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Tax Collector extorts struggling small business owners for cash loan

Money needed for travelling allowance



Andrew Haigh – repeat performer

The extent by which the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM) are abusing their power have shockingly gone beyond comprehension. If anyone rightly thought the Revenue Management Division head Andrew Haigh had offensively abused his power by unlawfully raiding Pensioner's Bank accounts on Christmas two years ago his latest disgraceful people abuse must be dealt with deterrent harshness. What law does expat Haigh now profess to stand behind to protect his streak of cruelty to vulnerable hard working locals?

Last Friday on the 30 October 2015 Haigh presented an MFEM cheque the BSP Bank to be cashed. To his astonishment the

teller advised him there was insufficient funds in the account to process his cheque which was his travel allowance for an overseas trip he was about to take. Haigh immediately made a phone call in which he used hash tones in his conversation to someone in MFEM.

On return to his office in a discussion with some of his staff it was raised that a nearby small business was known to the Division that the owners religiously put a certain amount of their takings aside each week to cover their monthly tax payment.

Due to a shortage of funds in the MFEM account for staff travel allowances MFEM sent an official to a small business to collect a tax

bill before it was due. This is much worse than it sounds; this is not an innocent situation of a bill being over due and the tax department scooting off to collect.

This might seem a small insignificant issue but quite rightly should and will become part of a major investigation into the administration of the nation's tax office.

It was suggested to the owners to advance \$1,000 to the Tax official who ensured this money was a loan that would be refunded the following week. The intimidated owners refused to give cash as requested but gave a cash

cheque to the Tax staff member. The cheque was cashed shortly after. The owners were told the money was urgently needed for a Tax official's travelling allowance, Haigh's name was not mentioned to them.

A prominent local personality was at the premises of the small business and witnessed the entire cohesion and disgraceful intimidation of the business owner. Though the Tax staffer even asked the witness not to

vulnerable people in our country, struggling small business owners.

For all his shortcomings and self interests if Teariki Heather was the Prime Minister no expat would ever get away with treating locals with such contempt. Heather's personal philosophy of Cook Islanders first is an undeniable attribute he must be commended for.

Bereft of the cash to pay for any legal advice this callous CIP Government took advantage of these people, knowing that they could not help themselves and through economic duress forced them into a situation that should now open the door for a legal challenge to what is easily discernible as utterly decrepit.

This was not a tax collection but blatant extortion, this was not for tax but for a travel allowance, this was not for the country but for an individual senior public servant namely Andrew Haigh. On a pay packet of \$90,000 plus perks, why couldn't Haigh pay his own travel allowance then be reimbursed on his return?

There are not enough words that describe the behaviour and the method and the deviousness that attended this matter. Will the Public Service Commissioner Russell Thomas do anything about it? Not a chance.

- George Pitt

Due to a shortage of funds in the MFEM account for staff travel allowances MFEM sent an official to a small business to collect a tax bill before it was due.

tell anyone what took place the shocked witness has provided testimony.

Numbed and shaken by this treatment by the Tax official the business owners have been fearful of retribution but decided to go public about their ordeal with the Tax Division. On 3 November 2015, Tuesday morning at 7.30am a recorded interview with Broadcaster William Framhein was aired on Matariki FM radio station.

The Tax Office- MFEM has now quite literally broken the law. But not only has the law been broken it has violated some of the most

Is government about to attempt a major cover-up?

By Charles Pitt

When Crown Law applied to the High Court to issue an order preventing the media from publishing a legal opinion regarding the legality of government expenditure in relation to the limits set under the Constitution, it should have set off an alarm bell.

The Court will have been aware from recent media articles that the matter of government's compliance with the Constitution, was of immense public interest. The Court will have been aware that the Parliamentary Opposition was intending to seek a Judicial Review.

The High Court will thus have been aware the matter had also become highly political.

Regardless of whatever argument Crown Law may have submitted in support of its

application, with deep respect to the Court, this writer is of the opinion an appropriate response would have been for the Court to point out to Crown Law that firstly, there was a serious problem with security within a government agency and secondly, it was not within the power of the Court to rectify it.

As for any breaches of confidentiality, Crown Law should be aware the onus is on government agencies to ensure security of important documents. The blame for systemic failure cannot be transferred to the private sector.

Further, the Court could have pointed to the matter of government expenditure being a matter of immense public interest and that any gag order would raise public concern over the role of the Court considering the principle of separation of powers.

If Crown Law was so concerned about the legal opinion being made public and was taking extraordinary action to prevent it from being made public, this alone should have alerted the Court to the possibility government may have indeed breached the Constitution.

This writer is of the opinion that if there is the slightest possibility of an attempt at a cover-up, the Court should not allow itself to be drawn into such a circumstance.

This writer is also of the opinion that the Court should send government a strong signal that issues of immense public interest which are also highly political, should be debated in parliament which is the appropriate forum for dealing with such issues.

As to any likely prosecution

action for failure to comply with the gag order, government needs to bear in mind that if it is disclosed during the course of the trial that the documents involved pointed to a breach by government of the Constitution, public perception could arise to the effect that in granting the gag order, the Court became implicated in an attempt by government of a cover-up.

While Crown Law's intentions may be strictly in accordance with the law, when viewed in the wider context, the fall out in terms of public perception could be very damaging not only to public confidence in government to be honest, open and transparent but also to the Court's reputation and the integrity of Crown Law itself.

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

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

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

<p>Te Mato Vai Project Management Unit, Avarua, PO Box 3286, Rarotonga, Cook Islands</p>	<p>All enquiries to: Russell Abrams, Project Manager, Project Management Unit russell@kew.com.ws Phone: +682 28 851</p>
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CC to **Adrian Teotahi**, CWS Team
Leader/Asset Management Coordinator
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Letter to the Editor

Unlawful management of government revenue

John Scott letter to Editor of Cook Islands News

Dear Editor
As the author of two fairly lengthy letters the first in the Herald (30.09.15) and the second in the CIs News (20.10.15) republished in the Herald (21.10.15) on the subject of Government's mishandling and unlawful management of the public revenue I cannot help but be aware that in the absence of any plausible denial by the Executive of any wrongdoing there has nevertheless surfaced news that an investigation is afoot and that the eminent constitutional lawyer, Dr Alex Frame has been invited to provide, and has submitted, an opinion on the legality of Government's actions.

This is a good thing but what puzzles me here is that the

opinion is being described as a draft and even then is being edited and circulated to selected people and that one such person is the very person most implicated, the Financial Secretary (and by extension we should be allowed to presume, the equally implicated Minister of Finance). For what purpose one would be entitled to ask? Is this normal practice? Draft means draft. It is not final. To circulate it suggests providing an opportunity to propose changes. A very strange procedure. To circulate it with portions removed and to the persons most implicated even stranger. And besides, how can one intelligently comment upon a document when one is not privy to all of it?

From what I heard on the radio the opinion was sought by the FIU. Did either the FIU, or the good Dr Frame authorise this unusual arrangement and to what extent did it influence the final opinion which I understand is now to hand. It would be interesting indeed to compare the two!

Of even greater and graver significance is that I have accused the CIP Government of unlawful behaviour which goes to the core of our parliamentary system, and upon which there is now an expert opinion which is being withheld from public scrutiny by a hastily convened special court hearing and an injunction to prevent any discussion of the entire issue if one can successfully resort to such tactics to gag the media on

such an important matter where does it stop and where does the constitutionally protected freedom of expression feature in all of this and what prospect is there then of reining in the abuse and restoring some faith in parliamentary democracy which is increasingly going off the rails?

John M Scott

More on media gag order

Readers who want more details concerning the media gag order issued by the High Court can go to the facebook site for Florence Syme -Buchanan at www.facebook.com/florence.symeBuchanan?fref=ts

Good Governance a Priority for Cook Islands at UN Session

Saint Petersburg, Russia - Cook Islands Justice Minister Nandi Glassie is making good governance a major theme for Pacific Island States at the 6th Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) - COSP6 - in Saint Petersburg, Russia this week.

"It is undeniable that good governance and anti-corruption is the key to growth, stability, security and the development of a nation, but this is not a quick-fix, requiring a medium to long-term investment for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)," Minister Glassie told the conference. "It's important for us to fund and support local specialists, who are empowered to do their jobs and then, in

turn, train and up-skill other staff members; the key to this is to also lead by example."

Minister Glassie said that as corruption was also a transnational crime, its prevention relies on the support and cooperation of neighbouring countries and those beyond. "To drum up this support and cooperation is not easy and often difficult for one SIDS to push. This is where regional and international organizations, technical assistance providers, partners and others have a key role to play," said Minister Glassie, acknowledging the work being done in the Pacific by the UNODC-UNDP Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption (UN-PRAC) Project.

"The Project's ongoing efforts from gap analyses, legislative and institutional reform and trainings

to just bringing us together, a big focus of this Project has been peer-to-peer learning and sharing of experiences. As a parliamentarian and Chair of GOPAC Cook Islands, I would also like to thank the regional GOPAC Oceania chapter for its ongoing support in the Pacific," Minister Glassie said.

"In the Cook Islands, I am working hard to enforce an open and transparent system of Parliamentarians, especially through a modern Code of Conduct." Minister Glassie said that another challenge was government accountability, which was a key to good governance, successful policies and effective anti-corruption efforts. "However, accountability goes beyond just the government to also the

private sector, civil society and indeed, the individual," said Minister Glassie.

GOPAC Oceania Chair John Hyde, who is also at COSP6 supports the work of Minister Glassie and Cook Islands Solicitor-General Ms Cheryl King and added that they are making a significant contribution at the conference for both Cook Islands and the Pacific region as a whole. "There is a high degree of co-operation among the Pacific nations here at CoSP6, and Minister Glassie and Ms King are working hard to ensure the Cook Islands can benefit from the next stage of compliance with UNCAC and new commitments under the recently adopted UN Sustainable Development Goals," said Mr Hyde.

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Our Frontpage model

Tourism Marketing Conference



Our frontpage model this week's Herald Issue 791 is the beautiful Tangi Tomokino. Check out our website www.ciherald.co.ck. and facebook page: www.facebook.com/ciherald



Halatoa Fua and Graeme West

By Courtney Matai

Cook Islands Tourism Corporation held a marketing Conference at the Muri Beach Hotel on Tuesday morning. Graeme West, manager of Cook Islands Tourism Corp's NZ Office, was the presenter. West helps with advertising and marketing of the Cook Islands in New Zealand by encouraging tourists to visit the Cook Islands through organizations such as Kiwi Bank, which is a non-traditional advertising platform, to bring people to the Cook Islands.

Air New Zealand and Virgin airlines are the two key partners who West works with on a regular basis. He also mentioned that they have realized that they were better off having someone working full time with travel agents rather than have a 7 day road show, and they have also employed a sales ambassador who is Danica. Her job is to visit travel agents and talk to them about the Cook Islands and why their clients should come to the Cook Islands.

Also discussed at the conference was the third carrier, Jetstar. Fiji has increased their capacity, which means that flights from Christchurch and Wellington can have a direct/non-stop flight to Suva which will increase their tourist arrivals.

With Jetstar having a higher capacity, they can fly to places like the Cook Islands at low and affordable prices so that they can spend more money here on the island, as well as enjoy their holiday.

Jetstar passengers travel from 8 domestic airports (Dunedin, Queenstown, Christchurch, Nelson, Wellington, Napier, New Plymouth, and Palmerston North), which has become an advantage for their airline, unlike Virgin Airlines who do not. Jetstar's goal is to get more people to travel through cheap and affordable domestic and international flights, as well as grow market.

Tourists look at Jetstar's online flights and realize how cheap their fares are and so go on holiday to the destination that is on offer. Jetstar also has an in-flight magazine where local businesses have their products advertised at a cheaper price. Online booking is also available to buyers, as there is a section where they can book their fares and they can worry about their accommodation and activities later. This gives accommodators an opportunity to advertise their services when tourists come to the Cook Islands and therefore choose their preferred accommodation.



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October, the month of discontent

By Norman George

From the home-front to Europe, to the U.S. and the middle-east, tragedies of human sufferings abound. On my quick trip to Zurich, Switzerland, from 5 October to the 13th, I have experienced nothing but doom and gloom. I will highlight some of these tragedies in a mix and hopefully wrap it up with something to smile about.

My trip began by sitting next to no other than the first VIP of our country; PM Henry Puna. After a few pleasantries we both allowed ourselves to enter our worlds of unlimited space and privacy. I never do business on impulse and neither would I ever take advantage of chance meetings, I am accustomed to my mate Henry Puna giving a polite hearing then letting it pass from one ear to the other, without ever being troubled with answers again.

My route took me from Auckland, Melbourne, Dubai, then Zurich, a total of 27 hours flying time. Comfort was assured when flying business class on Emirates A380. I went to attend a FIFA disciplinary committee meeting at the home of football at FIFA Headquarters. Recent events have created a haze of overcast misty shadows over the home of the beautiful game.

For us at the bottom end of the command chain, it was business as usual. All those with responsibilities stuck to their work. Remember FIFA has over 3 billion football followers. Work must go on and it does. The gates at the premises were surrounded by security guards and CCTV, but they never bothered us. I came back after our meeting on the 9th October, confident that FIFA will live on, it is about 110 years old and is simply too big, too important and too strong to be broken up. Long live the beautiful game of football!

One of the most beautiful

scenery on the hills and parks of Zurich is the rich red, brown, yellow colour of the fallen leaves. If you think our mango, breadfruit, and frangipani leaves are a headache to sweep and clear, it is nothing compared to the autumn leaves of Europe. Compare that to the snow covered hills and bare leafless trees in winter, with Ravens perched on the trees poised with evil intent, the picture of heaven and hell clearly resonate.

On the return trip, we picked up the Tongan Rugby Team returning home, in Dubai. They had just finished their last world rugby cup game against the All Blacks. For a group of various sizes and dimensions they were well behaved. On the leg between Melbourne and Auckland, they held their high altitude party in the business class bar of the Emirates A380. The singing and music was great. I spoke to 1 or 2 of them and thanked them for representing us in the Pacific. Most of them were headed home to NZ.

The world in October was dominated by the Refugee Crisis in Europe. The outpouring of refugees forced out of Syria, Turkey, Afghanistan and Iraq was nothing short of human catastrophe! The drownings, especially of women and children is so heartbreaking.

Look how things have backfired since the forced removal of Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq. It gave birth to ISIS. The brutal force used to invade another country, without proper conception, judgement and after invasion containment, gave birth to anarchy, disenchantment and bloodshed.

What the world needs right now is cool crisp leadership. America's smart power needs partners, fewer adversaries, with shared responsibilities. Views differ between the political junkies of Washington DC and the chardonnay sipping armchair experts. Now is the time for resilience and reinvention in the

world. The time to stop, pause, inhale and exhale before making rushed decisions is here.

The home front

The shadow of crisis is engulfing our country today. As we drift towards the edge of the waterfall, the vision of multiple choices appear. Do we take the plunge, jump ship, turn around and steam away or sit there petrified, frozen, paralysed, and wait to go under...?

Here are some of the critical political career ending choices:

The use of Article 70(1) (2) & (3) of the Constitution as amended by the 1997 Constitution Amendment Act No.17 by Richard Neves to slip in additional unauthorised expenditure without going back to Parliament is the lethal injection of constitutional abuse! Going to the Executive Council for approval instead of Cabinet, is merely wearing a dinner jacket tuxedo to dress up for an illegal act.

Mark Brown, why do you not take independent advice as the Minister of Finance? There are long serving senior Public Servants you could seek advice from. Too proud? Too Big? Or simply outwitted?

The end result Mark Brown, you are no more effective than a church mouse. I don't blame my friend Richard Neves. He is one smart man, too smart for Mark Brown and Henry Puna.

How do you handle an overbearing clever expatriate? I once had an expatriate Solicitor General who conned me into signing a Cabinet Minute banning all ministerial contact with his office in relation to legislation law changes etc. I signed it when he assured me it did not apply to me as Attorney General. Then one day I called him to my office to give instructions about some amendments. He said I had to submit it to Cabinet before I could speak to him. Then he pointed out to the Cabinet Minute he had sneaked in.

I told him before he went home that day to bring me a new Cabinet Submission revoking his misleading Minute. Needless to say, we had to advertise for a new Solicitor General shortly afterwards.

What is wrong with calling Parliament Henry and Mark? The legacy Henry Puna is leaving Mark Brown, will destroy Mark's future as a potential CIP Leader. Mark and Henry's CIP government will be remembered for fewer Parliamentary sittings, all guillotined, no debate budgets, ruining the foundations of Parliamentary democracy. Apart from this brief overview, I refrain myself from jumping in the political ring to joust with the Government of the day. I shall leave that to James Beer, William Heather Junior and the team. As for the rest of the CIP Ministers and MPs by allowing the Neves doctrine by using junior legislative authority to prevail over Parliament, you are all featherweights in the Cook Islands political system, and should be treated as part of the church mouse club! MEAOW!! (L.O.L)

On the mother of all success-the mighty All Blacks did it! What a build up! Slow, careful, no high scoring injury risking build-ups. Then out comes the surgical incisive moves! Science in rugby! Brains above brawn! The Carter magic, the NeHe Milner-Skudder step, the Ben Smith punt, the Ma'a Nonu swerve, the Bauden Barrett mach 1 glide to the score line! Smooth as silk! Silent as a Kiwi on the hunt! Not forgetting Aaron Smith's wit/ play making skills and Captain Richie McCaw's guts and leadership.

What better sight than to see the Aussies gasping for air, for relief and for an explanation! Way to go All Blacks! Thank you mighty All Blacks for giving us all a very happy weekend!

Kia Kaha! Kia Toa!

Ka Kite!

See you next week.

Details released on proposed purse seine deal

The Ministry of Marine Resources (MMR) has today released documents on the proposed purse seine fishing access arrangement with the European Union (EU).

MMR Secretary Ben Ponia says the information needs to get out to the public and the media.

“The Ministry believes due to misinformation being generated that it is a priority for the public to see the details of the SFPA. Transparency is very important to the Ministry, and this a matter of national interest.”

The deal outlines a four year Sustainable Fishing Partnership Agreement (SFPA) worth \$9.6 million.

Four EU purse seine vessels will be licensed under the SFPA to catch up to 7000 tonnes of skipjack tuna over a total of 125 fishing days per year.

The SFPA has been initialized by lead negotiators as a matter of version control. The Ministry maintains that this is a draft agreement that if approved by Cabinet will then become binding on both parties.

Ponia says he hopes the documents will better inform news coverage of the SFPA. The Ministry also intends to make a detailed presentation to the public as consultation is a crucial part of the process.

“Despite what has been implied by recent news articles, the Ministry stands by the content of the media release issued on October 27 announcing the proposed SFPA. The subsequent article published by CI News was based on this media release, and we believe it was angled to make statements appear ‘reactionary’ and defensive. It made it seem we were responding to a line of questioning,” says Ponia.

He says the so-called ‘discrepancies’ between the Ministry and online Spanish news sources are because CI News has not had the benefit of seeing



Roberto Cesari, Head of the Bilateral Agreements and Fisheries Control in International Waters Unit, Directorate General of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the European Commission, and Cook Islands Ministry of Marine Resources Secretary Ben Ponia at the initializing of the draft SFPA in Brussels, Belgium last month.

the SFPA documentation which comprises of an agreement, a protocol, an annex and appendices. The commitments by the EU as well as the Spanish fleet are outlined in the various documents. Some payments will occur whether or not fishing actually takes place.

MMR believes the package needs to be viewed in its entirety to understand the full benefits.

“The positives include a high level commitment by the EU Parliament to assist the Cook Islands, a superior financial package for fisheries access, and EU funding support for the marine sector to subsidize the cost of fuel for local fishermen and develop government’s capacity for laboratory testing and running fisheries surveillance operations.”

Each tonne of skipjack caught under the arrangement would be worth US\$232, and for the first time the Cook Islands has

been able to negotiate a fishing day rate of \$19,000, on par with the premium set by the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA).

Skipjack tuna are the smallest and most abundant of the four major commercial tuna species. They are highly migratory and travel long distances, forming large schools in the open ocean. Skipjack reach reproductive maturity at about 1-2 years of age, and can spawn almost daily in tropical waters – females produce between 0.8-2 million eggs per spawning. This species of tuna is typically canned.

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission are responsible for managing the international catch of skipjack tuna. As a member of the WCPFC, the Cook Islands is bound by the management measures set by the Commission.

MMR Media Consultant Helen

Greig says the Ministry aims to be proactive in releasing information.

“The Ministry posted a link to the initial EU release on the agreement on our Facebook page on October 25. We also planned for a media release to be issued as soon as practicable on October 27, and this was issued to local and regional media for their interest,” says Greig.

She says the Ministry has a strong commitment to honest communication.

“As part of our efforts to provide information and news directly from the Ministry we now have a presence on social media. We recognize that there is a need for government to prioritize communication with the public and other stakeholders.”

The SFPA documents can be found online at: <http://1drv.ms/1Wx5jBt> or at the link on the Ministry’s Facebook page.

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, WED 28th Oct 2015

Dr. Tikaka clarifies ambulance charges

Dr Tikaka Henry was the guest speaker on Te Kave Kōrero on Wednesday 28th October 2015.

In light of a recent story in the Cook Islands news concerning an Australian couple having been charged \$800.00 for an ambulance ride to the hospital, Te Kave Kōrero presenter, Tony Hakaoro, enquired why a local was charged ambulance costs for ringing an ambulance on behalf of a neighbour whose child was suffering an epileptic attack.

Henry answered that locals are not charged and are not liable for any ambulance cost if they were taken from home to hospital. He said that for Cook Islanders the use of an ambulance in emergency from home to hospital is absolutely free of charge.

However, from hospital back home, once a patient is discharged and depending on the patient's condition, a local patient may be charged \$25.00 for a ride taking him or her home from hospital, according to Henry.

In relation to patient referrals to New Zealand Henry stated that the decision whether or not to refer a patient, is made by the local hospital doctor in consultation with a specialised doctor in New Zealand, at the hospital to which the patient may be referred to.

Henry said that not every patient is a candidate for referral to New Zealand and that not every case is transferrable.

He added that in most serious cases referral may be the only option but it is entirely dependent on the patient's condition and whether there is specialised care, examination or equipment required, for example, a patient requiring chemotherapy would highly likely be referred to New Zealand given such therapy is unavailable locally.

In terms of assistance in New Zealand Henry said that community worker and Radio 531PI Coordinator in Auckland, Bernard Tairea, is employed by the Ministry of Health as its liaison person in

Auckland and is responsible for ensuring that referral patients attend their hospital or doctor's appointment at the right place, date and time.

Henry added that Tairea being a full time worker in Auckland can not always be available to assist patients with transportation so some patients may need to take responsibility of organising their own transportation arrangements while in New Zealand.

In terms of returning home after treatment in New Zealand Henry said that it is Marae Ora's policy that a patient has three months to come back to the Cook Islands, from the date of discharge from hospital, and the Ministry of Health, will pay the return airfare.

He said that if a patient elects to stay in New Zealand after the three month period the Ministry will not be responsible for the patient's return airfares unless there are special circumstances.

Henry stated that if anyone has any question or needs clarification with regards to the referral system, to contact him at the Rarotonga Hospital on phone 29110.

One caller to the program said in Māori that she has concerns with some patients going to the hospital and seeing the doctor – a concern regarding the consultation fee.

"Te akaoki atu nei au i toku manako rai ki runga i te tuanga o te Marae ora. Ko teia concerning ki runga i te au patients aere ea, ki runga i te aronga maki e aere mai nei

ratou, e aere ana ratou ki roto i te are maki, ki ko i te taote, i te akarakara i a ratou, me kua makiia ratou. Apai mai au i teia no runga i te tutakianga i te consultation".

The caller said that some locals are going to hospital but not paying the consultation fee. She said tourists, in contrast, always go to the hospital prepared and always pay their consultation fees.

"Te maata nei tetai au aronga maki aere mai nei ratou ki runga i te are maki kare e tutaki mai ana, teia e rima rai tara i te tutaki. No reira e karere ua teia naku i te apai mai ki runga, i a koe e Tony, kia akakite koe ki to tatou iti tangata e, tatou tikai te Kuki Airani ea, kite koe, te papa'ā, te tourist, me aere mai ratou ki runga i te aremaki, they always prepare themselves to pay i to ratou consultation".

The caller said that failing to pay consultation fees is a financial issues in so far as the Ministry of Health is concerned.

"Tatou tikai te iti tangata Kuki Airani, me aere mai ki runga i konei, me aere atu na ki te taote, oti atu, na tetai tua atu me aere. No reira ko tetai apinga teia e akakaiouia ki roto i te Ministry of Health. Ākā angaanga atu ra na te au aronga angaanga tikai i mua i te ra ngai reception area, i te aa? Taniuniu i a ratou, aere mai na kotou e tutaki e teia mea kaiou e rima tara". Ākā angaanga roa e tae mai ai",

Te Kave Kōrero thanks Dr Henry for his contribution to the programme as well as callers for their input also. Meitaki maata e kia manuia.

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TE KAVE KÖRERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, FRI 30 OCT 2015

Bluesky donates 3 phones for RWC giveaway

“The Rugby World Cup final is the subject of discussion here on Te Kave Kōrero. Ko to tātou tumu tāpura ia i tēia aiai nei i runga nei i ta tātou porōkarāmu”.

This was the opening statement by Te Kave Kōrero presenter, Tony Hakaoro, on Friday 30th October 2015.

Hakaoro stated in Māori that Bluesky Cook Islands had agreed to sponsor three mobile phones as giveaway prizes on Te Kave Kōrero.

“Teia te nūti mataora, ae, akarongo mai, i tēia aiai, kua āriki te Bluesky Cook Islands i te sponsor e toru mobile phones, e toru terepōni apaipai, i runga nei i ta tātou porōkarāmu”.

In addition Hakaoro said that a separate prize, a dinner voucher, was also up for grabs as a giveaway prize sponsored by an individual.

“Takake mei te Bluesky kua tauturu katoa mai tetai taeake i te sponsor mai i tetai, karanga to matou reo Tutakimoa e, a dinner voucher”.

Hakaoro invited callers to ring in and predict the score in the final between New Zealand and Australia. He said that whoever picks the right score wins one of the mobile phones.

“Ka anoano au kia tamanako mai koe eaa te kai, eaa te kai openga, the final score apopo i te popongi, i rotopu i te tueanga New Zealand All Blacks e te Australian Wallabies. Me tano taau ikianga, i te tiaanga mai i te kai, ka peke ki a koe tetai o teia au terepōni.

He stated that one phone is up for the men to win, one for the ladies to win and the last of the three phones is to be won by one of the children between 4 and 18 years of age.

“Tēia te akanoonoanga, e tai terepōni na te au tāne katoatoa te ka tāniuniu mai ki runga nei i ta tātou porōkarāmu. E tai terepōni na te au māmā katoatoa, aere to kotou ingoa ki roto i te torōanga kia rē i a koe tēia terepōni. Ko te terepōni openga

i reira, ka peke ki te au tamariki, te au tamariki rotopu i te `ā mataiti, rima mataiti e tae ua atu ki te tai ngauru ma varu”.

Hakaoro told listeners that when they ring in, they must state their names, then give their prediction or final score, and the reason why they think the All Blacks or Wallabies would win the game.

“Teia te patiangā, me tāniuniu mai koe, akakite mai koe i toou ingoa na mua, taau kai taau i manako e, ko te kai ia a nga pupu e rua, me oti te tueanga apopo, e oti, akakite katoa mai koe e, eaa te tumu i manako ai koe e, ka rē te All Blacks, me kare, ka rē te Wallabies. E toru ia tuanga no ta tatou porōkarāmu”.

There were more than 65 listeners or callers ringing Te Kave Kōrero and giving their predictions of the final score in the Rugby World Cup final.

Later in the programme Hakaoro announced that the voucher, a dinner for two at the Edgewater Hotel, is generously sponsored by Financial Secretary, Richard Neves.

Te Kave Kōrero understands the voucher is valued at \$150.00.

“I would like to acknowledge the

generosity of Bluesky Cook Islands and my friend Richard Neves for kindly sponsoring the giveaway prizes on Te Kave Kōrero. This is a wonderful gesture on their part and is very much appreciated”, says Hakaoro.

A regular listener to Te Kave Kōrero on Radio Cook Islands, who did not wish to be named, said that he visited Hakaoro at his residence and told him that the giveaway prizes was a very pleasant surprise on Te Kave Kōrero as he had never heard of giveaway prizes on the programme previously.

Hakaoro confirmed this was the first time he had sought sponsors to sponsor the giveaway prizes as well as the first time to run such prizes on Te Kave Kōrero.

“I am very grateful and I do express Te Kave Kōrero’s appreciation of the giveaway prizes kindly sponsored by Bluesky Cook Islands and Financial Secretary, Richard Neves”, said Hakaoro.

Te Kave Kōrero understands that Hakaoro plans to offer giveaway prizes regularly as sponsors agree to sponsor the prizes.

Te Kave Kōrero thanks all listeners or callers to the programme for participating in the giveaway prizes ‘pick the score’ competition. Meitaki maata.

News Briefs

By Peka Fisher

Early February 2013 the home of Cook Islands High Commissioner to NZ and former Member of Parliament, Tiki Matapo got destroyed in a fire, the second fire to occur that year, before Nukutere College and Avatea Primary school later got burnt in October. This year, things are moving forward for Tiki and his wife Mii, whose home is currently in the process of being rebuilt. Fred Hosking, Chairman of the Titikaveka fundraising committee says they are glad that the works have come to fruition and it’s a great feeling to see the building go up, with the help and good effort from the community. Hosking says last week funds of \$38,974 was handed over to Steven and Tina Matapo for the home and the building should be up and done by Christmas.

The Ministry of Education’s Inclusive Education division in collaboration with the Be Accessible movement are delighted to be screening the ‘To. Be. Me’ documentary on Wednesday, November 11. The documentary is about the development of the social change accessibility movement in New Zealand and is part of a social movement managed by the Be. Institute, a social enterprise. The screening will be held in the MoE boardroom at 2.30pm. Following the screening there will be a Q & A session lead by the Ministry’s Inclusive Education Advisor Sarah McCawe, on how to move forward in promoting accessible communities. All are welcome to attend the screening however due to space limitations the public is asked RSVP by phone or email smccawe@education.gov.ck Sarah McCawe or Peka Fisher pekafisher@education.gov.ck

TE KAVE KORERO

Host: Tony Hakaoro, MON 2 NOV 2015

Interim injunction against Pitt

An Interim Injunction against George Pitt was the 'Breaking News' subject on Te Kave Kōrero on Monday 2nd November 2015.

The subject followed the announcement of the winners of the three mobile phones and 'dinner for two' giveaway prizes on the program.

On Friday 30th October Te Kave Kōrero ran a giveaway prize competition where listeners or callers were invited to ring in and give their predictions of the final score in the Rugby World Cup final between Australia and New Zealand on Saturday 1st November.

The participant or caller with the correct score wins one of the mobile phones. One phone for the men, one for the ladies and one for children, was on offer to be won.

As a complimentary giveaway prize, the caller who correctly picked the best player in the final, wins a dinner for two voucher at the Edgewater Resort.

Here the inners of the giveaway prizes:

Childrens' mobile phone prize:
Vaitoti Tupa Junior

Ladies' mobile phone prize:
Matekino Aurupa

Men's mobile phone prize:
George Hosking

Dinner for two prize:
Papa Noo (Groundsman at Radio Cook Islands)

Te Kave Kōrero congratulates winners of the giveaway prizes.

Following the announcement of the giveaway prizes, Te Kave Kōrero presenter, Tony Hakaoro, brought the 'Breaking News' item to listeners.

Hakaoro phoned media personality, George Pitt, and together with radio personality, William Framhein, interviewed them regarding the 'Breaking News' item.

Framhein was present at the studio having been invited by Hakaoro.

In his introduction Hakaoro said:

"Let me say this, let me make this very clear for the benefit of our listeners, prior to going to air this evening, I had a phone call from the Ministry of Justice, from the Registrar of the Court, basically giving me notice that any discussion relating to the subject matter we are about to mention, is prohibited if the Respondent, being yourself of course George, your association with any company, any media, as I understand it, is prohibited discussing this very issue. But that's not to say, as I understand it, that's not to say that we cannot talk very generally about the subject matter. Whether you elect to go into details George, I'll leave that option up to you to exercise or not".

Part of the interview is transcribed here verbatim so it's easier to follow:

"First question to you George, what happened? I've heard the authorities have been around to your place this evening. What happened?"

"Well, if you go back to last Friday Tony, I was served a notice from the Court, an Injunction, against publicising information about an advice given to Crown Law by an overseas lawyer".

"The injunction was in relation to the contents of that legal advice given to Crown Law".

"As a result of a radio programme today, it was talked about, I was visited about 3.30 this afternoon by two Policemen who had been dispatched here by Crown Law to arrest me and then charge me with contempt of Court".

"They asked me to go to the Police Station which I declined and they said they would take me there and I declined for personal reasons and so they sought advice and I sought advice from my legal adviser".

"I was questioning their process which I said I will complain about because I think they were very heavy handed. I mean if you lay a complaint with the Police then they will take your complaint and they will have a look at, then they will go and find out whether the complaint warrants an interview against the person who complained and then they will come and visit".

"These Police came straight out here to charge me on the instructions of Crown Law.

Well, you know, who's Crown Law? You know, they're interfering with the Police process, so anyway they came, we talked about it, and talked about it, and I declined to accompany them anywhere. We called up the TV crew, they came over and started filming the Police presence at my house".

"End of the day they said okay, we're not going to arrest you, we're not gonna charge you, we're gonna summon you to Court, to hear the charge or whatever, I said, fine".

"Notice Tony how the speed in which this was executed because Crown Law is so desperate that the information of this, the content, of the lawyer's advice is not made public. Now let me say this, Crown Law has politicised themselves and they have compromised their integrity because now, they're playing politics, that's all they're doing".

"I believe the contents of the lawyer's advice incriminates Government, so, no way do they want, and Crown Law has been revved up and prompted and then pushed.

Te Kave Kōrero thanks George Pitt and William Framhein for conversing with Hakaoro despite the Interim Injunction and the risk of being arrested for contempt of Court.

News Brief

By Te Riu Woonton

The first fundraising effort for the Miss Pacific Islands pageant to be held right here in the Cook Islands will kick off at the end of this week, with current NZ X Factor winner, Beau Monga. Beau, son of Ryan and Betty Monga of Ardijah will arrive on our shores this Thursday, with his first concert kicking off on Friday evening at Rehab nightclub for the mapu- tickets are selling at \$24 presale and \$30 at the door. His second performance will be held on Saturday night at the National Auditorium, tickets for the family show are selling at \$10 each, with a gold coin entry for Primary school students and under and the show starts at 7.30pm. Monga is the first Cook Islander to win the NZ X factor.

ADB private sector assessment a bureaucratic nightmare

Launched on 28 October 2015, the ADB's report of its assessment of the private sector and what government can do to assist the private sector's contribution to economic development is heavily focused on actions government should take to create some imaginary "Eden" where the private sector can flourish. There is too much emphasis on government actions and while this is bound to attract more ADB funds to hire ADB approved Consultants to assist government, it does little to enhance the lot of an embattled private sector struggling with high bank interest rates.

By Charles Pitt

How odd that in its report the ADB recommends government revisit the 2011 recommendations on restructuring the public sector. The ADB not wishing to stomp on government's toes, now calls it "Public sector streamlining." A somewhat sanitized term.

The earlier exercise was funded by the ADB to the tune of \$800,000 and the recommendations stalled when government with more ADB funds brought in a Consultant to put senior public servants through a needs analysis exercise. The whole project has collapsed.

With government being the biggest employer especially on the outer islands, sacking public servants would be political suicide for a government that came to power on the back of the outer island vote.

Odd too that the ADB fails to recommend government revisit the recommendations of the previous two economic

task forces, the first led by Tata Crocombe when the Demo government was in power and the second led by John Tierney when the CIP came to power. The Tata Crocombe group recommended closer cooperation with China in key sectors like Tourism and banking. The Tierney group put forward over 200 recommendations from the private sector and included extensive public consultations.

Now we have yet another report with recommendations for the private sector to stomach.

It's no wonder some in the private sector are having indigestion.

What is plainly obvious from this ADB report, and perhaps not surprisingly, is that it creates a substantial amount of work for public servants. That should keep them busy. New legislation will be required but cannot be proceeded with due to a hung parliament. New policies and procedures will need to be written. There will need to be public consultations. How

long is all this going to take? The infrastructure programme stretches over 10 years at a cost of over \$230 million. The private sector cannot wait 10 years.

The report has appeared after an overseas funded exercise which has come up with recommendations that look quite familiar to those in the private sector. It's almost as though Consultants have been paid to remind us how to suck eggs. Did we really need the ADB to tell us the obvious?

Government needs to focus

on removing just a few key constraints because that will then allow the private sector to find its own feet, negotiate its own path and proceed accordingly.

For any significant development to occur, the private sector needs access to funds and at a much lower rate of interest than that offered by the banks at present. This is the main stumbling block to development. Fix this and you may just begin to see some developments taking place.

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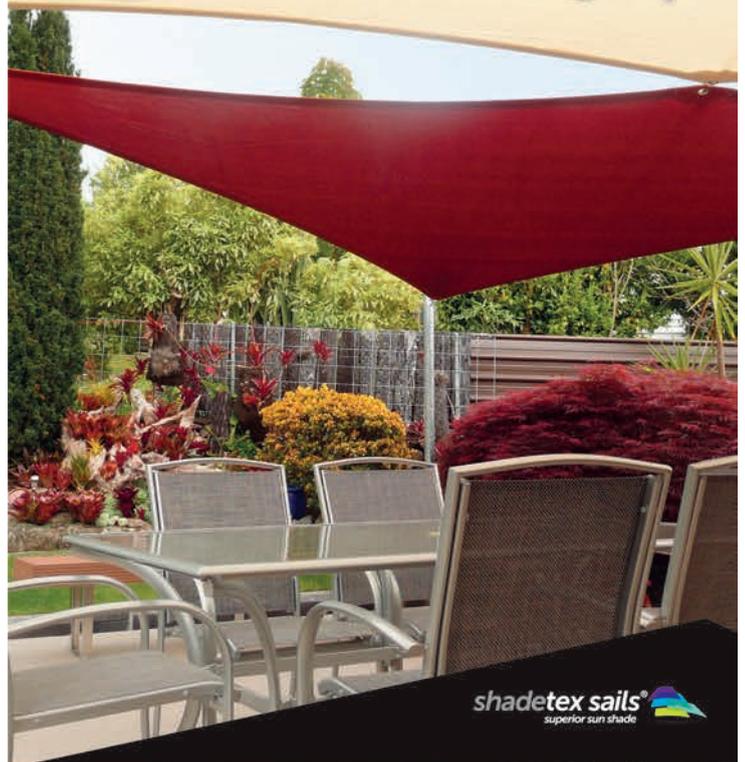


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How to be great in life



By Senior Pastor John Tangi

Some people say that the secret to greatness is money and lots of it. But God said “the secret of a great life is when you learn to serve!” Jesus said

Encouragement Column

With Senior Pastor John Tangi

in Matthew 20v.26 “Whoever wants to become great must be a servant of others.” (New Living Translation) “Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant.” Great Teachers serve their students. Great Shopkeepers serve their customers. In other words the key to being great at anything is to serve others!

God says the way to go Up is Down. The more you serve the Greater you are. The two words that best define the Christian life are GIVING and SERVING. Jesus said in Matthew 20v.28 “..I didn’t come to be served but to serve others and to give my life as a ransom for many.” The 4 main reasons why we should give our lives to serving God and others.

1. WE ARE CREATED FOR SERVICE. God made us for that purpose! Ephesians 2v.10 reads “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Jesus Christ to do good works [that’s called ministry, service] which God prepared in advance for us to do.” God designed everything on earth for a purpose. Birds, and Bees have functions; cows. The Bible says that you and I were put on planet earth for a reason. Human beings are here to serve...To help each other...To make the world a better place to live in...And we’re created by God for ministry, and for service.

Illustration

If you leave batteries in a torch for a long time and not use the torch, the batteries will corrode and ruin the torch. Why? Batteries are made to be used. Like Batteries we too are meant to be used, made for service! And if we don’t serve others, we get corroded, ruined on the inside!

2. WE ARE SAVED FOR SERVICE II Timothy 1v.9 reads “It is God who saved us and

chose us for His holy work.” “..holy work..” means Ministry or Service. The Bible says you were saved to serve. God didn’t just put you on planet earth to take up space, to sit around, watch TV, have a good time, and die. Why did God leave you here on earth the moment you became a Christian? and not take you to heaven. Because He has something for you to do. You’re left here for a reason. Let me ask you, ‘Why do you come to Church?’ Why do you Read the Bible? Why do you Study the Bible? The Bible teaches very clearly that Maturity is for Ministry! You might say “I want to be a mature Christian!” or “I am a mature Christian!” Let me tell you something, ‘You’ll never be a mature Christian until you start ministering. Remember that we are SAVED FOR SERVICE!

3. WE ARE CALLED BY GOD TO SERVICE. We’re not only Created for Service, or Saved for Service, but we have been Called by God to Service. The Bible says that every Christian is called to serve. Every member of God’s family is a Minister. Not everybody is a Pastor, but everybody is a minister. What is a Minister? A Minister is a Servant! What is a Servant? It is somebody who Serve! Every time you help other people in the name of Jesus, you’re ministering to them!

4. WE HAVE BEEN GIFTED FOR SERVICE. God did not give you your talents and skills just to spend on yourself, and retire, and then die! But He gave you those talents and skills and even abilities to help other people. I Peter 4v.10 read “God has given each of you some special abilities. Be sure to use your abilities to help each other.”

May you have a God blessed week, in His service. Te Atua te aroa.

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Should grey power pay tax on their NZ pensions?



The government and MFEM tax division have come under fire from a number of retired individuals for dipping into their personal bank accounts for unpaid tax on their NZ pensions. Grey

power have formed themselves into a lobby group to plead their case, gain public sympathy and pressure the government into pandering to their wish for a tax free status on their pensions and no retroactive action on past tax demands. Cannon fodder for campaigning politicians and comment on social media and Cook Islands and NZ news media. News media have been following the goings on for some time now and this has created debate in all corners of the Cook Islands. No one it seems has actually bothered to sit down and discuss why you need to pay tax and what happens with this tax money. Personal attacks have been directed at a number of the so called architects of this tax on NZ pensioner's income or recovery of tax monies owed on these pension funds and this seems to get in the way of a reasoned response. The way in which the pensioner's bank accounts were accessed and tax arrears taken is probably a discussion best had by government. In fact Richard Neves tried to explain his division's side of things in a letter to the Cook Island News some months ago, and his explanation fell on deaf ears. This has generated personal attacks, more uninformed debate, and emotional outbursts against those who have an opposite view.

I want to tackle this from the view that in almost every situation, our lives are inexplicably tied up with the term 'user pays'. In essence we are tied to the global capitalist system where money is the driving force behind capitalism. We have bought into the capitalist model so that it is interwoven into the very fabric of our daily lives and our relationships with others and we cannot see a world without money. Nor can we see a world without the goods and services we expect from the purchasing power of our money. The term 'user pays' is very much a part of the global capitalist mantra that states, that any commodity, goods or service that we want, need or acquire must be paid for by someone and that it is us the end user, hence the term 'user pays'. We pay for these goods or services either directly out of our pockets through the money we are paid as wage or salary earners or interest bearing investments or we pay for these goods and services indirectly through our taxes to central government or local government. In general the road, footpaths, fields, parks, subsidised transport, utilities and all manner of goods and services provided by most central governments are partially paid for from the tax on income that we earn. If the

government is unable to meet their immediate or future outgoings through taxing its tax payer base, as happens here in the Cook Islands, they go cap in hand overseas and try to secure international loans at competitive prices. The government also receives international aid as a developing nation and takes every advantage that this designation provides to secure grants, loans and promissory notes to pay for capital projects such as Te Mato Vai (Note: I'm using TMV as an example only). We expect that the government will look after our needs and we expect them to follow through with this. We know that political parties in government in the Cook Islands come and go all based on their appeal to the voting masses, the power of their manifestos, generational family support and accusations of bribery and treating and so on. We expect the government to look after us in our old age, look after our personal safety and ensure that we are safe in our homes and on the street. The question then becomes if this is what we expect from the government, what does the government expect from us, the voters. Pretty simple really, the government expects us to follow the 'user pays' doctrine whilst in a Cook Islands jurisdiction. If we want all these things, then we are expected to pay for them and we pay for them from the 'cradle to the grave'. As a people we are notoriously fickle in how we react to government putting into practice their party manifestos. We have this 'want', the government tries to meet that 'want' through their manifesto's, we vote them into power, then we don't like how the government meets that 'want' and we get all precious about it.

Let's explore that concept I introduced above, 'cradle to the grave'. From the time you are born (cradle) you become a consumer of goods and services. Subsidised hospital and health care, subsidised education system, the water that you drink is subsidised and free, no council rates, the imported food you eat may not have a levy attached, the money you earn selling at the Punanganui Market is in the main tax free, some businesses are restricted to Cook Islanders only and the list goes on and on. All these goods and services are provided directly or indirectly by government and the government does not distinguish in most cases from whether you are a wage or salary earner. Everyone in the Cook Islands pretty much has access to what the government provides or subsidises. As a foreigner you may or may not be eligible in most cases, but the facts are that they are provided by government and previous governments have built on and carried on this way of providing for the masses and tweaking as needs require. By the time you are heading for retirement (grave) you have enjoyed many many years of what the government has provided through your taxes. At that time you were actually enjoying the fruits of your labour in real time and for some time to come after that. The

question we ask, now that you have retired and are on a NZ pension and have come home, do you expect to receive the same sort of goods and services you enjoyed whilst in gainful employment and paying your income tax? If you answer yes, then the next question becomes, whom do you think should pay for this? Those in the current work force? or yourself through a modest tax on your NZ pension? If you as a grey power person believe that you should be having a tax free NZ pension then I suspect you will be having a debate with those who are the current Cook Islands tax payers. Many of the current Cook Islands tax payers are the silent majority and think that it is a bit rich, when those who are complaining about tax on their NZ pensions have spent most of their working life paying taxes in New Zealand for the same reasons I discussed previously. They have now come home to the Cook Islands and appear to want special treatment as non-paying tax payers and still wanting the commodities and goods and services being provided by a supposedly grateful Cook Islands government when their large earnings base (compared to the Cook Islands) was as a NZ tax payer. Despite anecdotal evidence suggesting that those pensions would not be taxed and with changes to the tax laws of this country, sorry about it you have to pay your way like all of us, unless there is a law change. To be honest, loyalty, paying your taxes all your working life and expecting something more than what you have contributed will not be regarded as justification for a tax free pension. There is tax law which says you must pay tax on income. NZ pension earnings are income. Someone once said that there are only three things in life that are certainties, 'birth, death and taxes'. You are receiving directly or indirectly goods and services provided by income tax, there is no getting away from this. The tax on your income is for the goods and services you are using in the present and for goods and services you may well be receiving in the future such as Te Mato Vai. Grey power cannot expect to essentially live on the goods and services provided currently by taxing the present income earners to pay for it. You need to be paying your own way in the now and not rely on what happened with taxes you paid in the past, that's gone; you've used up that credit, now you need to pay going forward.

As a country we are struggling with a diminishing tax payer base which is impacting on our ability to provide the basic goods and services for our current people. We lack enough marketable skills and experience of the right kind for jobs that pay income tax. The future will be looking grim if all grey power is thinking about are getting tax free NZ pensions. The final question is how long you expect to dine out and live on that korero and for us to listen to it and then expect us the current tax payers to support your call for a tax free NZ pension status.

Beach volleyball Continental Cup



By Courtney Matai

The Cook Islands is to host four major international Volleyball events in Nikao, at its new site across from the social centre, from the 2nd-11th of November.

The official opening of the playing site took place on Monday at 9:00am, and all the participating teams from Guam, Fiji, Australia, Samoa, New Zealand, Tuvalu including the technical officials in green, referees in blue and volunteers in pink were present. There was a prayer followed by a short speech by Hugh Graham before the event was officially opened with a serve of the volleyball over the net.

The Cook Islands are aiming to put up a good show because by

hosting the preliminary round of the World Championship, the Cook Islands will be hosting teams from Brazil, Japan, the States, Netherlands and China. This will benefit the Cook Islands tourism economy. Although the quality of the sand doesn't quite meet world event standards, the Cook Islands aims to make this a world class event.

Hugh Graham mentioned the first three days of the Continental Cup is phase two, which is the Olympic qualifier. "We don't dictate who the referees are, because they are appointed by the Asia Volleyball Federation", Hugh said. There are six countries with both men's and women's teams, where each country has two lots of teams.

In the women's division, the

teams who will be participating are Australia, New Zealand, Guam, Tuvalu and Fiji. Whereas in the men's division, the teams are Australia, New Zealand, American Samoa, Samoa, Vanuatu and Cook Islands. So from the Tournament, the top 3 teams in both the men and women's will go through to phase three which is to compete against the Asia Team. Hugh says that he is confident from an Oceanic-perspective that the Australia and Vanuatu Men's and Women's team will be able to go through to compete in Rio, Brazil.

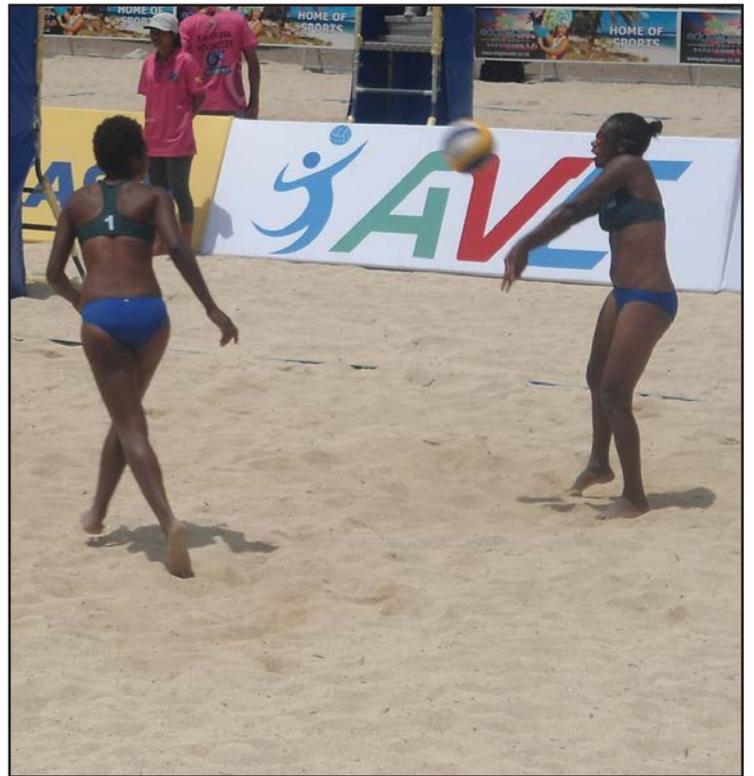
The Continental Cup event will take place from the 2nd to the 4th of November, while the Oceania Beach Champs will take place from the 5th to the

7th. From the Oceania Beach Champs, there are 24 countries that make up the Oceania, where they are allowed to have two teams compete, except the host Country who are allowed to enter three teams. However the majority of the teams competing in the Continental Cup will also play in the Oceania Beach Champs from the 9th to the 11th, which is the last two events.

The Eastern Zone of the Oceania Beach Championship, consists of 8 National Federations which are the Cook Islands, Tahiti, New Zealand, Niue, Tonga, American Samoa, Samoa, and Tokelau.

The Central Zone includes Papua New Guinea, Australia, Solomon's and Vanuatu.





Young Enterprise Scheme award winners



Team “Simplicity” winner of Best Overall Performing Company

Tereora College YR 13 Business Studies Prize giving



Team Simplicity left to right: Moeroa Ben, Maire McFadzien, Courtney Matai, Poko Utia, Chelsea Hunter and Quantum McClutchie (kneeling)

By Courtney Matai

On Friday 30th, my Year 13 Business Studies Class made their way to the Ministry of Education during third period for our class Prize Giving. We were all told to bring a sample of each of our product by our teacher Mr Graham, to show case our product one last time before ending our year and time in Business Studies class to prepare for our oncoming exams. The representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Education and Boyd Ellison were also there to present each group with their prized certificates.

Cookie & Co was awarded with the Most Innovative Product and Fresh Flow was awarded with the Most Environmentally Friendly product. Last but not least, my Business Studies team “Simplicity”

was awarded with the Best Overall Performing Company. We had won this award because we had met the quadruple bottom-line, meaning our Eco-Bags met the economic, social, environmental and ethical/cultural goals.

Our Eco-Bags was made from 100% recyclable material and is biodegradable, which meets the environmental goal. Socially, we designed our bags in a way that will get the community involved as we planned to donate 10c from each bags sold to Cook Islands Family Welfare (CIFWA). Economically, we sold our bags at a reasonable price of \$3.99 in order for our Company to make a profit. Lastly we met our cultural/ethical goals through the design of the 50th celebration logo which was used to help promote Cook Island Culture. Ethically, our team of 6 young girls is

made up of two ethnicities, Cook Island Maori and New Zealand Maori. By meeting all these goals, not only were we able to take out this year’s Dragons Den, but also win the overall award in our Business studies class. Doing the hard yards has truly paid off.

Participating in the Young Enterprise Scheme (YES) team “Simplicity” attended the BTIB Trade Days at the Punanga Nui Market on Monday 27th July to sell the Eco Bags.

This team consisted of six young girls who from our stall, sold the Eco Bags. On the Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, another yr 13 team ‘Fresh Flow’ attended to sell their product which was Coconut and Vanilla scented oils and lip balm.

Earlier, the Simplicity team won first prize in the Dragons Den contest sponsored by BTIB

and were later awarded \$1,000 cash which was used to pay CITC to import the bags from NZ.

The team is comprised of; Chelsea Hunter-CEO
Teupoko Utia and Quantum McClutchie-Marketing Manager
Maire McFadzien-Finance Manager
Courtney Matai-Productions Manager
Moeroa Ben-Communications Manager

The basic, bare bags are made by a company in New Zealand named Ecobags NZ.

The sale was an important part of the exercise as it put the marketability of the product to the ultimate test, customer acceptance and demand.

The girls had set a sales target of \$2500-\$3000 and the final total achieved is still to be announced.

Young Enterprise Scheme award winners



Team “Fresh Flow” winner of Most environmentally friendly product

Tereora College YR 13 Business Studies Prize giving



Fresh Flow members Vaite Poila, Bermie Ariihee, Lucianne Vainerere, Jayden Hunter and Tiree Haworth

Fresh Flow, one of three yr 13 Business studies team, was awarded with the Most Environmentally Friendly Company Award for using Sustainable natural resources, Creating minimal waste, and reducing the use of fossil fuel in the production of their cold pressed virgin coconut oil and Coconut lip balms. Their product is 100% locally made and is priced at \$4 for the Vanilla scented coconut lip balms and \$10 for the cold pressed oils. This team consists of Five team members (3 girls and 2 boys), Jayden Hunter-CEO, Lucianne Vainerere-Productions Manager, Vaite Poila-Marketing Manager, Bermie Ariihee-Finance Manager and Tiree Haworth-Communications Manager, who have worked really hard this year to make \$600 through selling their first batch of coconut oil

and lip balms. To date, they have made slightly over \$1000 with selling their product during the 50th Celebration and on Saturday at the Market.

Originally, Fresh Flow had planned to produce recyclable bags as it was a smart environmentally friendly idea. However the idea was claimed by Simplicity Eco-bags and so they decided to do a last brainstorm idea, which ended up being the coconut oils and lip balms. With the help of their mentor, they decided to take their oils to a different level by using the cold pressed method. The Productions Manager Lucianne Vainerere mentioned that the hardest part of the job was finding fresh and quality coconuts for the oils. Finding local Vanilla was also a challenge for the team, especially getting extracts to use in a cosmetic

type of product, which meant that they were limited to a small amount of the vanilla scented oils. They had found that making the lip balms were much more easier to do because the process of making it was simple and easy to follow. Everything from the husk to the dried pressed coconut flesh was put to use like feeding the pigs and using the husk and shell for firewood purposes.

Since Social Media play has played a big role in society today, Fresh Flow has used social media to their advantage to advertise their product on sites such as Facebook because the majority of their target market are on Facebook. They have frequently updated their websites on production and information about their next batch and where it will be sold so that customers will be

informed about where they will be selling their Coconut oils and lip balms. Although there was a lot of miscommunication and holdbacks within the team, they managed to get to the end. Fresh flow still have one last batch to sell which will be included to their total profit for this year. From the money they've made altogether, they will be donating 10% of their profits to NGO's Esther Honey and Creative Centre, and with the rest of the money will be split amongst the team members. Lucianne says; "We highly encourage any young people who thrive to be entrepreneurs. You'll learn a lot about yourself, your team members and how to keep a business alive and healthy". They can be found on Facebook, Fresh Flow or email them at freshflow@outlook.com if you are interested in their Product.

Unashamed Destruction of Paradise

By Hayley McNabb.

Last Friday I attended a 412 youth night. Now I'm not entirely sure what I was expecting when I arrived there, but as I left the hall that night, I left with more. Two youth leaders shared about 'The Harvest' and being 'Unashamed' and both these topics are in relation to our relationship with God. One of the youth leaders focused more on 'The Harvest', which reflected on helping people, know God and not being a hold out with the love we have with God. It's more about being unashamed to show your love for him and knowing that it's ok to be the 'Jesus Freak' in the group and being proud about it.

But I want to focus more on the being unashamed part. For starters when we accept Jesus Christ as our own personal savior we start to change. We see the differences between right and wrong more clearly and become extremely exposed to it to an extent where we feel heavy with guilt when we do, do wrong. When we become unashamed we want to make a difference in our community. You would want to shine. Not shine, where you're the center of attention and everything revolves around you. But shine, where you live the Christian walk and become a witness and an instrument of Gods work. It's about living loud and putting your life in God's hands.

What do you do when you find out someone is being bullied? Or having family issues at home and being abused? Do you turn away and pretend that you don't know anything or do you reach out and become an ear to listen and someone to lean on? Christ is full of compassion. That's what led him to help all the people that came to him. Have you ever felt afflicted for your friends or family members? Where their pain becomes your pain and you feel heavy in your heart? You see the brokenness in their lives and just want to help mend it but your not entirely sure how? If that's the case you can always start with prayer. Even if its public in a small corner, at your dinning table, at a bus stop, just reach out and be the change that can help them. Be unashamed.

There's a saying that goes 'Actions speak louder than words' and if our small actions speak louder than what we speak to them – that's compassion and how you react to those actions reflect God's love for us. He works in and through his people. Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God. Live like God is number one and be the light in the darkness. Let your light so shine. Live loud, shine and love. If you want to know more, or feel more connected to him, join them for a night of powerful prayer, sharing and praise and worship every Friday nights, 7:30pm at their hall across from the airport.

By Teherenui Koteka

Over the past few weeks there's been a lot of talk about our local swimming spot Muri Lagoon. As someone who has been raised on the shores of Muri lagoon I can recall a time where it felt like the most beautiful place on Earth, a time where it was pristine. Back then the shore line was a lot closer to the reef, coral bloomed in health and the water was more blue. Countless afternoons were spent swimming and kayaking in Muri's waters and as child my friends and I would spend lengthy hours playing in the lagoon. In my short time residing in Muri I have truly witnessed pure pristine beauty.

However, as life has dragged on and time has rolled by our beautiful Muri lagoon has lessened in beauty and taken a turn towards pollution. When we hear the word pollution we typically think of the incorrect disposal of rubbish that cannot be broken down. For example: plastic, aluminium and glass. It is not uncommon to see trash such as this abundant in Muri lagoon but the pollution I refer to plays a much bigger role in the destruction of Muri lagoon. The pollution I am referring to is the type the results in the green substance that infests Muri lagoon's pristine waters. Algae is a major problem in Muri lagoon and for those of us who can remember what Muri was like before the algae began to bloom, it is sad to have to look at it each day.

The main cause for the algae bloom is the large amount of excess nutrients that find their way into our beautiful lagoon. Just this morning my dad's friend asked me why the lagoon was so overrun with algae. I found myself perplexed at the fact that he was not aware of what caused the overwhelming algae bloom in Muri. I was not stunned because despite the overwhelming growth of algae in Muri he had not taken it upon himself to find out what caused it.

The algae in Muri lagoon blooms when nutrients such as pig waste or harmful detergents make their way to our lagoon. They can make their way to the lagoon through streams and even through the ground. Since a young age I witnessed people attempting to remedy the problems Muri lagoon faces by sharing information on how to stop the nutrients from entering our lagoon. However it is now clear that the message has not been heard.

The maintenance of Muri lagoon may not be a big deal to some people but to me and many others the cost of losing our beautiful lagoon is a steep one to pay. If you know you could be doing more to lessen the amount of nutrients entering Muri lagoon I urge you to do something about it. If you have a pig farm near a river or stream, move it a little further back and dispose of the waste correctly. If you know your household is using high nutrient level detergents swap them in for one that is not so harmful for the environment. It may not seem like a lot but we can all do our own little things to achieve big results!

Cook Islands
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Gifts donated to Pukapuka school students

By Poko Utia

On Tuesday the Herald attended the handing over of equipment for school students from BCI to Ministry of Education. At the hand over were; Janet Woodger, Enterprise Advisor for Ministry of Education, Jimmy Glassie Manger at BCI and Ina Herman Director of Learning & Teaching. Jimmy Glassie explained that the gifts were from their corporate partner Meyer's Marketing to be donated to the northern group Pukapuka to be exact. Ina Herman said the Ministry was ecstatic that BCI and Meyers had donated the gifts for the children in Pukapuka and how grateful they will be for the gifts. Janet Woodger stated the items gifted for the children of Pukapuka included bags, pens, cup holders, note books, back packs and T-shirts with the name Meyers on them



Janet Woodger, Jimmy Glassie and Ina Herman

Both Mitiaro School teams finish in top five at Maths Quiz

By Tiana Haxton

On Monday the 19th of October, we the eight year 7-10 students of Mitiaro School, one teacher and the Principal boarded the Air Rarotonga plane leaving Mitiaro for Rarotonga. On board the plane, we took photographs of ourselves until we finally landed at Rarotonga at quarter to six in the evening.

After greeting our friends and family members at the airport we collected our luggage, loaded up the van and set off for the Palace for some delicious cheese burgers. After a hearty meal of burgers, chips and a bottle of Vai Ora, we walked around the harbour area, calling our family on our mobiles and taking numerous images before returning to the Mitiaro Hostel to rest.

Each morning after devotion, we split up into two teams,

year 10 and year 7. Each day, we took turns with the morning duties. One team would set the table for breakfast and the other team would make the beds and wash the dishes.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, we were escorted to Arorangi School to take part in Mock Maths Quizzes. Following this, we painted banners. White paint on lime-green pareu. On one pareu, the form 1 team wrote 'MIGHTY ARROW', the Form 4 team painted 'GO NUKZ POWER' on theirs. When the banners had dried, we left Arorangi School and returned to the hostel for a quick nap before getting ready for the Maths Quiz which was to start at 5 pm Wednesday, 21st of October.

In the National Auditorium we sat, waiting nervously. After prayers and speeches, the

action finally started. Grade 6 took the stage followed by year 7. Our year 7 (form 1) team did a great job, they came 4th out of 16 teams! We were all very proud of the team and warmly embraced them. Congratulations to Anne-Marie Tereva, Noema Tuavai, Athena Murare and Nicole Maara!

We, the year 10 students sat there until we were called to take our seats at our assigned table. Soon, the clock started and we quickly jumped onto our first question. We, the Mitiaro team was the first team to get points! For a few minutes, we were in a draw with Tereora until a question regarding volumes and ratios jumped up and we were stuck. Many of the questions in the quiz were difficult but nevertheless we were proud each time our points jumped up on the score board and we

could hear cheers coming from the crowd. Twenty minutes went past very quickly. Soon the crowd started the count-down as we rushed to complete one more question. As the alarm sounded, five more points flew onto the board next to the name 'MITIARO'. We high-fived each-other, overjoyed. We had come 5th! We happily greeted our teacher and the year 7 team and all our supporters. We are proud to have brought Mitiaro to the Maths Quiz. We are proud to finish in the top 5 in the year 10 Maths Championship!

Congratulations to the teams who competed in this year's Maths Quiz. There was a lot of hard work, determination and competitiveness. We hope everyone had an awesome time and most importantly, gained knowledge regarding maths.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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

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

If anyone has information about the *Au Vaine *or the Au Vaine Cup, please contact
Queen Pa on email: ariki.merepa@gmail.com
or Hannah Cutting Jones on email: hannahcuttingjones@gmail.com

Local contact: Chantal Napa Ph: 27057 Mob: 77058
Meitaki Maata

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



**PUBLIC NOTICE
POSTPONEMENT OF THE GYNAECOLOGY
SPECIALIST VISIT**

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

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

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

Meitaki maata

News Brief

By Te Riu Woonton

Four recipients received their citizenship on Tuesday morning at the residence of the NZ High Commission in Ngatipa. Mr Andrew Nicholas Olah, better known as Andy Olah, Mr Lenard Francis Edwards, Mr Roland Neururer and Mr Sheik Shah took their oath of allegiance and were rewarded with New Zealand citizenship certificates. Mr Sheik Shah, a Fijian resident who has been living here for the past 15 years to receive his citizenship, as was Mr. Lenard Edwards, who has been living here in the Cook Islands since 2004 but in the Pacific for over 30 years following a career in the bank. Edward says when he got to the Cook Islands, he found it was the best in the Pacific and decided to stay here. Mr. Andy Olah has been here since 1979 and Roland Neururer has been living here for the past 20 years.



IF YOU FAIL TO PLAN – YOU PLAN TO FAIL

Get the Basics Right
FREE BUSINESS TRAINING

FOR START-UPS & THOSE IN BUSINESS LESS THAN 2 YEARS
Monday 9th November – Thursday 12th November 2015
Classroom Hours – 6pm - 8.30pm
Venue – CITTI, Ngatangiaa

Monday

9th November What Business Are You In
Clarify Business Product or Service
Develop a Mission Statement

Tuesday

10th November Your Market
Competitive Analysis
Sales Strategy

Wednesday

11th November Finances
Understand Key Financial Terms
P & L & BS
Mark-up v Gross Profit
Identify Key Operating Ratios
Budget Preparation

Thursday

12th November Your Business Plan
Complete a Business Plan
One on One Review

At the conclusion of the course it is expected the participants will complete a Business Plan relevant to their intended business operation.

Tutor: Janet Brooker, Business Mentor / Consultant

Spaces are limited, please register **NOW** with the Chamber of Commerce

For further information, please contact
Cook Islands Chamber of Commerce
E-mail: chamber@commerce.co.ck or phone 20 925

Oh dear chooks! New staff member bowls up to MFEM, first day on the job, reporting for duty but was met with the proverbial bombshell! There was no longer any job to go to because there was no money to pay the lucky, now unlucky applicant! Must be something of a record for length of employment! All of 10 seconds! Did the person get a month's pay in lieu of notice? No. because there was no money!



Spotted about town dressed head to toe in black-the Taliban? No, it was MFEM's most famous Aussie. Did he lose a bet?



Spot Elvis in the photo lineup of Pacific Economic and Trade Ministers out front of the Auditorium last week chooks? What was strange about this photo? Firstly, five were wearing dark glasses. Why? Notice there were two Ministers together at the end of the second row? Why were they there? The PM was the only one in a suit. He looked out of place. Why? Apparently he came straight from another meeting. Neither his CEO or Personal Assistant had a pareu shirt ready for him to slip on. Why? Wakey, wakey those people! Attention to detail!



Looks like the Pacific Trade and Economic Ministers enjoyed their soiree on Rarotonga, lapping up the lavish munchies at lunch time and the chit chat and nibbles on the cocktail circuit after sundown! How much business was done? What business? No wonder these people just love coming to Raro!



The Samoans got a foot hold here in the old days when Karika landed and they've been here ever since! Now Samoa has taken over our telecommunications giant and recently established an insurance company here. Samoans are slowly taking positions



in our rugby teams. What next? Samoa's Polynesian Airways may start coming here again like the old days. We are already using Samoa's passenger ferry Lady Naomi. And we have Samoa's Moana TV beaming out locally.



Notice the impressive lineup of machinery gifted by Chinese benefactors and destined for the outer islands where presumably they will be used to kick start an agricultural revolution. One issue has arisen and that is, how much fuel will all this machinery require? Which budget is the fuel and all other costs to come out of? Central government's budget or the island admin budget? Are there staff on each island capable of repairing these machines and interpreting the workshop manuals written in Mandarin?



Forget trying to pull out the algae from Muri lagoon by hand. That's a futile exercise chooks. What Muri lagoon needs is to be flushed out and that's possible by strategically placing in the lagoon two large pipes. This will create a strong current which will flush out the nutrients the algae need to survive. Starved, the algae will die out. Within two days, the algae will be gone.



Our globetrotting Prime Minister, Henri

Foonah will be back from France on Saturday but will be off to Paris, France before the end of the month to attend the COP-Conference of the Parties on the environment. At the end of the COP, Foonah along with all other world leaders will get some 3-5 minutes to speak their mind on climate change before the world's media. Rumour has it Foonah will deliver his message in a song, playing a ukulele.



Expect government's local tax take to shrink even further chooks as local spending dries up, buying power decreases and no significant economic development eventuates. What does this mean for government? Well the signs are already here with MFEM's bank accounts beginning to dry up. Pretty soon the only sign of cash in MFEM will be a "mirage."



Many businesses are beginning to struggle chooks and hello, VAT is down because the ordinary local people are just not buying the quantities they used to or supporting local eateries and retail outlets like the bars. Why is that chooks? Because the buying population has declined and been replaced by lowly paid foreign workers who do not have the hard cash

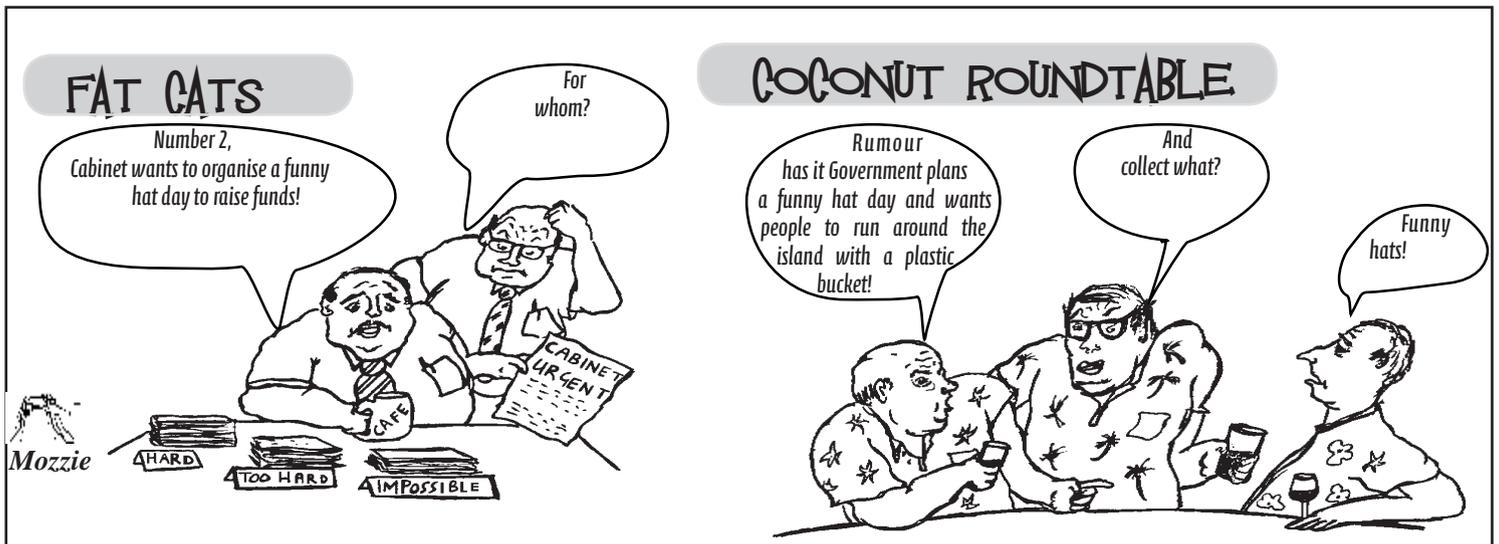
to spend. Many businesses are struggling and are now up for sale. Local rooster reports that three foreign workers (bula!) went to a bar and bought just the one big bottle of beer between the three of them. Not wishing to embarrass themselves over their small purchase, the foreign workers sat outside in the dark. That chooks, is now the painful reality of this administration's idiotic financial policies.



While some environmentally concerned hotels have treatment plants, there are no sewerage treatment plants on this rock where private homes are concerned so the daily poop output of tourists occupying private dwellings will eventually end up where? In the lagoon of course! Why the concern over private dwellings? Because there are not enough hotel accommodations to accommodate the 25,000 additional visitors the new airline Jetstar will be winging in. What's the answer chooks? Get the extra visitors out to the outer islands! But then, their poop will affect those pristine islands!



For the Cooks to advance economically in any significant manner, the embattled private sector needs to be able to borrow at least \$300 million from the three local banks at an interest rate of no more than 4-5 percent. As neither of these conditions are ever likely to present themselves soon, you can jolly well forget about any meaningful development by the local private sector! What's government doing about this? Well word is government is consulting an Astrologer for advice! The bone throwing warlocks and witches in MFEM are unable to read the Chinese green tea leaves.





**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
VACANCY**

LOCAL CONSULTANT IN VANILLA PRODUCTION

The Ministry of Agriculture invites applications for the position of Local Consultant in the field of Vanilla Production. The applicant must have broad experience in Vanilla Agronomy and Biology, Vanilla cultivation and Management, have knowledge of potential challenges in terms of pest and diseases of the Vanilla family, Climatic requirements, Curing and processing, Packaging and marketing. This Local Consultant position in Vanilla Production is a very challenging position for the applicants which involves some of the following roles:

- To drive the Vanilla growing programmes, focusing on multi smallholder Vanilla Industry with the backup support (Vanilla Documentations and Business Plan) of the Office of the Minister of Agriculture and technical support of the Ministry of Agriculture.
- To liaise with current individual Vanilla Growers in the formation of their Vanilla Growers Association or Cooperative to work together aiming to be competitive on the market, with their products sold under the Cook Islands brand.
- Implement the plan and basic model of planting, including attracting Small Holder Vanilla Growers as part timer Vanilla Growers. Provide guidance and support to Small Holder when implementing the Ministry's Model of planting Vanilla. In this connection work collaboratively with BTIB (In terms of soft loans) and with Agriculture Field Extension staff in promoting Vanilla growing, to new small holder growers.
- Communicate with the Director of Research in providing technical support, guidance and encouragement to Vanilla growers in the area of data collecting for information and future analysis on the progress of commodity production for assessing the growth of the industry.
- Facilitate and organize training meetings to set goals and stepwise programming to bring all (New and well established) Vanilla growers together. Visit selected Outer Islands to facilitate similar meetings especially for growers in the Islands of Mangaia, Atiu, Mauke and Mitiaro.

This is an exciting, all round experience local person consultancy position for candidate, preferably, with tertiary qualification in Horticulture or Agronomy or highly experience candidate in general Vanilla Production.

Applications and CVs should be submitted or addressed to the Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture mat.purea@agriculture.gov.ck or hand delivered to the Ministry's Office at Arorangi, phone 28711 by 4 pm 12th November 2015.

Remuneration offered, is dependent on the skills and experience, drive and commitments, report writing, and other positive attributes that the applicant brings to the Vanilla Project.

The Contract is initially for 12 months, with possible extension for another 12 months. For further details contact Dr Mat Purea at the above e-mail address.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



COOK ISLANDS INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Government of the Cook Islands

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
DESIGN SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Cook Islands Investment Corporation is seeking registrations from local businesses / individuals with a technical design background, to provide support services when required for the following projects:

1. Tereora College Rebuild project
2. Apii Nikao Rebuild project
3. Vaikapuangi redevelopment project

Expertise will, from time to time, be required in the following areas:

- Architecture and design
- CAD technicians (ArchiCad)
- Quantity surveying
- Civil Engineering (Geotechnical, Environmental, structural, 3-waters)
- Services Engineering (Fire & safety, ICT, Electrical, Plumbing)

Please register your services by completing an Application Form.

Structural Assessments using Non-Destructive Testing equipment
Structural assessments, using NDT equipment, are required immediately for a number of government properties on Rarotonga. NDTs are used world-wide for determining the cause and depth of cracks, concrete cover, and the location and sizing of rebars.

Four (4) Government properties need to be assessed in the next two months. Intermittent assessments will be required for upcoming new construction projects, and for future structural reporting.

This is an opportunity for our local engineering experts to expand their services to include NDTs – (currently not available locally). If you intend to venture into NDT assessments, please register your interest by completing an Application Form.

The Application Forms for the above are available from www.ciiconline.com/advertisements/ or by emailing anne.taoro@cookislands.gov.ck. Application submissions end at 4pm, Wednesday 25 November 2015.

For further details please contact Anne Taoro, phone 29391 or by email (as above).

PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE – AVATIU VALLEY ROAD

Residents and users of Avatiu valley road are advised of an impending project start for TAU civil works at the Power station that will affect road traffic between now and November 2015. In particular they are asked to show:

1. Carefulness in the area in question from the Power station to the intersection at Avatiu Ara metua.
2. Awareness of heavy vehicles, plant and machinery which may be parked on the Avatiu valley road
3. Adherence to speed limit, warning signs, traffic direction from time to time etc.

VACANCY



COOK ISLANDS INVESTMENT CORPORATION
Government of the Cook Islands

VACANCIES

The Cook Islands Investment Corporation has two full-time positions available, and is seeking applications from individuals who are energetic and passionate about Cook Islands development.

Properties Manager

The Properties Manager will lead the activities of the Properties Division. The Division is responsible for managing Governments property assets including schools, hospitals and health-clinics, and administrative and support centres on Rarotonga and the Pa Enua, and governments housing stock on Rarotonga.

Project Finance / Infrastructure Committee Support Officer

The Project Finance / Infrastructure Committee Support Officer will provide financial management support to the Special Projects Unit, secretariat support to the Infrastructure Committee, and coordinate asset management improvements across the Infrastructure sector.

The Terms of Reference for the Properties Division, and Job Description for the Project Finance / Infrastructure Committee Support Officer is available from www.ciiconline.com/advertisements/ or by email to anne.taoro@cookislands.gov.ck.

If you wish to join our dynamic and fast paced team, we encourage you to send your CV with a covering letter outlining how you fit the position, to anne.taoro@cookislands.gov.ck. Deadline for applications is 8am, Tuesday 17 November 2015.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC
MANAGEMENT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

VACANCIES

"FROM THE OCEAN TO YOUR TABLE"



SITUATIONS VACANT:

**SKIPPERS,
MARINE ENGINEERS,
REFRIGERATION ENGINEERS,
DECK HANDS**

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

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



REGISTRATION OF INTEREST

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

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

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

21944, email marlene@electricity.co.ck

New Hope Church

Parekura Conference Centre

Inspirational messages to uplift and empower you

Sunday at 10.30am

FOOTBALL UPDATE

Seven candidates for FIFA presidential election

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

Given that Michel Platini is currently provisionally banned from taking part in

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

Upon receipt of the results of the integrity checks, the Ad-hoc Electoral Committee will reconvene in order to review the submissions and validate their compliance



with the applicable FIFA regulatory provisions. Following this process, the Ad-hoc Electoral Committee will formally admit and declare the candidates who are eligible to stand for the office of FIFA President.

FIFA U-17 WORLD CUP: Familiar foes fight for final berth

The semi-finals of the FIFA U-17 World Cup Chile 2015 are set to serve up two mouth-watering duels on Thursday, between teams that have scores to settle with each other.

In the first match, Mali and Belgium will lock horns for the second time in the competition, although this time the rewards are much greater than the three points that were available during the group stage. Although it may seem like an age since the two teams played out an exciting, albeit goalless draw on 18 October – the second day of the tournament – in what was the opening game of Group D, it does provide some pointers to what may happen in La Serena, where fans are likely to witness a distinct clash of styles.

In the later encounter, Mexico and Nigeria go head-to-head in a repeat of the final last time around, at UAE 2013, where the Africans secured a resounding 3-0 victory to claim their fourth U-17 World Cup crown, more than any other nation. Both teams were highly fancied to emerge victorious from Chile



2015, but only one will have the opportunity to prove those predictions correct.

Match of the day: Mali-Belgium (La Serena, 17.00)

While the Malians and Belgians have already crossed paths in Chile, the circumstances are significantly different to what they were almost three weeks ago. Les Aiglonnets completely dominated the group-phase fixture, and only failed to pick up

all three points due to profligate finishing.

Since then, however, they have seemingly solved that problem, scoring a healthy 2.25 goals per match, while continuing to display considerable defensive fortitude – indeed, they have now gone 290 minutes without conceding.

Belgium, meanwhile, no longer have the look of the team that barely managed two attempts

on goal – neither of which found the target – versus Mali. Having improved the tactical side of their game beyond recognition, they have become a dogged unit that excels at closing down space.

Although Les Diablotins have found the net just five times at the tournament, three of those strikes have come in the knockout stage, during which they are also yet to concede a goal.