMC) is the tourism marketing arm and destination development agency of the Government of the Cook Islands.

As a government statutory body, the CITMC is required to follow the procurement policies and procedures as outlined by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, these are located on the procurement website www.procurement.gov.ck.

Given the global nature of CITMC business and the need to meet government guidelines, it is necessary that all companies, organisations and individuals that intend to work with CITMC be vetted by a streamlined process using set criteria to ensure transparency, accountability and value for money.

CITMC have identified seven key marketing areas in which companies can apply for accreditation:

1. Branding and Creative Services (creative services agencies and similar);
2. Trade (wholesalers, airlines, online travel agencies);
3. E-marketing (website, online, social media);
4. Representation (sales and marketing, public relations);
5. Communications (content, collateral, imagery, moving footage);
6. Media (online/digital, TV, print); and
7. Other

This EOI process will assist in providing the Corporation with a list of accredited suppliers to choose from when considering Requests for Proposals (RFP's) for the provision of goods and/or services in the future.

CITMC is encouraging all new and existing partners to submit your expression of interest in order for CITMC to comply with the Cook Islands Government procurement processes.

Applications and all additional information must be submitted and received by the closing time and date of 4.00pm on Tuesday 15 September 2015.

Applicants should complete the Accreditation for Provision of Goods and Services (Destination Marketing) Application Form' online at www.cookislands.travel/goods-and-services and submit/return it to the Cook Islands Tourism Corporation by the time and date shown above.

All queries regarding this process can be directed to Karla Eggelton Director – Sales & Marketing on email karla.eggelton@cookislands.gov.ck or phone 29-435.

FOOTBALL UPDATE

Fiji make impressive surge

Fiji's drive to move themselves up the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Rankings has already had the desired affect with the team making a whopping 17 position leap into third place in the OFC region.



New Zealand retain their place at the top of the standings, sitting pretty at 136th in the World, while New Caledonia come in behind at 166th.

Tahiti make a four position move up the rankings but it wasn't enough to retain their place in third as they sit in behind Fiji in fourth.

The teams currently taking part in the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™ Qualifiers – OFC Stage 1 are on an upward trajectory thanks in part to their pre-tournament build-up matches, with the competition itself likely

to contribute to further movement in the next rankings release.

Samoa is sitting highest of the four in 196th place, one spot ahead of Vanuatu, while Tonga and American Samoa take up 199th together after a one position drop and a one point step up respectively.

Cook Islands, moving one point higher, are now sitting 205th equal with Papua New Guinea who dropped four positions.

The FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking was released on 3 September, the next edition will be published on 1 October 2015.

Live Your Goals thrives in Tahiti

The second-ever Live Your Goals Festival to be held in Tahiti helped participants in last week's FIFA Women's Football Coaching Course put their new learnings into practice immediately with 66 girls from Tahiti and Moorea taking part in the event.

The festival brought together young footballers aged 8-13 years old and offered eight different types of football-based activities for them to try.

A huge success for all those involved, plans are already in place to hold another festival on 21 November, in conjunction with International Children's Day.

Of the course participants, 15 of them were women and FTF head of women's football development Ethelle Taputu says they more than demonstrated their abilities throughout the duration of the course.

"Men fill the majority of coaching and educating roles at the heart of football clubs, but they can be filled equally as well by women which these 15 coaches showed this week," she says.

With Tahitian football on the rise, Taputu is encouraged that these coaches will now return to their communities to develop women's football even further.

For more on Tahiti football go to www.ftf.pf

New Hope Church

Parekura Conference Centre

Inspirational messages to uplift and empower you

Sunday at 10.30am