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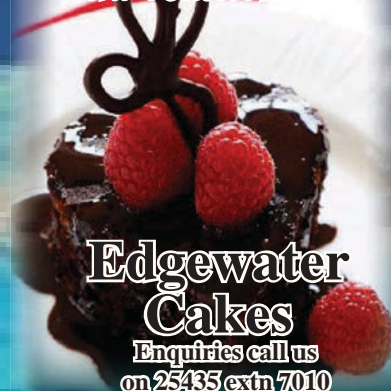
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Corrupt CIP and dysfunctional Demos open wide door for third Party

Talk of a snap election and change of Prime Minister on the horizon is nothing but political hysteria designed to unsettle the Government to give the general public the impression that all is not well and that the Opposition are preparing themselves to take over. Well, to tell you the truth, I'm not sure when was the last time both major political parties looked into a mirror and took a long hard look at themselves because right now, their track record in terms of leadership, policy direction and performance is absolutely abysmal to say the least.

The CIP Government has failed miserably in its efforts since the last elections to convince the voting public they deserve another term. Allegations of corruption, bribery, nepotism, overspending, autocratic leadership, arrogance and incompetency and internal bickering have left CIP struggling to retain any sense of credibility.

On the other hand, The DEMOS have failed to win any measure of support whatsoever because they have simply just failed to perform full stop! Poor leadership, lack of strategic policy direction and focus and the fact they can't talk to each other cancels them out as well resulting in a major turnoff by staunch party supporters. The question to be asked then is; does this mean that the public have to put up with the same old same old or should they consider other options?

History has shown that Independent parties are not successful politically and are

short-lived. Coalitions are possibly the only other option however; it depends on their purpose and commitment to party principles and to national objectives. The only group worthy of any mention and possibly a strong future contender to attracting new members is ONE COOK ISLANDS. They have impressed as an organized, astute and strategic political movement who have managed to beat all odds against the 2 major parties and retained 2 MP's in Parliament at the last elections.

Although there are grumblings about its leader Teina Bishop and his "lasse fair" style of leadership, no one can argue nor question his sense of loyalty and commitment as his track record to date has shown he has outperformed most politicians in the areas of leadership, business acumen, Parliamentary procedure, culture and oratory etiquette, finance and economic management and strategic policy development. He has spent 18 years as a MP, was a former Minister for Environment, Education, Tourism and Marine Resources, former Deputy Speaker, Gender Champion for the Cook Islands and prior to his resignation as Minister in 2014, had the distinction of leading the portfolios of Education, Tourism and Marine Resources as top performing Ministries of Government.

The notion of a sinking ship for CIP is very real because of the negativity displayed by its current leader Henry Puna and his band of Cabinet merry men who show no sense of loyalty

and are destined to a "one way trip" DOWN based on their current performance.

Sadly for the DEMOS, there is no real leadership. Smiley has lost all sense of credibility and appears to follow the sinking ship syndrome of the CIP. There is a definite need for the DEMOS to rebuild and regroup and right now with all personalities aside, the best person to do it is their former leader Wilkie Rasmussen. He will however, need to change his style of leadership and wrestle his support back from his people in Penrhyn if this approach is to be serious considered.

Unfortunately, current DEMO MP's are either past it with the younger MP's requiring more depth and experience to develop maturity politically.

If there is one thing I believe everyone will agree on, it's time for change. CIP's hard-line stance on taxation and failing to listen to the voice of the people because of a bureaucracy gone mad is likely to be its downfall and you can bet there will be no room for sympathy voters this time.

As for the DEMOS, it definitely needs a clean out. Until that happens, there is unlikely to be any advance to becoming a new Government. Their efforts to overshadow and undermine the ability of its potential coalition partner ONE COOK ISLANDS, has demonstrated their inability to prove any allegiance showing they are not to be trusted.

That leaves one other option, the development of a 3rd party. Right now, the popularity of ONE COOK ISLANDS provides a safe bet for any aspiring candidate to stand at an upcoming election



Tupapa's George Maggie a certainty for OCI

and word on the street is that long time staunch supporters of CIP and the DEMOS are seriously considering this option because of what they stand for. No doubt, current MP's will also be looking at this option as well as they ponder their political futures.

Until political reform becomes a reality, we are left with basically status quo which is no longer acceptable nor tolerable under this political impasse of no clear majority in the house, lack of sitting times in Parliament and continued abuse by Government by Ministers and their officials in the administration of services supposedly to improve the quality of life for the people of this nation.

- George Pitt

Government must find new revenue streams

By Charles Pitt

For some years now, MFEM have been warning government via the Budget documents that if operational expenditure continues to increase, it will need to find new revenue streams.

What this implies is that merely increasing direct and indirect taxes will not be sufficient to cover future expenditure and also any loan repayments in respect of new capital projects. The latest Budget document warns there will also be the cost of maintenance in 15 years time to cover and this may be difficult without additional income.

It is clear that potential new revenue streams lie in our natural resources such as fishing and sea bed minerals and also agriculture. Tourism continues to increase modestly but unless the outer islands are opened up to tourists, Rarotonga will not be able to cope with any further expansion.

It is somewhat a mystery as to why government has not set up a special task force to consider possible new avenues of revenue. How many more warnings does government need before it acts? Perhaps the matter is too hard for the current

mob to resolve. The truth is there is probably a diminished or serious lack of capacity in terms of innovativeness, intelligence.

There are obvious alternatives for limiting or reducing government expenditure. They are, reducing the size of the public service, reducing the number of government vehicles.

One major incentive to this would be to abolish personal income tax and force government to become innovative. There is no reason why government could not do this gradually, in stages. Government has already made a start by raising the tax free threshold from \$10,000 to \$11,000. Some in the private sector say this should have been lifted to \$15,000.

Personal income tax brings in around \$20 million for government. VAT brings in around \$49 million and Company tax around \$10 million. Government acquires other revenue through fees, charges, license fees, levies.

A task force had the job of coming up with ways of making the existing tax system fairer and some changes were implemented. There is also a further downward adjustment to the lowest tax rate to come.

What is needed is for a new task force to come up with ways to increase government revenue.

A new task force should consider if personal income could be abolished in stages and if the revenue involved can be recovered through other means.

It should also examine;

1. the feasibility of increasing fees for foreign enterprises in respect of fishing and sea bed licenses (our fee for foreign vessels at \$60,000 per year-\$45,000 if the rebate is applied, is the highest in the region. However while our EEZ is very large the number of licenses issued is small compared to other nations. A higher fee could be partly offset by targeted incentives such as lower fuel costs, waiving VAT and port fees).

2. whether the abolition of

personal income tax coupled perhaps with a reduction in VAT, would stimulate spending and increase personal savings (a concern may be retailers raising prices to increase their earnings however they would in turn pay more tax. Effective price monitoring may be required).

3. the likely income from increasing agricultural production and exports,

4. whether an increase in departure tax would seriously affect visitor numbers considering our main competition, Fiji, has a departure tax in excess of \$100 yet visitors still flock there, and

5. what savings are likely if we stopped subsidizing Air NZ flights.

Government is already on the road to spending less thanks to increasing the renewable energy resource.

Annual Jehovah Witness convention set to attract up to 600

By Charles Pitt

Jehovah Witnesses have announced a three day convention to be held at the National Auditorium from 25 September 2015 to 27 September. Up to 400 possibly 600 people are expected to attend. Many are expected from New Zealand and Australia. Members of the public are invited to attend.

This annual event the Herald was informed, will be bigger than last year and the theme is "Imitate Jesus" based on 1 Peter 2:21.

The convention programme will run from 9.20am to 4.50pm on each day and the highlight will be a two part theatrical production portraying significant events in Jesus' life.

There will also be interviews and demonstrations on practical ways to imitate Jesus today. In all there will 42 talks and video presentations with some guest speakers from overseas.

There is no admission fee and no collection will be taken.

On the Sunday there will be a special discourse entitled, "Jesus Christ, World Conqueror" how and when?

For more information, check out the convention programme schedule and video at www.jw.org.



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PM Puna's demise slow but certain - the shackles of corruption choking the CIP

The odds of the Prime Minister Henry Puna being at the helm of government are shrinking and his tenure is highly unlikely to extend beyond six months if not sooner. There are multiple indicators that predict the unpopular Puna's clutch on power is being prised loose and his exit will be celebrated by masses who reside on Rarotonga.

Along with Puna's ousting will be his confident and closest supporter the Minister of Finance Mark Brown, both have failed to read the obvious signs that Puna has been living on borrowed time and real time has momentarily been paused and obscured by the feel good Mavea Nui celebrations.

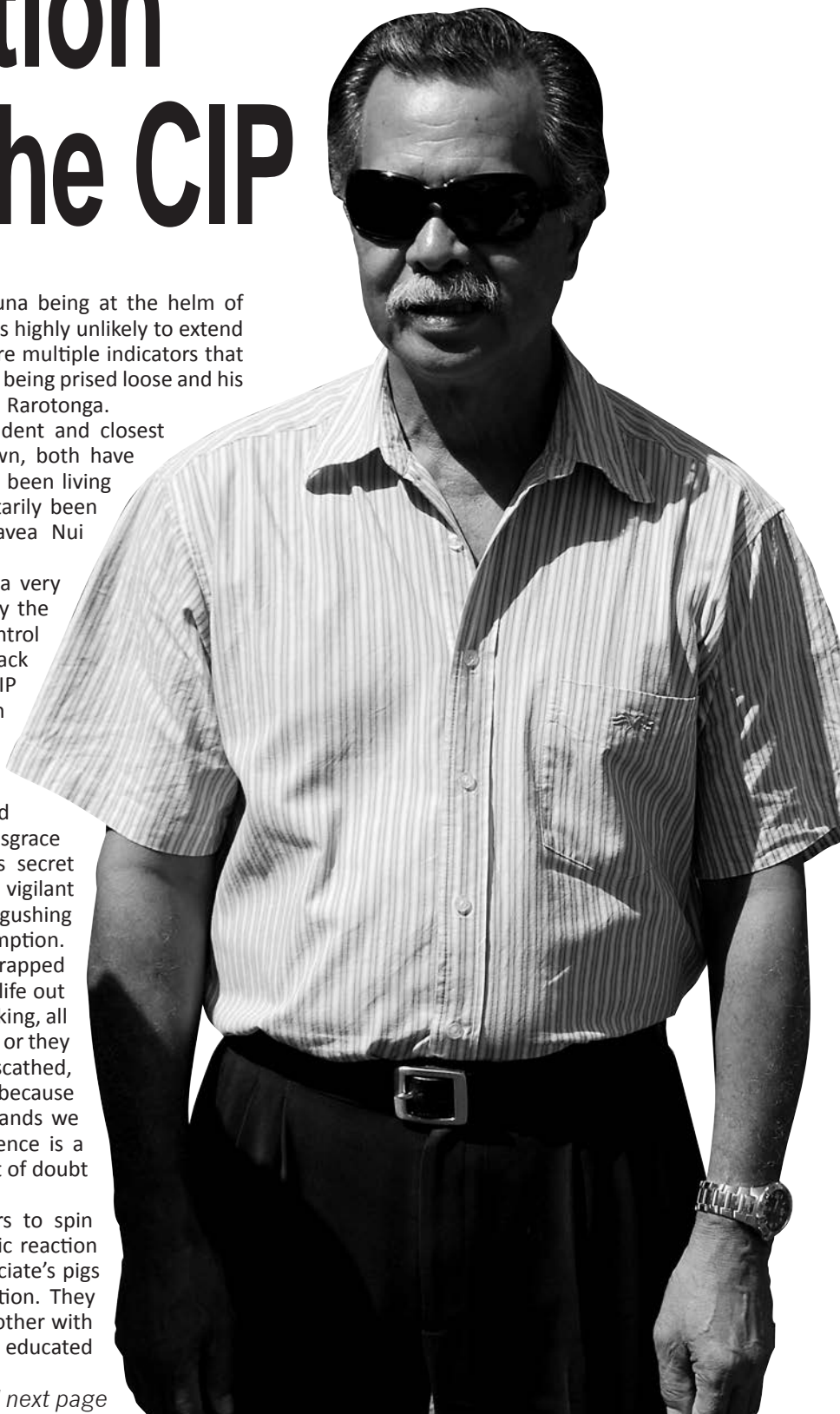
Puna's arrogance has been the final straw, a very weak dysfunctional Opposition manipulated by the antics of former convicted fraudster the control freak Eddie Drollet have given Puna the slack to add further layers of corruption to the CIP government, but the saying give them enough rope and they will hang themselves is Puna and Brown's inevitable downfall.

Puna, Brown and Financial Secretary Richard Neves' handling of the Schooner gate and Manihiki landgate scandals is an outrageous disgrace that has blown the lid off the government's secret bunker. Had it not been for a courageous and vigilant media, little if any exposure of the corruption gushing forth would have been served for public consumption.

Right now the three culprits of corruption are trapped in a maze that will slowly strangle the political life out of them, their dismissive rhetoric is wishful thinking, all three are entrapped whether they realise or not or they believe it or not, none of them will emerge unscathed, each potentially faces criminal convictions because neither one of them practises their own demands we must obey the law. Their matchless disobedience is a disgrace that has verberated the public's benefit of doubt and their tolerance of political liberties.

Rather than being subtle using his advisors to spin doctor dubious administrations to soften public reaction Puna has blatantly lied and condoned his associate's pigs can fly lies to cover up their exposed corruption. They even stupidly contradict themselves and each other with hideous excuses and self justifications as if an educated Rarotonga public are comparatively stupid.

continued next page



Puna's unrelenting aspirations to retire to a Cook Islands taxpayer funded position at the United Nations and his dumb claim while on an invited visit to New Zealand that the Cook Islands doesn't have a depopulation problem is indicative the PM is living in a self indulgent fantasy divorced from any resemblance of reality. His idiotic habit of wearing sunglasses at high level functions sends body language signals something is not quite right between his ears.

The fact Puna has denounced any possible political reforms which allow the continuity of 3,000 outer islanders to control the political fate of the 9,000 Rarotongan residents whose taxes virtually fund their existence is an irritant that has burst the bubble of tolerance. The disparity of political representation irks Rarotonga voters who have become hostile and intolerant of the 78 vote PM Puna's vote buying lavish spoon feeding and hand out mentality that prevails in his Manihiki constituency at the expense of the Rarotonga public.

If the office of the Prime Minister was determined by a national voting process, such is the distaste for Puna's abuse of privilege he would struggle to get 1% of the Rarotonga voter's tick of endorsement. Under the microscope of public scrutiny Henry Puna fails drastically in the credibility stakes, he is widely unliked and despised for his contempt and disregard of public opinion.

Let's consider the flashing red flag indicators Puna is doomed for the political waste dump, firstly the enemy within has taken a breather and is assured by four disenchanted MPs Teariki Heather has their support if he is willing to lead a revolt that replaces Puna as PM. Another two that are sitting on the fence will follow suit if someone else pulls the trigger.

Historically the CIP have managed their internal disputes and differences of opinions behind closed doors but currently the level of dissatisfaction within caucus and the influential members has caused several boil overs that has prompted Puna to issue media statements disputing division within government and the Party.

Despite his failure to win



Teariki Heather - still hopeful for Prime Minister

sufficient Conference support the third week of October.
from the constituency delegates Mike Henry's stupid showing
to become the Party leader, the off in Aitutaki has back fired,

Mike Henry's stupid showing off in Aitutaki has back fired, immediately prior to his departure to Papua New Guinea Heather was informed by Amuri MP Toa Isamaela that Mike Henry had been boasting about his influence in government and had made sure Mac Mokoroa would not be reappointed to HOM...

Deputy Prime Minister Teariki Heather has strong support of the Rarotonga public who have grown tiresome of Puna's vulgar pro Manihiki indulgence and play boy antics. The recent Radio Cook Islands phone in poll for choice of PM said it all when Heather received three times more votes than the travel addicted show boat Henry Puna.

Heather is unlikely to retire his ambition to be the Prime Minister, he is being egged on by his group who are buoyed by the dumping of Tony Abbott in Australia and how bloodless that coup was executed, they realise Puna can be replaced without the endorsement of a Party conference. If Puna refuses to test his leadership from within, then for sure it will be challenged the next time Parliament is convened which is likely before

immediately prior to his departure to Papua New Guinea Heather was informed by Amuri MP Toa Isamaela that Mike Henry had been boasting about his influence in government and had made sure Mac Mokoroa would not be reappointed to HOM for Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) and if Heather insisted Mokoroa be retained Heather would be dumped from Cabinet.

As he was leaving PNG, Heather was informed Mark Brown who was socialising at Vaiana's Bar in Nikao had animatedly boasted to a relative of the DPM he was going to be booted out when he returned. Brown appeared to be under the influence according to listeners who heard Brown's comments about DPM Heather.

Heather also received a report from a staff member about the rumour concerning the

preparedness of Puna and Brown to dump him from Cabinet or a reshuffle of portfolios if Heather became antagonistic over his choice of Mokoroa for ICI and Sonny Williams as head of Culture.

Prior to his trip to PNG Teariki Heather was contacted by his brother William Heather through a third party Robert Heather to talk about a possible coalition. While Teariki's preference is to dispose of Puna internally, the option of a joint execution with the Demos was not rejected but shelved pending the outcome of the Cabinet meeting this week.

It is likely the DPM will seek Mike Henry's termination from the chairmanship of the Cook Islands Investment Corporation (CIIC) for the foolish boasting of Heather's eviction from Cabinet and Henry's inability to refund government the advanced deposit for the Pacific Schooners Ltd's service contract not to mention the public's perception of contract irregularities and the conflicts of interest.

Prior to the Cabinet meeting a desperate William was seeking a meeting with Teariki to discuss the possibilities of a joint venture. Teariki's advisors are adamant he will not instigate any action that diminishes his standing and loyalty to the CIP if all else fails he will consider more drastic options.

William Heather is desperate to stitch a coalition deal with his brother Teariki despite being assertively opposed to such a thought on previous occasions when options were being canvassed and considered. Demos Opposition leader William himself is under the hammer and before the firing squad, he is hanging on for dear life miraculously hoping he can conjure up something to keep the circling wolves at bay.

Puna is not as safe as he thinks because Parliament was adjourned sine die. Should political and public pressure become confronting The Queens Representative Tom Marsters has reserve powers to prompt Puna to call Parliament or do it himself to resolve a leadership determination. If a date for Parliament had been set before the adjournment, the QR would advise any request by the weight of numbers to reappoint a new

continued page 6

PM Puna's demise slow but certain

Prime Minister to wait and settle that issue in Parliament.

There is mounting talk of a silent 'enough is enough' public protest march with no banners, just fed up citizens bolstered by the Grey Power pensioners and their supporters, the Te Mato Vai petitioners and the anti purse seine fishing petitioners unlike the mad hatters of Manihiki who have set a precedent of extortion for cash, Rarotonga's silent majority's collective presence will send a clear message that attracts the attention of the Head of State Marsters and the finger pointing blame shifter Henry Puna.

Whenever or however Parliament is reconvened a notice of a vote of no confidence awaits Puna and all it takes is for one of two of his own to support the Demos in a change in leadership and he's gone. How the self indulgent Puna's stomach must churn in anxiety and pain at the thought of no more first class air travel at the expense of the Rarotonga taxpayer along with the horrific prospect of no more whim and fancy \$25,000 Air Rarotonga charter flights to Manihiki all paid for by the same Rarotonga taxpayers.

The CIP government is about to have their backs to the wall once the Demos file their Judicial Review applications in the Court. It is obvious where this exercise is leading to. If the judgement falls in the applicant's favour it is likely criminal complaints will be presented to the Police. Further legal proceedings that are defended by CIP members of parliament charges cannot be funded by the taxpayers nor can Crown Law provide any assistance. Convictions will result in possible prison sentences and the end of several political careers including that of Puna. The net result, there will more by-elections.

Currently there is a Police complaint of extortion filed by this writer against the threatening Manihiki landowners, that will be followed up by another Police complaint against Brown for unlawfully spending the funds.

One more indicator worth discussing is the possibility Mona loane could be charged then prosecuted as a result of the current bribery investigation he is being subjected to. If found guilty there will be another by-election in Vaipae/Tautu which is unwinnable for the CIP.

Puna's unpopularity has now infested this constituency. Puna unwisely promised loane and his constituency not once but four times if successful loane will be returned to an already fully subscribed Cabinet. The PM announced to the approval of the Vaipae/Tautu voters there will be an Island referendum on the Sunday flights, Puna promised a simple majority opposing the flights was all he needed to cancel them.

Now that Puna has time to think about the stupidity of his electioneering promises he is yet to honour both of them at the dismay of the Vaitau CIP supporters which has deeply disturbed and angered the disappointed loane. Puna's loose lips stupidity has cost the CIP any chance of winning that seat should another by-election be required.

A loss for the CIP in a Vaitau by-election will result in a hung Parliament with 12 seats to the CIP and a combined Opposition tally of 12 seats. RAPP's renegade MP Albert Nicholas would be the logical target to return to the fold with incentives of compensation.

Every which way he looks

Puna is being confronted with the horrific reality of defeat, he has become the snare of his own arrogance and corruption. The political vultures are hovering over Puna and Brown who will resort to dismissive self denials but it doesn't change the fact their ousting is inevitable, it's as certain as the night brings darkness.

Sadly for the faithful and honest unrewarded Party toilers Puna will leave a legacy current CIP supporters will endeavour to bury and forget, not only has he crystallised a permanent image in the public's perception he is lazy and addicted to travel but he leaves a trail of allegations of dirty politics and corruption that has become synonymise with the CIP, no matter how that stain is laundered it's putrid stench will linger in the public nostrils for a political eternity.

No amount of apologetic repentance will fend off the multi pronged political harpoon that has Puna in its sights from every direction. The despised Puna is victimised by the accumulation of politically self inflicted injuries, he has no one to blame but himself. Good riddance.

- George Pitt

PM and Cabinet need high level policy unit

By Charles Pitt

Prime Minister Henry Puna has not only increased the pace and scope of participation in international affairs, he has in the process, placed new demands and pressures on his policy team which has the task of providing the PM and Cabinet with a sound platform for international interaction and discourse.

While the PM and his Cabinet have lifted their game, the same is not evident where policy backup is concerned. If changes are not made in respect of policy formulation and delivery then the policy team will always be in a state of "catch-up" as the PM and his Cabinet forge ahead with relentless speed on the international stage on a wide range of issues.

The PM now needs to set

or demand new standards where policy development is concerned especially at the higher level. There is also a need to ensure a separate operations policy capability for dealing with day to day issues at Ministerial level.

To back up the PM and Cabinet where high level, international issues are concerned, a new strategic policy unit is desirable.

What are the implications if this is not done? The danger is there will be a serious "disconnect" between what Cabinet thinks the broad, overarching policy is or should be, and the more specific operations policy at Ministerial level.

Take the recent meeting in India as an example. Out of the high level discussions between the Indian PM and our Representative, Nandi Glassie, will

emerge some initiatives offered up by the Indian government. The proposed nature, extent and scope of these initiatives are for the PM and Cabinet to consider also what the broad policy should be. Initiatives which will then flow onto Ministries will require specific operations policy and procedures to be developed by the Ministry. This is a lower level function.

If no policy guidelines are set for the PM and Cabinet level, then there could be a "disconnect" if questions arise concerning operations policies at the lower level.

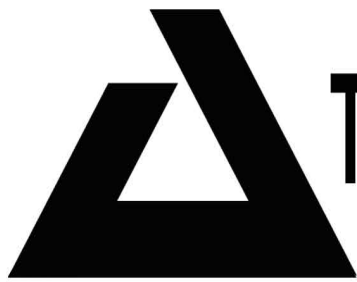
For too long, our Leaders have taken the non-controversial approach of just adopting the position of the collective of Forum Leaders. This may have been sufficient as long as the extent of our focus has been regional.

Increasingly, the PM and Cabinet will be facing a wide range of international issues which will require a "country" position to be stated for the benefit of other nations who wish to know what our stance on certain issues, is.

It's the role of Foreign Affairs to give policy advice to government on international issues but increasingly the impact of those issues on our society, economy and community also need to be factored in. This calls for a team or unit approach.

If we are to seek a seat at the United Nations, then our policy capacity will have to be strengthened considerably if our voice is to have any credibility.

The Office of the Public Service Commissioner should already be aware of this and should be preparing recommendations to submit to the PM.



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- Orometua of the village and CICC Ngatangia Ekalesia.
- Queen of Mitiaro Ta Maeu o te Rangi Teikamata Ariki
- Maria Henderson and Te Koutu Nui
- Manavaroa Rangatira
- Tauranga Moana
- King of Tainui's delegation
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MP Brown undeterred by confronting challenges

In the midst of the turbulent times the Cook Islands Party is struggling to come to grips with the sun shines upon one of their own who is putting people before politics. Member of Parliament for Teenui Mapumai in Atiu Rose Brown has set her sights on lifting the morale and hopes of those left to ponder their future in Atiu. Stemming the migration of the jobless youth is a confronting challenge that business owner Rose says is solvable.

Her remedy is to start small and build sustainable platforms of success for others to imitate. Apart from employing people for her own retail business Rose said BTIB have been to Atiu and conducted workshops to ignite positive thoughts of self employment opportunities. Rose said people have the enthusiasm but may lack the how to knowledge and set up capital.

While she won't beat her chest about it MP Brown is believed to be channelling her politician salary back into her constituency, the list of white ware and equipment is impressive, individuals and families can't speak highly enough of her generosity.

Using her constituency fund Rose has helped set up a landscaping business for three of the youth. All are currently getting a weekly income which is encouraging. Rose has sourced funds from the Cook Foundation to help the need of clean drinking water for school students, four drinking fountains plus eight large water containers have been presented to the school children.

At the 50th anniversary of the High School a generous gift of \$2000 was received from Lily Zhu a previous visitor to the island who wanted to reciprocate the generosity afforded to her.

Now that she has adjusted to political life Rose said she was more confident in being an MP, the demands and expectations were overwhelming at first but

she has found her footing and got her head around her strengths and weaknesses, "There's nothing like being thrown into the deep end, I'm working from my strengths, I find I have to have a balance of being tough minded but tender hearted."

Rose said she has some exciting projects that she is working on to implement soon, one is tourist related and the other an economic venture, both will provide much needed new money from off shore.

Rose said she evaluated the Island's problems and has identified the economic opportunities they presented, "problems generate economic opportunities." - George Pitt



Principal Mrs Tairi (right) deputy principal Mrs Mokoroa receiving donation from Lily Zhu presented by MP Rose Brown.



Funded by Cook Foundation presented to Enuamanu school for 50th Birthday by constituency of Teenui Mapumai



From left Ritire Tanga, Takere Thompson, MP Rose Brown, Mr Vaine Paretoa Councilor, Titiana John Supervisor

Cook Islands Herald Issue 785

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, TUES 15th Sept 2015

Leadership poll

Two listeners' polls regarding the leaders of the two main political parties in the country were conducted on Te Kave Kōrero on Tuesday 15th September 2015.

Te Kave Kōrero presenter Tony Hakaoro said it was necessary to conduct the polls to give listeners an opportunity to express their opinions in terms of the political leaders in the country.

Hakaoro added that he wanted to conduct the polls in light of the recent change in Australian politics where Liberal MP Malcolm Turnbull successfully challenged Tony Abbott as Prime Minister of Australia and leader of the Australian Liberal Party.

"The polls give us some indications as to how our people perceive our political leaders in the country", said Hakaoro.

In relation to the first poll the question put to listeners was (translated):

'Between the CIP leaders, Henry Puna and his Deputy, Teariki Heather, who would you prefer or in your opinion, who is the ideal person to be Prime Minister, Henry Puna or Teariki Heather?'

"Teia te uianga, i roto i nga arataki o te CIP, Henry Puna e tona tauturu ko Teariki Heather, ko ai taau i inangaro, me kare, ko ai taau paunuanga mai, taau akarakaraanga mai, taau ioioanga mai, ko ai tei tau ki runga i te taoanga Prime Minister, ko Henry Puna ainei, me ko Teariki Heather?"

Hakaoro suggested in Māori that when listeners ring in all they need to say is the name of the person they prefer as Prime Minister.

"Ina, teia ra oki i reira te patiangā, me taniuniu mai koe, te pauanga ua ka inangaroia, akakite mai koe i te ingoa o te tangata taau i manako e, kua tau kia riro ei Prime Minister no teia Basileia".

Hakaoro clarified that if a listener rings in

wishing to vote for Henry Puna as Prime Minister all is required of the caller is to say his name, Henry Puna.

"Teia i reira te aiteanga, me taniuniu mai koe, me ko Henry Puna taau i anoano, i toou manako e, kua tau ei Prime Minister, akakite mai koe i tona ingoa ko Henry Puna".

And likewise, if the caller wishes to vote for Teariki Heather as Prime Minister, all he or she has to do is say Teariki Heather's name.

"Me ko taau ikianga e, ko Teariki Heather, tei tau i runga i te taoanga Prime Minister, akakite mai koe, oronga mai koe i tona ingoa, Teariki Heather".

Hakaoro said that the second poll relates to the leader of the Democratic Party and whether William Smiley Heather should be the leader.

"Te rua o te poll, no runga i te arataki o te Democratic Party. I taau paunuanga, ioioanga mai e, kua tau to tatou taeake a William Smiley Heather, e, koia te arataki, oronga mai koe i tona ingoa".

Hakaoro's words in Māori are translated:

'And, if you feel, based on your assessment, that James Beer is the ideal person to be leader of the Democratic Party, then give his name when you ring the radio'.

"E, i toou manakoanga i reire e, i taau paunuanga e, kua tau a James Beer ei arataki no te Democratic Party, ko te reira ia, oronga mai koe i tona ingoa me taniuniu mai koe ki runga nei i te ratio".

'We have two polls, the Prime Minister, Henry Puna or Teariki Heather?'

"E rua ia a tatou polls, te arataki o te Basileia, te Prime Minister, Henry Puna me ko Teariki Heather?"

'The second poll, the leader of the

opposition, the leader of the Democratic Party, William Heather or James Beer?'

"Te rua o te poll, te arataki o te tua patoi, me kare, te arataki o te Democratic Party, William Heather ainei, me koe James Beer?"

Hakaoro advised listeners that if they call, only the name is required.

"Auraka e ngaropoina, me taniuniu mai koe, ko te ingoa ua te ka anoanoia".

Hakaoro stated that a caller is not required to explain why he is voting for a particular person except to give the person's name.

"Patianga akaaka, auraka koe e akamarama mai i te tumu i iki ai koe i te reira ingoa, te ra ua, taniuniu mai koe, me tae toou tuatau i te tuatua mai ki runga i te ratio, oronga ua mai koe, me kare, tuatua ua mai koe i te ingoa o te tangata taau i anoano".

Despite having the choice between Henry Puna and Teariki Heather two callers opted to vote for George Maggie as Prime Minister and one caller choosing Nandi Glassie.

A total of fifty one listeners called Te Kave Kōrero and voted in the polls.

The poll results are:

For leader of the Cook Islands Party and Prime Minister

Teariki Heather 33
Henry Puna 11
Georgie Maggie 2
Nandi Glassie 1

For leader of the Democratic Party:

James Beer 26
William Smiley Heather 22

Te Kave Kōrero thanks all the callers who rang in and participated in the poll.

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, FRI 18 Sept 2015

Taxing of pensioners

On Te Kave Kōrero on Friday 18th September 2015 presenter Tony Hakaoro made his position clear in respect of the Grey Power issue.

In Māori he said that he disagrees with Government taxing pensioners. He said that he agrees with and supports callers views that pensioners are in their twilight years and we should leave them to enjoy life to the full.

"Te mea mua, mei ta te au metua i akari mai i nakoanei, kare au e ariki ana i ta te Kavamani teroanga i teia au metua pakari, kare au e ariki ana. Te ariki nei au, te turu nei au i te manako o te metua i nakoanei, e, ko teia au metua pakari, te parepare atu ra to ratou au ra. Eaa i kore ei i tau i a tatou kia akaruke ua i a ratou kia noo mataora ua ratou e tae uatu ki to ratou au openga?"

He said for 47 years pensioners have not been taxed until this Government came in and implemented taxes on their retirement incomes. He sympathises with the pensioners.

"Te rua, `ā ngauru ma itu mataiti i noo ua na teia au metua kare i teroia na. `Ā ngauru ma itu mataiti kare rava ratou i teroia na. Tu mai teia Kavamani, akariro mai teia Kavamani e, tei a ia te tika openga, akamata te tero i teia au metua pakari. Te akaroa i teia au metua pakari, `ā ngauru ma itu mataiti, kare rava ratou i teroia na".

Hakaoro said there are 260 pensioners living in the Cook Islands. Why are we demanding that they be taxed? Why is Government insisting that they be taxed?

"Te toru, i teia au metua tei teroia, e rua anere ono ngauru rai ratou e puakapa nei ki roto i to tatou Basileia, tei oki mai mei Aotearoa, mei Australia, oki mai ki konei akangaroi ai, retire, na tera reo ai, e rua anere ono ngauru rai ratou. Eaa tatou ka manono roa ai e, kia teroia ratou? Eaa te Kavamani i manono roa ai e, kia teroia ratou?"

Hakaoro stated that pensioners should be exempted from paying tax as there are only a few of them, only 260 of them. He said if there were two or three thousands

of them he might agree that they be taxed.

"Kare ainei tatou e rauka i te, karanga te reo o te papa`ā e, exempt i a ratou, kare ainei? Toko iti ua ratou. Naringa ra mei te mea e, e rua tauatini, toru tauatini ratou, penei, ka ariki au e, kia teroia ratou, kareka ra, e rua anere ono ngauru rai ratou, toko iti roa, i noinoi roa ai te Kavamani, i manono roa ai te Kavamani, kia teroia teia au metua pakari".

Hakaoro said (translated):

'It's appropriate, if you accept this, that pensioners should not be taxed, see your Member of Parliament, tell your Member of Parliament of your disapproval and ask him or her to amend the law to stop taxing the pensioners, an exception to the rules, it can be done'.

"E mea tau, me te ariki nei koe i te manako, auraka rava ratou kia teroia, aravei i toou Mema Paramani, akari ki toou Mema Paramani toou marekakore e te pati akaaka ki toou Mema Paramani, kia tau akaou i te ture, auraka teia au metua pakari kia teroia akaou, give them an exception or an exemption, kia kore ratou e teroia, te exception to the rules na tera reo ai, ka rauka ua i a tatou".

According to Hakaoro the country can afford to exist without taxing the pensioners. It's not as though 10 or 20 million dollars can be generated from them, it's a minimal amount only.

"Ka rauka ua i te Basileia i te tere ki mua ma te terokore i teia au metua pakari. Kare mei te mea e, ka rauka mai tetai tai ngauru, rua ngauru mirioni tara mei roto mai i teia au metua pakari, e moni iti roa".

He added that it is the right thing to do, to change the law, not to tax senior citizens.

"E mea tau i toku manako kia tau akaouia te ture, auraka teia au metua pakari kia teroia".

Hakaoro added further that taxation of pensioners was introduced by a papa`ā and that Māoris in Government, namely the Prime Minister and Mark Brown, allowed this to occur, almost as though they have no respect for our elderly citizens.

"Te `ā, te manako openga, ko teia teroanga i teia au metua pakari, na tetai tangata papa`ā i akatupu. Ko tatou Māori ma i roto i te Kavamani, ko te Prime Minister, raua ko Mark Brown, akakoromaki mai me taiku atu au i te ingoa, akakoromaki mai, na raua i ariki, i akatika i teia tu kia teroia teia au metua pakari, mei te mea atu ra i reira e, kare o raua respect i teia au metua pakari. I te tuatua a tetai papa`ā, ariki raua, te akaaroa, te akaaroa i teia au metua pakari".

Hakaoro confirmed that he wanted to clarify his position and his thoughts with regards to the pensioners.

"Anoano au i te akaari atu i toku turanga e toku manako no runga i teia au metua pakari".

"Karanga te papa`ā e, those are my views and that's where I stand in relation to the issue o te Grey Power", said Hakaoro.

"I point the fingure at them, te Prime Minister, Minita o te Moni, e te Fin-Sec, toku taeake ko Richard Neves. Kare au e ataata i te taiku i to ratou au ingoa", concluded Hakaoro.

Not long now boxing fans

Boxing fans will be pleased to know that the sport will be back in action soon. The Herald reports that on Friday boxing enthusiasts will meet to discuss the holding of an AGM to elect an Executive Board, the adoption of a new Constitution approved by the International body in Switzerland and the staging of a "Fight for Life" event. This news should be well received by those boxers who have kept up with their training and who now will have upcoming opportunities to demonstrate their skills. A priority for the new Executive will be to prepare boxers to represent the country at numerous upcoming international events.

Cook Islands Herald Issue 785

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, MON 21st Sept 2015

Te Maeva Nui DVDs update

Information regarding Te Maeva Nui 2015 DVDs was forthcoming on Te Kave Kōrero on Monday 21st September 2015.

Rob loaba, events manager at the national auditorium, called the programme and updated listeners with information concerning the release of the Te Maeva Nui DVDs.

In Māori he said that he and Sonny Williams have been to New Zealand to make arrangements for the Te Maeva Nui DVDs.

He added that they have met with Stebbings Studio and the company has been able to assist in terms of having 16 hour footages and putting them onto new type of DVDs being manufactured in Asia, two or four hour DVDs.

"E, ko te mea mataora e Tony, i a maua i ko, kua rauka i teia company i te tauturu mai i te au topi teata mei te tai ngauru ma ono fora i runga i te topi teata, kia kite tatou i teia tuatau te hamani nei tetai tuanga o teia nei ao, i te tua o Asia i teia au topi teata, e rua fora i tetai, e `ā ora i tetai".

loaba stated that having worked together with the company they are particularly happy that they have been able to compress eight hours of Te Maeva Nui to four hours.

"Ko maua kua angaanga kapiti atu ki teia aronga, mataora to maua, raukaanga i a ratou i te tapiri mai e varu fora o te au angaanga o te Te Maeva Nui, ta tatou peu karioi, ki tetai fa fora".

According to loaba the most pleasing aspect is that instead of having six DVDs as originally planned, it will now be two DVDs.

"Ko te mea mataora e Tony, kua rauka teia au topi teata, mei te one topi teata i te au ora i manakoia no te mea ko te akakoroanga e ono topi teata o Te Maeva Nui i te po o te karioi, i teia nei ra, mataora maua no te mea kua topa mai ki te rua topi teata i teia mataiti".

loaba stated that it is also very pleasing that Stebbing has confirmed that the DVDs will be ready for release and for sale to the public on 10 October.

"E, runga atu i te reira, ko te mataora i

konei, te akapapu mai nei teia tuanga o te Stebbing e, ra tai ngauru o Okotopa, ka rauka i a tatou i reira i te tatara i teia topi teata ki vao, so kotou e te iti tangata e tiaki nei i tetai topi teata na kotou o te au po karioi o te tai ngauru ma `ā pupu o te Te Maeva Nui, te ute, reo tupuna, ura pau, kapa rima, ka tatarai teia i te ra tai ngauru o Okotopa e tu mai nei".

loaba stated further that while they were there they have also asked them to see if they could fit eight DVDs of everything about the Te Maeva Nui, from the beginning to the end as well as the trade days hosted by the BTIB, onto three or four DVDs. The purpose for this is to make it affordable for our people to buy the DVDs.

"I a maua katoa i ko e Tony, kua rauka i a maua i te pati katoa atu ki a ratou, e varu topi teata o te au angaanga katoatoa o Te Maeva Nui mei te ra i akatueria ai Te Maeva Nui e tae ua atu ki te ra o te topirianga e Tony, pera katoa te au angaanga i tupu ta te BTIB i rave mai koia oki ko te trade days. I roto katoa i teia e varu topi teata i oti i te Taurana Vananga i te hamani i te au masters kareka ra kia tae ki ko, te kimi mai nei ratou i te ravenga me ka rauka kia topa mai ki te toru, ki te `ā topi teata. Ko te tumu i konei e Tony kia mama to tatou iti tangata i te okoanga i teia au topi teata i a tatou i te Kuki Airani nei".

loaba said there will be two DVDs of four hours each.

"No reira kotou e te iti tangata e akarongo mai nei, tena te rā ka tatara te Tauranga

Vananga i teia nga topi teata. E rua rai topi teata e Tony, kareka ra i roto i teia nga topi teata, e `ā ora i tetai, e `ā ora i tetai, e varu ora i te katoatoa o teia nga topi teata".

According to loaba they did not order two or three thousand DVDs but only one thousand.

"Manea i te otimaiaanga i a ratou te Stebbings Studio i te hamani i teia nga topi teata. No reira kotou e to tatou iti tangata te inangaro nei i tetai topi teata na kotou, e, i a maua ko te taeake ko Sony i ko, kare i patia ana kia amani mei te rua tauasini kopi, me kore e toru tauasini, e tai rai tauasini kopi i pati maua kia amani ratou no te mea ei akaraanga e Tony, no te mea e takaianga takake roa teia ta maua i kite no te au topi teata ta tatou i hamani ana i te au matahiti i topa".

loaba said that some people may be aware already of the new type of DVDs coming out of Asia, DVD 9, and is capable of running for four hours.

"I toku manako ra kua kite tetai au taeake i teia au topi teata a te tuanga o Asia e maani nei, mei teia au teata ta tatou e kite nei, e DVD 9 teia i roto i te reo Pamati, topi teata numero iva teia. Ka rauka i a ia i te tapiripiri i te au topi i runga i teia topi teata, e `ā ora tona roa".

Te Kave Kōrero thanks loaba for choosing Te Kave Kōrero to disseminate the information to listeners and the public.

Meitaki maata Rob and kia manuia.

SIXTY PLUS NOTICE (60+)

Our monthly Luncheon meeting is to be at Pa Ariki's Palace ground- Ngatangia on the 25th of September Friday at midday.

A conducted tour of Pa Ariki's health amenities and Museum is the event of the day. So come along and make it a memorable occasion for all of us.

E maine ma, ka aravei tatou ki te paepae o Pa Ariki I Takitumu no te turoto, e kia kite eaa tana e rave mai nei i tona paepae. Ko tatou ua ana, aere mai kia mataora kapiti tatou e Pa Ariki O Takitumu.

Kia Manuia e kia Mataora.

Plastic fantastic



Plastic recycling-CIRC and CIT

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IMPROVED PUBLIC USE FACILITIES AT POPULAR BLACKROACK (TUORO),
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DOG CONTROL PROGRAMME.

**To find out how you can get involved in Vaka
Pride contact Noeline Mateariki on 29435
or visit www.kiaorana.cookislands.travel**

1st Judging October 2015

Last week Cook Islands Tourism joined six local businesses to promote recycling to reduce the levels of plastic rubbish in our landfills that is polluting our environment. With the help of Cook Islands Recycling Creations – brainchild of eco warrior and entrepreneur Sabine Janneck – to encourage more people to recycle plastic waste into fashionable works of art.

Sabine's concern for our environment kick started this innovative scheme to recycle plastic into fashionable products for everyday use. Since April last year she has created a range of products including wallets and small zip purses, handbags, clutch bags, laptop cases, phone covers, cushions and baskets, all from what you would normally throw away.

They are made from a range of waste including candy wrappers, chip and snack packets, chocolate wrappers, noodle packets, milk cartons, yogurt pouches and basically any type of plastic food bag or wrapper that would have otherwise ended up in the landfill. The packets and wrappers are cleaned, sorted

by colour and then cut with a template to create the square colour patterns. It's a labour of love for Sabine who hand weaved and stitched the basket pictured with

Cook Islands Tourism Staff from over 400 Easiyo Yoghurt sachets in 8 hours. "The goal here is reducing plastic not producing it," says Sabine. "I love to make something positive out of rubbish, and it makes me happy – I choose that for myself."

Plastic baskets can be found on display at The Dive Centre, Lagoon Breeze Villas, Whale Research Centre, Magic Reef Bungalows, Tumuora Crossfit, Manuia Beach Resort and Cook Islands Tourism Information Centre in town.

If you would like to help reduce plastic pollution on the island, start collecting your wrappers/packets and Sabine will be more than happy to collect, or you can drop into The Dive Centre in Aroa. More of the creations can be viewed on facebook by searching 'Cook Islands Recycling Creations'-
Cook Islands Tourism Marketing release



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:

CONTESTANTS for Restaurant of the year 2015:

MANUIA BEACH RESORT, SAILS RESTAURANT, PACIFIC RESORT RAROTONGA, NAUTILUS RESORT, LITTLE POLYNESIAN RESORT, PACIFIC RESORT AITUTAKI .

Book at any of the above restaurants to be a judge and go into the draw to win one of seven "Dinners for two" at the above

Restaurants. Help decide who will become the Cook Islands Restaurant of the Year 2015 by dining and voting at the above establishments.

Join us for the Awards Dinner with live entertainment, welcome drinks and show at 18:00 on Saturday, 10th Oct. \$ 60.00 per person @ The Islander Hotel

Elegance and Ambience

By xray

Elegance and Ambience "Pacific Style" are at the core of this first class Resort and this is already evident when you enter the reception area. Everything is perfectly designed in a unique Island style with wild gardens, waterways and ambience lighting that provides a warm welcome on our way to the Restaurant. As it's a cold night we are directed to the wooden Rotunda style Restaurant and greeted by our host of the evening and Maître D' Bianca.

The Pacific Resort also features a beachfront restaurant and the infamous Barefoot Bar, but tonight we are happy to be seated in the

tropical garden restaurant complete with waterways and wildlife. It's nice to see that most staff are locals here and we are greeted with big smiles and "Kia Orana" all around. Bianca explains their special competition menu by Chef Luther and the matching wines. The entrée consisted of braised style pork over Avocado with Kumara Crisps and a tamarind glaze, matched by Alan Scott Riesling. An unusual Starter, but the mouthwatering combination with tender pork and exceptional complex flavours was a perfect match for the Riesling and worked well as an entrée.

The mains were explained to us again and new wines were

offered; a delicious and elegant Jules Taylor Pinot Gris was to accompany succulent parrot fish, rukau, pumpkin and baked banana crisps, served on a hot sizzler plate and accompanied with Coconut Sauce; served in a true island style manner. We poured the coconut sauce over the fish and the beautiful aromas of the dish bounced back through the dish. A sip of the Pinot Gris was an excellent match and is also very good drinking on its own. The portions were generous and we sat back and enjoyed our delicious meal and the relaxing atmosphere, enhanced with fantastic music by Rudy Aquino.

For the finale we were

presented with a local banana bread pudding, ginger nut ice-cream and dark chocolate sauce, another perfect pairing with the Jules Taylor late harvest Sauvignon Blanc which provided balance for this tasty creation.

Chef Luther provided us with a great dining experience, showing us excellent, island style flavours and generous portions, all for only \$ 65.00 including wines. The service is great and Bianca and her team looked after us all along with their special island style flair, so next time when you drive past the Pacific Resort turn in and have a look for yourself, it's well worth a visit and good value for money.



Pacific
Resort
Rarotonga

Dine with us at

Sandals Restaurant

and try our

Restaurant of the Year Menu

Only \$65 for
3 course meal
with wine pairing

Menu available until 30th September | Bookings Essential | 20 427 | www.pacificresort.com

Forty years on

By Derek Fox

One of the benefits, or sometimes the curse, of having been around a while is that often historical events are not just dry words on a page or grainy black and white pictures, but real life flesh and blood occasions because you were there.

For me there have been two such Maori anniversaries in the last few days – both more than four decades old.

The first is the presentation of a petition calling for the teaching of Maori language in schools, which happened on September 14 1972, and the second the great land march from Te Hapua in the north to Parliament on October 13 1975.

I was the Wellington Editor of TV-2 News at the time and watched both unfold.

Both were examples of the tentative but growing assertiveness by Maori – and supportive Pakeha – to stand up and advocate for change in the 1970s.

The petition had 30 000 signatures and, it ‘humbly prayed that courses in Maori language and aspects of Maori culture be taught in all schools with a large Maori roll, and that these courses be offered as a gift to Pakeha from Maori in all other schools ----’. A pretty humble request indeed when you look at it today.

People from two quite different groups gathered the signatures, united on the kaupapa of revitalising the Maori language.

The Wellington based Te Reo Maori Society was generally led by kaumatua and academics like Koro Dewes, and supported by students of the language – often Pakeha.

Auckland based Nga Tamatoa as its name suggests was younger and

in the words of the day ‘radicals’. Their leaders were people like Syd and Hanna Jackson who knew the pain of not knowing the language and they didn’t want other young Maori to grow up being deprived of it, as they believed they were.

At the time of the petition there were an estimated 70 000 Maori speakers, mainly older native speakers. Somehow they’d survived the bad old days when Maori was not just actively discouraged but children were actually ‘whacked’ if caught speaking Maori on school property.

Veteran activist Tame Iti – a member of Nga Tamatoa – recalls being habitually caught talking Maori at school – not surprising given it was his first language – and being made to pick up shit from horses the kids rode to school as punishment; and this was at Ruatoki one of the bastions of Maori language.

The other anniversary marks 40 years since the great land march led by Whina Cooper from the far north to Parliament, calling for a halt to sales of Maori land. It had the slogan ‘not one more acre’.

Whina was 79 at the time and stepped out with the 50 or so people who set out on the 1000-kilometre hiko to Parliament. She was too old to walk all the way, but joined the solid core of marchers who did at significant times.

While Whina was the public face of the march people like – Witi McMath – made it happen. He was in the leadership group and a marshal. He was a former SAS trooper and Boilermakers Union member and didn’t brook any nonsense from anyone – marchers or officials. When the police asked how they

were planning to cross the Auckland harbour bridge his answer was short – ‘we’re going to march across’, and 3 000 of them did.

I remember reports that the bridge developed a slight swaying motion to the rhythm of the marcher’s feet. When the march approached Wellington and the Wellington motorway the police asked again how they would proceed, but they already knew the answer.

On the day the march arrived in Wellington I stood with a film camera on a high point in the Ngauranga Gorge and took a shot of the head of the march near the bottom of the gorge and panned up to its tail reaching right up into the gorge.

It became the shot that led both television news programmes that night.

Official figures say about 5 000 people marched into Parliament grounds that day, my hunch is it was probably more than that. Of course not all of them marched all of the way and detractors of the hiko would often point that out not understanding the process of a modern hiko when people join in when they can.

Organising the 1000km trek was a mammoth task. The core group was hosted at marae, they had to be fed and watered. Reliable transport was needed for support vehicles, walking on main highways is highly dangerous and the marchers needed protection, and a multitude of other matters needed attention.

Along the way they collected 60 000 signatures for the petition calling for a stop to the alienation of Maori land.

The hiko and the language petition were a sign of the times, Maori had had

enough, we wanted change; the genie of discontent was out of the bottle and wouldn’t go back in.

The Waitangi Tribunal was formed in 1975, at first with powers to only look at grievances after 1975, but later going back to 1840. And the cases traditional and contemporary began rolling in.

Many things including Maori radio and tv have flowed from the events of the 70s.

The first bilingual school was opened in 1977. The Kohanga Reo movement was set up in 1982. In 1987 Maori became an official language of New Zealand. In 1994 the Privy Council ruled that the New Zealand government is responsible, under the Treaty of Waitangi for the preservation of the Maori language.

But not all has gone well. Although there are now an estimated 130 000 people who say they can hold a conversation in Maori, numbers are dropping off.

In 2012 the Waitangi Tribunal found that the government through its policies is severely prejudicing and is underfunding Kohanga Reo, it suggested Kohanga and the Crown get together to resolve those issues.

In 2015 the Minister of Education is refusing to go into negotiations with Kohanga and is demanding changes to Kohanga governance, something she has absolutely no power to do; and despite overwhelming grass-roots support from kohanga whanau for the Kohanga Trust Board.

The government more generously supports ‘early childhood education centres’ which have no requirement to foster Maori language.

Forty years on Maori land continues to be taken under the Public Works Act against the wishes of its owners.

Letters to the Editor

Ngati Uritaua public notice

Dear Editor
With due respect to Papa Andrew Turua Pamatatau OBE Uritaua I Uta. Public notice in Thursday's paper regarding to the Avatiu Valley road.

My question is which Tribal war did Ngati Uritaua fought to earn a piece of land in Avatiu, and if they did, who was their Ariki? The answer is, they never fought any tribal war on this island and they never had an Ariki. It is not in our history.

Back ground of Uritaua.

They were a Tribe chased away from Tahiti Nui known as Uritahua [translated in Tahitian as the upside down Tribe] in search for new land.

When they found land, they made entrance to the Avatiu passage [known as Arai Ava I believe] but to their surprise Nagati Makea's warriors who were dominant in Te Au O Tonga at the time slaughtered and killed every single one of them except one begged for his life to be spared, and would do anything for Makea, so he was made a cook for Makea and that was the beginning of Ngati Uritaua.

Makea had many wive's and he loved his fishing. Coming back from one of his fishing trips he caught Uritaua having an affair with one of his wives, Uritaua was quick to beg for a second life and Makea must have been a kind man to accept that. Uritaua and the ex wife were removed from the Royal grounds and were taken onto Makea's land known as Uruau up in Avatiu Valley and put on a section known as Angai Puaka and his punishment was to farm and feed pigs for Makea for the rest of his life.

This is when this tribe started.

Tribal war in 1814 right to the point before the gospel arrived. Pa Ariki and Kainuku Ariki [PamaKainuku as known in short] wanted to conquer the whole island, to evict Makea, Vakatini, Karika and Tinomana from their powers.

In that battle Makea wanted warriors to support him to regain

his dignity and this is one time he needed a favor from Uritaua and his children but Uritaua turned his back on him and didn't want any part of it. Makea never forgave him for that! But he lost the battle, all his warriors took off to the hills and many were killed by the Vaka Takitumu. Makea grabbed his children, abandoned Arai Te Tonga Marae and made a run to west to seek help from Tinomana Enuu Rurutini and ended up there for 3 to 4 years.

Fortunately Tinomana held that battle with the support of Tangapatoro of Enuamanu [Atiu Nui] a free lance warrior and a fighter. Just before the gospel arrived Tinomana and Pa Ariki returned Makea back to Avarua but not to Arai Te Tonga instead Pa insisted that he should be put at Taputapuatea, a Marae carved by Tangiia for his son Tinomana Motoro back in 1775 and the idea was for Makea to be a care taker for Tinomana's ground and fortunately he was given back his lands from Taakarua to Tuoro.

Had Tinomana been a cruel Chief he would have taken the whole of Te Au O Tonga as part of Puaikura, but he didn't, why, because his wife Tepori A Pa was the niece of Makea Tinirau [Tepori A Pa was the daughter of Pa Taputapuatea and Teuira A Makea Pini and Ngamarama Apai and that makes Teuira and Tinirau sister and brother] and that explains why Makea Tinirau fled to Puaikura to seek help. e Makea he destroyed and burnt all records and genealogies of Ngati Makea and Ngati Tinomana but kept his immediate ones. One thing he never realizes that the missionaries those days wrote them and had the original copies which are kept in the Archives of England. One day it will be truly exposed and that time is coming close. I know because I have some of the copies of what Papehia Orometua has written. He had written them in mixed Tahitian and Rarotongan language. He spent a lot of time talking and writing stories from Makea Tinirau and Tinomana Enuu Rurutini about our island

and the incidents that took place before they arrived.

How did Ngati Uritaua become Land owners on Uruau? Back in 1947 a person from this tribe worked in the Justice Department, started rorting the system by succeeding this tribe to the rest of Uruau Land. They all started becoming land owners in 1948 and till today and that was just yesterday and they are still succeeding, While Ngati Makea's tribe is too busy fighting who is going to hold the title, Uritaua is busy succeeding the whole land of Uruau. Did they go and fight a war, no they didn't they corrupted the court system.

Here is my question to Uritaua, WHO WAS THE LAND OWNERS BEFORE YOU CAME IN? Of course, it was Makea and Uriarau. These are the two major land owners of Uruau, Ngati Makea and Ngati Uriarau not Uritaua. They were only put there on a small section called Angai Puaka. When AB Donald was in business, who gave that Lease, wasn't it Makea? And when the 99 year lease expired, who did it go to? Uritaua! How did that happened?

The history of Avatiu Valley.

The road that was build from the bottom of Uruau right to the water intake was constructed by the Government under the supervision of my grandfather Joesph Agostini Heather and that was back in the early sixties and because he knows he is from Ngati Makea, Ngati Uriarau and Ngati Tinomana, he decided to live up that valley and develop it with the help of his brothers Kati Heather, Exham Heather, Aii Heather Teokotai Heather and the list goes on. I went up that valley at the age of 5 years and I am 61 today and my folks have educated us about the valley and we know who we are!

The whole of Ngati Tinomana is from Ngati Uriarau and the descendants of Tepori A Pa and Tinomana Enuu Rurutini are all from Ngati Makea and Uriarau, they are Land Owners on Uruau. Today, we have inter marriages from Makea to Uritraua or to

Uriarau or to Tinomana and the list goes on, that's fine, everyone is entitled to Uruau, but Uruau must be given back to the rightful owners, that is Makea and Uriarau. We are not at war but for the new generation to come and to know the reality and have respect for the others. No offence, we are all family, the truth must be spoken so our children of tomorrow are fully aware of this and so as the rest of our families. Uritaua must have been a survivor to convince people. From a cook to a land owner

A Favorite Uncle of mine the Late William Heather always say Auraka e koko ite koanga rango ka pao me pueu!!!! [don't disturb the beehive nest it might backfire and sting!!!!

Te nako nei te karakia a Uriarau.

Te Verotu Te Maunga
Ko Avarua Te Ava
Ko Toanga Atua te Koutu
Te Paepae, Kote Atukura
Paepae Poto ki runga I toku
Kirikiri I Araitetonga toku enua
Ipukarea
Ko Nio Ponga taku Rakau
Ko Uriarau te tama I karakia, te
Ui Mataiapo te karakia noku
Uriarau ote Atukura
PaepaePoto e

Tei aia nga Vanaga
Tei aia nga koreo
Tei aia nga Karakia
Tei aia nga akateretere vaka I
Avarua

Uriarau A te Atukura e
Te au Atua rikiriki I runga I te
rangi o Tangaroa nui e
Titiro mai.
Ko ai teia Atua nui I runga I taku
rangi
Ko au ko Uriarau, ko au ko
Uriarau
Ka uria te pokai, ka uria te
pokai
leeee koko

Amene
Puakaina Rangatira [Ngati
Uriarau]
Samuel Tamuera Crocombe.
Tena ia tutaekiore, tena ia
tataraamo!!!!

Success – sometimes comes at a cost

I Ngere Puia-Fraser, Teautoa Peua and Luciana Matenga pictured have recently returned from umpiring at the Upper North Island Secondary Schools Netball Tournament (UNISS) that took place in Hamilton. In cold and wet conditions our trio did themselves and their country proud.

Teautoa gained his NZ C Award, and Ngere gained her Zone Award at the tournament.

Meanwhile Luci, who already has her NZ C Award, has been invited to attend National Netball Champs being held in Wellington at the end of this month. She has also been invited to participate in the NZ Umpires Squad Workshop in November. To be invited to both these events is quite an achievement.

Netball Cook Islands President PJ Hockin today commented "Luci has demonstrated her skills as a player, having played and indeed captained our national team for many seasons. To now be identified as an up and coming umpire who has the potential to reach international

level is quite an achievement and demonstrates her commitment to and love of the sport. Attending the tournament and workshop would be hugely beneficial for her growth and development in the umpiring world".

Luci's attendance at both these events is currently in jeopardy due to a lack of available funds. Netball Cook Islands funds were exhausted with helping to get the team to the recent Pacific Games held in PNG.

"We don't want Luci to miss out and are hoping people will want to support her by sponsoring her or donating to this incredibly worthy cause. Our priority at this stage is to get Luci to the National Champs and to do that we need sufficient to fund her airfare – around \$1500" PJ added.

Luci joins a short list of past/present Cook Islanders who held/hold NZ and International qualifications:

Mamia Savage and Jackie Tuara who have both gained their International Umpire Award; Estelle Searle who gained



NZ B Award in 2000; Punanga Kaveao who in 2011 gained her NZ C Award. Luciana herself gained her NZ C Award in 2013 and is working on improving on this, and Teautoa Peua gained his

NZ C Award earlier this month.

Anyone wanting to donate or more information on how they could assist Luci is encouraged to contact PJ on 21 669 or 55 226.

Superstars

By *Lucianne Vainerere*

There is so much talent caged inside this school. Talent that could've been developed a long time ago where confidence and character is built. Talent that is too shy, too hidden. Now that it's seen it's harder to lurk. I've heard a few of them play and sing, and it could really take them places if they kept to it, and were encouraged the right way. To find passion in what they do and what they love is key, the more passion there is the stronger and more beautiful the performance, no matter the genre being played.

Level 1 and 2's will display their talent Tuesday night in a two and half hour concert at the Princess Anne hall starting

at 5:30pm. The fresh talents will be assessed on how well they interact with the people in the group and their overall performance in the group. Come show your support and give constructive criticism to help our young superstars in their musical development.

Art in general isn't a department that is fully supported in schools. Either visual or performing they're usually the departments with less funding to purchase materials needed. Although I'm not entirely sure to why that is but from observation people of power don't believe in this kind of talent. To perform and to express, to voice opinions through song, or through painting. It's frowned upon. That's where we go wrong, we have island

kids who have the potential to draw, to sing, to play but we don't address it long enough for it to develop so they can go from good to great.

Let's just focus on music right now. It's a sort of remedy, a cure, a form of comfort and relaxation that takes us to places unknown. It allows our mind to roam and think about everything. We think about where we stand in the universe, how small we are compared to the bigger picture, we think about serenity and peace and trap ourselves in our own little bubbles. It relieves stress and frustration and allows us to focus on the simple things. That slow, cruisey, soulful music that makes us think of the old days, as we imagine ourselves in our parents'

shoes, in movies, being superstars. That spotlight just on you, everywhere else is dark, your breathing slows down, and at that moment it's just you and the music. Sweet, sweet music.

What is music to you? How does it make you feel? Where does it take you? What decade of music do you respond best to? Tell me your story, I'll be more than happy to listen. To listen to what you have to say about the beauty of music and how it changes you, how it lets you speak and how much it understands you. I can be your ears, I can be your voice, I can be your friend. Lets journey together and discover possibilities that music allows us to explore. Just one step into the unknown.

The case for cannabis reform in the Cook Islands – Part I of II



Nothing provides such a division in the community as discussion about gay rights and cannabis reform. The debate regarding cannabis or marijuana and laws

relating to its decriminalisation has been going on for decades worldwide. In this article I want to open up a debate about cannabis reform. It is important that you are well informed about the debate surrounding cannabis use and the laws that are introduced to marginalise those who use it medicinally and those who use it recreationally. There is a particular hysteria that is attached to the word marijuana and it is founded on ignorance, superstition, hypocrisy and vested interests. Ignorance by those who cannot be bothered to educate themselves properly about marijuana and then make uninformed judgements. Superstition by those who believe it leads to harder drug use and the hypocrites reading this article who take recreational drugs which are legal and cause the most pain and misery long term. But more importantly vested interests by those who apply the law, pharmaceutical companies who control our use and access to their drug products and politicians who are mindful that they will not be elected by their constituents especially Christian constituents if they even hint at reform. You only have to read in the CI News recently when Prime Minister Henry Puna was asked about gay rights and he couldn't move quickly enough to distance himself from any reasoned debate on the subject of gay rights reform.

I intend to discuss this from a number of points of view:

- What is marijuana
- What does it do
- Historical use
- Medicinal and recreational use
- The current legal status
- Cannabis reform
- Economics

Of the main varieties of marijuana the one I am going to talk about is called cannabis sativa and the main ingredient in it that gives you the "high" factor is called THC (tetrahydrocannabinol). It belongs to a family of plants that produces a state of euphoria, disassociation and serenity in the user. It is taken into the body by being inhaled as smoke or ingested by eating. Marijuana is a very versatile plant and has been used for thousands of years for making rope, clothing, medicines and oils and in alternative health care products as well as used in indigenous native ceremonies. The active ingredient THC depending on how much is present in the sample, acts on different parts of the brain, and can leave you with a feeling of being high for several hours and if it is especially potent

can make you go to sleep or very ill for a period until your body metabolises its effects. Once you come off the high, apparently, it is especially good for those who have sleeping or eating disorders, as the marijuana gives you the 'munchies'.

Marijuana in this article refers to medicinal marijuana and recreational marijuana and whilst they may seem similar, depends on how they are used and for what purpose. Please also remember that separating one from the other isn't quite as simple as it seems. The World Health Organisation provides statistical health data and tells us that the most popular recreational drug is marijuana. Statistics around the use of marijuana medicinally are problematic as in some countries there is the legal use of marijuana medicinally and then there is anecdotal evidence of illegal self medication and there are no reliable statistics regarding this data. Contrary to popular belief, not all types of marijuana can give you that "high", so no matter how much you smoke or ingest you will never get that "stoned" feeling. These varieties of marijuana whilst they contain small amounts of THC, these amounts are too small to have that euphoric effect. However they are usually rich in a different chemical compound called "CannaBiDiol" (CBD) and it is this strain of marijuana that is the focus of medicinal marijuana for treating pain, glaucoma, some cancers, some mental illnesses and rare forms of epilepsy.

Increasingly the recreational use of marijuana continues to be the subject of debate amongst health professionals, the legal fraternity, governments and the ordinary people, because there is no consensus as to whether marijuana use should be treated as a health problem, a social problem or a crime. The health profession are concerned about self-diagnoses and self-medication with marijuana because people who do self-medicate may be unaware that there are underlying medical issues which can only be assessed using modern medical clinical and scientific diagnoses.

The history of the criminalisation of marijuana in the Cook Islands is filled with lies, deceit, the manipulation of evidence, ignorant, incompetent and lazy politicians, slanted journalism, fear and hysteria and a population that is under educated and biased. The hysteria surrounding marijuana is that you'll get hooked on it and become a 'pothead' and this can lead to the misuse of harder drugs like cocaine, heroin and crystal meth. This then leads to people engaging in criminal activity to pay for their 'habit'. What a load of cobblers and this is the misinformation that has been bandied about by vested interests for decades to such an extent that it has assumed scientific fact in people's minds. There is no debate that some people can and are affected by their first experience with marijuana, and they never try the stuff again. It is also true that more scientific evidence through the study of the human genome is

opening up new scientific frontiers that show that we are a product of our genes and our environment. It is also called the 'nurture or nature' effect which states that we are a product of our environment and along with our genes determines how our bodies react to different stimuli, for example drugs. There are many examples of people living to ripe old ages on the back of cigarette smoking for decades, despite the prevailing scientific data stating that smoking for so long will lead to cancer and other diseases. We've also heard of the so called 'addictive personality', we all know people like that who are just over the top in smoking, drinking, retail therapy and any other vices you would like to name. They just cannot control themselves without the buzz they get from their 'fix'. We've also grown up on the stereotypical 'pothead' who is unwashed, unkempt, long hair, away with the fairies and of low intellect. The truth is far simpler than that, because there are many 'pot' smokers who look just like you and I, so they don't actually fit that stereotype at all. Your local MP, Pastor, Policeman or woman, Shopkeeper, CEO, GM, Supervisor, Traditional Leader and all manner of paragon's of our community are just as likely to smoke pot as those who are stereotyped. In addition if you are a marijuana user, does this mean you have a social problem or does it mean you have an addictive personality or could it be as simple as, "I enjoy it, I'm not hurting anyone else, so what's the real issue here"?

The real issue is that the current legal status of marijuana, marijuana products, seeds and paraphernalia associated with marijuana is illegal in the Cook Islands. Depending on whether you are in possession, growing it, selling it or smuggling it, the current law says that this is punishable by a fine and or a stiff sentence. This ridiculous state of affairs culminated in the 'Operation Eagle' in which a number of people were sent to prison for breaking the Narcotics and Misuse of Drugs Act 2004. Our country is facing huge economic challenges, incompetent politicians and public servants, domestic violence, increasing obesity and other health problems and what do we do? We waste public money to send these people to prison at a huge cost to the general public for 'Operation Eagle' and the flow on money trail for lawyers, witnesses expenses, prison costs and all other costs associated with the operation. All this for what is essentially turning rikiriki into criminals for what in reality is nothing more than a social problem. While we're on the subject of a stiff penalty, you are far better off bashing the missus or the kids or running someone over, assaulting someone, or stealing, burglary and any other act punishable under the Cook Islands Crimes Act. The punishment for being in possession of marijuana here in the Cook Islands is unfair and inequitable when compared to penalties imposed for other serious breaches of the Crimes Act. See part II for the next instalment.



Chamber to seek closer ties with government

The Cook Islands Chamber of Commerce held their Annual General Meeting last Thursday afternoon at Trader Jacks. Outgoing President, Mike Pynenburg highlighted challenges and achievements over the past 12 months in his report. One of the greatest challenges the Chamber had to overcome in his time in charge was the withdrawal of funding for the Pacific Business Mentors programme by the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Notification of this move came the day after last year's AGM. The Chamber sees the mentors programme as an integral part of building the capacity of local businesses and was somewhat relieved when the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) came to the rescue, providing enough support to allow the Chamber to continue with this much needed programme. Not only has the programme

been able to continue but the Chamber has also been able to incorporate both agriculture based businesses and women in business into the programme.

"The Young Enterprise Scheme, a programme vital to supporting business in school studies as well as an incubator for our young Cook Islands entrepreneurs also needed to find "new" support after NZ Aid funding was withdrawn. Once again the FAO, this time coupled with the Ministry of Education came to the rescue. Continuing with the FAO theme the Chamber was fortunate in putting together a strong business case for the FAO to fund the Private Sector directly in implementing an Agribusiness programme" noted President Mike Pynenburg.

Pynenburg paid tribute to the tireless effort put in by the Chamber's executive director Lynne Samuel and Treasurer, Teresa Manarangi-Trott.

"Their efforts have helped demonstrate to donors that the Chamber can deliver efficient and cost effective programme models" said Pynenburg, before thanking the entire outgoing board for their efforts during the last past year and advising the meeting that he would not be seeking re-election.

The election of officers took place and saw Steve Lyon elected president, John Webb vice president, Teresa Manarangi-Trott treasurer and an executive committee comprising Tatiana Burn, Brian Baudinet, Fletcher Melvin, Steve Anderson and Jaewynn McKay. Mike Pynenburg, in his capacity as immediate past president remains on the executive committee. As is the Chamber's practise, the following organisations will again be invited to be represented on the Chamber board; Tourism

Industry Council; Restaurant Association; Business and Professional Women; Bankers Association and the Cook Islands National Council of Women.

In his acceptance speech incoming president Steve Lyon touched on what he sees as his priorities for the coming year. He believes the Chamber needs to have more contact with government, and in particular the Prime Minister and Cabinet and to that end he will be initiating regular informal meetings. "Better collaboration between government and the private sector can only assist the government to improve performance—there is no down side" he said. He also believes there is an opportunity to better align the Chamber and the Tourism Industry Council in their workings – a sentiment shared by member of the Chamber members present.

Clean up the world day 2015

Clean up the world day 2015 in Mauke. *Photos courtesy of Basilio*



How to live a positive life in a negative world

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

The world we live in is negative in attitude, confessions and behaviour because that's how many people live life. But God did not want us to be like this. I believe God wanted us to live a positive life in this negative world!

The Apostle Paul in the New Testament encourages us to rise above the negative things of this world. In II Corinthians 11v.24-31 (CEV) Paul recounts some of his hardships. Yet there is no where in the Bible where Paul is seen complaining. Sometimes our circumstances are beyond our control, they are unavoidable.

The solution is not to change the circumstances, but to learn how to live above them. The question is "What does Paul do, despite his negative circumstances?"

First we see him Focusing On Jesus Christ And Not His Circumstances. It is no use blaming others, or running away, or moaning! In fact we can make our circumstances worse by being negative about them. As for Paul, his confession is on Jesus Christ and not his circumstances. Paul was imprisoned; received 39 lashes of whip; beaten with a big stick; stoned; shipwrecked 3 times; robbed by his own people; he worked and struggled and spent many sleepless nights; hungry and thirsty nothing to eat; he was cold because there's not enough clothes to keep him warm; and so on. But does he become negative about all of these? No! Paul said in II Corinthians 11v.28-29, v.31 (CEV) "Besides everything else, each day I am burdened down, worrying about all the churches. When others are weak, I am weak too. When others are tricked into sin, I get angry.... God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, knows I am not lying. And God is to be praised for ever!" Paul in Philippians 3v.7-8 (NLT) said, "I once thought all these things were so important, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the priceless gain of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. I have discarded everything else, counting it all

as garbage, so that I may have Christ..." Paul was able to see beyond his circumstances. If we talk negatively about our circumstances, the worse they become in our minds. But if we focus our confession towards God concerning our circumstances, the smaller and insignificant these will be! We begin to live a positive life in a negative world by getting our focus off the circumstances and on to Jesus Christ!

Secondly, Paul has his Focus Upon The Sovereignty Of God And Not The Will Of Man. Man's will was to stop the Gospel from being spread by restricting Paul's movement. It is God's will that none should perish. So if one man is put down, God will raise up another. Man's plan to destroy Paul's mission in life turned out to benefit God's kingdom. Paul said in v.12 of Philippians 1 "But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel." We got to learn to see God at work in the big picture of life. Paul said in Romans 8v.28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to his purpose." In the context of the Sovereignty of God, nothing happens to us unless God has permitted it! God knows every part of our lives. Sometimes God can only achieve His purposes through us when we go through negative circumstances. God will use this negative world to engineer the fulfillment of His positive plans and purposes and He wants you and I to be involved.

Thirdly, Paul Focused Upon The Positive Results And Not The Personal Pains. God knows how to cause your worst circumstance to make a tremendous spiritual impact upon others. Paul does not complain, he does not blame anyone for his circumstances! Paul lived a positive life in a negative world spiritually impacting people around him. We need to be focusing upon the opportunities in our circumstances. We may not be able to change our circumstances, but we can change our focus. We don't have to live a negative life in

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi

a positive world! We don't have to live under our circumstances unless we choose to! By altering our focus, positive attitudes will rise up within us releasing positive emotions causing our spirit to lift above this negative world. Psalm 125v.1 reads "Those who trust in the Lord are steady as Mount Zion unmoved by any circumstances."

May you have a God blessed week!



TENDER



REQUEST FOR TENDER OPERATING TABLE FOR SURGICAL THEATRE

Tenders are requested for the supply of an operating table for the Surgical Theatre at the Rarotonga Hospital as specified in the Request for Tender document.

Tenders shall be submitted either:

Completed Hard copy - packaged and labeled "CONFIDENTIAL" and have the following information clearly shown on the outside:

Procurement of Medical Equipment 2015/2016
Cook Islands Ministry of Health
P O Box 109,
Avarua,
COOK ISLANDS

OR

Softcopy: Emailing the tender bid as a pdf file to tenders@cookislands.gov.ck with the subject line "Procurement of Medical Equipment 2015/2016". The receipt time on the inbox will be used as the receipt time for the purposes of ensuring a tender is within the time limits.

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

Tender/Offer Closing Time

Request for tenders will close on the 30th September 2015 at 4.00pm.

The Request for Tender documents and operating table specifications can be obtained from the Funding & Planning office of the Ministry of Health in Tupapa or on the Ministry of Health website www.health.gov.ck. Prospective tenderers can also contact Ms Vaine Ngatokorua on ph 29664, fax 23109 or email: vaine.ngatokorua@cookislands.gov.ck

My friends

Artisanal fisheries workshop

By Hayley McNabb

So because I haven't got anything interesting to write about I thought I would write a story about how I have enjoyed getting to meet and become close with some friends that have made this year one of the best years. I have talked to some of my friends about what I should write about them and only a couple of them have responded to my question so they're the only ones who will be mentioned in my story.

The first friend I have is Ananya Raeina. I met her at school as we both take physics and maths together. As we got to know each other a bit better we started to hang out in the weekends. We would always go to the movies and go for drives around the island stopping at the waterfall, social center and then Palace to get something to eat before we head back home. But now that we have found ourselves a job at Marekos we've had to change our plans to going to sleep early on a Friday night so we can wake up early for work and then as that takes up nearly our whole day we then go to our other friend Rob's house where we usually spend the night watching movies and then go to church on Sunday. Some of Ananya's favourite things to do are doing her hair and make up as she has a strong passion for beauty. She also likes dressing up and eating though she's still so tiny.

Another good friend of mine is actually a cousin and her name is Mii Moetaua. Mii and I both take accounting and economics together at school. We don't always hang out but when we do the laughing never stops. We're always the loud ones at school and I think some people get annoyed with us laughing so loud but that just makes us laugh even more. Sometimes Mii comes over to my house during the school week and we work on our work that we have a bit of trouble with so we can help each other out. Mii loves to sing, talk with her friends and loves her Math class because she loves to deal with numbers and she also loves her sport and she never gives up with her sporting teams as she says.

I really like hanging out with these two girls because they are good company and always help me out with whatever I need help with. We always have fun together though we do get sick of each other sometimes but that doesn't stop us from being good friends as we are. I'll probably miss hanging out with these girls when I go on holiday to New Zealand but at least I'll have other friends over there that can take their place for a couple of months.



By Tiana Haxton

On Wednesday the sixteenth of September, I got home from school and enjoyed a quick snack before my brother informed me Mum wanted us to get changed into something nice and head down to the Sunday School Hall where a workshop was being held.

When I arrived, the workshop had already begun. I took a seat and began listening to the man and woman who were talking to the small crowd of Mitiaroans. A power point presentation, was projected onto the wall and the young lady began her presentation. She paused frequently as her presentation was in English and let her comrade translate it into the Mitiaroan tongue providing further understanding.

She spoke on the topic of submitting data to the fisheries database. She explained why it is compulsory to submit data. Knowing how much fish is caught in the Cook Islands and keeping data bases up to date can help with tracking Climate Change and can help the government to create policies for sustainability and the government to supply fishermen with proper training, funding and FAD programmes.

"What this is saying is, it is compulsory to give us Data. If you don't help us, then we CANT help you!" the speaker pointed out.

"Me kare koe e tauturu atu ia matou, kare matou e ka rauka i te tauturu atu ia kotou."

She moved on to explain the levels of fish caught over the years. Yellow fin tuna is the main fish caught. Tables were shown notifying us of the fish caught, how the fish were caught, and popular fishing methods and so on.

The public freely asked questions here and there and were pleased with the answers, further increasing their knowledge. Answers were given in both English and Maori to provide better understanding.

At the end of the workshop, there was a kai kai (feast) to thank our visitors.

Everyone sat down and chatted amongst themselves discussing the highlights of the day while some further inquired about things they were unsure of in the workshop.

A beautifully husky yellow and orange sunset ended the day perfectly. Clouds blanketed the darkening sky as the moon peeked down every now and then when the clouds parted in the pending darkness as the crowd left for home to share the information they gleaned with their family members and friends who did not attend the workshop.

All in all it was a very interesting and successful workshop and the people of Mitiaro are pleased that these people have taken their time to travel to Mitiaro to inform us regarding artisanal fisheries.

PUBLIC NOTICE



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.

Looks like his self importance has gone to his head, Mikie Enri is now signing the warrants for the appointments of Board chairman's instead of the Minister of CIIC Maki Brown. Little does he know his meddling in political affairs beyond his jurisdiction has annoyed enough CIP power brokers and MPs daggers are being sharpened to get rid of him for his conflicts of interests and attempts to score lucrative deals with potential investors in the Cook Islands not to mention the Schoonergate scandal that has rocked the CIP's credibility. The no shame Aitutaki sponger can't refund his sizeable deposit because he used all the money to pay for his many outstanding debts. Mikie had to claim he has paid the money back or he would get the cold shoulder when he tried to rub up with Rarotonga's big boys at the Islands gossip bars. When is neneva Neves going to confirm with supporting evidence endorsed by an independent third party Mikie is telling the truth? Otherwise make a public statement that Mikie can't cognitively separate intention from actual, in simple English he is lying.

Mikie's most recent warrant of appointment was issued this week on Monday, congratulations to free thinking Sam Gumby Crocombe for his appointment as Chairman of the Ports Authority for a second time. Big Red supposes Mikie has to look like he is doing something for the obese salary of \$80,000 his friend Maki has jacked up for him.

Why do we bother to have an Audit Office? The CEO Paka spends an awful lot of time absent from his office cranking up air points. The government Ministries are up to four years behind in their reports not to mention the Ministers Office spending; no wonder the corruption is easily buried.

Ever since Paulie got dumped Paka and his mob are now advocates for dentures and dark glasses, what a toothless lot of blind mice. Why don't they just bring in some real auditors and get the back log out of the way?

Why aren't some government officials complying with the OIA rules when information is requested, come on Ombudsman Tini get off your lazy arse and crack the whip over the blatant refusal to obey the law especially since Elvis claimed we have nothing to hide as the pigs flew overhead. Maki Brown says the same thing, there are no secrets in the CIP government only confidential things, so come on stop the pontificating and do what the hypocrite PM Elvis says, we must obey the law.

Notice how the vessel SS Daily is always late into port. Their ship's log has been full of entries about our female weightlifter it's become like a rash. But where was the vessel sailing to when Louisa was starting out? Lost in the fog? It was the Herald who reported on her very first training session at the Weightlifting Centre in Atupa at Pera's residence, training with Sam Jnr. It was the Herald who followed and documented her

early progress. Where was the SS Daily? Yes chooks, you can rely on the Herald to spot our future champions.

Having a special Unit for the Ozone Layer is like setting up a special Unit to Protect the Giant Panda. Both are things beyond our capability to affect with any significance.

The students and teachers at Titikaveka College can call off the anti fire station protest, a prominent identity in the SDA has intervened and come up with the perfect solution, move the site to Papaaroa where it can have main road access. Another missed opportunity by Titikaveka's Demo MP.

With Sam the man back warming the top chair at the Ports Authority will we now see sense prevail and work begin on a new port at Nikao lagoon where Parliament is located? A new deep water port at this site was first recommended years ago by Cruise Liner Captains and our legendary Harbour Master Don Silk. The proposed design was printed in the Herald and Times. This plan would cater for inter-island vessels, a container ship, the Patrol Boat and a cruise liner all at once. Flight paths would not be

affected. Avatiu would be used by pleasure craft, local and overseas fishing boats and charter boats. The cost? A mere \$40 million which would be recovered within 10 years, maybe sooner.

High flying, globetrotting PM Henri Foonah set a precedent of sorts when he flew to Sydney, hopped aboard the Vaka and made a grand entrance into the harbour before a huge crowd of cheering Cookies. Local chook now suggests Foonah fly to Panama, hop on board the Tiare Taporo, sail down to Raro and make a grand entrance into Avatiu harbour. However, will a huge crowd of cheering locals be there?

Will our globetrotting PM Henri Foonah be attending the Climate Change talks in New York at the end of September? Other Pacific Leaders will be there to set their case before the big COP in gay Paree in December.

Wake up retailers and start marketing dark glasses! They are clearly becoming a trend the pace having been set by new Minister Nicholas. Goggle box footage from Atiu of their school's 50th celebrations showed many in the crowd sporting dark glasses! The practice has definitely gone viral.

American consultant who reviewed the MFEM Act is to recommend some Ministries appoint their own Internal Auditors. Will they all be model Paulies or Barkers?

The big celebrations in Atiu to mark their iconic school's 50th anniversary was matched by Atiu MP and Cabinet Minister Nandi Glassie's big attempt to hog the footage on the goggle-box of the event. Where was Big Norm? Did Rose get a mention?



FAT CATS



COCONUT ROUNDTABLE



PUBLIC NOTICE



CARPARK RESURFACING

The Airport Authority Cook Islands would like to inform all stakeholders that resealing of the main carpark will commence on Tuesday 22nd September 2015 and continue for approximately two weeks.

During this time, sections of the carpark will be available for use, while other areas are being sealed.

Any vehicles that have parked long term without notifying the Airport will be removed.

The Airport Authority appreciates your patience while this work is being carried out and kindly asks that all carpark users drive with caution.

We also apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

For further inquiries please contact Mike Pauka on 55348, or the Airport Authority on 25890.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



COOK ISLANDS INVESTMENT CORPORATION
Government of the Cook Islands

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Cook Islands Investment Corporation (CIIC) is seeking expressions of interest from local businesses, contractors and individuals for the two work programmes outlined below.

1. Security surveillance for government properties

CIIC plans to improve its asset management and protection processes by implementing surveillance systems across government properties. CIIC is seeking interests from locally established businesses for one or both of the following components:

a) Supply, install, commission and maintain IP surveillance systems

b) Monitoring, response and patrol services

Interested businesses are asked to submit a capability statement outlining:

- Company background and capabilities
- Relevant experience
- Key personnel and management expertise
- Contact information

Only those who register their interest and pass the initial evaluation process will receive Request for Proposals, when they become available.

2. Asbestos removal work

CIIC is preparing for the staged removal of asbestos-containing building materials from government buildings commencing in 2016. It is intended that this work be carried out by contractors who are fully competent and conversant with best practise standards and procedures for handling asbestos materials. Through this expressions of interest process CIIC will identify contractors (businesses or individuals) who wish to undergo training and certification, and later tender for the removal work.

Interested contractors are asked to supply the following information:

- Name and contact details
- Construction experience and qualifications
- Previous experience with asbestos removal work and certification (if any)

To confirm your interest in either one or both programmes, or for further details, please email anne.taoro@cookislands.gov.ck. Expressions of interest close at 4.00pm on Friday 16 October 2015.

**THE BOND STORE - RAROTONGA CLUB
15's GRAND FINALS**

DATE: Friday 25th & Saturday 26th September 2015

VENUE: BCI Stadium (Nikao):

FRIDAY 25th September @ 4.30pm
TOA GAS - U19 Grade:
Titikaveka BULLS vs Avatiu EELS

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2015



4.00pm – **THE BOND STORE**
Senior A: Takuvaire REDS vs Avatiu EELS



2.30pm – **CAPTAIN TAMA'S**
Senior B: Avatiu EELS vs Arorangi COWBOYS



2.00pm – **PALACE TAKEAWAYS**
U14: Titikaveka BULLS vs Arorangi COWBOYS



1.00pm – **PRIME FOODS**
U12: Arorangi COWBOYS vs Avatiu EELS;
Tupapa PANTHERS vs Takuvaire REDS

Friday ENTRY FEE: ADULTS \$2.00 [or \$5.00 Friday & Saturday] U16: FREE

Saturday ENTRY FEE:

ADULTS: \$5.00 U16: FREE



**eat less
move more**

New Hope Church

Parekura Conference Centre

Inspirational messages to uplift and empower you

Sunday at 10.30am

PUBLIC NOTICE



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT SERVICE
TU'ANGA TAPOROPORO
COOK ISLANDS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT NOTICE

On behalf of the Director and Staff of the National Environment Service would like to acknowledge the following people and businesses for their very much appreciated support throughout our very successful 2015 Clean up the World Day/ September 18th Registered with us:

ANZ
Airport Authority
Ministry of Culture
Cook Islands Customs agency
Office of the Public Service Commission
Cook Islands Tourism
Business Trade Investment Board
Ports Authority
New Zealand High Commission
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration
Ministry of Agriculture
WATSAN
Miss Cook Islands pageant Association
Matavera CICC Ekalesia
Muri Environment Care Group
Infrastructure Cook Islands
Management and staff of the Waste management site
Ministry of Internal Affairs
Marine Resources
Te Ipukarea Society
Miss Cook Islands pageant
Red Cross
Ministry of Marine Resources
Mummy Dan and Co
Pacific Resort
Te Ipukarea Society

Mauke World Clean Up Volunteers/Basilio
Aitutaki Environment Care/Bobby Bishop
Mitiaro World Clean Up volunteers/Nooroa Pouao
Teriu, Jan and family
Mr.&Mrs. Ben Haurua
Kevin Salem- for the usage of your boat
Arorangi Tama Oire
Takitumu Tama Oire
Papaaroa School
Titikaveka Preschool
Imanuela Akatemia
Apii Takitumu
Apii Avarua
Apii Nikao
Apii Arorangi
Apii Rutaki
St Joseph School
Te Uki Ou School
Tereora College
St Joseph Scout Troupe
CITC – Go Green Committee /Management and Staff of CITC
Liquor/Food/Building
For your continuous support and contribution towards the Provisions of disposable gloves and Bio-bags for all schools in Rarotonga and the Outer Islands

Thank you very much to Gaye and your team.

Finally to the many who continue to support the Clean-up campaign
By always sorting, recycling and composting for the welfare and care of our Environment!
Ko au e Makona Aorangi au

Through everyone's efforts in helping make our paradise clean and green, a total of 3269.5kg
Was collected on Rarotonga.
So we say Meitaki Maata to you all for volunteering your time and being part of a global event.
Thank you all for being true Environment Champions.

VACANCY



Business Trade Investment Board
Cook Islands

VACANCY: MANAGER - FOREIGN INVESTMENT & COMPLIANCE

An opportunity now exists at the Business Trade Investment. The ideal applicant would have experience on Foreign Investment regulations and requirements; enforcement of policies using agencies and other regulatory arms of Government; broad exposure and experience in the commercial environment of the Cook Islands; and an appropriate Degree, or with at least 5 years of appropriate experience.
Applicants must be self-motivated, proactive, and have the ability to take projects through to completion.
Telephone 24296, for a copy of the Job Description, or email to: taina.white@cookislands.gov.ck.
Forward written applications with a current CV to: BTIB, Private Bag, Rarotonga, Attn: Taina White, or by email.
Applications close 4pm, Wednesday 23rd September 2015.

Mount View
Lodges O'oa
Accommodation to suit your budget

Self contained and self servicing
free standing units

**FROM \$35
PER NIGHT**

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FOOTBALL UPDATE

BSP Sponsors Junior Football

The official sponsors of the Rarotonga Under 14 Boys and Under 14 Girls Football Competition, the Bank of South Pacific have gifted on top of the normal sponsorship of a trophy for these two divisions, gift packs which include bags, water bottles and t-shirts for every single player boy and girl competing in the two divisions.

The official handover of equipment was carried out by BSP Representative Business Manager Janet Samuel at the Tupapa field after the Under 14 Boys for Tupapa and Takuvaine played their match on Thursday 10 September. This did not stop here and more gift packs were handed to the Nikao Sokattak and Matavera Under 14 Boys



Tupapa and Takuvaine Under 14 Boys receive their BSP gift packs from BSP Business Manager Janet Samuel (centre) after their soccer match.

teams when they played each other on Thursday 17 September.

More free gift packs will be given out this week when Titikaveka and Puaikura

play against each other this coming Thursday 24 and Friday 25 at Titikaveka field.

The Cook Islands Football Association through their Competition Manager

Pauline Dean is so grateful to BSP Bank and its Management for such a generous sponsorship, not seen before, in its domestic Rarotonga Competition.

Young Kiwis inspired for Chile odyssey

The biggest football event ever held in New Zealand football, the 2015 FIFA U-20 World Cup, created a positive mark across countless facets of the game in the Land of the long white cloud. But at least one legacy remains to be fulfilled in the near future.

New Zealand's players will attend next month's FIFA U-17 World Cup in Chile emboldened, after witnessing first-hand the globe's best young footballers on their doorstep. Equally, they were inspired by the landmark achievements of their U-20 side who reached the knockout stage for the first time, claiming maiden wins in the process.

Key Young All Whites forward Logan Rogerson, like most of his U-17 team-mates, attended matches at New Zealand 2015. And he says thoughts of Chile 2015 - where they will tackle France, Paraguay and Syria - were rarely far from mind. "We (New Zealand U-20) did alright

to reach the Round of 16, and then had a close game against Portugal," Rogerson told FIFA.com. "It just goes to show that if you put in a decent shift, it doesn't matter who you play, anything can happen. It was an eye-opener for us."

To say it has been a big month for Rogerson would be a significant understatement. Despite his tender age, Rogerson firstly received an unexpected call-up to the senior national team for their recent international in Myanmar, and then signed his first professional contract with Wellington Phoenix just a few days after returning home. He has also featured with the national U-23 team during July. It is further evidence, if any were needed, that Rogerson is a pivotal cog among New Zealand's fresh wave of players.

"Not quite," says a laughing Rogerson, when asked if he has had a chance to digest the



events of the past few months. "I haven't had the chance to slow down and think about what has happened. But it gives me extra motivation with what I'm already doing, and push on even further to where I'm at right now."

And just how much of an eye-opener was it for a raw-boned 17-year-old to suddenly find himself mixing it with the

nation's elite players? "It was great to be around class players, such as Winston Reid, Marco Rojas, Kosta Barbarouses," says Rogerson who is half-Maori via his mother. "I learnt a lot from all those guys, on and off the field. I learnt a lot in a lot of areas in fact, even just the pace in which they train at was quite new to me."