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27 February 2013

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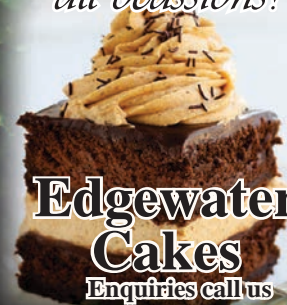
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NZ pension on our agenda for joint talks

By Prime Minister Hon Henry Puna

A Joint Ministerial Forum with New Zealand will be held on Thursday this week, the second occasion in which our two governments sit down and discuss issues of mutual interest and concern. The first JMF was hosted by the Cook Islands in 2011 and this time around, New Zealand has kindly arranged for us to meet in Queenstown, in the South Island, over two days.

I will be leading our delegation, accompanied by Ministers Mark Brown and Teina Bishop, plus officials from Foreign Affairs and Finance. The agenda is again quite substantive in terms of issues – many of them ongoing – although my interest is largely being focused on three main items.

The first priority item revolves around the criteria that New Zealand applies to Cook Islanders qualifying to collect the pension/super payments from there, as opposed to the local one. As many of our people know,

this is a long-running issue that has been considered by previous administrations. A requirement to fulfill residency conditions in New Zealand in order to qualify has been widely deemed as unfair.

Many Cook Islanders, thousands in fact, have residential ties to New Zealand in some form or other. Their experiences range from having lived and worked in New Zealand for a great number of years, to moving backward and forward on regular short-term stays of months or more. The fluidity of our movement between countries is well-known – for some, an accepted part of Cook Islands' life. The non-reciprocal travel arrangement, as New Zealand citizens, has been in place since 1965, allowing a freedom and right that are the envy of others.

Upon retirement, the question of where one wants to live during the sunset years, is important and will always involve a question



PM Henry Puna, Mayor Ngamata Napara plus Island Secretary Tereapii Paulo

of collecting a pension. The Cook Islands of course supports a pension age of 60 while New Zealand's is 65. For Cook Islanders who wish to collect the NZ pension, they must satisfy certain criteria. And this is where many feel penalized for having to settle the requirements, especially since they must have resided in NZ for five years after the age of 50, inclusive of the 10 years after the age of 20.

The unfairness is understandable when those who are approaching middle-age feel they are being forced to uproot themselves at a time when they are still productive at home. In our small country, people in this age bracket are fulfilling vital roles in our workforce and contributing significantly to welfare of families and the national economy. Should they travel back to NZ at a much older age to qualify, there is every chance that they will not be employable, or be able to sustain the level

of productivity they are accustomed to.

In addition, there are also residents in the Cook Islands who feel penalized by the present criteria if they fall just outside of the requirements. They may have lived for many years and worked in New Zealand – or even in the Cook Islands prior to 1965 – and still fail to meet the criteria. All their hard work and contributions will seem to have gone unrecognized.

We know that this can be a problematic area for the New Zealand government given the complexity of the mobility of Cook Islanders, the numbers of eligible people, and the flow on effect in terms of economic and financial impacts. We have however, registered our desire for the NZ government to consider easing the residency criteria for pensioners and as a Government, will continue to encourage our colleagues in NZ to take our case forward.

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A Friday for the history books

Friday marks the official birth of our multi-billion dollar deep sea mining industry

By Charles Pitt

History will be created on Friday 1 March 2013, when the Sea Bed Minerals Act 2009 comes into force.

This is the day our deep sea mining "baby" is officially born, marking the birth of our newest, possibly most lucrative revenue stream.

Sea Bed Minerals Commissioner Paul Lynch told the Herald on Tuesday afternoon no special function will be held on that day to mark the event as the Deputy Prime Minister Hon Tom Marsters is currently overseas in Singapore.

However, on the Minister's return on Friday 8 March, a small ceremony is planned where the DPM will present Certificates of Appointment to members of the Sea Bed Minerals Board and also launch the new web site.

Between 1 March and 1 July, the Office of the Sea bed Minerals Authority will be preparing for the international tendering of exploratory blocks. They will be assisted by the Commonwealth Secretariat Office in London who will handle this process.

Lynch is pleased that after a long period of preparation, things are finally moving forwards. It is only in the last two years said Lynch that government has allocated funding to the Office. In 2011, \$50,000 was allocated

to top up the advisers rate for the Natural Resource Adviser, Darryl Thorburn. IN 2012, \$370,000 was allocated to set up the office which until then was made up of an ad hoc committee or taskforce.

The Authority is now focusing on the tender process said Lynch.

Three sets of regulations are being promulgated. These are for;

1.Environmental issues-and will be based on the precautionary principle. Outside help comes from Hanah Lily the Deep Sea Minerals Project Adviser with SPC. Lynch said there will be no big environmental impacts during the exploratory phase but regulations will need to be in place when licenses are granted next year.

2.Fiscal matters-this is being drafted by an adviser in MFEM and will include the Sovereign Fund.

3.Application Forms-Alex Herman is working on these. She helped to draft the Tongan forms.

Regulations will go out for public consultation.

As to the setting of the exploratory "blocks" which overseas companies will tender for, the Act, section 11, which relates to "gridding" provides the basis for setting the size of the blocks. When viewed in terms

of kilometers, Natural Resource Adviser Darryl Thorburn said each grid will be 100 kilometers by 100 kilometers. Within this space there are 144 "blocks" each about 8km by 8km. Companies will tender for as many as they wish.

According to Thorburn, if the density of the manganese nodules within a block is 5kg per square metre then there is enough nodules present for mining to last 150 years.

In certain areas, the density of nodules is as high as 47 kg per square metre.

Lynch said it will be about a month before the gridding exercise is completed. The areas he said will be well away from any outer island.

According to Lynch,

international interest in the way we are developing our procedures and requirements for sea bed mineral mining is high and getting higher.

He, Thorburn and legal officer Alex Herman will be attending a Pacific/ACP states regional workshop on DSM Law and Contract negotiations in Tonga from 11-15 March 2013.

Herman will deliver a one hour case study on the Cook Islands on the second day. 15 countries are expected to attend.

Lynch and Thorburn have also been invited to an international workshop in Kiel, Germany from 18-20 March 2013. The workshop wants to hear about the development of the Cook Islands national regulatory framework for deep sea mining.

PM wants focus on JMF talks

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 26 February 2013 - The New Zealand pension/super for qualifying Cook Islanders is topping the agenda of the Prime Minister Henry Puna when the Cook Islands sits down with the New Zealand Government this week at their 2nd Joint Ministerial Forum. Government's priority is to seek NZ's consideration to relax/remove the criteria on residency requirements for qualifying Cook Islanders to collect the NZ pension. The issue is not portability as this is already available to qualifying Cook Islanders. T.

The JMF will take place in Queenstown on Thursday 28 February with the Cook Islands focusing on a shortened list of priorities for discussion. Apart from the pension issue, Government intends to raise two key items - the desire by the Cook Islands to join the United Nations, and the NZ visa conditions on Chinese travellers, who may come to the Cook Islands.

While the Prime Minister is keen to focus on these items at the JMF, NZ has also proposed a number of issues for the South Island talks. They include Trade, Immigration and Depopulation, Transport, and Development Assistance. The joint talks also allow scope for discussions on international affairs, such as the ongoing concerns of the Pacific Islands Forum and other regional institutions.



SWITCH ON WITH
TE APONGA UIRA

"You can plan most things ..."
but not the weather



Geoff Mackley

What are the chances of a stay prepared and make sure cyclone in February and March? you have the following items on hand.

If you go by statistics there is a 29% per cent chance of one occurring in February. The next most likely month is March.

With our Met Office at the start of this season predicting two cyclones and Emergency Management cautioning we're "due for a big one", it's vital to

- Torches and candles to see at night.

- Battery operated radio to hear the latest news.

- Food that you can store without refrigeration.

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Demo focus to stay positive

By Wilkie Rasmussen, Leader of the Opposition

Now that Parliament has adjourned for an unspecified time, the Opposition Democratic Party members had come out of that week long session feeling extremely buoyant and positive. As Leader of the Opposition, I applaud my team for taking it to the Government on the two Bills presented to the House. The Island Government Bill and the Supplementary Budget Bill were both passed into Acts of Parliament but not without great questions and debate from the Opposition.

Now that the honeymoon

of the Tamarua by-election victory is over, the realization is that there is more work to do to eventually wrestle away the Treasury from the Henry Puna government. That work could probably culminate into what could be the most decisive victory for the Opposition, if the Deputy Prime Minister Tom Marsters retires and a by-election is called in his Rarotonga constituency of Murienua. We don't know yet but the word with some certainty is that the DPM wants to bow out of the rigours and tumbles of everyday politics to assume the job of Queens Representative.

I note that there are some stirrings in the media from several quarters and I have been saying to my Opposition colleagues, let's not be distracted by those and focus on what is best for the Democratic Party. Let's build on what we have held as a foundation of the Demos; the principles of freedom, democracy and open-mindedness. We remain strongly committed to our freedom to debate, to the sharing of information and to speak our mind to those in authorities and to those that spite us.

With sincerity I say that the Democratic Party anticipates more growth and maturity and heralds the era of a new generation of politics and politicians. I am advocating with the current Members of Parliament of the Opposition virtues of transparency and honesty. And they in turn respond with a clear agenda of hard work and adherence to the motto of being a good representative for their constituencies and for the people of the Cook Islands as a whole.

What is clear from this current team of Demo warriors (both MP and Executive) is the fact that they do not suffer from colonial hang-over as did our predecessors. And they do not suffer under any illusion that their country's destiny is going to be shaped by anyone else other than ourselves.

Unfortunately the Government MPs has been locked into a style and mind-frame that makes us subservient to bigger countries in the region and



far abroad. There's now far too much reliance on aid and less belief in or own workforce and the ability of our own people. That to me is a great disappointment because I have always subscribed to the Maori tangata whenua of Ao Tea Roa proverb that "he aha te mea nui, he tangata, he tangata". What is the most important thing? - a person, a person. It's simple and yet so true.

I ask of you readers to (if you have not already) reassess and review your political views, aspirations and conclusions. Come on board with the Democratic Party and grow with us as we in a logical time frame prepare ourselves with good policy (for dissemination to the public later). We are not going to engage in nasty counter-productive politics as in yester-years and by unscrupulous people but instead THE DEMO FOCUS IS TO STAY POSITIVE.

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Project City Update

The Project City town water upgrade is continuing at a rapid pace with work on sub-mains on the street outside the Court House, NZ High Commission, MFEM and the Post Office commencing late last week.

The upgrade is extensive and all mains, sub-mains, branch mains will be replaced within the project area. MOIP has satellite images to show the area from Panama, Avarua town up to and including Takuvaine Valley and half of Tupapa.

However, the water network upgrade has not been without minor incidents despite taking all care and making use of the ground penetrating radar to identify all service lines by the contractor. Another issue is the poor state of the road after the work.

All these issues were discussed at an urgent meeting held between MOIP and the contractor last week and the contractor has agreed to make best efforts to begin road reinstatement work within three weeks rather than toward the end of the project as originally planned.

Motorists are requested to exercise extreme care on the road, especially in the Panama area near Aquarius, Nu Bar



Contractor and subcontractors working outside the NZ High Commission Office and Court House area on Thursday 21 February.

and Triad and in the Tupapa area until such time as road reinstatement can commence

MOIP is appealing to the public to be patient while this

very important work is being carried out over the next few months and due for completion in June 2013.

The Project City \$2.5million

water upgrade is funded by ADB, contracted to Landholdings Ltd and project managed by Ministry of Infrastructure.

MOIP media release



CUT YOUR EXCESS

If you are on the Value, Plus, Super or Mega Broadband plans, we're cutting your excess in half for February, March and April.

\$750,000 Surplus - is that a good thing? - or would the money be better off circulating in the economy.

Last week the Minister of Finance presented to parliament a Supplementary Budget in which the Minister says has outlined that savings was made from an 'improved performance' directly relating to the Air NZ underwrite and improved revenues which has provided room for additional spending.

The supplementary budget underlying surplus of \$749,000 was lower than what was estimated at the time of the Budget Policy Statement, and government has since decided to incorporate further spending. The underlying figure is contributed mostly from the reduction in oil and the high tourism numbers which saw government save \$1.3million from the Air NZ underwrite, which is into its final year.

With the underlying surplus, government is looking at pouring more funds into 'projects.' Some of these include, the purchasing of a fully-equipped ambulance costing government \$150,000 which will bring the fleet up to 2, the upgrading of the Manihiki harbor which is estimated to cost \$500,000 and to complete the Vaimaru Water intake upgrade in Aitutaki left behind from the devastation of Cyclone Pat, this project alone is estimated to cost \$150,000.

Furthermore, there are a number of outstanding bills that government has still yet to settle, these are:

1. \$50,000 to the Rarotonga Golf Club – the long standing claim is from work undertaken during the Pacific Mini Games in 2009, where the club had to prepare and upgrade the greens to an agreed standard for the Pacific Mini Games
2. \$175,000 – Civil List top up to cover spending constraints. The Civil List is what ministerial travel is paid from.
3. \$153,000 – Te Maeva Nui 2012, this cost was incurred after having to transport some members of the Tongareva Cultural team after the Samoan Vessel Lady Naomi exceeded its maximum capacity, forcing passengers to take an alternative option, in which 6 flights were chartered, with the remainder of the passengers being transported on the KWAI shipping vessel.

by Mona Tetauru

In a Flash:

\$750,000 saved is \$750,000 that is not flowing around the economy. Should Government really be trying to make cutbacks that result in budget surpluses? There are also still a number of outstanding debts that need paying although much of this will see the funds flow out of the country rather than circulate within it.

4. \$16,000 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for protocol and other costs associated with officials travel to accompany the PM in his role as Chair of the Pacific Islands Leaders Forum.
5. \$84,300 – top up of the contingency fund to cover emergencies unexpected by Crown obligations. These include the costs associated with the State Funerals of Sir Geoffrey Henry and Sir Terepai Maoate KBE, along with legal fees associated with the Ministry of Health and St Mary's medical school and costs associated with the Toa mediation (\$3,000) which, according to the Minister of Finance were unpaid from the previous government and the costs associated with the Mangaia election (\$9,000). It's understood, that \$94,000 was spent from the \$100,000 from the contingency fund that was budgeted, and replenishing the fund was in order to pay for urgent expenditures which may arise this financial year.
6. \$20,000 – MFEM for legal advice it sought on issues around Crown finances and obligations which were unanticipated at the time of the Budget.

The Minister of Finance told media recently, he intends to continue on with a transparency approach and no other government in the history of the Cook Islands has provided the level of information to the public as the CI Party government has today, rather than having speculative figures which appear to be plucked out of thin air from those who oppose government.

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Gateway to Commercial Tuna Export to Japan

After working together with the Organization for the Promotion of Responsible Fisheries (OPRT), the Ministry of Marine Resources (MMR) has accredited one Fishing Association to have OPRT membership. All future Cook Island flag vessels considering shipping big eye tuna to Japan will have to register with the Cook Islands Commercial Association (CICFA), as only OPRT members will be able to export tuna to Japan.

After being granted membership, the CICFA have now registered six tuna long line fishing vessels with the OPRT who are based in Tokyo, Japan. Fishing vessels currently owned by Alikai Fishing Co Ltd and Toamoana

Fishing Co Ltd will be replaced by ultra low temperature vessels and these are approved by MMR as Cook Islands vessels.

OPRT is an international NGO whose aim is to promote the proper conservation and management of tuna stocks for people all over the world. With sashimi tuna being an essential part of the food culture in Japan and due to tuna stocks being overly exploited worldwide, OPRT was created to promote responsible tuna fisheries.

OPRT represents all stake holders in tuna fisheries including owners of tuna longline fishing vessels in the world, traders, distributors and consumers in Japan. Some of the members are, Japan Tuna Fisheries

Cooperative Association, China Overseas Fisheries Association, Malaysian Tuna Association, Japan Fish Wholesalers' Union of Central Wholesale Market, Indonesia Tuna Association...and now the Cook Islands Commercial Fishing Association.

Some of the activities that OPRT promotes are restraint of the increase in the number of large scale tuna longliners in the world to prevent over fishing of tuna resources; the exchanging of information with international bodies for the conservation and management of tuna resources; implementation of necessary measures for the protection of sea birds and sea turtles that are caught in commercial fishing operations and cooperative relationships of all parties involved in the production, trade, distribution, and consumption of tuna resources.

The CICFA members comprises of Landholdings, Ocean Fresh Ltd, Ocean Fresh New Zealand Ltd, Alikai Fishing Co Ltd and Toamoana Fishing Co Ltd. These Companies are well placed in assisting MMR in developing and maintaining appropriate health, hygiene and quality standards in the Cook Islands commercial fishing industry.

Ben Ponia the Secretary of MMR states "being accepted as a member in OPRT is a worthwhile venture for the Cook Islands providing that we are able to adhere to management plans. It's a gate way for commercial fishers and with an organisation who is heavily involved in promoting sustainability and key issues of tuna fisheries."

Thieves seize bike parts



Police are investigating the theft on Monday night of bike parts. The Muffler and rear wheel was removed from this bike in Parekura.

Glassie delighted

Cabinet Minister Nandi Glassie is delighted that the minerals research training being undertaken by Dr. Duane Malcolm in the United States has opened a new door for the Cook Islands, and given Atiu a terrific boost in island pride. The Atiu MP says the initiative by Malcolm is both positive and uplifting because it encourages all Cook Islanders to think more seriously about getting involved in the direction of this important and growing sector. Malcolm is presently in the US, engaged in nodule rare earth analysis and learning about mineral economics, and mining engineering. He is working with a key agencies, including a visit to Odyssey Minerals in San Diego.

Minister Glassie praised Malcolm for his efforts, noting his roots as a graduate of Enuamanu School and citing his strengths in engineering and research. Malcolm's wife Sally is a highly qualified chemical engineer and is also considered to be an asset for furthering local knowledge and expertise in nodules mining research.

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International Women's Day



Congratulations to the Woman of the Month of February 2013

Mareta Queenie Pirangi

This month's nominee for Woman of the Month is Mareta Queenie Pirangi, who has been recognized by the Dorcus Federation for her involvement and contribution to the community through this organization. Her visitations throughout the years in the organization involve visiting elderly homes, hospital and the prison. She also found an interest in teaching young women how to cut tivaevae, sew cushion covers, create various stitches for embroidery, cooking demonstrations and making traditional medicines.

Mama Mareta was born on the 22nd of April 1920, which makes her a strong and lovely 93 year old woman. Mareta has 10 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren and counting.

She is the eldest of 3 children, her mother is Ani Pirangi and she comes from the Pirangi family in Arorangi. Mareta holds the traditional title of Io Rangitira, Neinei Matapo and Te Kau Ariki o Puaikura, and is very active in this area of her life. She attended Papaaroa School in the late 1930s, she met the love of her life, Matamua Matamua Iro Iti and in 1941 they got married. During their tenure at Papaaroa School, they were home deans for the young people and responsible for printing equipment and printing of the local Seventh Day Adventist Sabbath school lessons.

From there she had 2 children, one son- Tuakana Toeata whom was adopted by her aunty Moari Pirangi Toeata and one daughter Esther Matamua Katu. In the late 1940s, the family of 3 travelled to Fulton College in Fiji for further studies, upon their return in the late 1960s, they served as a pastoral family.

In 1972, Mareta and two of her grandchildren travelled to Mitiaro as the Government Representative for 2 years and in 1974 they got posted to Manihiki and on their return went to Atiu. She was very active during her time in these areas especially with the Vainetini and community gathering.

Her hobbies include planting and gardening; she loves her flowers and is no stranger to the pai taro plantation. Mama Mareta is very passionate about the art of tivaevae and being able to pass her knowledge onto her daughter, grandchildren and great grand children.

Maretas most memorable experience is having the opportunity to be featured in the Tivaevae book by Lynsay Francis, and being in a poster pin up at Te Papa Museum, New Zealand for the promotion of the book. She also will never forget the blessing of 2 boats named after her grandchildren Taimata and Ani in Manihiki.

At the moment and in the near future Mareta would like to continue to accomplish in sharing whatever knowledge she has imparted to her church family and island communities in helping them assist, develop, improve and sustain their livelihoods.

Above all of that, Mama Mareta is a very strong woman of faith. She strongly believes in God and is an active member of the Arorangi Seventh Day Adventist. She leaves us with one of her favorite bible verses- "Ephesians 4:4 There is one body and 1 spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling"



Women of the Month Sponsors 2013

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2. Pitt Media Group CITV/CI Herald,
3. Bank Cook Islands \$50 & Wall of Fame,
4. Aquarius - \$100 voucher,
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6. FujiImage/Cook Islands Printing Services Colin Burns- production of photo,
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8. Nga Nelio - Massage Therapist,
9. Lydia Sijp- Foot massage pamper pack,
10. Flame Tree Restaurant \$100 Dinner Voucher,
11. Martha Makimare -Tivaivai & pareu sponsorship,
12. Aunty Kafos's- Lunch for 2 at Kafoteria,
13. Aunty Mii at Punanga Nui Markets



Energy efficiency use

We are spending a lot of time planning and preparing for the introduction of renewable energy on a broad scale, mainly because it is a mainstay of government's energy policy.

But there's another energy policy of choice which gets very little respect from the public probably because it's not promoted enough. Yet it results in big savings in household budgets and business operations and sustains economic growth. It is for us a faster, cheaper and cleaner source of energy supply. This is energy efficiency, which simply means reducing waste and getting more economic output of energy per unit of energy. When people are made aware of using energy efficient devices that offer them the same service at a lower operating cost, they can do their own math.

Surprisingly to many people, we at TAU have made – and continue to make – large investments to get our customers to use less kilowatt-hours of electricity. Why ever for? The reason as written in our mission statement and guiding principles is to supply reliable and affordable energy services. That is our core business. And the truth is everyone benefits when those services are delivered at lower cost by energy efficient devices and buildings.

While our financial return on current investment may suffer in the short term, we are better off by far in not having to design oversized infrastructure in future planning.

Here are some energy efficiency initiatives TAU has undertaken:

- We have upgraded our generation equipment which has resulted in significant drop in generation losses by 2%.
- We have replaced high power



consumption streetlights thus reducing consumption by 52%.

• We are working very closely with ADB to implement a vast number of Energy Efficiency initiatives (for example, we suggested a rebate incentive be implemented as encouragement for people to replace their old fridge/freezer with newer energy efficient ones that use less electricity. And we recommended fixing the inefficient lighting in community buildings whose communal owners typically struggle with power payments.)

Not least among the positive measures we are assisting is the installation of 10,000

CFL lights over the next few months without cost to households and which will result in immediate cost savings to power consumers. Installing compact fluorescent lights use one-third the energy of incandescent lights and may last 6 to 10 times longer.

In a nutshell, energy efficiency increases productivity, supports economic growth, lessens greenhouse gas emissions, and reduces costs for every one of us. It also makes renewable energy more affordable by reducing the size of panels, turbines, or plants needed to light your house or power your microwave.



Coconut Stick-insects on the increase in Atiu

During the recent session of parliament, there was a lively discussion about the stick insect infested trees at the Atiu harbour.

Director of the Natural Heritage Trust, Gerald McCormack, has pointed out that he reported early in February 2013 that stick insects on Atiu had become a problem since the numbers of Myna birds had been reduced through culling.

In May 2009, with the approval of the Ātiu Island Council and widespread community support the Trust launched a myna reduction project which became an eradication project in November 2010. The project is funded by Conservation International, Air Rarotonga, Atiu Villas and Natural Heritage.

There were at least 6,000 mynas at the start of the project and today there is about a thousand. They are so severely reduced that they are no longer considered to be a household or horticultural pest and the visibility of local land birds has greatly increased to the obvious enjoyment of residents and visitors.

When the project was approved by the Island Council McCormack predicted that stick-insects would increase and this became evident in late 2011 and since then the damage to coconut palms in some areas has become very conspicuous.

When the project was approved, the Trust agreed that if the stick-insect damage persisted at an unacceptable level it would reintroduce the myna, if the community wished. That arrangement still stands. However, before returning the myna to its earlier abundance and pest status McCormack said there was a need to look at other options to reduce Coconut Stick-insect damage.

The Fiji Department of

Common Myna

Acridotheres tristis

Manu Kavamani
Manu Kāomani (MG,AK)

Introduced to
Rarotonga 1906 and 1909
Mangaia 1915 and c.1960
Aitutaki 1915
Ma'uke 1916
Ātiu 1916
Manuae 1920s

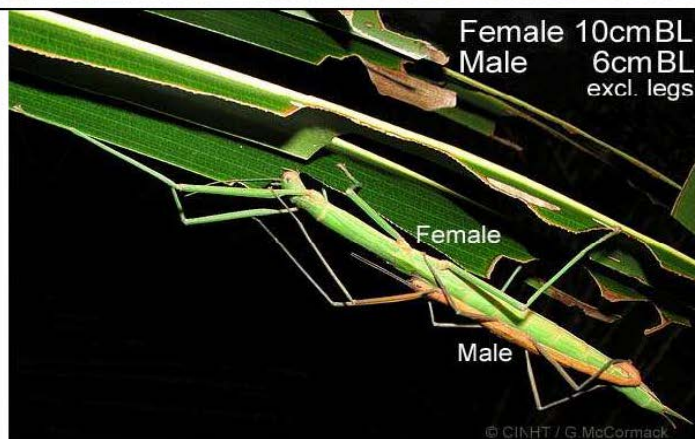


Coconut Stick-insect

Graeffea crouanii

‘Ē (RR)
‘E’e (MG)
Vēvē & Eē (AT)
‘E’ē (MK and AK) and
Vivī & ‘E’ē (MT)

Introduced by the ancient
Polynesians pre-1820.



Agriculture recommends the clearing of weeds under palms so that the nymphs are more likely eaten by chickens or

trampled by livestock. They also suggest that smoky fires on still days can reduce the number of insects in palm crowns. The

Department also breeds and releases a bio-control wasp, which it reports as “effective, sustainable and cost-effective”.

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NCD Awareness Week



Rosie Blake with members of the Public Health Service on Wednesday morning.

Bill Pay option for Annual License Renewal available now at BCI

While the Bank of the Cook Islands is open to the public for annual vehicle license registration renewals from as early as February, it would seem everyone likes to wait last minute. However this year, the prompt team at BCI has a number of savvy solutions to avoid the rush. Introducing a way to make the queues go faster this year, BCI will open late on selected days in March

this will allow workers to get their vehicle licenses renewed outside of busy working hours and will be advertised closer to the time. Again making the renewal process as painless as possible, businesses are contacted in February with fleet details for confirmation before a bulk renewal invoice on the fleet is issued for payment. The inclusion of BCI's BillPay option in 2010 meant for Westpac and ANZ customers renewing vehicle

registrations could be accessed via Bill Pay option of the Internet Banking Login. BCI continues to encourage the general public to make use of these alternate options and come in as early as possible to avoid the long queues. To get your annual vehicle registration renewed, you will need with you – the license plate number of your vehicle and in some cases the engine number of your vehicle. The Annual Vehicle License

Registrations for all vehicles expire 31st of March and the CI Police will not be sympathetic if they catch you driving with an expired vehicle registration or warrant of fitness. If you are driving with an expired vehicle registration or warrant of fitness, it will cost you a \$20 charge in which you are given 7 days to come up with payment. See BCIs advert for vehicle registration costing below and get it done today!

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ANZ & Westpac customers registered for Internet Banking, can pay for your Motor Vehicle Annual License via

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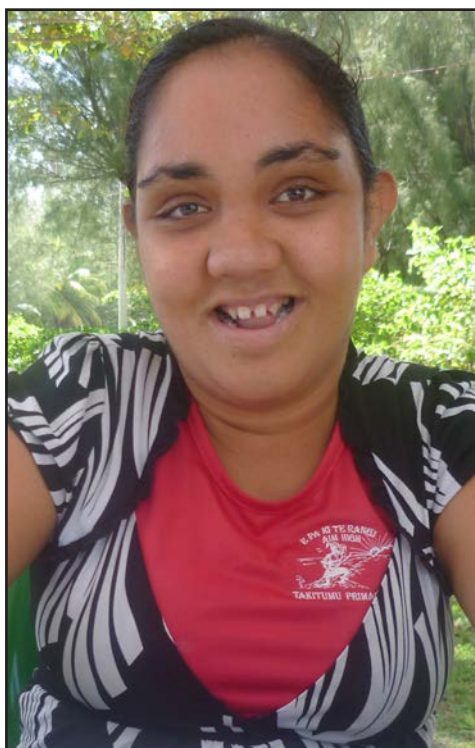
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NCD Awareness Week



Helen Tatuava and Ura Tangaroa of Shekinah Services is proud to support

International Women's Day

PARADISE

A Poem by Kathleen Heather

Paradise
It's filled with nature
Perfect necessities
That we often do not see
Creatures
And it's wilderness
Land
Covered in green
Beautiful it is
Is everything just a dream?
I overlook the horizon
In the depths of the ocean
Lay untouched coral beds
Paradise
And it's beauty
That lie deep within

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10 things to try when applications won't work with Windows 8

8: Trick the application into thinking it is running on an earlier version of Windows

Some applications are hard-coded to look for a specific version of Windows. In these types of situations, you can configure Windows 8 to lie to the application about what version of Windows you're running. Start by running the Program Compatibility Troubleshooter (as described above). When you get to the What Problems Do You Notice screen, choose the option for programs that worked in an earlier version of Windows. After clicking Next, you will have the option of telling the utility which version of Windows the application worked in.

9: Provide the application with extra permissions

Some legacy applications (especially those written for Windows XP) fail to run due to inadequate permissions. Once again, the Program Compatibility Troubleshooter can help. When you get to the What Problems Do You Notice screen, choose the option related to the program requiring additional permissions. As an alternative, you could try right-clicking on the application and choosing the Run As Administrator option (assuming that you have administrative permissions).

10: Check the Compatibility Center

One last thing you can do is check the Compatibility Center for information about the application. The Compatibility Center is a Web site Microsoft uses to provide application compatibility information for Windows 7 and 8. In some instances, it provides a link to detailed instructions on what you must do to make an otherwise-incompatible application work with Windows 8.

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Termites attacking furniture - save yourself the hassle and ensure that everything wooden you buy is treated

Building a new home and then fitting it with furniture is a joyous occasion. But fastforward five years and your custom-built timber wardrobes, benches and shelving have been eaten away from the inside out - it's enough to make you lash out. So after the Herald heard that as much as 70 homes have custom-built furniture facing termite issues, we thought we would find out exactly where the importers of timber, and the quarantine department stood. In all fairness, CITC was the only importer that cooperated with this exercise.

As one of the Cook Islands major building material providers CITC General Manager Gaye Whitta advised the Herald that all timber imported by CITC complies with both New Zealand and Australian standards. "It's important that we (CITC) set the standards. It's not just about bringing product in and selling it, it's about bringing good quality product at the right price."

Currently CITC imports varying grades of both Timber and Boards giving customers a choice of product. The higher the grade of the product, the higher the price. All boards and timber are treated and are appropriate for building standards.

The buying trends of the Cook Islands market largely determined what products and level of quality were imported by the trading company with a high focus on economic value purchases whereby, in 2011 CITC introduced the compliance standard of importing only treated boards and timber and has since adhered to this policy. There is still a high demand for cheaper un-treated timber however, as a company we have to make a stand in the way we do things to make sure we provide a standard that is suitable to the island," says Whitta.

It is difficult to offer warranties on building materials sold because we don't know what the customer does with the product after product leave our store," says Whitta, however we welcome feedback from our customers if they are not satisfied with our products.

"For power tools we do give warranties and are set at a lower time frame than what one would receive in NZ - these warranties are stipulated at the time of sale.

During January of this year a shipment of perishable goods containing onions and potatoes that were destined for the Cook Islands market underwent a standard quarantine check by Ministry of Agriculture's bio security staff however, upon inspection the shipment was found to have soil and unclean goods and so because of the effective Biosecurity Act 2008 in place were returned to New Zealand.

In December of 2012 a meeting was held with business importing goods from off shore about all imports needing to comply with the act and that this applied not to just perishable goods such as foods, but all imported items.

The Ministry of Agriculture, who is responsible for enacting a number of legislations including the Container Import Regulations 1993 and Biosecurity Act 2008, clearly stipulates on the website the restrictions for importers.

When goods are imported to the Cook Islands this means that Biosecurity officers will screen the ship/aircraft manifests and Bills of Lading/AWBs and will place a hold on any goods which they are concerned about. Officers may inspect your goods for risk products, insects, signs of pests or disease or they will inspect your certification.

by Maria Tanner

In a Flash:

The Herald understands that furniture in up to 70 homes built around 2005 are facing termite problems. The furniture includes closets, kitchen and bathroom benches all of which were custom-built with untreated timber.

If your products do not meet the Import Specification List requirement or pose any risk to the Cook Islands, action may be taken to reduce the risk. This may include destruction or reshipment of goods. Bear in mind there are no current treatment facilities in the Cook Islands so it is unlikely infested perishable goods will ever be released for consumption here.

If the Biosecurity Officer considers the risk too high or finds significant contamination, the product may be re-exported. This is very likely to happen to any contaminated farming equipment.

The Herald spoke with the Ministry of Agriculture's Dr Maya Poeschko, biologist and expert on insects, about the issue of borers insects as a possible cause to infected timber.

The dry wood termite has been present on the island for many years informs MOA entomologist Maya Poeschko advised that the dry wood termite has been present on the island for many years continuing to be the main cause to deteriorating timber. and its presence still remains relatively unknown.

The noticeable signs of bored out sections of wood matched with piles of droppings are from termites that are raised on a particular diet of wood and when they mature look for a new breeding grounds to seek out the same food sources Poeschko says the termites have been on the island for years but it seems the damage they are doing has been increasing over the last 16 years. More and more people have approach Poeschko inquiring about the damage, and she explains the causes are from the dry wood termite "most people are just unaware that we do actually have a dry wood termite on the island."

With a strict quarantine regime all timbers are required that they are insect free Entomologist Poeschko has also inspected a number of CI building suppliers timber stock and confirms that no suppliers have brought in infected timbers and while affected timbers and furniture is apparent for the Cook Islands it would be namely from the existing presence of the dry wood termite

One thing that remains undetermined is whether the termite has a penchant for treated or untreated timbers but Poeschko says that is dependent on the termite colony and the rate at which the population is growing. For soft wood such as an untreated plywood damage would be noticeable after a couple of months advises Poeschko.

Remedying the effects of the dry wood termite are as simple as taking early detection and locating the directly affected area several simple methods can be taken to rid your home of the termite. If you see droppings that appear like fine sand around your residence try to find out where it has come from, once you have located the area an application of fly spray can eliminate the pests.

How many overseas players should be in a team? - what would you do to win? League is serious business

To what extent would a club go to be the season's champion or even to be a worthwhile opponent. Proping up a team with imported or resident non-local players is still an issue of contention. But is it time we look at things a little differently especially given the high migration figures (locals leaving and increasing imported workers).

Currently, there are two types of non-local players. Those who have been resident in the Cook Islands for more than 12 consecutive months prior to the game season whom we will call 'residents'. And those who have been here for under 12 months whom are actually classed as 'overseas' players.

It really depends what your gripe with the system is. If you are a great believer in developing local players then you would not allow a single non-local player on your team. However, if it is with the number of non-local players, then the lines become a bit fuzzy.

In essence, the rules do not limit the number of resident players, but it does restrict the number of overseas players to three. You can have a team made up of completely resident players. So it is difficult to understand why there would be a concern over the number of overseas players in a team because are they not one in the same.

An issue that could possibly arise is in bringing in top league players who have limited availability during the season for the grand finals only. An opportunity to boost a team's odds.

But the issue of representation extends to the international scene when selecting between island-based and overseas-based local players. According to Rugby League President Charles Carlson, the selection criteria should come down to selecting the best player provided they are eligible players.

With the upcoming Rugby League World Cup the Cook Islands Rugby League Association hopes to select a squad that are made up of NRL players, or that have NRL experience. The reason being that NRL players play 26 rounds plus finals compared to our 14 rounds plus finals. They train 5-6 days a week and have two training sessions a day compared to our two days training a week. It poses the thinking, how are our islands-based players supposed to compete against teams that are fully professional trained.

"It is mentality thinking. If we want to see that our own [island-based] players make it to the international scene we ought to create that pathway for them to work their way up the ladder. There is no short cut, or special privileges," says Carlson. "The CIRL is creating that pathway for our [island-based] players to make it all the way to the top. Hopefully those have made the sacrifice will reap the rewards of playing representative league."

With regards to international representation, fundraising has often been a reason that locals prefer representation by island-based locals whom they have known all their life. Furthermore, there is a much higher expectation of the overseas-based locals to perform and when they don't the disappointment is greater.

RATE THIS STORY:

How interesting was it to you?



by Charlie Rani

In a Flash:

When you are talking about club games, overseas players are the non-Cook Islands blood players. When its an international match, they are Cook Islanders living overseas. No matter how you look at it, there is a set of eligibility rules, and once those are met, it should only be a matter of selecting the best players.



Titikaveka Bulldogs v Ngatangia Sea Eagles in their premier games - both teams consists of non-Cook Islanders

STOP PRESS

Swimmers caught in strong rip

Moments before going to print on Wednesday afternoon, the Herald was contacted by Andrew Pacak to advise of incident to a group of five people who were caught in a very strong rip while swimming in the lagoon near the Castaway Resort. Andrew said all managed to get on the reef but his girl friend Anita Posch was swept some 100 metres out to sea. Andrew said he is very grateful and thankful to the group of men working on the jetty near the school who came to assist them and also his girl friend.

Paepae rongonui no teia nei ao ki te Kuki Airani nei

tātā'ia 'e Rutera Taripo

I teia 'epetoma, rā 20 Pēperuare, kua komakoma atu au kia Sonny Williams te tēkereterē o te Tauranga Vānanga, no runga i tēta'i tāpura pu'apinga koia 'oki ko te Paepae Rongonui o Tēia nei Ao (World Heritage Site). Ko te 'akakoro'anga tua-ta'i, koia 'oki, ko te 'ākara matatio atu i tēta'i ngā'i mē kore au ngā'i pu'apinga 'ē te rongonui i te Kūki 'Airani nei, tē ka tau no te 'akairi atu ki runga i te tārē'anga 'ē te 'akapapa'anga o te Au Paepae Rongonui o Tēia nei Ao. Na roto i tēta'i au uiui'anga, kua 'ora'ora mai te tēkereterē o te Tauranga Vānanga i tēta'i au mānako'anga tei 'uri'uri 'ia no runga i tēta'i ngā paepae i kō'iti 'ia ana, 'ē pera katoa e umu'umu 'ia nei kia ō atu ki roto i te tārē'anga o te Paepae Rongonui o Tēia nei Ao.

1. Ko'ai tēta'i ngā'i me kore te paepae, e tāmanako 'ia nei kia tukuna 'ia atu ki runga i te 'akaapapa'anga a te UNESCO no te Paepae Rongonui o Tēia nei Ao?

Ko te mea mua, i te mata'iti 2003 kua tīmata ana te Kūki 'Airani i te tāru atu i te 'enua Suwarrow ki roto i te tūranga o te Au Paepae Rongonui nā roto i te tāpīri'anga atu 'iā Suwarrow ei tu'anga kāpiti no nga 'enua Phoenix 'ē te Line. Kua riro 'oki teia ei 'iki'anga tā-okota'i mei roto mai 'iā Kiribati, Kūki 'Airani 'e pērā a French Polynesia. Kāre rā 'oki teia 'iki'anga i manuia ana. Kua tuku atu i reira a Kiribati i tāna anake 'iki'anga 'okota'i no te pārruru'anga 'enua, Phoenix Island Protected Area 'ē kua 'ārīki 'ia mai 'ē kua akairi 'ia atu ki runga i te 'akapapa'anga

Paepae Rongonui o Tēia nei Ao (WHS) i te mata'iti 2010. Kua tuku atu 'oki te Kūki 'Airani i tāna 'iki'anga mua na roto i te tu'anga o te 'akapapa'anga nātura'(natural criteria), inārā, pēnei kia tuku 'ia atu te 'iki'anga e tāpapa 'ia atu nei no runga i te tu'anga o te 'akapapa'anga 'ākono'anga e te peu (cultural nomination). Ko tēta'i au tāmanako'anga i reira te ka tau no te Tentative List, koia ko te Ava Avana, Taputapuetea Marae, Orongo, Maungaroa (Highland Paradise), Takamoa Theological site, au 'Are Pure taito o te Kūki 'Airani nei.

2. Ea'a te tumu i 'iki 'ia/ i tāmanako 'ia mai ei teia au ngā'i me kore teia au paepae?

Ko te ō atu ki roto i te 'akapapa'anga o te au Paepae Rongonui o Tēia nei Ao, ka anoano 'ia teia au ngā'i, 'ēi ngā'i pu'apinga, 'ēi ngā'i rongonui ki te ipukarea, ki te pae moana 'ē ki to teia nei ao. 'E pērā katoa kia iri atu teia 'iki'anga ki runga i tēta'i tu'anga 'okota'i o te au 'akapapa'anga e ta'i-ngauru (10)

3. Ea'a te 'aite'anga, te pu'apinga o teia au ngā'i?

Ko te Ava Avana, 'e ngā'i pu'apinga teia, 'e ava-pito'akairo no te teretere'anga moana ō to tātou 'ui-tupuna. Mei teia ava, i akaruke, i teretere atu ei te au vaka no te kimi 'enua ou i tae atu ei ki Aotearoa. Mei te tauatini mata'iti i topa ake nei kua tere atu i te 'ānere teretere'anga i tupu i roto i te Patifika nei. Ko te Ava Avana 'oki te momoko'anga o Aotearoa ki tō Porinētia Rotopū. 'ē pērā katoa te momoko'anga ki 'ēta'i atu au

kaveinga i roto i te Patifika nei, i mua ake ka tae mai te papa'ā ki ō tatou nei. No reira ko teia tēta'i ngā'i te ka tau ei 'ātui atu ki te akakite'anga no te tūranga kama'atu 'ē te kitekarape ō tō tātou 'ui-tupuna no te teretere-moana.

Ko te Marae Taputapuetea, te momoko'anga te kā 'ātui atu ki runga i te marae-tapu Marae Taputapuetea i Raiatea 'ē pērā ki ērā atu Taputapuetea i roto i te Patifika nei. I roto i tā tātou au Kōrero tupuna, 'e ngā'i tapu teia, ko te pito-'enua teia no te tā'okota'i'anga mai o te au 'ui-ariki, to Tahiti, Kūki 'Airani, to Rotuma, to Aotearoa, 'ē to Hawai'i. Mei 'Ōpo'a, ko te ngā'i tēia i 'akaruke ei te au vaka teretere-moana i teretere atu ei i te ara-roa i tae atu ei ki Aotearoa 'ē pērā katoa ki Hawai'i.

Ko Te Orongo, 'e au ngā'i tēia i kitea mai i runga i tēta'i au 'enua 'e 5 o te pae-tonga i te Kūki 'Airani nei. Tē 'uri-aro pouroa nei ki te 'itingā ra 'ē mei te 30 mita i uta i te avametua.

Kua 'aiteite pouroa tō rātou tu 'ē tā rātou au 'akateretere 'ākono'anga tupuna. Pēnei ko te au mōmoko'anga i roto 'ia Porinētia 'ē pērā katoa kia Taputapuetea kia kimikimi 'o'onu 'ia atu. Ka kitea katoa ia te Orongo ki Rapanui, ki Hawai'i 'ē pērā i Aotearoa.

No reira, kā iri mai te Kūki 'Airani ki rotopū i te au tua-tāpapa o te Au Teretere'angā Vaka o te 'Ititangata o te Patifika i roto 'iā Porinētia.

Ko tēta'i atu au paepae, pēnei te vai nei te au mānako'anga i roto i te au Kau-ta'unga kia 'ora'ora mai i te reira.

4. 'Ea'a te au taka'inga kia rauka e riro mai ei 'e Paepae Rongonui no teia nei Ao?

Ko te mea mua, kia tukuna 'ia atu te ingoa o te paepae ki roto i te 'Akapapa'anga Ingoa Tāmanako, ā te Kūki 'Airani, koia te 'Tentative list'.

Kia riro katoa tēia i te 'akakite mai i te tū o tēia ngā'i, ma te 'akataka katoa mai i te tūranga pu'apinga o tēia ngā'i ki roto i tō tēia nei ao.

Mē iri ana te ingoa ki roto i tēia 'akapapa'anga, i reira kia te'ate'amamao mai te Kūki 'Airani i tēta'i atu au peapa 'iki'anga no te ngā'i/paepae. I reira, ka tukuna 'ia atu tēia ki te WHS kia 'ākara mai i te tuku'anga tika openga.

Ko tēta'i tu'anga no tēia taka'inga tē ka rave 'ia, ka riro rai te Kūki 'Airani i te 'akano'ono'o i te au 'akaue'anga no te pārruru 'ē te 'akateretere'anga i tēia paepae te ka 'iki 'ia. Ka anoano 'ia rāi 'oki te matakeinanga kia tā'okota'i ki roto i te 'ākono'anga 'ē te 'akateretere atu i te paepae, 'ē kāre 'e na te Kavamani me kore na te World Heritage.

5. Ko'ai te Paepae Rongonui o teia nei Ao vaitata mai ki a tātou?

Ko te Paepae Rongonui vaitata mai kia tātou, koia 'oki ko te au 'enua Phoenix (Phoenix Islands Protected Area) i te pae tokerau i runga ake 'iā Rakahanga.

6. 'Iri'iri-kāpua

Ko te 'Iri'iri-kāpua 'ā te WHS ki te Kūki 'Airani nei, ka rave 'ia te reira ki Rarotonga nei mei te rā 11-15 o Māti ki ko i te Tauranga Vānanga.

Tāniuniu atu i te Tauranga Vānanga no tēia'i atu au 'akamārama'anga.

TE REO MĀORI KŪKI 'AIRANI



tātā'ia e Ruter Taripo

Kia Orāna `e te katoatoa! Me ko teia tō`ou taime mua ki runga i teia kapi Te Reo Māori Kūki 'Airani, "tūrou, tūrou ki teia tu`anga no te `akamātūtū `uātu rāi i to tātou reo Māori Kūki `Airani".

Hello and greetings everyone! If this is your first time to this page Te Reo Māori Kūki `Airani, "welcome, welcome to this section of continuing to strengthen our Cook Islands Māori language".

I teia `epetoma, kua pati `ia mai au kia `aka`oki `aka`ōu mai i tēta`i au tā`anga`anga `anga o tēta`i au kupu, tākiato `ē tēta`i au tākiato-kōrero putuputu i te tuatua `ia mē `ārāvei `ē mē komakoma ki tēta`i tangata.

This week, some readers have asked me to repeat some uses of words, phrases and sentences when meeting and talking to someone.

Teia tēta`i au `ākara`anga:

Here are some examples:

Au Kupu - Words

`enua - island/land

`ingoa - name

tamā`ine - girl

mānea - beautiful

nō`ea - (from) where

tāne - man

pārata`ito - paradise

mata`iti - year

`akaipoipo - marry

Au Tākiato - Phrases

`enua mānea - beautiful island

`ei-tiare - flower garland

`oe vaka - canoe paddle

nū vene - sweet coconut

rā vera - hot day

tāra`u motokā - car hire/rent

tō`ou kainga - your home

aka`oro pātikara - bike riding

Au Tākiato Kōrero - Sentences

1. Kia Orāna, ko`ai tō`ou ingoa?

2. `E pārata`ito mānea tikāi tēia

3. Nō`ea mai koe?

4. `Ē`ia ō `ou mata`iti?

5. Kua `akaipoipo koe?

6. Tei `ea tā`au tāne?

7. E nū vene tēna nū.

8. Inu `ia!

9. Nō`ou tēia `ei-tiare Māori.

10. Ka `aere tāua aka`oro`oro pātikara.

11. `Āpōpō, ka tāra`u au i tēta`i motokā.

12. Ka `inangaro au i te `aere `oe vaka

13. `E vera (tikāi) teia rā

14. Tei `ea tō`ou kainga?

15. Tei Arorangi tōku kainga.

- Hello, what is your name?

- This is really a beautiful paradise.

- Where are you from?

- How old are you?

- Are you married?

- Where is your husband?

- That coconut (with you) is a sweet one.

- Drink it!

- This flower garland of Tiare Maori is for you.

- Let us go bike riding

- Tomorrow, I will hire a motor-car

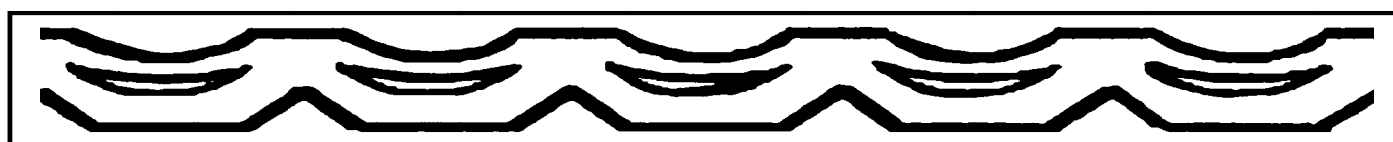
- I want to go canoe paddling.

- Today is (really) hot

- Where is your home?

- My home is in Arorangi.

KIA MATAORA KOE I TEIA RĀ! - MAY YOU HAVE HAPPINESS TODAY!



Showing fairness

Part 1

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi

This article is intended to encourage us to build our lives on one of the important values that have lasting positive impact on our lives which is "FAIRNESS"! There are those who ask the question of "Why should I be fair when everybody else is living for themselves, why shouldn't I just look after myself?" The truth is most people in society are not trying to be fair. They're thinking "How can I get what I need for my life the most?" The Bible is very clear that life itself is unfair. And because of sin, there is Unfairness! Injustice! The Book of Ecclesiastes in the Bible written by the wisest man who ever lived - Solomon. Solomon goes through life and looks at everything. Then he said, "Here's my conclusion. Life is UNFAIR." Then he gives five common occurrences of unfairness.

First, Solomon said that he noticed "People are being let off!" that **CRIMINALS GO UNPUNISHED**. Ecclesiastes 3v.16 (LB) "Throughout the earth justice is giving way to crime and even the courts are corrupt." From the time of King Solomon till now nothing much has changed. Many criminals don't get what they deserve. Ecclesiastes 8v.11 (NLT) "When crime isn't punished, people feel it is safe to do wrong." This verse is so relevant for us today. Just watching what happens in the world on TV, in the newspapers, you can figure out three or four things: 1) If you commit a crime, it's very unlikely that you're going to go to jail for it. Given enough money, all you have to do is hire the right lawyer and they'll find some technicality in the law to get you off the charge. 2) Often it's going to be years before you go to trial. A crime is committed and then you find out the verdict years later. 3) During

that time you can sell your story to book writers and movie rights if you're in the United States of America - especially if it's an interesting and highly publicized crime. e.g. a couple in Australia claim their baby was killed by a dog (dingo). 4) If you do get convicted, you probably will not serve a full sentence because of the likelihood you'll get off in a few years on parole and you can go out and do it again. Solomon says I see all this happening that criminals go unpunished and at the same time the victims and the victims families suffer and that's not fair. And Solomon is right!

Secondly, Solomon says, **THE OPPRESSED ARE NOT BEING HELPED IN THE WORLD**. Eccl. 4v.1 (GN) "I saw all the injustice that goes on in this world. The oppressed were crying and no one would help them. Their oppressors had power." Solomon is saying that it is human nature for human beings to try to dominate each other. One nation tries to dominate another nation, or one race tries to dominate another race, or the rich trying to dominate the poor, or the powerful trying to dominate the weak, and men trying to dominate women. Even in some countries Christians can be killed for claiming to be followers of Jesus Christ. This normally is the trend almost every year around the world where thousands of Christians were killed! Solomon is saying this is not fair. And he is right.

Thirdly, Solomon says, **MANY RULERS OR PEOPLE IN AUTHORITY ARE UNETHICAL (CORRUPT)**. Ecclesiastes 5v.8 (LB) "If you see miscarriage of justice throughout the land, don't be surprised! For every official is under orders from higher up. So the matter is lost in red tape and bureaucracy."



One of the things about the Bible is that it always tells the truth. Ecclesiastes 10v.5-6 (GN) "Here is an injustice... Stupid people are given positions of authority..." The Bible says when ungodly people hold positions of authority they are going to abuse it and Solomon says that's unfair. And he's right.

Fourthly, Solomon says, **GOOD PEOPLE GO UNREWARDED** while evil people often prosper. Ecclesiastes 8v.14 (GWT) "Sometimes righteous people suffer for what the wicked do, and wicked people get what the righteous deserve!" Solomon is talking about good things happening to bad people and bad things happening to good people?" It doesn't seem right. There are also times when dishonest people get promoted while honest people are overlooked. Solomon says that's not fair. Have you ever been to a funeral of a good person, a young person and think, "Why did they die?" when you could think of a dozen other persons whom you'd rather see in the casket? Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 7v.15 "It's unfair that some good people die young while some wicked people live on and on and on." And it's true.

Fifthly, Solomon says,

CAPABLE PEOPLE ARE OFTEN UNSUCCESSFUL. Just because you've got talent doesn't mean you're going to succeed. The good guys don't always win in this world. Eccl. 9v.11 (GN) "In this world fast runners do not always win the races. Wise men do not always earn a living, intelligent men don't always get rich, and capable men do not always rise to high positions." He says, "fast runners don't always win the race". Sometimes at the Olympic Games we hear stories like, "on the day of the race, they sprain their ankle; or they have an accident; or they get the flu; or they missed the race because they were late." After all that effort they've put in training for years, something happens and they miss it? Solomon says, "Intelligent people don't always get rich." In some cultures Boxers are paid more than what the Accountants or Chief Administration Officers gets. Even rugby or soccer players are paid more than the teachers who train children. Solomon says, the bottom line is life isn't fair!

Solomon gives us five examples of what to do because of the unfairness of the life we live in! I will cover these in Part 2 of this article next week. God bless! Te Atua te aroa!

Dancehall!

By *Norma Ngatamariki*

Thanks to my good cousin Justin, I have been introduced to the world of Dancehall (that was introduced to Justin by his French/Tahitian aunty). What is Dancehall, you may ask? It's this kick-butt dancing style that involves a lot hip movement, booty shaking and, if you are a professional dancer, floor work. This means you're able to do the splits without the agonizing pain. I can't do this (well, not yet. Lolz) but then again, I never said I was a professional dancer. All I can do is sit and admire while other people (who are lucky enough to have the body as well as the courage) do the real work.

Dancehall involves a lot of "popping", so ladies, I advise you to wear a really tight bra if you're thinking of taking this up. The dance movements, incorporated with body language, tell a story

itself. A feisty attitude is a must, so you make the correct facials at the right moments (You know how girls sometimes pose with the "duck lips" and that sort of thing) I reckon dancehall increases your self-confidence. When I did my very first failed attempt, I looked like I was having a major stroke (Yes, it was that bad) But with more practice (in the privacy of my room) I was slowly making progress. I'm still not ready to reveal my skills to the world (especially to Justin, who is proffesh as well as a critic)

From what I've heard, Dancehall was first invented and developed in France (I could be wrong about this. After all, I can't afford internet to research it. Lolz). Thank goodness for that. Here in the Cook Islands, we are more of a Zumba-orientated country, whereas in France, Dancehall is the shizz. With more

exposure (I'm hinting to you, Justin) we could very well be the next Dancehall country!

This half-French, half-African lady called Aya (which is a stage name, by the way) has taken the internet by storm with her invigorating dance moves. She is my new inspiration and idol because she does Dancehall so well. I look up to her in times of dire need (Like, when I don't feel like exercising, I think about Aya and her marvellous, well-toned body with my face.) Honestly, this chica is worth Googling. You can hit her up on Facebook (just type in Aya Level) just to see her "amazing-ness".

Dancehall is a fun way in which you could lose a couple of pounds. To me, when I do five minutes of Dancehall, I feel like I've melted off 5kgs of fat (depending on the intensity level your pacing yourself at) My other



cousins, Robyn and Nga like to go hard out, so I can imagine all the weight they're losing. But for me, it's just a matter of having fun being laidback (no matter how weird I look when I try and dance. Lolz) Dancehall is great for people all sizes!



Children enjoying the NCD Awareness Week Activities run by the Public Health.

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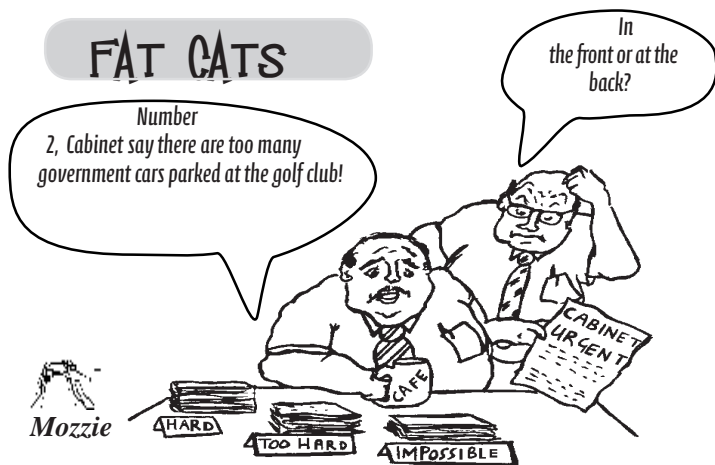
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MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING

FAT CATS



Nonsense alert! Nonsense alert! Two recent cases of incorrect information qualify for a “CC” —Carr Category nonsense alert! The Wednesday Daily Phews apologises for attributing a reply to a question to the wrong Minister! Also the Daily Phews refers to pension portability on the front page when that is not the issue according to the PM’s right hand man! The issue is about relaxing/removing the 5 year criteria! But the media release clearly mentions portability! Local Chartered Accountant Mike Carr does not tolerate inaccuracy as the Daily Phews reported on its front page some weeks ago! Go get’em Mike!



Chooks a check of the history scrolls reveals present day complaints about the 75 per cent levy on freshly squeezed fruit juice may be unwarranted. Local retailer said how come the price difference between his imported fresh fruit juice and another packaged version brought in by retailing’s Big Boy? The fresh fruit juice was selling for \$6 more than the other type! Oh dear! Seems the reason chooks, is historical and dates back to the good old days when fresh Raro Orange juice was being made and canned here by Greggs. Government brought in a 75 per cent levy to protect the locally made Raro brand juice from imported fruit juices. The local retailer’s fruit juice was the freshly squeezed type from Kiwiland while Big Boy’s fruit juice was the “re-constituted type juice” from Kiwiland! Don’t blame Big Boy!



Cunning lad this Neevey from the Land of

the Black Stump! Dishes out Supplementary Budget papers but not the actual document itself! You know the one chooks, it usually has a red cover. Where was it? It was not ready! That’s because government caught all on the hop by finishing the budget early so the lads could go overseas! While the slip of papyrus handed out, claimed transparency on the part of the chief counter of the nation’s coinage, it was hard to tell where the underlying surplus of \$749,000 actually came from and what items it was allocated to! No tables you see! Good one Neevey! Keep it up! Keep the opposition in the dark!



Check out Neevey’s flash red shirt! He wears it everywhere! So its been everywhere! Red for danger!

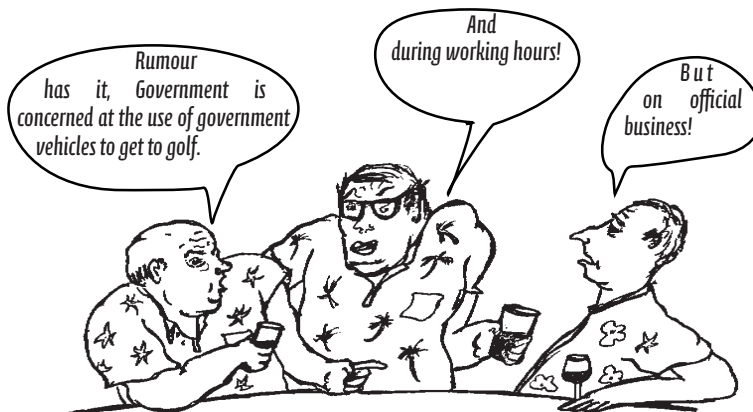


Trouble with our MPs is they can’t go more than two weeks without fatigue setting in! Night sessions? Forget it! MPs need their sleep! Many can barely stand up!



Delegation of six arrives from the Land of the Great Wall, shuns the full day of

COCONUT ROUNDTABLE



CHOOKS CORNER

WITH BIG RED



bi-laterals arranged by MFAI’s tireless staff, and head straight for Aitutaki! Who wouldn’t want to go to the one place with great beaches? Back on the Rock after R and R in our jewel in the crown, the delegation went through their paces on the dance floor! But where was Mac?



Our Samoan bros are crying out for coconuts and green bananas but is anyone listening chooks? Theirs were cleaned out by a big cyclone! Get that big barge sitting idle at Avatiu Port to do a round trip of the southern group to pick up coconuts (with the husk on) and green bananas and ship them to our hungry bros in Samoa! There’s dosh to be made!



Whoever heard of an umu above the ground? Well the inventor of one has! These will come on sale soon at a site near you! Remember you heard it first from Big Red!



So there won’t be any Queen’s Birthday honours dished out this year! There will still be some honours dished out in the New Year! It seems the MMM-Mighty Maggie

Man is not too happy about this turn of events! Buckingham Palace has spoken!



One way for the MMM-Mighty Magee Man to become a Minister or even Prime Minister for sure, is to form his own political party!



Manihiki as the hub of the north? With all the funding being poured into Manihiki that’s what it’s looking like! A six star hotel on Manihiki? Why not several? Surely Angelina Jolie and Brad need a secret hideaway? And what about the international crews coming to work the nodules? They will be in and out regularly by helicopter from ship to shore as will the crews off the fishing boats! Then there’s the odd boat packed with refugees to look forward to! Yes, Manihiki will become as busy as Raro! Stores selling Armani suits, Gucci handbags, Rolex watches, Crocodile shoes! KFC will move in alongside Pizza Hut and McDonalds! The seat of government may even move to Manihiki!

Cook Islands
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VACANCY

MARKETING COORDINATOR

Join the dynamic hardworking team at Cook Islands Tourism Corporation! With the mandate to lead the nation in tourism, destination development and marketing, our team is looking for a bright, energetic, passionate individual to make a difference and help cultivate continued success in this economic sector.

The Cook Islands Tourism Corporation invites applications for the position of Marketing Coordinator. The successful applicant will be reporting to the Director of Sales & Marketing and will be required to coordinate and manage work programmes that service the sales and marketing requirements of Cook Islands Tourism Corporation and deliver an efficient support system to international representatives from Head Office.

Applicants must have the following expertise:

- possess a Tertiary degree in a related field or studying to its completion
- OR have 1 year work experience in the tourism industry or alternatively a new graduate in tourism studies
- experience in Tourism sales and marketing
- have excellent interpersonal and written communication skills
- multi-task and able to manage many projects at one time
- have sound knowledge of general office and administrative procedures
- have excellent organisational skills and ability to prioritise work and meet tight deadlines
- have sound knowledge of the industry, activities and service personnel
- have advanced knowledge in the use of Office software – Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access

A detailed Terms of Reference is available at www.cookislands.travel/jobs

Applications with a CV should be addressed to Executive Assistant, PO Box 14, Cook Islands Tourism Corporation, Rarotonga or emailed to applications@cookislands.gov.ck

Applications close 4pm, Thursday 28 February 2013

VACANCY

DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Applications are invited for the position of Destination Development Coordinator with the Cook Islands Tourism Corporation. This is a fixed term appointment with the dynamic and hardworking team at Cook Islands Tourism Head Office. The successful applicant will report to the Director of Destination Development and will be primarily required to coordinate and manage work plans that service the Destination Development programme. Other responsibilities will include coordination of product development activities and coordination of local media information at Cook Islands Tourism Head Office.

Applicants must have the following expertise:

- excellent interpersonal and written communication skills
- have sound knowledge of the tourism industry and related activities
- experience in managing various stakeholders with competing priorities
- possess a Tertiary degree in a related field
OR
Have a minimum of 2 years work experience in the tourism industry
- ability to multi-task and manage many projects at one time, with a sound knowledge of general office and administrative procedures
- have excellent organisational skills and ability to prioritise work and meet tight deadlines
- have advanced knowledge in the use of Office software – Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access

A detailed Terms of Reference is available at www.cookislands.travel/jobs

Applications with a CV should be addressed to Executive Assistant, PO Box 14, Cook Islands Tourism Corporation, Rarotonga or emailed to applications@cookislands.gov.ck

Applications close 4pm, Thursday 28 February 2013

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TENDER NOTICE



**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
OFFICE OF THE ENERGY COMMISSIONER**

**TENDER AND CONTRACT NO. OPM-02/2013
PUKAPUKA-NASSAU RENEWABLE ENERGY AND
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS PROJECT**

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) in conjunction with the Office of the Energy Commissioner (OEC), invites sealed Tender Submissions from suitably qualified contractors for the supply and delivery of all requested Goods including the construction of the Pukapuka and Nassau Islands photovoltaic and low-voltage distribution systems co-funded by the Japanese and New Zealand Governments.

Hardcopies of the tender document will be available from the Renewable Energy Development Division's office of the OPM at a non-refundable fee of NZ\$100 per set. Electronic copies will however be made available free of charge.

Only hardcopies of the Tender Submissions will be accepted and these must reach the tender box located at the REDD's office no later than 1.00pm on Monday 11th March 2013 (local time). All Tender Submissions must be addressed to:

Chief of Staff
Office of Prime Minister
Private Bag
Avarua
Rarotonga
COOK ISLANDS

All tender enquiries must be directed to the PEC Fund Coordinator Ngateina Rani, on telephone (682) 25494, mobile (682) 54433 or email ngateina@pmoffice.gov.ck.



SAILING VESSEL BONNY FOR SALE BY TENDER

Tenders are invited for the sale of the above Vessel – Sailing Vessel BONNY on an "as is" basis.

For any inquires regarding the Vessels and inspection arrangement, please contact the Harbour Master at the Ports authority on phone 75462.

Tender applications are to be in a sealed envelope marked "SV BONNY Tender" and addressed to:

Nooroa Bim TOU
General Manager
Ports Authority
PO Box 84, Rarotonga

Tender will close on Friday the 1st March 2013 at 4pm
The highest tender will not necessarily be accepted.

PUBLIC NOTICE



**MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS
SOCIAL IMPACT FUND (SIF) PROJECT FUNDING**

The SIF provides combined Cook Islands and New Zealand support to Cook Islands Civil Society Sector to meet the needs of those most vulnerable in the community and is focused on 6 priority areas:- Gender equality, Children & Youth, Disabilities, the Elderly, Domestic Violence and Mental health.

The SIF Board now invite proposals for Project Funding in the following eligible project areas

Community Education projects	Training
Workshops	Awareness raising activities
Income generation	Organisational Strengthening

Please Note: infrastructure projects and international travel are not encouraged, but will be considered on a case by case basis.

For further inquiries please contact the SIF Manager on telephone 29378 or email sif@intaff.gov.ck, Ministry of Internal Affairs. The deadline for submission of your project funding application is Wednesday 20 March 2013. No applications will be accepted after this date.

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