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Drawn: 19/11/15 Draw num: 1018

2 5 13 16 23 38 PB **18**

TATTSLOTTO RESULTS

Drawn: 21/11/15 Draw num: 3583

6 9 10 11 35 37 SUPP: **15 31**

OZLOTTO RESULTS

Drawn: 24/11/15 Draw num: 1136 Next draw:

1 9 12 22 24 25 30 SUPP: **6 39**

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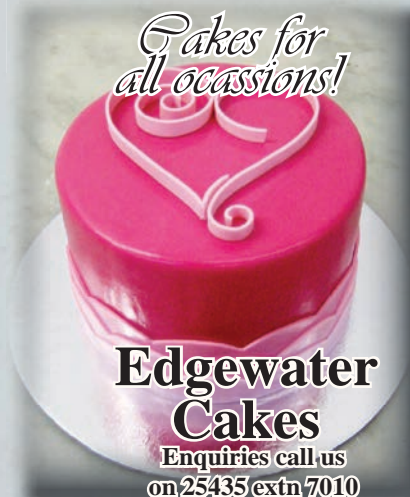
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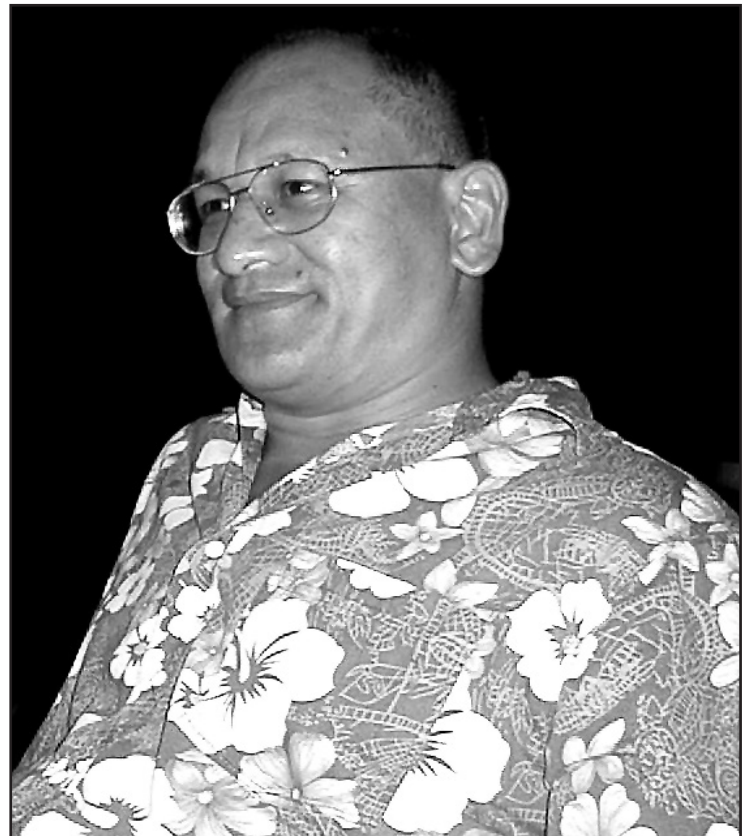
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Snap election predicted for late February - early March



Soko Roi - Cook Islands Party Secretary



Eddie Drollet - Democratic Party Secretary

It's no surprise to the discerning political observers the embattled Prime Minister Henry Puna will be going to the polls sooner than later with a snap election in the first quarter of 2016. The Cook Islands Party machinery has been proactively chartering a course with an early election within five months.

The Democratic Party is preoccupied with their judicial reviews on an empty bank account, they are hard out trying to raise funds for the huge legal costs of taking the CIP government to Court, the CIP camp have cleared their 2014 snap election debts and are steadily building up their war chest for and early return to the polls.

Come March 2016 a \$100,000 reserve for post election legal costs will be in place with a

sizeable balance in place to out muscle the cash less Demos who still have a huge demoralising \$180,000 debt anchoring their Party. While the CIP are raising funds through private donations for future expenses the deluded Demos are locked into struggling to raise funds for past debts.

The CIP are being innovative and highly proactive in their preparations but the Demos can't get themselves out of their box of defeat and disillusionment. Not only are they crippled and rendered motionless by their own stupidity of self inflictions there is no way they have demonstrated any ability to perform outside the square.

While the Demos exhibit their strength lies in preparing for defeat, the CIP are almost arrogant about their quest and

belief in winning success, unlike the Demo campaign overseer Eddie Drollet's philosophy of wait and see Team CIP headed by Vice President Taoro Brown and Secretary Soko Roi are committed to make things happen to give their Parliamentary candidates the edge.

On the brink of certain defeat in 2014 the CIP clawed their way back into power because the Demos dumped those like the Grey Power who had created the anti CIP government momentum, Drollet's in the bag predictions slowly disintegrated and turned a certain victory into a disastrous defeat predicted by this writer once the snap election was called by Puna.

As far as Team CIP is concerned with defeat specialist Drollet at the helm directing the campaign

preparations the Demos are starting behind the eight ball. Along with Smilie Heather the Demo tag team are perceived as assets to the CIP.

Should there be a change to the Opposition leadership with Murienua MP James Beer leading the charge Team CIP know they have a serious contender to deal with. Heather has been a revelation of comical proportions and is unable to convince anyone he can mix it in elevated political circles. Simply put Heather isn't a draw card outside his patch in the Ruau electorate, it's not a criticism Heather doesn't measure up, it's a reality he has no appeal as a Prime Minister. Nearly everything he tries to do or say only amplifies the Demos will never convince the wider

continued next page

audience Heather is capable of leading the Cook Islands into economic prosperity.

Team CIP are keeping their fingers crossed the Demos don't change their leadership before they get wind a snap election is imminent. Unlike when Jim Marurai lead the Demos into a convincing electoral victory the current core of campaigners don't have the media savvy or spin doctoring skills to image Heather as a credible PM. Both Heather and his organ grinder Drollet are intimidated by the media and will pay a heavy price for their unwillingness to engage with the media game changes.

Team CIP are becoming media literate and see the possibilities in recruiting skilled practitioners with accessibility to the various forms of media channels.

After the shock loss in the 2014 elections the embarrassed Demos have neglected to do a comprehensive post mortem in order to eliminate a repeat performance of the loss indicators. Quite the opposite for Team CIP their master plan of election campaign readiness has been meticulous, calibrated and measured. At their worst in 2014 while the Demos were at their best with every advantage the CIP triumphed, now the positions are reversed, the Demos with serious leadership deficiencies are at their worst and intoxicated by their deluded cognitive they deserve to be the government is comical to say the least.

The CIP government has unashamedly engaged in a comprehensive campaign to woo the voters their way, pearl farming equipment, solar installations, heavy machinery curtesy of the Peoples Republic of China(PRC) and most recently more freebies from PRC for agriculture initiatives in all constituencies.

Puna is likely to capitalise on the political good will generated in the outer islands before it fades from the voter's memories. In a compressed window of opportunity the CIP government has capitalised with political currency of gift bearing. Never before have the outer islands been inundated with so much expensive visually impacting gifts in quick succession. All of course are enticing to create voting obligation to the CIP.

While the CIP have been

solidifying their outer island support of far less voters and more seats the Demos still lack any resemblance of a strategy to capture more seats let alone

The Demos are expected to file applications for one or more Judiciary Reviews against the government in the first quarter of 2016 and an election campaign will be a highly disruptive distraction and a political spanner in the works of that process.

hang onto the few outer islands ones they currently have. Team CIP are quietly confident they will increase their strangle hold of the 14 outer islands seats by taking Mitiaro and Mangaia's Tamarua seats.

The Demos strength is in Rarotonga but is seriously under threat to hang onto Ngatangia and Nikao after dumping RAPA's defector Albert Nicholas. Team CIP have a trump card to capture Titikaveka as well.

The first quarter timing will coincide with the expected trial of OCI leader Teina Bishop which will preoccupy his time away from campaigning and disrupt their threat.

The Demos are expected to file applications for one or more Judiciary Reviews against the government in the first quarter of 2016 and an election campaign will be a highly disruptive distraction and a political spanner in the works of that process.

Whatever moves the Demos take against the government Team CIP has rehearsed counter punches ready for every possible scenario.

No doubt the CIP candidates will be promoted as a Team package rather than focusing voter attention the unpopular Puna, person for person Team CIP will have the measure on the untried used by date Demos.

With Television now being broadcast to the outer islands the CIP will duplicate their radio skills and strategy to this new

promotional medium. Slow off the mark the Demos just can't grasp the game changer Television is, their inexcusable failure to strategically utilise

nothing appealing or convincing the Demos are capable of doing any difference or better. Whenever they have put their cards on the table they increase public doubt their lofty ambitions are credible and deserved.

Drollet's lazy posturing is dependent on the CIP shooting themselves in the foot rather than building the Demo's capacity to be genuine contenders to the throne. With no clear stated goals to give focus for their resources the Demo's reliance is on the CIP loosing the elections rather than them winning with a clear mandate to govern.

With Drollet sitting pretty on a tax funded pay packet of \$1134 a week plus perks to be present for 20 hours a week and Heather grossing nearly \$90,000 a year plus allowances to be present why would either of them want to be accountable with the responsibility and stresses of being the government?

Prediction: With Drollet and Heather at the realm a win to the CIP by default. - George Pitt



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CIP rumble while dumb Demos stumble

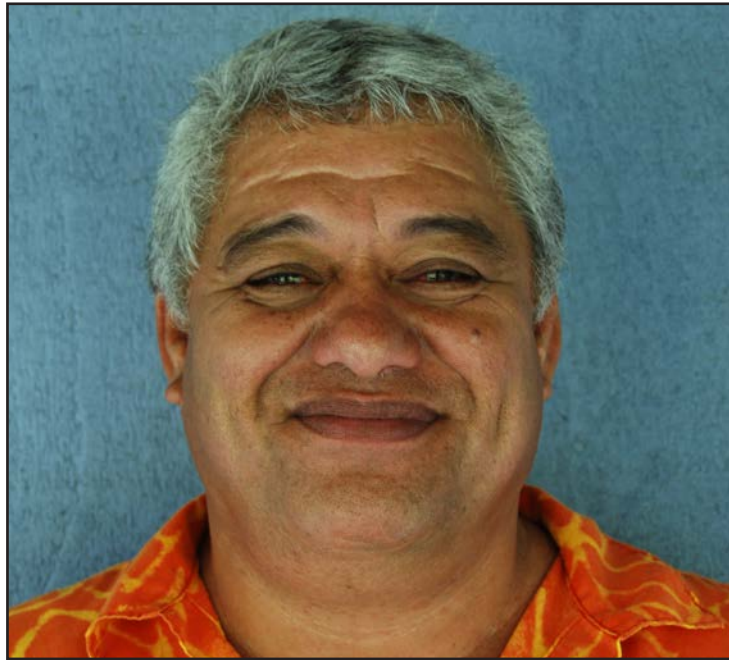
Just when the Cook Islands Government were on the ropes and being arm wrestled in a head lock the Democratic Party Opposition tripped over themselves with some irrelevant media releases that showed up the Demos for what they are, an uncoordinated political scrum predominantly led by a deluded bunch of empty space gazers.

With the government under siege and being aggressively politically bombarded from all sides of the circle from special interest groups grieving at the lack of hearing ability of the government and the pummelling from the media, the Demos failed to add weight to the political stouching when Minister Mark Brown was having to hold the fort in the absence of his tag team leader Henry Puna.

Opportunities to sink the boots into the fragility of an opponent are few and far between and again the Demos were more preoccupied with irrelevant house keeping like who are the spokes persons for what and getting ready for another old fashion packing shed dance and feasting. One thing is for sure; in the battle of heavy weights the Demos don't have the killer instinct to choke the political life out of the unpopular corrupt CIP Government.

As a permanent fixture the Opposition has embraced the four times looser, the overpaid tax funded Demo Secretary Eddie Drollet's cowardly policy of letting the media do their fighting. Forced into the limelight to announce the shadow portfolios the Opposition leader William Smiley Heather made every effort and laboured to up lift himself with glowing credentials he would make a great success at the Ministries he afforded himself because when he was a Minister in the Jim Marurai government he had an impeccable track record with the same Ministries.

Heather then went onto great



William Heather - Afflicted with foot in the mouth disease pains in a special media release to confirm the Demo Party and One Cook Islands Movement's coalition of convenience was as strong as ever and solid with the Demo Party in full support of Teina Bishop "all the way" if he was to be charged with bribery and committed to a trial. Heather revelled in his speech affirming Bishop.

No sooner had Heather's muddled media speech been digested by the Demo Party leadership and rank and file his and caucus member's phones began ringing hot with many unhappy with the Bishop stance Heather was taking. Many began questioning why he was still the leader of the Opposition. Party leader, yes there is serious doubts about him being leader of the Opposition; Heather is embarrassingly totally out of his depth and lacks the political acumen to lead the government.

While the public hostilities and media reaction to the government had them cowering for cover the Demo Opposition were bickering in house over the out of order media release by Heather. This gave the stressed

out government a window of opportunity to take a breather and regroup.

Baffled by this exhibition of silly walks politicking the One Cook Islands partners couldn't read the mixed messages being narrow casted from the Opposition Office, rumours began circulation Heather had been forced to retract his nonsensical media comments.

Despite Heather clarifying his Caucus' position by offering full support at a meeting on Friday 13 November 2015 in the Opposition office, for a continued partnership relationship between the Democratic Party and OCI, embarrassed Heather fronted the media and refuted his previous lavish praise and support of Bishop.

The CI News headline said it all on Saturday 21 November 2015, "Heather withdraws Demo support for Bishop." Heather sheepishly apologised for getting his personal views expressed as being that of the Demo Party. Just a total stuff up; characteristic of the muddled Opposition driven by the organ grinder Drollet.

This time the OCI partners

took exception to the Demo's flip flop commitment to their own platitudes of coalition solidarity. OCI President George Turia has had enough and in consultation with Team OCI a letter of withdrawal is on its way to the President of the Democratic Party Sean Willis to that effect.

Turia said "It is unfortunate that Heather has opted to make such a statement without consulting One Cook Islands as he has done so previously with other policy related issues of mutual interest. The announcement of his shadow Cabinet without any consultation whatsoever is unacceptable and undermined the spirit of our partnership and the principles on which the foundation of that partnership was formed."

With this divisive split in the Opposition ranks Puna maybe inclined to call parliament confident he'll have the numbers to clear some of the priority back log. Smart politics is about seizing the opportunities, something the former Demo leader Wilkie Rasmussen should have done in March 2014 but dumb politics ruled the day and Rasmussen who had the numbers lost a rare chance to be the Prime Minister, with nothing to lose but everything to gain he did nothing.

One disappointed Demo stalwart was left shaking their head in disbelief at the Demo's in house squabbling while the unpopular CIP Government was being publically choked while fighting for survival. "While the CIP were in the thick of a no holds bar rumble our lot the Demos were stumbling around trampling on themselves."

After going the full 15 rounds day after day for the best part of the last two weeks, the sole defender of the CIP faith acting Prime Minister Mark Brown still had the breath to give the Demos a verbal upper cut, "And they want to run the Country!"

- George Pitt



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Minister Nicholas plugs the gap for overseas births

Not only is the Internal Affairs (MIA) Minister Albert Nicholas listening to the concerns of people but he is hearing them and instead of giving the standard stock answer he can't do anything because of constraining policies and the prohibiting by the law, Nicholas is in the process of introducing changes that will close the gaps within the system.

The proposed amendment is to the Welfare Act 1989 to extend the eligibility to the New Born Allowance to include mothers who give birth in New Zealand though they are normally resident in the Cook Islands. Nicholas said this change is brought about because an outer island woman was medically referred to New Zealand to give birth, this meant she was not eligible to receive the MIA's

\$1,000 New Born Allowance.

While he did not know how many others had missed out because of a similar circumstance Nicholas said a Cook Islands resident should not be penalised in these circumstances. The Minister is also taking the amendment a step further to include mothers who normally reside in the Cook Islands who choose to give birth overseas.

He said "normally resides" is a mother who has lived in the Cook Islands for 12 months prior to birth and returns within six months of the birth of the child.

"There are circumstances that require us to be flexible and if policies or the law prevents us from doing so in the interest of the people's welfare then the right thing to do is change them," said Nicholas. - George Pitt



RAPPA MP Albert Nicholas

Letter to the Editor

Our ghost parliament

Dear Editor,
Grey Power this year had 16 meetings. Parliament had eight. We pay for the hall we meet in, our ads, printing and other expenses. Our chairman, secretary and treasurer are not paid. MPs pocket over \$4,000 a month, every month. They get clothing allowance, travel perks and are well fed when parliament sits. It's the only job one gets for sitting, and they could only manage to sit eight times this year. In any other job you get the boot. If this is not corruption what is?

Grey Power have been accused of being corrupt, for licking the lollies and not paying for the privileges (not participating in user pays) someone wrote. We have been condemned and crucified for refusing to pay tax. Why should we pay tax to line the pockets of these over-paid, non-performing politicians? Why aren't they penalized for refusing to work?

An active parliament is an integral element in any democracy where both parties come to grips (a lot more than eight times a year) over issues of concern, too many

to mention here. Claims and counter claims of wrong doing fill the pages of the newspaper, but are never dealt with in the proper place, parliament. The Prime Minister Henry Puna has no time for parliament because of his obsession to travel. Despite a recent terror attack in Paris, PM Puna landed with his entourage, ready to solve the global problems than face Te Tua Akatanotano, Grey Power, Purse seine petitioners and many other unhappy people. Endless political trips overseas is the catalyst to inadequate time in office.

These honourable Ministers of the Crown deemed it imperative that all invites be accepted to no matter where in the world. To them it is most important they be seen and heard by the Russians, Indonesians, Chinese, Indians, (people who have no idea where Henry Puna, Mark Brown and Nandi Glassie came from) rather than being heard by the iti-tangata from a ghost parliament house.

This year the New Zealand Parliament sat for 90 days compared to the Cook Islands shameful eight. Since becoming

government in November 2010 and up to now, the CIP government in five years convened 69 parliament sittings. When NZ PM John Key travels parliament proceeds

notwithstanding, unlike here. Nothing continues to happen. Is there a possibility that one day the impossible will be possible?

Dennis Tunui
Turangi

Finance Minister Mark Brown retracts statements

Early yesterday afternoon, Finance Minister Mark Brown retracted statements made against media mogul George Pitt in connection with the legal opinion provided by Constitutional lawyer Alex Frame to the FIU.

In a very brief statement emailed to the Herald, Brown said, quote: "Please be advised that I retract the statements I made in past weeks in reference to George Pitt breaking the law." Unquote. In response, Pitt said he accepted the Minister's statement.

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OCI terminates partnership agreement



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Leader : Hon Teina Bishop **President:** George Turia **Secretary:**
Makiroa Mitchell John

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23 November 2015

Mr Sean Willis
President
Democratic Party Inc
RAROTONGA.

Dear Mr Willis,

In light of a statement made in the CInews on Sat 21 Nov 2015 by the Leader of the Democratic Party, "Heather withdraws Demo support for Bishop" I see no alternative option but to formally withdraw One Cook Islands Support towards the Democratic Party Partnership forthwith. This decision has not been taken lightly and has the full support of the One Cook Island's Executive and supporters.

The unclear statement made by Heather is of concern to One Cook Islands especially after clarifying his Caucus' position recently by offering full support at a meeting on Friday 13 November 2015 in the Opposition office, for a continued partnership relationship between the Democratic Party and One Cook Islands.

It is unfortunate that Heather has opted to make such a statement without consulting One Cook Islands as he has done so previously with other policy related issues of mutual interest. The announcement of his shadow Cabinet without any consultation whatsoever is unacceptable and undermined the spirit of our partnership and the principles on which the foundation of that partnership was formed.

It is with regret then that I pass on our thanks to you, the Caucus and Executive of the Democratic Party for the harmonious efforts undertaken so far throughout the partnership towards building a positive relationship for a better future for our people. Unfortunately the principle of trust no longer exists therefore this decision to terminate our Partnership Agreement has been made in the interests of One Cook Islands. Te Atua Te Aroa.

Yours sincerely,

George Turia

PRESIDENT

Our shocking emergency service failures

By Norman Goerge

Houston, Rarotonga, we have a problem!" Apollo 13 commander after an engine explosion crippled their spacecraft, which resulted in a moon landing being abandoned and by acts of considerable ingenuity the crew guided the damaged spacecraft safely back to earth.

A spate of recent drownings and the systematic failures of the police and other emergency services to react on time is catastrophic, shameful and inexcusable. We have a major civil defence failure on our hands right now.

I keep reminding our people in my columns that as people, we display short term concerns. All our reactions are based on emotional spasms. Once the excitement wears off, we slumber back into our hibernation mode.

We don't have a true grit ability to tackle the problems and sustain it. About 3 years ago, we had a tragic double drowning near the Avaavaroa Passage. The slow reaction experienced, resulted in a flood of questions being asked, half-pie efforts made to provide answers only to drift back into the never-never land.

Some positive measures were introduced by the then New Zealand High Commissioner Mr John Carter. He had warning signs placed in the lagoon at Avaavaroa passage. Mr. Ron Bird had a surf rescue floatation type device system, housed at the Youth With A Mission premises opposite Avaavaroa passage, but it has since disappeared. Someone must have found it handy for other purposes.

I heard there was also a list of on-call boat owners put together by the police. Whatever system you create, it will only work with regular reviews, practice and exercises. The Police must employ a dedicated officer to do this job without pause or relaxation.

You can have the best warning signs everywhere, the best prepared plans available

and during emergencies when they occur, they come at the most unexpected times. If there is no one around to implement those emergency plans, everything goes Kaput!

Recently we had 3 drownings reasonably close together, in the Vaimaanga-Rutaki Lagoon area. The slow reactions from the authorities are so disappointing and disheartening.

Our neighbour Pakoti Tangatapoto, after failing to stop the German tourist couple from kayaking onto the reef to surf, rang the police for help when the couple encountered difficulties. He told me it took the police at least one hour to get on the scene.

Where's the police patrols? I can travel to the police headquarters in Avarua from Vaimaanga in 20 minutes! What is wrong with our reaction time?

Once on the beach, difficulties were experienced on where to find a boat to sail to the distress area. Without blaming anyone, the 2 tourists lost their lives. A week or so earlier experienced fisherman Joe Cumming Maurangi lost his life in the Rutaki Lagoon.

A long letter to the editor, by a family of Joe's was highly critical of the police conduct of the search.

Aue taue! While I discourage apportioning blame, it must be hurtful for families experiencing inept professional behaviour by those expected to lead and provide appropriate services. My sincere condolences to Joe's partner, children and families. I extend the same to the families of the 2 German tourists, all rest in peace.

I will not retreat from offering a solution, while acknowledging that it is like addressing the buried horsemen of China or the Sphinx of Giza in Egypt, they just look and stare for thousands of years without response!

My vision is; that all emergency services should have a central base where all communications are directed.

The base should be at the Police HQ manned 24 hours a day, staff from the Police, Emergency Management Cook Islands (EMCI) and the airport fire service should be rostered to work there permanently, in the initial stages.

We should prepare and adopt a proper civil defence plan for use on a daily and weekly basis. Let's look at the EMCI, how many cyclones a year or a decade do they handle? We should adopt plans to use them on a modified emergency basis, to play a role in search and rescue on a regular basis as well.

We need specialists to look at our civil defence needs. Because of our small size the practical utility of our combined needs should be adopted instead of grandiose plans based on major disasters which never seem to happen as regularly as we expect. Let's give EMCI something to do instead of them attending overseas workshops all the time.

These services may already be doing all or some of these suggestions. Sorry I am not impressed. There are no practical results in order to show to shut me up!!

Why doesn't the Police have a fast boat (zodiac for example) on a trailer ready to be taken to any lagoon around Rarotonga? Such a boat to be big enough to be used over the reef as well! With ocean capability. Not to be used for fishing expeditions for the boys!

Then there should be a list of emergency boat owners willing to use their boats for emergency search and rescue. I know such a list exists. They must have 10-15 minutes ready reaction time.

Our biggest problem is the lagoon drownings. The worst beaches are those in Avaavaroa and Rutaki as the statistics will show.

I would like the MPs for Titikaveka and Murienua to push the authorities to do more. This is not an issue where you need meetings and office bearers to do the work. This is a highly technical civil

defence issue. We need results silently obtained and not blasted on airwaves except in parliament!

I need to add that I am also concerned about the soft Police approach to public brawls outside nightclubs at weekends. The Police approach is much too timid, half hearted and disorganised.

As a former Police sergeant who served in the Auckland Police Task Force, this is what the CI Police need- Obtain a Police paddy-wagon truck capable of carrying up to 20 prisoners. Lease or buy a second hand paddy-wagon from the NZ or Australian Police.

Roster 12 men and women on this special task force. They report for work 7pm Thursday to Saturday. They spend the first 2 hours training in the gym or at the back of the police station. They have to reach a certain level of fitness. I am available to teach the TF Team a few wrestling holds and Otahuhu hand shakes to hurry reluctant clients along!

They must be tough enough to mix it with violent youths.

They start duty at 10pm. Park the paddy-wagon outside the most troublesome nightclub, while a mobile patrol covers the other clubs. The paddy-wagon must be ready to move whenever needed.

Fill the darn thing up with troublemakers. Arrest all troublemakers for disorderly behaviour, drunkenness, obscene language, assault, fighting etc. Clear the streets at closing time! No one will ever want to create trouble after this. In one month the task force will say "Mission Accomplished!"

Our Police must have grace and courage under pressure. They need our support and encouragement. I criticize them because I hate people complaining about the Police behind their back. They should never question my loyalty to the Police service.

There is a saying "Be the master of your fate and the Captain of your soul!"

Ka Kite.

Cook Islands Herald Issue 794

TE KAVE KÖRERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, WED 18th Nov 2015

“Spain has worse track record for illegal fishing”

Local journalist, Florence Syme-Buchanan, was one of the guest speakers interviewed on Te Kave Kōrero on Wednesday 18th November 2015.

Under discussion on the programme was the protest march against purse seine fishing which took place last Saturday 21st November.

Syme-Buchanan's views in relation to purse seining are transcribed and provided below for Cook Island Herald readers or interested parties to follow.

“E mea tau paa kia oki tātou ki muri, go back in time Tony, what has happened over the last few years, we go back say three years, i te taime i fund ia ai e te EU te solar power o Pukapuka and this was a big programme that was funded by the EU for Pukapuka, and it made everyone happy and the Government was very happy to get this for free”.

“But the Government was warned at the time that when the EU is involved in something like this it always come with strings attached. In other words, they give you something, but they expect something in return”.

“At that very time too, as soon as oti te project o te solar, the EU started talking to our Government about purse seining in our waters and it was also mentioned that the country that would come to purse seine in our waters would be Spain. Now Spain has the worse track record in the world for illegal fishing, for exceeding quotas, for breaking laws and the rules, not just in purse seining, in long lining as well, but it is in purse seining that they have the worse reputation in the world, and the world knows this, the whole world knows this except probably Ben Ponia, our Secretary for Marine Resources and our Prime Minister”.

“So, at that time when they started talking about purse seining with the Government there was widespread opposition to this from our people, this is going back three years, you'll remember this Tony, people did not want this back then, they told the Government that, so what did Government do? They continued to negotiate with the EU but behind closed doors. We only found out e, kua initialise ia tēia agreement with the EU, the European Union, only just a few weeks ago, e kua oti te second round of talks, we didn't even know about the first round of talks, did we?”.

“We were never told about that, we've only just found out the second round of talks has been done, kua oti i te initialise, in other words, kua agree tatou, kua agree te European Union, e, this is the Agreement, is called the Sustainable Fishing Practice Agreement and even then it is a anomaly,

because purse seining is a furtherest thing away from sustainability, it is not a sustainable form of fishing”.

“And in the begining, of a, when it became public and only became public because the EU and the Spanish Government posted on the internet, you know kua ngākauparau oki rātou, kua rekareka rātou, you know, they've got this new agreement with our country, so they posted the news on their website, the Government website”.

“And the news that the Spanish Government posted said that the presence of the Spanish purse seining fleet is assured permanance in Eastern Pacific waters, that's us because we're in the Eastern Pacific. That's what they said on their website, and while we were told by the Ministry of Marine Resources i konei, that the agreement was only for four years, it's actually for eight years and after eight years they can renew that if they want to. If the European Union wants to renew that agreement they can because passive approval has been included in the agreement, you know, ka aere ua atu tēia kōreromotu oki ea”.

“I think what has happened is that we have been mislead because in the beginning we were told we were going to get all these million dollars for four years, well actually when you read the agreement it's eight years, e varu mataiti, e, ka akatikaia i te aka'ōu akaou i tēia agreement”.

“Kua initialise okia e Tony. Mē initialise oki tāua i tētai potonga pēpa, like a loan at the bank, kua agree tāua e, tēia tūtū i runga i te pēpa, te akatika nei tāua. You know when you go for a loan you initialise every piece of paper that you agree with what's written on that paper. That is what we have done and the European Union has done the same”.

“And then Ben Ponia keeps talking about a draft agreement. Yes, kua initialise ia te draft, ka riro mai i rēira tērā draft as the final agreement. Then it goes to the European Union Parliament because there are 24 countries in the Union, to be ratified, that means stamp ia, approved. Kua paina mai ia ki konei e Ben Ponia ta tātou copy ki konei, apai ki te Cabinet, stamp te Cabinet e, approved”.

“This is why the people must act now to stop this before it gets to Cabinet and Cabinet sign it and sign away our fishing, our marine resources. There are many things in that agreement that are of profound concerns e Tony, one of them is that, the Ministry of Marine Resources keeps talking about, e skipjack tuna oki ta te aronga ka tautai, ka kupenga, you know, e maata oki, there's big stocks of skipjack. Well, in the agreement, there is not one

mention of the word skipjack. What it does say is tuna and tuna like species”.

“In other words, they can catch big eye, yellow fin, every kind of tuna in their nets. And these purse seiners that are coming here are the super seiners. The biggest ones because Spain has the biggest purse seiners in the world”.

“Another thing of concern in this agreement e Tony, is that they can exceed 7,000 tonnes. And if they want to exceed it, or go over, fish more than what they say in their quote, it's a joing committee te ka akatika mai. Ko ai to runga i tērā committee? European Union and some people that we don't know who, from our side, but we haven't been told ko ai ka aere ki runga i tēia joint committee”.

“Taitaiā toku ngākau because kua raveiā na tetai protest march but kāre rātou i akarongo mai na i a tātou, kāre te Kavamani i akarongo mai na i te inangaro o te tangata ea”.

“The wishes of the people have been disregarded by this administration”.

“There are other avenues that are being explored e Tony, one of them is the legal avenue oki ea. There is legal recourse that can be pursued to try and stop the Government progressing with this agreement, you know, from finalising it and putting it in place”.

“There's another thing in this agreement e Tony, is that te akatika nei te agreement i te EU to do experimental fishing. So as well as purse seining that we are agreeing to, we are also agreeing to them they can catch more than the quota. We are also agreeing that they can do experimental fishing. Me eaa ia apinga e experimental fishing because it doesn't explain it in the agreement, but it could be anything”.

“I think when we negotiated this ageement our negotiation team did not have our best interests in mind. I think this agreement heavily favours the European Union and the Spanish purse seiners and the Cook Islanders will be the loosers at the end of the day on this”.

“There are some things inside the agreement that seems quite flaud because for instance, it challenges our own sovereignty as a country, some of the clauses in it and to myself and some other people who read the document, we believe that this goes outside of the, te akatikaanga o te European Union, that the European should not put itself in a position in which it is placing a country as small as ours where it tests the sovereignty of our country”.

Te Kave Kōrero thanks Syme-Buchanan for her contribution to the discussion and her views regarding purse seining in Cook Islands waters.

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, FRI 20th Nov 2015

Criticism of local Police force

Criticism of the local Police force was coming hard and fast on Te Kave Kōrero on Friday 20th November 2015.

Frustrated with the Police's attitude letting reckless tourist drivers abscond and return to their countries without prosecuting them, Te Kave Kōrero presenter, Tony Hakaoro, lead the charge criticizing the Police on Te Kave Kōrero. "Ko te au Akavā ua o to tātou Bāsilēia tāku i kite e matakū i te tuatua ki te au papa`ā. A bunch of wallies nā tē rā reo ai", Hakaoro said.

Translated – Only the Police of our country I know is fearful of speaking to Europeans. A bunch of wallies.

Hakaoro said he had made a written complaint to the Police, to the Commissioner of Police, Maara Tetava, and had invited him to come onto Te Kave Kōrero to explain the Police's dumn attitude.

Kua tātā au i tētai pēpa complaint ki te Akava, ki te Commissioner o te au Akavā, Maara Tetava. Kua patī au i a Maara Tetava kia kake mai ki runga i ta tātou porōkarāmu i te akamārama i tēia tū, akakoromaki mai, i tēia tū akari o te Akavā. Inā, kare e karere i tae mai ki āku i tēia rā. Kāre, kāre tākiri e karere i tae mai mē ka aere mai a Maara, mē kāre".

In addition Hakaoro said he had also written a letter to Cook Islands News published on Wednesday (18th November) criticizing the Police for their unfair treatment of local Cook Islanders.

"Tātā, complain au ki te Cook Islands News, tēnā tāku pēpa i na rotoia mai i te Cook Islands News i te Ruitoru, tāku i akaapa i te Akavā, i tēia au angaanga taukore tā rātou e rave nei ki to tātou iti tangata. Ae, te au `ākonoanga taukore tā rātou e rave nei ki to tātou iti tangata".

According to Hakaoro, if you're a tourist you are okay. Under Cook Islands Police practices, if you're a tourist, you hit a Cook Islander in a motor vehicle accident, you would be okay, you can go back without being prosecuted.

"Mē e tūroto, ō, ora koe. I raro ake i te au Akavā o te Kūki Airani, mē e tūroto koe, akaū koe i tētai tangata Kūki Airani, ō ora koe, you can go back without being prosecuted".

Hakaoro reported that about two or three weeks ago, on the main road in front of the main CITC store in Avarua, was an 18 year old young Maori boy in the right lane, heading towards Avatiu, a female tourist driving a rental car was in the left hand lane. The female driver was intending to turn into the right hand lane and into the carpark, but did not wait for the 18 year old young man on the motorbike go past her first, she turned suddenly and hit the young boy on the bike.

"Mei tetai rua ki te toru epetoma i topa ake nei, i mua i te CITC tetai tamaiti Māori a tatou e tai ngauru ma varu mataiti, tei roto a ia i te lane o te tua katau, te oro ra ki Avatiu, tetai papa`ā i roto i te mōtokā, e tūroto, tei roto a ia i te tua kauī, karanga oki to mātou reo Marike e, in the left handside lane. Ina, ko tēia papa`ā, te anoano nei a ia i te tāpa`e i tōna mōtokā ki te tua katau, oro atu ai ki roto i te ngāi, te carpark na to mātou reo ai. Inā, kare a ia i tiaki e kia pāti tēia tamaiti, inā, tanga vave ua a ia, akaū atu i tēia tamaiti".

Hakaoro said that a young Police officer attended the accident scene, spoke to both drivers and took down their personal details. The young man's motorbike was severely damaged in the accident.

Hakaoro said that about an hour after the accident the young Police officer visited the 18 year old victim at his home.

"I a ia i te ngutuare, mei tētai ta`i ora i muri mai i tēia ūanga, aere ake tēia Akavā, Akavā māpū tamariki ua ki tōna ngutuare, ko ia rāi tei aere ki te ngā `i i ū ai, e oti, i muri ake i tēia, aere tēia Akavā ki te ngutuare o tēia māpū.

The officer told the young man that he (the officer) had entered into an agreement with the female tourist driver and that the driver had agreed to pay half of the repair costs to the young man's motorbike and that the young man would have to pay the other half of the costs.

"Tēia tana karere ki tēia māpū, kua oti au i te autarata ki tēia vaine papa`a, ki te tūroto, tēia tā māua tukuangā tika, ka tūtaki tēia vaine `āpa i te maanianga i tōou pātikarā, nāau tētai `āpa".

"Ae, tāravakē mua tēia, akarongo mai, tāravakē mua tēia. Akakite tēia Akavā ki tēia tamaiti e, kua oti i a ia i te uriuri manako, i te akatanotano, akatikatika ki tēia tūroto, nā tēia tūroto e tūtaki i tētai `āpa, na tēia tamaiti e tūtaki i tētai `āpa, te mea mua tērā".

A quotation by a local repair company estimated the cost of repairs to the bike around \$1,400.00. The repair company requires a deposit of \$700.00 before starting the repair works. To date the bike is still with them and still unrepaired.

"Te rua, akakite a ia ki tēia tamaiti e, kia tiki i tētai quotation no te maanianga i tōna pātikarā. Rave tēia tamaiti i tēia.

A week later, according to Hakaoro, the young man visited the Police officer at Police Headquarters to inquire but was informed that the tourist who hit him, the female driver, had returned to New Zealand.

Hakaoro said what the Police did was dumn.

"Ko au, akakite ua atu au i tōku manako, i āku, tēia `ākonoanga a te au Akava i rave, akari nā tērā reo ai, akari".

"Me kua riri koe no te teia`a i tāku au tuatua akakino i te au Akavā, akakoromaki mai, no te mea, this is exactly what needs to be done, kia ara mai te au Akavā. Me kāre tātou e akakino i te au Akavā, akaapa i te au Akavā, kare rātou e ara mai, pāpū meitaki i āku. Putuputu rā oki tēia maki o rātou, akatika i te au tūroto kia oki. It needed to be said, ae, it needed to be said".

Hakaoro's statement in Māori is translated:

'If you're upset due to my heavy criticism of the Police, excuse me because this is exactly what needs to be done, for the Police to wake up. If we don't criticize the Police they won't wake up, I'm sure of that. This failure is becoming common letting tourists abscond. It needed to be said, oh yes, it needed to be said'.

Over the weekend, after criticising the Police, Hakaoro stated that he had forgotten to mention on the programme on Friday 20th November that he had been informed that in another case, a tourist, some years ago, hit a local businessman and broke both of his legs.

"Guess what? The very next day, the tourist returned home unprosecuted, yet the Police was at the scene of the accident, saw the extent of the victim's injuries when the ambulance arrived. One would have thought, given the victim's injuries, that the Police would have arrested the offender, that tourist, charged him with careless driving causing injury, and hold him in custody, then take him before the Court the next day, seek as a condition of bail, that the tourist surrenders his passport to the Court, and ordered not to apply for any passport, so as to eliminate any possibility of absconding" Hakaoro said.

It was a very controversial Te Kave Kōrero program because of the heavy criticism of the Police by presenter Tony Hakaoro.

However, on Monday 23rd November, on Te Kave Kōrero programme, Hakaoro apologised to the Police for his criticisms of the Police on Friday 20th November.

But there still remains one question to be answered. Who in the Police should apologise to the young man for the Police's failure allowing the female driver to abscond without being prosecuted? Who is responsible for repairing the young man's bike?

Hakaoro said he would continue to seek an explanation from the Police.

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, MON 23 NOV 2015

Criticism of Framhein by PM

Radio Matariki FM owner and announcer, William Framhein, was interviewed on Te Kave Kōrero on Monday 23rd November 2015.

The objective is to give Framhein an opportunity, or a right to reply, or respond, to Prime Minister Henry Puna's criticisms of him, on the CIP programme on Radio Cook Islands, on Friday 20th November.

The relevant part of the interview, mostly in Māori, is transcribed herewith for readers of the Cook Islands Herald to follow.

"Meitaki e William no tei kake mai ki runga i Te Kave Kōrero i tēia aia. Te tumu tāpura, no te karere a te Prime Minister i tuatua i tēia Varaire i topa ake nei. Te akarongorongo nei au e William, te tāikū ra te Prime Minister i a koe i tēia Varaire i topa ake nei. Eaa tāau i mārama i te oonuanga o tē rēira karere?"

"Ā, meitaki e Tony, te mea mua, tei akakiteia mai ki āku, i te Varaire, kua tuatua te Prime Minister ē, kāre ōku tikaanga i te tuku i tētai patiangā, mē kāre, i te oro, i to tātou Kavamani i roto i to tātou Akavāanga. Ko te rua i rēira, e tangata akatupu pekapeka au, so ko tērā te ngā tuanga tāku i akarongo, kua tuatua to tātou Prime Minister i tēia Varaire i topa ake nei".

"Inā e William, kia fair oki ki te Prime Minister, kāre a ia i tō tātou Bāsilēia nei i tēia rā, tāku i mārama, kua rere atu a ia ki Varāni inapo. Eaa i rēira tōou tūranga, ka mataora ainei koe i rēira ē, kia kōpēpēpē rāi tāua no runga i tēnā ngā tumu manako, i te mea oki ē, kāre te Prime Minister i konei?"

"Well, te meitaki uā na tēnā uanga a au e Tony, tērā ua, i te Varaire, kāre ōku tuātau i te akatano i te tuatua a te Prime Minister tāna i tuatua no runga i aku e te mea kua akakite a ia ki te katoatoa tei akarongo i tāna porōkarāmu i te Varaire".

"I tēia atiangā i rēire, te anoano nei koe i rēira i te `oroanga mai i tētai au karere, karanga to mātou reo Marike ē, to defend yourself as a result of the Prime Minister's comments?"

"Kāre, inangaro ua au i te akatano i tāna tuatua, tāna i tuatua no runga i āku, i te Varaire. Te mea mua, no runga i te tikaanga i te oro i te Kavamani na roto i te Akavāanga, e tikaanga to tētai ua atu tangata te ka inangaro i te oro i te Kavamani me kua manako rātou e au tāravakē tētai e tupu nei i roto i te Kavamani. Ko tēia i rēira tei

tupu no runga i te tuanga kōreromotu i rotopū i to tātou Kavamani e te Kavamani o te European Union".

"Aria e William, te karanga mai nei ainei koe ki to tātou iti tangata e akarongo mai nei i a tāau i tēia aia, ē, e tikaanga to tētai ua atu Kūki Airani i te oro i te Kavamani ki te Akavāanga, me e au ngāi tūkau tētai tā te Kavamani e rave nei, tano?"

"Āe, tērā ua, e tai rāi rāvenga ka rauka i a tātou i te oro i te Kavamani, me kua tuku mai rātou i tētai akaueanga, mē kāre, tikaanga, e kua tāravakē rātou i tāau akaraanga. I roto oki i to mātou reo Mauke, e judicial review tēia, te ka rauka i tētai ua atu tangata i te oro i te Kavamani, kia apainaia te au tuanga ta rātou e rave nei, kia `ākara matatioia i roto i te Akavāanga".

"Tērā ua, te tāangaanga nei au i tōku tikaanga i raro ake i to tātou Constitution, i te apai i tēia patiangā nā roto i te Akavāanga".

"Well, i te uti poto i tēia tuanga e Tony, e tikaanga tā tō tātou iti tangata i raro ake i te Constitution, to tātou Constitution i raro ake i te ātikara 65 (1), reta 'd', e, i roto i tēia tuatua i raro ake i tēia irava, e tikaanga tō tētai ua atu tangata i te tū ki mua i te Akavāanga, kia rongoia tāna oroanga, mē kāre, i te pātou i tētai oroanga i runga i a ia, it's a right to justice and to be heard".

"Eaa te akatakatakaanga i roto i te Papa Ture? Ka rauka i a koe i te tataui mai i tē rēira i roto i to tāua reo Mauke? Kia mārama mai oki tō tātou iti tangata e akarongo mai nei?"

"Ātikara 65, irava tai, subject to sub-clause 2 of this Article and to subject 2 of Article 64 hereof, every enactment shall be so construed and applied as not to abrogate a bridge or infringe or to authorize the abrogation or abridgement or infringement of any of the rights or freedoms recognized or declared by sub-clause 1 of Article 64 hereof, and in particular, no enactment shall be construed or applied so as to, then ka oro atu au ki roto i te reta 'd', deprive any person of the right to a fair hearing in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice for the determination of his rights and obligations before any tribunal or authority having the duty to act so judiciary".

"Mē kā uri koe i tēnā ki roto i tō tātou reo tupuna, roto i tō tātou reo Māori, eaa te āiteanga?"

"Kāre e rauka i āku, nāau paa e uri i tēia

tuanga e Tony".

"I tāku e akarongo atū ra, kāre ainei tēnā ē, ko te akaueanga tēnā i raro ake i te Ture Metua, ē, ko tētai ture ua atu, ka akamanaia e te Kavamani, mē kāre, e te Pāramani, auraka rava te rēira ture e tāmanamanatā i tōou tikaanga ki te fundamental, mē kāre ra, ki te natural justice i mua i tētai ua atu tribunal, mē kāre, i tētai ua atu Akavāanga. Ka `āriki koe i te rēira urianga?"

"Āe, ko te rēira".

"Inā, i tēia i rēira tāau oroanga ki mua i te Akavāanga, tēnā e tāiku ana koe, i te judicial review, pēnei e mea tau kia mārama mai to tātou iti tangata, eaa te vaerua i muri i tāau oroanga i te Kavamani i raro ake i tēnā akateretereanga judicial review?"

"Thank you e Tony no tēnā uanga. Te mea mua, kāre nāku tēia oroanga, nā te aronga mana o Te-Au-O-Tonga, tāpiri mai te aronga mana o Puaikura e Tākitumu, pērā katoa te putuputuanga o te Ipukarea Society. So ko te akakoroanga i muri i tēia patiangā kia raveia tēia judicial review, e Tony e to tātou iti tangata e akarongo mai nei, i roto i te tua tā te patiangā e oro nei, te mea mua, koia oki, ko te Minita no te Marine Resources, mē kāre, ko to tātou Parai Minita, ko te rua, ko te tangata maata no te Marine Resources, e ko te toru, ko te European Union".

In essence Framhein's application before the High Court in Avarua, mentioned in the interview, is an application for judicial review, for the Court to review Government's decision in initialising a purse seine fishing agreement with the European Union, and if the application is sound and established, for the Court to make the following orders:

1. An order quashing the initialized draft sustainable fisheries partnership agreement and protocol.
2. An order quashing all other initialised or initialed documents which form part of the sustainable fisheries partnership agreement and protocol.
3. An order preventing the first and second defendants issuing purse seine fishing licences for fishing activities from the Moana-Nui-O-Kiva within the Cook Islands EEZ.

Te Kave Kōrero thanks Framhein for coming onto the programme and for exercising his right to reply, or respond, to the Prime Minister's criticisms of him on Friday 20th November.



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Select Committee meet Vaka Takitumu community

By Noeline Browne

Chairman of the Family Law Bill select committee, Hon Mona loane, was delighted with the excellent community turnout for Vaka Takitumu on Tuesday night. The select committee was accompanied by a coterie of senior officials from Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Crown Law and Parliamentary Services.

Discussions were on the main points of differences or improvements in the Bill as compared to the existing laws relating to family relationships. One of the major innovations is that court orders for spousal, child or parental support in Cook Islands can be forwarded to authorities in New Zealand, Australia and other jurisdictions with similar laws for enforcement.

The purpose of the Bill is to modernize family law and to introduce new legal protections for victims of domestic violence. It also to promote the interests of children in accord with the Convention of the Rights of the Child [CRC] and the rights of women under CEDAW and also the rights of persons with disabilities in accord with the Convention on the Rights of

Persons with disabilities.

INTAFF has officers in all the Pa Enua who are undergoing training to prepare for the introduction of the new law next year.

Submissions on the Bill are still open to the public and has been extended from 11 December 2015 to the end of January 2016. Copies of the Bill may be obtained from John Tangi, the Clerk of Parliament on 26500.

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Take the hassle out of Christmas dinner

Don't want the hassle and worry of cooking a large Christmas meal for the family? Escape the hassle of washing up all those dishes afterwards. Try the option of dining out this Christmas. Let someone else do the cooking and the washing up. Give yourself a chance to relax, take it easy, enjoy the food and drinks.

When considering a venue for Christmas dinner, enquire about numbers. How many people will be there? Will a table be reserved? Check for ease of access to the food area and also facilities like the amenities. From past experience one venue had too many tables and access to the food required diners to move

to permit others to pass.

Check the menu. Will it be a buffet? From past experience with Christmas buffets, it pays to put as much food on your plate as you can because if you don't and you go back for seconds, the food you want may have run out. Certain foods are more popular than others and go quicker for example, prawns. If you have no room left for dessert, ask the staff if it can be wrapped to take home for later.

Eating out at Christmas enables you to meet and enjoy the company of others. Some venues provide excellent entertainment. Christmas is a time to socialize, enjoy a hearty meal, a delicious dessert and great hospitality.

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Traditional Christmas lunch from 11:30am, Happy Hour Specials all day or Christmas Evening Buffet from 5:30pm with Live Entertainment from Local Duo Triggerfish



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The **Anchorage** Restaurant & Bar



Bluesky joins Miss Pacific Islands Legacy

Bluesky has secured naming rights for the 2015 Miss Pacific Islands Pageant through generous sponsorship for the event.

MCIPA the host committee of the 2015 Miss Pacific Islands Pageant is proud to partner with Bluesky in the Cook Islands to deliver the annual regional showcase here in Rarotonga next month. The countdown has begun to the main event and Bluesky has confirmed their support of the hosting commitments of the Cook Islands for the end of year finale.

This year's pageant will be known as the Bluesky 2015 Miss Pacific Islands Pageant.

"We are proud to be associated with and to sponsor this prestigious event. Bluesky has a continued commitment to the development of the Cook Islands as well as the wider Pacific region to support, encourage and empower our Pacific people," said Phillip Henderson Country Manager for Bluesky in the Cook Islands.

"The host committee is proud



Bluesky Country Manager in the Cook Islands Phillip Henderson and Miss Pacific Islands spokesperson Teura Napa

and happy to join with our newest corporate partner Bluesky to bring you the Bluesky 2015 Miss Pacific Islands Pageant" said Teura Napa spokesperson for

the Miss Pacific Islands Pageant. She added "The Miss Pacific Islands pageant, formerly the Miss South Pacific pageant is the top cultural pageant in the

Pacific. There is an established and loyal following right around the region and beyond. Bluesky today aligns itself with that proud legacy".

Meitaki Attitude Awards

The Ministry of Education (MoE) in partnership with Internal Affairs and the Cook Islands National Disability Council are proud to announce the first ever Meitaki Attitude Awards event at the Punanga Nui market on Tuesday, December 1st. The awards night is a celebration of the achievements and success of people with disabilities. There is also an award to acknowledge an organization that employs people with disabilities.

The presentation of awards will begin at 6pm and will be followed by the world premier screening of the short film 'Vaine Angaanga Toa'. Produced locally the three minute comedy is the result of a collaboration between the Creative Centre and the Inclusive Education department at the Ministry of Education. Its theme is 'working together creates joyful change' and follows the success of the women within the Vaine Angaanga Toa group.

The film has been submitted to the United Nations Enable

Film Festival and screened in New York on December 3rd to celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities with its international theme of 'Inclusion, access and Empowerment'.

The categories for the awards are Youth award, Artistic Achievement award, Making a Difference award, Courage in Sport award, Service to the Community award, Entrepreneurial award, Spirit of Attitude award and the Employer award.

The organising committee are asking the public to get behind the event by casting their nominations at voting boxes located at the MoE office, the Disability Council headquarters and the Creative Centre.

If you know a disabled person that embodies one of the above Meitaki Attitude Awards then head to the nearest voting location, write their name on a voting slip and submit your nomination. It's that easy.

Voting closes November, 29th.

A select panel of judges will then take the nominations and

between them choose the best nominee that embodies the essence of the award category.

Any individuals or companies who would like to be involved in the event by sponsoring prizes or

selling food on the night can do so by contacting Sarah McCawe at the Ministry of Education on 29357 via email smccawe@education.gov.ck - MoE

Peka Fisher

Vaka Eiva Trade Days



Tivaevae exhibition

By Poko Utia

Last Friday at the Titikaveka Are Apii Sabati the Vainetini of Titikaveka held their first art exhibition where they showcased their Tivaevae. The day started off beautifully all the mamas from around the island turned up in their muumuu dresses

and floral wear. Naomi Ru was the MC of the day and she was great making the mama's feel welcome keeping the crowd pumped and excited for what was awaiting on the other side of the closed doors. The Orometua of Nikao and his wife graced the audience with their

presence also Tinomana Ariki. Once the doors swung open the mamas all rushed in to see the beautiful work which the mama's had put together. Naomi said that the youngest out of their group to put one together was 14 and her name was Grace Lai.



Scenes from Vaka Eiva 2015

Photos by Tangi Tomokino



Scenes from Vaka Eiva 2015

Photos by Tangi Tomokino



Important that young people learn about agriculture

By Courtney Matai

William Wigmore who is the Director of Crop Research and Development at The Ministry of Agriculture spoke with the Herald on Monday morning about the concerns with the youth of today and their lack of involvement with Agriculture. Unfortunately, there has not been enough young people getting involved with Agriculture in the past 10 years as young people are getting lazy these days. The growing of crops he says is very beneficial for home growers because they can sell it to make extra income or keep it for them at home.

Another reason why the youth of today don't take interest in Agriculture is due to the change in lifestyle, such as the use of mobile phones, television and the importation of vegetables and processed goods into the country. People have shifted from doing farming activities on a daily basis to being dependant on food from the shops. This has also affected our outer island groups who also go to the shop to meet their daily needs. In the past, many people grew their own crops such as taro, maniotia, and raised their own livestock such as chickens, goats

and pigs on their own. However nowadays, people who have money buy all the wrong food which is not a good thing as it leads to Obesity due to the high levels of salt and sugar in the food that they consume, as well as the lack of exercise.

Agriculture and Horticulture was one of the main subjects that was taught in the country in the past, but some schools have stopped teaching the subject or else have made it an option, as it isn't compulsory. William Wigmore says that he is hoping to encourage schools to teach Agriculture and Horticulture as it is important for the young people to learn about growing at a young age. "We are trying to get a program in the schools, where young people from grades 1 and 2 will get a feel of the soil. This will give them a fair idea of what Agriculture is about and learn how to grow their own food." For this program to work, Wigmore says that they will need the support from both Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health agencies and the Community. Teaching students will benefit them as it is healthy for them to grow and eat fresh produce which will reduce the chances of young people from getting obese. He says that



when students reach Secondary school, it becomes more difficult to teach them or to get them involved as they lose interest and turn to sports programs more.

Wigmore also encourages the older people to continue growing as farming doesn't have to be a full time thing. "We are not trying to get people to grow crops on a full time basis." He also says that many growers prefer to go to the Ministry of Agriculture and pay a fee of \$10 to grow and plant their seedlings as it makes it easier for them because if they had grown it at home, there will be no one to water it. After 3-4 weeks, the owners go back and

pick up their plants. Whereas at the Ministry of Agriculture, the growers there help nurture the plant/seedling while its owner is at work.

There is a variety of plants being grown at Agriculture, and a program that is supported by the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization which started last year. Since the program started, they have sold about 80,000 plant and vegetable seedlings. They also get farmers who order their seedlings so that they don't sow too much seedlings. So far he says that 100 trays of watermelon have been ordered by 2 farmers.

Business house Tiare Week competition



National Environment Services Building



Hartal Store Tupapa

Rutaki School Gala Day Friday 13th Nov

Photos by Poko Utia



Into the Unknown

By Lucianne Vainerere

People don't understand the full extent of the decisions you make. You go through hard work physically, mentally, and emotionally so that you can get high marks to secure your future. But what happens when that all comes crumbling down? Marks get lower, attention spans get smaller and all you're left with is a lousy "A."

You're too young to be physically tired but your body aches regardless. Pain all over, finding it hard to sleep, verbally abused and used for your ability. You try and you try to make your parents proud only for your efforts to be put down again. You try and you try to make society happy only to be left lurking in the background. You try and you try to build strong friendships only to be stabbed in the back and forgotten. People may call you depressed and lonely when really the whole world is just empty. Love is reduced, hatred erects, jealousy soars and everything becomes subdued by everyone around you. This is a portion of what's left inside of us, our half empty souls waiting to discover, to dive into the unknown.

We grow up into this world that we find completely fascinating only to realize the pain and anguish everyone else is facing. Confusion floods and your heart burdens. Heavy with sadness. But still we hold on, still we pray, still we ask for forgiveness and smile. We hide, we hurt, we think, we change. The world changes. We watch but don't see, we listen but don't hear, and we talk but don't speak. Locked in this large space so familiar yet foreign. We watch our nieces and nephews and children grow up into a cruel reality yet we watch them thinking how beautiful this place is. A new window is opened and it's your only chance to be free, so you take it.

To start anew, to live and be you, far away from everything that holds you down. How you get back up is what will define you. How you act towards it is what makes you. How you speak towards it even if its silent is what describes you. Let your heart be free, be caring and full of love, be strong and full of might, be swift and elegant, and be pure and true. Live the life that you want and pray for guidance, go dancing in the rain, swim under the moonlight, run and watch the sunrise, eat and be merry, sing and shed tears, jump and reach for the sky. If we limit ourselves to something reachable how will we ever touch the unthinkable? How will it be discovered if its never been done before us? Same as to how will we ever learn if we're refrained from making mistakes? How can we point fingers when we are stuck right in the middle? How can we move forward if we're still holding on to the past? What am I doing here?

Vaka Eiva Trade Days



News of the Barge's distress reaches Mitiaro

By Tiana Haxton

On Thursday the 12th of November, just last week, the news reached us, here on Mitiaro. The Barge had been taking in water and had quickly sunk just, off Mauke's shores. We were in shock. At School the next day, during our free time, everyone was talking about the barge. Everyone knew different things, one student explained how the barge finished unloading cargo and was on its way to Atiu when someone realised the barge wasn't balanced properly. She said they sent people on to the barge and they found a leak. They tried to turn around and head back to Mauke but according to an article in the daily paper, it was getting dark and was too dangerous so they released the ropes and chains that secured the barge to Tiroitull and eventually the barge sank. One girl told us there was a brand new truck on board and it joined the barge at the bottom of the sea. Another mentioned the tins of food that were left floating around on the surface and the fishermen from Mauke went out to collect as much of Atiu's cargo as possible. We all discussed the facts we knew about the disaster until we had gleaned quite a lot of information to take home and further add to our family's knowledge.

The Barge had been in use successfully in the Cook Islands for 18 months. The Barge was a very helpful source of transporting heavy goods from Rarotonga to the outer islands. On Mitiaro, the barge was used to carry over supplies for the shop, machinery, building supplies and so on.

With Tapi's ship, as it is not a flat bottomed vessel, the ship is anchored outside the reef near the harbour mouth and the Mitiaro Men go out in a miniature barge and cargo is loaded into the barge and brought back to shore where it is unloaded. The barge then returns to the boat for another load. This is repeated over and over until finally, all of Mitiaro's cargo has been unloaded. The hard working men are exhausted after working for a long period of time under a hot sun.

As the barge has a flat bottom it is able to come right up into the harbour with careful maneuvering and is anchored for unloading. The cargo is easily unloaded using heavy duty machinery and it is twice as fast compared to unloading cargo from the other boat.

Now that the barge has sunk, we are back to using Tapi's ship and our own small barge. We won't be able to order very large, heavy objects such as a large truck as both the mini barge and ship used for transferring cargo would have a very difficult time trying to fit it in when motoring back to land without capsizing or even sinking! With the barge, we were able to simply drive the truck off the barge and straight onto land. We are all hoping that the barge and its goods had insurance. We are also hoping that the company is able to get a replacement barge and return to moving cargo with ease.



Living above average

Part 1

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

God never meant for you and I to live an average life. We are designed for excellence!

God designed and purposed that we, His creation would live in victory and dominion-ship! To rule and to reign! God called us to do great works for Him, He purposed for us to be achievers! We were never designed by God to be average. Too often God's people settle for less, too often we are self accepting of a lot less than what God has for us. When we start seeing ourselves as God does, then we become to realise that to settle for anything less, is to deny ourselves of God's interest for our lives. In the Old Testament Book of I Chronicles 4v.9-10 is a story of a man called Jabez (Iabeza). The question is "What sets Jabez apart from the crowd?" Here in the midst of 600 other names, his name stands out as a man who was above the average. If we are going to learn anything about living above average from Jabez, then it starts with having a Dream! If we want to start living above the average:

1. WE NEED A DREAM!

Jabez had a Dream that God would give him more land! In I Chronicles 4v.10 Jabez called to the God of Israel "...Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory." The difference between young Joseph in the Old Testament and his average brothers was that, he had a dream. Joseph knew that he was destined (or purposed) for great things because he had a dream. I don't know the dream God has laid on your heart, I don't know how He has challenged you to do something great for Him. If you don't have a life dream then I encourage you to seek God earnestly in that direction. People who have a dream stand out in the crowd. Dare to dream of something great for your life, dare to dream great works you can do for God. Jabez thought big and he spoke big "...bless me and enlarge my territory..." In v.10 it says "...so God granted him what he requested." Ask God for

a DREAM, "...old men..." says the Prophet Joel (Joel 2v.28) "...shall dream dreams and young men shall see visions."

2. WE NEED A GROWING FAITH

We need to believe that God can accomplish the dream through us. Jabez not only had a Great DREAM, but he CONFESSED it. The Book of Romans tells us that "Faith comes by hearing..." (Romans 10v.17). As we CONFESS our Dream we hear it, and we become inspired, and we become committed to it because we have confessed it! It charges us with hope and belief that it can be accomplished. In Mark 9v.23 Jesus tells us that "Everything is possible for him who believes." Young Joseph in the Old Testament spoke out his dream, he confessed it, by his confession, that dream was permanently imbedded, it was implanted within his spirit, giving him hope in his afflictions – when he went through numerous challenges and difficult times. No dream is without it's opposition, that's why Jabez said, "...keep me from evil..." Jabez was a man of no special talent but he had a growing faith, he believed in his confession to God.

When you add confession to your dream it builds up your faith! Don't confuse small thinking with spirituality. When people speak doubt and inability over their lives we think that they are humble. When someone talks of greatness in God and believing for big things we say they are arrogant and proud. God designed us for accomplishment.

Paul recognized that when he said in Philippians 4v.13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Daniel 11v.32 says "The people who know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits."

Friend, what's arrogant and proud about believing and confessing the Word of God? We think, if we put ourselves down that's being humble and spiritual. God meant for us to be raised up and not put down. Thinking

big requires you to stretch your faith to the limit. That's how you develop a growing faith. A big dream and a big confession requires a big faith. Jesus had to rebuke His disciples several times because He questioned their faith. Jesus said "You are people of little faith." In Luke 17v.5 the apostles said to Jesus "Increase our faith." The disciples came to understand that their faith was 'stagnant', it was so small when it could have been much bigger.

1. Seek God for a DREAM!

2. Believe God can accomplish things through you.

I will conclude Part 2 of this Article of Encouragement next week. God bless, te Atua te aroa.



PUBLIC NOTICE



" 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."

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 aiai. 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"

Vaka Eiva Trade Days

By Hayley McNabb.

The Vaka Eiva BTIB Trade days that were held on the 19th and 20th of November 2015 in the park opposite the Banana Court, consisted of many stalls that had locally made products on sale for everyone and anyone who was interested, all the food you could eat and entertainment was provided by a band that played island songs all day long. There were stalls selling a variety of

hand-sewn dresses of sizes that ranged from kids to adults.

There was also a stall called 'N and N' which was owned by Nanave and Nakura who are originally from the island of Penrhyn but live here in Rarotonga. They were selling hand made items such as hats, fans, eis, bag, flowers, jewellery and much more with prices from \$10 up.

Pati Mai is another stall that had locally made jewellery that was made out of the pearl shell

and came in many different shapes and sizes with carvings on the front and also came with a free name engraving deal if you purchase an item.

In addition, Julia Tuake had a stall there selling her beautiful artwork and also pearls.

On top of that there was of course all the food stalls there including Bite Time with their freshly made sashimi, ika mata and sushi packs that was on sale for \$10.

Photos by Tangi Tomokino
ParadisePitshop had marinated rump steak sandwiches and also fruit smoothies.

Are Kai was selling their delicious coconut delight, all sorts of flavours of muffins, and toasties. Chicken kebabs, fried rice and mushroom sauce was on the menu as well.

And a big hit was the Poffertjes stall that sold their famous Dutch style baby pancakes that came with whipped cream and any flavor of sauce that goes on top.



It doesn't take long for some new high flyers to get into the gravy train groove, bula boy Teariki at BTIB is making every post a winning post, for a micro agency his \$89,000 package plus allowances including vehicle is a nice tidy sum not to be sneezed at, after 12 years at BTIB, Rangi T was on a lot less. Currently away on an overseas trip CEO Teariki has employed his university studying son. Insiders said there are no vacancies there, that's why the job was never advertised but his son was employed as a consultant on a contract. Being a lawyer Teariki certainly knows how to find ways around the system.



Interesting new appointment to the BTIB, the former President of the CIP Nga is now on the Board despite the obvious conflict of interest as the chief negotiator landowner for the land in Ruatonga where the BTIB conducts its business. With the CIIC lease now ended and the land back with the tribe Papa Rau negotiated a rent increase of an extra \$800 a month with BTIB. Well done Papa Rau you negotiated a rent increase with yourself.



Speaking about jobs for the boys in the inner CIP circle, notice after stuffing up the 50 year Independent Celebrations never bought a raffle ticket Niki Eneri has resurfaced in Aitutaki to run a motel but paid a handsome salary by the taxpayer to be the Climate Change Action CEO. Big Red never saw that job advertised and why should it be, it's hi ho, hi ho it's off to Paris we go.



Poor old Teri frustrated Rangi he can't get a liquor licence for his new venture the Atiu Tumunu in O'oa. While the CIP

government says they are all about helping local businesses get a helping hand, Teri doesn't want anything like the \$200,000 Brown Marks gave his best friend tad pole in the big Raro pond Miki Eneri, he just wants a liquor licence. It pays to do your home work. The local chief sitting bulls decided 20 years ago there would be no more than seven liquor licensed premises in Tupapa. Starting up a business in Raro can get very frustrating going from one Ministry or agency to another when nothing is in sync. After all these years with your nose in the tax payer's trough, welcome to the real world Teri, that of irregular income and sweating it out to pay your VAT and tax to keep lazy public servants in their cushy jobs.



With money to burn our impotent chairman of the neneva Neves fan club the Public Service Commissioner Russlie Thomas invited dumped HOMs and senior servants out to dinner at the Vaima Restaurant to thank them for their contribution to his beloved Public Service. Despite food being expensive and a free night out a saving on the grocery bill none of the seven people plus their wives bothered to show up even though some said they would. One said why would I want to go and have a meal

with Judas, and that was the least offensive of the verbal responses.



Isn't the new look BTIB doing well! They've just approved a new, foreign owner run mini-golf course in Arorangi opposite some fancy accommodations, putting the other, locally owned mini-golf course at risk of going under! The rubber stamps are out already!



There's a new twist to the American, non tax paying Animal Clinic chooks. The Clinic is right opposite the comfy residence of Finance Secretary Filchard Peves! Perhaps during his early dawn jogs along the social centre sand, Peves has trodden into one too many doggie doo dahs!



Ever dutiful MP Ngamau Munokoa was spotted waiting to join the Speaker on a flight to Papua New Guinea. The Demo MPs Tetangi and Selina were offered the trip but they turned it down. Was it because the destination was not high class enough for them? If it was to London, New York, Beijing, Paris, they may have jumped up and gone.



Government has dumped the Numaga lad off the BTIB and replaced him with former CIP party President Rau Nga. Is it

because the Numaga boy leans the wrong way? The Demo way? More "yes men" to rubber stamp applications from foreigners friendly to government? With BTIB members the least paid of all Government Boards, look for the BTIB fees to get a giant hike as more of the party faithful get appointed.



Local rooster says "money talks." Therefore the anti-purse seiners should put up \$9 million to replace the funds that would be lost if purse seining by the flamenco dancing, stomping Spaniards (Ole!) was stopped. But chooks, what about purse seining by the Americans under the US Treaty? That's also worth a few \$million. How come there have been no protest marches against the Yankee Doodle Dandies? Eh, eh?



Cocktails aboard the pleasure yacht Fiare Floporo to christen its arrival! The local posh and chardonnay sipping, crooked little finger brigade ponced about on deck in their evening finery reminiscent of a soiree on some billionaire's yacht berthed in Cannes. It's a wonder the teeny boat didn't capsize.



Geeze Wayne, before bursting into print in the ship's log of the SS Daily, get your facts right sailor Steve! Purse seine fishing did not start in our waters five years ago! If you bothered to semaphore MMR (their hatch is always open) they would have told you they have the stats for purse seine fishing in our waters since 2002. In 2002, 3132 tonnes were caught by purse seine fishing. The amount caught dropped off dramatically and in 2007 only 4 tonnes were caught. From 2008, the amount began to increase but slowly until 2014 when 17,000 tonnes of skippyjacko was hauled in.

FAT CATS

Number 2, Cabinet has a plan for the Tiare Taporo to boost tourism!

At what cost?

Mozzie

HARD
TOO HARD
IMPOSSIBLE

COCONUT ROUNDTABLE

Rumour has it Government plan to sink the Tiare Taporo so it becomes a Tourist attraction for divers!

How much will that cost?

And what about the asbestos?

VACANCIES



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P.O. Box 325
Avarua
Rarotonga
Cook Islands

or sent by e-mail to Jean-Baptiste loaba, Director at: seanioaba@gmail.com

All applications received on or before December 4, 2015 will be considered.



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Ikurangi Ltd, Housekeeper/Gardener, Rarotonga
BodyFuel Cafe- Sushi Chef, Rarotonga

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VACANCY

ARE YOU A STAR WEDDING PLANNER?

Do you have some wedding planning experience and now want to take the next step to make it your full-time passion? Do you love making dream weddings come to life? By working with us at The Rarotongan Beach Resort & Spa and adjacent adults-only sister resort, Sanctuary Rarotonga-on the beach, you would be offering couples and their guests the best wedding locations on Rarotonga along with the best range of wedding packages, reception venues and menus. If you love helping bring joy and magic into people's lives, this job is for you! Come join us now, contact us on 25800 or hr@rarotongan.co.ck

PUBLIC NOTICE



MEMBER FEEDBACK ON CHANGES TO THE CINSF

Over the past 12 months the CINSF has introduced a number of improvements to the Fund for the benefit of members.

The next proposed changes involve amendments to the Trust Deed and the CINS Act 2000. As part of the consultation process these changes have initially been communicated through the Members General Meeting in October 2015, presented to Cabinet and approved to move to public consultation, and is now provided in more detail in a public survey for members to read, answer, and provide feedback.

All feedback will be collated and presented to the CINSF Board for consideration.

The Survey can be located on the CINSF website www.cinsf.com or on the CINSF Facebook group page

Alternatively if you do not have access to the Internet you can visit the CINSF office and use the customer device to complete the survey.

The survey will be open until 30 November 2016, and we encourage all members and stakeholders to participate.

MeitakiMaata
Damien Beddoes
Chief Executive Officer

ADVERTISE WITH THE

COOK ISLANDS HERALD

PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE

**TAU NEW POWER HOUSE PROJECT, AVATIU VALLEY,
RAROTONGA**

We are experiencing a problem with traffic travelling too fast at the entrance to the power station in Avatiu Valley where TAU civil works are in progress.

Visitors, residents and users of the Avatiu Valley road are asked to take extra care and slow down along the section of the road beside the power station during normal working hours. Watch out for heavy vehicles, plant and machinery that may be manoeuvring or parked on the roadside. Keep an eye out for loose gravel and debris on the road from time to time.

VACANCIES



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TENDER



**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GOVERNANCE AND
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ELECTRICITY IN THE COOK ISLANDS**

Request for Tender

The Office of the Prime Minister is seeking tender submissions for the Governance and Management of the Generation and Supply of Electricity in the Cook Islands.

The contract will contribute to the sustainable and effective performance of the electricity sector in the Cook Islands. The outcome of the Contract will provide government key recommendations for decision making as a way forward for the Electricity sector.

Full tender documents and conditions, please refer to www.procurement.gov.ck. Reference number 151616

Queries can be directed to Tangi Tereapii, Renewable Energy Development Division, Office of the Prime Minister, ph 25494 ext 808.

Tender submissions close 4.00pm Monday 14th December 2015 (Cook Islands time). Tenders must be deposited in the Tender Box at the Renewable Energy Development Division (REDD), Office of the Prime Minister, Avarua, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.



**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
IT UPGRADE**

Te Aponga Uira (TAU) is seeking expressions of interest from suppliers for the upgrade of its IT systems, namely:

- Accounting software;
- Payroll software;
- Billings and customer service software; and the
- Suite of computers.

Interested suppliers are expected to demonstrate their ability to provide the following:

- Supply, installation and training of software;
- Supply of hardware components;
- Data migration from old system to new; and
- Information in relation to the services and costs of on-going system upgrades and support services.

To register your interests or for further details in either one or all areas above, please email LizTommy@electricity.co.ck. Expressions of interests close at 3pm (Cook Islands time) on Friday 27th November 2015.

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FOOTBALL UPDATE

Cooks to Host Oceania U-17 Women's Championship

Preparations are well under way for the 2016 Oceania U-17 Women's Championship to be held here in Rarotonga from 13th to 23rd January 2016.

The Cook Islands Football Association has won the bid to host the competition and look forward to showcase our football community and country to the visiting teams.

So far eight countries have confirmed their participation in the tournament. The teams will be split into two groups of four. The following teams, New Caledonia, Tonga, Samoa and overwhelming favourites, defending champions New Zealand in Group A. Host Country Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Fiji will be leading the charge in

Group B.

The teams will play each other once in their respective pools with the top two teams from each group advancing into the semi-finals.

The Cook Islands have participated at this tournament only once in the past, back in 2012.

Players who have taken part in the past have gone on to play at U-20 level and represent their countries in the national team. It is a great opportunity for the next generation of young players to make their mark, and for some the chance to play at the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup.

The winner of the 2016 OFC U-17 Women's Championship will qualify for the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in Jordan in September 2016.



Auckland City must grow up

Emiliano Tade says the hunger and desire to succeed at the FIFA Club World Cup Japan 2015 is more intense than ever.

Last year, the Auckland City FC striker was a key figure as Oceania's amateurs surged to a scarcely believable bronze medal victory over Cruz Azul. But it's an achievement the Argentine forward says must be put firmly in perspective. He says it's time for the Navy Blues to grow up.

"Our hunger to succeed is even more intense," he told FIFA.com. "We were like kids last year, excited by everything that happened around us after we started winning games. Like any kid when you enjoy a surprise, you want more and more of it



and we were the same. "

Tade's performances against ES Setif and Cruz Azul caught the eye of his hometown club Club de Mitre in Argentina and soon after the FIFA Club

World Cup he left the Navy Blues to realise his dream of playing for his childhood heroes.

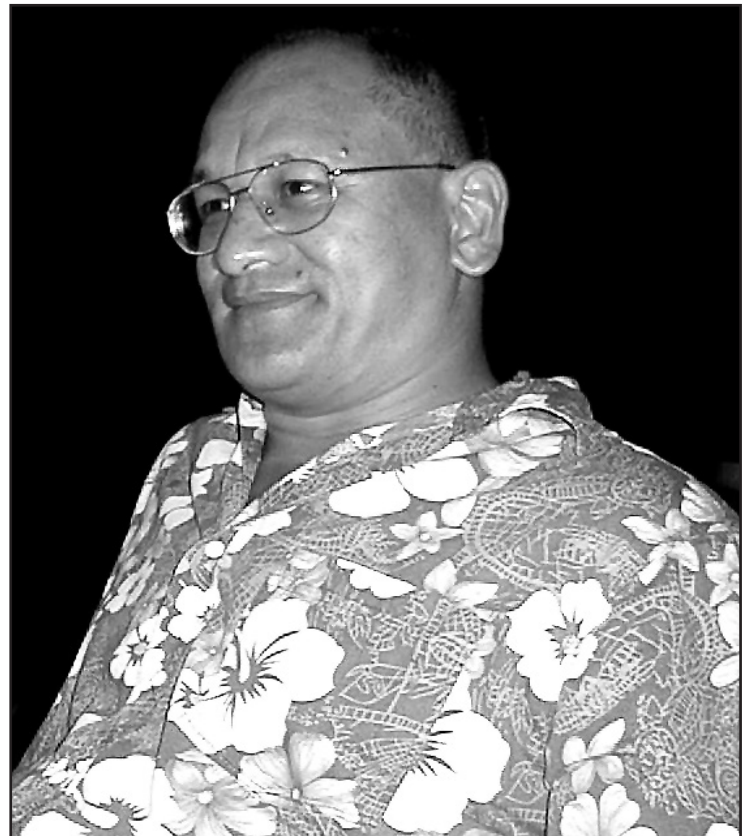
While Tade's deep attraction to playing for Club de Mitre

was undeniable, so too was the pull of Auckland City FC. Leaving Auckland City FC was emotional the first time, coming back was filled with equal joy.

Snap election predicted for late February - early March



Soko Roi - Cook Islands Party Secretary



Eddie Drollet - Democratic Party Secretary

It's no surprise to the discerning political observers the embattled Prime Minister Henry Puna will be going to the polls sooner than later with a snap election in the first quarter of 2016. The Cook Islands Party machinery has been proactively chartering a course with an early election within five months.

The Democratic Party is preoccupied with their judicial reviews on an empty bank account, they are hard out trying to raise funds for the huge legal costs of taking the CIP government to Court, the CIP camp have cleared their 2014 snap election debts and are steadily building up their war chest for and early return to the polls.

Come March 2016 a \$100,000 reserve for post election legal costs will be in place with a

sizeable balance in place to out muscle the cash less Demos who still have a huge demoralising \$180,000 debt anchoring their Party. While the CIP are raising funds through private donations for future expenses the deluded Demos are locked into struggling to raise funds for past debts.

The CIP are being innovative and highly proactive in their preparations but the Demos can't get themselves out of their box of defeat and disillusionment. Not only are they crippled and rendered motionless by their own stupidity of self inflictions there is no way they have demonstrated any ability to perform outside the square.

While the Demos exhibit their strength lies in preparing for defeat, the CIP are almost arrogant about their quest and

belief in winning success, unlike the Demo campaign overseer Eddie Drollet's philosophy of wait and see Team CIP headed by Vice President Taoro Brown and Secretary Soko Roi are committed to make things happen to give their Parliamentary candidates the edge.

On the brink of certain defeat in 2014 the CIP clawed their way back into power because the Demos dumped those like the Grey Power who had created the anti CIP government momentum, Drollet's in the bag predictions slowly disintegrated and turned a certain victory into a disastrous defeat predicted by this writer once the snap election was called by Puna.

As far as Team CIP is concerned with defeat specialist Drollet at the helm directing the campaign

preparations the Demos are starting behind the eight ball. Along with Smilie Heather the Demo tag team are perceived as assets to the CIP.

Should there be a change to the Opposition leadership with Murienua MP James Beer leading the charge Team CIP know they have a serious contender to deal with. Heather has been a revelation of comical proportions and is unable to convince anyone he can mix it in elevated political circles. Simply put Heather isn't a draw card outside his patch in the Ruau electorate, it's not a criticism Heather doesn't measure up, it's a reality he has no appeal as a Prime Minister. Nearly everything he tries to do or say only amplifies the Demos will never convince the wider

continued next page

audience Heather is capable of leading the Cook Islands into economic prosperity.

Team CIP are keeping their fingers crossed the Demos don't change their leadership before they get wind a snap election is imminent. Unlike when Jim Marurai lead the Demos into a convincing electoral victory the current core of campaigners don't have the media savvy or spin doctoring skills to image Heather as a credible PM. Both Heather and his organ grinder Drollet are intimidated by the media and will pay a heavy price for their unwillingness to engage with the media game changes.

Team CIP are becoming media literate and see the possibilities in recruiting skilled practitioners with accessibility to the various forms of media channels.

After the shock loss in the 2014 elections the embarrassed Demos have neglected to do a comprehensive post mortem in order to eliminate a repeat performance of the loss indicators. Quite the opposite for Team CIP their master plan of election campaign readiness has been meticulous, calibrated and measured. At their worst in 2014 while the Demos were at their best with every advantage the CIP triumphed, now the positions are reversed, the Demos with serious leadership deficiencies are at their worst and intoxicated by their deluded cognitive they deserve to be the government is comical to say the least.

The CIP government has unashamedly engaged in a comprehensive campaign to woo the voters their way, pearl farming equipment, solar installations, heavy machinery curtesy of the Peoples Republic of China(PRC) and most recently more freebies from PRC for agriculture initiatives in all constituencies.

Puna is likely to capitalise on the political good will generated in the outer islands before it fades from the voter's memories. In a compressed window of opportunity the CIP government has capitalised with political currency of gift bearing. Never before have the outer islands been inundated with so much expensive visually impacting gifts in quick succession. All of course are enticing to create voting obligation to the CIP.

While the CIP have been

solidifying their outer island support of far less voters and more seats the Demos still lack any resemblance of a strategy to capture more seats let alone

The Demos are expected to file applications for one or more Judiciary Reviews against the government in the first quarter of 2016 and an election campaign will be a highly disruptive distraction and a political spanner in the works of that process.

hang onto the few outer islands ones they currently have. Team CIP are quietly confident they will increase their strangle hold of the 14 outer islands seats by taking Mitiaro and Mangaia's Tamarua seats.

The Demos strength is in Rarotonga but is seriously under threat to hang onto Ngatangia and Nikao after dumping RAPA's defector Albert Nicholas. Team CIP have a trump card to capture Titikaveka as well.

The first quarter timing will coincide with the expected trial of OCI leader Teina Bishop which will preoccupy his time away from campaigning and disrupt their threat.

The Demos are expected to file applications for one or more Judiciary Reviews against the government in the first quarter of 2016 and an election campaign will be a highly disruptive distraction and a political spanner in the works of that process.

Whatever moves the Demos take against the government Team CIP has rehearsed counter punches ready for every possible scenario.

No doubt the CIP candidates will be promoted as a Team package rather than focusing voter attention the unpopular Puna, person for person Team CIP will have the measure on the untried used by date Demos.

With Television now being broadcast to the outer islands the CIP will duplicate their radio skills and strategy to this new

promotional medium. Slow off the mark the Demos just can't grasp the game changer Television is, their inexcusable failure to strategically utilise

nothing appealing or convincing the Demos are capable of doing any difference or better. Whenever they have put their cards on the table they increase public doubt their lofty ambitions are credible and deserved.

Drollet's lazy posturing is dependent on the CIP shooting themselves in the foot rather than building the Demo's capacity to be genuine contenders to the throne. With no clear stated goals to give focus for their resources the Demo's reliance is on the CIP loosing the elections rather than them winning with a clear mandate to govern.

With Drollet sitting pretty on a tax funded pay packet of \$1134 a week plus perks to be present for 20 hours a week and Heather grossing nearly \$90,000 a year plus allowances to be present why would either of them want to be accountable with the responsibility and stresses of being the government?

Prediction: With Drollet and Heather at the realm a win to the CIP by default. - George Pitt



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CIP rumble while dumb Demos stumble

Just when the Cook Islands Government were on the ropes and being arm wrestled in a head lock the Democratic Party Opposition tripped over themselves with some irrelevant media releases that showed up the Demos for what they are, an uncoordinated political scrum predominantly led by a deluded bunch of empty space gazers.

With the government under siege and being aggressively politically bombarded from all sides of the circle from special interest groups grieving at the lack of hearing ability of the government and the pummelling from the media, the Demos failed to add weight to the political stouching when Minister Mark Brown was having to hold the fort in the absence of his tag team leader Henry Puna.

Opportunities to sink the boots into the fragility of an opponent are few and far between and again the Demos were more preoccupied with irrelevant house keeping like who are the spokes persons for what and getting ready for another old fashion packing shed dance and feasting. One thing is for sure; in the battle of heavy weights the Demos don't have the killer instinct to choke the political life out of the unpopular corrupt CIP Government.

As a permanent fixture the Opposition has embraced the four times looser, the overpaid tax funded Demo Secretary Eddie Drollet's cowardly policy of letting the media do their fighting. Forced into the limelight to announce the shadow portfolios the Opposition leader William Smiley Heather made every effort and laboured to up lift himself with glowing credentials he would make a great success at the Ministries he afforded himself because when he was a Minister in the Jim Marurai government he had an impeccable track record with the same Ministries.

Heather then went onto great



William Heather - Afflicted with foot in the mouth disease pains in a special media release to confirm the Demo Party and One Cook Islands Movement's coalition of convenience was as strong as ever and solid with the Demo Party in full support of Teina Bishop "all the way" if he was to be charged with bribery and committed to a trial. Heather revelled in his speech affirming Bishop.

No sooner had Heather's muddled media speech been digested by the Demo Party leadership and rank and file his and caucus member's phones began ringing hot with many unhappy with the Bishop stance Heather was taking. Many began questioning why he was still the leader of the Opposition. Party leader, yes there is serious doubts about him being leader of the Opposition; Heather is embarrassingly totally out of his depth and lacks the political acumen to lead the government.

While the public hostilities and media reaction to the government had them cowering for cover the Demo Opposition were bickering in house over the out of order media release by Heather. This gave the stressed

out government a window of opportunity to take a breather and regroup.

Baffled by this exhibition of silly walks politicking the One Cook Islands partners couldn't read the mixed messages being narrow casted from the Opposition Office, rumours began circulation Heather had been forced to retract his nonsensical media comments.

Despite Heather clarifying his Caucus' position by offering full support at a meeting on Friday 13 November 2015 in the Opposition office, for a continued partnership relationship between the Democratic Party and OCI, embarrassed Heather fronted the media and refuted his previous lavish praise and support of Bishop.

The CI News headline said it all on Saturday 21 November 2015, "Heather withdraws Demo support for Bishop." Heather sheepishly apologised for getting his personal views expressed as being that of the Demo Party. Just a total stuff up; characteristic of the muddled Opposition driven by the organ grinder Drollet.

This time the OCI partners

took exception to the Demo's flip flop commitment to their own platitudes of coalition solidarity. OCI President George Turia has had enough and in consultation with Team OCI a letter of withdrawal is on its way to the President of the Democratic Party Sean Willis to that effect.

Turia said "It is unfortunate that Heather has opted to make such a statement without consulting One Cook Islands as he has done so previously with other policy related issues of mutual interest. The announcement of his shadow Cabinet without any consultation whatsoever is unacceptable and undermined the spirit of our partnership and the principles on which the foundation of that partnership was formed."

With this divisive split in the Opposition ranks Puna maybe inclined to call parliament confident he'll have the numbers to clear some of the priority back log. Smart politics is about seizing the opportunities, something the former Demo leader Wilkie Rasmussen should have done in March 2014 but dumb politics ruled the day and Rasmussen who had the numbers lost a rare chance to be the Prime Minister, with nothing to lose but everything to gain he did nothing.

One disappointed Demo stalwart was left shaking their head in disbelief at the Demo's in house squabbling while the unpopular CIP Government was being publically choked while fighting for survival. "While the CIP were in the thick of a no holds bar rumble our lot the Demos were stumbling around trampling on themselves."

After going the full 15 rounds day after day for the best part of the last two weeks, the sole defender of the CIP faith acting Prime Minister Mark Brown still had the breath to give the Demos a verbal upper cut, "And they want to run the Country!"

- George Pitt



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Minister Nicholas plugs the gap for overseas births

Not only is the Internal Affairs (MIA) Minister Albert Nicholas listening to the concerns of people but he is hearing them and instead of giving the standard stock answer he can't do anything because of constraining policies and the prohibiting by the law, Nicholas is in the process of introducing changes that will close the gaps within the system.

The proposed amendment is to the Welfare Act 1989 to extend the eligibility to the New Born Allowance to include mothers who give birth in New Zealand though they are normally resident in the Cook Islands. Nicholas said this change is brought about because an outer island woman was medically referred to New Zealand to give birth, this meant she was not eligible to receive the MIA's

\$1,000 New Born Allowance.

While he did not know how many others had missed out because of a similar circumstance Nicholas said a Cook Islands resident should not be penalised in these circumstances. The Minister is also taking the amendment a step further to include mothers who normally reside in the Cook Islands who choose to give birth overseas.

He said "normally resides" is a mother who has lived in the Cook Islands for 12 months prior to birth and returns within six months of the birth of the child.

"There are circumstances that require us to be flexible and if policies or the law prevents us from doing so in the interest of the people's welfare then the right thing to do is change them," said Nicholas. - George Pitt



RAPPA MP Albert Nicholas

Letter to the Editor

Our ghost parliament

Dear Editor,
Grey Power this year had 16 meetings. Parliament had eight. We pay for the hall we meet in, our ads, printing and other expenses. Our chairman, secretary and treasurer are not paid. MPs pocket over \$4,000 a month, every month. They get clothing allowance, travel perks and are well fed when parliament sits. It's the only job one gets for sitting, and they could only manage to sit eight times this year. In any other job you get the boot. If this is not corruption what is?

Grey Power have been accused of being corrupt, for licking the lollies and not paying for the privileges (not participating in user pays) someone wrote. We have been condemned and crucified for refusing to pay tax. Why should we pay tax to line the pockets of these over-paid, non-performing politicians? Why aren't they penalized for refusing to work?

An active parliament is an integral element in any democracy where both parties come to grips (a lot more than eight times a year) over issues of concern, too many

to mention here. Claims and counter claims of wrong doing fill the pages of the newspaper, but are never dealt with in the proper place, parliament. The Prime Minister Henry Puna has no time for parliament because of his obsession to travel. Despite a recent terror attack in Paris, PM Puna landed with his entourage, ready to solve the global problems than face Te Tua Akatanotano, Grey Power, Purse seine petitioners and many other unhappy people. Endless political trips overseas is the catalyst to inadequate time in office.

These honourable Ministers of the Crown deemed it imperative that all invites be accepted to no matter where in the world. To them it is most important they be seen and heard by the Russians, Indonesians, Chinese, Indians, (people who have no idea where Henry Puna, Mark Brown and Nandi Glassie came from) rather than being heard by the iti-tangata from a ghost parliament house.

This year the New Zealand Parliament sat for 90 days compared to the Cook Islands shameful eight. Since becoming

government in November 2010 and up to now, the CIP government in five years convened 69 parliament sittings. When NZ PM John Key travels parliament proceeds

notwithstanding, unlike here. Nothing continues to happen. Is there a possibility that one day the impossible will be possible?

Dennis Tunui
Turangi

Finance Minister Mark Brown retracts statements

Early yesterday afternoon, Finance Minister Mark Brown retracted statements made against media mogul George Pitt in connection with the legal opinion provided by Constitutional lawyer Alex Frame to the FIU.

In a very brief statement emailed to the Herald, Brown said, quote: "Please be advised that I retract the statements I made in past weeks in reference to George Pitt breaking the law." Unquote. In response, Pitt said he accepted the Minister's statement.

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OCI terminates partnership agreement



ONE COOK ISLANDS MOVEMENT INC

Leader : Hon Teina Bishop **President:** George Turia **Secretary:**
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PO Box 578 Avarua Rarotonga Cook Islands Ph: 00682 57727 e-mail:
gturia@oyster.net.ck

23 November 2015

Mr Sean Willis
President
Democratic Party Inc
RAROTONGA.

Dear Mr Willis,

In light of a statement made in the CInews on Sat 21 Nov 2015 by the Leader of the Democratic Party, "Heather withdraws Demo support for Bishop" I see no alternative option but to formally withdraw One Cook Islands Support towards the Democratic Party Partnership forthwith. This decision has not been taken lightly and has the full support of the One Cook Island's Executive and supporters.

The unclear statement made by Heather is of concern to One Cook Islands especially after clarifying his Caucus' position recently by offering full support at a meeting on Friday 13 November 2015 in the Opposition office, for a continued partnership relationship between the Democratic Party and One Cook Islands.

It is unfortunate that Heather has opted to make such a statement without consulting One Cook Islands as he has done so previously with other policy related issues of mutual interest. The announcement of his shadow Cabinet without any consultation whatsoever is unacceptable and undermined the spirit of our partnership and the principles on which the foundation of that partnership was formed.

It is with regret then that I pass on our thanks to you, the Caucus and Executive of the Democratic Party for the harmonious efforts undertaken so far throughout the partnership towards building a positive relationship for a better future for our people. Unfortunately the principle of trust no longer exists therefore this decision to terminate our Partnership Agreement has been made in the interests of One Cook Islands. Te Atua Te Aroa.

Yours sincerely,

George Turia

PRESIDENT

Our shocking emergency service failures

By Norman Goerge

Houston, Rarotonga, we have a problem!" Apollo 13 commander after an engine explosion crippled their spacecraft, which resulted in a moon landing being abandoned and by acts of considerable ingenuity the crew guided the damaged spacecraft safely back to earth.

A spate of recent drownings and the systematic failures of the police and other emergency services to react on time is catastrophic, shameful and inexcusable. We have a major civil defence failure on our hands right now.

I keep reminding our people in my columns that as people, we display short term concerns. All our reactions are based on emotional spasms. Once the excitement wears off, we slumber back into our hibernation mode.

We don't have a true grit ability to tackle the problems and sustain it. About 3 years ago, we had a tragic double drowning near the Avaavaroa Passage. The slow reaction experienced, resulted in a flood of questions being asked, half-pie efforts made to provide answers only to drift back into the never-never land.

Some positive measures were introduced by the then New Zealand High Commissioner Mr John Carter. He had warning signs placed in the lagoon at Avaavaroa passage. Mr. Ron Bird had a surf rescue floatation type device system, housed at the Youth With A Mission premises opposite Avaavaroa passage, but it has since disappeared. Someone must have found it handy for other purposes.

I heard there was also a list of on-call boat owners put together by the police. Whatever system you create, it will only work with regular reviews, practice and exercises. The Police must employ a dedicated officer to do this job without pause or relaxation.

You can have the best warning signs everywhere, the best prepared plans available

and during emergencies when they occur, they come at the most unexpected times. If there is no one around to implement those emergency plans, everything goes Kaput!

Recently we had 3 drownings reasonably close together, in the Vaimaanga-Rutaki Lagoon area. The slow reactions from the authorities are so disappointing and disheartening.

Our neighbour Pakoti Tangatapoto, after failing to stop the German tourist couple from kayaking onto the reef to surf, rang the police for help when the couple encountered difficulties. He told me it took the police at least one hour to get on the scene.

Where's the police patrols? I can travel to the police headquarters in Avarua from Vaimaanga in 20 minutes! What is wrong with our reaction time?

Once on the beach, difficulties were experienced on where to find a boat to sail to the distress area. Without blaming anyone, the 2 tourists lost their lives. A week or so earlier experienced fisherman Joe Cumming Maurangi lost his life in the Rutaki Lagoon.

A long letter to the editor, by a family of Joe's was highly critical of the police conduct of the search.

Aue taue! While I discourage apportioning blame, it must be hurtful for families experiencing inept professional behaviour by those expected to lead and provide appropriate services. My sincere condolences to Joe's partner, children and families. I extend the same to the families of the 2 German tourists, all rest in peace.

I will not retreat from offering a solution, while acknowledging that it is like addressing the buried horsemen of China or the Sphinx of Giza in Egypt, they just look and stare for thousands of years without response!

My vision is; that all emergency services should have a central base where all communications are directed.

The base should be at the Police HQ manned 24 hours a day, staff from the Police, Emergency Management Cook Islands (EMCI) and the airport fire service should be rostered to work there permanently, in the initial stages.

We should prepare and adopt a proper civil defence plan for use on a daily and weekly basis. Let's look at the EMCI, how many cyclones a year or a decade do they handle? We should adopt plans to use them on a modified emergency basis, to play a role in search and rescue on a regular basis as well.

We need specialists to look at our civil defence needs. Because of our small size the practical utility of our combined needs should be adopted instead of grandiose plans based on major disasters which never seem to happen as regularly as we expect. Let's give EMCI something to do instead of them attending overseas workshops all the time.

These services may already be doing all or some of these suggestions. Sorry I am not impressed. There are no practical results in order to show to shut me up!!

Why doesn't the Police have a fast boat (zodiac for example) on a trailer ready to be taken to any lagoon around Rarotonga? Such a boat to be big enough to be used over the reef as well! With ocean capability. Not to be used for fishing expeditions for the boys!

Then there should be a list of emergency boat owners willing to use their boats for emergency search and rescue. I know such a list exists. They must have 10-15 minutes ready reaction time.

Our biggest problem is the lagoon drownings. The worst beaches are those in Avaavaroa and Rutaki as the statistics will show.

I would like the MPs for Titikaveka and Murienua to push the authorities to do more. This is not an issue where you need meetings and office bearers to do the work. This is a highly technical civil

defence issue. We need results silently obtained and not blasted on airwaves except in parliament!

I need to add that I am also concerned about the soft Police approach to public brawls outside nightclubs at weekends. The Police approach is much too timid, half hearted and disorganised.

As a former Police sergeant who served in the Auckland Police Task Force, this is what the CI Police need- Obtain a Police paddy-wagon truck capable of carrying up to 20 prisoners. Lease or buy a second hand paddy-wagon from the NZ or Australian Police.

Roster 12 men and women on this special task force. They report for work 7pm Thursday to Saturday. They spend the first 2 hours training in the gym or at the back of the police station. They have to reach a certain level of fitness. I am available to teach the TF Team a few wrestling holds and Otahuhu hand shakes to hurry reluctant clients along!

They must be tough enough to mix it with violent youths.

They start duty at 10pm. Park the paddy-wagon outside the most troublesome nightclub, while a mobile patrol covers the other clubs. The paddy-wagon must be ready to move whenever needed.

Fill the darn thing up with troublemakers. Arrest all troublemakers for disorderly behaviour, drunkenness, obscene language, assault, fighting etc. Clear the streets at closing time! No one will ever want to create trouble after this. In one month the task force will say "Mission Accomplished!"

Our Police must have grace and courage under pressure. They need our support and encouragement. I criticize them because I hate people complaining about the Police behind their back. They should never question my loyalty to the Police service.

There is a saying "Be the master of your fate and the Captain of your soul!"

Ka Kite.

Cook Islands Herald Issue 794

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, WED 18th Nov 2015

“Spain has worse track record for illegal fishing”

Local journalist, Florence Syme-Buchanan, was one of the guest speakers interviewed on Te Kave Kōrero on Wednesday 18th November 2015.

Under discussion on the programme was the protest march against purse seine fishing which took place last Saturday 21st November.

Syme-Buchanan's views in relation to purse seining are transcribed and provided below for Cook Island Herald readers or interested parties to follow.

“E mea tau paa kia oki tātou ki muri, go back in time Tony, what has happened over the last few years, we go back say three years, i te taime i fund ia ai e te EU te solar power o Pukapuka and this was a big programme that was funded by the EU for Pukapuka, and it made everyone happy and the Government was very happy to get this for free”.

“But the Government was warned at the time that when the EU is involved in something like this it always come with strings attached. In other words, they give you something, but they expect something in return”.

“At that very time too, as soon as oti te project o te solar, the EU started talking to our Government about purse seining in our waters and it was also mentioned that the country that would come to purse seine in our waters would be Spain. Now Spain has the worse track record in the world for illegal fishing, for exceeding quotas, for breaking laws and the rules, not just in purse seining, in long lining as well, but it is in purse seining that they have the worse reputation in the world, and the world knows this, the whole world knows this except probably Ben Ponia, our Secretary for Marine Resources and our Prime Minister”.

“So, at that time when they started talking about purse seining with the Government there was widespread opposition to this from our people, this is going back three years, you'll remember this Tony, people did not want this back then, they told the Government that, so what did Government do? They continued to negotiate with the EU but behind closed doors. We only found out e, kua initialise ia tēia agreement with the EU, the European Union, only just a few weeks ago, e kua oti te second round of talks, we didn't even know about the first round of talks, did we?”.

“We were never told about that, we've only just found out the second round of talks has been done, kua oti i te initialise, in other words, kua agree tatou, kua agree te European Union, e, this is the Agreement, is called the Sustainable Fishing Practice Agreement and even then it is a anomaly,

because purse seining is a furtherest thing away from sustainability, it is not a sustainable form of fishing”.

“And in the begining, of a, when it became public and only became public because the EU and the Spanish Government posted on the internet, you know kua ngākauparau oki rātou, kua rekareka rātou, you know, they've got this new agreement with our country, so they posted the news on their website, the Government website”.

“And the news that the Spanish Government posted said that the presence of the Spanish purse seining fleet is assured permanance in Eastern Pacific waters, that's us because we're in the Eastern Pacific. That's what they said on their website, and while we were told by the Ministry of Marine Resources i konei, that the agreement was only for four years, it's actually for eight years and after eight years they can renew that if they want to. If the European Union wants to renew that agreement they can because passive approval has been included in the agreement, you know, ka aere ua atu tēia kōreromotu oki ea”.

“I think what has happened is that we have been mislead because in the beginning we were told we were going to get all these million dollars for four years, well actually when you read the agreement it's eight years, e varu mataiti, e, ka akatikaia i te aka'ōu akaou i tēia agreement”.

“Kua initialise okia e Tony. Mē initialise oki tāua i tētai potonga pēpa, like a loan at the bank, kua agree tāua e, tēia tūtū i runga i te pēpa, te akatika nei tāua. You know when you go for a loan you initialise every piece of paper that you agree with what's written on that paper. That is what we have done and the European Union has done the same”.

“And then Ben Ponia keeps talking about a draft agreement. Yes, kua initialise ia te draft, ka riro mai i rēira tērā draft as the final agreement. Then it goes to the European Union Parliament because there are 24 countries in the Union, to be ratified, that means stamp ia, approved. Kua paina mai ia ki konei e Ben Ponia ta tātou copy ki konei, apai ki te Cabinet, stamp te Cabinet e, approved”.

“This is why the people must act now to stop this before it gets to Cabinet and Cabinet sign it and sign away our fishing, our marine resources. There are many things in that agreement that are of profound concerns e Tony, one of them is that, the Ministry of Marine Resources keeps talking about, e skipjack tuna oki ta te aronga ka tautai, ka kupenga, you know, e maata oki, there's big stocks of skipjack. Well, in the agreement, there is not one

mention of the word skipjack. What it does say is tuna and tuna like species”.

“In other words, they can catch big eye, yellow fin, every kind of tuna in their nets. And these purse seiners that are coming here are the super seiners. The biggest ones because Spain has the biggest purse seiners in the world”.

“Another thing of concern in this agreement e Tony, is that they can exceed 7,000 tonnes. And if they want to exceed it, or go over, fish more than what they say in their quote, it's a joing committee te ka akatika mai. Ko ai to runga i tērā committee? European Union and some people that we don't know who, from our side, but we haven't been told ko ai ka aere ki runga i tēia joint committee”.

“Taitaiā toku ngākau because kua raveiā na tetai protest march but kāre rātou i akarongo mai na i a tātou, kāre te Kavamani i akarongo mai na i te inangaro o te tangata ea”.

“The wishes of the people have been disregarded by this administration”.

“There are other avenues that are being explored e Tony, one of them is the legal avenue oki ea. There is legal recourse that can be pursued to try and stop the Government progressing with this agreement, you know, from finalising it and putting it in place”.

“There's another thing in this agreement e Tony, is that te akatika nei te agreement i te EU to do experimental fishing. So as well as purse seining that we are agreeing to, we are also agreeing to them they can catch more than the quota. We are also agreeing that they can do experimental fishing. Me eaa ia apinga e experimental fishing because it doesn't explain it in the agreement, but it could be anything”.

“I think when we negotiated this ageement our negotiation team did not have our best interests in mind. I think this agreement heavily favours the European Union and the Spanish purse seiners and the Cook Islanders will be the losers at the end of the day on this”.

“There are some things inside the agreement that seems quite flaud because for instance, it challenges our own sovereignty as a country, some of the clauses in it and to myself and some other people who read the document, we believe that this goes outside of the, te akatikaanga o te European Union, that the European should not put itself in a position in which it is placing a country as small as ours where it tests the sovereignty of our country”.

Te Kave Kōrero thanks Syme-Buchanan for her contribution to the discussion and her views regarding purse seining in Cook Islands waters.

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, FRI 20th Nov 2015

Criticism of local Police force

Criticism of the local Police force was coming hard and fast on Te Kave Kōrero on Friday 20th November 2015.

Frustrated with the Police's attitude letting reckless tourist drivers abscond and return to their countries without prosecuting them, Te Kave Kōrero presenter, Tony Hakaoro, lead the charge criticizing the Police on Te Kave Kōrero. "Ko te au Akavā ua o to tātou Bāsilēia tāku i kite e matakū i te tuatua ki te au papa`ā. A bunch of wallies nā tē rā reo ai", Hakaoro said.

Translated – Only the Police of our country I know is fearful of speaking to Europeans. A bunch of wallies.

Hakaoro said he had made a written complaint to the Police, to the Commissioner of Police, Maara Tetava, and had invited him to come onto Te Kave Kōrero to explain the Police's dumn attitude.

Kua tātā au i tētai pēpa complaint ki te Akava, ki te Commissioner o te au Akavā, Maara Tetava. Kua patī au i a Maara Tetava kia kake mai ki runga i ta tātou porōkarāmu i te akamārama i tēia tū, akakoromaki mai, i tēia tū akari o te Akavā. Inā, kare e karere i tae mai ki āku i tēia rā. Kāre, kāre tākiri e karere i tae mai mē ka aere mai a Maara, mē kāre".

In addition Hakaoro said he had also written a letter to Cook Islands News published on Wednesday (18th November) criticizing the Police for their unfair treatment of local Cook Islanders.

"Tātā, complain au ki te Cook Islands News, tēnā tāku pēpa i na rotoia mai i te Cook Islands News i te Ruitoru, tāku i akaapa i te Akavā, i tēia au angaanga taukore tā rātou e rave nei ki to tātou iti tangata. Ae, te au `ākonoanga taukore tā rātou e rave nei ki to tātou iti tangata".

According to Hakaoro, if you're a tourist you are okay. Under Cook Islands Police practices, if you're a tourist, you hit a Cook Islander in a motor vehicle accident, you would be okay, you can go back without being prosecuted.

"Mē e tūroto, ō, ora koe. I raro ake i te au Akavā o te Kūki Airani, mē e tūroto koe, akaū koe i tētai tangata Kūki Airani, ō ora koe, you can go back without being prosecuted".

Hakaoro reported that about two or three weeks ago, on the main road in front of the main CITC store in Avarua, was an 18 year old young Maori boy in the right lane, heading towards Avatiu, a female tourist driving a rental car was in the left hand lane. The female driver was intending to turn into the right hand lane and into the carpark, but did not wait for the 18 year old young man on the motorbike go past her first, she turned suddenly and hit the young boy on the bike.

"Mei tetai rua ki te toru epetoma i topa ake nei, i mua i te CITC tetai tamaiti Māori a tatou e tai ngauru ma varu mataiti, tei roto a ia i te lane o te tua katau, te oro ra ki Avatiu, tetai papa`ā i roto i te mōtokā, e tūroto, tei roto a ia i te tua kauī, karanga oki to mātou reo Marike e, in the left handside lane. Ina, ko tēia papa`ā, te anoano nei a ia i te tāpa`e i tōna mōtokā ki te tua katau, oro atu ai ki roto i te ngāi, te carpark na to mātou reo ai. Inā, kare a ia i tiaki e kia pāti tēia tamaiti, inā, tanga vave ua a ia, akaū atu i tēia tamaiti".

Hakaoro said that a young Police officer attended the accident scene, spoke to both drivers and took down their personal details. The young man's motorbike was severely damaged in the accident.

Hakaoro said that about an hour after the accident the young Police officer visited the 18 year old victim at his home.

"I a ia i te ngutuare, mei tētai ta`i ora i muri mai i tēia ūanga, aere ake tēia Akavā, Akavā māpū tamariki ua ki tōna ngutuare, ko ia rāi tei aere ki te ngā `i i ū ai, e oti, i muri ake i tēia, aere tēia Akavā ki te ngutuare o tēia māpū.

The officer told the young man that he (the officer) had entered into an agreement with the female tourist driver and that the driver had agreed to pay half of the repair costs to the young man's motorbike and that the young man would have to pay the other half of the costs.

"Tēia tana karere ki tēia māpū, kua oti au i te autarata ki tēia vaine papa`a, ki te tūroto, tēia tā māua tukuangā tika, ka tūtaki tēia vaine `āpa i te maanianga i tōou pātikarā, nāau tētai `āpa".

"Ae, tāravakē mua tēia, akarongo mai, tāravakē mua tēia. Akakite tēia Akavā ki tēia tamaiti e, kua oti i a ia i te uriuri manako, i te akatanotano, akatikatika ki tēia tūroto, nā tēia tūroto e tūtaki i tētai `āpa, na tēia tamaiti e tūtaki i tētai `āpa, te mea mua tērā".

A quotation by a local repair company estimated the cost of repairs to the bike around \$1,400.00. The repair company requires a deposit of \$700.00 before starting the repair works. To date the bike is still with them and still unrepaired.

"Te rua, akakite a ia ki tēia tamaiti e, kia tiki i tētai quotation no te maanianga i tōna pātikarā. Rave tēia tamaiti i tēia.

A week later, according to Hakaoro, the young man visited the Police officer at Police Headquarters to inquire but was informed that the tourist who hit him, the female driver, had returned to New Zealand.

Hakaoro said what the Police did was dumn.

"Ko au, akakite ua atu au i tōku manako, i āku, tēia `ākonoanga a te au Akava i rave, akari nā tērā reo ai, akari".

"Me kua riri koe no te teia`a i tāku au tuatua akakino i te au Akavā, akakoromaki mai, no te mea, this is exactly what needs to be done, kia ara mai te au Akavā. Me kāre tātou e akakino i te au Akavā, akaapa i te au Akavā, kare rātou e ara mai, pāpū meitaki i āku. Putuputu rā oki tēia maki o rātou, akatika i te au tūroto kia oki. It needed to be said, ae, it needed to be said".

Hakaoro's statement in Māori is translated:

'If you're upset due to my heavy criticism of the Police, excuse me because this is exactly what needs to be done, for the Police to wake up. If we don't criticize the Police they won't wake up, I'm sure of that. This failure is becoming common letting tourists abscond. It needed to be said, oh yes, it needed to be said'.

Over the weekend, after criticising the Police, Hakaoro stated that he had forgotten to mention on the programme on Friday 20th November that he had been informed that in another case, a tourist, some years ago, hit a local businessman and broke both of his legs.

"Guess what? The very next day, the tourist returned home unprosecuted, yet the Police was at the scene of the accident, saw the extent of the victim's injuries when the ambulance arrived. One would have thought, given the victim's injuries, that the Police would have arrested the offender, that tourist, charged him with careless driving causing injury, and hold him in custody, then take him before the Court the next day, seek as a condition of bail, that the tourist surrenders his passport to the Court, and ordered not to apply for any passport, so as to eliminate any possibility of absconding" Hakaoro said.

It was a very controversial Te Kave Kōrero program because of the heavy criticism of the Police by presenter Tony Hakaoro.

However, on Monday 23rd November, on Te Kave Kōrero programme, Hakaoro apologised to the Police for his criticisms of the Police on Friday 20th November.

But there still remains one question to be answered. Who in the Police should apologise to the young man for the Police's failure allowing the female driver to abscond without being prosecuted? Who is responsible for repairing the young man's bike?

Hakaoro said he would continue to seek an explanation from the Police.

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TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, MON 23 NOV 2015

Criticism of Framhein by PM

Radio Matariki FM owner and announcer, William Framhein, was interviewed on Te Kave Kōrero on Monday 23rd November 2015.

The objective is to give Framhein an opportunity, or a right to reply, or respond, to Prime Minister Henry Puna's criticisms of him, on the CIP programme on Radio Cook Islands, on Friday 20th November.

The relevant part of the interview, mostly in Māori, is transcribed herewith for readers of the Cook Islands Herald to follow.

"Meitaki e William no tei kake mai ki runga i Te Kave Kōrero i tēia aia. Te tumu tāpura, no te karere a te Prime Minister i tuatua i tēia Varaire i topa ake nei. Te akarongorongo nei au e William, te tāikū ra te Prime Minister i a koe i tēia Varaire i topa ake nei. Eaa tāau i mārama i te oonuanga o tē rēira karere?"

"Ā, meitaki e Tony, te mea mua, tei akakiteia mai ki āku, i te Varaire, kua tuatua te Prime Minister ē, kāre ōku tikaanga i te tuku i tētai patiangā, mē kāre, i te oro, i to tātou Kavamani i roto i to tātou Akavāanga. Ko te rua i rēira, e tangata akatupu pekapeka au, so ko tērā te ngā tuanga tāku i akarongo, kua tuatua to tātou Prime Minister i tēia Varaire i topa ake nei".

"Inā e William, kia fair oki ki te Prime Minister, kāre a ia i tō tātou Bāsilēia nei i tēia rā, tāku i mārama, kua rere atu a ia ki Varāni inapo. Eaa i rēira tōou tūranga, ka mataora ainei koe i rēira ē, kia kōpēpēpē rāi tāua no runga i tēnā ngā tumu manako, i te mea oki ē, kāre te Prime Minister i konei?"

"Well, te meitaki uā na tēnā uanga a au e Tony, tērā ua, i te Varaire, kāre ōku tuātau i te akatano i te tuatua a te Prime Minister tāna i tuatua no runga i aku e te mea kua akakite a ia ki te katoatoa tei akarongo i tāna porōkarāmu i te Varaire".

"I tēia atiangā i rēire, te anoano nei koe i rēira i te `oroanga mai i tētai au karere, karanga to mātou reo Marike ē, to defend yourself as a result of the Prime Minister's comments?"

"Kāre, inangaro ua au i te akatano i tāna tuatua, tāna i tuatua no runga i āku, i te Varaire. Te mea mua, no runga i te tikaanga i te oro i te Kavamani na roto i te Akavāanga, e tikaanga to tētai ua atu tangata te ka inangaro i te oro i te Kavamani me kua manako rātou e au tāravakē tētai e tupu nei i roto i te Kavamani. Ko tēia i rēira tei

tupu no runga i te tuanga kōreromotu i rotopū i to tātou Kavamani e te Kavamani o te European Union".

"Aria e William, te karanga mai nei ainei koe ki to tātou iti tangata e akarongo mai nei i a tāau i tēia aia, ē, e tikaanga to tētai ua atu Kūki Airani i te oro i te Kavamani ki te Akavāanga, me e au ngāi tūkau tētai tā te Kavamani e rave nei, tano?"

"Āe, tērā ua, e tai rāi rāvenga ka rauka i a tātou i te oro i te Kavamani, me kua tuku mai rātou i tētai akaueanga, mē kāre, tikaanga, e kua tāravakē rātou i tāau akaraanga. I roto oki i to mātou reo Mauke, e judicial review tēia, te ka rauka i tētai ua atu tangata i te oro i te Kavamani, kia apainaia te au tuanga ta rātou e rave nei, kia `ākara matatioia i roto i te Akavāanga".

"Tērā ua, te tāangaanga nei au i tōku tikaanga i raro ake i to tātou Constitution, i te apai i tēia patiangā nā roto i te Akavāanga".

"Well, i te uti poto i tēia tuanga e Tony, e tikaanga tā tō tātou iti tangata i raro ake i te Constitution, to tātou Constitution i raro ake i te ātikara 65 (1), reta 'd', e, i roto i tēia tuatua i raro ake i tēia irava, e tikaanga tō tētai ua atu tangata i te tū ki mua i te Akavāanga, kia rongoia tāna oroanga, mē kāre, i te pātou i tētai oroanga i runga i a ia, it's a right to justice and to be heard".

"Eaa te akatakatakaanga i roto i te Papa Ture? Ka rauka i a koe i te tataui mai i tē rēira i roto i to tāua reo Mauke? Kia mārama mai oki tō tātou iti tangata e akarongo mai nei?"

"Ātikara 65, irava tai, subject to sub-clause 2 of this Article and to subject 2 of Article 64 hereof, every enactment shall be so construed and applied as not to abrogate a bridge or infringe or to authorize the abrogation or abridgement or infringement of any of the rights or freedoms recognized or declared by sub-clause 1 of Article 64 hereof, and in particular, no enactment shall be construed or applied so as to, then ka oro atu au ki roto i te reta 'd', deprive any person of the right to a fair hearing in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice for the determination of his rights and obligations before any tribunal or authority having the duty to act so judiciary".

"Mē kā uri koe i tēnā ki roto i tō tātou reo tupuna, roto i tō tātou reo Māori, eaa te āiteanga?"

"Kāre e rauka i āku, nāau paa e uri i tēia

tuanga e Tony".

"I tāku e akarongo atū ra, kāre ainei tēnā ē, ko te akaueanga tēnā i raro ake i te Ture Metua, ē, ko tētai ture ua atu, ka akamanaia e te Kavamani, mē kāre, e te Pāramani, auraka rava te rēira ture e tāmanamanatā i tōou tikaanga ki te fundamental, mē kāre ra, ki te natural justice i mua i tētai ua atu tribunal, mē kāre, i tētai ua atu Akavāanga. Ka `āriki koe i te rēira urianga?"

"Āe, ko te rēira".

"Inā, i tēia i rēira tāau oroanga ki mua i te Akavāanga, tēnā e tāiku ana koe, i te judicial review, pēnei e mea tau kia mārama mai to tātou iti tangata, eaa te vaerua i muri i tāau oroanga i te Kavamani i raro ake i tēnā akateretereanga judicial review?"

"Thank you e Tony no tēnā uanga. Te mea mua, kāre nāku tēia oroanga, nā te aronga mana o Te-Au-O-Tonga, tāpiri mai te aronga mana o Puaikura e Tākitumu, pērā katoa te putuputuanga o te Ipukarea Society. So ko te akakoroanga i muri i tēia patiangā kia raveia tēia judicial review, e Tony e to tātou iti tangata e akarongo mai nei, i roto i te tua tā te patiangā e oro nei, te mea mua, koia oki, ko te Minita no te Marine Resources, mē kāre, ko to tātou Parai Minita, ko te rua, ko te tangata maata no te Marine Resources, e ko te toru, ko te European Union".

In essence Framhein's application before the High Court in Avarua, mentioned in the interview, is an application for judicial review, for the Court to review Government's decision in initialising a purse seine fishing agreement with the European Union, and if the application is sound and established, for the Court to make the following orders:

1. An order quashing the initialized draft sustainable fisheries partnership agreement and protocol.
2. An order quashing all other initialised or initialed documents which form part of the sustainable fisheries partnership agreement and protocol.
3. An order preventing the first and second defendants issuing purse seine fishing licences for fishing activities from the Moana-Nui-O-Kiva within the Cook Islands EEZ.

Te Kave Kōrero thanks Framhein for coming onto the programme and for exercising his right to reply, or respond, to the Prime Minister's criticisms of him on Friday 20th November.



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Our Jnr Chefs at Cook Islands Tertiary Training Centre will recreate the meals into a Restaurant Quality dish, that will be served at the Gala Dinner Tuesday 8th December at 6pm.



Select Committee meet Vaka Takitumu community

By Noeline Browne

Chairman of the Family Law Bill select committee, Hon Mona loane, was delighted with the excellent community turnout for Vaka Takitumu on Tuesday night. The select committee was accompanied by a coterie of senior officials from Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Crown Law and Parliamentary Services.

Discussions were on the main points of differences or improvements in the Bill as compared to the existing laws relating to family relationships. One of the major innovations is that court orders for spousal, child or parental support in Cook Islands can be forwarded to authorities in New Zealand, Australia and other jurisdictions with similar laws for enforcement.

The purpose of the Bill is to modernize family law and to introduce new legal protections for victims of domestic violence. It also to promote the interests of children in accord with the Convention of the Rights of the Child [CRC] and the rights of women under CEDAW and also the rights of persons with disabilities in accord with the Convention on the Rights of

Persons with disabilities.

INTAFF has officers in all the Pa Enua who are undergoing training to prepare for the introduction of the new law next year.

Submissions on the Bill are still open to the public and has been extended from 11 December 2015 to the end of January 2016. Copies of the Bill may be obtained from John Tangi, the Clerk of Parliament on 26500.

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Christmas Dining

Take the hassle out of Christmas dinner

Don't want the hassle and worry of cooking a large Christmas meal for the family? Escape the hassle of washing up all those dishes afterwards. Try the option of dining out this Christmas. Let someone else do the cooking and the washing up. Give yourself a chance to relax, take it easy, enjoy the food and drinks.

When considering a venue for Christmas dinner, enquire about numbers. How many people will be there? Will a table be reserved? Check for ease of access to the food area and also facilities like the amenities. From past experience one venue had too many tables and access to the food required diners to move

to permit others to pass.

Check the menu. Will it be a buffet? From past experience with Christmas buffets, it pays to put as much food on your plate as you can because if you don't and you go back for seconds, the food you want may have run out. Certain foods are more popular than others and go quicker for example, prawns. If you have no room left for dessert, ask the staff if it can be wrapped to take home for later.

Eating out at Christmas enables you to meet and enjoy the company of others. Some venues provide excellent entertainment. Christmas is a time to socialize, enjoy a hearty meal, a delicious dessert and great hospitality.

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The **Anchorage** Restaurant & Bar



Bluesky joins Miss Pacific Islands Legacy

Bluesky has secured naming rights for the 2015 Miss Pacific Islands Pageant through generous sponsorship for the event.

MCIPA the host committee of the 2015 Miss Pacific Islands Pageant is proud to partner with Bluesky in the Cook Islands to deliver the annual regional showcase here in Rarotonga next month. The countdown has begun to the main event and Bluesky has confirmed their support of the hosting commitments of the Cook Islands for the end of year finale.

This year's pageant will be known as the Bluesky 2015 Miss Pacific Islands Pageant.

"We are proud to be associated with and to sponsor this prestigious event. Bluesky has a continued commitment to the development of the Cook Islands as well as the wider Pacific region to support, encourage and empower our Pacific people," said Phillip Henderson Country Manager for Bluesky in the Cook Islands.

"The host committee is proud



Bluesky Country Manager in the Cook Islands Phillip Henderson and Miss Pacific Islands spokesperson Teura Napa

and happy to join with our newest corporate partner Bluesky to bring you the Bluesky 2015 Miss Pacific Islands Pageant" said Teura Napa spokesperson for

the Miss Pacific Islands Pageant. She added "The Miss Pacific Islands pageant, formerly the Miss South Pacific pageant is the top cultural pageant in the

Pacific. There is an established and loyal following right around the region and beyond. Bluesky today aligns itself with that proud legacy".

Meitaki Attitude Awards

The Ministry of Education (MoE) in partnership with Internal Affairs and the Cook Islands National Disability Council are proud to announce the first ever Meitaki Attitude Awards event at the Punanga Nui market on Tuesday, December 1st. The awards night is a celebration of the achievements and success of people with disabilities. There is also an award to acknowledge an organization that employs people with disabilities.

The presentation of awards will begin at 6pm and will be followed by the world premier screening of the short film 'Vaine Angaanga Toa'. Produced locally the three minute comedy is the result of a collaboration between the Creative Centre and the Inclusive Education department at the Ministry of Education. Its theme is 'working together creates joyful change' and follows the success of the women within the Vaine Angaanga Toa group.

The film has been submitted to the United Nations Enable

Film Festival and screened in New York on December 3rd to celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities with its international theme of 'Inclusion, access and Empowerment'.

The categories for the awards are Youth award, Artistic Achievement award, Making a Difference award, Courage in Sport award, Service to the Community award, Entrepreneurial award, Spirit of Attitude award and the Employer award.

The organising committee are asking the public to get behind the event by casting their nominations at voting boxes located at the MoE office, the Disability Council headquarters and the Creative Centre.

If you know a disabled person that embodies one of the above Meitaki Attitude Awards then head to the nearest voting location, write their name on a voting slip and submit your nomination. It's that easy.

Voting closes November, 29th.

A select panel of judges will then take the nominations and

between them choose the best nominee that embodies the essence of the award category.

Any individuals or companies who would like to be involved in the event by sponsoring prizes or

selling food on the night can do so by contacting Sarah McCawe at the Ministry of Education on 29357 via email smccawe@education.gov.ck - MoE

Peka Fisher

Vaka Eiva Trade Days



Tivaevae exhibition

By Poko Utia

Last Friday at the Titikaveka Are Apii Sabati the Vainetini of Titikaveka held their first art exhibition where they showcased their Tivaevae. The day started off beautifully all the mamas from around the island turned up in their muumuu dresses

and floral wear. Naomi Ru was the MC of the day and she was great making the mama's feel welcome keeping the crowd pumped and excited for what was awaiting on the other side of the closed doors. The Orometua of Nikao and his wife graced the audience with their

presence also Tinomana Ariki. Once the doors swung open the mamas all rushed in to see the beautiful work which the mama's had put together. Naomi said that the youngest out of their group to put one together was 14 and her name was Grace Lai.



Scenes from Vaka Eiva 2015

Photos by Tangi Tomokino



Scenes from Vaka Eiva 2015

Photos by Tangi Tomokino



Important that young people learn about agriculture

By Courtney Matai

William Wigmore who is the Director of Crop Research and Development at The Ministry of Agriculture spoke with the Herald on Monday morning about the concerns with the youth of today and their lack of involvement with Agriculture. Unfortunately, there has not been enough young people getting involved with Agriculture in the past 10 years as young people are getting lazy these days. The growing of crops he says is very beneficial for home growers because they can sell it to make extra income or keep it for them at home.

Another reason why the youth of today don't take interest in Agriculture is due to the change in lifestyle, such as the use of mobile phones, television and the importation of vegetables and processed goods into the country. People have shifted from doing farming activities on a daily basis to being dependant on food from the shops. This has also affected our outer island groups who also go to the shop to meet their daily needs. In the past, many people grew their own crops such as taro, maniotia, and raised their own livestock such as chickens, goats

and pigs on their own. However nowadays, people who have money buy all the wrong food which is not a good thing as it leads to Obesity due to the high levels of salt and sugar in the food that they consume, as well as the lack of exercise.

Agriculture and Horticulture was one of the main subjects that was taught in the country in the past, but some schools have stopped teaching the subject or else have made it an option, as it isn't compulsory. William Wigmore says that he is hoping to encourage schools to teach Agriculture and Horticulture as it is important for the young people to learn about growing at a young age. "We are trying to get a program in the schools, where young people from grades 1 and 2 will get a feel of the soil. This will give them a fair idea of what Agriculture is about and learn how to grow their own food." For this program to work, Wigmore says that they will need the support from both Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health agencies and the Community. Teaching students will benefit them as it is healthy for them to grow and eat fresh produce which will reduce the chances of young people from getting obese. He says that



when students reach Secondary school, it becomes more difficult to teach them or to get them involved as they lose interest and turn to sports programs more.

Wigmore also encourages the older people to continue growing as farming doesn't have to be a full time thing. "We are not trying to get people to grow crops on a full time basis." He also says that many growers prefer to go to the Ministry of Agriculture and pay a fee of \$10 to grow and plant their seedlings as it makes it easier for them because if they had grown it at home, there will be no one to water it. After 3-4 weeks, the owners go back and

pick up their plants. Whereas at the Ministry of Agriculture, the growers there help nurture the plant/seedling while its owner is at work.

There is a variety of plants being grown at Agriculture, and a program that is supported by the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization which started last year. Since the program started, they have sold about 80,000 plant and vegetable seedlings. They also get farmers who order their seedlings so that they don't sow too much seedlings. So far he says that 100 trays of watermelon have been ordered by 2 farmers.

Business house Tiare Week competition



National Environment Services Building



Hartal Store Tupapa

Rutaki School Gala Day Friday 13th Nov

Photos by Poko Utia



Into the Unknown

By Lucianne Vainerere

People don't understand the full extent of the decisions you make. You go through hard work physically, mentally, and emotionally so that you can get high marks to secure your future. But what happens when that all comes crumbling down? Marks get lower, attention spans get smaller and all you're left with is a lousy "A."

You're too young to be physically tired but your body aches regardless. Pain all over, finding it hard to sleep, verbally abused and used for your ability. You try and you try to make your parents proud only for your efforts to be put down again. You try and you try to make society happy only to be left lurking in the background. You try and you try to build strong friendships only to be stabbed in the back and forgotten. People may call you depressed and lonely when really the whole world is just empty. Love is reduced, hatred erects, jealousy soars and everything becomes subdued by everyone around you. This is a portion of what's left inside of us, our half empty souls waiting to discover, to dive into the unknown.

We grow up into this world that we find completely fascinating only to realize the pain and anguish everyone else is facing. Confusion floods and your heart burdens. Heavy with sadness. But still we hold on, still we pray, still we ask for forgiveness and smile. We hide, we hurt, we think, we change. The world changes. We watch but don't see, we listen but don't hear, and we talk but don't speak. Locked in this large space so familiar yet foreign. We watch our nieces and nephews and children grow up into a cruel reality yet we watch them thinking how beautiful this place is. A new window is opened and it's your only chance to be free, so you take it.

To start anew, to live and be you, far away from everything that holds you down. How you get back up is what will define you. How you act towards it is what makes you. How you speak towards it even if its silent is what describes you. Let your heart be free, be caring and full of love, be strong and full of might, be swift and elegant, and be pure and true. Live the life that you want and pray for guidance, go dancing in the rain, swim under the moonlight, run and watch the sunrise, eat and be merry, sing and shed tears, jump and reach for the sky. If we limit ourselves to something reachable how will we ever touch the unthinkable? How will it be discovered if its never been done before us? Same as to how will we ever learn if we're refrained from making mistakes? How can we point fingers when we are stuck right in the middle? How can we move forward if we're still holding on to the past? What am I doing here?

Vaka Eiva Trade Days



News of the Barge's distress reaches Mitiaro

By Tiana Haxton

On Thursday the 12th of November, just last week, the news reached us, here on Mitiaro. The Barge had been taking in water and had quickly sunk just, off Mauke's shores. We were in shock. At School the next day, during our free time, everyone was talking about the barge. Everyone knew different things, one student explained how the barge finished unloading cargo and was on its way to Atiu when someone realised the barge wasn't balanced properly. She said they sent people on to the barge and they found a leak. They tried to turn around and head back to Mauke but according to an article in the daily paper, it was getting dark and was too dangerous so they released the ropes and chains that secured the barge to Tiroitull and eventually the barge sank. One girl told us there was a brand new truck on board and it joined the barge at the bottom of the sea. Another mentioned the tins of food that were left floating around on the surface and the fishermen from Mauke went out to collect as much of Atiu's cargo as possible. We all discussed the facts we knew about the disaster until we had gleaned quite a lot of information to take home and further add to our family's knowledge.

The Barge had been in use successfully in the Cook Islands for 18 months. The Barge was a very helpful source of transporting heavy goods from Rarotonga to the outer islands. On Mitiaro, the barge was used to carry over supplies for the shop, machinery, building supplies and so on.

With Tapi's ship, as it is not a flat bottomed vessel, the ship is anchored outside the reef near the harbour mouth and the Mitiaro Men go out in a miniature barge and cargo is loaded into the barge and brought back to shore where it is unloaded. The barge then returns to the boat for another load. This is repeated over and over until finally, all of Mitiaro's cargo has been unloaded. The hard working men are exhausted after working for a long period of time under a hot sun.

As the barge has a flat bottom it is able to come right up into the harbour with careful maneuvering and is anchored for unloading. The cargo is easily unloaded using heavy duty machinery and it is twice as fast compared to unloading cargo from the other boat.

Now that the barge has sunk, we are back to using Tapi's ship and our own small barge. We won't be able to order very large, heavy objects such as a large truck as both the mini barge and ship used for transferring cargo would have a very difficult time trying to fit it in when motoring back to land without capsizing or even sinking! With the barge, we were able to simply drive the truck off the barge and straight onto land. We are all hoping that the barge and its goods had insurance. We are also hoping that the company is able to get a replacement barge and return to moving cargo with ease.



Living above average

Part 1

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

God never meant for you and I to live an average life. We are designed for excellence!

God designed and purposed that we, His creation would live in victory and dominion-ship! To rule and to reign! God called us to do great works for Him, He purposed for us to be achievers! We were never designed by God to be average. Too often God's people settle for less, too often we are self accepting of a lot less than what God has for us. When we start seeing ourselves as God does, then we become to realise that to settle for anything less, is to deny ourselves of God's interest for our lives. In the Old Testament Book of I Chronicles 4v.9-10 is a story of a man called Jabez (Iabeza). The question is "What sets Jabez apart from the crowd?" Here in the midst of 600 other names, his name stands out as a man who was above the average. If we are going to learn anything about living above average from Jabez, then it starts with having a Dream! If we want to start living above the average:

1. WE NEED A DREAM!

Jabez had a Dream that God would give him more land! In I Chronicles 4v.10 Jabez called to the God of Israel "...Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory." The difference between young Joseph in the Old Testament and his average brothers was that, he had a dream. Joseph knew that he was destined (or purposed) for great things because he had a dream. I don't know the dream God has laid on your heart, I don't know how He has challenged you to do something great for Him. If you don't have a life dream then I encourage you to seek God earnestly in that direction. People who have a dream stand out in the crowd. Dare to dream of something great for your life, dare to dream great works you can do for God. Jabez thought big and he spoke big "...bless me and enlarge my territory..." In v.10 it says "...so God granted him what he requested." Ask God for

a DREAM, "...old men..." says the Prophet Joel (Joel 2v.28) "...shall dream dreams and young men shall see visions."

2. WE NEED A GROWING FAITH

We need to believe that God can accomplish the dream through us. Jabez not only had a Great DREAM, but he CONFESSED it. The Book of Romans tells us that "Faith comes by hearing..." (Romans 10v.17). As we CONFESS our Dream we hear it, and we become inspired, and we become committed to it because we have confessed it! It charges us with hope and belief that it can be accomplished. In Mark 9v.23 Jesus tells us that "Everything is possible for him who believes." Young Joseph in the Old Testament spoke out his dream, he confessed it, by his confession, that dream was permanently imbedded, it was implanted within his spirit, giving him hope in his afflictions – when he went through numerous challenges and difficult times. No dream is without it's opposition, that's why Jabez said, "...keep me from evil..." Jabez was a man of no special talent but he had a growing faith, he believed in his confession to God.

When you add confession to your dream it builds up your faith! Don't confuse small thinking with spirituality. When people speak doubt and inability over their lives we think that they are humble. When someone talks of greatness in God and believing for big things we say they are arrogant and proud. God designed us for accomplishment.

Paul recognized that when he said in Philippians 4v.13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Daniel 11v.32 says "The people who know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits."

Friend, what's arrogant and proud about believing and confessing the Word of God? We think, if we put ourselves down that's being humble and spiritual. God meant for us to be raised up and not put down. Thinking

big requires you to stretch your faith to the limit. That's how you develop a growing faith. A big dream and a big confession requires a big faith. Jesus had to rebuke His disciples several times because He questioned their faith. Jesus said "You are people of little faith." In Luke 17v.5 the apostles said to Jesus "Increase our faith." The disciples came to understand that their faith was 'stagnant', it was so small when it could have been much bigger.

1. Seek God for a DREAM!

2. Believe God can accomplish things through you.

I will conclude Part 2 of this Article of Encouragement next week. God bless, te Atua te aroa.



PUBLIC NOTICE



" 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."

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 aiai. 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"

Vaka Eiva Trade Days

By Hayley McNabb.

The Vaka Eiva BTIB Trade days that were held on the 19th and 20th of November 2015 in the park opposite the Banana Court, consisted of many stalls that had locally made products on sale for everyone and anyone who was interested, all the food you could eat and entertainment was provided by a band that played island songs all day long. There were stalls selling a variety of

hand-sewn dresses of sizes that ranged from kids to adults.

There was also a stall called 'N and N' which was owned by Nanave and Nakura who are originally from the island of Penrhyn but live here in Rarotonga. They were selling hand made items such as hats, fans, eis, bag, flowers, jewellery and much more with prices from \$10 up.

Pati Mai is another stall that had locally made jewellery that was made out of the pearl shell

and came in many different shapes and sizes with carvings on the front and also came with a free name engraving deal if you purchase an item.

In addition, Julia Tuake had a stall there selling her beautiful artwork and also pearls.

On top of that there was of course all the food stalls there including Bite Time with their freshly made sashimi, ika mata and sushi packs that was on sale for \$10.

Photos by Tangi Tomokino
ParadisePitshop had marinated rump steak sandwiches and also fruit smoothies.

Are Kai was selling their delicious coconut delight, all sorts of flavours of muffins, and toasties. Chicken kebabs, fried rice and mushroom sauce was on the menu as well.

And a big hit was the Poffertjes stall that sold their famous Dutch style baby pancakes that came with whipped cream and any flavor of sauce that goes on top.



It doesn't take long for some new high flyers to get into the gravy train groove, bula boy Teariki at BTIB is making every post a winning post, for a micro agency his \$89,000 package plus allowances including vehicle is a nice tidy sum not to be sneezed at, after 12 years at BTIB, Rangi T was on a lot less. Currently away on an overseas trip CEO Teariki has employed his university studying son. Insiders said there are no vacancies there, that's why the job was never advertised but his son was employed as a consultant on a contract. Being a lawyer Teariki certainly knows how to find ways around the system.



Interesting new appointment to the BTIB, the former President of the CIP Nga is now on the Board despite the obvious conflict of interest as the chief negotiator landowner for the land in Ruatonga where the BTIB conducts its business. With the CIIC lease now ended and the land back with the tribe Papa Rau negotiated a rent increase of an extra \$800 a month with BTIB. Well done Papa Rau you negotiated a rent increase with yourself.



Speaking about jobs for the boys in the inner CIP circle, notice after stuffing up the 50 year Independent Celebrations never bought a raffle ticket Niki Eleri has resurfaced in Aitutaki to run a motel but paid a handsome salary by the taxpayer to be the Climate Change Action CEO. Big Red never saw that job advertised and why should it be, it's hi ho, hi ho it's off to Paris we go.



Poor old Teri frustrated Rangi he can't get a liquor licence for his new venture the Atiu Tumunu in O'oa. While the CIP

government says they are all about helping local businesses get a helping hand, Teri doesn't want anything like the \$200,000 Brown Marks gave his best friend tad pole in the big Raro pond Miki Eleri, he just wants a liquor licence. It pays to do your home work. The local chief sitting bulls decided 20 years ago there would be no more than seven liquor licensed premises in Tupapa. Starting up a business in Raro can get very frustrating going from one Ministry or agency to another when nothing is in sync. After all these years with your nose in the tax payer's trough, welcome to the real world Teri, that of irregular income and sweating it out to pay your VAT and tax to keep lazy public servants in their cushy jobs.



With money to burn our impotent chairman of the neneva Neves fan club the Public Service Commissioner Russlie Thomas invited dumped HOMs and senior servants out to dinner at the Vaima Restaurant to thank them for their contribution to his beloved Public Service. Despite food being expensive and a free night out a saving on the grocery bill none of the seven people plus their wives bothered to show up even though some said they would. One said why would I want to go and have a meal

with Judas, and that was the least offensive of the verbal responses.



Isn't the new look BTIB doing well! They've just approved a new, foreign owner run mini-golf course in Arorangi opposite some fancy accommodations, putting the other, locally owned mini-golf course at risk of going under! The rubber stamps are out already!



There's a new twist to the American, non tax paying Animal Clinic chooks. The Clinic is right opposite the comfy residence of Finance Secretary Filchard Peves! Perhaps during his early dawn jogs along the social centre sand, Peves has trodden into one too many doggie doo dahs!



Ever dutiful MP Ngamau Munokoa was spotted waiting to join the Speaker on a flight to Papua New Guinea. The Demo MPs Tetangi and Selina were offered the trip but they turned it down. Was it because the destination was not high class enough for them? If it was to London, New York, Beijing, Paris, they may have jumped up and gone.



Government has dumped the Numaga lad off the BTIB and replaced him with former CIP party President Rau Nga. Is it

because the Numaga boy leans the wrong way? The Demo way? More "yes men" to rubber stamp applications from foreigners friendly to government? With BTIB members the least paid of all Government Boards, look for the BTIB fees to get a giant hike as more of the party faithful get appointed.



Local rooster says "money talks." Therefore the anti-purse seiners should put up \$9 million to replace the funds that would be lost if purse seining by the flamenco dancing, stomping Spaniards (Ole!) was stopped. But chooks, what about purse seining by the Americans under the US Treaty? That's also worth a few \$million. How come there have been no protest marches against the Yankee Doodle Dandies? Eh, eh?



Cocktails aboard the pleasure yacht Fiare Floporo to christen its arrival! The local posh and chardonnay sipping, crooked little finger brigade ponced about on deck in their evening finery reminiscent of a soiree on some billionaire's yacht berthed in Cannes. It's a wonder the teeny boat didn't capsize.



Geeze Wayne, before bursting into print in the ship's log of the SS Daily, get your facts right sailor Steve! Purse seine fishing did not start in our waters five years ago! If you bothered to semaphore MMR (their hatch is always open) they would have told you they have the stats for purse seine fishing in our waters since 2002. In 2002, 3132 tonnes were caught by purse seine fishing. The amount caught dropped off dramatically and in 2007 only 4 tonnes were caught. From 2008, the amount began to increase but slowly until 2014 when 17,000 tonnes of skippyjacko was hauled in.

FAT CATS

Number 2, Cabinet has a plan for the Tiare Taporo to boost tourism!

At what cost?



HARD
TOO HARD
IMPOSSIBLE

COCONUT ROUNDTABLE

Rumour has it Government plan to sink the Tiare Taporo so it becomes a Tourist attraction for divers!

How much will that cost?

And what about the asbestos?

VACANCIES



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P.O. Box 325
Avarua
Rarotonga
Cook Islands

or sent by e-mail to Jean-Baptiste loaba, Director at: seanioaba@gmail.com

All applications received on or before December 4, 2015 will be considered.



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Ikurangi Ltd, Housekeeper/Gardener, Rarotonga
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VACANCY

ARE YOU A STAR WEDDING PLANNER?

Do you have some wedding planning experience and now want to take the next step to make it your full-time passion? Do you love making dream weddings come to life? By working with us at The Rarotongan Beach Resort & Spa and adjacent adults-only sister resort, Sanctuary Rarotonga-on the beach, you would be offering couples and their guests the best wedding locations on Rarotonga along with the best range of wedding packages, reception venues and menus. If you love helping bring joy and magic into people's lives, this job is for you! Come join us now, contact us on 25800 or hr@rarotongan.co.ck

PUBLIC NOTICE



MEMBER FEEDBACK ON CHANGES TO THE CINSF

Over the past 12 months the CINSF has introduced a number of improvements to the Fund for the benefit of members.

The next proposed changes involve amendments to the Trust Deed and the CINS Act 2000. As part of the consultation process these changes have initially been communicated through the Members General Meeting in October 2015, presented to Cabinet and approved to move to public consultation, and is now provided in more detail in a public survey for members to read, answer, and provide feedback.

All feedback will be collated and presented to the CINSF Board for consideration.

The Survey can be located on the CINSF website www.cinsf.com or on the CINSF Facebook group page

Alternatively if you do not have access to the Internet you can visit the CINSF office and use the customer device to complete the survey.

The survey will be open until 30 November 2016, and we encourage all members and stakeholders to participate.

MeitakiMaata
Damien Beddoes
Chief Executive Officer

ADVERTISE WITH THE

COOK ISLANDS HERALD

PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE

**TAU NEW POWER HOUSE PROJECT, AVATIU VALLEY,
RAROTONGA**

We are experiencing a problem with traffic travelling too fast at the entrance to the power station in Avatiu Valley where TAU civil works are in progress.

Visitors, residents and users of the Avatiu Valley road are asked to take extra care and slow down along the section of the road beside the power station during normal working hours. Watch out for heavy vehicles, plant and machinery that may be manoeuvring or parked on the roadside. Keep an eye out for loose gravel and debris on the road from time to time.

VACANCIES



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90573



Apata Group Ltd is a kiwifruit post harvest packhouse facility based in the sunny Bay of Plenty, New Zealand.

We are looking for staff for our kiwifruit packing season starting in mid March 2016 through to mid June 2016.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact Michaela on 0064 7 5520523 or email michaela.gallear@apata.co.nz stating you are in the Cook Islands.

Once we have received expressions of interest, an Apata representative will arrange a date to start the recruitment process.

We offer support with your travel flights, communal accommodation, transport and pastoral care. We look forward to hearing from you.

TENDER



**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GOVERNANCE AND
MANAGEMENT OF THE GENERATION AND SUPPLY OF
ELECTRICITY IN THE COOK ISLANDS**

Request for Tender

The Office of the Prime Minister is seeking tender submissions for the Governance and Management of the Generation and Supply of Electricity in the Cook Islands.

The contract will contribute to the sustainable and effective performance of the electricity sector in the Cook Islands. The outcome of the Contract will provide government key recommendations for decision making as a way forward for the Electricity sector.

Full tender documents and conditions, please refer to www.procurement.gov.ck. Reference number 151616

Queries can be directed to Tangi Tereapii, Renewable Energy Development Division, Office of the Prime Minister, ph 25494 ext 808.

Tender submissions close 4.00pm Monday 14th December 2015 (Cook Islands time). Tenders must be deposited in the Tender Box at the Renewable Energy Development Division (REDD), Office of the Prime Minister, Avarua, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.



**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
IT UPGRADE**

Te Aponga Uira (TAU) is seeking expressions of interest from suppliers for the upgrade of its IT systems, namely:

- Accounting software;
- Payroll software;
- Billings and customer service software; and the
- Suite of computers.

Interested suppliers are expected to demonstrate their ability to provide the following:

- Supply, installation and training of software;
- Supply of hardware components;
- Data migration from old system to new; and
- Information in relation to the services and costs of on-going system upgrades and support services.

To register your interests or for further details in either one or all areas above, please email LizTommy@electricity.co.ck. Expressions of interests close at 3pm (Cook Islands time) on Friday 27th November 2015.

New Hope Church
Parekura Conference Centre
Inspirational messages to uplift and empower you
Sunday at 10.30am

FOOTBALL UPDATE

Cooks to Host Oceania U-17 Women's Championship

Preparations are well under way for the 2016 Oceania U-17 Women's Championship to be held here in Rarotonga from 13th to 23rd January 2016.

The Cook Islands Football Association has won the bid to host the competition and look forward to showcase our football community and country to the visiting teams.

So far eight countries have confirmed their participation in the tournament. The teams will be split into two groups of four. The following teams, New Caledonia, Tonga, Samoa and overwhelming favourites, defending champions New Zealand in Group A. Host Country Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Fiji will be leading the charge in

Group B.

The teams will play each other once in their respective pools with the top two teams from each group advancing into the semi-finals.

The Cook Islands have participated at this tournament only once in the past, back in 2012.

Players who have taken part in the past have gone on to play at U-20 level and represent their countries in the national team. It is a great opportunity for the next generation of young players to make their mark, and for some the chance to play at the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup.

The winner of the 2016 OFC U-17 Women's Championship will qualify for the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in Jordan in September 2016.



Auckland City must grow up

Emiliano Tade says the hunger and desire to succeed at the FIFA Club World Cup Japan 2015 is more intense than ever.

Last year, the Auckland City FC striker was a key figure as Oceania's amateurs surged to a scarcely believable bronze medal victory over Cruz Azul. But it's an achievement the Argentine forward says must be put firmly in perspective. He says it's time for the Navy Blues to grow up.

"Our hunger to succeed is even more intense," he told FIFA.com. "We were like kids last year, excited by everything that happened around us after we started winning games. Like any kid when you enjoy a surprise, you want more and more of it



and we were the same. "

Tade's performances against ES Setif and Cruz Azul caught the eye of his hometown club Club de Mitre in Argentina and soon after the FIFA Club

World Cup he left the Navy Blues to realise his dream of playing for his childhood heroes.

While Tade's deep attraction to playing for Club de Mitre

was undeniable, so too was the pull of Auckland City FC. Leaving Auckland City FC was emotional the first time, coming back was filled with equal joy.