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1 15 18 29 37 40 SUPP: **8 30**

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Intake landowners want \$15 million compensation TMV Project now gridlocked

Prime Minister Henry Puna's panic attack and stupidity over the Manihiki land threats payout has only served to create another crisis that will have him craving for an immediate travel addiction fix. While there have been numerous exposed scandals of corruption by the Cook Islands Party government the long standing contentious issues of the \$60 million Te Mato Vai (TMV) project have taken an obscure back seat largely out of the fore front of public scrutiny that is until now.

As predicted from the very beginning of this ambitious first ever tripartite project involving the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) matters of local land usage had to be amicably resolved, this was readily without consultation dismissed by the government.

While Puna kept his distance, the chest beating Financial Secretary Richard Neves and his Minister Mark Brown gloated there would be no problems with landowners whilst accusing those who raised this issue as being political trouble makers and sour grapes nit pickers.

Buoyant after secretly signing a backdoor deal of over \$9 million with the Chinese contractors T&M Heather Ltd owner and Minister of Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) the Deputy Prime Minister Teariki Heather made it very clear in Parliament that there would be no compensation to land owners for the acquisition and use of any land required for TMV.

Landowners were in no uncertain terms told they were being greedy for wanting compensation and it was their civil duty to roll with the project,

any demands for compensation would only blow out the costs which the country could not afford.

Minister Heather's stance was surprising and hypocritical seeing land owned by the Heather family warranted by government for the waste management site in Arorangi had been generously compensated for after a cordial negotiation process. It seemed there was one rule for Heather and his family and another for others.

Endavouring to please the Chinese contributors Heather took a gung ho bully boy approach in his oversight of TMV without realising his own House of Ariki traditional leaders were beginning to quietly strengthen their resolve to challenge their Minister on his method of managing and advancing the project.

Tensions surfaced between the project Managers and the Chinese contractors over the poor workmanship and deliberate disregard for the contract specs with Heather consistently siding with the contractors, there were numerous grumblings about political interference at the insistence of the Chinese who simply wanted to do things their own way.

Due to the delays over land owner negotiations the contractors for Stage One the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) had to send over 30 workers back to China due to the lack of work while land access rights were in dispute. Intermittent delays were costing CCECC money so they began demanding compensation by

way of being engaged in the Stage Two component of TMV.

Takuvaine intake landowners have been at the vanguard of resisting government's bully boy land grabbing, well organised and advised by experienced land agents the Takuvaine Water Catchment Committee (TWCC) chaired by Eruera (Ted) Nia have been successful in bringing government to the consultation table by calling their bluff with sufficient legal argument to challenge the stand over and confrontal tactics used by government. Government even stacked landowner meetings with their stool pigeons to diffuse arguments of claim by landowners.

These people were soon recognised their presence was to persuade landowners to support government and their views were robustly challenged.

Puna's pandering to the Manihiki landowners threats by advancing compensation for land used for the installation of their solar electricity project has given impetus for Rarotonga intake landowners to exert their demands of compensation.

Government's attempts to cherry pick off landowners individually in order to skirt around those advocating fair compensation has angered enough landowners to take a more vigilant and uncompromising attitude to what is being said in the public arena.

Some have undertaken their own valuations rather than be told what government will offer should government reluctantly compromise their "no compensation" stand.



Garth Henderson - Admitted government had been lying

Many of the landowners are now defiant no access to their land will be permitted till the compensation agreement is completed; it was done for the Heather family land for waste management so it can be done for TMV. The walk over Neves, Brown and Heather expected is indicative of their sheer arrogance and abuse of power and they are the culprits of the project turning sour for the Chinese contractors.

Already unresolved land issues are holding up Stage One work to the annoyance of CCECC. Time lines for the commencement of Stage Two no longer exist, project

Continued next page

managers KEW Consultant Ltd's Russell Aberams said they were not permitted to make any media comments concerning the Stage Two land negotiations and referred any questions to Garth Henderson the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management's rep on TMV.

Already facing a multi pronged attack from common interest lobby groups, government is tender and not will to add hostile landowners to the growing disenchanted. Brown is known to have caved in and reluctantly resigned the conflict is preventable if government starts talking financial compensation.

Landowners are sceptical about this government's integrity over the warranting of their land for the intakes. While they approved in Cabinet in June 2013 as required by NZ Aid TMV would be a user pay project they lied there would be any charge for water, even after installing water meters they continued to lie in public meetings. The information paper attached with the Cabinet Minute estimated the expected revenue would be \$1.5 million a year.

They were saying there should be no compensation because the water would be free. When it became widely publicised by the media and the Cabinet minute published, the usual silence response was government's defence.

At a public meeting of intake landowners in Takuvaine the sole government representative present Garth Henderson under questioning irritatedly admitted government had been lying. During their period of silence Neves conjured up a well spun doctored answer to the water charges reaction, he now claimed the charges were never for the water but for the maintenance and servicing of the water system.

Despite the Cook Islands Investment Corporation (CIIC) Legal manager Lloyd Miles stating the CIIC does not engage in land or property acquisition it has fallen upon CEO Tamarii Tutangata to lead the government's land grabbing negotiations with the assertive landowner committees. Not wanting to engage in reciprocity hostilities with emotionally charged landowners Neves and Brown have thrust Tutangata

into the firing line. For Brown the political risk assessment is too high, Tutangata wears the bullet proof vest on his behalf.

Intake landowners will be asked by the group tasked to bring a valuation to the table not to settle for anything less

While Puna kept his distance, the chest beating Financial Secretary Richard Neves and his Minister Mark Brown gloated there would be no problems with landowners whilst accusing those who raised this issue as being political trouble makers and sour grapes nit pickers.

than \$15 million compensation with no annual leases for the first ten years. Each intake will be compensated according to a formula adopted. The Avana intake will be pitched at more than \$3 million with Takuvaine at \$2.6 million.

An advance payment for each intake of five percent will be a non negotiable condition payable before the land is warranted as has been precedent set by Puna over the Manihiki landowner's threats of destruction to equipment and property, now the subject of a criminal Police investigation.

Legislation used by government as their points of reference have been challenged by other legislation that enshrines the rights and protection of landowners.

The landowners are planning to meet with the Opposition to the government to gauge whether in the instance of a change of government they will honour an agreement with the current government, or if treated unfairly will the new government renegotiate a new fair compensation package.

The demands of the Rarotonga intake landowners will test Puna's claims of impartiality and consistency after his inexcusable disgraceful one sided patronising of his supporting voters in Manihiki.

Expectations and predictions TMV Stage Two would commence in September 2015 are indicative government has

a lot more back peddling to do before land owners will concede access to their land. At this stage we are told the tendering process is a work in progress.

While Neves got his way in the tenders being open rather than reserved for local contractors,

Some land owners are steadfast that TMV Stage Two contracts on their specific land must be contracted to local companies. No money, no work is the message Neves and Heather need to hear loud and clear until it is reinforced say land activists who refuse to be emotionally guilt laden with civil duty responsibility compliances. There will be no sweet deals for those who government perceives as easy pickings among the land owners.

The landowners refused to be hurried by the government, they will not be pressured into allowing work to commence nor will they be the scapegoats for government's arrogance and public relations deficiency that has delayed the project. The approach government is taking is cumbersome and will incur further delays for up to 12 months.

The land owners demands don't end there they want a number of irrelevant outdated legislations repealed.

- George Pitt



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Letter to the Editor

Government fails to respond to open letter

Dear Editor,
The Demos are trying to be as polite as possible, but at the same time to fulfill our mandate as the opposition ... to act as the people's watchdog.

On Friday, we delivered an open letter to the PM's office. We were told he was not able to see us that day, as we requested. We were happy to give him time to consider its contents and to draft a considered response.

In this letter, we advised Mr. Puna respectfully that people properly qualified to comment believe his Government has transgressed the law multiple times. In a Parliamentary democracy, Parliament controls the purse strings of the nation, but we and others see compelling evidence that Mr. Puna's government has systematically and deliberately sidestepped the financial control of Parliament and the Constitution. We have asked him to respond to the

observations of this evidence.

Giving Mr. Puna the benefit of the doubt, we conjectured that the Prime Minister may not have had the opportunity to hear our argument or to read what citizen concerns in the media. He may not have been aware what others in Government were doing. These things can happen. We had anticipated that his response and our letter could appear together at the same time.

We fear the worst, because in both sittings of Parliament since the election, the Government cut discussion of the budget short. It disallowed any serious debate or examination.

Our greatest hope now is that the concerns in our letter are unfounded. But no matter what the truth of the matter is, we can only see two responses from Mr. Puna.

Either he will confirm our fears and offer to do something about it, or he will tell us how the ever-growing observations

of impropriety are incorrect. Either he will say, "You are right! We must fix this!" or he will say, "No, that's not correct. Here's our interpretation of the law, and we have not transgressed it".

The PM is welcome to engage in an open discussion in any manner he wishes. We are (and always have been) available to meet with him at his leisure. We would be happy to have him call Parliament and allow us to use Question Time to get to the heart of the matter. We are even willing to use the media as a proxy mechanism for the discussion. We will use the judicial system to force the discussion if all else fails.

Our only requirements are that the discussion must actually take place ... and that it must be open and transparent.

So far, the PM has squandered the opportunity we have given him for considered response, and rushed to the radio to say, "No, no! This is not true!" and Mr.

Brown, under whose fiscal watch the alleged impropriety would have happened has said, "Heh, these Demos are just trying to play politics."

But the truth is that neither of these responses are satisfactory. No serious attempt to address the issues has been forthcoming.

The Government's response entirely lacks the detail and consideration required by the severity of the situation. Casual denials and attempts to sow confusion only suggest weak-mindedness or guilt ... and set the Government on a collision course with the High Court.

Please, Prime Minister: give us a calm, reasoned response that definitively ends this discussion. The longer you allow it to go on, the more our people will be hurt.

James Beer

Member of Parliament for

Murienua

*Opposition Spokesperson
for Finance and Economic
Development*

Date: 23rd October 2015

The Honourable Mr. Henry Puna
Prime Minister of the Cook Islands

Dear Prime Minister

Re: An Open Letter on the Recovery of Excess Unauthorised Expenditure

You will be aware of the public attention and disquiet currently focused on excessive unauthorised expenditure by the Executive Government pursuant to Article 70(3)b of the Constitution.

There are other issues of serious concern which are apart from the matter at hand (e.g. Manihiki Renewable Energy Charter Flight, and Manihiki Land Payments), which are not included in this letter but will need to be addressed at the appropriate time.

As you are also aware, allegations are circulating that your Ministry of Finance is engaged in an accounting and reporting cover-up, designed to convey the impression that there is in fact no such excess and that all spending comes within the limits set by the Constitution, and is legitimate and is lawful.

Satisfactory responses to Official Information requests for documentation, which would provide a clearer picture of that excess expenditure, have not been forthcoming from officers of your administration. This is unfortunate, and contrary to all the assurances you have repeatedly given about accountability and transparency.

The official information to hand on its own supports the claim that your administration has indeed unlawfully spent more than the \$3.36 million limit by a considerable margin for the 2014/15 financial year. Additionally, and officially information for the 2013/14 period is showing that your administration has also spent beyond the permitted cap of \$2.9 million by a considerable margin.

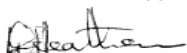
None of this has ever been reported to Parliament.

The purpose of this letter therefore is to respectfully request that you inform the writer and the general public what measures you propose to take to recover these moneys, conservatively estimated to exceed \$6 million for both the 2013 and the 2014 financial years (but subject to an independent audit of course).

Please be informed also that this letter is being released to the media, however we will delay this until after the weekend to allow you to consider your response so the two may be published simultaneously. We would normally not adopt this approach of going to the media, but since Parliament sits only rarely, and then only for very short periods of time, and even then is prevented from performing its proper functions, there is no other recourse but to make the fullest use of the media to reach the people and to engage them in matters which should be a matter of public record.

Sincerely,

William Heather M.P.
Leader of the Opposition and Democratic Party.





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Extra visitors from March 2016 will test tourism industry

By Charles Pitt

When Jet Star begins flying in next March we can expect around an extra 25,000 visitors per year.

This increase in visitor numbers will expose the shortcomings in policy development in the tourism and related sectors. Where is the overarching policy for a comprehensive and integrated plan for development to cater for increased numbers of visitors? It simply does not exist.

Serious issues face the tourism industry and indeed the country as a whole in terms of accommodations, services and capacity regarding activities.

Initially private houses may absorb some overflow but eventually more accommodation will need to be built and not just on Rarotonga but also some of the outer islands like Aitutaki, Atiu and Mangaia.

Pressure will go on those providing services to visitors. Most obvious will be transport. Already, large numbers of visitors are traveling by bus. There will be more demand for motor bikes and rental cars putting pressure on the roads with more traffic and possibly more potential for

accidents. Increased visitors mean an increase in eateries and activities like tours and entertainment.

Other services which will come under pressure will be water, waste and sewerage facilities. Tourists bath each day and more laundry means more detergent being used. There will be environmental factors to consider.

There will need to be an increase in the food supply both locally grown produce, sea food and imported foodstuffs.

Expect an increase in demand for electricity. If more eateries open up to service the increase in visitors, this means a larger supply of cooking gas will be needed.

The labour market will be under pressure as more trained staff will be required, possibly more imported labour. Workplaces may face competition for experienced, trained staff and this may lead to higher wages needing to be paid to attract and retain good staff.

The increase in visitors has

other spin offs which affect other areas. For instance, more visitors may mean a need for more Police Officers, more Immigration and Customs Officers.

While an increase in visitors will bring opportunities to raise living standards and earnings, it also presents potential for activities of an unsavoury nature such as petty crime, exorbitant pricing of goods and services, substandard products and accommodation and poor service.



Our frontpage model this week's Herald Issue 790 is the beautiful Reni Roi. Reni was a contestant of the Miss Cook Islands Pageant 2015. Check out our website www.ciherald.co.ck and facebook page: www.facebook.com/ciherald



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Sailing Club celebrates 75 years

By Te Riu Woonton

The Rarotonga Sailing Club is celebrating its 75th anniversary this week and a number of fun activities are lined up this week to commemorate all the achievements of the biggest Sailing Club in the Cook Islands.

On Tuesday evening, members, supporters, sponsors and past and present sailors attended the 75th Anniversary function at the Sailing Club. At the event, speeches were made by a number of people prominent in the sailing community, a slideshow presentation was

played the entire night bringing back great memories for past members and sailors and a scrumptious three-course meal was served in between the reminiscing speeches. Celebrations will continue on this week; Friday 30th will see the big birthday bash with the

sailing community down at Sails from 5.30pm, there will be great entertainment, prizes, raffles and lots of exchanging of memories! On Saturday 31st is the ALL IN Matutu family fun sailing day from 1.30pm.

A big meitaki maata to Peter French for some of the photos.



Prostate Cancer, a hairy business

This Saturday, November organisers are calling for the men of the Cook Islands to once again become Mo'bro's and join in the fight against prostate cancer in the Cook Islands.

The Movember stall will be set up next to the main stage at Punanga Nui Market between 9am-12pm this Saturday 31st October. A shave station will be on hand to get the Mo'bro's ready for the official beginning of Movember on November 1.

A registration fee of \$20 will be required by all Mo'bro's this year and men are encouraged to also raise further funds from their family, friends, work and sports teams to help raise awareness about prostate cancer. The first 100 Mo'bro's who register receive a free Movember Kuki Airani t-shirt.

Prostate Cancer is a growing issue throughout the Pacific including right here in the Cook Islands. 1 in 9 of our men over 70 are affected by the disease and 1 in 6 men over 76 are affected. That's not to say it's an older man's problem alone. In the Cook Islands, men over the age of 40 are encouraged to get their prostate checked and Movember aims to get more men to understand

the importance of early detection of this disease- it can save your life.

Movember will run throughout the month of November where registered Mo'bro's will grow a moustache to draw attention to the issue of prostate cancer among their families, friends, team mates and colleagues. Their aim will be to spread awareness and raise funds that will be donated by Movember to the Cook Islands Prostate Cancer Foundation. The rules however, state that you must be clean shaven to begin growing on November 01 so Movember will have a shaving station set up at the Punanga Nui (right by the main stage) where our Mo'bro's can register and shave off ready to join the campaign.

Last year saw many high profile local men sporting unlikely facial hair to support the cause including Mark Brown, Minister of Finance and League star Kevin Iro. Ronnie Siulepa even joined in the fun shaving off his beloved moustache for the first time in his life in preparation for Movember.

All funds raised will be donated to the Cook Islands Prostate Cancer Foundation.

For more info, visit www.movembercookislands.com



PROCUREMENT OF MATERIALS FOR THE INSTALLATION

of Water meters for the Te Mato Vai Project RFP reference no. TMV-RFP.003/2015

The Te Mato Vai project invites Requests for Proposals (RFP) from qualified parties for the Procurement of Materials for the Installation of Water Meters for the Te Mato Vai Project, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

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

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

Proposals must be delivered to the address below by 12:00pm, (Cook Islands time), 09 November 2015 in sealed envelopes and clearly marked as specified in the RFP document, to:

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

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

CC to Adrian Teotahi, CWS Team
Leader/Asset Management Coordinator
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adrian.teotahi@kew.com.ws
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Cook Islands Herald Issue 790

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, WED 21st Oct 2015

\$800 Ambulance fee to tourist

Dr Tikaka Henry of Rarotonga Hospital was the guest speaker on Te Kave Kōrero on Wednesday 21st October 2015.

Dr Henry was invited onto the programme to justify or explain the reason behind the Marae Ora (the Ministry of Health), charging an Australian couple \$800.00 for the use of an ambulance.

In Māori Dr Henry said that the policy for charging the fee was set in 2013 after the Marae Ora consulted with the community and stakeholders.

"Kua ākarakara mātou i ta mātou policy no te tūtakianga, no te fees, ka tūtakiia mai ki a mātou, karanga te, akamata mai teia i te mataiti e 2013, i te ākarakaraanga e, eaa te manako ōu te ka akatupuia mai ki roto i teia new akanoonooanga ōu".

Dr Henry added that information about the policy was provided to the community in writing and online and everyone were invited to ring or write to the hospital committee had they had concerns regarding the policy.

"Kua tukuna te manako ki vao i te katoatoa na roto i te tātāanga i te document, kua aere ki runga i te online, kua patia ia te katoatoa me manamanatā to rātou, me manako to rātou, kia rīngi mai ki to mātou kūmiti, no ta ratou tāmānakoanga oki i teia mānākonakoanga".

However when questioned as to how many people contacted the Marae Ora either by phone or in writing or via email Dr Henry was unable to answer the question saying that he is not a member of the committee.

Dr Henry stated that the outcome of the consultation was that no one said no or objected [to the ambulance charges].

"Ko te tikaanga ra oki teia i reira i rauka mai, te taopengaanga i teia au document i te tukunaanga ki vao, ko teia i reira te tikaanga, kare oki e tangata e karanga mai na e, kare".

He said New Zealand advised them as to the fee as the service is expensive to run.

"Kare ko te reira ua e au tūtakianga kē atu rāi tētai. Kua advice mai rāi to Nu Tireni i a mātou no runga i teia fee, no te mea, e aka moni i te run i teia e service".

When it was put to the doctor that this expensive ambulance charge may give the Cook Islands a bad reputation he disagreed saying that tourists may query it but they (the Marae Ora) will answer the queries accordingly.

"Kare au e irinaki ana e, ka riro mai te reira ei ingoa kino no tatou. Kua kite ra oki au e, ka ui ratou i te uianga, mei taku i karanga atu i reira, na mātou i reira te pauanga".

"Kia marama oki koe e Tony, me aere tatou ki vao ea, ka inangaroia rāi t kia cover i te medical insurance. Me tuki mai i a tatou me aere tatou ki vao, ka karanga tatou mei teia nga pāpā rai e karanga nei, ae, teia āka moni. Me aere rāi t ki vao, me ka aere koe ki teea ua atu enua, Australia, me tiatia mai koe, ka karanga rāi koe, ae, teia āka moni, ina ia mātou i Rarotonga nei, e ānere rāi tārā. I don't blame them".

One caller to the programme said that the charge is fair and reasonable and also cheaper compared to the fee she was charged with when she became ill in Australia.

The caller said when she visited her daughter in Melbourne in 2013 she was charged \$1,000.00 for using the ambulance.

"I aku kua tano teia tūtakianga rāua i teia ambulance no rāua, te tumu, no Australia au i te 2013, rokoia au e te maki i roto i te shopping centre i Melbourne. Manuia e tangata tetai i roto i te shopping centre, topa oki au ki raro, te tumu, kua topa oki toku numero patia ki raro ki te 41, so rīngi rātou i reira i tētai ambulance apai i āku ki runga i te aremaki".

"Inā, e toru rā i muri mai, e tauatini, e tauatini te tiāti mai i āku".

Another caller to the programme said the ambulance charge is far too excessive.

"O, kite koe e pāpā, tēnā moni, e āka utunga tikāi tēnā".

T'he caller said that such charging rate may be appropriate in Australia as their average income is much higher than the Cook Islands.

"Ka tano atu rāi ki Australia, e moni maata ta rātou e angaanga na".

He said the average income in Australia is \$30 an hour compared to \$6 in the Cook Islands.

"Ka tano rāi i Australia, te angaanga ra rātou e toru ngauru tārā i te ora. Ko tatou rā i konei, e ono rāi tārā, ka akapeea tāua i te tikianga i tērā tauatini tārā?"

He said this is unfair to our visitors from Australia and New Zealand and is very excessive charging.

"E tākinokino tikāi teia i teia nga taeake manuii no tatou no Australia e Nu Tireni aere mai ki konei, e tākinokino tikāi teia, e āka utunga teia".

Another caller said she doesn't accept the \$800.00 charge as it is far too expensive.

"Kare, kare au e āriki ana, aue taue, te āka moni e".

Te Kave Kōrero has invited Dr Henry to come on the programme again on Wednesday 28th October to discuss the subject matter further especially given the concerns amongst most callers to the programme and those in the community that the ambulance charge against tourists is far too excessive.

Te Kave Kōrero thanks Dr Henry for coming on to the programme and all callers to the programme for their contribution to the discussion on the subject matter.

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Cook Islands Herald Issue 790

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, FRI 23 OCT 2015

Agriculture donations from PRC

The Honourable Kiriau Turepu, Minister of Agriculture, was the guest speaker on Te Kave Kōrero on Friday 23rd October 2015.

The subject of discussion was the agricultural machineries donated by the Government of the People's Republic of China to growers in the Cook Islands.

Turepu said the machineries are worth about 1.6 million dollars and is donated by the Chinese Government as a grant fund which is non-payable.

"Ko teia apinga aroa no te agriculture, small machineries, e pera katoa tetai au fertilizer aere, it's worth about 1.6 million dollars. Teia, e grant fund teia, orongaia mai ki a tatou, kare tatou e tūtaki, tērā ua, e apinga aroa teia na te Tinito, raro ake i te marumaru o ta rātou tauturuanga mai i a tātou".

Turepu added that there are five 5 big tractors and 3 small ones donated to assist growers.

"E rima tractor mamaata, e toru tractor rikiriki mai".

Turepu said the donated machineries is the outcome of a request for financial assistance made by the Honourable Nandi Glassie (former Minister of Agriculture) during negotiations for the Mato Vai project.

"Ko teia mea e Tony kua akamataia mai i te tuātau i a Nandi, e, i te patiangia te tauturu no te heavy machineries, e te, karanga koe e, te tuātau o te Mato Vai project, te akamatamataangaia, kua akatuangaia to ratou tuanga moni".

"I roto katoa i te reira, kua pati katoa i reira te Minita Nandi i taua tuātau ra, kia orongaia mai tetai moni tauturu i te aronga tanutano o teia Basileia".

With reference to the big tractors Turepu said that Government put through the proposal for them but reduced the number because, there were 24 big tractors given to Members of Parliament during the time when the late Honourable Robert Wigmore was the Minister of Agriculture.

"Ko te tractor mamaata, na matou rai te reira i tamanako, i te mea, kua akaitia mai te reira no te mea, maara i a koe, e rua ngauru ma `ā tractor mamaata a te Tinito i



tuku mai ki a tatou te au Mema Pāramani pouroa i te tuātau i a Pāpā Robert Wigmore koia te Minita. Nāna teia patiangia i tuku ki te Tinito, e oti, kua aere mai teia grant ki a tatou. Besides i te reira, e au implements aere rāi tetai i āru mai i te tractor".

Turepu announced on the programme that of the big tractors, one would be sent to Atiu, one to Mangaia and one to Aitutaki.

He said that the tractors going to Atiu and Mangaia would be utilised espically to revive the noni industry.

In addition he said he would send someone to Atiu to manage the noni project there.

"Ka tuku matou i tetai tangata kia aere ki Atiu kia manage i teia project i Atiu, which means, there is a planting programme no teia project".

As to who would be responsible of looking after the tractor Turepu said it would be the manager of the project.

"Na te mānitiā o teia project. The manager is in charge of that tractor".

Turepu said all but one big tractor and one small one would remain in Rarotonga under the management of the Ministry of Agriculture.

According to Turepu any grower in Rarotonga wanting to utilise the tractors would need to contact the Ministry and pay a reasonable hireage fee to make use of the tractors.

Turepu stated that prior to accepting the machineries he called a meeting of all Members of Parliament and as a result they agreed that the machineries would be handed to MPs.

He said that the MPs would then enter

into an arrangement with an organisation to be in charge of or be responsible for the machineries.

"It's up to the Member of Parliament to make an agreement, i rotopu i a ia e te aronga putuputuanga tana ka oronga a ia i teia au apinga".

When suggested this is politicking Turepu responded (his statement is translated):

'What's in politics that politics cannot go into? That's why I asked the Opposition to be in the decision making, so that politics is not in this project'.

"Eaa ia apinga e poritiki e, kare e politiki e ō ana ki roto? No reira oki au i kapiki ai i te Opposition kia piri mai ki roto i te tukuanga tika, so that kare te poritiki i roto i teia angaanga",

Turepu said he did the right thing having invited the Opposition in the desicion making as to the distribution of the machineries. He said he consulted with the Opposition and it was a collective decision making.

"I akanoonoo au i te takainga e, kia piri mai te Opposition ki roto i te tukuanga tika no te distribute anga i teia machineries. Irinaki au ko te vaerua tano tērā, no te mea, kare teia i reira i aere mai na te Minita ua i manako e ko ia anake rai, it's a collective decision making, na te katoatoa, kua consult au i te Opposition no runga i teia mea, and they agreed i teia angaanga i tupu, mataora rātou".

Te Kave Kōrero thanks the Hon Kiriau Turepu for coming onto the programme and explaining the distribution of the machineries and the Ministry's vision to revive the noni industry in Atiu and Mangaia. Meitaki maata Pāpā Kiriau.

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, MON 26th OCT 2015

Gospel Day celebrations

The Gospel day Nuku was the subject of discussion on Te Kave Kōrero on Monday 26th October 2015.

Gospel day, Monday 26th October 2015, was a public holiday in the country marking the arrival of Christianity in the Cook Islands in 1821.

The six branches of the Cook Islands Christian Church (CICC) in Rarotonga held its annual Nuku on Gospel Day hosted by the Nikao Ekalesia.

Nuku is a dramatization of any chosen event in the Bible and is performed by each of the six CICC branches.

In introducing the subject matter, Te Kave Kōrero host, Tony Hakaoro said that he was very pleased having attended the Nuku for three reasons.

Firstly, the Nuku, or the dramatization was conducted or performed almost entirely in Māori.

Hakaoro said he was particularly pleased and very proud of what he saw and heard in Māori.

"Te au akatutuanga i raveia i teia ra, te mānganuianga, roto i to tatou reo Māori. Kāre e aiteia to tōku mataora i te reira. Noa atu oki e tetai au pae imene, imene i roto i te reo papa`ā, noa atu te reira, e ngā`i rikiriki ua te reira, kāreka rā ko te mānganuianga o te akakoroanga i raveia i teia ra, i raveia i roto i to tatou reo Māori".

"Kāre e aiteia toku ngākauparau i tērā tāku i kite, tāku i akarongo i teia rā, the majority was, roto i to tatou reo Māori".

Secondly, he was very happy having had the opportunity to see the Nuku for the first time in over 30 years.

"Mataora au no te mea, ka tai nei au ka kite akaou ai i tetai Nuku, i, eia ake nei mataiti, toru ngauru tūmā mataiti".

Thirdly Hakaoro said he was also very pleased that there was no competition in the Nuku, that all six CICC churches on the island performed, and after the closing prayer, everyone went home happy.

"Ko tetai ngā`i mātūtū taku i kite, ko te tārerekore i roto i teia akakoroanga. Mei

tērā te tū, aere pouroa mai te au Ēkālēsia e ono i runga i a Tumutevarovarō nei, kāre e tāreke, `akāri mai i tāna Nuku, `akāri mai tetai i tāna, `akāri mai e, pou ua atu i te `akāri i te au Nuku, inā, oti, rave te pure akaotianga, mataora te katoatoa, oki te katoatoa ki te ngutuare".

One caller to the programme said he was at the Nuku too and was also very pleased that it was performed in Māori.

"Tano rai taau, kua tae ana au i te `akarakara i te Nuku i teia rā. Mataora au i te `akarakaraanga, e te mea mataora roa atu, kua nā roto mai i to tatou reo tikāi. Ko taku ngā`i tērā i pūmaana ai tōku ngākau e te mataora i te akarongo atuanga, e kua nā roto mai i to tatou reo".

However Hakaoro said there was a minor technical issue at the Nuku in that the background music was a bit noisy or loud when someone was speaking on the microphone through the public address system.

"Me te tuatua ra tetai tangata i runga i te microphone, te parara, te māniana mai ra

te music i muri i tona reo, ko te ngāi tūkaui tērā".

Hakaoro said that he uttered to a friend at the Nuku that the music was too loud, that it was difficult to hear the notices or messages being announced.

"Te karanga nei au ki toku taeake i nakoanei, kāre, māniana tikāi tērā music, tikaanga tikāi, tāmāte te music kia akarongo tātou i te karere e tuatuaia ra i nakoanei. Te akarongo atu ra au i nakoanei, tetai au ngā`i, ko te tūkaui tērā, kare i rongoia atu e, eaa tikai te karere tei tuatuaia no te mea aruru atu te music, me kare, te akatangia mai ra te au mea akatangi".

Hakaoro queried if the Nuku is able to be presented or performed without a competition attached to it, and everyone was happy, performers and spectators alike, surely Te Maeva Nui can be the same.

Te Kave Kōrero thanks the organisers of the Nuku for a well organised event and callers to the programme for contributing to the subject matter.





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- Best voted flower and/or vegetable gardens • Best voted bus shelters
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MEITAKI MAATA to all Vakas and the community for your participation in Round 1 to inspire Vaka Pride! You are all a Mana Tiaki. **GET READY FOR ROUND 2** which begins in November and will be awarded in February 2016. For more information or to get involved contact Noeline Mateariki at Cook Islands Tourism ph 29-435 or email noeline.mateariki@cookislands.gov.ck



Muumuu display to raise funds for Breast Cancer Foundation

By Jaewynn McKay

This Saturday's breast cancer fundraising dinner and Muumuu display taking place at the residence of the New Zealand High Commissioner, Ngatipa, is shaping up to be a stunning evening. At least 50 muumuus will be on display, some old, some not so old. And some like these two now currently in a collection owned by Helen Wong, were previously owned and worn with much grace by the late Te Tika Mataiapo, Dorice Reid.

"We are delighted that Helen has lent us 6 stunning muumuus that once took pride of place in Dorice's wardrobe" commented CIBCF president Jaewynn McKay.

"I'm certain Dorice would feel very pleased knowing that her gowns were being used for such an event" added Helen Wong. "Dorice was a breast cancer survivor and encouraged women to take greater care of their health and promoted regular mammograms as a part of this care."

Also on display this Saturday will be a Muumuu currently in the care of Betty Bailey. It was donated to Hospital Comforts by the late Tinomana Ariki - (Mama Bear Hosking). A very old gown, it was recently worn by Gaynor Makea-Pennycook at this year's Te Maeva Nui float parade.

For tickets to the 50 Muumuus for 50 years event please contact Kelly (54 667); Noeline (25 220)



or Jaewynn (55 486). Tickets cost \$50 and guests will get to enjoy a 2 course meal, refreshments,

string band and display.

And, if you have a special muumuu you would be happy

to have displayed please let Jaewynn (55 486) or Sonya (50 825) know.



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INFORMATION ON AVOIDING SCAMS

Most money transfer businesses, whether they be a bank, **Western Union** or private financial company are the targets of scammers and fraudulent activists. **Western Union** is vigilant when trying to protect our clients and our agencies from falling victim to scammers and fraudsters.

Most scams come via email, mobile phones, text messages, face book, twitter and postal services. Some common examples to watch out for are:



Lotteries/scratch card winners

No one who wins a lottery or is claiming a prize has to make payment to get their winnings. If the person who has contacted you says it's for this, then refuse to send money. You are being scammed.



Immigration Fee

This is when the victim has a phone call from "Immigration" advising them that their paperwork is not in order and that they must make a payment to fix it. The phone number appears to be genuine but it is not.



Romance Scams

These are hard to stop. The victim can be hurt as they may have strong feelings for this person. The reality is that there are "boiler rooms" where many people in a call centre type environment with many phones contact lots of people and initiate online relationships. After these relationships have progressed for a while, they advise that they are experiencing difficult times, or bad things have happened to them. This is

where an when they plead/beg or "pull the heart strings" for some emergency assistance i.e. Money via Western Union. It is always a plea for money AND most requests insist on the money to be sent using Western Union. Why? Because Western Union is Person-to-Person and fast!

If you do receive emails from countries such as West Africa (Nigeria, Ghana, Benin, just to name a few) or from the USA or in that fact from anywhere, please be alarmed and raise your concerns with your local Western Union agency



Fake emergencies

People often get email messages from a friend or family member they trust claiming they are stranded or needing money sent to an account because of muggings, robberies etc. The truth is your friends and family are probably fine but a hacker has gained access to their email account and contacts list.



On-Line Fraud

These emails trick people into giving out their private information, such as addresses, banking details, passwords or PINs.



Every day, millions of consumers rely on **Western Union Money Transfer** services to send money to loved ones near and far. If consumers are sending money to someone they don't know personally, they could be putting themselves at risk for fraud. At **Western Union**, we value the consumers who use our services. That's why we remind consumers to protect themselves and their hard-earned money. If you think you are being targeted as a victim of a scam then please contact your local **Western Union**. We are only too happy to answer any questions regarding scams.

If you suspect you have been a victim of a scam you can call our helpful team at Western Union on (+682) 27707

App to help keep Cook Islands languages alive

Learning the basics of the Cook Islands languages has become easier with the development of the Cook Islands Dictionary app for smart phones and tablets.

Led by teams from Te Ipukarea, the National Māori Language Institute at Auckland University of Technology (AUT); the University of South Pacific's (USP) Cook Islands Campus; the Cook Islands Ministry of Education; and ta'unga – elders and repositories of knowledge – from the various outer islands of the Cook Islands; the app – CI Dictionary – was developed as part of a language revitalisation and maintenance strategy to make the languages of the Cook Islands more accessible through digital devices.

AUT Professor of Māori Innovation and Development, and Director of Te Ipukarea, Tania Ka'ai says digital tools which promote language revitalisation help to build stronger island communities.

"Online dictionaries and related dictionary apps are important tools for both second language learners and fluent speakers of a language."

"It increases access of these island languages to the various communities all around the world," says Professor Ka'ai.

The CI Dictionary app contains an impressive total of 17,000

head words.

"As there is no restriction on size for online dictionaries, they can contain much more information than a hard copy print dictionary," says Professor Ka'ai.

"Online dictionaries and related dictionary apps have the potential to contain all the information a user may need as it can be constantly upgraded in real time."

Built by Vo2 Web Design in Hamilton, New Zealand, in consultation with Te Ipukarea at AUT, USP Cook Islands and the Ministry of Education, Cook Islands, the app allows users to search for dictionary entries, find out their definitions, along with the help of supporting media such as encyclopaedic information, sample sentences, illustrations, audio and video clips, as well as image files – diagrams, maps and illustrations – which provide an added benefit for visual learners especially.

"This journey of collaboration with USP, the Cook Islands Ministry of Education and ta'unga has provided AUT postgraduate students with invaluable experience in undertaking fieldwork in language documentation with local Cook Island repositories of knowledge," says Professor Ka'ai.

The CI Dictionary app is available for free on the Google

Play Store for Android devices, and on iTunes for Apple devices.

The CI Dictionary app was officially launched by the Honourable Prime Minister of

the Cook Islands Henry Puna at USP in the Cook Islands last

month, and is being launched in New Zealand at AUT's City Campus Tuesday 26 October.

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Epsom jewel lies in diamond zone

5:00 AM Monday Oct 26, 2015

Property Residential Property

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1930s house has been owned by just two families.



The villa being sold by auction is in Auckland's prime double-Grammar zone. Photo / NZH

A home bought for 30,000 (\$60,000) in the 1950s for its proximity to some of Auckland's most sought-after schools is on the market for the first time in 57 years.

The four-bedroom villa, at 40 Pencarrow Ave in Epsom, was bought by the current owner's parents in 1958 and Barfoot & Thompson real estate agent Jim Murray said it was in a "sought-after trifecta" of zones for Auckland Grammar, Epsom Girls Grammar and Auckland Normal Intermediate.

This house that featured in the NZ Herald on Monday 26 October 2015 will go under the hammer this weekend. The house now belongs to Alex Brown 69, the brother of Mavis Brown, but it once belonged to their father DC (Dick Charles) Brown who had bought the house for his six children when they went to boarding school in New Zealand. Mavis was only 12, and her brother Alex was only 9 when they were sent off to boarding school. She went to Friends School which was operated by Quakers and was in Wanganui. Her three older brothers Albert, and twins James and Henry attended Whangarei Boys School. She also has a younger sister Tina. According to Mavis, they were mostly at boarding school and would only come to the house during school breaks. It was a challenging adaptation for children that had only known the island way of life. So they eventually returned to complete their schooling at Tereora College.

The 4 bedroom 2 storey house sits on 928sq meters at 40 Pencarrow Ave in Epsom was

purchased in 1958 for \$30,000 from a family who had moved back to England according to the New Zealand Herald. And was built in 1934. The house is in a much sought after area which is in the zones for various top schools such as Auckland Grammar, Epsom Girls Grammar and Auckland Normal Intermediate. And is close to the private schools Diocesan, St Cuthbert's and King's School. The real estate company that is conducting the auction is Barfoot & Thompson. With the way current house and land prices are in Auckland, the house should fetch a very handsome sum. Owner Alex, who is now a retired flight attendant will return home to Rarotonga permanently where he already has two homes.

According to Mavis, her and her siblings had consented to Alex taking over the house after their father passed on as he was the only one living in New Zealand. In addition, he was the one paying for its upkeep and paying for the council fees. But the family have always been welcome to stay in the house.



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The banning of commercial whale watching in the Cook Islands – Part II of II

Polynesian interaction with whales is a story handed down through the generations. Just because the literature does not exist in a form that requires scientific scrutiny does not make it any less

real for those who tell it and for those who listen to it. NZ Maori have a long history of interaction with whales. Not from the point of hunting them pre-european contact but because many Maori tribes trace their ancestral links to the legendary Paieka. Secondly they regarded stranded whales as a valuable source of meat, and used whale bone and teeth for ornaments and weapons. They devised elaborate ceremonies to give thanks to atua and the wairua of the whale; you would have seen a rendition of it on the movie, 'Avatar'. It wasn't until the late 1790s early 1800's that Maori joined commercial whaling with the arrival of pakeha sealers and whalers. Many young Polynesian men from Aotearoa and the Pacific Islands became crew on these whaling vessels and were noted for their hunting prowess, courage and strength on the high seas. At one stage there were hundreds of ships plying their trade in the South Pacific and using the islands as stop over's, provisioning and fuel stops and at the same time fuelling the economies of the places they stopped at.

As whale catching lost its appeal through a lack of whales, legislation, societal changes and attitudes, people no longer went out whaling. *(In this case, real science helped through the development of alternatives that replaced whale products)* Instead they turned their attentions to commercial whale watching and this was the case for NZ Maori in Kaikoura, Aotearoa. The Ngai Tahu tribe of Kaikoura established a commercial whale watching business which was started in the 1980's. This venture was not without its critics both scientific and bleeding heart liberals. Funnily enough foreigners and mainly pakeha and worry worts raised concerns about how this would affect whales by using emotive language and passing this off as scientific fact. Disrupting their feeding patterns, mating rituals, interactions, more whale strandings, you name it, poor science masquerading as real science. However despite setbacks and minimal support Ngai Tahu went ahead with the venture and the rest is history. Whale watching in a controlled manner is a high profile example of conserving and protecting live whales whilst at the same time providing an economic and sustainable return for an indigenous community. In 1999 a report by Dr Mark Orams estimated that with the return of one humpback whale every year to breed in Tonga, it would generate over USD \$1 million during its 50 year life span. The International Whaling Commission (IWC) has

been discussing this very thing since the early 1980's as the best sustainable use of whales. To this end some thirty plus members of the 51 member IWC have commercial whale watching activities including some of those countries involved in 'scientific study' and selective culling or is that killing. Whale watching in Kaikoura has turned this commercial undertaking into one of the country's most popular tourist destinations. Whale Watch Kaikoura is 100 per cent Maori owned and these people descend from the legendary Paieka. Instead of riding on the whale, they now take people out to watch whales. From humble beginnings in 1987 with a small 6m vessel and 3,000 tourists, they now have state of the art catamarans and take out over 80,000 tourists to watch the whales. A far cry from an impoverished community who now have control over their own business interests, generate millions of dollars in tourism money. Provide many jobs during the whaling season and the downstream effects on resorts, restaurants and other businesses is a tourism industry that is making money. Just think, 80,000 whale watching visitors spending a minimum \$1,000 NZD, injects \$80,000,000 into the local economy.

Unlike their NZ Maori cousins, the traditional leaders in the Cook Islands are the last to hear about what is happening or is likely to happen to areas that they have mana enua and mana moana over. You can be sure that the government officials will consult with them over the pending legislation. The reality is that the Ui Ariki should have been sitting at the table when discussing the ban and not after the fact. This is disrespectful and shows a deep lack of understanding of the important role that Ui Ariki can play, notwithstanding that the Henry Puna led government has asked the Ui Ariki about how they see themselves in a modern Cook Islands. You cannot ask the Ui Ariki how they see themselves without providing the tools for them to articulate what this means. An off the cuff comment that we want more money misses the point entirely. Build their capacity, build their capability and thereby give them the mana they deserve rather than treat them as dummy's and second rate citizens. All you are doing is continuing the Albert Henry legacy all over again. As I understand it, Ui Ariki has mana moana out to 50 Kms from their islands and that is a huge slice of the Cook Islands. Therefore they are entitled to have a say and to have their concerns acknowledged in a manner that lets them know that they are not being sidelined. It cannot be left up to vested interests and foreign ones at that to influence even indirectly the ban on commercial whale watching. The NZ Maori model is there to be looked at and adapted for the Cook Islands and only requires the powers that be to get off their collective nono's and do something about it. It is of very little value to rush into banning commercial whale watching when it

is a successful model that Ngai Tahu, Tonga and Tahiti use. Manage, develop, control and put in place processes that protect whales, but don't ban it or place so many restrictions that you kill the golden goose.

So you ban commercial whale watching, the foreigners go home patting themselves on the back for a job well done. They go out and celebrate after trampling on the mana of the indigenous people. The government officials think they have done a good job and meanwhile an economic opportunity as well as raising the conservation mind set of the people has been lost. Our country is at a crossroads in terms of economic recovery and there will be a number of social programmes coming in the next few years. The present politicians need to get with the play and cannot in all good conscience delay the inevitable, It is coming and we need to prepare the country for political, business and public service reform, despite what Puna says. We need to identify new business opportunities that support sustainable economic growth and banning commercial whale watching is not the way to go. Rarotonga has over 115,000 visitors every year and the number of times they can drive around the island or go to the Punanganui Market is limited. We need to be offering them a unique experience and whale watching in a controlled manner whilst under a legislative collar is not the way to go. Government should not be interfering in controlling business interests through banning. Businesses can manage quite well thank you, the economy of the Cook Islands would be down the tubes even faster if we didn't have business and expat businesses at that. The government should be looking to business to answer the question about whale watching and how best to exploit this resource for the good of our economy whilst at the same time promoting and highlighting public conservation of our marine life. Arising from this, if we can build up a critical mass of whale watchers and watch that grow to 10's of thousands of watchers, we have the potential to improve our economy, raise living standards and enrich our country. These visitors have money to burn, resorts and beach units to stay in and we need to offer them a unique experience so that they come here, tell their mates and then come back again. Tonga and Tahiti have whale watching and they'll just love to take our visitors out if we ban whale watching. The potential is that we could get an injection of millions of dollars annually into the economy not just from whale watching but from the spinoffs or the trickle-down effect that whale watching offers. That 3-month window of opportunity when whales are frolicking in our waters is our tourism season so it's a no brainer.

As we go to print, my discussion with Ben Ponia from MMR advises that a draft will be ready for public debate in the next few weeks and that they have consulted with Ui Ariki.

Political Reform in the Cook Islands – Part I of II



Political reform in the Cook Islands has been a hot topic in the news for quite a while now and it gets a bit of traction when the incumbent party and the opposition have a go at each other for all sorts of reasons. Let us have a look at this to try and determine what is meant by 'Political Reform' in the Cook Islands context. I suspect that whenever the politicians or rikiriki talk about this, they all have their own idea as to what this means and it probably means they are looking at this narrowly. We've all seen the voting returns over the last few decades and have noticed the decline in voters in the Pa Enua. We've not paid too much attention to these figures until fairly recently. We've noticed that Pa Enua politicians are getting into parliament on as little as 30 registered voters or in exceptional circumstances; uncontested. Do you think that this is fair or do you think that there is something wrong with this picture? Compare it if you will with the member for Tupapa-Maraerenga constituency in Rarotonga who got over 490 votes in the 2014 general election. If we calculate the votes proportionately on that basis, Tupapa should have 15 members in Parliament. Let's have a look at the number of votes and which party prevailed, on election night 2014:

Table 1:

Aitutaki - 3	
• Vaipae-Tautu -	178 - CIP
• Amuri-Ureia -	203 - CIP
• Arutanga-Reureu-Nikaupara-	204-OCI
Rarotonga - 10	
• Nikao'-Panama -	417 - Demo
• Avatiu-Ruatonga -	292 - Demo
• Takuvaine-Tutakimoo -	313 - CIP
• Tupapa-Maraerenga -	498 - OCI
• Matavera -	288 - CIP
• Ngatangia -	257 - Demo
• Murienua -	225 - Demo
• Akaoa -	201 - CIP
• Ruaau -	386 - Demo
• Titikaveka -	337 - Demo
Mangaia - 3	
• Oneroa -	117 - Demo
• Ivirua -	Demo
• Tamarua -	30 - Demo
Atiu - 2	
• Tengtangi-Areora-Ngatiarua -	CIP
• Teenui-Mapumai -	CIP
Manihiki - 1 - 78 - CIP	
Mauke - 1 - 82 - CIP	
Mitiaro - 1 - 51 - Demo	
Penrhyn - 1 - 78 - CIP	
Pukapuka-Nassau - 1 - 128 - CIP	
Rakahanga - 1 - 39 - CIP	

We can see that on election night 2014; One Cook Islands gained 2 seats, the Democrats 10 seats and the CIP 12 seats. There has been a lot of discussion about how the Pa Enua has too much voting power with proportionately a small voter's base as compared to Rarotonga. You can see by the voting figures in table 1 of the last election how this appears to favour Pa

Enua. The member for Tupapa-Maraerenga has over 490 votes and the member for Manihiki who also happens to be the Prime Minister has 78 votes. Is there something wrong with this picture? Well those who have benefitted from this apparent inequity in votes would say no and those who didn't would say yes as this is where the push for political reform is coming from. There are two aspects to this, the apparent inequity in the proportion of votes and the focus of the opposition coalition on party political favours of the present government to Pa Enua. The power of this present government is located in the Pa Enua and we can see this in table 1. The CIP have 9 Pa Enua seats, Demos 3 and OCI have 1 and the CIP get these seats with fewer voters proportionately than Rarotonga. Is this a problem? Well for those who live in the Pa Enua constituencies in the past they feel as though they are left with the crumbs on the table. Their isolation, distance and high freight and transport costs leave them in a vulnerable position when compared to what Rarotonga has.

If you look at the Cook Islands and the Pa Enua in particular since the opening up of the International Airport in 1974, this has provided them with the means to depopulate the Pa Enua. For years they have had a NZ passport and whilst this has been a boon, the means to regularly and readily emigrate or travel internationally has been tempered by expensive air travel and unreliable shipping movements. So along comes the international airport, better and affordable fee structures, consistent and reliable air travel, a NZ passport, and put all these ingredients together and the opportunity is there to emigrate en masse. So many do take advantage and this is the 64 million dollar question. Pa Enua is depopulating but for those left their voting power is disproportionately powerful for the numbers eligible to vote. On the other hand Rarotonga is also depopulating but not at the same rate as the Pa Enua and their vote does not have the same ring of importance.

Add to this each successive government have not treated the Pa Enua as they would like and the Pa Enua have felt like second rate cousins. Despite depopulation, they have managed to get a sympathetic party into power and are now starting to reap the benefits through the power of their vote. New wharves, jetties, heavy equipment, generators, solar energy, funding and there you have a grateful Pa Enua, a recipe for continuing support. A recipe for the opposition to growl under their breath as each succeeding election leaves them out in the cold. The only recourse is to cast their eye on 'Political Reform' and seek a redress in the voting imbalance as they see it. I think there is merit in seeking 'Political Reform' but not how the opposition coalition or rikiriki want it to be. I suspect that reform is about reducing the power and the influence of the Pa Enua and

increasing the power and influence of Rarotonga by redrawing the constituency boundaries. I think that this is a backward step and is a kneejerk reaction because the opposition coalition is not in power and they need the numbers to get back in. If it's just a numbers game then that is not a justification for seeking political reform based solely on that premise. Before we move on, let's look at table 2, the total valid votes counted on election night and draw some inferences:

Table 2: Votes

Rarotonga		Votes	
Pa Enua	1338	Rarotonga	3214
Pa Enua CIP	886	Pa Enua Demo	248
Pa Enua OCI	204	Rarotonga CIP	802
Rarotonga Demo	1914	Rarotonga OCI	498

From table 2 there were 1338 valid votes counted in the Pa Enua on election night 2014 and 3214 in Rarotonga giving a grand total of 4552 votes. Of the total number of valid votes counted on election night in Rarotonga, rounding up, the Demos got 60% of the votes, CIP got 25% and OCI got a little over 15%. Of the total number of valid votes counted on election night in the Pa Enua, the CIP got 66% of the votes, the Demos got 19% and OCI got a wee bit over 15%. Of the total number of valid votes counted on election night in the Cook Islands the Pa Enua cast 29% and Rarotonga cast 71% of the votes. The percentage of total votes for all parties that night was; OCI 15%, CIP 37% and the Demos 48%. Statistics tells us that there is a permanent population of about 12,000 people in the Cook Islands and if we assume we have 6000 eligible voters this still leaves us with only 76% of the population voting. So what does this all mean, well it means that there is a numbers game going on which does not of itself tell the whole story and as well we have potentially 1500 non-voters. What it implies is that those who are in opposition did not do enough to justify getting into government nor do enough to persuade the numbers to get to the polling booth; it's as simple as that.

From our analysis we know that if a party wins the majority of the seats in the Pa Enua invariably they will be the next incoming government. The stats don't lie, win 9 seats in the Pa Enua and that is 9 of 13 seats to contribute to forming a new government. What most analysts, forecasters and policy analysts fail to understand is that if the Pa Enua is strong then the rest of the Cook Islands are stronger for it. The Cook Islands is the Cook Islands and not just Rarotonga as many think. Cultural diversity, sports prowess, political experience, tourism, the bounty of the sea and opportunities for growing the economy are all found within the Pa Enua. Too much inwards looking misses the big picture as Rome found out when it neglected its outer provinces to its detriment. History has a habit of repeating itself. Part II of II continues on with 'Political Reform' a new way of harnessing the political might of our people by planning your political work and politically working to your plan.

Political Reform in the Cook Islands – Part II of II



Continuing on the 'Political reform' front, so instead of concentrating on diluting the influence of the Pa Enua we should be working our damned hardest to put achievable manifesto policies in place

that tells Pa Enua that we value them, we want them to succeed and we want to partner up and work with and alongside of them. They don't want to hear that they are the dustbowl of the Cook Islands, what they want is the same things that we all want; job security, access to better services, affordable living standards and to be treated fairly and respectfully. The thing is that the Pa Enua has been put into the too hard basket because each successive government cannot think outside the square when it comes to dealing with Pa Enua issues. They listen to their papa'a educated and influenced officials and try and impose Rarotongan/global methodologies on far flung communities. They do this without bothering to identify whether the Pa Enua have the capacity, capability or ability to respond in the manner expected of them. I'm not saying that Pa Enua is dumb, what I am saying is that the opportunities available to them are couched in the terms of the proposer or the gate keeper. Any consultation process is too short, inappropriate language is used for the audience and too much complexity is built into the consultation process. We complain about global standards that are imposed on us as Rarotongans but invariably we do the same to Pa Enua. Then when they are influential at the polls, we complain again and again. You can't blame Pa Enua for the predicament that the opposition finds themselves in i.e. not in government.

In the Pa Enua it is absolutely vital that the wannabe politician with the backing of his party goes politicking in the Pa Enua with a list of achievable policies. The party need to ensure that their manifestos strike a chord with their constituents and they need to get out there and do the hard yards now and not just several months out from a general election. Put yourself in their position, *"tell me what I want to hear, present your case and then prove it to me"*. If your manifesto is so much hot air then my vote goes the other way because each successive wannabe politician has not been able to 'prove' that they can deliver sound well constructed and achievable policies, especially in the Pa Enua. That is why political wannabes concentrate their campaign rallies on Rarotonga and yes they get the big votes but proportionately they're on a hiding to nothing unless they can get the required number of seats. You will note the noises being made by the opposition in recent times about 'Political Reform', and hopefully they are addressing this in some detail to

determine what this actually means. From my point of view, there are just three areas that would merit 'political reform' and these are:

- Compulsory voting for eligible voters
- No party hopping
- Parliament to sit more frequently

There is a golden opportunity here for our wannabe politicians who should be lobbying the government to do something about those who are eligible to vote, yet choose not to.

We can go the draconian way and pass legislation that requires all eligible citizens to vote on election night. To assist in this process, there should be more interdepartmental sharing of information and data on people in the Cook Islands. In this manner the Electoral Office would be able to obtain age, sex and addresses of all Cook Islanders and use this information to check eligibility for voting. They could then send out reminders to these people present in the Cook Islands that it is compulsory to be registered to vote. There would need to be strict conditions in place to ensure that the system is not abused by people using it for their own purposes. People would need to be advised that their private details would be entered onto a database for this purpose. It's already being done and has been done for decades so before you even think about what I've said or comment adversely you are already on the 'electronic grid' along with data recording hundreds of millions of people globally. Where do you think your plane bookings go to or your browsing habits online? Sorry bout it that's the price we all pay for being 'connected'.

The other side is that instead of taking the big stick to non-voters, we encourage them through social media, bricks and mortar media, texting (Blue Sky has a huge mobile database), door to door, Air NZ and Virgin onboard messages and they talk to businesses. We all have eyes and ears so we need to utilise all types of media interfaces that we can think of to get our message across. Sadly the parties only start campaigning just before the elections and once they are in power the campaigning stops. They should be putting themselves out in the public arena all for good reasons. Unfortunately good news does not make good news, only scandal, scuttlebutt and disgrace. Parliament should consider anti-party hopping legislation to prevent 'political party hopping' by those politicians who have lost their way and jumped ship. Nothing does more to undermine the mana of a party than one of its members doing a runner to the other side. It shows a distinct lack of good judgement, immaturity, biting the hand that feeds you, creating animosity in the electorate, cannon fodder for the government and news media frenzy at a time when the party should be consolidating and reviewing its performance. Party hopping just detracts from what the party is trying to achieve whilst they do damage control.

There will be people who will comment that it is undemocratic as it goes against an individual's freedom of choice to select whom he or she wants to be associated with. Never a truer word said, unfortunately in the scheme of things, they were selected to represent their constituency and this was endorsed by their party. You are accountable and responsible for your actions at the end of the day. If their beliefs or pressure to cross the floor is influencing them, then they should discuss this with their party, but not hold their party to ransom because they see an opportunity to advance themselves. Where's their principles, you know they got into politics because their constituency supporters put them there, now they want to change their mind. Well there's only one recourse and that is to go back to your taro patch and reflect on what might have been. You are holding up someone else who can do the job that you're obviously incapable of doing according to your party manifest.

One of the major concerns is that parliament meets too infrequently, with the result that the Ministers are unprepared and not up to the play when it comes to a backlog of legislation to be considered, select committees to be convened, policies to be debated and all manner of minutiae associated with parliament. Infrequent parliamentary sittings are a recipe for letting things slide, not being held to account for your political and non-political actions and circumventing parliamentary rules of conduct. The issue is of such concern that to the public, decisions are being made behind closed doors without the benefit of sound debate and consideration. Parliament needs to convene more frequently to debate issues rather than airing their dirty laundry in the news media. Parliament debating chamber is the grounding that politicians need and all too frequently they are ill prepared and ill advised to deal with the intricacies of political debate. Political reform will not be the magic bullet that the opposition believes it will be if it is just relying on a numbers game and by reducing the influence of the Pa Enua. They need to come up with a 'Political Reform' policy that is palatable to the masses and government. In Rarotonga they practise lazy campaigning because all the constituencies are on one island. Access, support and transport are readily available and talk is cheap. So the party goes out to the Pa Enua to campaign alongside their candidate, and the party is soon exposed as do nothing talkers, unable to debate constituency questions adequately, use personal attacks and smear campaigns in an effort to sway non-committed voters to their side of the fence. Like public servants, they come to the Pa Enua big noting themselves, meeting, greeting, eating and then leaving never to be seen again, no wonder the Pa Enua and increasingly the party faithful have little faith.

Scenes from the Nuku in Nikao



The calling of God upon your life

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

Every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ has a calling upon their lives. Colossians 4v.17 (CEV) reads "Remind Archippus to do the work that the Lord has given him to do." I declare on the authority of God's Word that you are anointed and called by God, and He wants you to fulfill that calling He has given you!

The Bible commands us to be sure of our calling. II Peter 1v.10 (NKJV) reads "Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble." Calling is the ministry God called you into, Election is your 'personal relationship with God!' These two go 'hand-in-hand'. Someday we will all stand before God and give an account for everything we have done for Him.

When God called you, He equips you with gifts according to your ability! He doesn't expect you to do any more than you are gifted to do. But, He gives you the ability you need to do the job as God's Word declares in I Peter 4v.11 (CEV) "If you have the gift of speaking, preach God's message. If you have the gift of helping others, do it with the strength that God supplies. Everything should be done in a way that will bring honour to God because of Jesus Christ, who is glorious and powerful forever. Amen!" Ability is not enough in serving God. You must be faithful over what you are given. In II Timothy 2v.2 Paul encourages Timothy to seek faithful men. A faithful person is a 'willing servant'.

Too often we want to serve God starting out big! But it doesn't start big it starts small! You can't lead unless you are faithful to serve in small things. Isaiah 49v.1-3 (CEV) reads "...The Lord chose me and gave me a name before I was born. He made my words pierce like a sharp sword or a pointed arrow; He kept me safely hidden in the

palm of His hand. The Lord said to me, "Israel, you are My servant, and because of you I will be highly honoured." Not only does God call you before you were born, but He also prepares you, making your mouth like a "sharp sword" to speak His Word. He protects you in the palm of His hand, and through trials and tribulations He provides security and makes sure you fulfill His calling in your life!

God called you, prepared you, and protected you, - but you can't fulfill your calling without the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon your life. When you are a faithful servant, God wants to move you into the anointing because you need it to fulfill your calling.

In Isaiah 61v.1-6 it says that when the anointing of the Lord comes upon you; you will share the gospel of Jesus Christ to others. Preach good tidings to the poor! God will use you to bind up broken-hearted men and women. Heal the brokenhearted. When you speak the Word of God and the gospel of Jesus Christ to those who are burdensome, trouble, who think that life is not worth living, they will be released by God from being bound by Satan in their negative situation. Proclaim liberty to the captives! Bring deliverance not only to individuals but to multitudes! Comfort those who mourn!

As you remain faithful to what you have been given, the Spirit of the Lord will continue to anoint you. Luke 16v.10 reads (Good News) "Whoever is faithful in small matters will be faithful in large ones. Whoever is dishonest in small matters will be dishonest in large ones."

Remember that you are called and anointed by God to minister His Words unto others. As you faithfully use your 'God-given' abilities, you will fulfill your God-given calling in your life.

May you have a God-blessed week - te Atua te aoa.

Automatic exchange of information

The Cook Islands Minister of Finance, the Honourable Mark Brown announced the country's commitment towards implementation of automatic exchange of information (AEOI) for tax purposes by 2018. The Minister outlined that "The Cook Islands has progressed significantly in the area of exchanging information for tax purposes over the past few years, making this commitment continue on with this ongoing evolution".

Twenty one tax information exchange agreements are in place between the Cook Islands and other jurisdictions enabling the exchange of information on request. AEOI will provide for the automatic transfer of details of tax resident's information between jurisdictions that agree to share information. The exchange will occur on a regular basis and the scope of the information to be reported will be agreed in advance. The Cook Islands will now join over least ninety jurisdictions who have already publicly committed to a timetable for implementation of the Common Reporting Standard (CRS).

Minister Brown confirmed the Government's ongoing support for ensuring that an enabling framework exists for a vibrant offshore financial industry in the Cook Islands. "Ensuring the Cook Islands financial services industry remains viable will require a continued effort that maintains regulatory and oversight standards which are contemporary and acceptable across the world. It is not in the interests of the industry to be included on blacklists which impede the activities of the industry as a whole."

The Cook Islands has confirmed it will sign the:

- * Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (MAC) enabling the automatic exchange of information with those jurisdictions with whom the Cook Islands chooses who have also signed the MAC; and

- * Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement (the "MCAA") which links the CRS to the legal basis for exchange.

An indicative timeframe for the major implementation steps are:

- * A high level review by the Global Forum on confidentiality during the first half of 2016.

- * Legislation and regulations enacted by 31 December 2016.

- * Customer due diligence commencing on 1 January 2017 (financial institutions need to have new account procedures in place from then, which are relatively straightforward). They will then have up to two years to complete the backlog of due diligence for the existing accounts and then exchange existing account data in 2019.

- * An IT solution for financial institutions to report to the Revenue Management Division (RMD) in place around the second quarter of 2018.

- * Begin reporting in September 2018 with our treaty partners that we agree to automatically exchange information with.

For further information please contact Andrew Haigh or Richard Neves on telephone +682 22878.

New EU fishing arrangement drafted

A four-year draft purse seine fishing access arrangement worth \$9.6 million has been negotiated between the Cook Islands and the European Union (EU).

The Sustainable Fishing Partnership Agreement (SFPA) will allow four EU purse seine vessels a total of 125 fishing days per year to fish for skipjack tuna in Cook Islands waters. The arrangement limits the total catch to 7000 tonnes of skipjack annually.

Under the agreement \$644,000 of the \$2.3 million expected annual revenue would be directed to sector support including funding to assist artisanal (small-scale) fishing in the Cook Islands.

Each fishing day under the proposed EU access arrangement is worth US\$12,600 (NZ\$19,000) – on par with the premium price which the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) has negotiated under the US Treaty.

The Ministry of Marine Resources (MMR) will brief Prime Minister and Marine Resources Minister Henry Puna and Cabinet before government invites public submissions on the draft agreement.

MMR Secretary Ben Ponia says details of the draft arrangement will be released to the public for feedback ahead of submitting the agreement to Cabinet for approval.

“An important part of this agreement is the requirement under the reformed EU Common Fisheries Policy for any agreement to have a strong sustainability component. Some of the

sector funding will support the management of the fishery. The Ministry hopes that part of this fund will go towards a fuel subsidy for local fishers. We are also expecting to use the funds to further our efforts in becoming a Competent Authority to enable Cook Islands caught tuna access to the lucrative EU market through export,” says Ponia.

The sector support comes from a joint contribution from the EU and the industry.

The EU arrangement of 125 fishing days per year would represent 10 percent of the 1250 day annual quota assigned to the Cook Islands for 2016 by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

“This is a relatively small access arrangement – the current purse seine agreements range from 60-400 fishing days per year. The significance of this agreement is that we have negotiated a fishing day rate that is equivalent to the premium rate that the PNA has set. This supports our stance that a fishing day in our waters is just as valuable as that in the PNA. We have agreed to a four year arrangement because we know the US Treaty is at a tipping point and the fishing day rates are not likely to remain as high as they have been in the past.”

Under the US Treaty arrangement the Cook Islands, as a non-PNA country, currently receives US\$10,600 (NZ\$16,000) per fishing day.

The four EU vessels will be licensed to fish in our waters following a registration process

once the arrangement is signed. Each tonne of skipjack caught under the arrangement would be worth US\$232.

“The catch of these vessels will be managed by applying a formula that translates the vessel day scheme into tonnage. Their average catch is expected to be the same as the US purse seiners,” says Ponia.

The EU fishing vessels operating in the Cook Islands fishery waters will be subject to national laws and to conservation and management measures adopted within the Tuna Commission (WCPFC).

The proposed SFPA is based on the text agreed during a first round of

negotiations with the EU in July 2013. The arrangement has since been refined to strengthen provisions related to catch recording and reporting, as well as provisions dealing with the monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of the activities of the EU fleet.

The draft agreement will expand the area of operations for the EU fleet in the western and central Pacific Ocean, the world’s most important tuna fishing grounds providing more than half of the global tuna catch.

The EU release on the SFPA, updates, and news from MMR are on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/MinistryofMarine)

Cook Islands Jobs

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

This week's top vacancies from Cook Islands Jobs

Te Vara Nui- Food & Beverage Supervisor and Wedding & Events Planner

For these roles and more, please visit www.cookislandsjobs.com

PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE POSTPONEMENT OF THE GYNAECOLOGY SPECIALIST VISIT

The public is advised that the Gynaecology Specialist visit planned to take place from the 9th to 13th November 2015 at the Rarotonga Hospital has been postponed to a later date.

The Ministry will inform you all when the visit is re-programmed and confirmed.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused. For further clarification please contact Dr May at the Rarotonga Hospital on phone 22664 ext 813.

Meitaki maata

Latest tyre kickers from China not only want to buy land and big blocks of it but also want 300 New Zealand passports. Their contact the DPM bully boy Heta lost face big time because he failed to get them to address Cabinet and failed to get them a private meeting with Elvis and failed them a third time when Minita Makie Brown was too busy to see them. It looks like failure has become four time leadership loser Heta's best friend. Thank goodness he failed to become the PM.



Talking about visitors from China, our local Shanghai Hilton has plenty of vacant one room units for rent. Close to all amenities in town central, only one star rating but comfortable, best local deal for cheap skate travellers. Call Richard Neves at MFEM for bookings and directions to China Town.



Included in the China gifts of small machinery are thirty quad bikes that will be distributed to each Member of Parliament plus some for the Ministry of Agriculture plus some to give to CIP loyalists. Expect Tupapa MP Mr 500 George Maggie to get his repainted pink to match his suit. Wonder who will get Elvis quad bike in Manihiki and will Mickie Enery get a contract to deliver these small machinery to the outer islands?



Our hospital wallahs have done an absolutely brilliant job in getting visitors to cough up the costs of running the ambulance service, which costs over \$400,000 a year to run. Yes, by paying \$800 a pop for a ride, the visitors soon cover all the costs, thank you very much. Now we should have the hospital wallahs make visitors pay all other costs associated with meals for instance. Breakfast, lunch and dinner probably cost

several millions of dollars each year to provide. A price of \$1200 for breakfast, \$2,500 for lunch and \$3,500 for dinner sounds very reasonable! To cover the costs of medicines, a single Panadol tablet at \$6,000 is very fair. The Minister of Health is to be congratulated for ensuring visitors pay their fair share. The Secretary for Health deserves a massive pay increase to boot.



Great to see the Jetstar airline about to bring another 25,000 or so visitors to these shores starting in March 2016. That's just 5 months away chooks. With all these extra visitors, where are they going to stay? Is anyone actually building new accommodations? Will they rent private houses? Stay in hostels? Sleep in caravan parks? Sleep on the beach?



What progress is our Police making in tracking down Atupa's under pants burglar? Did Police make door to door enquiries as they do on American TV Cop shows? Did they take the pair of shorts around Atupa for men to try on to see if they could find a perfect fit?



Spotted racing at high speed and loudly through sleepy Parekura were 7 quad bikes with riders wearing no helmets. All part of

the 10 quad squad destined for Raro's ten MPs along with chain saws, a shade tent for a plant nursery, lawn mowers, weed eaters, and other goodies all courtesy of our buddies from China. The big question now is; who is going to pay for the registrations, warrants of fitness, fuel, repairs, spare parts, new tyres and mechanical repairs?



With NZ Maori high fliers from the Tainui Iwi engaged in tense negotiations with Aitutaki landowners over the Pacific Resort, all bedded down at the Are Tamanu Resort managed by Nick Henri and once connected to CIIC Chairman Mikie Henri, will the Tainui and Novatel find a top spot with a six figure salary in the management structure for Mikie?



The SS Daily's Captain's log for Tuesday was somewhat thin and the autopsy revealed "computer problems." However, an alert, eagle eyed member of the public reported SS Daily crew on shore leave at Nikao beach having an enjoyable time. Tuesday morning, SS Daily crew members were spotted rushing in to report for duty! "Computer problems?"



Vaka Eiva has been going some 14 years but each year it seems

less paddlers are attending. The time has come to try something new and radically different to renew interest in the event and attract the top teams from Hawaii, Tahiti and Samoa. One old paddler suggests a round island race in traditional (not fibre glass or plastic) canoes with \$100,000 prize money to the winner. Not only would such an event attract the top paddlers but also international media and tourists. Teams to pay an entry fee per paddler which will be returned as prize money for various placings and categories.



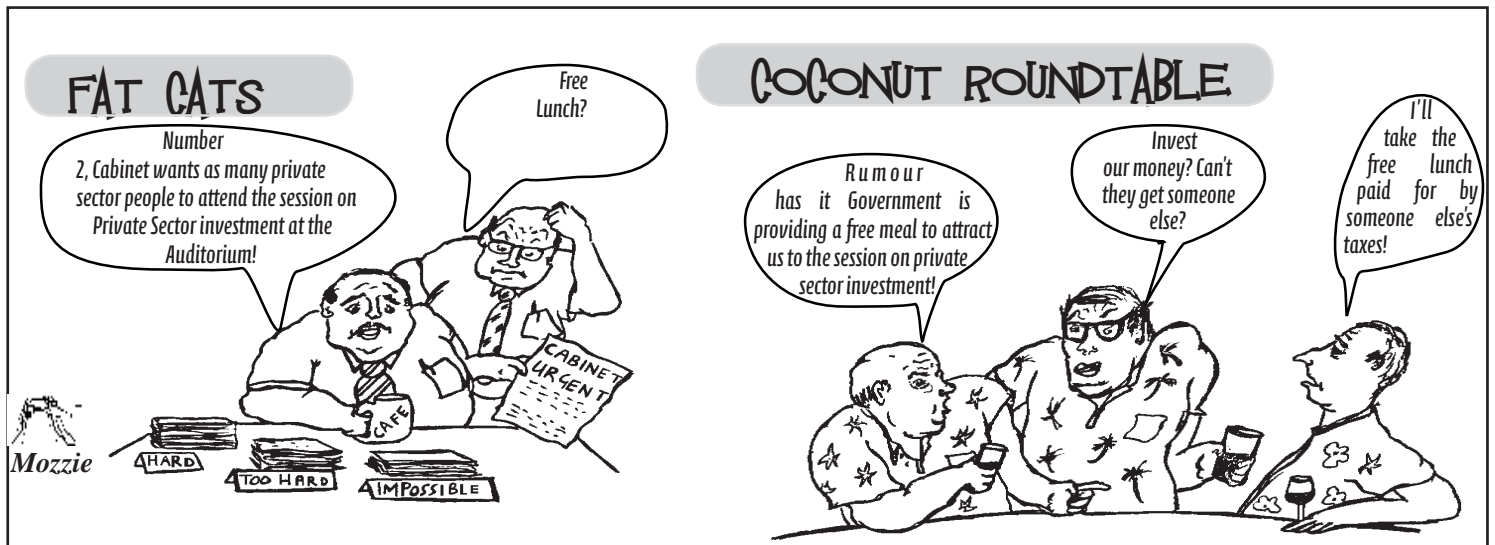
Forget rugby, forget league, forget sevens, go, go, go, Lawn Bowls! Bowls is where it's at. The medals keep coming in and it's attracting more young ones into the sport made famous by the English Navy's Sir Frances Drake who insisted on completing his end before going out to defeat the Spanish Armada invading England.



Where is the recent High Court decision by Justice Grice in the Miss Cook Islands affair? Why has this not been published? The Court decision came down in favour of the original organization but the Judge's decision has not been released by the High Court Registrar or any of the legal eagles involved. Why is that?



Is pulling algae out of Muri lagoon a good idea? Won't this just make the algae grow back more vigorously? And what to do with the algae pulled out? Can it be converted into something useful and exported? Can it be a good little earner for us? Has anyone attempted to find out what economic benefits the algae could provide?



PUBLIC NOTICE



**PARLIAMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SERVICE**

**FAMILY LAW BILL
Invitation for Public Submissions**

The Public is hereby advised that a Parliamentary Special Select Committee for the Family Law Bill has been established to go over the Bill and invite public submissions.

Written submissions are to be addressed to the Clerk of Parliament, P.O.Box 13, Parliament Building, Nikao.

Those who wish to make oral submissions are invited to make known their intentions to the Clerk of Parliament on telephone 26500 or email john.tangi@cookislands.gov.ck

Closing dates for submissions is Friday 11th December 2015, 4.00 p.m.

Copy of the Bill with Explanatory Note are available on the following website <http://www.pmooffice.gov.ck/> Otherwise a hard copy can be obtained from Parliament at \$10."

TUATUA AKAKITE

Te akakite iatu nei ki te katoatoa e kua akatupuia e te Paramani tetai Kumiti Takake no te Ture Tamanako note Kopu'tangata.

Kua akaue ia teia Kumiti kia akara ki roto i te Ture Tamanako ma te kimi matatio i tetai au tuanga no te akameitaki atu i teia kia tau no te akateretere'anga e kia ripoti atu teia au kimikimi'anga ki te Paramani.

Ko tetai uatu tangata tei anoano i te tuku mai i to kotou manako no teia, kia tata mai ki te Karaka o te Paramani Clerk of Parliament, P.O.Box 13, Parliament Building, Nikao.

Me kua anoano koe i te aravei e te tuatua i toou manako kite Kumiti kia akakite katoa mai kite Karaka i runga i te tereponi 26500 me kore kote rorouira john.tangi@cookislands.gov.ck .

Ka topiri'ia te aka'ari'anga manako a te Varaire ra 11 o Titema 2015 i te ora 4 i te avatea ai.

Ka rauka mai teia Ture Tamanako ki runga i te roro'uira a te katoatoa <http://www.pmooffice.gov.ck/> me kore kia tiki mai i teia no ko i te Paramani e \$10.

**John Tangi
Clerk"**

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



COOK ISLANDS
Ministry of Education
Maraurau o te Pae Api'i

**2015/2016 COOK ISLANDS GOVERNMENT
TERTIARY STUDY & TRAINING AWARD**

Expressions of interest are sought for the following award:

IN-COUNTRY TUITION AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP (ITAS)

Cook Islanders who are pursuing tertiary studies privately in-country can now apply for the In-Country Tuition Awards Scholarship.

All applicants must have successfully completed at least 4 courses at an approved tertiary institute and the course of study should be pursued here in the Cook Islands even if the provider is located off shore.

Scholarships are offered in specific subject areas that are relevant to the development needs and employment opportunities of the Cook Islands.

Applications will be prioritized according to the following Priority Area for 2015/2016: Agriculture, Education (Secondary teaching in Maths, English and Science Subjects), Health, Environmental Science, Waste Management, Fisheries/Marine, Renewable Energy, Tourism, Business/Entrepreneurship, Public Sector Management, Finance Management and ICT although other areas may be included.

All applicants must meet the General Eligibility criteria in the application form.

Application forms and further information are available from the Ministry of Education in Nikao or ring Anna Roi on ph: 29357 or email scholarships@education.gov.ck.

Application Forms must be received no later than 12pm Friday 30th October 2015.

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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Information is being sourced on a Women's Committee known as the Au Vaine from 1926 to the 1940s.

"The Rarotongan *Au Vaine*, or women's committees, were an officially recognised active organisation from 1926 to the mid 1940s. A silver "Au Vaine Cup" was commissioned by the Resident Commissioner in 1928 and awarded to the village with the most overall points in the annual tutaka.

We would like ask the general public that may have any information as what happened to this cup, or why the *Au Vaine* seem to have been disbanded after World War II.

If anyone has information about the *Au Vaine *or the Au Vaine Cup, please contact

Queen Pa on email: ariki.merepa@gmail.com

or Hannah Cutting Jones on email: hannahcuttingjones@gmail.com

Local contact: Chantal Napa Ph: 27057 Mob: 77058

Meitaki Maata

VACANCIES



**MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC
MANAGEMENT**

**Request for Proposal for a Maritime Technical Advisor for
the Ministry of Transport
Ref Number: 151615**

The Development Co-ordination Division (DCD) of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management and Ministry of Transport seek a suitably qualified company or individual to submit a request for proposal for the provision of a technical advisor to work with the Maritime division.

The services may be undertaken by a consultant that is based in the Cook Islands, or, where appropriate, by an overseas based consultant operating on a fly-in fly-out basis.

Proposal documents can be obtained from DCD, Level 3, Cook Islands Government Building, Avarua or downloaded from the Cook Islands Government Procurement website: <http://procurement.gov.ck>

Proposal documents are also available from the Proposal Manager.

For any enquiries please contact: Proposal Manager, Ms Lavinia Tama

Email: lavinia.tama@cookislands.gov.ck Ph: +682 29521

Tenders Close: 3pm Wednesday 4th November, 2015 (Cook Islands Time).

New Hope Church

Parekura Conference Centre

Inspirational messages to uplift and empower you

Sunday at 10.30am

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DECK HANDS**

Apply at Ocean Fresh Ltd
in the Landholdings office next
door to our shop in Panama
or Tel 23415

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



REGISTRATION OF INTEREST

Te Aponga Uira (TAU) invites 'Registration of Interest' (ROI) from qualified companies for the supply, and/or hosting and delivery of diesel fuel and lubricants for use by TAU in its diesel generators at Avatiu, Rarotonga. ROI forms are available from TAU offices during business hours, and can also be emailed out on request.

Completed ROI forms will be accepted by mail, email or hand delivery until 3pm on the 16th November 2015, Cook Islands Time.

Contact Marlene Cuthers, PO Box 112, Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Phone +682 20054, Fax +682

21944, email marlene@electricity.co.ck

**eat less
move more**

FOOTBALL UPDATE

Blatter says World Cup stays in Russia and blasts his suspension as 'total nonsense'

Despite being currently suspended, FIFA president Sepp Blatter is still making sure his voice is heard, this time assuring Russia that there is no danger of them being stripped of hosting rights for the 2018 World Cup.

Swiss investigators are currently looking into the bidding process that led to the awarding of the 2018 and 2022 tournaments to Russia and Qatar respectively as part of its wider probe into corruption at FIFA.

However, Blatter told Russian news agency TASS that there was no possibility that the hosts would lose out. "It's ruled out," he said. "Russia will not lose the World Cup."

Blatter also revealed for the first time that there was an agreement in place for the 2018 World Cup to go to Russia even before the vote took place – with the 2022 tournament slated for the USA. The latter never happened, with Qatar romping home by a landslide. All because, claims Blatter, of a crucial turning point in the discussions.

"In 2010 we had a discussion of the World Cup and then we went to a double decision. For the World Cups it was agreed that we go to Russia because it's never been in Russia, eastern Europe, and for 2022 we go back to America. And so we will have the World Cup in the two biggest political powers," Blatter disclosed.

"And everything was good until the moment when (French president Nicolas) Sarkozy came in a meeting with the crown prince of Qatar, who is now the ruler of Qatar.



And at a lunch afterwards with Mr Platini he said it would be good to go to Qatar. And this has changed all patterns."

Blatter says four European votes in the FIFA executive committee ended up going to Qatar instead of the USA. He didn't say why but argued the whole corruption scandal would not have happened if executive committee members had stuck to the agreed plan.

"There was an election by secret ballot. Four votes from Europe went away from the USA and so the result was 14 to eight. If you put the four votes, it would have been 12 to 10 (for the US). If the USA was given the World Cup, we would only speak about the wonderful World Cup 2018 in Russia and we would not speak about any problems at FIFA."

Asked about English criticism of Russia's victory, Blatter replied: "Bad losers. In Great Britain they have made this beautiful game, they have introduced fair play. But there

was only one vote going for England. They were eliminated in the first round. Nobody wanted to have England."

And he returned to the offensive over the FIFA ethics committee's decision to provisionally suspend himself, Platini and FIFA secretary general Jerome Valcke, describing the judgements as "total nonsense".

Blatter's ban has clearly not stopped him expressing his opinions and he also turned up the heat on Platini by suggesting UEFA had long wanted him out.

Seven candidates for FIFA presidential election

FIFA's member associations have proposed, in due time and form, seven candidates for the presidential election to take place at the Extraordinary FIFA Congress in Zurich on 26 February 2016. The candidates proposed are HRH Prince Ali Bin Al Hussein, Mr Musa Hassan Bility, Mr Jérôme Champagne, Mr Gianni Infantino, Mr Michel

Platini, H.E. Sheikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa and Mr Tokyo Sexwale.

Given that Michel Platini is currently provisionally banned from taking part in any football-related activity, his candidature will not be processed by the Ad-hoc Electoral Committee as long as such ban is valid and in force. Should such a ban be lifted or expire before the FIFA presidential election, the Ad-hoc Electoral Committee would decide, depending on the respective exact point in time, on how to proceed with the candidature concerned.

Upon receipt of the results of the integrity checks, the Ad-hoc Electoral Committee will reconvene in order to review the submissions and validate their compliance with the applicable FIFA regulatory provisions. Following this process, the Ad-hoc Electoral Committee will formally admit and declare the candidates who are eligible to stand for the office of FIFA President.