

COOK ISLANDS HERALD

27 August 2014 \$2 (incl VAT)

Frontpage model Sun is pictured here wearing a bracelet, necklace and earrings from Goldmine

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One Cook Islands ready for By Elections

Spokes person for One Cook Islands Movement Teina Bishop is putting the cards on the table, "we will contest any by election should that opportunity present its self". With the possibility some of the electoral petitions should result in a return to the polls for resolution Bishop said OCIM will be ready to front up.

"We have one confirmed candidate for a possible by election and are in discussions with others who have expressed an interest in being part of the OCIM Team at the next elections or any by elections".

Bishop indicated preparations for the next elections kicked in straight after the Election results were declared, "People have seen our success and commitment to being another political choice that has a distinct policy portfolio that separates us from the sameness of the CIP and Democratic Party. We kept getting asked 'what happening next'?"

According to the Movement's President George Turia, OCIM is here to stay not with the intent of making up the numbers but to be the Government one day. "The two Party era is over, it's very clear the record result in Tupapa indicates the Rarotonga voter is looking for a change beyond swapping one party for the other," said Turia. "The writing has been on the wall for some time and the OCIM fits the bill of people's

expectations and hopes, we are being proactive and will be preoccupied with our own development rather than wait around to see what the other two are going to do".

Bishop said OCIM has the ball in their court and will strive to deliver the purpose of their existence. The next phase for OCIM is to bring an administrative structure to the organisation, a Conference is being planned for next year to confirm the known or selected candidates and two fund raising activities are also being planned for.

Right now being fluid has its advantages but once the

ready for one possible by election and about to organise ourselves for a second one," said Bishop. "The level of interest is high from right across the demographic spectrum to the point of being over whelming. We will be a serious contender, there could be up to four by elections and we will have all those bases covered".

"The advantage for us is that in a General Election, the outcomes are unknown and voters can be manipulated but in a by election the government is generally known so it is an influencing factor on the voter," said Turia, "but in the



Teina Bishop

"In the meantime we are ready for one possible by election and about to organise ourselves for a second one," said Bishop. "The level of interest is high from right across the demographic spectrum to the point of being over whelming."

Rarotonga held Conference formalises the OCIM road map a major membership and policy awareness drive will be launched. Historically in Cook Islands politics coalition governments have a limited shelf life with a budget on stability cautioned Bishop. "We are committed to honouring our obligations if we are a part of being government, but I can't speak for the others that's why OCIM will be election prepared and ready in quick time".

"In the meantime we are

current scheme of things the only certainty of being in government is to vote for OCIM who will hold the balance of power".

Concerning their courtship with the Democratic Party Bishop said they were not in a coalition with the Demos but from the OCIM perspective, it's a partnership. "That is as far as the discussions have got." According to Bishop as a matter of courtesy, he informed the Democratic Party leader Wilkie Rasmussen when they met briefly last Friday night, the

intent of OCIM to contest any by elections. "Wilkie's response was supportive, he said for us to 'go for it'".

Any opportunity to test the viability of OCIM is welcomed according to Bishop, he explained as a new political identity; by elections was the means to establish a support base for future general elections. "Of course we will be doing everything possible to win any by election we contest but failing that we will establish a foundation to build the movement, in Mauke for example, in a three way contest our candidate Tungane Williams polled 63 votes (32.6%) in coming second. This is a platform that we can build on for the next elections."

President Turia said OCIM is anticipating contesting up to 14 seats in the next general elections. - George Pitt

Christian values and our foreign policy

By Charles Pitt

What forms the basis of our foreign policy? What are the underlying, guiding principles that determine the form and substance of our foreign policy?

A check on line of our government website for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs does not reveal what criteria guides our policy makers. Neither is there any explanation as to the requirements of the Foreign Affairs Act 1984.

The site reveals we have signed up to participate in a multitude of international and regional organizations and have adopted a large number of International Treaties, agreements, UN Conventions and Treaties. We have also welcomed a parade of foreign Ambassadors to these shores and have established friendly relations with a number of countries.

Out of our membership of and participation in international and regional forums, structures and frameworks we have developed some policy regarding our approach, our stance, our way forward.

But something is not quite clear and that is, upon what basis have we entered into these arrangements?

Have our policies emerged from a particular set of lofty ideals, humanitarian principles, religious beliefs and cultural values? Should our foreign policy be founded upon these ideals, principles, beliefs and values?

This is the matter which is not clear.

What should foreign countries understand about the basis we are entering into relations with them?

For example, should they understand that the Cook

Islands;

1. is a predominantly Christian nation practicing strong Christian beliefs and values but which is tolerant of other religious beliefs and upholds the rights of others to freedom of religious beliefs;

2. has strong cultural and societal values based upon family and community participation and support but respecting the culture and societal values of others;

3. believes in freedom of association, assembly and expression;

4. believes in the rule of law and in the rights of any accused to a fair trial;

5. has adopted the UN Declaration on Human Rights and other UN conventions on rights and freedoms of peoples.

Under our Constitution, section 64 applies to fundamental human rights and freedoms and these are listed.

Under section 65, the Constitution provides, "the term "enactment" includes any Act of the Parliament of England or the Parliament of the United Kingdom, being an Act in force in the Cook Islands, and any regulation, rule, order, or other instrument made thereunder.

The Herald approached the Secretary of Foreign Affairs on 21 August 2014 for advice on the basis of our policy but to date has received no reply or acknowledgement.

However the Herald on speaking to a number of persons who have had involvement with the work of the Ministry, has been able to piece together the underlying principles which guide the Ministry's policy makers. The Herald understands a review of sorts took place last year and policy guidelines are being considered.

The Herald understands that there is some emphasis on "humanitarian" values but no mention of our "Christian" values and principles. Not all countries we interact with will be Christian but it is important to remember that the Cook Islands is a Christian nation. We have witnessed what is happening in other so called Christian nations where the population has significant numbers of immigrants who follow other religions. In these nations, governments have tried to subdue protest by excluding references to Christianity in favour of the more neutral "humanitarian" values. In the Cook Islands

there is a possible concern that the existence under law of the Religious Advisory Council could be perceived as a barrier to freedom of religious expression or worship.

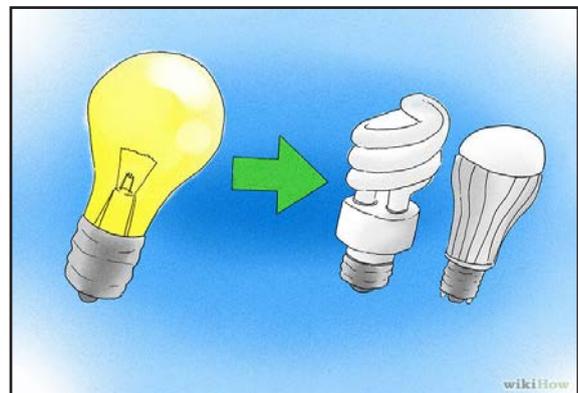
Some may argue that the Cook Islands has a twin set of spiritual values in Christianity and the re-emergence and strengthening of cultural values. While the Herald understands that cultural values are considered as one of the Ministry's guiding principles, limits upon the role of the Ariki set by the Constitution could be seen as a restriction to freedom.

It is not known when the Ministry will make details of the finalized policy document public.



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Full disclosure of \$24 million China loan says Beer

Though disappointed the Te Mato Vai 2,000 signature petition got pushed aside and lost in transition by the political focus on the snap election, the organizers have not given up on the issues raised being addressed. Determined to keep the eleven concerns afloat in the public arena and the politicians under the hammer for support at least one Member of Parliament elect has not gone cold.

The Democratic Party Finance and Economic spokesperson James Beer says once in government they will draw the curtain of secrecy and open the Nation's account books for public scrutiny and comment. "To date the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM) have failed to give an account of the details of the terms and conditions in relation to fiscal dealings conducted on behalf of the people of the Cook Islands. It's true, when negotiations are in full swing there needs to be confidentiality as these negotiations are between different parties arguing price and quality, but when these agreements have been struck and work commenced and if it involves public money or public debt then there has to be some transparency. When government appears evasive about contractual agreements this irregularity in non disclosure makes the public very concerned".



James Beer - Promises to open the books

"The Democratic Party means what it says and does what it means," reiterated the Murienua MP, "we will honour our "Our People Our Priority" campaign slogan, we pledged to respect the will of the people and we will deliver."

Many requests have been made for Finance Minister Mark Brown and his Finance Secretary Richard Neves to provide the details of the multimillion dollar China loan and this has repeatedly been glossed over or generalised. "This loan is shrouded with secrecy; it was signed off by three people, Brown, Neves and the Cook Islands High Commission to New Zealand Tiki Matapo on behalf of the people who are lumbered with the responsibility to service it," said Beer. "It is in the interest

of the public to know what commitments have been made by the government and in particular how this is going to be repaid".

The first and foremost issue is what are the consequences and penalties for defaulting on the China loan repayments? Second what is the warranty on the hardware - the pipes and the fittings- and what is the warranty on labour? Asks Beer, works of this size must have a built in warranty, the public have every right to know these details.

Thirdly, what are the contract details of the exclusive deal between CCECC and T&M Heather and was this agreement a done deal before the tender process started?

Fourthly, if we are spending this much money we would

expect a guarantee that the design will not fail. If CCECC does the work and says they followed the plan provided by a third party and the third party says that CCECC did the work, but didn't follow the plan, which will ultimately be responsible? Does the government have that covered in the contract?

Fifthly, are there guarantees that cost over runs will be at the cost of the contracting parties and not the cost of the poor tax payer? Because currently there are plenty of rumours floating about that much of the works may need to be redone, or that pressure testing for leaks is being done after the trenches have been covered, most municipal works have zero tolerance for this process. The trenches must remain open until after successful testing".

The operational secrecy of MFEM will not be tolerated by the Demo government stressed Beer, this defiance to being transparent eliminates accountability and contestability which is an autocratic trait not a democratic one, how can good governance be measured if the public are purposefully left in the dark?

When in Government, Beer says the Demos will work on introducing a ceiling on loans that can be borrowed on behalf of the people of the Cook Islands. Any loans beyond the determined limit will have to be brought to the House for full disclosure and debate to get the constituencies' responses; these are not based on Party politics but on the decision of the people. Each MP will have to conduct meetings in their respective constituencies then bring the responses plus the minutes and deliver their report to the House.

"That may sound clumsy and bureaucratic but that's what the House of Parliament is for, to hear what the people have to say on matters that concern them," said Beer.

"In years past, elected officials would bring as much information to the public on major decisions and spend a

great deal of time ensuring that every question was answered to its fullest, they understood that questions not being fully answered or deliberately evaded would come back and haunt them, in addition people back then understood the value of being honest and up front", commented Beer.

Beer further explained that there was over 2,000

"One way to eradicate perceptions of corruption or corruption itself is to impose highly transparent measures and processes that are open to public scrutiny, all expenditure of public funds and tenders must be made transparent to the point the Information Act is unnecessary and made redundant"

people concerned enough who signed the Te Mato Vai Petition for one reason or another and their voice must be heard, Beer is advocating all TMV contracts and details will be disclosed for public consumption.

"One way to eradicate perceptions of corruption or corruption itself is to impose highly transparent measures and processes that are open to public

scrutiny, all expenditure of public funds and tenders must be made transparent to the point the Information Act is unnecessary and made redundant, our people are tired of the perception of hidden agendas, they view hidden agendas to be most abhorrent and government, no matter which government must try

its very best to ensure this stain be removed".

Beer said the new Demo government will establish a Commission to investigate corruption where public funds were involved, "this will be done swiftly so we don't become tainted by the overflow continuity of issues that aren't getting dealt with, we need to wipe the slate clean as quickly as possible, the current

build up of un-investigated cases at the Ombudsman's office is an example of what we must not allow to happen. To reduce the amount of buildup of alleged corruption cases the introduction of severe penalties when offenders are charged are the strong deterrents to caution future offending".

The concerns of local Contractors that overseas Companies are being preferred for local contracts will be addressed said Beer. "We are not going to look into it but we will address the issues that are hindering locals from getting the work. One case in point is the resealing of roads after the completion of Project City over twelve months ago, no one can give a justified reason why that contract has not been awarded to a local company. Our priority is our people."

TMV Petition advocate James Thomson said he was heartened the political will was emerging to process the petition beyond talking. "People priority leadership will bring a lot of comfort and a hope we will be able to look back in four years time and acknowledge we are in a better position than what we are today,"

- George Pitt

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Our Frontpage model



Our frontpage model this week is Sunelia Tom who works for Mareko Island Creations. Check out our website www.ciherald.co.ck. and facebook page: www.facebook.com/ciherald

Wharf apron cracks

Over recent months the Ports Authority has been working with Beca International Consultants Limited, McConnell Dowell Constructors Ltd and independent concrete civil and structural engineers, to review cracking which has occurred on the surface of the Avatiu wharf concrete apron.

The independent engineers have now confirmed that the cracking is secondary surface cracking only, so that the overall structural integrity of the wharf apron is not in doubt.

A number of causes, which may have operated individually or together, have caused this surface cracking. The cracking has been shown as less severe than first estimated, with the average width of cracks just 0.2mm. However, the independent engineers have advised that it is prudent to carry out sealing to provide additional protection against the penetration of moisture in this environment which could lead to premature corrosion of the reinforcing steel. The Authority has been advised there are a number of recognized products and techniques to allow cracks to be sealed.

Work is ongoing to identify a sealing proposal that will ensure the slab performs to specification over its design life. Over coming months test sections will be subjected to crack filling and sealing processes to suit the environment at the wharf.

As Bim Tou, General Manager of the Authority commented:

"We had hoped that like the aluminium cladding on our new sheds, the slab would have required minimal maintenance for a number of years. We realize that, in the same way we had a programme of inspection and repair of the old wharf surface, we will have to carry out ongoing routine inspection and maintenance on this surface.

The good news is that the experts are offering a range of solutions that should make sure we get the expected design life out of the Avatiu Wharf apron." - Ports Authority release

Note: "When approached for comment as to why the report was not being released, Ports Authority lawyer, Tim Arnold, advised "This is an important and sensitive matter and after consideration, the Authority, acting on my advice, has decided that release of the report would be counterproductive to the best commercial interests of the Authority, and thus of the taxpayers of this country".



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Regional giant's expansion plans opposed by Triad



Regional petroleum giant Pacific Energy Limited's (PEL) Business Trade Investment Board (BTIB) application for a variation to their Foreign Enterprise Registration (FER) should be considered in the context of its big picture consequences claim local petroleum company Triad Pacific Petroleum Limited (TPPL).

It is common knowledge PEL aims to become the sole supplier of fuel in the Cook Islands thus monopolising the petroleum market. A PEL source claims their application is compliant with BTIB requirements and a response to the market place opportunities. The nature of any business is to progressively expand profitably in a competitive market, this is

all PEL is doing.

Pacific Energy South West Pacific Limited is a Fiji based company founded in 1948; they operate in five other Pacific countries supplying fuel and operating gasoline stations that also sell products and retail goods. PEL is a subsidiary of Australian company Pacific Petroleum.

A concern to local business for sometime is that the Cook Islands have no Commerce Act or any other legislation that gives effective protection against a dominant business in a particular market place. In the field of petroleum products within the Cook Islands PEL is the dominant player and if their BTIB application is approved their dominance will be one more

step to becoming a monopoly.

For this reason, the public interest is served by Government agencies taking steps to ensure that PEL does not abuse its dominant power here and to make sure every regulator's discretionary powers are exercised in a way that is best calculated to avoid the creation of monopolies.

In recent times the operations driven BTIB has been highly criticised for being a rubber stamping and a retrospective approving agency that has repeatedly failed to live up to its mantra "Go Local". The lack of business depth and acumen in management has eroded the public confidence in BTIB. What marginal confidence remains

will for certainty be ridiculed by the locally owned TPPL and Toa Petroleum if the PEL variation application is approved.

It is rumoured that BTIB as the focal point of fund raising for the Maire Nui Celebrations offered PEL favourable consideration for their application in return for sponsorship, PEL contributed \$5,000. Board members need to be aware of the Control of Prices Act 1966 as it enshrines the principle that a monopoly in any goods and services is seen as contrary to the public interest. The Board of BTIB is also bound to have regard to the possible impacts of its decisions on local businesses.

Instrumental to PEL's monopoly objective is the approval of over

the reef discharge facilities that enable tankers to bypass using the Avatiu wharf. While PEL may gain savings by using a bigger tanker there is a loss of birthing revenue by the Ports Authority who needs revenue for their redevelopment loan servicing beginning in 2017.

PEL has been vigorously promoting a scheme to allow it to undertake over the reef discharge of fuel products. This will see a much larger sized tanker moored to a buoy in the open ocean a couple of hundred metres off the reef by the JUHI Depot on a regular basis.

The BTIB Board needs to be fully independently briefed on the Rena ship wreck environmental disaster that occurred in NZ. Rarotonga is the engine of the country's economy that is fuelled by tourism that must never be exposed to unnecessary calculated risks. Rarotonga has a history of vessels foundering along the northern coast and the environmental risk factors in themselves are imperative

the merits to allow over the reef fuel discharging needs to be publically debated and given a wider recommendation platform. The natural instinct of the Board is to advise PEL to produce all the Environment Impact Assessment approvals for their proposals before even applying for a variation to their FER.

PEL's need for increased

TPPL stipulate both the increased storage and the over the reef discharge are an integral part of developments that are either intended or likely to have the effect of pushing a dominant position in the marketplace to one of complete monopoly control.

hosting capacity is the natural expectation, for that is the net result of the larger tanker. There is an immediate disincentive to the public interest in that PEL enjoys a licence over the land which the Airport Authority has to pay the replacement cost of its

installation under that licence.

In reality the tax payer funds the full replacement costs for everything PEL puts on the land. The more PEL puts on the land, the more it is going to cost the Cook Islands taxpayer. Increased storage would allow PEL to further increase their hold over the local market potentially cutting out TPPL and Toa from fuel

either intended or likely to have the effect of pushing a dominant position in the marketplace to one of complete monopoly control.

TPPL's claims are further supported by TEP's control of the delivery pipeline to put pressure on Toa's existing business stream which was challenged in the High Court before Justice Colin Doherty, J on 17 July 2014.

TPPL's lawyer Tim Arnold pulls no punches in his reference to the over the reef scheme that is the seed of PEL's quest for a monopoly, "There is little or no upside for the public in that initiative, but it does lend itself to the creation of conditions that favour a monopoly; already, there are conflict of interest issues starting to arise that point up the need for all public officials to subject this initiative to the closest and most sceptical consideration and to ensure no-one who has any direct or indirect financial interest in the matter is involved in the decision-making process."

- George Pitt

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Demos Penrhyn petition desperate act of power grabbing

Caretaker Minister Mark Brown has come out with accusations the former Leader of the Opposition Wilkie Rasmussen is politically grandstanding and being irresponsible over his failure to win the Penrhyn seat.

After a decade of being the MP for Penrhyn and much of his time as a Minister Rasmussen had done very little to improve the development of the Island. He knew, claimed Brown, his chances of retaining the seat was borderline.

Rasmussen even resorted to applying pressure on Willie John not to stand so he could be the first Penrhyn MP to be the Prime Minister. "Thankfully Willie did not fall for that self serving line," said Brown. "Unlike Wilkie, Willie John didn't need to beg anyone to vote

for him, he made no promises, his efforts were his campaign and his hard work".

Rasmussen's grounds for mounting an electoral petition are frivolous and an indication how desperate he is to remain a Member of Parliament commented Brown. "Prior to the elections Rasmussen was boasting the visiting Penrhyn people had cast their special votes in his favour but as he discovered to his dismay that was the furthest from reality".

"The Demo petition claims those visiting Penrhyn were ineligible to vote is nothing short of hideous," scoffed Brown who pointed to the Constitution which he says clearly states those visitors qualified to vote because they had been in the constituency for more than three months. "Just because

they had return tickets to New Zealand or Australia is immaterial, as a lawyer Wilkie should know better, he will not win a petition based on a moral argument that falls outside the law".

"Demo claims they have a strong case because it is same as the fly in voters that toppled the CIP in 1978 is another deluded fantasy that as griped them into a cocktail of pretence," said Brown. "It is obvious they are clutching at straws, they should go to one of Howard Henry's classes and study the history of Cook Islands politics".

The 1978 boil over that cost Albert Henry the government, a conviction and the loss of his Knighthood had nothing to do with the eligibility of fly in voters to vote but everything to do with the financial arrangement that

facilitated the voters flying in. Henry was convicted of electoral fraud and fined the maximum of \$1,400, ordered to pay \$2,000 in court cost and placed on three years' probation plus barred from political office for life.

Brown says the Demo petition against Willie John is a trumped up face saving political stunt that was unnecessarily wasting money. "Wilkie is struggling to let go, despite his pretence, he is no longer the Leader of the Opposition simply because he is no longer a MP. The law is quite clear on this, he may be the leader of the Democratic Party but he cannot legally be the Leader of the Opposition. Wilkie has been embarrassed but he should accept defeat and let Willie John get on with the exciting projects he has for Penrhyn".

-George Pitt



Donation to Mitiaro School. See story page 17

‘Saving our Tuna’ to screen next week

The Ministry of Marine Resources has been granted permission to screen the new documentary ‘Saving our Tuna’ on local television next week.

More than 4.5 million tons of tuna are caught each year as part of a \$5 billion industry that is an economic lifeline for Pacific island countries. Nearly half are caught in the western and central Pacific - but for how much longer?

This question and more are explored in the half-hour film produced by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Arrowhead Films for Discovery Channel Asia.

The documentary takes viewers to the richest fishing grounds on the planet, where fleets of fishing vessels equipped with sonar, and sophisticated satellite tracking devices are catching millions of tons of tuna, making it the third most harvested fish in the ocean.

The race is on to see if technology can also help save a commodity that is a way of life for so many. The movie reveals cutting edge air and sea monitoring operations to enforce fishing limit compliance. It brings viewers into the cockpit of a P3 Orion aircraft as it flies over vast tracks of ocean to crack down on illegal fishing.

MMR Secretary Ben Ponia put in a request to be able to air the film here after seeing a preview of ‘Saving our Tuna’ this May at the 13th Infotech World Tuna Trade Conference in Bangkok, Thailand. With support from the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), Ponia made contact with UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre’s Environment and Energy Team Leader Gordon Johnson to begin formalising the request.

Discovery Channel’s director for legal affairs subsequently agreed to a waiver of their non-broadcast clause enabling Cook Islands Television (CITV) to be the first free to air channel to screen the documentary.

The Ministry is grateful to UNDP and FFA media officer, Cook Islander Lisa Williams-Lahari, who advocated for Pacific broadcasters to be able to screen material filmed in their own backyard and including the FFA

headquarters, says Ponia.

He describes the documentary as providing an insightful and well balanced perspective on Pacific Islanders’ quest to engage in and benefit from tuna fisheries.

“The documentary is an excellent production which enables a good birds-eye view of the state of tuna fisheries. The case study of the Solomon Islands is, of course, something that we can directly relate to here in the Pacific Islands,” says Ponia.

Tune into CITV at 8pm on Sunday September 7 to see ‘Saving our Tuna’.



‘Saving our Tuna’ premiered on World Oceans Day, June 8 and will be aired at next week’s Third Annual International Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Conference in Apia, Samoa from 1-4 September.



The film takes an inside look at tuna technology – how it is used to catch, and perhaps even help save the tuna industry and the livelihoods of tens of thousands of Pacific islanders.



The new documentary reveals cutting edge air and sea monitoring operations to enforce fishing limit compliance.

Provisional 2013 Quarterly National Accounts

This is the second release of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on a quarterly basis covering the period 2008 - 2013. The compilation of national accounts statistics is a dynamic process, and revisions and updates will be made to the series as new data sources are brought into the model and as various benchmarks and assumptions are updated. The current release is based mainly on information from VAT tax returns. Future revisions in quarterly data had been planned for the next quarter after the release of the annual 2013 GDP data.

This release analyses two time periods: the December quarter 2013, and the 2013 calendar year.

The first section reviews the change in the amount of production (GDP) that occurred in the three months of the December quarter 2013 to the amount of production that occurred in the three months of the December quarter 2012.

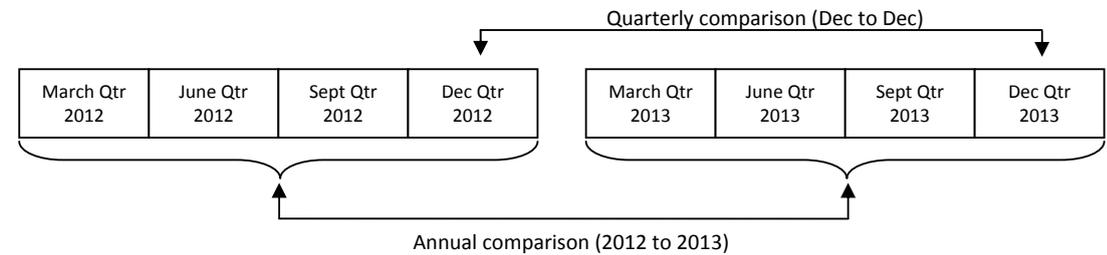
The second section reviews the change in the amount produced across the entire 2013 year to the amount produced across the entire year of 2012.

Reference is also made to 'percentage point contribution' to growth. This number refers to the impact of growth/decline in a certain industry to the growth/decline in total output (or total GDP). For example: If GDP grew 2 per cent, with Construction contributing 1.2 percentage points to the total growth, then 1.2 of the overall 2 per cent growth in GDP came from Construction activity.

Release

Data released by the Statistics Office on 20 August 2014 showed that real GDP (which removes the effects of inflation) in the December quarter of 2013 grew by 0.2 per cent when compared to the December quarter of 2012.

Of the overall increase in real GDP, 0.9 percentage points came from Agriculture, with a further 1.0 percentage points



coming from Transport and Telecommunications. These increases were offset by 0.5 percentage point falls in Restaurants and Accommodation and Construction, as well as 0.2 percentage reductions in Fishing, Wholesale and Retail, Business and Financial Services, Community and Personal Services, and Ownership of Dwellings.

Nominal GDP (which includes inflation) fell 3.8 per cent over the same period, due largely to price effects in Electricity and Water, and Public Administration.

For the 2013 calendar year, Chain Volume (Real) GDP declined 4.8 per cent (or \$13.9m) compared to 2012. Of this decline, 2.8 percentage points came from Construction and 2.6 percentage points came from Finance and Business Services. This was partially offset by a 1.1 percentage point contribution to growth from

Transport and Communication and 0.7 percentage points from Agriculture.

“Economic activity in the December quarter of 2013 was a small improvement on the previous year, but perhaps the most surprising result was the dramatic slowdown of activity earlier in 2013, particularly in the June quarter.” Said MFEM Economic Advisor James Webb.

“Taking 2013 on an annual basis, the economy contracted by 4.8 per cent, completely reversing the stellar growth experienced in 2012. The last time the economy contracted was in 2010. One could assume that the weaker tourism results in the June quarter are to blame, but this would not be the complete story. In fact, falls in Construction, and Financial and Business Services, were the largest contributors to the decline in real GDP. The decline in Construction can be

explained by the completion of the harbour development in 2012, which increased the economic activity for that year relative to 2013.”

“Encouragingly, Agriculture added a significant 0.7 percentage points to annual growth, and Transport and Communications also added 1.1 percentage points, but it was not enough to offset the declines in other areas. It’s the first significant increase in agricultural production since 2003, and the highest agricultural output in more than a decade.”

Secretary of Agriculture, Dr Mat Porea said “The numbers are consistent with our figures which suggest increases in production. There has been a notable increase in the production of drinking coconuts.” -MFEM release

Current Price (Nominal) GDP for 2013 fell 5.1 per cent compared to 2012.



Donation to Mitiaro School. See story page 17

Royals to Royals Commemorate 1st Global War



The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge accepting an official photo shoot with Their Excellency's Cook Islands Queen's Representative and Wife Tuaine Marsters

By Anthony Brown

Attending the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Great War of '1914-1918' upon the personal invite by the King of Belgium to our country in the persona of our Queen's Representative was both a recognition of our solitude for global peace (with the involvement of our own soldiers back then under New Zealand) and of our obligation and commitment to sustained efforts for peace and less of war. Referred to as the Great War, World War 1, was suppose to end all wars, instead, it resulted in the loss of over 16 million lives and displaced millions in the form of refugees and concentration camps.

The record reveals that 8.02 am on August 4th 1914 Germany invaded Belgium to gain a strategic position for conquering France and south boundary's of Europe when at 11.00 pm of that very night, Great Britain declared war on Germany so as to protect Belgium and other rogue like tactics of conquering other boundaries of Europe.

The commemoration was

conducted within two main centres of Europe where Commonwealth Heads of Government convened a special service in Glasgow Scotland, and with 15 Heads of State including our own met in Leige Belgium, the place where the first steps of invasion took action. Representing Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in Belgium was Her Grandson Prince William, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II held her own private Service in Her Scottish Residence at Balmoral Castle, while the Duchess of Cornwall represented the Royal family at a Westminster Abbey Vigil where in all of Europe lights were dimmed and in most places of Great Britain lights completely turned off except for a single candle as was the case in the Abbey between 10-11 pm symbolising the hour Great Britain declared war upon Germany.

As Official Secretary to the Office of the Head of State, I accompanied Their Excellency's where I was in awe of the courtesy and attention given to our Queen's Representative by all Royals such as the like of 'Their Royal Highnesses' King Philippe

and Queen Mathilde of Belgium, where in my presence and hearing of His Majesty greeting and thanking Our Excellency's for the Cook Islands, in responding to His personal invitation for the Commemoration Anniversary. Prince William and Duchess Kate of Cambridge also exchanged pleasantries at the same occasion in Belgium with Our Excellency's with common aspirations of commemorating events of international significance. Prince Andrew truly recognized the Cook Islands in the presence of Their Excellency's as evident by sharing of his recollections and vivid memories such as planting a coconut tree at Government House which still stands bearing nu and nuts. The photographers caught on to the apparel wear of Her Excellency Tuaine Marsters ever showcasing the popular TAV dressage that even Princess Kate recognized but then she gave particular attention to the necklace Mrs Marsters was wearing at King Philippe's Luncheon.

My awe came about as I realized our sheer geography, demography and remoteness the Cook Islands is from

Europe. The Belgian National Newspaper highlighted the span of dignitaries in attendance at the request of Belgium's King ranging from "the King of Spain to the Representative of the Cook Islands". Of equal importance is my recognition of the demeanour, conduct and etiquette of Our Excellency's while addressing the Royals with calmness of manner, speech of eloquence and refined in exchanging pleasantries. I can only surmise that the experience of a long political career coupled with senior ministerial post that helmed at being Minister of Foreign Affairs equipped our Queen's Representative to be a respectable ambassador for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and for the sovereign island people of the Kuki Airani. Incidental or coincidence? The commemoration of the Great War is always 4th of August, and so is the Constitutional Celebration of the Cook Islands, AND so is the birthday of our current Queen's Representative and so our day in Belgium on the 4th of August 2014 was commemorated and celebrated as everyone's day!

New uniforms for Raro Security team

By Charles Pitt

The staff of local security firm Raro Security Ltd are now boasting new uniforms which the company's co-founders Makirere Poila and Temu Okotai say will give the team a highly visible, professional image and presence on the job.

Although the company has been in operation since the beginning of 2014 and is one of just two security firms in operation on Rarotonga, the uniforms have only just been provided.

Each security officer has a navy blue uniform and reflective, lime yellow vest with the company's name on the back. The uniform has identifiable insignia on the shirt shoulders and the staff wear identity tags.

The company patrols certain businesses in Avarua after hours and on weekends. Following the closure of one of the security firms an opportunity was recognized to establish the service.



There are plans to expand the business and services provided. The company will be considering combining

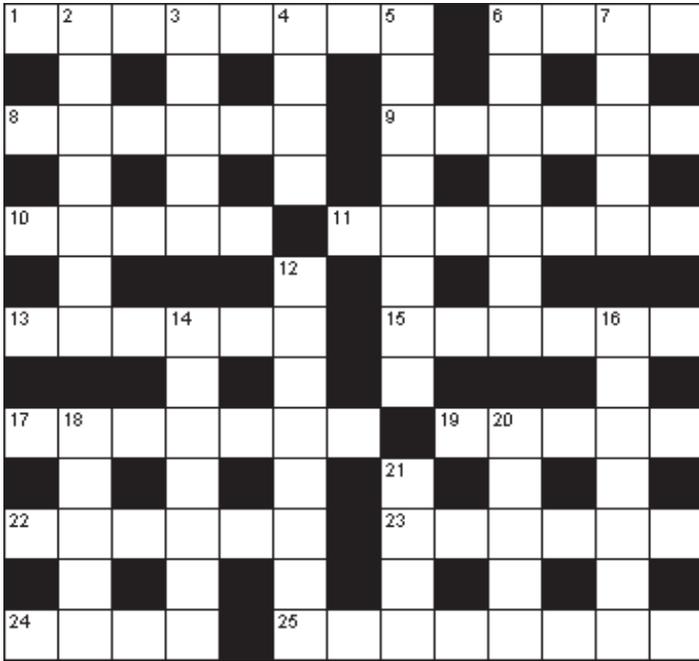
their patrols with electronic surveillance which will provide 24 hour cover. This service is likely to be introduced at the

end of this year.

Anyone interested in more information may contact Makirere Poila on ph 21 030.



CROSSWORD



Across

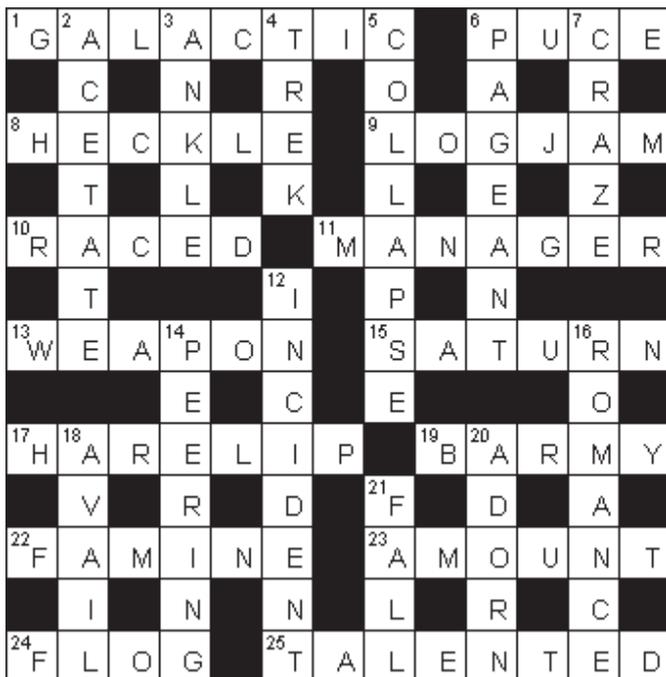
- 1. Marketing
- 5. Mother
- 8. Loss of memory
- 9. Lattice
- 10. Clairvoyant
- 12. Paradise
- 15. Performance
- 18. Call to service
- 20. Talk softly
- 23. Tenth month of the year
- 25. Computer information
- 26. Sudden pull
- 27. Rock garden

Down

- 3. Tacit
- 4. Seize
- 5. Medium of exchange
- 6. Dining hall
- 7. Bring forth from the egg
- 11. Synchronize
- 13. Relinquish a throne
- 14. Protuberance
- 16. Pertaining to the stomach
- 17. Eddy
- 19. In some degree
- 21. Cheap wine
- 22. Rotating member
- 24. Trunk of a tree

Down

- 1. Betray
- 2. Calcium compound



The COMPUTER MAN Tech Tips

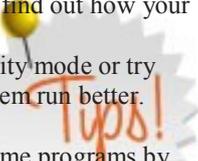
Phone 24979 Email: sales@thecomputerman.co.ck



Part 5 of 7: Changing Programs, Settings, and Appearance

Add programs. You can install programs using disks, as before, or you can install programs using the Store, as discussed above. Programs can also be downloaded and installed from the internet, as in previous versions of Windows. There are varieties of programs available, but it is important to remember that not all programs will work (or work correctly) in Windows 8. Check new software you buy or download to ensure that it runs with Windows 8. You can also use the Upgrade Assistant if you have not switched over yet or you can use Microsoft's compatibility checker to find out how your programs will run.

You can also run programs in compatibility mode or try downloading the latest drivers, to help them run better.



Uninstall programs. You can uninstall some programs by right-clicking their tile or program icon in the search menu. You can also use the familiar add or remove program tool. The easiest way to access this, is to open the search charm and type Add or Remove Programs into the search bar. The program will be under the Settings, which will need to be selected on the right. Understand that uninstalling a program is different that simply making the tile go away. If you would rather remove the tile, read the step below.

...to be continued

WHATS NEW

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Grey Power Notice



Grey Power's next march to Parliament is to remind Prime Minister elect Henry Puna to honour his promise to us.

Through the media Henry Puna, Teariki Heather, Mark Brown and Kiriau Turepu apologized and promised to reimburse all stolen \$30,000 as soon as possible.

By the time Parliament sits in October it will be 10 months since Henry Puna, Teariki Heather, Mark Brown and Kiriau Turepu lied to everybody.

*Dennis Tunui
For Grey Power*

Donation to Mitiaro School



By *Tiana Haxton*

On Mitiaro, there is only one school; Tematangarengare otherwise known as Mitiaro School.

It has 40 – 50 students including those in pre-school on the same site. Besides principal Mrs Tararo, the teachers are; Mrs Murare -senior grades, Mrs Pukeiti -junior grades, Miss Ngatuakana- teacher aide, and online learning facilitator Mrs Nooana.

I must include Mrs Porima who cares for te tamariki potiki (the pre-schoolers). The teacher: student ratio is 1:12.5. The school Motto in Maori is 'Mou i te kura, tauta i te kite e te pakari' which means 'Learn, strive for the best'. Every Friday, our school has an assembly where we are notified of upcoming events and recap on past happenings.

It is standard practice for 3-4 students, to in turn conduct the morning devotion which consists of a 'hymn' followed by a 'bible reading' and a 'prayer'. However, last week, the assembly was slightly different.

As was, the teachers walked into the assembly hall with two of the staff lugging a medium-sized suitcase each. They were closely followed by a local elder; Papa Metuaone Tou. We have a guest! And naturally everyone is curious about the cases. After devotion, we are informed as to what is going on. A donation has been made to the school; hooray! Two senior students are cued to assist unpacking the cases; its contents then arranged onto a table for all of us to see.

Once done, Papa Metuaone stood and spoke. He recently returned from a trip to Rarotonga

where he attended his great-grandson Ariki Rampling's haircutting ceremony. His family are from Canada. At this special occasion, family and friends gathered together to celebrate. It was here that the gesture of gifting to Mitiaro School was made and so he is here today to announce this fact and make delivery of gifts galore.

The bulk of the goodies is stationery like pens, pencils and pipe cleaners. The pipe cleaners can be twisted and contorted into whimsical shapes, like a butterfly or a character atop a bicycle. There was sports gear; soccer and rugby balls, perfect to replace our well-worn and tired ones. The pre-schoolers will love the colouring pens pencils and books especially. Math kits, Art kits, Fiction and non-fiction books should provide mental stimulus and growth for us elder

kids. The value of the resources is immeasurable and an aid to both staff and students.

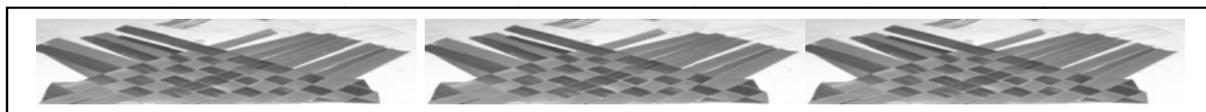
On behalf of the school a student said a quick thank you speech addressing Papa Metuaone who is well known as an advocate of education.

The generous donors to Mitiaro School:

- ~ Ariki Rampling
- ~ Steve and Suzie Rampling
- ~ Mahana Rampling
- ~ Mark and Nancy Dowker
- ~ Jack and Flo Underwood
- ~ Deana and Tim Underwood
- ~ Doug Griffith
- ~ Wendell and Kathy Dowker
- ~ Clara Ambert
- ~ Jhon and Kim Schembi.

Many thanks to you all from Mitiaro School. In appreciation, we will endeavour to put the supplies to good use with wonderful creativity and meandering imagination.

TE REO MĀORI KŪKI `AIRANI



Tinonimi, `Ānitonimi, `ē te `Omonimi: Synonyms, Antonyms and Homonyms.

I. Tinonimi(Synonyms) :

“A synonym is a word, or phrase, that means **exactly** or **nearly the same** as another in the **same** language.” eg, shut and close; broad and wide; huge and large, etc. Such words which are similar, or almost similar, in meaning, are said to be **synonymous**. The following are some **synonyms** which you can provide the meanings:

- eg. a) `a`ano, ātea, pararauare b) a`o, raumatangi, `akaea
c) tāpapa, tatari, tiaki d) `oa`oa, kokota, kōpā
e) kōrero, tuatua, araara, `autara, tara, talatala, kautā, vānanga, hakahiti

Words may be synonymous in one sense, but not in another sense. So it is important to know and understand the meaning and implications of the synonyms that we may deal with.

eg. 1. The words **manga**, `ātava and **rārā** are synonyms if we are talking about a branch of a tree. But if we are talking about a branch of a road, then `ātava and **rārā** cannot be synonyms of **manga**. Instead, we could have: **tāmanga**, or **manga-ara**.

2. In the same token, **manāva**, and **puku`atu** are synonyms when we are referring to the actual life-giving organ of the body. But if we are referring to the human qualities pertaining to bravery, courage sullenness, etc, then **ngākau** might be a better synonym for **manāva**.

In CIM, the **number** should also be considered when dealing with synonyms especially when they are partially-, or fully-reduplicated, words; ie, a partially-reduplicated word should have a partially-reduplicated synonym – if known or available, and a fully-reduplicated word should have a fully-reduplicated synonym.

| eg, | <u>Root Words</u> | <u>Partial-redup. Word</u> | <u>Fully-redup. Words</u> |
|-----|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| a) | `eu | `e`eu | `eu`eu |
| b) | riki | ririki | rikiriki |
| c) | `ae | `a`ae | `ae`ae |
| d) | vete | vevete | vetevete |
| e) | raku | raraku | rakuraku |
| f) | kini | kikini | kinikini |
| g) | ma`ata | mama`ata | ma`atama`ata |
| h) | manako | mānakonako | - |

II `Ānitonimi(Antonyms):

An antonym is a word opposed in meaning to another, ie, words with opposite meanings to each other is called **antonyms**.

eg, **angiangi** is the antonym for **petetue**, as `āpikēpikē is for **māro`iro`i**, and many others.

When selecting antonyms, it is well to remember that number plays an important part in the process. It affects the antonyms in the same way that it affects synonyms, ie the structure of an antonym must be similar.

How to build friendship

Part 2

By Senior Pastor John Tangi

In Part 1 of this Theme I noted that choosing your friends is very important because they will have some influence on your life. There are basically two different kinds of friends. There are Casual friends and Close friends. Casual friends is the result of circumstances. But Close friends is the result of choice. The closer you are to a person the greater their influence will be on you. Therefore, choose your close friends carefully.

Proverbs 12v.26 reads "A righteous man is cautious in friendship." The Bible talks about some people we need to avoid as our closest friends. The Bible says Lazy people should not be your closest friends. Even a Bad Tempered or Angry person - don't befriend a bad tempered person. Immoral (wicked, corrupt, dishonest) people. Greedy people. Avoid those who have chosen not to believe in God. The question is "What do you do with these people?" The Bible says we're to love everybody, but don't have these people as your closest friends because it will influence you.

According to the Bible there are 3 types of friends we ought to select as Close friends:

i) Choose those who Stimulate (inspire; motivate; encourage) you mentally. The Bible says, "He who walks with the wise will grow wise".

ii) Choose those who Supports you emotionally. A friend is somebody who walks with you when everybody else walks away. A friend is somebody who is there with you even when the going gets tough. Galatians 6v.2 says "Bear one another's burdens."

iii) Choose those who Strengthens you spiritually. I Thessalonians 5v.11 "Encourage one another and build each other up."

Part 2 of this article will focus

on how to build friendships according to the word of God.

1. GET INTERESTED IN OTHER PEOPLE

Proverbs 18v.24 "He who wants to have friends must show himself friendly." The starting point is to get interested in other people. In the Good News version it says, "People who don't get along with others are interested only in themselves." If you just look at yourself and concerned with your needs, pains, desires, goals, you're not going to have many friends. Philippians 2v.4 says "Each of you should look not only after his own interest but also the interest of others." That's the starting point. Get interested in others.

2. SMILE

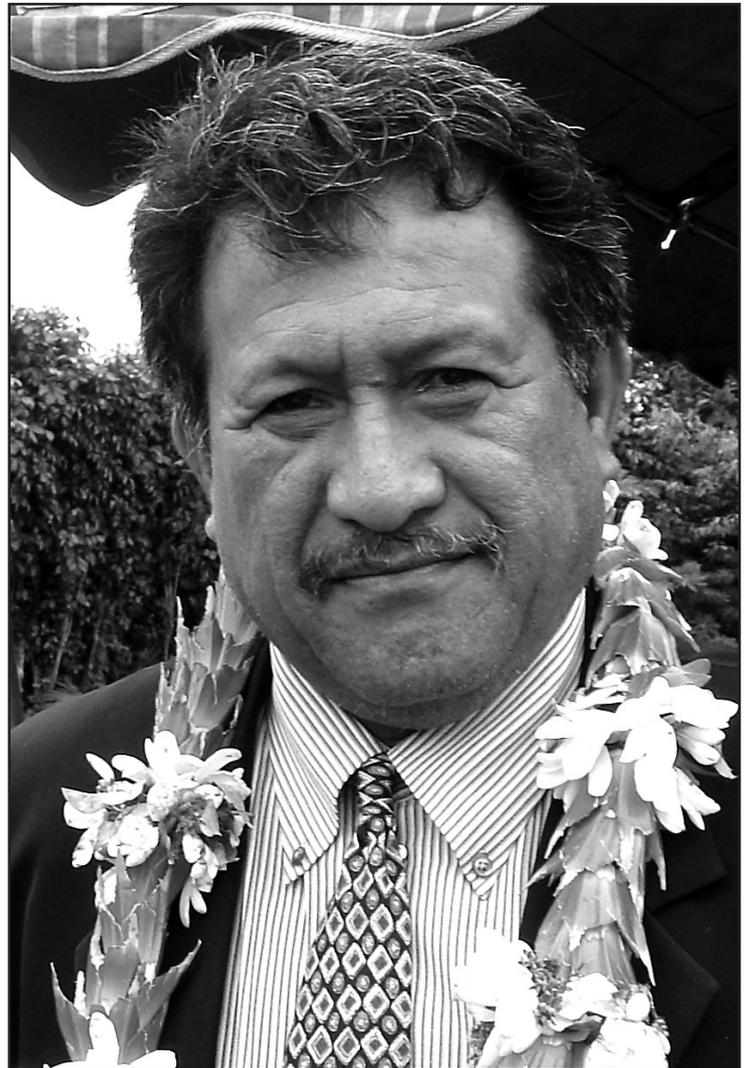
Proverbs 15v.13 "A happy heart makes the face cheerful!" There is tremendous power in a smile. It is the universal language. It is understood in every culture. You smile at somebody and they'll smile back at you. It's automatic. It costs nothing but it gives tremendous benefits. It breaks the ice when you smile at people. II Corinthians 3v.18 (NLT) reads "And all of us have had that veil removed so that we can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like Him and reflect His glory even more." Our faces should reflect the glory of the Lord.

3. DON'T BE A REGULAR COMPLAINER

Somebody who's always complaining, has something negative to say about everything. They're not going to have very many friends because nobody likes to be around them. Philippians 2v.14-15 "Do all things without complaining and arguing (without murmuring and disputing) that you may be harmless and blameless, the sons of God without rebuke in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi



whom ye shine as lights in the world." This means that the person who is not a complainer is unique and different than everybody else and that they stand out like a star at night. If you want to have friends, smile, get interested in other people and stop being a complainer.

4. BE A GOOD LISTENER

James 1v.19 "Be quick to listen and slow to speak." Proverbs 20v.4 "Counsel is in the heart of a man like a deep well but a man of understanding will draw it out." We can learn from anyone if we know the right questions to ask. Like water out of a well, we can learn from anyone if we know how to draw it out. Learn

to ask questions. Be a good listener.

5. ACCEPT PEOPLE UNCONDITIONALLY

Romans 15v.7 "Accept each other, just as Christ accepted you." We cannot build true friendship until we first give up the impression in our mind of what that person ought to be. Biblical friendship is always unconditional. "A true friend is someone who knows all about you, yet loves you just the same! Jesus loves us unconditionally!"

May you find this article of Encouragement useful in building your friendship with others. May you have a God blessed week. Te Atua te arua.

Trip to NZ

By Norma Ngatamariki

HELLO, EVERYBODY! Man, it feels good to be back on the computer, typing out my weekly article for y'all. If you're wondering where I disappeared to during these past three weeks, I was enjoying myself in New Zealand. I left the warm weather of Raro and traded it for the freezing cold over in New Zealand. I was really looking forward to this trip, not only because I needed to do some serious shopping but because I wanted to see my family on the other side. Yay! I was so excited when I boarded the plane that I couldn't wait to arrive.

After what seemed like forever, our plane finally touched down on New Zealand soil. When I stepped off, I was hit by a shock of cold air. Bleh! We literally had to catch a bus back to the terminal because

our flight was delayed for a bit. But I didn't care! I was finally here! After a lengthy process of checking bags and metal detectors, we finally made it to the arrivals lounge, where my family was waiting to pick us up. Holler! I still couldn't get over on how cold it was, so I practically ran to the van outside.

Of course, I was gonna go shopping on my very first day in New Zealand. I had no time to waste, so the family took us to the Mangere Town Centre Saturday Market. I couldn't help but make comparisons to the market here. Stuff was cheaper over there and the food! OMG, the food...I think almost half of my spending money had gone in an hour. You could easily bargain with the Chinese stalls to get a cheaper price (that is, if you're shameless) or get a couple of churros (Spanish donuts) for fifty cents.

The next day, we hit the malls. Sylvia Park was the first on my list, so off we went. The fact that it is New Zealand's biggest shopping mall never fails to amaze me. Although I have to say, it's a lot of walking around. I browsed for a bit until I saw my favourite stores: Cotton On, Glassons, Crossroads and The Warehouse. I splurged like nobody's business, stocking up on clothes and shoes. The one thing that I regret not buying is an actual ball gown for the upcoming Tereora College ball in October. But by then, it was too late. I had no more money to spend. Dumb move. We also went to Westfield in Manukau (my favourite shopping mall), Dressmart out in Onehunga and the night market at Hunters Plaza in Papatoetoe. Gosh, it was an amazing two weeks of shopping. Mum and I even managed to go to Happy Days



twice in one week, which really made me happy. An all-you-can-eat buffet...what more could you possibly want?

But I cannot thank my family enough for making our stay as exciting as it was. I can't wait to head back in February next year!

Casino Royale

By Nadia George

Finally, the countdown to our school ball has begun. It took a lot of hard work, excellent persuasive skills and a little begging but its official; Tereora will be having a senior ball for the year thirteens' of 2014.

I for one am super excited to be going to my first ever school ball, with the theme for the night being Casino Royale. That's right! But really! I haven't even got my dressed picked out, even though the function is like a month away, I still need to be prepared well in advance, since my paddling trip falls on the two weeks prior to the ball. Talk about bad timing and not to mention the mock exams we have coming up. Can anyone say crisis? So back to the dress, I've been browsing online for potential dress styles and still haven't

gotten the right one yet. There's always the problem of long or short? Tight or loose? Should I go short because it'll accentuate my legs much more, or long so I can pull off the "wife of a billionaire" look that I'm going for. Tight because it brings out all the curves in all the right places? Or loose because we don't want everyone seeing all the rolls in all the wrong places? Gosh what to do, what to do?

I've enrolled myself on to the ball committee and am in charge of the...wait for it...decorations, with two other senior students- Justin Pokino and Hana Koteka. Even my fellow columnist, Norma Ngatamariki, has joined in on the fun, heading the catering group (yay us).

The night is set to happen on the 4th October and is said to be "a night to remember", with almost everyone in full swing for the festivities to

start. Except for the slight few who are running "anti ball" get-togethers on the night and are, wait for it...dressing up as superheroes? Personally, I find that enormously childish. I mean, come on people, it's your final year of high school and you're wasting a chance that many other kids in lower levels, would kill for, tbh! Perhaps they can't get dates, no surprises there lol. Picture this, guys and gals dressed to the nines in their tuxedos and girls in beautifully elegant ball gowns draped in black, red or white. The mock tails (not cocktails), the dancing, the lights and music, the red carpet and finally, the real reason why anyone ever goes to these functions, the ball's equivalent of senior Dux... the anticipation of who will be crowned king and queen of the ball or even prince and princess (runner up anyone?).

Who will be crowned the



fairest of them all? "Vote Nadia George for prom queen". With four weeks and a couple days left to go, I can already feel my hair falling out and strands fading to grey with all the stress of this. But I sure am excited for what is set to be a night to remember.

Not only is Elvis Puna the most unpopular PM in our fifty years of Dependence but he is starting to show us how dumb he is. Last week on Radio Cook Islands he was bagging this publication for being pro OCIM, just because he has nothing intelligent to say. That's not our fault, if he wants to keep CIP things secret that's his problem, then he gives the Grey Power the stick because they are going to march on Parliament again. He berates Dennis Tunui asking what is he doing this for. PM he's doing it because you lot stole Pensioner's money and you lied when you said you would pay it back. Remember when you said let the old people march it will be our entertainment? It's dumb statements like this that are coming back to bite you because your government is the entertainment.



It seems the champion Takuvaine Reds rugby team have got up the beaks of some of the clubs that are not used to losing. For years the smallest catchment for players were the easy beats whose good players often got poached and struggled but now plays a brand of footy that the others struggle to cope with. The rest of the world was introduced to this style way back in the 1991 Rugby World Cup. Opponents be warned never torment the Samoa imports with the K word, it is the most rudest and foul word in their talk and will provoke an all out rumble of the worst kind. If you Raro players want to start an ethnic war just use the K word at your own peril. And what a shocker of fines and penalties got dumped on the Reds after it was



an Avatiu player who repeatedly tormented a Reds player with the K word, after showing much restraint the provoking went past the point of no return.



If memory serves correctly, it's tiny Pukapuka that did us proud some years ago when young boxer Kevin Tukia from Pukapuka won the silver medal in boxing at the Youth Olympics held in Sydney. Tukia lost narrowly on points to the UK Champion. Tukia had less than 20 fights in his career while the UK champ had over 300 fights and was also the European Champion. Tukia later joined the NZ Army. He was one of many fine boxers to come out of Pukapuka. Vengi Hagai was another. He won a Silver medal at the Pacific Mini-Games when it was held in Rarotonga.



One Raro Rooster can't fathom out the Northern group voters. The CIP increase their burdens and hardship by increasing the VAT to 15% meaning everything will go up by another 15% for them and they vote for their cruel CIP masters. Or was it the Demos didn't have the political intelligence to point

this out to the voters in the North? With other outer Islanders being gluttons for punishment it turns out the tail is now wagging the Rarotonga dog.



Anyone want to buy the daily dribble? After initially coming into it to get a feel of the business before he bought it Edrey is packing his bags and getting out before the changes he's made continue to make sure there is nothing left to buy. And who would blame him, life on the other side of 50 in Paradise is meant to be enjoyed not endured. If all the foreigner staff packed up and followed there will be no one left, that's what happens when training locals is too hard and ignored.



Why do we need to send such a large delegation to the Small Island Developing States chin wag in Samoa? There are 10 government reps and over 20 NGO types attending. This is total madness and overkill. And completely out of proportion to the size of our population. We need to get real. Stay home, save money. We are a tiny speck in a big ocean with 15,000 people.



So chooks, a local company it is

rumoured on CNN-Coconut Network News, plans a major boost to its fuel business! What's wrong with this picture? Here we have our caretaker PM flying all over the world to attend climate change conferences and renewable energy chin wags aimed at getting our country to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels in energy generation, and yet right here in his own backyard there are companies wanting to expand the dishing out of fossil fuels for the transport sector! Does this not make a complete nonsense of government's priorities in the renewable energy area?

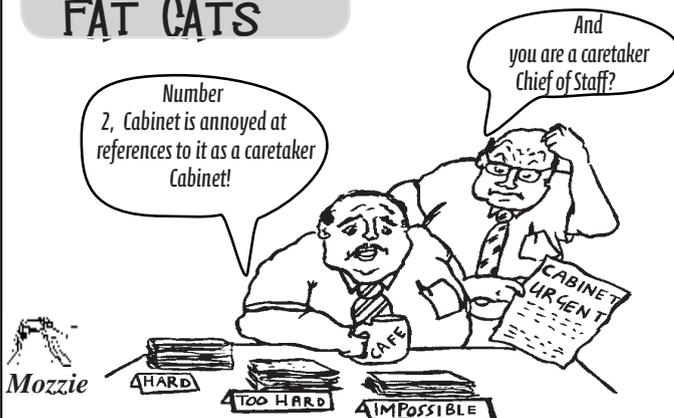


Government's policy makers are hot on renewable energy initiatives in the area of energy production as it will reduce considerably government's bill for diesel fuel for generating electricity. But the overall policy in this area of renewable energy is flawed because it does not extend to the transport sector. When is government going to give the private sector vehicle importers notice to move to vehicles that run on alternative means. Is government waiting until we all start choking on petrol or diesel fumes? The Samoan government is adopting policies for its transport sector. How come we are once again lagging behind?

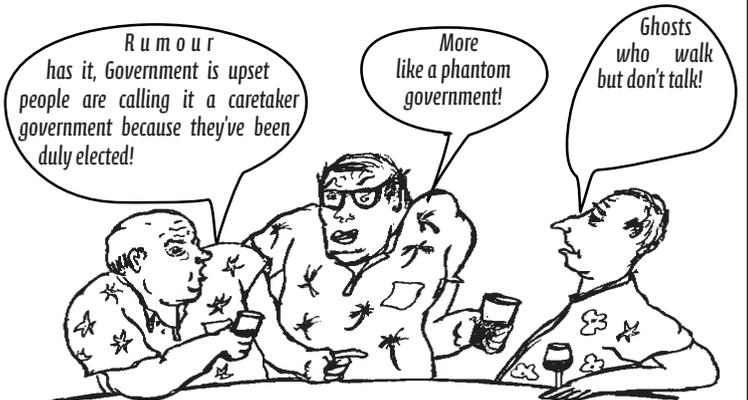


Scientists, we are informed, are to fit tracking devices to Humpbacked Whales to track their movements for a year. This will reveal just where these Whales travel to during the year. Perhaps the same scientists could fit tracking devices to our Cabinet members and some high flying public servants so we can track their movements.

FAT CATS



COCONUT ROUNDTABLE



Te Reo Maori

Na Rutera Taripo

Pukapuka`anga – Conversational

Nō te Ora/Taime, `ē te Tuātau

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| `E ora tēia | This is a clock |
| `E a`a tēia/tēnā/tērā? | What is this/that(near you)/that (away from us) |
| `E ora tēnā. | That (near you) is a clock. |
| `E a`a te ora i tēia nei? | What is the time now? |
| `E ora `ā (te ora i tēia nei) | It is now 4 o`clock |
| `E ta`i-nga`uru-mā-ono meneti | Its 16 minutes past 7 |
| `i pāti i te ora itu | |
| `E `āpa tēia no te ora iva | Its now half past nine |
| Kua waitata i te tuaero | Its nearly 12 oclock |
| Ā`ea koe e `akaoti ei? | When are you finishing? |
| Ākonei ake i te ora rima | Later on at 5 oclock |
| Āpōpō i te avatea-pū | Tomorrow at midday/noon |
| Ā tērā`o atu pōpōngi | On the morning after tomorrow |
| Ā tēia Varaire ki mua | Next Friday |
| Ā tēia mata`iti roa ki mua | Until next year |
| Ākōneinei ake! | Just a little, wee while yet! |

Te au rā o te `Epetoma: Days of the Week

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Mōnitē - Monday | Ru`irua - Tuesday | Ru`itoru - Wednesday |
| Paraparau - Thursday | Varaire - Friday | Ma`anākai - Saturday |
| | Tāpati - Sunday | |

Kia Ūpoko-tū!

Let it flourish!

Ta`i, rua, toru, `ā!
Ngō`ie `ua kia akatātā
`Ō atu tātou kī mūa
Rima, ono, `itu, varu!
Āru mai `a iva `ē ta`i-nga`uru.
Nā rira `ua rāi te tatau
Ma te mā `ē te `ē ki rua-nga`uru
Te reo ō tātou kia ūpoko-tū
`Ē rau, `ē mano, te tuātau!

One, two, three and four!
It is simple to recite
Let us forward to advance
Five, six, seven and eight!
Followed by nine and ten.
Continue counting in this way
With conjunctions to two tens
Flourish on our language
For hundreds and thousands of years!

Cricket : Cook Islands Premier League

Rarotonga Pukapuka Final

A stellar effort from the Rarotonga CA batters in the weekend saw the Rarotonga men's collect a win over Aitutaki CA and in doing so booking themselves a seat in the finals of the men's Cook Islands Premier League (CIPL) qualifiers. The charge was led by Rarotonga brothers Vane and Sepa Tangimetua who, together, scored over half of Rarotonga's runs. Vane Tangimetua continued his sensational form, adding to his 117 runs the week before with a half century in the weekend. Brother Sepa Tangimetua was in equally as good of form notching up the highest innings of the day with 82 runs from just 32 balls. Aitutaki's Tuaine Zekaria was the pick of the Aitutaki men's bowlers collecting 3 wickets from his 4 over's.



Pukapuka's match up against Aitutaki in the morning match was a do or die matchup for the winless Pukapuka. Pukapuka's Wayken Punga (3 wickets) and Vinegar Richard and Toala Teinaki rose to the occasion to collect 2 wickets a piece to restrict Aitutaki to just 66 runs from their 20 over's. Pukapuka lost two wickets in their reply (Melody Melota 20 runs and Osolai Akai 21 runs) however Junior Ruarau and Tapa Mataora saw the Pukapukan's home with 9 over's and 8

wickets to spare. The win for Pukapuka means they will head into this weekend's CIPL qualifying final at 3PM against Rarotonga. The winner of the CIPL qualifying final will progress through to take on NZ Croatia in September. Coverage of the women's results tomorrow.- *Alister Stevic, CEO, Cook Islands Cricket*

SepaTangimetuaTop scorer for the day

CINSF Member Death Benefits

The CINSF is today sending out written advice to individual members that, due to no contributions by their employers, are not eligible for the Death Benefits under the scheme.

CINSF CEO Damien Beddoes explained that under the current Death Benefits policy for members both the employee and employer are required to contribute to the fund to be eligible in the event of a claim. "Whilst we continue to see strong contributions from our employees, we do have a couple of employers that are not contributing towards their employees Superannuation, and we need to ensure these employees as members of the CINSF are informed of their non-eligibility of the Death Benefits,

following the 90 day period of no contributions by the employer".

Beddoes continued to explain that once their employer restarts contributions the Death Benefits would be reinstated. The CINSF is working with the insurers to establish options for members where the Death Benefits can continue in the cases where employers are not contributing towards employees Superannuation, but this has not yet been finalised, and the CINSF will be advising members if there is a change to the Death Benefits policy to protect members in this situation.

If members have any queries or are unsure about the details in their letter they are encouraged to contact the CINSF office for support.

Damien Beddoes, CINSF CEO

Letter to the Editor

What is it?

Dear Editor
You want your Marine Reserve Park and eat it too? What really is going on? Why would you set up a marine reserve then immediately start talking about mining in it, fishing in it? Either its a marine park reserve or its not, it can't be both.

Now it's designated as a Marine Park, now you have to buy a license to mine, fish or do whatever you want in it? How else would you sell parts of your ocean? If Cook Islands want to lead the world with Marine Conservation then do so, but don't sell us this B/S nonsense "we are looking after our children's future."

Raui or not?

VACANCIES



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An energetic goal setter that achieves targets
An individual that values the team*

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MANAGING DIRECTOR

This is THE leadership position within BCI and we need someone passionate to deliver to strategic plans. As the Managing Director of our business you will implement BCIs strategy through active team engagement, productive client relationships, while administering a high quality credit portfolio, and delivery of outstanding customer service, with regard to compliance matters in line with regulatory and policy requirements. Minimum qualifications and experience in Banking and Finance is applicable to this role and regular travel national and international may be required.

Dynamic applications enclosing C.V with reference to: KPMG-BCI Ref MD14, Attention: Mike Carr, PO Box 691, Rarotonga, or email mikecarr@kpmg.co.ck by 3pm, 5th September 2014.

A copy of the Job Description can also be obtained from Mii Mataora by email mii@bci.co.ck or telephone 29341 ext 840.



The Project Management Unit (PMU) for the Te Mato Vai wishes to engage the services of three (3) Field Technicians to assist in the coordination of Quality Assurance and Quality Control of the Te Mato Vai Ring Main Construction Works. The Field Technician shall have at least two (2) years practical experience on any infrastructure construction projects and have a minimum qualification of a New Zealand Certificate in Engineering.

For those who are interested in applying, a full Job Description is available from the PMU Office in Takuvaine.

Applications together with CV and three referees must be submitted to the PMU Office in Takuvaine by 3pm Friday 05 September 2014 marked Confidential and addressed to:

Project Manager
Te Mato Vai Project Management Unit
P O Box 3286
Rarotonga
Re: Field TechnicianVacancy

All enquiries to Daryl Rairi, Deputy Project Manager, Telephone 28-851 or 55-064, or email: daramide@oyster.net.ck

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TENDER



TENDER

**PURCHASE AND SUPPLY OF BOBCAT
FOR PUKAPUKA ISLAND
CONTRACT No. C14/05**

Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) on behalf of Pukapuka Island Government seeks tender proposals from Contractors for the Purchase and Supply of Pukapuka Island Bobcat, Cook Islands.

A copy of the Tender Document including specifications can be collected during work hours from ICI office in Arorangi. A non-refundable deposit of NZ\$100 will be required before the tender document is issued.

Tenders close at 3pm on Friday, 12th September 2014, and must be submitted to the ICI Office in Arorangi and in accordance with the specific requirements of the Tender Document. Tenders must be submitted in hard copy format in two (2) separate envelopes marked accordingly, Envelope 1 or 2, labelled "CONFIDENTIAL" and addressed to:

The Secretary
Infrastructure Cook Islands
Arorangi
Rarotonga
Cook Islands

and subsequent markings below to include the following: Tenderers name and address, contact person and details; Contract number and title; and Closing time and date.

All Enquiries to be directed to: Solomona Solomona
Contact Officer
Email: solomona.solomona@ici.gov.ck
Phone: +682 20321

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HEART FOUNDATION**

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