



# Cook Islands Christian Church

## Newsletter

72 Dec 2018



The "Mission House" CICC Head Office, Takamoa, Rarotonga



### SPECIAL FESTIVE SEASON ISSUE

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Traditional Tongan welcome ceremony for delegates to the 11<sup>th</sup> PCC Assembly in Auckland, October 2018. Pacific Island Countries whose churches are represented, have their respective national flags in the background. Photo by Nga Mataio.

Comments/queries/free electronic copy? ➡ [gensec@icchg.com](mailto:gensec@icchg.com)

# CICC NUTILETA 72

## 1. AKATOMO'ANGA



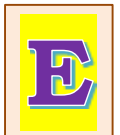
ia orana e te iti tangata tapu no te Atua i te au ngai katoatoa; to te Kuki Airani nei, tei noo ki Nutireni, Autireria, Tahiti, e te vai atura te au ngai tei taeaia e teia karere akakitekite. E tau ia tatou kia akameitaki i te mana katoatoa koia tei oronga mai i teia tikaanga manea kia aravei akaou tatou na roto i teia peapa akakitekite numero 72 tei akamataia i te mataiti 2005. Ko te mea openga teia no teia mataiti 2018.

Tetai tuanga ei akaaravei ia tatou, no roto mai ia i te Tia o teia ra Varaire 14 Titema, te ra i tuku ia'i teia nutileta ki te katoatoa, 2 Paraleipomeno 34.32(b); *“Kua akono atura to Ierusalem a te koreromotu a te Atua, te Atua o to ratou ai metua ra.” “And so the people of Jerusalem obeyed the requirements of the covenant they had made with the God of their ancestors.”*

Na kotou e akatotoa atu i teia karere ki to kotou au taeake kia kite katoa ratou i te au mea e tupu nei i roto i te taokotaianga o te kopu tangata CICC, e pera tetai au nuti no vao mai penei ka riro ei pumaanaanga kia tatauia. Ko kotou kare i kite ana i te au nutireta i mua atu e kua anoano kotou kia kite, aravei atu i te Orometua me kore Tekeretere o taau Ekalesia me kore akakite mai ki Takamoā nei; ka rauka oki te reira au nutireta i te tuku ia atu na runga i te imere. Tei runga katoa ratou i te website a te CICC, koia te [www.cicc.net.nz](http://www.cicc.net.nz), ka rauka ia kotou i te copy mai ka print atu ei.

Kia meitaki e kia mataora ta kotou tatauanga i tei tataia ki roto i teia peapa.

## 2. AU AKAKITEKITEANGA MEI TE KONITARA EKALLESIA O NUTIRENI



Au nuti mei roto mai i ta tatou Konitara Ekalesia i Aotearoa, NZ.

### 1. Uipaanga Konitara Aotearoa

- Kua raveia te Uipaanga ki Porirua i te ra 19-22 no Okotopa nei 2018. Kua riro na te Ekalesia EKKA i utuutu i te oraanga o te au mema tei tae ki teia uipaanga, tauturu ia e nga Ekalesia o te Konitara o teia tuanga. Kua tae mai te mata o Aotearoa, te Orometua Oirua Rasmussen, te mou moni maata Tangi Tereapii, Nga Mitiau te tamaine angaanga Opati i Takamoā. Te mata o Autireria, te Orometua Joel Taime, te tiemeni e te Tauturu Tekeretere, Eddie Dean.
- Te mea maata, kua pou mai te au Orometua. Kua tere atu te 100 tangata tei tae mai. Meitaki maata e te Orometua Rohi Tinirau e te Orometua Tutavake, e te Ekalesia, e pera te Konitara o Rotopu.
- Meitaki katoa ki te katoatoa tei tae mai
- Te patiangā ki te au tavini o te Atua, e te au mata tei tae mai, kia raveia te au angaanga tei tuatuaia e tatou. Akarongo angaanga e akarongo ora ia, te akarongo kare e angaangaia e akarongo mate ia. Meitaki maata, ka kite 2020 ki Rotorua.
- Akamaara anga Uipaanga Orometua, 8-10 Peperuare 2018, ki Hasting. Ka tae mai te Orometua Ngateitei.





## 2. Arikianga i te Uipaanga PCC



- Kua raveia te arikianga a te Akonoanga CICC o Aotearoa nei i te Ruirua ra 30, ki ko i te are pure o te Tonga i Mangere. Te oronga atu nei i te akameitaki anga ki te Konitara Akarana. Na ratou oki i utuutu i ta tatou tuanga ta te CICC. Pera katoa te Konitara Aotearoa e te au Ekalesia katoatoa o Aotearoa no ta kotou tuanga i akatakaia. Meitaki maata.



### 3. Akatapuanga Ngutuare no te Mid-Canterbury



- Kua raveia te akatapuanga o teia Ekalesia i te Sabati Oroa o Noema ra 4. Kua riro na te Orometua Ngateitei, Ngametua Moutaiki i rave.
- Kua raveia tetai iriiri kapua i te Maanakai ra 3 e te Orometua Ngateitei e te Tekeretere Maata.
- Kua pou mai te au tavini o te Atua no teia tuanga. Kua rave kapiti ua ia te pure anga i te Sabati.
- Te akameitaki katoa ia atu nei te Free Church no ta kotou tuanga i te arikirikianga i teia uipaanga.



### 4. Te Ngutuare o te Whanganui

- Kua tae katoa atu au i te atoro i te Orometua i Whanganui, ia Ngataua Puapui. Tena te nuti rekareka. Kua rauka to ratou ngai pureanga e te ngutuare no te Orometua. Te manako nei ratou no te oko i teia nga ngutuare no te CICC. Kua riro na te taeake Teariki Nooroa Kairangi i rauka mai ei teia ngutuare. E taeake oko ngutuare aia i Whanganui.
- E te Uipaanga Maata, e te Konitara Aotearoa, e te Ekalesia CICC katoatoa. Kua papa teia ngutuare no tatou, e moni ua te toe. Te manako nei no te tere, kia tika kia ariki mai tatou. Tei raro ake teia ngutuare i te \$400,000,00. Ka akapeea tatou? Ka karo ua?



## 5. Pure Taeanga Evangelia ki Tokoroa



Kua raveia tetai angaanga i te akamaaraanga i te ra taeanga Evangelia i te Sabati ra 28 ki Tokoroa.

Teia te au angaanga tei raveia:

- Kua akamata i te akatapuanga i te ngai pureanga o te Apiianga Punatau Mataio i te ora 9am. Kua tae atu te Ekalesia Rotorua, Hamilton. Kua tae katoa mai te Orometua Elder Ropati e tono tokorua. Kua tae katoa mai te Tekeretere o te PIC o Tokoroa a papa Tiare. Kua riro ei pumaana. Kia oti te akatapuanga, kua aere atu te katoatoa ki te are Pure o te PIC o Tokoroa no te kapu ti.
- I te 11.am kua raveia te pure anga a te katoatoa. Kia oti mai te pure, kua raveia atu te pure o te ra taeanga Evangelia. Kua riro na te au Orometua i rave i te au angaanga, e te akoanga na te Orometua Terepai Kauvarevai.
- Kia oti mai te pure anga, kua kapu ti e kua raveia te uapou taokotai.
- Kua mataora te katoatoa, e te akara atu nei no te 2019.

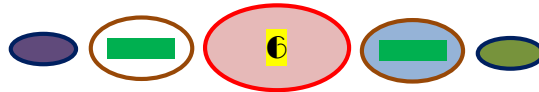
## 6. Iriiri Kapua

- Kua raveia tetai Iriiri Kapua na te Upper Central ki Rotorua i te Maanakai ra 10. Ko te akakitekiteanga i te tuatua no te Uipaanga Aotearoa i oti ake nei.



## 7. Te tumatetenga o David Tamarua

- Te akaroa.
  - E reo aue, kua aru i te matangi.
  - E taoanga tamaki, kua topa ki runga i te one.
  - E ata tangata, kare e kitea akaouia.

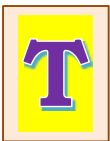


- E ara tangata, kua ngangaere.
  - E enua kua tuera, kua apuku i tana.
  - E inangaro kitea kore ia, kua kitea.
- Kua takake atu teia taeake i te aiai Ruirua ra 30 no Okotopa ki runga i te Are maki, Middle-more.
  - Te oronga atu nei au i te akameitaki anga a te au Ekalesia, e tae ua atu ki te Konitara Orometua, e te Konitara Aotearoa, i Aotearoa nei. Te Konitara Vainetini, e te Konitara Mapu, ki tona tokorua kia Itirere Tamarua, te anau te are mokopuna e te unounga.
  - Ariki mai i te aroa o te Uipaanga Maata, te au Orometua, e te Konitara o Aotearoa nei kia kotou.
  - Te Atua te akapuanga.
  - Kua oronga katoa ia atu e au tetai Peapa Akangateitei iaia ki tona akaperepere, no tana angaanga maata no te Uipaanga Orometua e te Uipaanga Konitara Aotearoa



Na te Orometua NJM

### 3. TE RARA OLIVE I



his section contains articles coordinated by Ngara Katuke, CICC Youth Dept. Media Officer, about various community events that she regularly reports on or organizes for their write-ups. All photos were also submitted by her; some taken by her, others by her colleagues. Happy reading. *Editor.*

#### 1. Vaka Consultation on Climate Change

The Climate Change Cook Islands Division (CCCI) of the Office of the Prime Minister, in collaboration with the Development Coordination Division (DCD) of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, was happy to contribute to the different community groups on the island during its Green Climate Fund (GCF) Vaka Consultations. Over the month of August, consultations were conducted with the Northern Group participants in the heart of their islands hostels (Pukapuka, Manihiki, Rakahanga and Penhryn) during the Maeva Nui celebrations. Vaka Consultations on Rarotonga also continued in the villages of Avarua, Matavera, Titikaveka, Rutaki, Muri Enuua and Nikao.

These consultations covered the development of both a National Climate Change Policy and the Cook Islands Country Programme under the GCF, ensuring the community and key stakeholders were engaged in order to identify practical priorities that could potentially be supported by the GCF. CCCI, under the funding agency of the GCF has conducted consultations with over 500 community and key stakeholders since 2016. The team will continue with the series of GCF consultations to further engage with the community, stakeholders and Pa Enuua.





Write-up and photos supplied by Talissa Koteka – GCF Comms Consultant

## 2. Good Friday Workshop

YOUTH PREPARENESS JOURNEY. 2 Corinthians 12:9-11, *“But he said to me, my grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*” It is in our weakness that God makes us strong. So we will always have challenges because it is in those times God wants us to lean on him for strength.

The Arorangi CICC Youth Council Executive members planned and organized a three hours training workshop for their travelling members to the National CICC Youth Convention in Mauke. Good Friday was a perfect time and after the morning church service, the ACYC youth members came together in the afternoon to hold this special training.

The Event Co-ordinator Simona Aumetua Nicholas ensures that each member is well prepared before travelling to Mauke. The Council Executive members prepared a topic to present to the members in the best way they can, through power point presentation, handouts, group activities, fun games, brainstorming, quizzes and songs such as: -

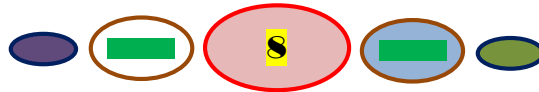
- ACYC Vision & Mission
- ACYC Structure
- ACYC Members & Stakeholders
- Dress Code & Uniforms & Rules
- Communication & Equipment’s
- Transportation – Flights Schedules, Freights and others
- Resources – Bedding, Gifts, Food Contribution, Donations and clothings
- Convention Daily Program and so forth

The afternoon went well and everyone was happy and well informed by their Council Leaders. The Arorangi CICC Youth was led by the Assistant Chairman, Deacon Keu Mataroa with the support of his Executive Team members and the Church Representative, Assistant Pastor, Mr John Andrew.

Meitaki maata to all those who have supported us in our fund raise program, sponsors and other areas to enable us to travel to Mauke Island. Thank you to the Arorangi CICC Ekalesia for your financial support and words of encouragement. Te Atua te aroa.

Below are the names of those in the workshop:





<p>John Andrew – Tauturu Orometua          Keu Mataroa – ACYC Assistant Chairman          Simona Aumetua Nicholas – ACYC Event Co-ordinator          Kimiora Taokia Snr – ACYC Advisor          Taku Inangaro Metuariki - Advisor          Kimiora Taokia Jnr - member          Taomia Katuke Snr - member          Taomia Katuke Jnr - member          Teivitu Katuke Snr - member          Teivitu Katuke Jnr - member          Singapu Katuke - member          Ken Mataroa - member          KJ Mataroa - member          Teariki Turua - member          Nooroa Turua - member          Tukurangi Tukurangi - member          Ngaoa Tukurangi - children          Turiano Tonorio - member          Maropai Tonorio - member          Tamarangi Tamarangi Jnr - member          Kurt Tuariki - member          Toka Tea-roa Toka – member          Rouru Ngaioarae - member          Tereora Makaua – member          Tangi Mataroa – ACYC Secretary          Tutai Mauke – ACYC Assistant Secretary          Rachael Tetera - member</p>	<p>Mummy Tei - member          Evanna Turua - member          Ngavaevae Katuke - member          Matakeu Katuke - member          Mama Maura Katuke - member          Penina Katuke - member          Kate Katuke –member          Moetautua - member          Tina Rere - member          Hinano Rere - member          Jemima Rose Taokia - member          Keziah Taokia - member          Tehina Pennycook - member          Itirangi Pennycook - member          Tuainekore Tukurangi - member          Metua Samuel - member          Simone Nicholas - member          Rangina Akava - member          Samantha Tamaiva - member          Yasmin Manavaroa - member          Niki Smith - member          Mamia Van Dongen - member          Jevshan Ngaioarae - member          Ngamau Pirangi – member          Ngatokorua Tuteru - member          Ngara Katuke - member</p>
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*Write-up and photos by Ngara Katuke*

### **3. Youth Convention in Mauke, April 2018**

#### **Opening**

*1 John 3:23, This is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as he commanded us.* We were amazed with the opportunity we had, travelling to Mauke and attend the CICC National Youth Convention. We want to say, thank you to our parents and families for supporting us, especially our nena Mama Haumata Manavaroa for encouraging us at all times to attend this youth event. Also to our youth leaders, Uncle Keu and Aunty Pepe and other leaders for their loving and caring during our trip. This is our first time joining such an event and we are so happy.

The first day we arrived in Mauke, the Welcoming ceremony was amazing, NO words can explain. We observed their traditional way of Welcoming important guests on the island. It was great. The church services on our first Sunday, Haleluia.....myself (Niki Smith) and my cousin (Yasmin Manavaroa) whom she travelled with me to Mauke was excited about our trip. The Orometua Ngateitei, Papa Moutaiki was great listening to his sermon, even though was a busy day, but we thorough enjoyed the opportunity to see these things. The whole day was just amazing.

We would like to say to the ones that we made friends at the convention, Meitaki maata for your time and we love our sharing at all times. Thank you for being our friends. We look forward joining again in 2020.



*Conversation with Niki Smith & Yasmin Manavaroa, Compiled by Media Officer*





## Mata no te Pa Enuā

*Angaanga meitaki, e tutakianga meitaki.* Te akakite nei tetai Arataki o te Pa Enuā, e noatu te moni maata i te rereanga pairere, to ratou inangaro ra i te tauta i ta ratou anau mapu kia tae ki teia angaanga maata i Akatokamanava, kia mataora ratou.

Noatu te au akaueanga i te akateretereanga, kua rave ratou. Mei te moni patete, rakei o te anau mapu, kai akaputu e te vai atura. Inara i te tauturu maata a to ratou au metua i runga i te enua, kopu tangata e te iti tangata, kua tae ratou ki teia akakoroanga maata o te anau mapu I runga ia Mauke.

I roto i tetai tuatau, ka orongaia tetai taime kia te au arataki e te ta ratou anau mapu kia rave i tetai au tuanga akakiteanga i to ratou manako no runga i tetai au tumu tapura. Ka kitea te reira i roto i te angaanga raverave a te au anau mapu o te Pa Enuā. E tae uatu ki te au angaanga tamataora i te aiai po. Te au angaanga ta ratou i rave, kua riro te reira ei ngakauparau anga na te au Arataki Konitara.

Ka aere ki mua e te au vaeau o Iesu Mesia. Ka kite ki Auau Enuā 2020.



*Write-up and photos by Ngara Katuke*

## Kainga Manga Nui ki te Damien Hall

Turou, Oro Mai! Te kapiki anga teia a te vaa araara o Tamuera Ariki. Aiai manea, kua tae atu te anau mapu katoatoa kite kainga manga a te akonoanga Katorika i Kimiangatau. Kua rave ratou i tetai akangateitei-anga i te Peretiteni o te CICC, koia te Orometua Ngateitei, Tuaine Ngametua e te au tavini o te Atua tei teretere mai no teia angaanga maata i runga i te enua.

Kua ava mai te vaa araara o te Evangelia e kua Arataki atu te Orometua Ngateitei i te anau mapu o te Kuki Airani, Aotearoa e to Autireria. Kua iriiri ratou i to ratou ngutuare kite Tivaevae e te au manga o te enua, koia tikai. Kare e pou i te kai. Kua rave ratou i tetai tamataora na roto i te au imene tamataora, e te aitamu a te au metua vaine o te paroita katorika e te anau tamariki katoa.



Kua rave ratou i tetai oora no te Orometua Ngateitei, ia Papa Moutaiki e tona au taeake Orometua ta ratou i kapiki mai e te tama akatere au o te Konitara Mapu, koia a Bob Williams. Ei akakite i te ngakau pumaana, kua aitamu atu te anau mapu mei roto mai i te au Ekalesia katoatoa e pera ta ratou au taoanga rima, ei tauturu i ta te iti tangata i pou. Kua rekareka te au arataki e te au mapu katoatoa no teia taokotainga i te reira aiai maru e te manea. Meitaki maata e te au metua o Akatokamanava e te Evangelia Katorika.

*Ngara Katuke*

### Sharing My Experience to Mauke

Psalm 5:3, *“In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.” Begin your day in prayer and meditation, so that you can maintain a peaceful outlook and not start your day in a race. Ask the Lord for the desires of your heart and believe that he will answer.*

Kia Orana and Welcome. My name is Itirangi Pennycook from Rutaki, Arorangi village. I am one of the young women who travelled to Mauke to attend the Youth Convention. This year’s convention was my first and travelled with my older sister and I had a wonderful time.

I would like to acknowledged the Lord above for keeping me safe throughout my trip. Meitaki maata to my parents for allowing me to travel to Mauke and participate in this convention. To our leaders in the Arorangi CICC Youth to taking care of us on this trip. To my friends and families for your support.



When we arrived in Mauke we were warmly, greeted by the people of Mauke Island with beautiful pata apuka ei. Our arrival to Mauke was beautiful and they transported us to our accommodation at the Mauke Primary School. My daily program in Mauke are all programmed. Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018, we woke up early and had our morning devotion. The day program was free and also preparation for our Welcoming ceremony in the afternoon. Sunday was a busy day for all of us. Opetipa Rua was our main arena for all our day and evening program.

One of my favourite time, is Dinner time. We got to share our stories with other youth members. We had group fun activities, lots of singing and dancing too. Every night had special programs are held by the youth members. We had our Talent night it was super awesome, big smiles from the young youth and people reaching out to our God and the power of the Holy Spirit worked in our young people. Every night was beautiful and such an amazing experience full of life and powerful voices from our young youth.

Some of the side program we did was Inter Island Volley ball competition, swimming down the wharf, visiting marae and other special land mark on the island. I returned to Rarotonga on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. As a young woman, I loved the many opportunities provided for me during this amazing trip to Mauke and learning that I was a Christian has made me excelled for our upcoming convention in Mangaia 2020. Thank you.



*Write-up by Itirangi Pennycook, photos by Media Officer*

## Sunday School at the Youth Convention

Ephesians 4:32, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." What a wonderful opportunity for our children to learn more about God. Each day the Sunday school have time to share fun games, stories and other fun activities. All the young ones that went with their parents to the Youth Convention was given a chance to learn about God in a special way.

Rev Robert Siakimotu was their main teacher and few other adult members who helped to look after their young ones while the parents are in the Youth Convention. The children are never boring, they look forward to attend these classes, especially with Rev Robert Siakimotu.

He travelled to the Cook Islands for few years now and is a well-known presenter in the Youth and Sunday School arena. Robert did the same program back in Mitiaro 2016 Youth Convention to accommodate children. This year he had more children attending the Youth Convention in Mauke and with the hope, this will be useful in the next Youth Convention in Mangaia 2020.



### Verbal interview with the Media Officer

Te Kaumauri in my Kiribati language Hello. Tereora Makaua is a young man of 10 years from the Arorangi CICC Youth who had the opportunity to travel to Mauke with the youth members of his Rutaki Village. He likes attending these Sunday school classes and shared his story with his friends at Papaaroa school and also his families at home.

Tereora is an active member in the youth and Sunday school of Rutaki. Tereora was born and raised in Kiribati and has been relocated to the Cook Islands about 3 years. His mother has connection to the Cook Islands to her ancestors in Penrhyn through the TEREORA line. She has a linkage to Rev Tereora Viniki in Ngatangia. Tereora is the youngest in his family of 2 sisters and 3 brothers.

Tereora has family members that are named after their Cook Island tupuna. He loves his trip to Mauke and looking forward to attend the next Youth convention in Mangaia. Every day I look forward to go to Opetipa and make new friends from the outer islands. The meals are beautiful and our accommodation too. Even though I don't understand some of the Cook Islands wordings during our get together, but most speakers are in English.

I would like to say Ko rab'a in my Kiribati language THANK YOU to my parents and family to supporting me on this trip. To my leaders and friends in the village of Rutaki and Arorangi too. Thank you for your words of encouragement each day since day one and also returning back to Rarotonga.

To Aunty Ngara for always being there for me and giving me the chance to travel to Mauke with the youth members and this is my very first outer island trip and the first of my family to travel to the outer island. Meitaki maata and God bless you all.

*Tereora Makaua*

## Closing Church Service in Kimiangatau

*1 Thessalonians 2:12, "Encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory." No matter how successful we become in business, we must always seek to be shining examples of God's light and love.*

Oliveta church was packed with all the young women and men and their leaders for the Closing of the Youth Convention church service. The 10am Service also marked the Blessing of the newly elected Youth Department Council members, are as follows:

- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Youth Director              | <i>Bob Williams</i>            |
| • Deputy Director - CIs       | <i>Avele Simona</i>            |
| • Deputy Director – NZ        | <i>Norman Metuataopu</i>       |
| • Deputy Director – Australia | <i>Makitua Boaza</i>           |
| • Secretary                   | <i>Ngametua Arakua</i>         |
| • Assistant                   | <i>Simona Aumetua Nicholas</i> |
| • Treasurer                   | <i>Haumata Hosking</i>         |
| • Assistant                   | <i>Ngametua Tuakana</i>        |
| • Media                       | <i>Ngara Katuke</i>            |
| • Boys Brigade Rep            | <i>Philip Strickland</i>       |
| • Girl Guide Rep              | <i>Tutai Mauke</i>             |
| • Australia Rep               | <i>Keu Mataroa</i>             |
| • NZ Rep                      | <i>Tuaine Manavaroa Jnr</i>    |
| • Southern Grp Rep & GB Rep   | <i>Helen Williams</i>          |
| • Northern Grp Rep            | <i>Papaterai William</i>       |

This service was conducted by Rev Tuaine Ngametua. The church service program was carried out by the youth representatives and also the hymns by the elected youth groups. Special time for all the Youth convention members to reflect back a week long Workshop program, group activities, church services and so forth. Thank you all for your huge contribution and participation for making this 2018 Youth Convention a successful event for our young men and women. Praise the Lord and God bless you all to a wonderful journey back home.



To our host, the Mauke CICC Youth members and Executive members in Oiretumu Ekalesia and Kimiangatau Ekalesia and all your supporters in all areas on the island of Mauke. Meitaki Ranuinui for your time and effort for providing us beautiful accommodations, meals, transportations and so forth to making sure we are well looked after. All the Leaders and members in our Seveth Day Adventist church and the Catholic Parish for your huge support. The Ui Ariki on the Islands, the Government sectors – Education, Health and so forth. Private Sectors – Air Rarotonga, Business owners and individual home owners. Non-government groups in the Sports arena, community and churches.

May God bless you all for your great contribution and support towards our National CICC Youth Convention and to all those who are not mentioned by names. Meitaki Korereka, Meitaki Polia, Meitaki Ngao, Meitaki Atupaka, Ata wai wolo. God bless you all.

*Ngara Katuke*

## Akaruke-anga ia Mauke

*Aere, ma te Au.* I roto i te epetoma o te iriirikapua a te anau Mapu, kare te rere-anga pairere i akangaroi ana. Te aere mai rai te au taeake mei Rarotonga mai, e pera katoa tetai au mapu tei oki no tetai au akakoroanga i roto i te kopu tangata.

Kareka te nga ra openga o te epetoma, kua tae te tuatau no te oki atu ki Rarotonga. Kua ki ia ratou e te au rakei kakara o Mauke, pera katoa to te Pa Enuu. Kua tae mai te au taeake o runga i te enua i te ve'eve'e aroa i to ratou au taeake e pera katoa te au Tavini o te Atua. Kua mataora te au pupu katoatoa i to ratou nooanga ki runga i te enua. Kare ratou I ngere I te vai, te manga e te aroa o te iti tangata Akatokomanava. Meitaki ranuinui. Te Atua te aroa kia kotou katoatoa.



*Ngara Katuke*

## 4. GIRLS' BRIGADE NEWS



This is the second and last part of the Girls' Brigade News on the 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Girls' Brigade (ICGB) held during 21–28 July 2018 in Zambia, Africa. The first part is in newsletter 71 released last September.

### Carrying in of the country colours (flags)

During the opening ceremony members of the Zambian Girls' Brigade carried in the colours for each of the GB countries, including the Cook Islands flag, to the sound of the Boys Brigade Brass Band. It was a really good feeling to see our flag being carried in, all the flags were hoisted until the closing of the conference



*The Cook Island Colour (flag) being carried in during the opening ceremony*

After the opening ceremony were more photo opportunities, meet up with GB sisters as well as lunch.



*Look whose here.. Niue GB National Commissioner Mrs Becky Tauasi, sister of Rev. Robert Siakimotu*



*Some of Zambia's GB members*



Today was also the day for the conference team photos as all the delegates were in their respective GB uniform. This was also an opportunity to take photos with some of the delegates from around the world.



*Delegates to the 2018 ICGB, Zambia*



*Pacific Fellowship delegates (Cook Islands, Niue, PNG, New Zealand & Australia)*

The day continued with separate meetings by each of the 5 Fellowships.

The first day of the conference ended with the Pacific Fellowship country report which was presented by the President Mrs Renelle Neale of Australia. This was then followed by performances by the Australia, New Zealand and Cook Islands/Niue/Papua New Guinea delegates. Young Leaders Matangaro and Evelyn did us proud with their performance.

### **WORKSHOPS AND KEY NOTE SPEECHES**

The following were the workshops topics and key-note speeches presented during the week and the delegates had the opportunity to choose which workshop they wanted to attend. We decided to take different workshops to try and attend all the workshops that were available as these were very inspiring topics presented by very inspirational speakers.

**1. Pruning for Growth – Vivienne Aitchison – GB International President 2014-2018**

Like many organisations, GB has developed ways of working, models of mission and set protocols. Over the years, many of these things are deemed to be ‘the way GB does it’. This workshop was intended to help us look at those things which are important and needful and should be preserved, whilst identifying those things which are, hindering our growth and development. Participants explored not just what needs to change but how to make that change happen; identify the barriers and look at



strategies to help us prune and so maintain our fruitfulness whilst working in the world of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond.

**2. Leading like Jesus – Ms Hee Piang Chin**

Who has been your leadership model? Why Jesus should be your leadership role model and how we can grow our personal capacity to Lead Like Jesus. Participants explored how different Jesus' perspective of leadership is from the worlds; examined our own beliefs about leadership and elicit what stands in our way to lead like Jesus. An interactive session where participants spent time listening, considering, reflecting, sharing, discussing and committing to Lead Like Jesus.

**3. Bear MORE Fruit – Rev. Dennis Pethers, a former Chaplain for Girls' Brigade England and**

Wales and he is still a regular speaker at their conferences where he continues to help fulfil their calling. Now as founder and international Pioneer fo The Rooftop, he travels the world seeking to help churches to grasp a vision of God's heart for the lost – a vision that is at the heart of The Rooftop' and at the heart of GB too!

Rev. Dennis Pethers encouraged the delegates by helping them see the important part they play in producing 'fruit'. GB leaders are fruit bearers but don't always realise the way they bless others on a weekly basis. Leaders have to work in many different cultures and contexts and this can impact the way they approach their fruit bearing. However, if our leaders establish a Biblical foundation for their fruit bearing, they will be effective in their ministry.

**4. Social Enterprise – Leonida Odongo**

GB works in many diverse settings and contexts. In some areas of our GB world social engagement is used in a variety of ways to reach out. Some areas have not, to date, seen this as a potential way of working. This workshop gave some basic guidelines for developing this kind of work, It looked at potential barriers and pitfalls alongside benefits and top-tips to help improve understanding of the topic. It is hoped that participants will see how some of the ideas might be adopted in their company/country.

**5. Advocacy – How can GB raise hope for girls? – Dr Claire Rush – President of GB Europe**

**Fellowship** – this interactive workshop helped participants develop an understanding of advocacy and explore unique challenges that girls around the world are facing. Participants also got a sneak peek of a new and free GBI resource which will help them to turn up the volume of Gospel hope for girls in their local community

**6. Spiritual Care – Pastor Brenda Munemba-Sichilembe**

Issues such as burn out and stress can be major issues in Christian service today. The aim of the workshop was to give participants some input relating to how they can keep themselves spiritually healthy. As busy leaders we need to learn how to prioritise our own well-being, learn resilience and develop spiritual maturity. Those who take good care of their own spiritual well-being will be better equipped to keep serving.

**7. Understanding the soil – Mrs Janett Mwafuililwa Kalale**

Luke 14: 28-30 *"Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, saying, 'This person began to build and wasn't able to finish.'* **Four soils, four hearts**

**8. Keynote Speech - Fruitful and Overflowing – Rev. Dr. Kuzipa Nalwamba, an ordained minister of the United Church of Zambia, currently serves the Council for World Mission as Project Executive.**

**9. Keynote Speech – Pruning for Growth – Mrs Brenda Muntemba-Sichilembe – an ordained pastor who is passionate about Children's Music and Couple's Ministries.**

**Ideas Worth Sharing**

The following are the ideas shared during this session by some of the countries:



- ✓ **GB Nigeria, Social Action to Alleviate Poverty** with goals ‘to alleviate poverty among orphans, widows and needy’, and, ‘to show them love and have open doors for evangelism’. This was a very interesting topic and part of the GB members’ activity in Nigeria is to visit the orphanage homes, widows, prisons and the needy and share clothing, food items, medicines, educational materias, tuition fees, and in some cases sewing machines and knitting machines. Key barriers were finances and getting support from the church leaders. They partnered with Partons, churches and healthcare professionals some of the key outcomes/impacts were *many have heard salvation messages and accepted Christ, they feel loved and accepted, they have acquired skills and are self-reliant*
- ✓ **GB Friendship Day (Singapore)** used the word ‘**LENS**’ (**L**onely, **E**lderly, **N**eedy and **S**pecial Needs) as the focus for this friendship day. Healthy living, Spiritual, Physical, Educational and Service activities were held with those “**LENS**” who were part of the gathering.
- ✓ **GB Jamaica – Mini Pantomime Production** with the goal to highlight issues faced by youths in Jamaica, to sensitize the girls and community to these and to present various options for dealing with these. Some of the scenes depicted violence against children, parental abuse, child neglect, sexual abuse and human trafficking and included the composition of some original songs relevant to the theme. The project was led by the GB in partnership with the BB, church, parents and past brigadiers. **The outcomes realized from this production were skills in drama, interpersonal skills, evidence of behaviour change, girls became more confident and there was a cohesiveness within the group.** Representatives from the Child Protection and Family Service Agency and community group that dealt with youth at risk were impacted positively and benefited from alternative ways of responding to these type of issues being faced.

## BUSINESS MEETINGS

A week before the ICGB, the International President’s Committee, (International President and the Presidents for each of the five Fellowships) held their annual meeting. The outcome of this meeting was then presented in the business meeting including financial updates. The main agenda for the business meeting was the confirmation of the election of the new International Treasurer and the new International President for 2018-2022. Mrs Priscilla Penny of GB Zimbabwe was the only nomination for and this was unanimously supported by all GB countries.

## FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS, REPORTS, SPOTLIGHTS AND PRESENTATION

Each Fellowship took this opportunity to hold meetings to discuss relevant issues and updates. Some of the key areas discussed during Fellowship meetings were: **Resourcing our Work, Intergenerational Leadership - Hearing the Voice of our Younger Members and Raising Hope for Girls – Advocacy.** These topics raised very good discussions. Each Fellowships also hosted each day of the conference starting with opening devotions and updates from countries within the Fellowship and in the evenings presentation on Spotlights and cultural presentations or performances.

## OUT AND ABOUT DAY

Today the delegates were divided into different teams and visited the following:

1. **Childrens’ hospital** – Rachael and Mareta decided to be part of this team and it was an eye opening for them especially for Mareta as she is a NZ registered nurse. The delegates took donations of clothing, blankets, books and etc to the hospital



2. **Planting trees at one of the Zambia hospitals** – the rest of us joined this team and it was a privilege to be part of this tree planting activity. The plants were donated by the ICGB.



3. **The Livingstone Museum** – very interesting to read the history of Livingstone, Zambia’s city where the ICGB was held. Dr David Livingstone was the first European to visit this town hence the reason for naming it after him. Due to his love of the people and the land, before he died he asked for his heart to be buried in Zambia, his body was then returned to England. He was also the first European to discover and publicise the mighty Victoria Falls

4. **The Victoria Falls** - It was an amazing and awesome feeling to witness and feel one of God’s mighty creations, one of the “Seven Natural Wonders of the World”. There was a lot of energy and thunder coming from the water fall and couldn’t believe that we would get wet from the water sprays as the water hits the bottom of the fall, at time it felt like it was raining.



**COMMISSIONING OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT AND CLOSING**

**CEREMONY**

**Mrs Priscilla Penny of GB Zimbabwe**, former International Vice President for Africa Fellowship (2009-2017), was unanimously elected as the International President for Girls' Brigade. Her Commissioning was held on the last day of the conference with the commissioning service conducted by Rev. Wezi Manda, Divisional Chaplain Mosi-o-Tunya. The Vice-Presidents (Presidents of the 5 Fellowships) and the new Treasurer were also commissioned. A Holy Communion for all was also held during this service.



*Commissioning of the newly elected International President Mrs Priscilla Penny of GB Zimbabwe*

**CLOSING CEREMONY**

The closing ceremony was held soon after the Commissioning Service and the Holy Communion. Closing remarks and formal closing of the ICGB was made by Hon. Moses Mawere, MP, Minister of Youth, Sports and Child Development. Vote of thanks was given by the new GB International President.



*Serving Holy Communion*

**PRESIDENT'S DINNER AND AFRICAN CULTURAL EVENING**

The ICGB ended with the President's Dinner and African Cultural performances, each Fellowship also performed and we decided to get our two Young Leaders to do another performance dedicating to the new President as well as to the previous two Presidents.



*Newly elected President Priscilla Penny and her husband,  
Former International Presidents - 2014-2018 Mrs Vivienne Atkinson, 2006-2014 Mrs Ruth Chikasa*



*GB sisters from PNG and Africa*



*GB girls from the European Fellowship  
just loved the head eis.*



## SAFARI TOURS AND SIGHTSEEING

We decided to spend 2 extra days in Zambia after the conference to do Safari tours and sightseeing, it certainly was worth doing this and we highly recommend this to anyone who happen to be in this part of the world. It was an awesome feeling to see and be close to some of Africa's wild animals. The elephants are huge and scary.

We also went to see the white rhinos. We had to go in small teams and each time took turns going to see the rhinos, we had to walk in a single line and had guards carrying guns in front and behind us. The rhinos were sleeping when we got there so we had to watch them from a distance. We also saw and came close to zebras, giraffes, crocodiles, wild hogs and other smaller animals and cats, no snakes though...thank goodness!!

We also took a sunset cruise on the Zambesi river – we saw more elephants, hippos, crocodiles. What was most amazing was to see a full grown wild elephant swim from one side of the river (Zimbabwe) to the other side (Zambia), a very rare sight. Just watching this huge animal totally submerged in the water except for the trunk that keeps coming up to breath. We were told that we were lucky because it is very rare for these cruises to come across an elephant swim across the river, Praise the Lord. There were about 5 ferries on the river and they all stopped to witness this rare sight and to allow the elephant swim across safely. What was also very interesting was when it got on the other side of the river there was a steep bank and we were all amazed as to how the elephant climbed the bank because we all wondered what it was going to do, it actually climbed up the same way a human would climb up!!!

We sailed to where this huge river splits into 3 rivers and went as close as we can to the Victoria Falls, about 2 kilometres from the fall, we crossed into Zimbabwe and fortunately we were on the river so was not required to take our passports or visa but we can say we were in Zimbabwe. To get into Zimbabwe on land you have to go through border checks and need your passport and visa as this is a different country.



*A wild elephant about to swim across the Zambesi river - From Zimbabwe to Zambia*



*Crocodile on the bank of the Zambesi River*

*Some hippos enjoying a swim*



*Ferries on the Zambia side of the river prepare to take the sunset cruise*



*Wedding taking place on the Zimbabwe side of the river*



*The sunset over the Zambezi River was a very spectacular sight, here in the Cook Islands we are used to the sun setting over the ocean but in Zambia the sun sets over the Zambesi River.*

While the rest of us relaxed on our second to last day in Zambia enjoying last catch up times with sisters from Niue, Australia, PNG, NZ and other countries, these energised ladies continued to have the experience of their lives:



*Touching and walking the cheetahs*



*Feeding and riding the elephants*



*Touching and cuddling the lions.*



*Flying over the mighty Victoria Falls in a micolight – the girls admitted this was pretty scary but an awesome experience*

## JOURNEY HOME

It was sad to say goodbye to GB sisters from around the world, at the same time it was a great feeling to start this homeward journey. We were privileged to have to fly business class from Livingstone, Zambia to Johannesburg but wished that it was all the way back to Auckland but nevertheless we were very grateful to have that special treatment. There was a total of 28 flying hours from Livingstone to Auckland via Johannesburg, Dubai, Bali and finally Auckland. We all spent time in Auckland with families before returning back home.

This has been an amazing journey and experience for all of us and we would like to thank our families and GB Cook Islands for the support and prayers but above all we would like to thank our Heavenly Father God Almighty for without Him this journey would not have been possible, He was with us right from the beginning of this journey until the day we returned to our families.

I would also like to thank my delegates, it was a real privilege and humility to again lead another team of awesome and passionate ladies from our Girls' Brigade Cook Island organisation to this important meeting and gathering of the Girls Brigade International. Meeting all the delegates from different countries and getting to know them made us realise how big the Girls Brigade movement is and although we come from diverse cultures we all had a common purpose and goal and that is to *'help the girls' to become followers of our Lord Jesus Christ and through self-control, reverence and a sense of responsibility to find true enrichment of life* with a vision *"Girls Lives transformed – God's Kingdom enriched"*

*GB motto: E Kimi, E Tavini, E Aru la Iesu. Seek, Serve And Follow Christ. Te Atua Te Aroa no tatou katoatoa*

*Write-up and photos by Tangi Taoro  
National President  
Girls' Brigade Cook Islands*

## 5. IRIIRI KAPUA NA TE UPPER CENTRAL

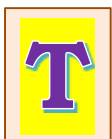


ua raveia tetai Iriiri Kapua na te Upper Central ki Rotorua i te Maanakai ra 10 no Noema. Teia i raro nei. Ko te akakoroanga, ko te akakitekiteanga i te tuatua no te Uipaanga Aotearoa i oti ake nei. Te akameitaki atu nei i nga Ekalesia e toru, te Kirikiriroa, te Tokoroa, e te Rotorua no te maroiroi tei rauka ia tatou. I teiane ka aere ka akakite, e ka rave. Auraka e aere e uri akaou. Tei akamouia, kua akamouia. Kotou tikai e te au Arataki. Auraka kotou kia akatuke i te tika tei akamouia.



*Na te Orometua NJM*

## 6. BB FOUNDER'S DAY AT PUAIKURA



he Boys' Bridage companies on Rarotonga held their annual Founder's Day commemoration at the Arorangi CICC Mission Ground on Friday 5 October 2018. In attendance were the Queen's Representative who is also the BB Patron, the Prime Minister, invited guests, ministers from the 6 Ekalesias on Rarotonga, parents and supporters of the boys, CICC President and General Secretary, and the Takamoa Theological College students. The event commenced with devotion conducted by Assistant Minister John Andrew of the Arorangi CICC, followed by an address from former BB President Daniel Apii, assistant President Saungaki Rasmussen, and the Queen's Representative who also

declared the event open. Marching drills were shown by the boys, and the day's event was wrapped up with refreshments provided by the host Arorangi Ekalesia.



Write-up and photos by N. Mataio

## 7. TO'KU TERE KI TE UIPA-ANGA MAATA I PAPUA



ua tae atu au ki Papua (Port Moresby) i te Manakai 29 no Tepetema. Kua noo atu au ki roto i te 'Mapang Mission Home', no te reira Ra-. Kua rere atu au e 2 'ora ki 'Daru', e enua i vao mai ia Papua, ki te tua ki Australia, I te Sabati 30, e te tai' aronga, e aere katoa nei ki te Uipa-anga Maata a te 'United Church o Papua.' Kua apai'na ia atu matou mei te Airport ki te Kainga Orometua o te Ekalesia i 'Daru' *(ko te ia Ekalesia, ko te Ekalesia openga ia, ta te Orometua papa Turaki i noo ana, ka oki mai ei a ia ki te Kuki Ailani.)*

Kua aravei atu au i tetai mama, tei piri ana ki te pae i te Orometua Turaki, i roto i te Ekalesia, tei ui'ui mai ia papa Turaki, e tei aka-kite katoa mai i te ora anga i noo ia e ratou, e te Orometua Turaki e te ngutu'are. *(te aka-aroa)*. Kua 'a-riki'riki ia mai matou ki te tai' manga-kati'kati, e te kapu vai. Kua apai'na ia atu matou I muri ake, na runga i te toroka, ki te uapu, te ngai' tei reira te au poti, no te apai ia matou ki te ngai', e rave ia'i te Uipa-anga Maata. *(E au poti fibreglass te ia, mei to tatou rai, I to tatou pa-enua nei.)*

Kua aka-ruke atu to matou nga poti, na te moana i te 'ora 5 i te ai'ai, na te pae i te coast o Papua, tere atu ki West Papua. *(I te akaruke anga matou, ko ia'i te tere e te ngaru, e 2 'ora i roto i te ma'u-Tai e tae ua atu ki te ngai' e aere ia nei)*. Tae atu matou ki te ia Oire(Village) I te 'ora 7 i te Ai'ai, *(I runga I te Map, ko te tara o Australia, ko Thursday Island I runga atu, ko Torres Straight Islands I runga atu, ko 'Mabudawan' I runga atu I te enua Papua.)*

Ko teia taua Oire nei, ko 'MABUDAWAN', te ngai' e rave ei te 'Uipa-anga Maata' a te au Ekalesia Papua.



Tae atu matou ki taa'tai, (*kare e uapu o te ia ngai', ka aere atu tatou na roto i te tai ki uta i te one'maro-*). Kua apai ia atu matou ki te tai ngutu'are, tei 'a-riki'riki mai ia matou, ki te tai' kati'kati e te kapu vai, e mei reira, kua apai ia atu au, ki te ngutu'are, tei billet ia atu au ki reira. Ko teia Oire, kare e uira(electricity), kare e tele-communication, kare e 'are-toa, kare ta'kiri e apinga 'oro, e tae ua'tu ki te patikara taka'takai', ka a'aere ua ki tera- ngai' ki tera- ngai'. E ko te ora anga o teia Oire tangata, ka karanga au e, mei te ora anga ia, o to tatou au metua, i te mataiti 50, te toilet e te ngai' pa'i-anga, te 'are' tunu-ma'nga-, te ngai' moe'anga e te vai atu ra.

Kua aka-mata te Uipa-anga i te reira po- i tae atu ei matou, e kua 'a-riki ia mai matou tei tae 'ou atu, ki roto i te Uipa-anga Maata. I te Uipa-anga o te Ruirua Ra- 2 no Okotopa, kua ta'rima(*sign*) atu maua ko te Moderator o te 'United Church of Papua New Guinea', i te MOU (Memorandum of Understanding), ko ia oki, to tatou Kapiti anga oko'tai, kia anga'anga, i roto i nga Ekalesia, UCPNG e te CICC, mei te ia e tupu nei ki roto i te Ekalesia Tahiti e te CICC. E 2 ia Kapi aka-tina'mou anga, tei ta'rima ia e maua, oko'tai na te UCPNG, oko'tai na te CICC. Kua mata'ora tikai te Uipa-anga Maata no Papua(UCPNG), no te reira tei tupu. Kua aka-tina'mou katoa ia i roto i te ia ra-uipa-anga e, ka aka-okii ia matou ki Daru, a te popongi ake, oki atu ei i to matou tere ki te au enua no reira mai.



L: 'Are Pure i Daru

R: Toku ngutuare billet



L: 'Are Pure i Mabudawan i rave te Uipa anga Maata

R: 'Are Pure Mabudawan



I te popongi, kua tiki ia mai matou, te ka oki, kua aere atu matou ki taa'tai, tei reira te tangata, kua aka-kite ia mai kia'ku e, e pupu-tangata te aere mai nei na taa'tai mai, apai apinga aroa mai, no te Ekalesia i noo ana a papa Turaki. (*mei teia Oire I Mabudawan, e 100 kilomita ki roto enua, tei reira teia Ekalesia i noo ana a papa Turaki, ta'na i apai i te Evangelia ki reira. E kua aka-kite katoa ia mai, e ko teia au Oire i te ia coast o Papua nei, na te Orometua Luatoka, e papa Turaki, i apai mai i te Evangelia, e te tai' au Orometua maori, no te Patifika mai.*) Kua mata'ora tikai te ia pupu tangata no teia Ekalesia a papa Turaki, tei aravei mai iaku, te tai' aronga kua pakari, tei aue mai, i te maara ia papa Turaki.

Kua aere atu matou na taa'Tai atu, e te tangata katoa i te a-ru-anga mai, na roto enua atu ki te kauvai, tei reira to matou poti, kua aravei atu matou i te au taeake, e kua tere atu matou na roto i te kauvai, ki te moana. Mei to matou tere mei Daru mai, ko ia katoa teia tere no matou, tere te poti e te ngaru. Ko au, ko te Moderator o te Uniting Church o Australia e ta'na vaine, e te Moderator o te World Mission(Aust/PNG), e te Guide o te Uipa-anga Maata, e nga tangata aka-tere. (*I te ia coast o Papua, e au kupenga te tai' tei tuku ia, aka-mou ia mei uta i te ngai' pa'paku, ki te o'onu, e te vai ra te au pou'pou aka-iro no nga ope o te ia au kupenga, ei kite anga na te au poti.*)

Mei te 3 koata 'ora matou i te tere anga, kua tano matou ki te tai' kupenga, kua tere matou ki te aka-iro i uta, kia tae matou ki reira, kua tau-i-, kua oki matou ki te aka-iro i tai i te moana, kia tae matou ki reira, kua aka-oki aka-ou mai to matou poti ki muri, aka-pe'ea ua ake, mou te pera o te matini- ki roto i te kupenga. E 2 ngaru I rutu ia matou, te ngaru mua, 'uri ta'kiri to matou poti tika ki te enua, te rua o te ngaru, tomo matou, ngaro ta'kiri te poti ki roto i te Tai, kapiki mai te Guide kia'ku, 'Reverend, swim ashore', e ko to'ku rika'rika maata i te reira taime, ka kainga ia e te araketa. (No muri au i aka-kite ia mai ei e, kare e araketa o te ia au ngai', tei te au kauvai ua.). Kia tae au ki uta, kua akara au i tei tupu kia matou, akara ki te tai' tua e ki te tai' tua, akara ki uta ki roto enua, ki te ngai' tei reira te au manu ki'kino, aka-pe'ea atu ei?

Aka-meitaki maata ra- au i te Atua, ko ia i aka-ari mai kia'ku, i te tai mea kia kite au. (I mua ake matou ka aka-ruke ei ia Mabudawan, kua kino te spark-plug o to matou matini-, kua tiaki matou kua roa, kua manamanata-te Moderator o te United Church o Australia, kua karanga atu au kia ia, 'You know what, I think God is Holding us here, for a reason, but the problem is, we don't know what it is? But I am positive, theres something coming up.' Kua kata ua mai a ia kia'ku.). E i te ia tupu anga te ta'i-i- kia matou, kua karanga atu au kia ia i uta, 'I told you, He's Holding us for something, and all that waiting, all for this, Praise the Lord.'

Ko ta'ku i kite i reira, ko te aere anga mai te au Orometua, i tono ia mai e te Atua, kia apai mai i te Evangelia Ora o Iesu, kia ratou i roto i te poiri. E poti to matou e te matini-, e 2 'ora kia tere, mea mou matou ki te kupenga, i ta'i-i- ei, na'ringa kare, kare o matou e manamanata-. kua kite mata vaerua i reira au, ia ratou i taito, tei 'oe mai na runga i te vaka, tei pa'kia e te ngaru, kua ta'uri i te moana, kua kau mai ki uta i te anu, kua noo ki roto i te vao'arakau, matakua ia, kimi ravenga kia maana i te po-, kare e kai, kare e vai, i te ti'tau anga, kia tae te Evangelia o Iesu ki te ngai' i ano'ano ia, i mua ake ratou ka Mate ei. (Kua aue au i roto i te tai, i te ngai' ta'ku e tu- ra, ma te Aka-meitaki i te Atua, no ratou.)



Te pupu no te Ekalesia a Papa Turaki



Au taeake i Hanuabada tei a-riki mai iaku

Tereanga na runga i te poti ki Daru



I muri ake i teia, laku e tu- ra, te ia ta'ku ui-anga ki te Atua, 'E te Atua, Aka-pe'ea atu ei i reira?' Kare oki e communication, kare e ngai' tangata, e medebara te ia, na 'ai e kite mai ia matou? Ko te ia te Mana o te Atua. Mei te 20 meneti, kua tere ake na tai i te mamao, e 2 poti, te tere ra ki te kave'inga ta matou e tere. Kua kite mai ia matou e kua pae' mai, e kua tauturu i te apai mai i to matou apinga tei tapeka ia ki te poti, ki te tapoleni. Kua tuku ia to matou apinga ki roto i te tai' poti, e ko matou i reira, ki roto i te tai poti, i na- ra, kare matou e o-, no te mea e au tangata rai, to runga i nga poti. Ka inangaro ia e 1 poti toe, e kare i roa atu, kua tere ake te poti na te moana, tei pae' katoa mai no matou. Kua kite au i reira e, kua Aka-tano te Atua i te au mea katoa, no matou, kia meitaki. Kia aka-ka'ka- ia to'na ingoa, no ta'na au anga'anga mana.

Kua tere atu matou ki Daru, arumaki i te 'ora o te Pai'-rere, tae atu matou, apai'na ia atu ki te ngutu'are o te Guide, tau- aere i te au kakau, kia a'maro mai, aka-papa aka-ou ma te ma'u-, mei reira ki te Airport, rere ua atu matou, e to matou ma'u-Tai, ki Port Moresby. Pouroa te au apinga i roto i te au kiri, kua pou i te kino, te laptop, tablet, hard drive e te phone, e te MOU I ta'rima ia, e maua ko te Moderator o te UCPNG, kua tiria ia e au ki roto i te vai'ranga tita-, no te mea, kare e meitaki aka-ou.

Kua noo atu au ki te ngai' i noo ana au no te reira nga ra-, e kua oki mai au i te Varaire Ra- 5, no Okotopa. Aka-meitaki maata au i te Atua no teia Tere no'ku, e te au mea katoa tei tupu. Kia aka-ka'ka- ia to'na ingoa, e te Ingoa o Iesu Mesia. "E Aka-meitaki ia Iehova e taku vaerua, Auraka to'Na katoa ra au Ta'kinga'Meitaki, e aka-ngaro'poina ia." (Sal 103.2). "E aka-meitaki ia Iehova, e kapiki i to'na ingoa, e aka-kite i ta'na i rave, i rotopu- i te au tangata." (Sal 105.1). Aka-meitaki maata katoa au, i te kumiti aka-aere, tei 'iki mai iaku, kia aere I te ia Tere. Kia Aka-meitaki mai te Atua no tatou, te President, GS e te au mema katoa. Kia Orana, e kia Manuia, i te ia Kiritimiti, e te Mataiti 'Ou 2019. God Bless!



Orometua – Tinirau SOATINI

## 8. SINGING THE LORD'S SONG AT PCC ASSEMBLY IN AUCKLAND

**S**inging the Lord's Songs in a foreign land" (Psalms 137: 4) sets the theme for the 11<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Pacific Council of Churches, which was held in Mangere, Auckland, New Zealand from the 27<sup>th</sup> October to the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2018. Around 30 member churches from around the Pacific gathered together at the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga in Mangere to address business matters of the churches as well as social issues affecting out Pacific Island people.



A youth pre-assembly was held on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> of October, with around 30 youth members and youth leaders participated in the youth pre-assembly, due to visa problems some were not able to attend the assembly. We started our youth pre-assembly with a reflection, reflecting on the theme for the 11<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, "Singing the Lords Song in a foreign land". What song are you singing in a foreign/strange/new land? Are you singing an old song in a new land? The songs represent messages of hope, of thanks giving and so forth. We then went into groups and discuss about social issues affecting our youth, our country and our regions. We shared and listened to other youths talking about the effect of technologies on youth today, climate change, drug abuse, domestic violence, unemployment, relationship gap within families and many other issues. From all that was shared we put them together in a resolution to be presented to the members of the assembly during the youth report presentation. Some of the resolutions are;

1. We call on the leaders to affirm the voice of our young people at all level of decision making from churches to national level, to regional and also at global level.
2. We call on the secretariat with the support of partners and donors to develop policies and programme for member churches truly addressing the issues of youths and violence, suicide, youth and substance abuse and so forth.
3. We affirm our voice on the need for the PCC executive and other executive forum, together with the secretariat in making sure that the youth program continues to exist and flourish into the next 5 years of our journey.
4. Our humble and sincere ask to our church leaders in allowing the secretariat to look seriously on the issues of youth suicide, noting the rise of reported cases amongst youth across our island states.

These are just 4 of 11 resolutions that were presented to the assembly by the youth members. In this youth gathering Shane Ashlee Ailu from the Catholic Bishop Conference of Papua New Guinea was nominated as our youth representative to the PCC executives.

There are three main parts to the assembly, the bible study and devotion, group discernments and plenary. The assembly proper covers various businesses of the churches. Here we hear and receive the Moderator and the General Secretary's report, financial and property reports, program reports, Women and Youth Reports. Discussions and concerns are exchanged within the assembly on amended constitutions, issues that member churches are facing in their countries, updates on proposals and also electing of the new Moderator, vice Moderator, General Secretary and PCC executives for the next 5 years. We witness church leaders stand together to end modern day slavery by signing the Joint Declaration of Religious Leaders Against Modern Slavery.

Throughout the week of the assembly, the members were hosted by various Pacific Island Churches in New Zealand. The reception from morning tea right through to dinner was very over whelming. Our Pacifica people went out and beyond to make sure that all members were well fed and entertained. I am sincerely proud of our Cook Islands Christian Church in New Zealand for the wonderful and over whelming meals they had prepared during the CICC host, the heartfelt turou and pulsating entertainment, I am without a doubt that papa President and our General Secretary was overwhelmed by what you have put together.

My highlight for the assembly will definitely be the Bible studies and group discernments. The Bible studies and group discernments were based on the theme, "Singing the Lords song in a foreign land". I believe it is very fitting theme for us Pacifica people as we are a migrating people. Leaving the comfort of our home, our tradition, our culture and our value and moving to a foreign land, to a new land in a hope for a better life.

Some of the things I have captured from our group discernments;

- No matter where we go, never stop singing the Lords songs. These songs are prayer, hope, faith and love.
- We need to renew our song, (our message) to be able to address current issues that our youth are facing today.
- Don't let our songs be documents.
- We all need to sing one song with the right tune, tempo and in harmony (working together).

As the assembly comes to an end, new friends have been made new ideas fonder and new experience have been achieved and I am grateful for this opportunity. I would also like to acknowledge the General Secretary and the CICC executives for allowing me to be part of this 11<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. To my family and friends thank you atupaka for your continuous support and prayers.

*"We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing this. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between*

*the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own”.*

Reflection from the exiting General Secretary Rev. Francois



*Write-up and photos by Tutai Mauke, Youth Volunteer to the 2018 PCC Assembly*

## **9. TEREANGA O TE EKALEZIA PUAIKURA KI NUTIRENI, OKOTOPA 2018**



ia orana te Tekeretere Maata o te Akononga CICC o te Kuki Airani, Mr Nga Mataio toou tokorua e te nugutuare, te Orometua Ngateitei, Rev. Moutaiki Ngametua, Mama Ake, ta korua anau, te Puapii Maata o Takamoa, Rev. Tere Marsters, toou tokorua, te au Apiianga i roto i te Punavai Ora, to kotou au tokorua e ta kotou anau, te au Orometua i roto i nga Ekalesia i runga i tua o te enua, e tae rava atu ki te pae Tonga e te pae Tokerau, takapini ia Nu Tireni e Autereria e pini ua ake teiane ai, kia orana, turou i roto i te aroa maanaana o to tatou Atua ko Iesu Mesia. Te karanga nei te Tata Salamo, *“E akameitaki ia Iehova e taku vaerua e to roto katoa iaku nei, auraka tona ra au takingameitaki kia akangaropoina ia”, Amene!*

Ko matou teia, Tekeretere o te Ekalesia CICC o Puaikura toku tokorua, te ngutuare, te Orometua Rev. Tinirau Soatini, Mama Orometua, Tauturu Orometua John Andrew, tona tokorua e te anau, te au Metua Elders, Uipaanga Diakono, Mema Ekalesia, te au Putuputuanga Mapu, Apii Sabati, Uniform (Girl Guides, Girls’ Brigade, Boys’ Brigade), Vainetini, te au Akonoanga tukeke i roto i to tatou oire. Tinomana Ariki, Ui Mataiapo, Ui Rangatira e te iti tangata mei Tuoro ki Toreaiwa, te au Mema Paramani mei Ruaau, Akaoa e Murienua e tei noo manui ki roto i to tatou oire Puaikura, Turou, Kia Orana.

Kia tae mai te patianganga no te tauturu i te Kimi Moni ei akatu i te ngutuare o te iti tangata Puaikura i Nu Tireni, kua manako ia e kia na roto i te raveanga i tetahi UAPOU maata na nga Ekalesia i Akarana e kia piri katoa atu te Ekalesia CICC o Arurangi. Kua oranga ia atu te manako ki roto i te Uipaanga Ekalesia e kua ariki rekareka ia e te katoatoa. Kua ariki ma te turu katoa ia teia akakoroanga e Tinomana Ariki e pera te Kauariki Rangi e te iti tangata Puaikura mei Tuoro ki Toreaiwa.

I te mea e kua inangaro ia kia akamata te Ekalesia i te akaputu moni i mua ake ka tere atu ei ki Akarana, kua riro e na te Orometua Tinirau Soatini i parani mai i te kaveinga no teia. Teia te parani Akaputu Moni tei oranga

ia atu ki te Ekalesia – “*Church to Community 3 months Partner Share Fund Raise*”. Kua nenei ia e 200 tiketi na tetai ua atu mema tei inangaro i te piri ki roto i teia Kimi Moni. Okotai mema e tona patana, ka akaputu raua e \$25 i te epetoma okotai; akamata ite marama Tiurai e tae ua atu ki te marama Tepetema. E \$325.00 i te mema okotai te ka rauka mai i roto i teia nga marama e toru, Ko te katoatoa o te moni tei akakoro’ia kia akaputu ia e \$130,000. Kua taea ia e te au mema o te Ekalesia, te aronga mana, tei akaputu e \$50,000 na roto i teia ravenga, a te orometua. Kua ariki te Uipaanga Diakono e kia tuku katoa te pute a te Ekalesia i tana tuanga (top-up) ki runga i te tuanga a te au mema tei akaputu mai e \$50,000. E \$100,000 tara i reira te katoatoa o te moni tei tuku iatu ki te Kumiti akatere o te iti tangata Puaikura i Nu Tireni, i mua i te tere o te Ekalesia ka tae atu ei.

I mua ake i te epetoma o te Maanakai ra 13 no Okotopa, kua akamata te au mema i te rere atu ki Akarana. Mei te 30 Mema mei roto atu i te Ekalesia tei tamaru ia e Tinomana Ariki, Arataki ia e te Orometua Tinirau Soatini, te au Diakono (6) tei roto katoa i te teia pupu tiakono te Executive Management Team o te Ekalesia, e pera te MP William Heather, mata o te Ekalesia Mr William Pera, Itiao Mataiapo e to ratou au tokorua, nga Mata o te Mapu e tetai au arataki o te au putuputu anga a te Ekalesia (BB, GG, GB, Apii Sabati, Vainetini). Kua riro ko au Tekeretere e te Elder Vaine Mama Mataa Dean i rere atu i to maua pairere. Kua aere keke atu te au Mema no te turanga o ta ratou au ngai angaanga moni e kua pou te katoatoa i te popongi tikai o te uapou maata, aravei atu ki te Orometua Rev Tinirau mei tona tere mai ki te Uipaanga Maata a te United Church o Papua tei mata atu aia i ta tatou akonoanga. Kua riro rai e na te au Mema tatakitai i tutaki i to ratou au patete ki teia akakoroanga. Mei te \$500 (return fare) ki te \$900 (return fare) ta te au mema i tutaki i tona ake patete pairere, tei runga ua i nga ona pairere e toru (Air New Zealand, Virgin Blue, Jet Star) ta te au mema i iki kia rere na runga.



Kua akamata te Uapou i te tuaero tikai ki roto i te Ngutuare o Enuamanu i Mangere, Akarana. Kua tuoroora ia mai te tere, Tinomana Ariki e nga ariki o Atiu Ngamaru Ariki e parua Ariki. Na tetai o to raua toa, i rave i te tuoro anga mai, kia tau ki te au akonoanga a te Enea tangata Atiu no to ratou Hall. Na te Tama Akatereau o Puaikura i Akarana, Rev. Nio Mare i akaravei mai i te katoatoa. E na te Orometua Enere Wichman o te akonoanga Presbyterian Newton te Pure akamata e te uianga no te Uapou. E 12 Pupu/Ekalesia tei piri atu ki roto i teia Uapou – (1) Arorangi Rarotonga CICC Ekalesia, (2) Central West (host), (3) Hastings, (4) Nukuroa, (5) Sydney, (6) PIC Newtown, (7) West Auckland PIC, (8) Atiu/Tautu, (9) Mangere Ekalesia, (10) Auckland City, (11) Rotorua, (12) South Group. Kare e aite ia te mataora e te maruarua i te angaanga tei raveia. Kua Imene ma te tamataora pu ua te katoatoa e kua maringi ua mai te meitaki o te Atua mei roto i te ngakau o te katoatoa. Ko te moni oronga mei roto mai i nga pupu e 11 takake mei to matou tere \$21,660. Ko te moni koikoi no runga i te taua bowl \$8,723.70. Kua rauka mai i roto i teia Uapou i teia ra \$30,383.70 moni oronga akaputu ua ia mai e te katoatoa. Mei te 300 tangata tei tae ki teia Uapou e mei te toru ora i te raveia anga teia. Kua akaoti te Uapou na roto i tetai aka takurua i te ora 4.00p.m. i te ai ai.

I te akatuera atu anga i te Uapou, kua akakitekite atu te Sekeretere o te Ekalesia Arorangi ki mua i te uapou i te ingoa o te aronga tei akaputu mai i te tuanga o te akaputuputu anga moni na roto i te parani a te papa

Orometua Tinirau Soatini, koia oki e \$50,000 tei rauka...e 156 au mema o te Ekalesia tei akapautu mai i te \$325 e pera ta te aronga tei oronga mai na roto i te ngakau tauturu mei te \$100 ki te \$2,000 ta tetai pae. Kua ariki katoa te Ekalesia mei roto i tana pute e \$50,000 kia oronga katoa no te turu i te akakoranga.

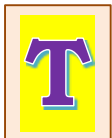
E rua tamanako anga tei tukua mai i te tuatau o te Uapou koia oki kia rave akaou ia tetai Kimi Moni na roto i te Uapou ki Autereria e pera ki Rarotonga nei, No reira ka tapapa atu i teia nga akakoroanga e tu mai nei.

I te tere i te noonoo atu anga ki te Sabati ra 14 Okotopa, kua pati ia mai ratou e te Ekalesia o te akonoanga Presbyterian Church, Newton kia tae atu ki ta ratou pure-anga. Kua aere atu te tere ratou tei noonoo atu e kua riro e na te Papa Orometua Rev. Tinirau Soatini i rave i te pure anga. Ko te Orometua o te reira Ekalesia ko Enere Wichman, e tamaiti Arorangi rai aia e koia e tana Ekalesia tetai e turu nei i teia akakoroanga no te Puaikura Community Hall. Kua piri katoa atu te tere ki ta ratou Uapou kimikimi anga moni katoa i muri uake i te tere anga pure, tei rave katoa ia ki roto i te Atiu Hall. Kua okioki takakeke mai te au mema o te tere i te mea kua noonoo atu tetai pae orote ki te kopu tangata e to ratou ai taeake, kareka tetai pae kua oki vave mai no te angaanga.

Ei taopenga i teia karere, te karanga nei a Paulo ki to Philipi 4:10 – Na taku Atua ra e omai i te au mea ravarai e tau ia kotou na, i tona apinga maata i te ao i te Mesia ra ia Iesu (and my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus). Amen!

*Tataia e te Media officer o te Ekalesia no teia tere ko Mrs Taamo Heather. Tauturu ia e Mr Okirua Teokoitu, Secretary Ekalesia. Na Louisa Heather te au tutu i tuku mai.*

## **10. UIPAANGA A TE KONITARA EKALEZIA O NUTIRENI, OKOTOPA 2018**



e rekareka nei au te oronga atu ta matou ripoti (Mou Moni, Mata o NZ e te Admin Staff) tei tae atu i teia uipaanga, ki Porirua, New Zealand.

Kua riro te ngateitei o te Orometua Oirua Rassmussen, mata o Aotearoa i te akatuera i teia uipaanga i te popongi Varaire, ki roto i te ngutuare o te iti tangata Kuki Airani e noo ki Poneke. Tena te porokaramu tei akanoonooia no teia Uipaanga.

1. Varaire 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am Akatuera anga e te Iriiri kapua.
2. Maanakai 20<sup>th</sup> – Ra Uipaanga teia te akamanaanga te meneti o te uipaanga 2016 e te Ripoti Moni e pera katoa te akarongo anga e te uriuri anga i te au ripoti mei roto mai i te au Konitara Ekalesia mei Akarana, Upper Central, Central, South Island, Aotearoa Vainetini e te Aotearoa Mapu.
3. Sabati 21<sup>st</sup> – ko te ra teia i topiri ei e te akatapu anga i te au kumiti ou o te Aotearoa CICC Konitara Ekalesia 2018-2020. Kua topiri katoa ia teia uipaanga na roto i te uapou, ka veevee aroa atu ei.

Eaa tetai au mea i kitea mai mei roto mai i teia uipaanga na Aotearoa?

1. Kua anga takere ana teia Konitara i tetai papa ture nana, inara kare i akaoti ia ana. I roto i teia uipaanga i uriuri akaouia ei e mate ariki ia. I teia nei ka apai ia teia papa ture kia retita ia, kia riro mai ratou ei putuputuanga raro ake te ture a NZ e Charitable Organisation. Te akakoroanga, kia rauka te tikaanga pati puapinga kite Kavamani me kare kia rauka mai te tauturu na roto i tetai au mataara kimi puapinga i NZ.
2. Kua akaouia katoa ia te taoanga o teia Kumiti Aotearoa CICC Konitara Ekalesia; kua riro e na te Mata o NZ e te Mou Moni i rave te ikianga akaou taoanga.
  - Teia te au akaaere: Chairman – Rev Temere Poaru, Tekeretere – Rev Nio Mare, Mou Moni – Tauturu Orometua Teao (O tara Central) e te Tauturu Mou Moni – Naomi(Tere) Ben (O tara Branch), David Greig - Constitution Adviser.
3. Kua oronga te Mou Moni maata i tana tuanga ripoti roto te iriiri kapua, e kua kitea mai tetai au mata pouri no runga i te au tuanga moni e tutakia nei kite au Tavini o te Atua e Tavini nei e tei akangaroi.

- ✓ Teia tetai au tamanakoanga tei oronga ia ki te Aotearoa CICC Konitara Ekalesia:
  - i. Kia akamaroiroi ia te au Ekalesia i te kave mai ta ratou tuanga Atinga kite Pute Maata i te au Mataiti. Me kare e tutakiia te Atinga, kare katoa e maranga te au tuanga tutaki i te Super, Widow Allowance e te Student Allowance e tetai au akapouanga, mei te iriiri kapua e tetai au angaanga a te Pute Maata.
  - ii. Kia akarakara katoa mai teia Konitara i te turanga o te Stipend a te au Tavini o te Atua e angaanga nei i New Zealand nei.
  - iii. Kia akarakara ia te au apainga i roto i te au Ekalesia mei te akatu Are Pure, Kainga Orometua e te vai atura. Kia kore e riro ei kopekope anga no te tuanga Atinga ki te Pute Maata.
  - iv. Me e manako to teia Konitara e anoano nei kia tukuia kite Kumiti maata, kia tuku ia mai tei reira kite Mata o NZ me kare kite Tekeretere Maata. Me e manamanata no te turanga o te Moni, akakite mai kite Mou Moni Maata.
- ✓ Tena tetai tuanga manea tei uriurii koia oki te Stipend a te au Orometua tei akari'ia roto te ripoti tei oronga ia atu kite Uipaanga. Teia numera stipend kua roa te tuatau te noanga teia numero \$320.00 marama. Kua akamaroiroi ia te au Ekalesia, kia akara teia turanga meangiti roa kite au Orometua tikai e tiaki Ekalesia nei.
- ✓ Pera katoa te moni akapouanga kite au Orometua akangaroi e \$170.00 i te marama e te au Mama Orometua e \$120.00 i te marama.
- ✓ Aapianga allowance e \$170.00 i te marama e to ratou uira atu ki roto.

*Ko tetai mea pumaana tei kitea mai konei, koia oki te tu akama o te au Orometua te akakite to ratou turanga i te Ekalesia. Kua riro teia iriirikapua ei akakite i te Tekeretere e te Mou Moni o te au Ekalesia i te turanga akaaka o te au Tavini o te Atua. No reira oki tetai au Orometua e aere nei te angaanga moni ei tiaki to ratou oraanga. Ko ta ratou angaanga tikai, e kimi i te au mamoe ngaro mate angai i te akatupu anga i te Ekalesia.*

4. Kua riro katoa te tauturu a te Admin Staff te koikoi mai te au retita anga o te au Orometua e ta ratou au Vaine no te tuanga o te Super Scheme a te Akonoanga. Me oti mai teia au akapapaanga ka oronga ia mai te Kumiti kia kite te kumiti i te turanga i te au Tavini o te Atua e pera katoa te SuperFund.

Tetai au tamanakoanga no roto mai teia uipaanga:

1. Kare e rava ana te tuatau o te Iriiri-Kapua, te tuanga tikai a te Mou Moni. Kare i komakoma ia ana te turanga o te budgeting ei tauturu i te au Ekalesia.
2. Patianga e kia Akatainua te Aapianga Punatau e akatupu nei te Ekalesia i Tokoroa.
3. Tetai tamanakoanga no runga te Orometua Papaa o Otahuhu. Kia akara ia tona turanga, no te kopapa apikepika o te tokorua.
4. Kua oronga katoa atu te Mou Moni te manako turu te porokaramu a te Mapu o Aotearoa. Kia tuturu katoa te au Orometua e te au akaaere o te Ekalesia i teia putuputuanga kia riro ei monomono i te Ekalesia no te tuatau ki mua. Me paruparu teia tuanga, ka paruparu katoa te Ekalesia no te au tuatau ki mua.

#### Akameitakianga:

Te oronga atu nei matou i te reo Akameitaki anga i te Ekalesia EKKA no ta ratou akonoanga ia matou mei te tae atuanga e oki ua mai matou. Pera te au Ekalesia o Wellington; Porirua NZ, Wellington Community



Church, Upper Hutt e Kapiti e te iti tangata Kuki Airani no ta ratou au arikiriki anga ia matou i te au ra o te Uipaanga. Meitaki ngao.

*Tataia e Rev, Oirua Rassmussen (Mata o NZ), Mou Moni Maata (Tangi Tereapii), Administration Officer (Nga M. Manavaikai)*

## 11. TEREANGA KI AKARANA E ASHBURTON I NGA MARAMA I TOPA



**AKATOMO'ANGA** E rua tuanga o tei ripoti poto: (a) uipaanga maata a te PCC tei raveia ki Akarana mei te Varaire 26 Okotopa ki te Paraparau 1 Noema 2018, (b) akatapuanga i te Ekalesia Mid Canterbury i Ashburton, South Island. Ko te tuanga mua, mei ta te kumiti akaaere i ariki i te au ra i topa, kua tae atu maua ko te President mei Rarotonga atu nei, e pera nga tuaine i Nutireni, Ms Kura Firth e Ms Metuakore Samuela, ei au mata no te CICC ki roto i teia uipaanga 5 mataiti; e 4 oki o tatou CICC au mata tei akanooia no te tomo atu ki roto i te uipaanga. Ko te rua o te tuanga, ko maua ua ko te President i tae atu ei, e kua kapiti katoaia mai te tiemani e te tekeretere o te Konitara Ekalesia o Nutireni katoatoa, kua tae takake ra matou ki Ashburton.

### AEREANGA E TE OKIANGA MAI

Kua akaruke au ia Rarotonga nei i te Ruitoru 24 Okotopa, tae ki Akarana Paraparau 25. Kua tae ake te President i te aiai Maanakai 27. Kua araveiia mai au e te Orometua Rahai Nanua, e ko maua i aere atu ei ki te ngai uipaanga i te Varaire no te retitaanga ia matou toko 4, aravei katoa atu ei maua i te tuaine Kura. Kua akaoti te uipaanga a te PCC i te Paraparau 1 Noema, rere atu maua ko te President ki Christchurch i te Varaire 2 Noema, na runga atu i te motoka ki Ashburton i taua ra rai, e 2 po ki reira, oki mai ki Christchurch i te aiai Sabati, rere ki Akarana popongi Monite 5 Noema, e mei reira ki runga i to maua pairere no te okianga mai ki Rarotonga nei, tae mai ei i te avatea Sabati 4 Noema.

### UIPAANGA MAATA A TE PCC

#### Tua tapapa poto no te PCC

E taokotaiana teia no te au akonoanga Keresitiano i roto i te Pasifika nei tei akatupuia i te mataiti 1961 ki Malua, Samoa; ko te Orometua Ta Upu Pere tei tae atu no tatou no te CICC, no reira ko tatou tetai akonoanga i akatupuia'i teia taokotaiana (founding member). Na roto i te PCC i anau mai ei e 2 nga pepe; te Pacific Theological College (PTC) e pera te South Pacific Association of Theological Schools (SPATS), e mema katoa oki tatou te CICC no teia nga manga o te PCC. Tetai o to tatou au mema tei tae ki te PTC kia apii ia ei Orometua koia oki ko Tekere Pereeti, Maraeara Tekii, Teata Makirere, Joel Taime, Papa Aratangi, Temaire Vaeau, Lelei Patia, e Tua Tapurau. Mei te reira tuatau mai kare e au tamariki CICC i tae akaou ake ki teia apii, te tumuanga maata no te tutakianga i te apii. Noatu ra te reira, tei roto rai tatou i te PCC e te vai ra te au puapinga e rauka maina i roto i teia pirianga. E raveia ana te uipaanga maata a te PCC i te au 5 mataiti katoatoa, e na tatou na Rarotonga i utuutu/host i te mataiti 2002 ki te National Auditorium.

#### Tuoroanga mai i te au mata ki te uipaanga

Aiai Maanakai 27 Okotopa kua raveia te tuoroanga (welcome) mai i te au mata ki te uipaanga, ki te ngutuare o te Tonga (Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga – FWCT) i Mangere, ko te ngai katoa oki teia i raveia'i te uipaanga. Kua raveia teia na roto i te akaonoanga NZ Maori e pera te Tonga. Kia oti, kua aere atu te katoatoa ki roto i te hall o te Tonga no te kaikai e te tamataora peu tupuna tei riro e na te akonoanga FWCT i akanoo.



### Akatueraanga o te uipaanga

Popongi/avatea Sabati, kua aere te au mata ki ta ratou au akonoanga pure i Akarana. Ora 4 i te aiai, kua taokotai mai te katoatoa o te au mata e ratou tei patii, ki te Are Pure o te FWCT no te pure akatueraanga i te uipaanga. Kua riro te akatueraanga e na te Ariki Vaine o te Tonga, Nanasipau'u i rave. Ko te akoanga/karere, kua riro e na te Moderator o te FWCT, Rev. Ahio i rave mai. Kia oti te pureanga akatueraanga, kua neke te katoatoa ki te hall i te pae mai no te kaikai tei akanooia mai e te Methodist Church of Samoa.



### Porokaramu o te uipaanga

Monite, ko te ra mua ia o te uipaanga. Aiteite ua te porokaramu o nga ra uipaanga e 3, Monite ki te Ruitoru, koia oki pure ngutuare (devotion), orongaanga manako (presentation) na te au vaa tuatua tei ikiia, no runga i te au tumu manako mamaata tei akanooia e tei orongaia kia ratou kia akateateamamao mai i te au ra i topa. Ko te au tumu manako katoatoa ta ratou i oraora mai, kua akamouia ki runga i te tumu tapura o te uipaanga maata, koia oki te Salamo 137.4 no runga i te imeneanga i te au imene o te Atu i te enua ke, singing the Lord's song in a foreign land.

Kia oti te orongaanga manako, kua neke te katoatoa ki roto i te au pupu rikiriki no te uriurianga i te tumu manako e no te akateateamamaoanga i te au mea mamaata no te akaokianga mai ki te katoatoa i te popongi Paraparau.

I muri ake i te kai ti (morning tea), o nga ra e 3, kua raveia te au ripotianga no runga i te au angaanga ta te opati o te PCC i rave i nga mataiti e 5 i topa, tei roto katoa i teia ripotianga te akapapaanga moni. Ko tetai nga manako maata tei uriia e te katoatoa koia oki te tamanakoanga kia kapitiia nga kopapa e 3 (PCC, PTC, SPATS) kia aere mai okotai ua o ratou kopapa akatere. I teia taima oki e kopapa akatere keke to ratou.

Te rua o te tumu manako maata tei uriuria kare ra i oti, koia oki no runga i te ture tumu (constitution) a te PCC. Kua ariki te uipaanga e kia vaooia ki te kumiti ou tei ikiia nana e akaoti atu i te au akatanotanoanga kia tau ki te au manako tei oraoraia mai.

### Angaianga a te CICCNZ i te uipaanga

I te au ra tatakitai kua akatakaia te au akonoanga tuketuke i Akarana na ratou te utuutuanga i te uipaanga, akamata ki te kati i te popongi (morning tea), katikati (lunch), kati ti i muri ake i te tuaero (afternoon tea), e pera te kaikai ma te tamataora peu tupuna/aitamu i te aiai (dinner plus cultural performances). Ko te maataanga o te au angaianga, kua riro rai e na nga akonoanga mamaata mei te Pasifika tei akatupuia ki Nutireni, koia te FWCT, Samoa Methodist Church, Fiji Methodist Church, e te Samoa Congregation Church. Ko tatou CICC e tetai nga akonoanga rikiriki e 2, tei piri atu ki roto i te utuutuanga i te uipaanga.

I roto i te porokaramu mua, okotai rai a tatou CICC angaianga, koia oki aiai Ruirua, kaikai e te tamataora peu tupuna (dinner and cultural performances). Inara i te pae openga, kua kiriti te PCANZ iaia ki vao, nana tika'i oki te katikati (lunch) i nga ra e 4 o te uipaanga. Kua tuku mai ireira te aronga angaanga o te PCC i te patiangi ki tetai uatu akonoanga tei o katoa atu tatou, me ka rauka i te apai i tetai o te au katikati e 4 tei va mai.

Kua tuku atu au i te manako ki te tiemani o te au Ekalesia i Akarana (Rev. Taa Karena) kia komakoma ki tona au mema. Iaku i Nutireni i rauka mai ei te akapapu mei tana Konitara e ka maranga ia ratou te katikati i te Ruirua, takake mei ta ratou kaikai i taua aiai rai. No reira na tatou CICC te angaianga i te Ruirua i te tua o te katikati i te tuaero e pera te kaikai i te aiai.





Kare aite te angaianga a ta tatou au Ekalesia i te uipaanga maata. Ko ratou katoatoa oki nga Ekalesia CICC i Nutireni tei akaputu no te reira akakoroanga, kua riro ra na ratou i Akarana i apai i te reira tuanga no ratou katoatoa e 22 Ekalesia i Nutireni. Maruarua tika'i nga tuanga ta ratou i rave mai, kua riro ia ei akameitakianga maata na te au mata i roto i te uipaanga. Topiri atu oki te au aitamu ki te pae i te aiiai, eaa ia pakau i na te Aitutaki ei. E aka pumaana tika'i to maua ko te President i to tatou iti tangata no ta ratou i rave i te reira ra, e kua akakite rai au kia ratou i mua i te katoatoa i te reira aiiai, kia akameitakiia te Atua. No reira kotou e te iti tangata no te Atua i Nutireni, e pera ratou tei piri katoa mai ki roto i te angaanga manea tei raveia, kia riro te mana katoatoa i te akakiki ua mai rai i ta kotou au vairanga no te au ra ki mua.

Kare no te angai ua anga i te katoatoa i te Ruirua teia reo akameitakianga e taoki akaouia atu nei, no te akonokono katoa anga ra i to tatou au taeake mei Tahiti mai tei noo ki te ngutuare o te Ivirua i Mangere, meitaki maata, tena to ratou reo ikuiku kia kotou kua akarongo kotou, kua maata roa atu i ta ratou i manako e kia peraia ratou. Kare e kino, penei a tetai ra ka topa aere atu tetai pae ia kotou na Tahiti, ireira paa ratou akaoki mai ei i ta kotou takinga meitaki anga atu ia ratou.

**Akaotianga o te uipaanga**

Paraparau, ko te ra openga ia o te uipaanga. Kua tuku mai nga pupu e 6 (group works) i ta ratou i uriuri e i rauka mai i nga ra e 3 i topa. Kua oronga katoa mai te aronga angaanga o te PCC i te au mea mamaata (main outcomes) o te uipaanga, ko te ka akao iatu ki roto i te meneti uipaanga me oti mai.

E ra katoa teia tei akakoroia no te ikianga e te akatinamouanga i te au mata ki runga i te kumiti akaaere (executive committee) o te PCC no nga mataiti e 5 e tu mai nei, 2018-23. Kua o atu au ki roto i te ikianga ei tairua i nga mata o te Medium Churches, ko maua ko tetai mata o te Diocese of Polynesia. E 20 te katoatoa anga o te au mata ki runga i te kumiti akaaere. Kia oti te ikianga o te kumiti, kua raveia te akatapuanga ia ratou e pera te pure openga topirianga i te uipaanga, kua rave katoatoaia ki roto rai i te ngai uipaanga. Kua riro te angaianga o te topirianga e pera te tamataora na te Methodist Church of Samoa i akanoo mai. Akamata rai te au mata i te oki aere i muri ake i te akakoroanga o te reira aiiai.





### **Atoroanga i nga Ekalesia i Akarana e Tokoroa**

Ia mau i Akarana, kua rauka tetai atiangā no te President i te akatae atu iaia ki teia nga akakoroanga i raro nei:

- i. Aiai Sabati 28/10 – topirianga i te angaanga a te mapu i Akarana tei raveia ki te Atiu Hall.
- ii. Ruirua – atoro atu anga i te Ekalesia tupu ou i Tokoroa i raro ake i te tiakianga a te apianga Punatau Mataio. Kua akaruke raua ko te Orometua Rahai i te maiata e kua oki mai i te aiai i mua ake i te angaanga a te CICC i te uipaanga.
- iii. Aiai Ruitoru – atoro atu anga i te Ekalesia Ranui i raro ake i te tiakianga a te Orometua Tukinga Vainetutai no tetai au uriurianga manako.
- iv. Aiai Paraparau – atoro atu anga i te Ekalesia Motutapu i raro ake i te tiakianga a te Orometua Varetau Peau no tetai au uriurianga manako.

Kia akameitakiia teia au araveianga tei rauka, e pera te taeake Orometua Rahai koia tei apai aere i te President ki te reira au akakoroanga. Kua oti oki ia matou i te akatanotano e ka noo ua matou ko te nga tuaine, Kura e Metuakore, ki roto i te uipaanga, i te President i aere atu atoro Ekalesia.

### **AKAKOROANGA I ASHBURTON, SOUTH ISLAND**

#### **Taeanga ki Christchurch e Ashburton**

Ora 2 i te avatea Varaire 1/11 kua akaruke maua ia Akarana no Christchurch, tae atu ki reira i te ora 3.30pm, araveia mai e te Tekeretere o te Ekalesia Ashburton a Ruta Tare e pera tona Orometua, Ranginui Vini, e kua akatika atu matou ki Ashburton na runga i te motoka, e 1 ora i tae ei. Aiai Varaire kua raveia te angaanga/tuoroanga ia maua e pera ratou tei tae mai mei te tua tonga (Dunedin, Invercargill) e pera ia Christchurch, no te akakoroanga iriiri kapua i te Maanakai e pera te akatapuanga i te Sabati. Mataora te araveianga i te au taeake a tai ka kite akaou no tetai tuatau kua roa.

Kua rauka katoa te atiangā no maua i te atoro i te ngutuare ou o te Ekalesia Mid Canterbury tana i oko, koata eka (1,012m<sup>2</sup>) te maata e pera te hall i runga. Kua manuia te Ekalesia i teia tei rauka iaia no tetai moni i raro ake i te moni oko i runga i te makete i teia tuatau. Kua tainaia te au pepa i te ra i mua ake ka tae atu ei maua, no reira kia akameitakiia te Atua no teia akameitakianga nana i tona iti tangata i Ashburton e pera te au ngai vaitata mai ki reira. Akameitakianga katoa, i na Ranginui ei, ki te au Ekalesia katoatoa tei turu mai i te ratou tere atu anga i te kimi puapinga no teia akakoroanga tika'i. I teia atiangā te tataia nei tetai ture akateretere no teia ngutuare (policy) ko te ka riro i te tauturu ia ratou i te taangaanga e te tiakianga i te reira ngutuare i te au ra ki mua.

### Iriiri kapua, e ratou tei tae mai

Maanakai 3/11 i te ora 10.30am kua akamata te iriiri kapua. Na te President te tuanga mua no runga i te aronga mou taoanga e tetai au akanoonooanga i roto i ta tatou nei akonoanga CICC. Aru atu au no runga i te tuanga o te akateretereanga i roto i te Ekalesia e pera te akonoanga (church administration). Ko te maataanga o te tuatau kua akapouia ki runga i te au manako tei oraoraia mai e tei anoanoia te au akamaramaanga. E tuanga katoa ta te Tekeretere o te Konitara Ekalesia o Nutireni (Orometua Nio Mare) i oronga ki roto i te iriiri kapua. Mei tetai 50 au mema tei tae mai ki Ashburton no roto mai i nga Ekalesia Dunedin, Invercargill, Christchurch e pera te Ekalesia Ashburton i raro ake i te tiakianga a te Orometua Tuvaine Glassie.

Kua akaoti te iriiri kapua i te ora 3.30pm. Kare rai i rava te tuatau no te mea e maata te au manako ta te au mema i oronga mai e pera e maata katoa te au mea kare i pou ia ratou i te oronga mai kia tuku iatu te au akamaramaanga. Noatu ra te reira, e aka tei oronga iatu ei tauturu no te au ra ki mua. Ora 4.00pm kua aere atu te katoatoa ki te angaianga a te au mema o te Free Church i raro ake i te tiakianga a Rangatira Tangata, e au mema teia mei roto mai i te Free Church i Aitutaki.



### Akatapuanga Ekalesia

Ora 11.00am i te Sabati 4 Noema kua raveia te tiaki atarau tei riro e naku te irava/uianga i tuku. Ora 11.30am kua akamata te pure e ko te tuanga mua tei raveia koia oki te akatapuanga tei aru i te porokaramu i akatakaia i roto i te Buka Pure. Kua akatapu katoaia te enua tei rauka mai i te Ekalesia mei tei taikuia i roto i te tuanga 4.1 i runga nei. Kua riro rai e na te President i rave i te reira tuanga, e pera te akoanga e te Oroa, tei turu iatu e tona au taeake Orometua.

I muri ake i te akatapuanga, kua raveia te kaikai ki roto i te hall o te are pure ta te Ekalesia e taangaanga ana i teia tuatau, no te akonoanga PCANZ. No te ora e aere ra, kua akangaroi te uapou kapiti kare i raveia ana, i te mea katoa e ka oki atu tetai pae mei vao mai ia Ashburton no te angaanga i te Monite ake. Manea te au angaanga katoatoa tei raveia no teia Ekalesia ou, kia akameitakia te Atua no te maroiroi tana i oronga ki te Orometua Ranginui e tona au mema katoatoa i te akatapuanga i te moemoea no te akatapuanga e pera tetai ngutuare ou no ratou.





### Turanga o te Ekalesia Mid Canterbury

Kua tanuia teia Ekalesia e te Orometua akatainu ou ia, Ranginui Vini, i te mataiti 2008. E 10 ireira mataiti to teia Ekalesia tapapa'anga ma te akamatutuanga iaia kia riro mai ei mema tinamou no te CICC. Kua arikiia teia Ekalesia e te Konitara Ekalesia o Nutireni kia akatainuia e kua tuku mai i tana tamanakoanga ki te kumiti akaaere mei tei anoanoia, e kua ariki katoa te kumiti akaaere i te tamanakoanga. I teia ra e turanga matutu tona, e ngutuare tona kua rauka mei tei taiku iatu i runga nei. Ko tona manakonakoanga e vai nei, tetai ngutuare tinamou no te au tavini o te Atua ka tukuia ki roto i te Ekalesia.

Te irinaki katoa nei te kumiti akaaere e ko te Ekalesia Ashburton tei akatupuia e te Orometua Tuvaine Glassie kare ra i akatainuia ake, kare aia e riro i te tamanamanata i teia Ekalesia tei akatainu ou ia, i te mea oki e, e oire meangiti ua a Ashburton kare i aite meia Christchurch i te pae mai.

### PUAPINGA O TE TEREANGA

I te mea e na te pute maata a te CICC te akapouanga no teia tereanga no maua ki Nutireni, ka tau rai ireira kia ui'ia te uianga e, me kua puapingaia te tereanga? Irinaki maua e ae, kua puapingaia no teia au tumuanga i raro nei:

### Uipaanga a te PCC

- a) Ei akatupu uatu rai i ta to tatou au metua Evangelia i akatinamou i te au mataiti i topa e kia angaanga kapiti tatou ki to tatou au taeake i roto i te akarongo mei te Pasifika mai i te akatupuanga i to te Atua anoano ki roto i te ngakau tangata. *Continuing the legacy of our Christian forebearers in having us part of the formation of PCC and working together with our brothers and sisters in the Pacific in the building of his kingdom in the hearts and minds of both members and non-members.*
- b) I te mea e ko tatou CICC tetai i akatupuia'i te PCC, e mea tau rai ireira e kia tae tatou ki te au akakoronga mei teia te tu kia rongoa mai i to tatou reo. *We must be present in person in order for our voices to be heard. And being on the executive committee again is an opportunity to strengthen the voices of the medium churches including the CICC.*
- c) Te tikaanga tei rauka i te President i te atoro atu ia ratou i roto i nga Ekalesia ma te iti o te akapouanga. *A sideline benefit of the President being able to visit those branches mentioned above to go through issues and matters of interest at no additional cost.*
- d) Na roto i te au apainga tei apaiia e ta tatou au Ekalesia i Nutireni (nga angaianga i te Ruirua, e pera te utuutuanga i te au mata no Tahiti mai vaiata ki te 2 epetoma), kua kiteia mai tatou te CICC i mua i te mata tangata e ratou katoatoa mei te Pasifika mai. *The efforts of our church branches in NZ in catering for the assembly lunch and dinner on Tuesday, as well as hosting the Tahitian delegation to the assembly, have been well received and recognized at this regional ecumenical church level.*
- e) Topiri atu ki te (d) i runga nei, kua riro ta ratou i rave ei akamatutu atu i to ratou inangaro i te utuutu i ta tatou ta te CICC uipaanga maata i te mataiti 2023 ki Akarana. Ko te manakonako e te inangaro ia

o te Konitara Ekalesia Nutireni, ka tapapa atu ra i nga mataiti e tu mai nei. *The inputs of our branches in NZ have to some extent strengthened their resolve to host our CICC assembly in 2023. That is their intention and desire, and they have 5 years to make it happen.*

### Akatapuanga i te Ekalesia Mid Canterbury

- f) Kua riro to maua taeanga ki te uipaanga a te PCC ei ravenga no te atoro katoa atu anga ia ratou i te South Island ma te kore e akapouanga mei roto mai i to ratou pute. *Our participation in the assembly was a golden opportunity to also visit them in the south at no additional cost to them.*
- g) Na roto i te iriiri kapua e te au komakomaanga kia ratou tei tae mai, kua rauka tetai au ngai tai'i i te akatanotano iatu, noatu e kare i rava te tuatau i te nooanga ki rotopu ia ratou. *Through the workshop and informal discussions with them who were able to make it to Ashburton, certain problem areas were able to be sorted, despite the shortage of time. Some outstanding issues, however, must remain on the agenda for future deliberations.*

### POPANI

Tena ireira te ripoti poto no to maua tere atu anga ki Nutireni i te marama i topa. Ei taopenga i teia karere, te taoki akaou atu nei i te reo akameitakianga kia ratou i raro nei:

- Kumiti akaaere no te tikaanga kia mata iatu tatou te CICC ki roto i te uipaanga e maua ko te President pera raua nga tuaine, Kura e Metuakore.
- Te nga tuaine Kura e Metuakore ko korua tei akaatinga i to korua tuatau kia tomo kapiti tatou ki roto i te uipaanga.
- Ekalesia East Tamaki no te ngutuare tei riro ei ngai akangaroiana no maua i te epetoma o te uipaanga, e pera te Orometua Rahai tei riro i te apai aere ia maua ki tera ngai e ki tera ngai ma te roiroi-kore.
- Konitara Ekalesia o Nutireni – Tiemani, Tekeretere, Mou Moni e te au mema katoatoa o te Konitara – ko kotou tei ariki i teia suko kia apai kotou, e kua apai kotou ma te maroiroi e te manea tikai ki mua i te iti tangata o te Pasifika.
- Nga Ekalesia i Akarana, ko kotou tei apai i te au apainga no kotou katoatoa i Nutireni i te mea e kua raveia te akakoroanga ki roto i to kotou oire.
- Orometua Taa Karena, tiemani o te Konitara Ekalesia o Akarana i teia mataiti 2018, ko koe tei rave mai i taau tuanga ia taua i komakoma i te au ra i topa no te akateateamamaoanga i te au tuanga katoatoa ta te PCC i anoano mai kia raveia no te uipaanga.
- Aere atu ki the South Island, te au tavini o te Atua i roto i nga Ekalesia e 5 – Christchurch, Mid Canterbury, Ashburton, Dunedin, Invercargill – ko kotou tei tae mai ki te kapikianga e te patianganga a te Ekalesia Mid Canterbury no tona akakoroanga, pera te akakoroanga o te iriiri kapua.
- Ekalesia Mid Canterbury e ratou katoatoa tei turu atu ia koe, no te ututuanga mai ia matou mei vao ake ia Ashburton.
- Ekalesia Free Church, no taau angaianga i te urupu tangata tei tae ki Ashburton i te reira tuatau.
- Orometua Ranginui Vini, no te ngai akangaroiana no maua e pera no te Tiemani e te Tekeretere o te Konitara Ekalesia o Nutireni tei rauka i te topiri mai ki teia akakoroanga manea.

Kia vai mai rai te au akameitakianga tuketuke a te Atua ki rungao ia kotou katoatoa. Kia orana e kia manuia.

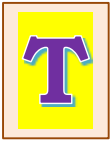
*Tataia e Rev. Tuaine Ngametua (President), e Nga Mataio (GS), neneia e Nga.*

*CICC Delegates to the 2018 PCC Assembly in Auckland, 26 October – 1 November  
Metuakore Samuela-Pakuunga (CICCNZ Youth Secretary, Youth Representative), Kaurakura Marsters-Firth (CICCNZ Women's Fellowship Secretary, Women's Representative), CICC GS, CICC President*





## 12. ABOUT IMR @ PTC



This is an introductory piece about the Institute for Mission and Research (IMR). IMR is jointly owned by the Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC) and the Pacific Theological College (PTC). It is the amalgamation of two programmes, one owned by PCC which is the God's Pacific People (GPP) programme started in 1999 after a PCC resolution at the PCC assembly in Maohi Nui in 1997 and reaffirmed by the Cook Islands General Assembly of PCC in 2002 which deals with capacity building for mission and the other by PTC Council in 1998 which is the Institute for Research and Social Analysis (IRSA) programme on research and training on social analysis.

IMR was launched in January 2017 at PTC to serve the mission (capacity building) and the research needs of both PCC and PTC member churches. The current capacity building for mission activities offered by IMR are the following certificate courses delivered with the churches in-country: peace-building; pastoral counselling; social analysis; and leadership and management. Over the past two and a half years, these certificate courses have been in demand, especially among the Churches in the Melanesia countries. The demand for these courses is based on their uniqueness. It combines both theological and biblical learning, as well as secular learning insights into the areas of learning. It is also practical because the courses are conducted as workshops with practical applications. Said one school principal from Vanuatu in the leadership and management certificate training in May 2018: "... after the training I saw improvement in my leadership."



*Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu School teachers 2017 Graduates with the Certificate on Leadership and Management, 2017*



*The Tonga Council of Churches (TNCC) Professional Development training in Social Analysis, 2017*



*United Church Solomon Islands certificate course on leadership and Management for its school's teachers, 2018.*



*Anglican Church of Melanesia Church ministers and women participants at the Pastoral Counselling professional training, 2018*

The point is that the capacity building mission programme is making a difference in the lives of those who participated and graduated, not only in their school environment but also with their families and the communities they live: *“What I learnt never leaves me. LM is in every area of life- in the home, at work, [in] community responsibility. The course equips us to be able to lead an organisation”*, said one school teacher in Vanuatu, who was also the president of her netball association.

On research, IMR launched the book *‘Navigating Troubled Waters – Ecumenism in the Pacific since the 1980s’*. The publication was the culmination of four years of work. It was mandated by both PCC (2013) and PTC (2012). The book has been adopted by the recent PCC General Assembly in Auckland for study and discussion by the churches that participated in the research.



*The book launch drama performed by the PTC youth group, July 2017*

For 2019, IMR will embark on a new journey. It will be more focused on intensifying efforts with the in-country capacity building in mission training with the member churches of PCC and PTC. It will focus on research activities that will support the capacity efforts, and developing a mission academic programme with the residential programme of PTC.

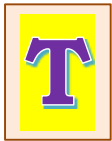
The work on capacity building for mission and research is currently been financially supported by the following overseas partners: Bread for the World; Missio Aachen; Methodist Church Great Britain; Association of Protestant Churches in Germany; and Mission OneWorld in Germany. IMR would like to sincerely thank the General Secretary of CICC for this opportunity to provide an article for its quarterly newsletter this year. Future articles will be more focused on particular write-ups on trainings and their impacts on the church communities, school and/or ministries that the Churches are engaged with.

With our best wishes to the President, General Secretary, its Executive, and the members of CICC in its preparations for the season of Christmas. May the good Lord shower its blessings upon the Church and its people.



*Aisake Casimira, Director, Institute for Mission and Research, PTC, Suva, Fiji*

### **13. REPORTS ON VISITATIONS BY THE PRINCIPAL**



he Takamoa Theological College Principal, Rev. Tere Marsters, recently represented the CICC at meetings around the Pacific. He writes about those meetings below.

#### **1. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND ASSEMBLY 2018 (3-7 October)**

1<sup>st</sup> October, departed Takamoa to Auckland and caught connecting flight to Christchurch. Arrived in Christchurch late that evening and was picked up by the Session Clerk and taken to the Motel.

St Andrews College in Christchurch was the host venue and the 1<sup>st</sup> session commenced on Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The Assembly began with an Installation Service of the new Moderator the Rev Taimoanaifakafo Kaio in the main auditorium where the conference was held. This was carried out by the current Moderator the Rev Richard Dawson and three previous Moderators. The music was both traditional and a band lead contemporary music.

The New Moderator the Rev Taimoanaifakafo Kaio spoke on the subject “JESUS IS THE HEART OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND PEOPLE”. Rev Kaio mentioned the Call of Abraham, the great commission and the need to taking up the cross, denying ourselves and following Christ daily. He then urged everyone to work together and work with others in relationship. He also encouraged the assembly to display clearly our relationship with God and our relationship with other people.

The GA 2018, as it was called, was attended by more the 300 people. These were Ministers, commissioners, representatives, department leaders and members of the Presbyterian Church. There were three International Guests, Mr Rob Floyd of the Australian Uniting Church, Rev Nukanuka from Nuie and myself. Each of us was given 10 minutes to address the Assembly. I spent some time talking with Rev Robert Mani and Rev Tokerau Joseph about the need for us to work together. Rev Mani was very helpful to me during the Assembly.

Saturday was an informal night whereby the Catholic Bishop, Women Pastor of the New Life Church and one young pacific islands minister from the Presbyterian church, ministered openly and they all answered questions. The Assembly had, on Wednesday and Thursday, business sessions in the morning and other matters. In the afternoon the Assembly broke up into discussion groups which were dealing with current issues and matters for the Assembly to consider. These groups would then bring everything back to present to the Assembly for discussion and consideration. The international guests went on tour for two afternoons to



see the extent of the earthquake damage to churches and main icons in the city. We also went to look at different churches operating after the earthquake and the innovative changes to ministry in Christchurch.

Sunday was a special closing service by the New Moderator and everyone dispersed with the sense of accomplishment and service. The theme was reminded to everyone again "JESUS IS THE HEART OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND PEOPLE" through our communion service and a very encouraging word by the Moderator the Rev Taimoanaifakafo Kaio.

## **2. UNITING THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, Sydney, Australia (30 October-3 November)**

### Monday Night

Arrived in Sydney airport at 10.30pm and was picked up by Rev Duncan MacLeod (United Learning Network Director). My accommodation was in the guest complex in Yuraro House, Unit 9. There was housekeeping daily with breakfast food replenished on a daily basis.

### Tuesday

Rev Duncan arrived early to pick me up for the planned program for the day. We discussed briefly the specific areas of interest that I wanted to know and see.

- Of interest was the Distant Learning Program and how that will benefit overseas students and those wishing to pursue studies in Australia.
- Accessibility by internet into the Library system, resources and materials.
- Availability to Short term/block courses during the year.
- Cross accreditation of our students by United Theological Colleges.
- Possible visits by Lecturers.

Meeting with Dr Gerard Moore (Academic Dean), was based around discussing the development of learning programs, what were Takamoa's current needs and how UTC could provide meeting and strengthening those needs. Christian Sorenson (Dean of Formation) was interested in helping our program. Fie Marino was the Cultural Representative in the College and he spoke about ways and means to reach young people.

### Wednesday

The morning was spent in the Library with Moira Bryant. The library and its layout was maybe one of the best in the Pacific with over 40,000 books not including the magazines and articles. The display section was created with different themes throughout the year dependant on the celebration. The book section and layout were well indexed and easily visible to find books. There were sections for study areas and over 15 computers with internet access.

I was very interested in the software programs used in the Library and noted the accessibility of available software. We discussed the yearly fee for United Theological Students and the availability of Takamoa students accessing the Library, software programs and data base. The librarian Moira Bryant was very helpful and greatly assisted me in showing their operating system and cataloguing.

### Thursday

This morning was spent in the library looking at books and doing additional reading in one area that caught my attention the day before. I was particularly interested in the Eco Theology Section as the library constantly purchases books every month to keep up to date.

### Friday

The Open Multi Cultural Evening was attended by several student body ethnic groups. These groups were Tonga, Tokelau, Samoan, Korean, Chinese. The Cook Islands were invited guests and were number two on the program. The evening commenced with teaching carried out on different subjects to which people could choose which one they wanted to attend.



A multi-cultural service was conducted by the students and the Message brought by Rev Fie Marlno. This was followed by a feast of five pigs and delicious Island food which was provided by a Tongan group. The entertainment commenced with a dance by a Tongan student. Orometua Bronson Tanga brought his church youth and performed three numbers. This was received by the College with glad hearts and they were happy with the Cook Islands participation. The night finished well and all were delighted with the Cook Islands performance and attendance. I spent time with the college leaders briefly to thank them for the invitation to attend and their hospitality.

#### Saturday

Left Sydney for Auckland, New Zealand and stayed one night with Orometua Richard and Rere Mataara before flying to Fiji to attend the PTC Special Council Meeting.

### **3. SPECIAL PACIFIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING (5-9 November)**

#### Arrival

Arrived Sunday evening into a very humid and hot Nandi airport. Continued on to Suva. Brother Sereki (maintenance manager PTC) was kind enough to transport me to PTC. A staff member advised me on arrival that meals will be provided and led me to the accommodation.

#### Monday

Devotion was held in the chapel and was conducted by Archbishop George Takeli (Anglican Church of Melanesia) and ministered from the text Mark 1:1-27. The message was entitled "The Capernaum Context for Mission." Archbishop expressed the importance Academic Development, Prayer Life and Extra Curriculum. Meeting concluded and all council members made their way to the conference room for the Special Council Meeting.

#### Meeting

The meeting commenced at 9.30am with a prayer by the Chairman of the PTC Council, Rev Elder Dr L Faalevao who welcomed all council members to this special meeting and outlined the Monday program. Role Call and Apologies were carried out by the Secretary of the PTC Council, Dr Tessa Mackenzie.

#### **Academic Dean Presentation of Candidates**

Presentation of PTC graduates' names and achievements were presented to the Council Members by the Academic Dean, Rev Dr Gwayaweng Kiki. There were 13 graduates in four (4) levels.

- 1: Certificate – 3
- 2: Bachelor Degree - 1
- 3: Masters Degree – 8
- 4: Doctorate – 1

The graduation of the mentioned students will take place on Thursday.

#### **Report on the Pacific Ecumenical Community / Pacific Ecumenical Council**

The Formation Process was presented by Rev James Bhagwan (Secretary Elect). Pastor Francois Philaatae introduced Rev James Bhagwan as the newly elected Secretary of PCC and indicated that he would take up office in January 2019 and would present this report. Rev Bhagwan's recommendation from PCC was that the PTC Council endorse PEC Framework and Process and receive a further report and recommendation in 2019.

#### **Appointment of the Principal**

The Meeting moved to what the Council regarded as the main agender. A report from the Review committee was given by Dr Tessa Mackenzie on the process the review committee carried out. The committee comprised of Mr Apisalome Tudreu, Dr Richard Wah and Dr Tessa Mackenzie. Of the four (4) applicants a short list was done and the committee agreed to interview two applicants. Rev Dr Douglas Estes and Rev Dr Upolu Vaai. The interview team considered leadership experience and understanding of the complexities of the role of Principal. After much deliberation, the council approved Rev Dr Upolu Vaai to take over from Rev. Dr Feleterika Nokise as the next PTC Principal, effective January 2019.



## Tuesday

The day commenced with a Communion Service held in the chapel and was conducted by Rev Dr Professor Feleterika Nokise. A very moving service that included the student's choir, reading and partaking of the communion. The message was delivered by Rev Dr Professor Feleterika Nokise and was primarily directed to the graduating students. The message was entitled "Be an Authentic Christian Voice Today." The text was from John 13:12-17. The message covered the Gentleness and Humility, Faithfulness and Discipleship, Courteous and Long Suffering.

### **Council Meeting**

The meeting commenced by the Chairman welcoming the Principal elect Rev Dr Upolu Vaai and his Mrs Vaai. Each of the Council members shared an encouraging word which was very inspiring and encouraging. Rev Dr Vaai responded and spoke about the honour entrusted upon him by the fathers of the church and was humbled by the responsibility and position given. He shared of his history, vision and heart. It was clear by the discussion afterwards with Council that the right decision had been made.

### **Meeting with SPATS**

Following Lunch, Rev Rusi Tuidrakulu and I went to the South Pacific Association Theological Schools (SPATS) office. The areas discussed were....

- Accreditation Standards – what is the process of becoming accredited?
- Membership – how do we become active members? What are the annual costs?

### **Evening Program – College Farewell Feast**

This gathering was a feast for the following:

- Rev Dr Feleterika Nokesi and family after twenty (20) years' service
- Rev Dr Isaac – leaving college
- Graduating students leaving college

The program including gifts to everyone leaving and gifts given by those leaving to the school. Prizes and gifts were also presented to students for certain achievements within the school. Entertainment and presentations were done by 11 different ethnic groups within the college. Rev Dr Feleterika Nokise spent time giving gifts to the Chairman of the Council and his good lady, to the departing Lecturer and to the College. Final prayer was said at 11:45pm.

## Wednesday

A meeting with the Principal elect, Rev Dr Upolu Vaai, was held mid-morning in which he committed to offer assistance to Takamoa. He also indicated he would like to visit all the Council churches, meet the Leaders, share of his vision for PTC and to reconnect with other Pacific Theological Colleges.

The discussion was on the following areas

- Degree studies to potential Takamoa students.
- Takamoa students enrolling in the degree program following completion of Diploma studies.
- Possible enrolment to Masters and Doctorate Program.
- Long Distance Learning opportunities for Takamoa students showing potential to higher education.
- Access to Library and resources.

I found Rev Dr Vaai very humble and sincere to renew our fellowship again.

### **Meeting with MISSION**

Met with Pastor Dr Traugott Farnbacher of Mission from Germany. He is frequent visitor to the Pacific in the role of Mission coordinator for their mission organisation. He is also highly sort after as a Theological Teacher and specialises in Reformation Theology and Homiletics. Discussion was around a visit to the Cook Islands to possibly do a one week teaching in 2020.

## Thursday

### **Graduation Day**

The graduation was held in the afternoon and was attended by many family, church and community members. The Principal from Malua came specifically for the graduation and witnessed his previous students' graduation with Master's Degrees and a Doctor of Philosophy. The graduation was a formal affair with the student body,



faculty and PTC Council marching in the drums. Speeches and well wishes were conducted in the program followed by a light meal.

#### Friday

Departed early in the morning and caught flight to Nadi and then on to New Zealand.

#### Reflection

The installation of the new Principal was a reflection of the important role of the PTC Council, which the Cook Islands Christian Church is part of. In fact, the founding churches are the owners of PTC and we a part of the governing authority. The expectation of the Council Churches was to see its own members produce potential candidates for the Office of Principal. The strong persuasion of the Ecumenical fellowship was consistently reiterated throughout the meetings.

*Rev. Tere Marsters  
Principal, Takamoa Theological College*

## **14. MOTU KOITABU RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM VISIT TO RAROTONGA**



### **Kia Orana,**

This is a brief Report of the Motu Koita Lagatois rugby league tour to the Cook Islands from 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct. to 04<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2018.

#### ***How did the Lagatois find about the Cook Islands to plan a trip?***

The idea of the Cooks Islands tour was initially discussed in 2017 after the Motu Koita Lagatois' participation in the Southern Confederate Championships. The SC championships in itself a success story for the Motu Koita Rugby League (MKRL) as this was the Lagatois' inaugural and first ever participation in a national championship as an association and a league affiliated to the PNGRFL.

Further correspondences and dialogue was pursued by Kila Mala through his established relationship with the President of Cook Islands Rugby League (CIRL), Mr Charles Carlson and as the saying goes 'the rest is history'. Through the gentlemen's correspondence we were advised that there was an opportunity for the Motu Koita Lagatois to partipate in the annual Tri-Series tournament was which traditionally contested between the Cooks Residents XIII, Ozzy Cooks and NZ Cooks. However, with the NZ Cooks not participating in 2018, the Lagatois could have a chance to be included in their place.

We finally received a letter from CIRL through the President Charles Carlson on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018, officially inviting Motu Koita Rugby League to participate in the Tri-Series in Cook Islands. It was all joy for us and the beginning of the preparation of the Lagatois team and planning for this historical tournament.

Our deepest gratitude and appreciation goes to CIRL for this giving us the opportunity and the privilege to send our MKRL national team, the 'Motu Koita Lagatois' to Cook Islands.

#### ***What was the purpose of the trip?***

Apart from the Tri-Series rugby league tournament, the purpose of the trip was twofold:

1. It gave MKRL the opportunity to showcase our players at international rugby league and gain as much experience and exposure from these games. MKRL have short and long term plans for the league

and its players, and this tournament falls within these plans. Some goals for MKRL like any other leagues, is to have its players selected for provincial teams in the national Digicel Cup competition, which is the pathway to being selected for the PNG Hunters in the Queensland Cup competition and to make it to the national team, PNG Kumuls. MKRL is also aiming to have its own franchise, the Motu Koita Lagatois, in the PNG Digicel Cup competition in 2020. This is a challenge in itself and will require corporate sponsorships and funding to realize this dream, however, we are confident that we will achieve this goal.

2. Another purpose of the trip which was equally important was to connect our roots to the first missionaries from Cook Islands who brought the Gospel to Papua during the 1800's. Reverend Ruatoka and his teachers were some of the first missionaries from the Pacific, especially from Cook Islands, to bring the gospel and light to our ancestors through the London Missionary Society (LMS). This trip gave our boys, who hail from the villages where the missionaries lived and visited including Hanuabada village, the opportunity to trace history and connect with the Churches and the people of Cook Islands.

### ***How was the Lagatois related to the Cook Islands Christian Church?***

The relationship between the Motu Koita Rugby League (Lagatois) and the Cook Islands Christian Church (CICC) goes back to 1800's through the missionaries when Reverend Ruatoka and his teachers, who brought the Gospel to our ancestors under LMS. Reverence Ruatoka and his teachers arrived on the shores of Papua in 1871 to preach and spread the Gospel to our people. Whilst he was welcomed by a very hostile reception, this did not deter him from his mission. He be-friended a local warrior by the name of Lakani Toi, and the two became very close friends. It was through his friend that he was welcomed by the people of Hanuabada village where he set up his base and spread the Word of God along the Motu and Koitabu villages, and throughout the region of Papua. Reverend Ruatoka lived and ate with our people and became part of our people and the communities. Rev Ruatoka passed away in Papua after so many years of missionary work and was buried in Gabagaba village outside Port Moresby. *(Full account and details of Reverend Ruatoka's missionary work in Papua will be provided to CICC separately)*

Reverend Ruatoka left a lasting legacy and is remembered by our people in so many ways including Peroveta songs, dramas, and names of people and places. Some schools and theological colleges are named after Rev Ruatoka in his memory. We also have a week of gospel and church celebrations in November each year to commemorate the arrival of Reverend Ruatoka and the London Missionary Society to Papua. We call these celebrations the "LMS Week" which is equivalent to the Gospel Day or Nuku in Cook Islands.

It is through Reverend Ruatoka and other missionaries that we have a connection and bond with the people of Cook Islands. Part of our development and progress was made possible by the work of the missionaries through the Gospel, and we thank the people of Cook Islands for sharing the Word of God and the light with us.

Part of the trip was to trace history and rekindle the connection and bonding with the people and the Churches of Cook Islands.

### ***What's the teams overall view of the trip?***

The overall view of the trip from the Team, the Association (MKRL) and our families and supporters at home has been nothing but overwhelming. This was the first ever international tour taken by the Lagatois and to win our game against the Ozzy Cooks (28-12) and draw with the Residents side (26-26) was a fantastic result for the team.

The games were live streamed (thanks to Vaka TV and PNG Ports) therefore our families and supporters were able to watch the games from home. The games were also reported in our national newspapers hence the games and results were read and known nationwide. We received so many positive feedbacks, comments and well wishes on the MKRL Facebook page.

The experience gained by the management, coaching staff and players from these games and from the tournament is huge, and we hope to build on these experiences for the future.



The team was also given the opportunities to explore the beauty of Cook Islands and everyone had a wonderful time. Apart from the Nuku celebration which was a highlight of the tour, the team also had the opportunities to tour the island, have boat cruises and go to the night clubs. Two of our team officials had the privilege to visit and spend a day at the jewel of Cook Islands – Aitutaki lagoons.

All in all, we had wonderful time and met so many wonderful people in the Cook Islands. The kaikais were beautiful and we thank the people of Cook Islands for making our stay memorable.

***Teams view and thoughts on the Nuku (Gospel Day) celebration?***

The Nuku (Gospel Day) was a highlight of the tour. It was a privilege and an honor to be part of the celebrations and watch the different items and performances by the various church groups and congregations. We were part of the Avarua CICC and our players took part in their performance or item which was awesome. I can say that our boys really enjoyed the day and enjoyed themselves and the team has returned with fond memories of the Nuku celebrations.

As mentioned earlier, we celebrate the LMS week in November to commemorate the arrival of the missionaries with gospel plays, peroveta singing, choir, sting bands, pacific dancing, and many more.



**What's the teams thought/view about the Cook Islands people and if given another opportunity, will the team come back?**

The people of Cook Islands are very beautiful and friendly. There are no other words to describe the friendliness of the people, the hospitality and outward caring attitude and joy that brings happiness and a welcoming feeling to strangers and visitors to the Island. We were very humbled by the kindness and hospitality we received from everyone during our stay in Cook Islands. We are very grateful and appreciate the hospitality and *kaikai* provided by the various churches and groups. We have made friends with so many people of Cook Islands and we believe some of these friendships will go a long way. There have been some ups and downs during the tour, but the good deeds outweigh the bad.

**Acknowledgements**

On behalf of the MKRL President, Mr Pipi Dai Boe and his Executives, Tour Committee, Coaching Staff and Players of the Lagatois, we would like to acknowledge and extend our gratitude and appreciation to the following for the hospitality, beautiful *kaikai* and gifts:

- The Cook Islands Christian Churches on Rarotonga:
  - Avarua Ekalesia
  - Matavera Ekalesis
  - Arorangi Ekalesia
  - Nikao Ekalesia
  - Ngatangia Ekalesia
  - Titikaveka Ekalesie, and
  - Takamoia Theological College.
- Titikaveka SDA Church,
- Iro Family & friends, and
- Tupapa Masters Rugby Team.
- A huge Thank you to the management and leaders of the Atiu Community of Rarotonga for accomodating and feeding the Motu Koita Lagatois team.
- Not forgetting Cook Islands Bus Services and other transport services for providing transport to the Lagatois team – thank you.
- Special mention to Minister Rose Brown and Taoro, MP Tehani Brown and family.
- Thank you to the Atiu Warriors, Takutea Warriors, Aroko Dragons and Veisana Vikings for having the boys be part of your Raro 7s Teams for 2018.
- Special thank you and appreciation to Charles Carlson, Chris Manu, Tai Nelio and partner and all other individuals for your assistance and for supporting the Lagatois team in Cook Islands.
- MKRL would also like to thank CIRL and the management for inviting the Motu Koita Lagatois to join the Cook Islands Tri-Series 2018.



We have been very privileged and honored to be invited to the CIRL Tri-Series 2018, and we look forward to coming back to Cook Islands if we are given another opportunity in the future. We understand the Ozzy Cooks and the Cooks Resident XIII have a score to settle with the Lagatois, and we will be delighted to come back for the return matches.

Meitaki Ra Nui Nui, Namo Bada Herea, Bamahuta (Goodbye) and Dirava Ese Baine Durumui (God Bless You All). Season's Greetings from Motu Koita Lagatois – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

*Write-up and photos by Mr. Gee IRU, Team Manager, MK Lagatois*

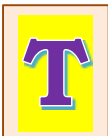


**MOTU KOITA LAGATOIS  
COOK ISLANDS TOUR ITINERARY**

DATE	ACTIVITIES
<b>Mon. 22 Oct</b>	Group 1 led by Team Manager (G Iru) and Head Coach (D Westley) left POM for Cook Islands. 4x Officials and 7x Players. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> Cook Islands Rugby League and Official welcome ceremony for all participation teams for the Tri-Series including Cook Island Residents, Aussie Cooks and MK Lagatois.
<b>Tues. 23 Oct</b>	Group 2 led by Head Trainer (K Mala)) left POM for Cook Islands. 2x Officials and 13x Players. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> Tai Nelio and Partner
<b>Wed. 24 Oct</b>	First Test held between MK Lagatois and Aussie Cooks. Fantastic game and the Lagatois were victorious defeating the Aussie Cooks 28 – 12. <b>MK Lagatois Team:</b> 1. Sakavai Gebai; 2. Michael Aimari; 3. Eddie Murphy; 4. Pipi Gari; 5. Dika Dile; 6. Maxwell Doriga (c); 7. Homoka Baeau; 8. Rausi Dikana; 9. Andrew Homoka; 10. La'a Hila; 11. Buli Henao; 12. Ronnie Dabu; 13. Gumasa Ageve; 14. Opao Mathew; 15. Iru Dikana; 16. Kevin Gamu; 17. Whallen Tau-Loi. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> Takemoa Theological College, CICC at Ruatoka Community Hall.
<b>Thurs. 25 Oct</b>	Free Day. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> Matavera Village Ekalesia, CICC at Church Hall
<b>Fri. 26 Oct</b>	Gospel Day <b>Lunch hosted by:</b> Ngatangiaa Village Ekalesia, CICC at Church Hall
<b>Sat. 27 Oct</b>	First Test held between MK Lagatois and Cook Islands Resident side. Another fantastic game in rainy conditions. Lagatois drew with the Resident side 26-26. <b>MK Lagatois Team:</b> 1. Maxwell John; 2. Kosman Rahe; 3. Eddie Murphy; 4. Pipi Gari; 5. Whallen Tau-Loi; 6. Maxwell Doriga (c); 7. Oala Frank; 8. Opao Mathew; 9. Andrew Homoka; 10. Guba Tau; 11. Buli Henao; 12. Ronnie Dabu; 13. Gumasa Ageve; 14. Mathew Gaba; 15. Timo John; 16. Kevau Boge; 17. Michael Miro. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> Titikaveka Village Ekalesia, CICC at Church Hall
<b>Sun. 28 Oct</b>	Combined Church service at Arorangi CICC Church <b>Lunch hosted by:</b> Arorangi Village Ekalesia, CICC at Church Hall
<b>Mon. 29 Oct</b>	League games over. The boys were invited to join local clubs and participate in the Raro National Rugby Union 7's from Thur. 01/11 to Sat. 03/11. Negotiations were undertaken between CIRU, CIRL and MKRL for the boys' participation and financial considerations in terms of player allowances for the duration of the tournament were agreed for this arrangement. The boys were then allocated to three 7's teams namely:- Takutea and Atiu Warriors; Ngatangiaa Dragons & Phoenix and the Fijian Vikings team. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b>

DATE	ACTIVITIES
	Nikao Village Ekalesia, CICC at Church Hall
<b>Tues. 30 Oct</b>	Boys taking part in the National 7's were allowed to join their adopted teams to train and prepare for the 7's tourney. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> Avarua Village Ekalesia, CICC at Church Hall
<b>Wed. 31 Oct</b>	Final training sessions for the 7's tournament with various Teams. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> Takutea & Atiu Warriors Rugby 7's Team at Atiu Hostel.
<b>Thurs. 01 Nov</b>	First day of 7's rugby. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> SDA Church members at Atiu Hostel.
<b>Fri. 02 Nov</b>	Second day of 7's rugby. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> Ovia Gavera's Cook Island Family at Atiu Hostel.
<b>Sat. 03 Nov</b>	Finals series for the 7's rugby. <b>Dinner hosted by:</b> Takutea & Atiu Warriors Rugby 7's Team at Atiu Hostel.
<b>Sun. 04 Nov</b>	MK Lagatois Team left Cook Islands for Port Moresby
<b>Mon. 05 Nov</b>	Overnight at Auckland International Airport
<b>Tues. 06 Nov.</b>	Depart Auckland for POM via Brisbane

## 15. TE RARA OLIVE II



This is Part II of Te Rara Olive in this paper which contains articles coordinated by Ngara Katuke, CICC Youth Dept. Media Officer, about various community events that she regularly reports on or organizes for their write-ups. All photos were also submitted by her; some taken by her, others by her colleagues. Happy reading. *Editor.*

### 1. HEADSTONE UNVEILING – SINA HURU KAIKAI AKAMA

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018 at 10am, a special day for a special person in our village, organization, church, family, community and work. Families travelled from far to celebrate this special occasion. We have known her as Aunty Tina in most of our gatherings either in the Enuamanu community, Pukapuka community, Ekalesia Arorangi and Avarua, Uniform groups, Youth groups, Ura Fitness group and her employer – the Ministry of Agriculture.





Aunty Taamo Heather (Tina's aunty) was the MC for the day. Lots of people came and pay their last respect. Kutia Tuteru came to play a song that was dedicated to Tina. Her son, Tangireka and his working friends from the Patrol boat did a special performance for his mother.

All her children, grandchildren and her brothers and sisters was all there for this special unveiling, including her Aunties, Uncles and cousins and friends to provide their support too. Everyone will surely miss her, especially her sisters in the Girls Brigade, working colleagues and friends. Farewell our dear sister, Tina.

*Ngara Katuke*

## **2. TARERE IMENE NA TE MAPU O RAROTONGA KI TE RUATOKA HALL**

Kua urou ua te ngutuare o Rautoka i Takamoa, i te aiai Sabati ra 25 Noema 2018 i te ora 4.00 aiai. Te ra manea tikai e te maata o te tangata tei tae atu ki teia angaanga mataora. Na te anau mapu o Avarua Ekalesia i akateretere mai i te porokaramu, e te pera katoa i te angai i te mapu i teia aiai katoa.

Kua tae mai e 4 au akava tei akara i teia angaanga tarere Imene pupu (choir competition). Ko Nukutau Pokura, Ms Potoru, Papatua Papatua e Jeffery Wuatai. E au taeake imene katoa ratou e te raverave i te au tuanga o te Imene. Kua akamata teia tarere imene kite anau Avarua, Nikao, Arorangi, Titikaveka, Apii-anga o Takamoa, Ngatangia e Matavera.

I roto i te tukuanga re, kua re te anau Apii-anga o Takamoa. Kua maeva ua te tangata i te rekareka i te au reo imene katoatoa e te au taunga tei rave i teia au tuanga no te anau mapu. Kua oronga katoaia tetai Oe ou no te Konitara Mapu no teia mataiti ki mua 2019, koia te anau Mapu o te Ekalesia Nikao. Kua riro e na te tama Arataki Tuaine Manavaroa Jnr i Ariki mai i te reira mei roto mai i te Ekalesia Mapu o Avarua, tei riro ana i raro ake i te Akateretere-anga mua koia a Naomi Manavaikai e pera katoa ia Maria Matua. Meitaki maata kite au Arataki katoatoa o Avarua no ta kotou au angaanga i rave mai no tatou katoatoa.



*Ngara Katuke*

**3. ARIKIANGA MANUIRI A NIKAO**

I te aiai Monite ra 29 Okotopa kua akanooia te Ekalesia Nikao i te angai i te au taeake Papua, tei teretere mai no ta ratou tue poro ki te Kuki Airani nei. Kua manea e kua mataora katoa teia angaanga maata. Te akakite nei te tauturu orometua Papa Wai Peua, e kua mataora aia, no te mea tona ingoa no te enua Papua mai te reira i te rauka mai anga. Mei tona tupuna tane, tei tere ki Papua i te tuatau mua. Kua rave mai te anau mapu i ta ratou angaanga imenemene i te tamataora i te au taeake. Kua oronga katoa mai ratou i tetai apinga aroa

kite tavini o te Atua, Orometua Oirua Rasmussen. Kua akaei te au metua vaine i te au taeake e te aroa atu ia ratou katoatoa. Te akakite nei tetai mapu tane, koia a Ovia Gavea, e ka tai nei aia ka oki akaou mai kite Kuki Airani nei, mei tona akaruke-anga i te enua e toru ngauru mataiti i topa ake nei.

Kua aere mai aia e tona Tuaine ko Naomi, tei noo raua kite ngutuare o tetai metua tane, koia ko Papa Timi Mare i Rutaki, e metua teia no te Orometua Nio Mare. Kua matau aia i teia au tamariki a teia metua tane e pera katoa kua matau aia i tetai au taeake tana i kite i roto i te oire ko Titikaveka, Avarua e Arorangi. Kua aere aia i te apii tua tai e te apii tua rua. E 21 ona mataiti i akaruke ei aia i to tatou ipukarea. Kua rekareka aia i te aere i te tutaka i te enua, e te atoro i te au pa metua tana i matau i roto i te akono-anga Raitu e te tapere Rutaki, tana i kite. Te umuumu nei aia, kia oki akaou mai aia i teia au tuatau ki mua. Kia Manuia.



*Ngara Katuke*

#### **4. RA TAEANGA EVANGELIA / NUKU DAY**

I aere mai nei te tamaiti a te tangata e kimi i tei ngaro, e akaora. I teia mataiti 2018, Okotopa ra 26, kua raveia te akamaara-anga o te tae-anga mai te Evangelia kia tatou, ki roto ia Ngatangia. Kua pou mai te nga Ekalesia e 6, ki teia angaanga manea. Noatu e ra uaua te reira, inara kia roa te popongi kua manea mai te reva. Kua akatutu te au Ekalesia i te tae-anga te Evangelia ki tetai au enua.

- Avarua, nana i rave to Enuamanu
- Arorangi, ko Nukuroa
- Nikao, kua akatutu aia i to Akatokamanava
- Matavera, ko Araura
- Titikaveka, ko Auau
- Ngatangia, kua rave mai aia to Rarotonga

Na te Ekalesia Ngatangia i akonokono i te au tuanga o te porokaramu mei te akamata-anga e akaoti uatu, e pera katoa te turanga o te Manuiri. Te angai e te akaei atu. A teia mataiti ki mua, ka riro e na te Ekalesia Matavera e akaaere mai te reira. Kua mataora te au Ekalesia i ta ratou i rave i te reira ra.



Ngara Katuke



**5. DOUBLE CELEBRATION**

2 Corinthians 9: 15, "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift." Happy Birthday Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 10am in Arorangi CICC, members from the Boys Brigade, Girl Guides and Girls Brigade came together to mark two special celebrations. The Cook Islands Boys Brigade Association celebrate 135 years globally which they called it the Founders Day. This is an annual event for the Boys Brigade in the Cook Islands.

The Girl Guides Association Cook Islands also celebrate 90 Years of Guiding in the Cook Islands. The Boys Brigade President, Mr Bob Williams shared a remarkable story of this celebration, same also to the Girl Guides President, Ms Tereapii Ben. The Boys Brigade had planned to hold a drill parade on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October in Arorangi and the evening close with a Kaikai for all invited guests.

The Girl Guide also had a weekend celebration. They had planned for three days' program which is hosted by the St Joseph Girl Guides Company. The combined church parade marked this celebration for both organizations. Thank you so much to stakeholders, committees, parents, business sectors, government sectors and our church members & leaders for their huge contribution and support throughout the years of our journey. Kia Manuia to you all and we look forward to another celebration next year.



*Ngara Katuke*

**6. TERETERE APII SABATI**

Sabati ra 18, Noema 2018, kua teretere mai te anau Apii Sabati o Matavera ki Arorangi. Manea ta ratou tataua e te imene katoa. Kua rave atu ta matou tamariki i ta ratou tuanga mei roto mai i te tapere Rutaki, Muri Enuua e Ruaau. Kua tuku to matou Puapii Maata, Kimiora Taokia kia apai matou i teia au tuanga tataua no runga ia Mose, Ioseph e Iesu. Kua akatutu tetai au pae i ta ratou tumu tapura, kua atu i te imene no teia au aito.

I na, i muri ake i te pure, kua angaia te tamariki apii sabati e te akaei ia ratou kite Ei raore e te Ei kakara. Kua kaikai katoa te anau Apii Sabati o Arorangi e te au manui katoatoa. Maata tikai te manga e, kua manea tikai te au angaanga katoatoa tei raveia i te reira ra. Meitaki maata e te au metua no ta kotou turuturu i teia au tuanga angaanga i roto i te Tapere e te Ekalesia.



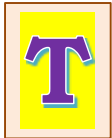
*Matavera Sunday School*



*Arorangi Sunday School*

*Ngara Katuke*

## 16. PNG RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM VISITS TAKAMOA



The Papua New Guinea Rugby League Team arrived in the Cook Islands on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018. They were supposed to arrive on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of October however their plane was postponed. The purpose of their trip was to participate in a Tri-Series Rugby League Test Match organized by the Cook Islands Rugby League Association that is led by their President Carl Hunter.

This Tri-Series involves the local based selection side Ratotonga Cook Islands and the Australian based Cook Islands side, which were mainly from Sydney and Brisbane and then of-course the PNG side. The New Zealand based Cook Islands side did not make this Tri-Series event coordinated by the CIRLA as to why it was fixed to a Tri-Series.

The PNG Rugby League side is led and coached by a former National Rugby League icon David Wesley who played for Canberra Raiders back in the late 1980s and the early 90s. He played with the likes of Mal Meninga and also represented Australia selection side in the position as a winger. According to Wesley he was very blessed to be back in his home country teaching and coaching the game he is most passionate about which is Rugby League. It was also an honour for him to lead this team here to the Cook Islands and to trace back the journey of the London Missionary Society (LMS) that took the gospel to their shores from the Cook Islands.

To trace back the missionaries that took the gospel to their shores was one of their main goals coming over to the Cook Islands. As they had requested to the CIRLA that is something they would very much like to do when coming over and participating in the Tri-Series. So therefore the CIRLA President in a formal letter to the CICC Council Meeting requested if this could happen and that they have time to spend with the churches of the CICC. So therefore they were allocated out to different churches to be hosted for dinner.

On Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of October at 7pm the Executive Committees and the Administration of the CICC alongside with the Takamoa Theological College hosted the PNG team dinner. This was also when they had their first match against the Australia Cook Islands side, which is why they arrived at 7.30pm. So they were coming off their first win in the competition 26-12 which was a great way to end their night. A formal welcoming was officiated for them by the Principal and the Takamoa students. Apiianga Mita Soa Tini did a traditional welcoming "turou" and the Mama Akaaere Makirau Saitu along with Mama Upokoina Ezekielia, Martha Soa Tini and Mamamere Tumu welcomed each of them with flower necklaces (eis).

Formal prayer devotion was convened by Papa Principal Rev Tere Marsters and assisted by Apiianga Ngariki Mare with the Bible reading and the prayer by Apiianga Campbell Ngatokoa. Takamoa Students Media Officer Apiianga Travel Makara prepared the power point for the service and Sound Technician Apiianga Maurice Hioe engineered the audio-sound for the night, which was a successful ordeal. After Papa Principal's message Papa President came up and formally welcomed the team to Luatoka Memorial Hall, where they are very fortunate to be received in this hall as Luatoka is one of the prominent missionaries that went to Papua New Guinea and actually has a village named after him there in Papua. Their speaker that responded was a

Deacon and a Youth Leader in one of their churches and he also mentioned that and was very grateful for the occasion to be hosted by the CICC Committees and Takamo College.

After all the formalities then the main part, which was dinner, the boys could not wait to attack the dinner table. The spread on the table was full on packed with delicious local delicacy ranging from fish, taro, mayonnaise (Cook Islands Potato Salad, chop suey, goat, chicken and many more. The students used this time to mingle and take photos with the coach and the players. The Queens Representative the Honourable Mr. Tom Marsters accompanied by his speaker made the effort to be at the reception and we were all blessed by his presence at the occasion.

The PNG team also took part in the Gospel Day “Nuku” and was part of the Avarua CICC Nuku that was held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October, which is a public holiday. A lot of the players and non playing members of the PNG team came back during their own time and the practices for the Nuku to take pictures of the College as it is a Historical Site and they are all so honoured to be here walking on these grounds. Before they left one of the members came by and Mama Principal welcomed him into our class as he had some gifts to give to us as a School. He spoke humbly and gave some PNG bags with t-shirts and PNG pareus. Overall the time spent with our brothers was enjoyable and great. Namu Mahuda (Thank You in PNG).



*Principal Rev Tere Marsters (left), Exec members and students (right) awaiting arrival of the PNG Team*



*Left to Right: Mama Apiianga Upkoina Ezekiela, Mamamere Tumu, Makirau Saitu & Martha Soa Tini.  
Apiianga Travel Makara & Maurice Hioe with Coach David Wesley.*



*Enjoying their meal.*



*Write-up and photos by Travel Makara, Takamoa College student*

## **17. FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK**



ia Orana tatou katoatoa i te arua maata o te Atua. This semester has been a very busy one for the college as a whole. The Theme “THE NEXT LEVEL” was cemented in the first semester with a sense of expectation to achieve better and greater things in God. This semester was no different, in fact as the Principal, there was a great expectation for a holistic approach to ensure the Apiianga would grow in a strong Biblical, Theological and Practical growth environment.

The primary focus taken this year was for each Apiianga to rise above the norm, demonstrate growth, and increase in their personal walk with God. With aim to clearly understand the call of God to enable a strong foundation for future ministry in our Church.

### **APIIANGA AND FAMILIES IN TAKAMOA**

- The Takamoa Campus consists of **20** couples, **1** single and **34** children, therefore bringing the total to **75**. Of the children there is 1 infant, **2** attending pre-school, **23** attending Avarua primary school and **8** students at Tereora College.
- On Medical Leave are Apiianga Kapu and Teroro Marsters, Australia. Please remember them in your prayers.

### **REV TURAKIARE LIBRARY**

Library Progress Report by Apiianga Lagi Teaurere and Apiianga Louise Kiliuyi



*The Library Team from left to right; Apiianga Louise Kiliuyi, Apiianga Teeiau Nanai, Apiianga Jesame Teokotai, Apiianga Lagi Teaurere, Apiianga Kakara Ngatokoa, Apiianga Repeta Tinirau.*

### Report by Apiianga Lagi Teaurere

The library duties started on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018. The team of five mamas were selected by the Papa and Mama Principal and were required to do the following.

- Identify Dewey numbers for each book
- Write up a label sticker and apply to book
- Enter information in database (excel)
- Put into correct shelves

This process was completed - 16/11/18. Started quality check to verify the database to stock 19/11/18  
 First count of all books completed – Second count started 30/11/18. Second count completed - 31/11/18.  
 Started third and final count of all books - 4/12/18

The library team consisted of five mama Apiianga

- Repeta Tinirau - labelling and repairing books
- Kakara Ngatokoa - labelling and shelving books
- Lousie Kiliuyi – data entry
- Jesame Tokerau – labelling and stacking back on shelves
- Lagi Teaurere – labelling and repairing books

Other helpers during the work duty time

- Meretania Sorimata - labelling and shelving books
- Teeiau Nanai - labelling and repairing books

Assisted on Saturday work duty

- Mamamere Tumu - labelling and repairing books

There are currently **4281** titles in the library. When the third re-entry is completed there will be **5755**.



### Report by Apiianga Louise Kiliuyi

It has been an amazing experience being on the library team. We started working in the library on 3 September 2018 with a team of five ladies, with another three ladies eventually joining our team. It was a bit daunting at first as we had to wrap our minds around the Library Dewey Decimal system, but once we had it mastered there was no stopping us. Once the books were labelled with their number, I was given the task of data entry, and it has been my job to enter close to 5,000 books into our spreadsheet. Once entered, the books were sorted into their correct places on the shelves. All the books have now been catalogued, and we are now spending time to make sure that our database and the books on the shelves are in line with each other.

It has been a huge task, but one that we have enjoyed immensely. We have been extremely excited to see the library come together, and look forward to our fellow students being able to use this great resource.



**WORK PROGRAMS GATES REPAIRED**



The Tupapa and Takuvaine gates have been under repair for the last two months. Over the years the gates have rusted and broken from the concrete walls, the wire is torn with holes and needed repairing. The option was to get quotes to buy new gates but the cost was very high. The Akaaere Apiianga Saitu Saitu lead a small team to repair the gates. Apiianga Campbell Ngatokoa and Apiianga Sorimata Sorimata assisted by repairing damage pipes and rusted steel, and also helped with grinding, welding, re-wiring, and fencing. The gates should be completed by the end of December.



**MAMA APIIANGA GARDENING WORK PROJECT**

**Report by Mama Principal Yvonne Marsters**

The mama's continued to work on their tuitui throughout the semester, crocheting around their tablecloths, pillow cases and cushion covers as well as embroidering a tablecloth. Our closing function, organised by Mama Ngateitei, included a display of the completed tivaevae as well as the pillow cases and cushion cover's that were completed.

After our first crop was mostly devoured by the chickens, the vegetable garden was enclosed with netting and new crops were planted – cabbage, bok choy, sweet corn, capsicum, watermelon, cucumber and tomato. This proved a lot more successful and we had a good harvest of bok choy, cucumber and sweet corn. The rest is still to be harvested.



*Preparing the ground for planting*



*The next crop is in – bok choy and tomatoes*

## LOOKING BACK AT 2018

### UAPOU A TE EKALEZIA AVARUA

#### Repoti Apiianga James Apolo

Kia Orana tatou katoatoa i te aroa maata o to tatou Atua. I roto i teia mataiti, kua oronga ia mai i te tika'anga kia matou mei roto mai i to matou Papa Puapii Maata, kia riro e na matou e arataki i te tuanga uapou a te Apiianga i roto i Takamoā nei. I roto i ta matou aratakitaki'anga, e na roto ana matou i te akaruru'anga ia matou ki te ngai okotai, no te apiipii no tetai au reo imene no teia tuanga e akameitaki'anga i to tatou Atua. No te mea, i roto i te au Sabati Oroa katoatoa, e riro ana na ta kotou anau Apiianga tei reira e rave ana, kia akameitaki'ia te Ekalesia Avarua, no teia tikaanga. Na te Atua tatou e tauturu mai i roto i to tatou oroanga akarongo ki roto i to tatou Atua ko Iesu Mesia. I roto i teia pupu 2018; aratakiia e te Apiianga James Apolo, Tanire Pokipoki, Talaru Kiliuyi, Tara Apolo, Tuatai Pokipoki e Louise Kiliuyi. Turuia e te anau Apiianga e pera ki to matou Papa, e to matou Mama.

Kia Manuia, mei roto atu ia matou katoatoa, Meri Kiritimiti e kia manuia I te Mataiti Ou.

*Tata ia e te Apiianga James Apolo*



**PATU TUATUA VAINETINI**

**Ripoti Apiianga Vaine Makirau Saitu**

“Aere mai, e akara, aere, e akakite, kua ora akaou a Iesu” (Mataio 28:1-10)



*Apiianga Kakara Ngatokoa,*



*Apiianga Meretania Sorimata*

I roto I teia mataiti 2018, kua piri atu matou te au Mama Apiianga o Takamoa nei ki roto i te patu tuatua a te vainetini o te Ekalesia Avarua. Te rekareka nei matou I te akameitaki atu I te vainetini o te Ekalesia Avarua no tei ariki mai ia matou ki roto I ta ratou patu tuatua I teia mataiti 2018. E riro ana te Mama Principal Yvonne Marsters I te tauturu mai ia matou te au Mama Apiianga I te akateatea mamao anga I ta matou tuanga no te paupau atu I te au uianga tei oronga ia mai. Te riro katoa nei teia tuanga o te patu tuatua a te vainetini I te tauturu ia matou te au Mama Apiianga o Takamoa nei, i te akamatutu e te akatukatau ia matou no runga I te tuatua tika a to tatou Atua.



*Apiianga Repeta Tinirau, Torea Marsters Tara Apolo*



*Apiianga Saitu and Makirau Saitu*

**TEREORA COLLEGE**

**Report by Apiianga Nikau Williams – Kimi**

Theme for 2018: The Next Level



*Apiianga ready to go to Tereora College earlier this year*



What an amazing opportunity that we've had this year at Tereora College, 2018. To see the students of the CICC youth grow was the highlight of our ministry. We saw them grow physically in numbers and spiritually in heart.



*Tereora Students attending the CICC Prayer Service*

Our service outline began with praise songs where they would participate, followed by the reading of the Word of God, then closing with heartfelt worship giving reverence to our God. Testimonies and the messages were shared to encourage our students to follow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.



*Apianga Tokoerau Teokotai preaching the message to students*

We believe that through the power of God the students have chosen to be soldiers for our Lord. They continue to look forward to every Bible Study class that we have as they visibly chose to grow more and step into the next level with God.



*Apianga Nikau Williams – Kimi*

**53<sup>RD</sup> MAEVA NUI TAMATAORAANGA**

**Ripoti Apianga Joe Tinirau**

Kua o atu te anau Apianga ki roto i te tamataoraanga o Te Maeva Nui Celebration 2018 na roto i to tatou enua tangata Pamati i te tauturanga ki roto i tetai au tuanga tarekareka meite Choir, te Ute e pera katoa te Imene tuki.



*(Tutu no te choir ate Pamati)*

Kua piri katoa atu te anau Apiianga ki roto i te float na roto i te enua Pamati i te ra i akatuera ia ei te 53<sup>rd</sup> Maeva Nui Celebration 2018. Kua angai katoa te anau Apiianga i to tatou au taeake mei te enua Pamati mai I roto ia Ruatoka Memorial Mission Hall i roto ia Takamoa Theological College. Kia akameitaki ia te Atua no teia tuatau ta te anau Apiianga i tomo na roto.



*(Tutu teia I te tuatau i angai ei te anau Apiianga I te iti tangata Pamati e pera ta ratou ute)*



*(Tutu teia I te tuatau o te Float)*

## **GO MAKE DISICPLES SPECIAL SERVICE BY TAKAMOA STUDENTS**

### **Report by Apiianga Travel Makara**

The Takamoa Students were given the task to effectively communicate the “Great Commission” text Matthew 28:19-20

*“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (NIV)*

This was the main focus in our contemporary service that is frequently held every second Sunday of the month (Takamoa’s service). However, for this service we were required to do something special not like the usual service we have. This ordeal was also part of the students’ assessment for lecturer Mr. Tangata Vainerere’s class on Effective Communication. The conditions given to us included:

1. The sermon must be done any other way but not preached
2. Bring something new to the service
3. Communicate the text in every way possible

4. Assessment starts at the door before the opening prayer to the closing prayer.

This was a huge task and all students were intrigued and excited about this task. So, it was agreed upon unanimously that a planning committee be formed to strategize and plan for this assessment. Therefore, the Planning Committee consisted of:

Travel Makara (Chairman), Meretania Mare (Secretary), Ngariki Mare, Campbell Ngatokoa, Tome Nikau, Tanire Pokipoki, Nikau Williams, Mita Soa Tini, Mamamere Tumu and Tara Apolo.

So, the Planning Committee spearheaded the brainstorming and ideas for the service. First on the agenda was to find a theme, which was "GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES." Then breaking down the order of service we currently use and exuberating it. This was the final product of the planning and agreed upon by the rest of the students:

### PROGRAM

- THEME: GO & MAKE DISCIPLES
  - TEXT: Mtt 28:19-20 *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*
  - CONVENERS: Travel Makara & Teeiau Nanai
  - WORSHIP TEAM: Nikau Williams, Joe Tinirau, Tracy Hioe, Tokerau Teokotai
  - SOUND ENGINEERS: Maurice Hioe, Sorimata Sorimata
  - USHERS: Remi Tumu & Metuakore Nikau
1. OPENING PRAYER: Pareta Ezekielia
  2. CREATIVE DANCE: Team GO
  3. TESTIMONY: Taralu Kilyui
  4. PRAISE: Worship Team 1x SONG
  5. BIBLE READING: Upokoina Ezekielia (Eng) & Tanire Pokipoki (Maori)
  6. PRAYER NEEDS & HEALING: Campbell Ngatokoa leads the prayer with Other Apiianga
  7. OFFERING: Teava Nanai Ushers: Saitu Saitu, Pareta Ezekielia, Teeiau Nanai & Mami Mare
  8. TESTIMONY: Tracy Hioe
  9. WORSHIP: Worship Team 1x SONG
  10. THE MESSAGE: By Students through Musical Drama
  11. ALTAR CALL: Travel Makara
  12. FINAL SONG: Worship Team
  13. BENEDICTION: Mita Soa Tini
  14. VESPER: Worship Team & Everyone



*Drama by the Apiianga*

The whole night was a huge success as there was 200+ in attendance and 20+ accepted the gospel through the altar-call on the night, where 12 of these people were rededicating their lives to Christ.

The Apiianga were ASSESSED throughout the service by the Principal Rev Tere Marsters, Mama Principal Yvonne Marsters and Mr Tangata Vainerere. This assessment would go through to their final grade for Leadership Communication in this semester. The final result in regards to our assessment from Mr. Tangata Vainerere was that everyone did really well and passed with flying colours. TO GOD BE THE GLORY! A DVD was created and the students are selling them for \$20 so if you would like a copy please contact the office of the Principal. Thank you maata.



*Report by Apiianga Travel Makara and Apiianga Vaine Hinatea Makara*

## **TAKAMOA CHOIR 2018**

### **Ripoti Apiianga Joe Tinirau**

I te ra 25 no Noema i topa i akenei, kua rave iatu te topiri'anga o te angaanga a te anau mapu o Rarotonga nei i teia mataiti 2018. Kua rave ia atu te reira akakoro'anga ki roto i te Ruatoka Memorial Mission Hall i Takamoa nei. I roto i te reira po, kua rave katoa ia atu tetai tarere'anga na teau mapu mei roto mai i nga Ekalesia e ono o Rarotonga nei. Kua pati katoa ia mai matou te anau Apiianga, kia piri katoa atu matou ki roto i teia tarereanga imene (Choir). I te akaoti'anga o teau angaanga i te reira po, kua autu atu te anau Apiianga i roto i te reira tarere'anga.

### **ATU'ANGA O TE IMENE.**

I roto i teia tarere'anga, kua akano'ono'o te au arataki o te Konitara Mapu (Youth Council) o Avarua nei i tetai au ture no runga i te atu'anga o te imene e te vai atura. Kua atu au Joe Tinirau i te imene a te anau Apiianga ki runga i te tumu manako ta te Konitara Mapu o Avarua nei i oronga mai koia oki, "E oki e akaou i taau i tia". I roto katoa i te reira atu'anga, kua taru katoa ia atu teau mapu katoatoa o Tumu Te Varovaro nei. No reira kia tatou e teau Ekalesia katoatoa, me te anoano ra koe i tamou i teia imene, kare koe e aria ia. Teia mai teau tuatua o te imene a Takamoa.

- 1:        U U U U – A A A – A A  
           Te tu atu nei matou ki mua iakoe.  
           Ma te ngakau akaaka e Iesu  
           Ariki mai, ariu mai  
           to taringa  
           Ki te reo o taau anau  
           O Tumu te varovaro  
           U U U U – A A A – A A
- 2:        Taau tuatua ora e te Atua  
           Tei riro ei akaoki i te ngakau  
           E oki e akaou i taau i tia  
           Ki te Atua Tapu nui  
           Tei anga i te rangi e te enua nei.
- Chor     E te anau a Te au o Tonga e  
           Mou piri i taau i tia  
           Ko koe e Puaikura i te opunga ra  
           Akara ki te Mesia ko Iesu  
           Ki te itinga ko Takitumu  
           Kia toa



- 3: Teia te karere no tatou e te anau  
 Ka tu ei tumu toa no Iesu Mesia  
 Ei apai i te Evangelia  
 Ei turama i te ngakau pouri  
 Kia kite i te marama ora  
 Kia matutu no Iesu Mesia aaa  
 matutu no Iesu mesia

### **GYM MEMBERSHIP FOR APIIANGA**

#### **Report by Apiianga Travel Makara**

After negotiations with Mr Tere Strickland (Director) of the the Tupapa Maraerenga Sports Fitness Club which operates a gym and fitness programs out of the Tupapa Community Centre. Mr Strickland expressed the TMS goals and incentives, which would benefit schools in the community and would promote good and healthy living. Takamoa was then offered free Gym access and membership. The Principal and Apiianga Travel Makara discussed further with Mr Maiti Samson (Gym Manager) the possible fitness classes suitable for the Apiianga. TMS are now waiting for the confirmation of Apiianga names, gym access and the organising of fitness classes that would be suitable and proactive to the Takamoa Timetable.



*Jaymieon (Gym instructor), Apiianga Travel Makara, Maiti Samson (Gym Manager)*

This is a blessing and opportunity for all Takamoa Apiianga. It fits into the desired goals of Takamoa's approach to the wellbeing and healthy living of all the Apiianga. This works in cohesion to the garden, cooking and exercise program throughout this year. This has been part of the initial plan from the commencement of this year to embrace a stronger approach to better living. This is timely and is certainly a blessing from the TMS.

### **RAROTONGA KONITARA EKALLESIA**

#### **Ripoti Apiianga Campbell Ngatokoa no te Uipaanga Konitara**

Kia orana tatou i te aroa maata o te Atua i roto i teia tuatau. E tataanga teia no runga i te au mea puapinga i roto i te ui paanga Konitara i Rarotonga nei ta matou ta te au Apiianga i kite i te au tuatau i topa ki muri tei piri atu matou ki roto mei te mua mataiti e tae ua mai ki te akaotianga. Kua kite matou i te au ripoti mei roto mai i te au Ekalesia tata'kitai i te au mea katoa me kore tetai tuanga tei riro i te akakite mai i te turanga ote au Ekalesia. Kua rauka katoa ia matou i te kite i te au porokaramu (Program) tei akanoonooia no te mataiti, mei te tuanga o te teretere, angaanga ate au mapu (Youth Rally), te tae evangelia, e pera katoa tetai au tuanga mei te Boys Brigade, Girls Brigade, Girl Guide, e te vai atura. Ka riro katoa teia ei akamaroiroi e ei akamatutu i to matou marama no runga i te angaanga a te au Ekalesia me tae ake kit e tuatau e riro mai ei matou ei au tavini no te Atua.

*Apiianga Campbell and Kakara Ngatokoa*



### **KAI PUPU**

#### **Repoti Apiianga Ngariki Mare**

Kia Orana tatou katoatoa I roto I teia ra nei. Tatou e te iti-tangata Kuki Airani I roto I ta tatou akonoanga Metua (CICC). Te rekareka nei matou I roto nei I te aua Takamoa, te Punavai Ora, I te oronga atu I ta matou

akameitakianga no ta kotou tauturu i to matou oraanga. Mei te Orometua Ngateitei, te Puapii Maata, te au Apiianga katoatoa, to matou au tokorua ta matou anau tamariki. Kua riro ta kotou i oronga, e te au Ekalesia e ono i Rarotonga nei i te akairi mai i te Aroa o te Atua. I karangaai te tuatua na te Atua, “Ko te mea teia e kite ei te tangata katoa e e pipi kotou naku, kia aroa kotou ia kotou uaorai” (Ioane 13:35).

No reira kia akameitakiia kotou e to matou au metua, to matou au taeake, na te Atua e akamaata ua mai rai i ta kotou i akapou, i te akatupu i tona anoano, kia noo mai te aroa o te Atua ki runga ia tatou katoatoa, meitaki maata.



*Apiianga Ngariki and Mami Mare*

### **APIIANGA SPIRITUAL PROGRESS**

The Apiianga commenced this year with an awesome task in facing a very busy and demanding year that would require a great amount of commitment. The year began with summer school which set the pace to a strong emphasis on their studies. Monitoring systems were implemented and put in place to identify individual development and the overall classroom development. This system allows individual weaknesses to appear and a proactive response to strengthen those weaknesses.

**Furthermore, the targeted systems where necessary for the following implementation.**

- Additional assignments for each subject. This will help the Apiianga expand their capacity in their writing skills.
- Increase the word count for all assignments for the Principals classes from 2,500 to 3,500. This will better position the Apiianga in their thesis writing when working towards a degree in the future.
- Monitoring of classroom contact hours for each student to ensure their absences from classes don't affect their overall grade for each subject.
- Implement a weekly assessment process to closely monitor students spiritual progress and development.
- Assess and identify learning weaknesses and difficulties on a weekly basis so as to strengthen each Apiianga in their spiritual development.



*Apiianga in Class*

To ensure students are being proactive in their approach to their studies, a weekly assessment was implemented this semester.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the classroom contact hours are imperative for students to achieve the required results. Low results are often a reflection of non-class attendance, poor study habits, laziness and distractions. Therefore, a stronger monitoring process to identify these areas are put into place.

Overall the students have been progressing well in all aspects of their practical and classroom studies. Absence and sickness over the year will indicate low grades and some Apiianga redoing subjects again. The Apiianga took additional studies throughout the year to catch up with necessary subjects not covered previously.



### The overall assessment of the Apiianga for 2018

- The attendance to classes and Church services could have been better over the year and would need improvement.
- The lateness to class, neatness, dress code, haircuts and shaving for the Papa Apiianga needs was not consistent throughout the year and needs improvement.
- The interaction during classes has been very good, especially in 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester. Questions and contribution by Apiianga have been very good.
- Singing in Tereora College and the Takamoia Aiai services has been very good. However, the attitude and singing together needs to be consistent and not just at special events.
- Assignment writing as well as handing assignments on time has improved greatly throughout the year and the Apiianga have come a long way and have done very well. Some slight improvement in the structural presentation of their assignments as well as following the specific instructions and directives of the Lecture.
- The English class has improved over the year with good grades and results for the Papa Apiianga.
- The Apiianga have been very good in coping with the heavy study load and assignment work.
- Group presentation has improved and the Apiianga have completed some good projects and assignments as well as their Homiletic delivery and weekly sermons. The response to the workload has been good, however it needs to be approach by all the group and not just a few. There is room for improvement.
- The opportunities to Preach throughout the year by the Apiianga has been a way to improve their skill and abilities to communicate. The Apiianga have done extremely well in the Churches and other places throughout the year.
- Work duties has also been good over the year and has seen some projects completed, but would need improvement on starting on time and utilising the time given in the afternoons.
- The Apiianga have been good at caring and looking after their units, however the outside tidiness of their units needs to be consistent.
- The health of some of the students with ongoing medical issues are a concern because it has affected work duties, classes and Church attendance. Students would need to manage their medical issues and improve on a better approach to healthy living.

*Overall the students have settle well into a study orientated attitude and have accomplished and progressed well throughout 2018. Theres room for improvement in being fully committed, consistent, respectful, humble and faithfull in 2019.*

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS**

Takamoa will continue in supporting the Christmas and New Year's services in the Avarua CICC. Papa Ngateitei Rev Tuaine Ngametua has composed the Christmas and New Year songs for the Avarua Service. Camps on Christmas and New Year's day are planned for a well-deserved break over Christmas. The school commences with Summer school on the 14<sup>th</sup> January – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Please remember Takamoa in your prayers in 2019.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**From Everyone in Takamoa**  
**we wish all our Church Family and friends**  
**a very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.**

- **Kia akameitaki mai a lehova ia koe, e kia tiaki mai ia koe**  
The Lord Bless you and keep you
- **Kia akakaka mai a lehova i tona mata ki runga ia koe, e kia aroa mai ia koe**  
The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you
- **Kia nana mai a lehova i tona mata ki runga ia koe, e kia oronga mai i te au ia koe**  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace  
**Numbers 6:24-26**

Your Servant



*Rev Tere Marsters  
Principal – Puapii Maata*

**18. RA TAEANGA EVANGELIA O PUKAPUKA**



ua rave atu te iti tangata Pukapuka e noo nei i Rarotonga nei i te akamaraanga i te ra i tae ei te evangalia ki te enua Pukapuka koia oki te ra 6 o Noema 1857. E maata tei tae mai e pera te maruarua i te kai tei akono ia no teia angaanga. Kua rave ia tetai tarere imene i rotopu i te Tawa-Ngake (in red) e te Tawa-Lalo (in blue) ei tuanga no te akamaara anga i teia tuanga o te tua tapapa no te iti tangata Wale. Tena tetai au tutu ei kite.



*Write-up and photos by Junior Ngatokorua*



## 19. AKATAINUANGA I MANGAIA



ua tae atu au te Tauturu Secretary Ruth Areai e pera katoa te Tauturu President Mrs Ngametua Arakua o te putuputu anga Girls Brigade o te Kuki Airani nei, ki Mangaia i te ra 12 o te marama Okotopa i teia mataiti no te akatainu atu i te Captain Girls Brigade o Tamarua, Mangaia. Kua piri katoa mai ia maua te young leader mei roto mai te company Avarua koia a Aru Parima i teia akakoroanga. Kua noo matou i te ngutuare o te captain koia a Mrs Tuaine Parima.



*Mrs Ngametua Arakua and Aru Parima*



### Akatainu anga

Sabati ra 14 o Okotopa, kua raveia te akatainu anga o te captain. Kua tae mai te Girls Brigade, te Boys Brigade mei Oneroa e Ivirua e pera katoa te brass band. Kua riro e na te Tauturu Orometua na Papa Tearapiri Teaurima i rave i teia akakoroanga. Manea te au angaanga tei raveia e kua akaoti te reira na roto i tetai umukai maata tei akateateamamaoia e te Ekalesia Tamarua.

*Mrs Tuaine Parima*

### Turanga o te putuputuanga

Kua mataora maua i te kite anga i te putuputuanga Girls Brigade e te tupu nei rai i roto i te Ekalesia noatu te tokoiti o te tangata i runga i te enua. Ko Tamarua te Girls Brigade e maroiroi nei tona turanga i teia ra e tae uatu i te turanga o tona uniform.

I muri ake i te akataoanga o Mrs Tuaine Parima, kua rauka tetai manga uipaanga poto ki te au akaaere o te putuputuanga Girls Brigade no runga i tetai au manako mei roto atu i te kopapa maata, mei te annual fee, executive o Mangaia, Commissioner, e pera katoa te conference a teia mataiti ki mua.

Kua rekareka matou i te mea e, kua piri atu matou i te akatoro i tetai nga mama pakari ki roto i te oire Tamarua i te ra i tae atu ei matou ki te enua. Ko tetai porokaramu teia ta te anau tamaine e rave ana i te au tuatau o te GB Week. Kua piri katoa atu te Tauturu President i te tama are pure a te au mama vainetini i roto rai te oire Tamarua. Kua mataora te tere e pera katoa te au angaanga ta matou i rave. Reo akameitakianga kia Mrs Tuaine Parima no tei ariki ia matou i tou ngutuare. E pera katoa i te Ekalesia Tamarua no tei ariki mai ia matou i roto i te Ekalesia no teia takainga ou ta kotou i manako kia akatupuia. Te Atua te aroa.

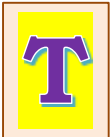


*Tamarua Girls Brigade*



*Write-up and photos from Ruth M. Areai – Cook Islands Girls Brigade Assistant Secretary*

## 20. REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR



his is the first time I will be presenting some reflections on the year that is about to be gone forever, never to return – here today, gone tomorrow. Sometimes we take it for granted with respect to certain events taking place and come to value them a lot more the day after, and the longer that day becomes (like 20, 50 years down the line), the more valuable the memories become as well.

Images of those events – history frozen in time, so to speak – certainly add to the value of those yester-years, like the images in the *Memory Lane* section of this paper from the 1960s and 1970s.

Sometimes we say to ourselves, *if only we can turn back the time, we would've done certain things differently or much better*. But, too late to be sorry as they say, so best to maximize use of the time available to us in terms of doing those things that will leave a legacy or two – or more – for future generations to learn from and perhaps try to take things to the next level. Anyway the below are just some of the year's highlights in selected CICC events that I am aware of. This means not everything that could've or should've been included in this section are included, partly because of my not being aware of them out there. And some of those events have indeed been captured already and presented in the past 3 issues of this year's paper, i.e. those published in March, June and September. There are no photos or images in this section, there are already heaps in this and other issues of the paper.

### 1. RECOVERING OF ACTIVITIES IN THE BRAHCNES

In most of the CICC's 70 branches in the Cook Islands, New Zealand and Australia, activities officially open or reconvene on the first Sunday of February – White Sunday, Oroa in the local language. Referred to as *akatueraanga i te angaanga a te au mangamanga i roto i te Ekalesia*, it is also the time when new office bearers, if any, in the parish or any of the parish departments, are commissioned by the caretaker minister. While such activities have officially closed, or taken a break for the long end-of-year period as of the first Sunday of December, the normal worship programme and special Christmas and New Year branch programmes continue, including the week-long special prayer service in the first week of January following the Oroa of that month. This is also the time when new traditional hymns are composed based on selected Bible verses, for the purpose of the festive season services, and for the week-long service a time devoted to preparing members spiritually for the year ahead.

### 2. COUNCIL MEETINGS

In those locations where there is more than 1 church branch, a council exists and meets on set dates to talk about management issues and church programmes specific to their branches. Some of those council meetings include the following:



- NZ CICC council – October, held in Wellington
- Australia CICC Council – September, held in Brisbane
- Rarotonga CICC Council – every 2 months between February and December, rotates around the 6 branches on the island
- Outer islands – as per their meetings programme
- States or regions in NZ and Aust – as per their meetings programme

### 3. WORKSHOPS

These are held at all levels; within the church branch, at island or regional level, with resource persons being from within or outside of the church branch or council. Needless to say, such workshops discuss aspects relating to their specific roles and responsibilities.

### 4. GOSPEL DAYS

For the past 100 years or so, the arrival of the Gospel to the Cook Islands in 1821 on the island of Aitutaki have been commemorated by the church. Then in the 1970s, Government at the time saw fit to turn that particular day (26 October) into a National Public Holiday for everyone to enjoy and appreciate such a milestone in the country's history. In addition to the above day, individual islands also commemorate the day that the Gospel actually reached their islands. So in addition to the National Gospel Day of 26 October, each of the islands also commemorate their own Gospel Day as follows:

Rarotonga	25 July 1823
Aitutaki	26 October 1821
Mangaia	15 June 1824
Atiu	19 July 1823
Mauke	23 July 1823
Mitiaro	22 July 1823
Manihiki	8 August 1849
Rakahanga	15 August 1849
Penrhyn	13 March 1857
Pukapuka	6 December 1857
Palmerston	1863

There are images elsewhere in this issue of the paper from the National Gospel Day – known locally as Nuku – commemorated here on Rarotonga last October at Ngatangia.

### 5. BRANCH VISITATIONS

The CICC Executive Council has a programme in place involving visiting the church branches outside of Rarotonga as often as it could, depending on funds and personnel availability. Such visits took place to Melbourne in August for a workshop, Brisbane in September for the Australia Council meeting, Wellington in October for the NZ Council meeting, Atiu for a meeting with the branch there and to confirm the assembly venue for 2019, Aitutaki in November for the bestowing of Queen's Award badges to uniform organization recipients, Mauke for the Youth Convention, and Ranui and Motutapu branches in Auckland in October for meetings. Unfortunately, not all branches are able to be visited, and it's almost an impossible task for the northern islands branches due to lack of regular transport.

### 6. CHURCH ASSEMBLIES

The CICC's participation was requested for the following church assemblies, and representations were by the stated personnel:

- June, Melbourne, Uniting Church in Australia – Rev. Mata Makara of the Hampton Park branch in Melbourne
- October, Daru, PNG, United Church in Papua New Guinea – Rev. Tinirau Soatini, chairman of the committee of ministers on the CICC Executive Council; his write-up is elsewhere in this paper

- October, Auckland, Pacific Conference of Churches – CICC President, CICC General Secretary, CICC NZ Youth Secretary, CICC NZ Women's Fellowship Secretary; their write-up is elsewhere in this paper.
- October, Christchurch, NZ, Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand – Rev. Tere Marsters, Principal, Takamoa Theological College; his write-up is elsewhere in this paper

## 7. REGIONAL CHURCH MEETINGS AT LEADERS' LEVEL

- April, Pacific Church Leaders' Meeting (PCLM), Auckland, facilitated by the Pacific Conference of Churches – Nga Mataio, CICC Secretary General, write-up in the June issue of this paper
- November, Special PTC Council Meeting, Suva – Rev. Tere Marsters, Takamoa College Principal, write-up elsewhere in this issue

## 8. RELIGIOUS ADVISORY COUNCIL

On Rarotonga, this meeting comprising of the 6 main denominations in the country (CICC, LMS, SDA, AoG, Apostolic, LDS) is held every 2 months between February and December, to discuss issues and programmes concerning the organization and its members. It is responsible for organizing the 2 annual thanksgiving services (in April and November) that are held in the National Auditorium, have a part in the annual Te Maire Nui programme and other events that Government may want inputs from the religious sector. It was formed in 1975 and its management rotates annually amongst the 12-member council (2 from each church).

## 9. MANAGEMENT OF CHURCH AFFAIRS

Apart from its biennial assembly, the CICC Council is the highest decision-making body of the church and has a clear mandate in respect of its duties and responsibilities. It meets on average every 6 weeks to discuss issues and concerns raised and map out a clear direction on the way forward. So for this year, the council met 7 times to deal with matters concerning management problems in the branches, the ministers' 4-year rotation programme, and others. The council also makes use of other departments and councils by passing onto them issues that are specific to them. Dealing with inter-denominational and international affairs concerning the church is part and parcel of the council's terms of reference.

## 10. HEAD OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

As in past years, I'm very grateful to my small but hard-working 4-man team for their tireless effort in dealing with admin-related matters which include the following:

- Preparation and payment of accounts
- Finalisation, printing and distribution of annual publications – daily readings card (Tia), Pure Epetoma, Karere; also other printing requirements such as those of the Takamoa Theological College
- Daily correspondences with the church branches including responding to requests for things such as certificates, old records, etc.
- Maintaining contacts with the church's partner organisations
- Secretariat for the CICC Executive Council

## 11. DEDICATION OF NEW BRANCHES

For this year, one new branch was dedicated in early November after being an apprentice for the past 12 years; Ekalesia Mid Canterbury in Ashburton, South Island, NZ. A write-up of that event is elsewhere in this issue. The next one coming up is most probably one based in Brisbane, Australia, in April 2019. There are already 2 other church branches in Brisbane and one in nearby Gold Coast.

## 12. CHURCH NEWSLETTER

The paper was commenced in September 2005; it was a monthly publication then. But after a couple of years, it became clear that a paper every 2 months was good enough. Then about 5 years ago, a paper on a quarterly basis sounded like a much better idea. This year 3 were issued; in March, June and September with



this number 72 being the last for the year. Regular reminders to all 70 branches are issued via email inviting contributions. I'm grateful to those who have contributed to the issues of this year, first-timers as well as the regular ones like the author of "Te Rara Olive." Putting the articles together in this paper is not for the faint-hearted, certainly not for those whose level of patience is only that much. While it is not a hard job, the time-consuming aspect that comes with it can certainly be off-putting at times. Many thanks once again to those who have helped keep the paper afloat by submitting articles.

### 13. PREPARATION FOR THE 2019 ASSEMBLY

This task over the past years commences almost immediately after the closing of each assembly. That means preparations for the 2019 assembly began in September 2017 after the 2017 assembly closed in July. Preparatory activities this year include dialoguing with the proposed host Ekalesia (Atiu) and setting in motion the necessary workplan and information paper which responds to all queries associated with the biennial event. All members are regularly updated on preparations by email to avoid last minute rushing around, the last update by way of a monthly workplan being released on the first day of this month December.

### 14. OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS

Other events worth mentioning here which took place during the year includes the following:

- CICC Women's Conference in April held here on Rarotonga; write-up in the June issue
- CICC Youth Convention in April held in Mauke; write-up in the June issue
- Visit in October by PNG league team who came from places where the early Cook Islands Missionaries went; write-up elsewhere in this issue
- Visit by YWAM International officials in June; write-up in the September issue
- Annual Te Maeva Nui cultural festival at the National Auditorium in July/August which the CICC had a major role in the week-long programme in terms of the nightly devotion before and after the shows, choir and traditional hymns competition, etc.
- Choir competition by the 6 Rarotonga CICC Youth groups held here at Takamoa in November

### 15. IN SUM

Like other years, this year has been a mixture of things; challenges in terms of responding to issues and problems in the church branches, the Executive having to discipline some church personnel, timely response to communications, dealing with those outside of the church, timely distribution of whatever people request the office, and a few others that need not be mentioned here. So has this year been a normal one? Yeah in many ways. What is the "worse" part? Discipling people; no one likes doing that kind of thing but someone has got to do it. What is the outlook for 2019? It would be not realistic to expect things to be okay and normal; Ekalesia Nikao's motto of *Bring It On* is probably the best way of putting it. What would be one of the major challenges? Organising for the October 2019 assembly, especially given that its going to be held in Atiu where problems with inter-island transport may very well feature highly. So with those challenges looming on the horizon, what am I going to do right now? Have another cuppa, I'd say. Two sachets of Mocachinno will do me fine, thanks.

*CICC Secretary General*

## 21. REO AROA NO TE KIRITIMITI E TE MATAITI

### Mei roto atu i te Kumiti Akaaere

E karere Evangelia kia kotou e te au taeake ma te au tuaine rave angaanga i roto i teia au akapupuanga tangata i raro nei i roto i te au Ekalesia katoatoa i te Kuki Airani nei, Nutireni, Autireria, e pera to tatou nga tavini maroiroi i roto i te akarongo i te enua Tahiti:

- ✓ Tavini o te Atua e to kotou au tokorua ma te ngutuare tangata
- ✓ Tavini akangaroi o te Atua e to kotou katoa

- ✓ Tauturu tavini o te Atua i roto i te au Ekalesia e, e Tauturu tetai, ma te ngutuare tangata
- ✓ Diakono Mutukore e to kotou katoa
- ✓ Diakono Akangaroi e to kotou katoa
- ✓ Diakono e rave nei rai i te au angaanga e to kotou katoa
- ✓ Tauturu Diakono e to kotou katoa
- ✓ Mema Ekalesia e to kotou katoa
- ✓ Puapii Sabati e to kotou katoa
- ✓ Akaaere i roto i te au putuputuanga o te Ekalesia e to kotou katoa
- ✓ Anau Apii Sabati e pera te mapu
- ✓ Taeake ma te au tuaine kare i akataoangaia e to kotou katoa
- ✓ Mema Paramani e to kotou katoa
- ✓ Tei maata i te enua e tae rava atu ki tei iti
- ✓ Tei maata i te ture e tae rava atu ki tei iti
- ✓ Tei noo manui i roto i te au Ekalesia
- ✓ Tei noo makimaki i te ngutuare e pera te are maki
- ✓ Tei tapekaia ki roto i te rima o te ture
- ✓ Tetai uatu tei kore i taikuia i runga nei

Te rekareka e te pumaana tika'i nei te ngakau i te akatae atu anga i teia reo akaaravei e te aroa kia kotou katoatoa mei roto atu i te Kumiti Akaaere i Rarotonga nei, no teia tuatau ka akamaara tatou i tei totouia i roto i te Kororomotu Taito e tei akatupuia i roto i te Kororomtu Ou no to tatou Atua ko Iesu Mesia tei anau e tei noo puakapa mai kia ratou i muatanga. Kapiti katoa atu ki te vaerua akaepaepa no tona ra anauanga, kua tau mari rai te manakonakoanga no te mataiti ou e tu mai nei ta tatou katoatoa ka irinaki e ka meitaki atu ia i te mataiti e kapakapa nei tona peau vaitata i te rere ki tona ra tauranga tika'i te ka kore rava e oki akaou mai. No reira ko te inangaro mou ia o te Kumiti Akaare, kia tavaitai to tatou ngakau ma te inangaro okotai i te na ko anga e, *kia meitaki e kia manuia rava i teia Kiritimiti e te Mataiti Ou*; i roto i te reo o ratou tei kave mai i te Evangelia ora a to tatou Atua ki o tatou nei vaitata ki te 200 mataiti i teiane, *Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year*.

Kia pumaana ma te mataora rava i roto i te Atua no te mea e meitaki tona, e ka tu tona aroa e rimua.

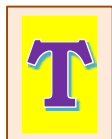
*CICC Secretary General*

## **Mei roto atu i te aronga angaanga opati i Takamoia nei**

E reo aroa Kiritimiti e te Mataiti Ou teia kia kotou katoatoa, te au Ekalesia CICC katoatoa i te Kuki Airani nei, Aussie e Nutireni, te au putuputuanga tuketuke i roto i te au Ekalesia. Te au kopu-tangata tei tae mai no to kotou au akakoroanga ki runga i te enua nei, pera te pa enua, kia mataora i teia Kiritimiti e kia riro te Mataiti Ou ei meitaki no tatou katoatoa. Tangike i te aroa maata o te Atua, mei konei atu ia matou i roto i te opati maata i Takamoia nei.

*Vaine Tutavake – Archivist/Admin. Assistant*

## **22. NUTI POTOPOTO**



etai au nuti potopoto/tuatua akamaaraara ei kiteanga na te katoatoa:

### ➤ **TAUIANGA OROMETUA 2019-23**

Kua oti e kua imereia ki te au Orometua, Tekeretere e te Mou Moni o te au Ekalesia katoatoa (ratou e imere tetai i Takamoia nei) i te Varaire ra 31 o te marama Me i topa. Ko te au akamarama'anga katoatoa no te reira

porokaramu tei akanooia e te kumiti akaaere, kua aru katoa i te imere tei tukuia. Me e tauia tetai, na te uipaanga maata 2019 e tau.

➤ **UPCOMING CICC ASSEMBLIES**

- 2019 Sunday 13 – Sunday 20 October, Atiu
- 2021 Sunday 24 – Sunday 31 October, Aitutaki
- 2023 proposed for Auckland, New Zealand – dates to be confirmed

➤ **TE MAEVA NUI CONSTITUTION CELEBRATIONS**

- 2019 Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August
- 2020 Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August and
- 2021 Friday 30<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August

*(Ministry of Cultural Development, Rarotonga)*

**23. OBITUARY**



*kāmaaraanga i te au vaeau o te Atua tei akangaroi atu ki te akangaroianga roa i teia tuatau.  
Remembering those soldiers of the Lord who have recently passed on.*



**MAMA RORIKI SAITU JOE MARSTERS:** Kua tika rava i teianei tavini meitaki e te pikikaa kore, kua akono meitaki koe i tenana apinga meangiti ua, e tuku au iakoe ki runga i te mea maata, e aere koe ki roto i te rekareka anga o toou pu. Mataio 29:23. Kua anauia mama Roriki Saitu Joe Marsters i te 17 September 1942. Kua akaipoipo atu aia ki tona tokorua Papa Saitu Joe Marsters i te mataiti 1963. I te ra 15 Aperira 1965 kua tomo atu raua ia Takamoā ei apianga orometua, kare ra i manuia te akakoroanga.

I te mataiti 1967 kua oki atu raua ki te enua Tongareva ki roto i te ekalesia Tetautua. Kua iki ia raua e tona tokorua ki runga i te taonga puapui sabati i te mataiti 1971. I te mataiti 1972 kua ikiia mai raua ki runga i te taoanga diakono no te Ekalesia Tetautua. E 36 o raua mataiti i runga i te taoanga Diakono. I te ra 6 June i teia mataiti 2018 kua akatainu ia raua ei tauturu Orometua no te Ekalesia Tetautua. I te Ruitoru ra 12 o Tepetema 2018 kua kapikiia aia e te Atua ki tona Basileia mutukore.

E metua Vaine maroiroi i roto i te akarongo i tona Atua ia Iesu Mesia e tei tavini iaia e tae uatu kite openga o tona oraanga. Noatu e kare i manuia to raua akakoroanga ki Takamoā ei tavini no te evangelia a Iesu Mesia. Kua kitea te ua ete meitaki o to raua inangaro i to raua Atua e ta raua tavini ki runga i ta raua anau tamariki e te au mokopuna tei riro mai ei au tavini Orometua i teia ra. Ko te ngai tumatetenga ra, tetai o tana tamaiti openga tei riro ei Orometua no ratou i te Ekalesia Tetautua iteia ra, kare i kite i tona takake anga. Kua ariki te Ekalesia kia tere atu te Orometua o te Ekalesia, ete Tekeretere o te Ekalesia e pera nga mema i roto i te marama Aukute nei ki Australia e Nutireni kimikimi moni no te are pure ko Betela. Ko te mea tangi ra, tei to ratou tere rai ratou ka takake atu ei te metua vaine. Ko te ngai pumaana ra, ka riro rai na tetai tamaiti rai ana koia te Orometua i te oire i Omoka e tuku atu iaia ki tona akangaroianga. E aere ra e to matou metua vaine tena to akaruru i na are taura vananga.

*Tataia e tana Tamaiti, Rev. Takaikura Saitu Joe Marsters, Ekalesia Matavera*



# TAKING NOTE AND LEARNING FROM THE WORLD AROUND US

*Reproduced stories that are meant to inspire, to bring awareness, to provoke constructive thought, to pass the time if you like.*

## 1. PAINTING OF JESUS REMAINS UNTOUCHED AS 150-YEAR-OLD CHURCH BURNS DOWN



A painting of Jesus is the only thing that remains from a burned-down church. (Photo: WCVB Boston)

More

A 150-year-old church in Wakefield, Mass., was engulfed in flames on Tuesday after being struck by lightning during a storm. Remarkably, the one thing to survive the blaze was a large painting of Jesus.

The fire was first reported on Tuesday evening, when members of the church were meeting inside. Everyone evacuated the burning building safely, but it took hours and more than 100 firefighters to tame the flames destroying the First Baptist Church. People from the community were reluctantly saying goodbye to the community landmark, built in 1872, as it burned to the ground, when one first responder emerged from the structure with a painting that was miraculously undamaged.

According to the Boston Globe, the painting of Jesus hadn't been marked by fire, smoke, or water when it was found in the rubble. How it survived is a mystery.

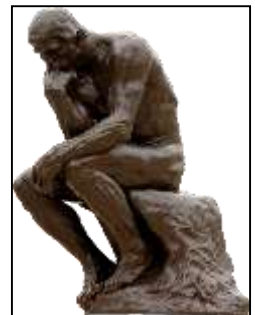
Representatives from the church didn't immediately respond to Yahoo Lifestyle's request for comment. However, the Globe reports that the painting will be given to a former pastor of the church. The First Baptist Church has since set up a GoFundMe page, and posted a statement on its website.

"We know that we serve a God who specializes in restoring brokenness and who can bring beauty even from ashes," the statement reads. "So we move into the future with trust, hope, and gratitude."

*Kerry Justich, Yahoo Lifestyle, October 25, 2018*

## 2. FOOD FOR THOUGHT

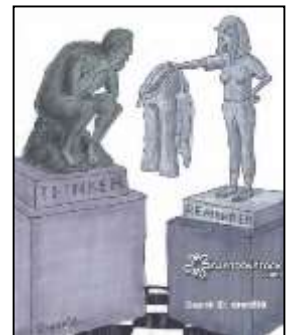
- ✓ Death asked Life: why does everyone love you and hate me? Life replied: because I am a beautiful Lie and you are a painful Truth.
- ✓ A lovely logic for a beautiful life: Never try to maintain relations in your life, just try to maintain life in your relations.
- ✓ Always welcome the problems, because problems give you dual advice. First, you know how to solve it; second, you know how to avoid it in the future.
- ✓ 3 stages of Life: (1) Teen Age – has time & energy but no money, (2) Working Age – has money & energy but no time, (3) Old Age – has money & time but no energy.







- ✓ We are very good lawyers for our mistakes, very good judges for others' mistakes.
- ✓ World always say – Find good people and leave bad ones. But i say, Find the good in people and ignore the bad in them, because no one is born perfect.
- ✓ A fantastic sentence written on every Japanese bus stop. "Only buses will stop here – Not your time. So Keep walking towards your goal."
- ✓ Negative thinkers focus on problems, positive thinkers focus on solutions.
- ✓ Never hold your head high with pride or ego; even the winner of a gold medal gets his medal only when he bows his head down.
- ✓ Define TODAY: This is an Opportunity to Do A work better than Yesterday.
- ✓ African Saying: "If you want to walk quick, walk alone. If you want to walk far, walk together."  
Sober
- ✓ Confident quote: i have not failed; my success is just postponed.
- ✓ Entire water in the ocean can never sink a ship, unless it gets inside. All the pressures of life can never hurt you, unless you let them in.
- ✓ Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a "steering wheel" that directs the right path throughout.
- ✓ A Car's WINDSHIELD is so large & the Rear-view-Mirror is so small; because our PAST is not as important as our FUTURE. So, Look Ahead and Move on.
- ✓ Friendship is like a BOOK. It takes few seconds to burn, but it takes years to write.
- ✓ All things in life are temporary, they will not last forever. If going well, enjoy those; if going wrong, don't worry, they can't last long either.
- ✓ Old Friends are Gold! New Friends Are Diamond! If you get a Diamond, don't forget the Gold! Because to hold a Diamond, you always need a Base of Gold!
- ✓ Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, GOD smiles from above and says, "Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end!"
- ✓ When GOD solves your problems, you have faith in HIS abilities; when GOD doesn't solve your problems HE has faith in your abilities.
- ✓ A blind person asked a wise man "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?" He replied: "Yes, losing your vision!"
- ✓ When you pray for others, God Listens to you and Blesses them, and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.
- ✓ WORRYING does not take away tomorrow's TROUBLES; it takes away today's PEACE.



Dean Khan, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland. Images of the Thinker Statue from Google.

### **3. MASSIVE AUSTRALIAN COW NEARLY AS TALL AS MICHAEL JORDAN**

A cow in Western Australia has gone *udderly* viral due to its sheer size and stature. Knickers, a 7-year-old male Holstein-Friesian cow, clocks in at a whopping six feet three inches tall — just three inches shy of NBA

legend Michael Jordan — and weighs 3,086 pounds, earning him the unofficial title of largest steer in Australia.

To put his size in perspective, a fully-mature Holstein-Friesian cow weighs about 1,500 pounds and stands at four feet eight inches tall at the shoulder, according to The Cattle Site. Bulls usually max out at around five feet nine inches tall and can weigh upwards of 2,200 pounds.



While Knickers dwarfs the average Holstein-Friesian in both height and weight, he is still a couple inches smaller than the Guinness World Record-holder for tallest steer: A Chianina ox named Bellino, who measured over six feet six inches tall in Rome in 2010.

Still, Knickers' impressive size has garnered him global attention, leading many to wonder what fate may befall the behemoth bovine.

Knickers' owner, Geoff Pearson, told Perth Now that the massive cow has officially been spared from the chopping block — but not due to his newfound celebrity status, as one might think.

"It was too heavy. I wouldn't be able to put it through a processing facility," he told the outlet. "So I think it will just live happily ever after." Off to greener pastures, indeed.

*Alex Lasker, AOL.com, November 27, 2018, on Yahoo News*

#### **4. QUOTES FROM FORMER PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH**

*FILE - In this Jan. 31, 1990, file photo, President George H.W. Bush receives applause from Vice President Dan Quayle, left, and House Speaker Thomas Foley prior to delivering his first State of the Union address on Capitol Hill in Washington. Bush died at the age of 94 on Friday, Nov. 30, 2018, about eight months after the death of his wife, Barbara Bush. (AP Photo/Bob Daugherty, File)*



"It is my considered judgment that you should now resign. I expect in your lonely, embattled position this would seem to you as an act of disloyalty from one you have supported and helped in so many ways. My own view is that I would now ill serve a president, whose massive accomplishments I will always respect and whose family I love, if I did not now give you my judgment." — August 1974, speaking to President Richard Nixon shortly before he resigned, when Bush was Republican national chairman.

"And my opponent won't rule out raising taxes. But I will. And the Congress will push me to raise taxes, and I'll say no, and they'll push, and I'll say no, and they'll push again. And I'll say to them: Read my lips. No new taxes." — Aug. 18, 1988, during his acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention.



"We know what works: Freedom works. We know what's right: Freedom is right. We know how to secure a more just and prosperous life for man on Earth: through free markets, free speech, free elections and the exercise of free will unhampered by the state." — Jan. 20, 1989, during his inaugural address.

"Look to the very heart of Europe, to Berlin, and you will see a great truth shining brighter with each passing day: The quest for freedom is stronger than steel, more permanent than concrete." — November 1989, as the Berlin Wall was crumbling.

"I do not like broccoli, and I haven't liked it since I was a little kid and my mother made me eat it. And I'm president of the United States, and I'm not going to eat any more broccoli." — March 22, 1990.

"Five months ago, Saddam Hussein started this cruel war against Kuwait. Tonight, the battle has been joined. ... Our goal is not the conquest of Iraq. It is the liberation of Kuwait." — Jan. 17, 1991, when the first Gulf War began.

"The fact that he is black, a minority, has nothing to do with this. He is the best qualified." — July 1991, on announcing he had selected federal appeals court judge Clarence Thomas for the U.S. Supreme Court.

"I plan to put something back into society, and not at the head table, not always in the glamour, certainly not with a lot of news attention." — January 1993, days before leaving office.

"To those who say we no longer need a CIA, I say you're nuts. To those who want to dismantle CIA or put it under some other department ... you're nuts, too. And to those who feel the right to know takes precedence over legitimate classification of documents or over protecting our most precious asset, our people, the same to you. You're nuts, and so's the horse you came in on." — Sept. 17, 1997, at ceremony marking the 50th birthday of the CIA.

"Though I might be tempted to utter a few words of encouragement to anyone who is considering my boy, I will heed the immortal words of Dana Carvey: 'Not gonna do it. Wouldn't be prudent.'" — early 2000, citing a line from the "Saturday Night Live" comedian while attending a nonpartisan event as his son sought the GOP nomination.

"I learned more from Ronald Reagan than from anyone I encountered in all my years of public life." — June 11, 2004, at the funeral for former President Ronald Reagan.

"Who would have thought that I would be working with Bill Clinton, of all people? ... It's been an eye-opening and enjoyable experience for me to work with him on something truly apolitical." — Oct. 25, 2005, discussing his work with former rival on tsunami and hurricane relief.

*The Associated Press, on Yahoo News, 1 December 2018*

## **5. DUTCH COURT RULES 69-YEAR-OLD MAN CAN'T LEGALLY DECLARE HIMSELF 20 YEARS YOUNGER**

A 69-year-old Dutch man has failed in his attempt to legally declare himself 20 years younger. Last month, motivational speaker Emile Ratelband filed a lawsuit against the Dutch government requesting that his date of birth be switched from March 11, 1949, to March 11, 1969.

On Monday, a court in the Netherlands city of Arnhem rejected his age-changing application, saying that while Ratelband "is at liberty to feel 20 years younger than his real age and to act accordingly," actually changing the birth certificate is not possible.

"Amending his date of birth would cause 20 years of records to vanish from the register of births, deaths, marriages and registered partnerships. This would have a variety of undesirable legal and societal implications," the court said, according to the New York Post.



Ratelband initially wanted to drop two decades off his age in order to improve his chances on Tinder. “I feel much younger than my age, I am a young god, I can have all the girls I want but not after I tell them that I am 69,” Ratelband told AFP. “I feel young, I am in great shape and I want this to be legally recognized because I feel abused, aggrieved and discriminated against because of my age.”

He compared his attempt to turn back the clock to identifying as transgender. “We live in a time when you can change your name and change your gender. Why can’t I decide my own age?” he asked, according to the BBC.

In its ruling, the court said that the changes to the law that allow a person to change their gender took place after the issue was debated globally, and noted Ratelband is the only person advocating for legal age change, according to the BBC.

The court ruling said Ratelband had other legal means at his disposal if he truly felt he was a victim of age discrimination.

*David Moye, HuffPost, December 3, 2018, on Yahoo News*

## **6. HOMELESS MAN WITH TERMINAL CANCER DONATES TO TOY DRIVE: 'THIS IS PROBABLY GOING TO BE MY LAST CHRISTMAS'**

A Colorado homeless man has terminal cancer, but it isn't stopping him from embracing the holiday spirit. Glen McCarthy went into an Englewood, Colo., Walmart to buy his daily cup of coffee, but when he noticed a toy drive going on, he purchased a Barbie and a Hot Wheels set, Denver news station KMGH reported.

The item that really caught his eye though was a bike, which was marked \$59. McCarthy noticed, however, the item had a \$44 price tag underneath it. After returning to the hotel where he was staying, McCarthy kept thinking about the bicycle, in spite of its price. When he returned to Walmart, an employee told him he could have it for \$44, since he would be giving it to the toy drive.

Realizing he doesn't have much time left, McCarthy told KMGH that putting a smile on a child's face is the true gift. “Another big reason I got to thinking, this is probably going to be my last Christmas. I'm no one, make some little kid happy,” said McCarthy.

Though he may not have much, McCarthy added that he's more at peace these days than when he had more to his name. “It took my losing everything to realize that I'm happier now struggling for everything in my life than I had when I had big money,” said McCarthy.

Despite his illness and lack of permanent housing, McCarthy is known for his generous spirit. Those who know him say he regularly goes the extra mile to help others, and this purchase was very much in character. “Totally sounded like Glen, yeah totally. So it's just amazing, he just has a real caring heart and willing to help people,” said Julie Romero, day center manager at Senior Support Services, where McCarthy volunteers.

As for the little girl or boy that receives the bike, McCarthy hopes they have lots of fun. “I hope they enjoy the hell out of it,” said McCarthy.

*Megan Johnson, Yahoo Lifestyle Sat, Dec 8, 2018*

## **7. HOMELESS MAN WITH TERMINAL CANCER DONATES TO TOY DRIVE: 'THIS IS PROBABLY GOING TO BE MY LAST CHRISTMAS'**

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*Megan Johnson, Yahoo Lifestyle Sat, Dec 8, 2018*

## **8. FAMILY BUILDS A SUPPOSEDLY INDESTRUCTIBLE HOUSE ON THE BEACH BEFORE SOON FACING THE ULTIMATE TEST**

When it comes to the safety of your family, you might hope for the best while planning for the worst. Even if disaster never strikes, the knowledge that you and your home (and everything in it) won't end up damaged beyond repair can go a long way. This family in coastal Florida built a home designed to withstand any disaster, a true feat of engineering. Obviously, they hoped their safeguards would never be tested. But when one deadly storm swooped in and threatened to push the house past its limits, the engineers couldn't help but worry: after all, even the Titanic sank eventually...

Russell King and his nephew Lebron Lackey could hardly wait as they ironed out the details of their big project. The Tennessee residents planned to build a vacation home for their extended family, whom they hoped would enjoy it for generations — or maybe even forever.



*Cleveland Daily Banner*



*City of Mexico Beach*

They chose the town of Mexico Beach, Florida, as their vacation locale. The Panhandle community had a more "mom and pop" feel compared to other Florida destinations overrun with tourists. Also boasting a beautiful view of the Gulf of Mexico, it was the perfect place to build. The state of Florida already enacted strict building codes for all new construction, though areas on the Gulf were a bit laxer. For perfectionists like Russell and Lebron, however, these laws were not enough. They wanted to go above and beyond existing regulations.



*Perillo Construction*

They remembered how over the years, freak storms like Hurricane Katrina devastated communities. Other new homeowners in Mexico Beach simply prayed no weather event would ever threaten their property, but Russell and Lebron understood hope alone was not a strategy. “I believe the planet’s getting warmer and the storms are getting stronger,” Russell said about his building philosophy. “We didn’t use to have storms like this. So people who live on the coast have to be ready for it.”



NBC News



Terray Sylvester

Russell and his nephew decided that their home would have to be a fortress. After some research, they asked their architect to build a house capable of withstanding 250 mph winds. It was a huge request, but at the very least it would give the family peace of mind. The construction drew upon

the latest storm-proof technology. Because the house was right on the water, the work began with a foundation of 40-foot metal pilings, which would place the building well above any incoming tidal floods.



The New York Times / Johnny Milano

Steel cables ran from the eaves down to the ground to make sure that the roof would stay attached. The walls themselves were made of 12 inches of reinforced concrete, with durable siding to armor the outside layer. And that wasn’t even the first line of defense.



The New York Times / Johnny Milano

Lebron and Russell put in salt-tolerant plants all along the dunes that separated their house from the shoreline. Though this precaution didn’t look like much, these grasses are actually one of the most effective ways to protect dunes from erosion. All in all, reporters estimated these outside fortifications tacked on an additional \$400,000 to construction costs.



Aqua.org

Of course, they took a different approach on the inside, which felt nothing like a military stronghold. Russell and LeBron decked it out to comfortably accommodate their entire family and provide for some world-class vacations. By May of 2018, the house was ready.



*Facebook / Sand Palace of Mexico Beach, FL*

The Kings and Lackeys proudly dubbed their new home “The Sand Palace.” The entire clan spent a relaxing Fourth of July together in Mexico beach, and they decorated the house with red, white, and blue memorabilia for the occasion. They couldn’t have been happier. But neither Russell nor LeBron realized there was trouble on the horizon.



*Cleveland Daily Banner*

In early October, radars picked up the beginnings of Hurricane Michael. Meteorologists announced it would be one of the strongest storms to ever hit the country. Florida evacuated most of its citizens near the coast and hoped the worst of the weather system would miss them.



*The New York Times / Johnny Milano*

The Gulf Coast had no such luck. Russell, safely at home in Tennessee, watched live footage from a security camera as Hurricane Michael pounded Mexico Beach. He saw gusts of wind and water carry away his neighbors’ homes, and worried: even with all their precautions, would The Sand Palace survive?



The results of the storm were devastating. Residents trickled back in to check on their homes, only to find over three-quarters of properties in the town suffered serious damage. Many long-standing houses and businesses simply were not there anymore.



Naturally, properties right along the shore bore the brunt of the storm, while inland buildings got a little more protection. But as the people of Mexico Beach picked through the rubble, they noticed something amazing...



While the hurricane leveled nearly all the other structures in the vicinity, The Sand Palace still stood strong. The storm took over 30 lives and tore apart homes and businesses, and yet one house right on the water looked seemingly no worse for the wear.

NOAA

Russell headed down to Mexico Beach to check in on the house and lend a hand to his neighbors. He found that The Sand Palace experienced a bit of water damage — one cracked window and quite a few exterior scars. Thankfully, he could remedy all those problems in just a few weeks. Other people lost everything.



Lebron and his uncle felt overwhelmed that their preparations worked and that they had the resources to protect their home so thoroughly. "We wanted to build it for the big one," Lebron said. "We just never knew we'd find the big one so fast."



CNN Emergency crews in Mexico Beach were hard at work restoring stability to the area and tracking down people who went unaccounted for during the storm. The owners of The Sand Palace could have basked in their good fortune, but instead, they made an incredibly selfless decision.





Gulf Power Company



Lebron and Russell offered up their home as a temporary base for FEMA while they helped Mexico Beach back on its feet. They also helped solicit donations for the ailing community. With these acts of generosity, they proved The Sand Palace could do more than just survive a deadly storm: it could thrive in one.



The New York Times / Johnny Milano

By Dan Fitzpatrick, Boredom Therapy Staff, on Yahoo News, 27 Nov 2018

## 9. 12 FANTASTIC ADVANTAGES OF GOING BALD

Hair loss and going bald is one of the most terrifying worries that some men have. The strands of hair found on the pillow and the small patches of hair that continue to fall out can be a source of anxiety for many men. But the loss of hair and going bald doesn't need to be that bad. It turns out that baldness has its own advantages. So instead of focusing on the negatives, educate yourselves about the pros of going bald.



### 1. You have a lower risk of cancer

A study researching prostate cancer found that men who started to lose their hair at a young age had 45% less chance of getting prostate cancer than men with a full head of hair. The study found that long-term exposure to large quantities of testosterone, which is one of the causes for male baldness, can slow down the development of tumors in the body, in direct contrast to the previous belief that testosterone actually encourages the development of cancerous growths.



## 2. You have a more efficient metabolism

Despite the negative effect on the scalp, high levels of testosterone in the male body have a positive influence - they boost the metabolic process and help the body get in shape, maintain a healthy weight and develop bodily muscles. Studies have also shown that men with a high level of testosterone have a lower concentration of fat in the face, which may contribute to a stronger, more sculpted face.

## 3. You're seen as more masculine

Another study researching the effects of male baldness asked hundreds of young men and women to voice an opinion on photos of men with full hair and then give their opinion of the same men whose hair was digitally removed from the photos. The men presented were seen as stronger, more assertive and even taller in the photos where they were shown as bald. The study even suggested an explanation of the phenomenon - a bald scalp is seen by many as associated with more "manly" professions, such as soldiers, cops and fire fighters.

## 4. You save time and money

Shampoo, conditioner, combs, brushes, creams and the hair dresser - we may not notice, but these expenses add up. Men who have are bald aren't required to spend money on grooming their hair. Another great advantage is saving TIME - you won't need to style your hair. A bonus you may not have considered before is that you are able to shower a lot quicker too.

## 5. You look great in any hat

That's right, no hat hair for you. Bald men can make any hat look good. Add a pair of neat looking sunglasses and you look like a million bucks every time you leave the house. Try any hat you want, a baseball cap, a fedora - you can even bring top hats back in style! They all look great on you.

## 6. You have an advantage in business dealings

Bald men are seen by many as having better leadership potential, as more assertive and more powerful. These impressions give them an edge in the business world. That said, studies show that men whose hair is falling out and do not shave their heads are actually seen as weak and insecure. That is why experts recommend that men who are losing their hair bite the bullet and completely shave their head. Some experts also mention that some of the strongest and most influential leaders of all time lost their hair, including Winston Churchill, Vladimir Lenin, Mahatma Gandhi and Vladimir Putin.



## 7. You don't have to face the worst male worry

According to leading psychologists, the fear of going bald is one of the worst fears men have. Thinking about it all the time can be very exhausting and debilitating. Many men consult with skin specialists, pay fortunes every month for all sorts of medicine and even count the number of hairs falling out daily. If you've already said goodbye to your hair, you've probably already realized it's not that bad, and you are no longer accompanied by this daily fear.

## 8. You don't age

Men who are bald may look older - at first. But as time goes by, they have no hair to turn gray or hair to lose, so other than a few wrinkles, they keep looking the same age as they always have. Take Patrick Stewart or Bruce Willis, for example, both bald men who have looked the same age for decades!

**9. It draws attention to your best features**

Having a bald head means that people will no longer be distracted by the way your hair looks and will automatically focus on your face. This is very good news, since your best facial features will now be a lot more prominent, and this will make you appear more attractive. Many find that growing a beard further enhances this effect, since people's eyes will be drawn further downwards.

**10. You will look more toned and muscular**

Having a bald head means that the mass of your head looks a lot smaller than that of a person who has hair. This will automatically make your upper body seem a lot bigger than it really is, creating the look of a highly masculine frame.

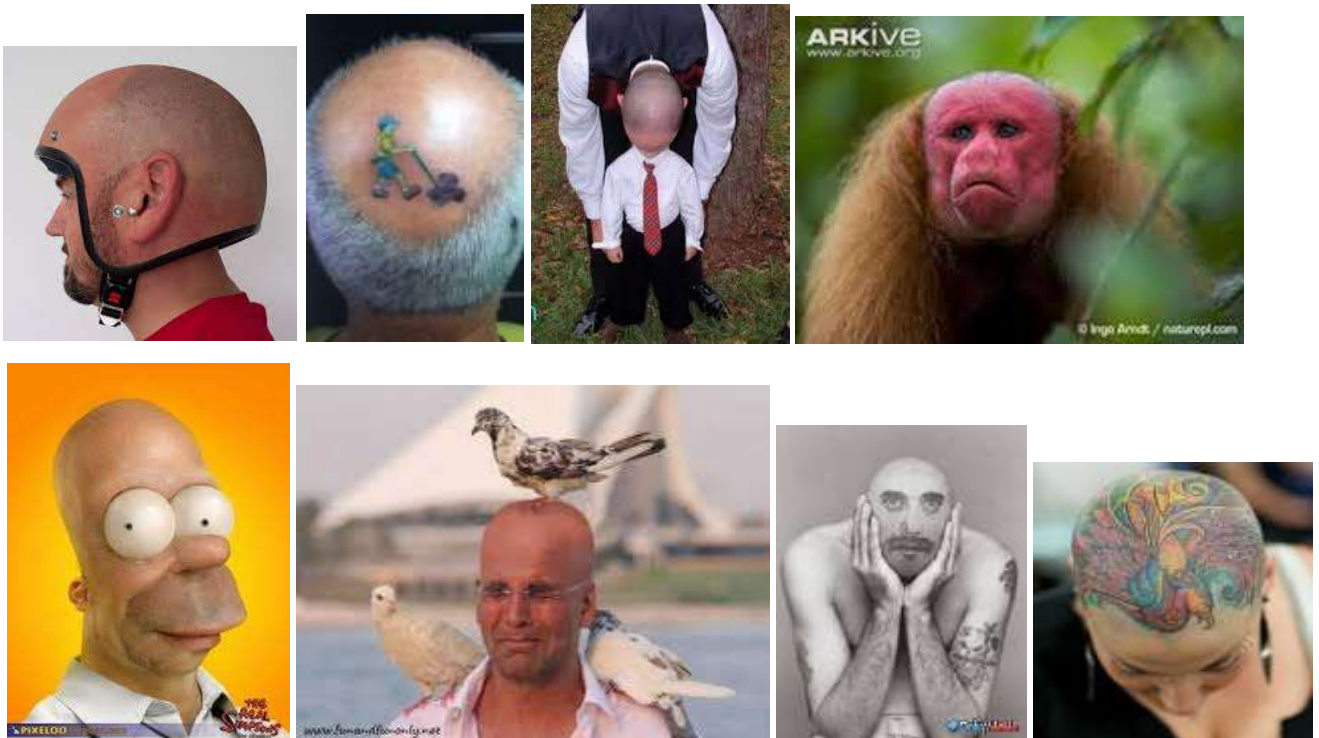
**11. Summer will be far more bearable**

When you've got a full head of hair, summer days can be almost unbearable at times when the heat starts to get out of control. You'll feel hot, sweaty, and completely unkempt, yet you can avoid all of these things once you're bald. Amazing, huh?

**12. You will always look good in old photos**

Remember how you used to cringe every time you looked at your old high school photos and saw yourself with a ridiculous hairstyle? Thankfully, once you're bald, this should never happen again. This is because while haircuts go in and out of fashion over the years, being bald is a look that's absolutely timeless!

*Babamail on Yahoo.*



*Yahoo images*

## KINURA TAPUNUI MUSIC FESTIVAL

One of the coordinators of the above event, William Framhein, was kind enough to forward the below info for the event proposed for Saturday 15 December at the Te Atukura Ground, Tutakimoa, Rarotonga.



### Introduction

Over the last few decades, there has been a noticeable erosion of values and attitudes among our youth on Rarotonga from cultural shifts, and likely attributed to less family time spent together, more social media influences and technological distractions as well as increased temptations from the ‘clubbing scene’ where alcohol and drugs are present. Indeed, there is a need to innovatively address these issues, perhaps by mimicking some of these attractive temptations with a positive spin and safer family environment; the church pathway is certainly one avenue that can provide this.

The “*Kinura Tapunui* Music Festival” is a proposed Christian youth event to be held annually on Rarotonga in December. The event is proposed by members of the Christian community, local NGO Kōrero o te Ōrau (who focuses on indigenous issues), and the Matariki Communications Charitable Trust to celebrate the reason for the season – Jesus Christ who is our gateway to salvation – through music and song. *Kinura* is the name for harp in the Cook Islands Māori Bible; *Tapunui* refers to a state of being holy or sacred. Psalms 98: 5 reads “Sing unto the Lord with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm”. This verse embodies the goal of the Festival, which is to praise the Lord through music and singing.

The proposed festival will be a non-denominational Christian event, alcohol & smoke free, with lots of activities for the family. The festival will provide our young and upcoming performers the opportunity to showcase their



talent alongside established local performing artists such as Ephraim & Kimi Taokia, Tuaine Papatua, Tara Kauvai, Teata Nga, Jarome Pare, Natua Teururai, Katreena Smith and more.

The event has the endorsement of the Religious Advisory Council (RAC). Non-members of the RAC also support the event and most have confirmed the participation of their respective youth groups. Local musicians on Rarotonga, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Cultural and Development, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs Youth Division have offered their support as well. We will also seek the support of other Agencies such as the National Environment Service to help with waste disposal issues, and the Cook Islands Red Cross for First Aid care during the event. There will be no entry fee as we hope that costs to host this festival will come from donations and sponsorship. Food sales will be limited to vendors of church youth groups to assist with their fundraising efforts.

## OBJECTIVES

- i. To provide a safe and positive environment where our youth can express themselves through music and song.
2. To lead all youth to the Lord Jesus Christ for the “Free Gift of Salvation” through music.
3. To promote family and Christian values through evangelism with a guest speaker.
4. To inspire and encourage our young performers.
5. To provide an opportunity to strengthen the respective youth groups within our local churches.
6. To provide an opportunity for youth groups to fundraise.

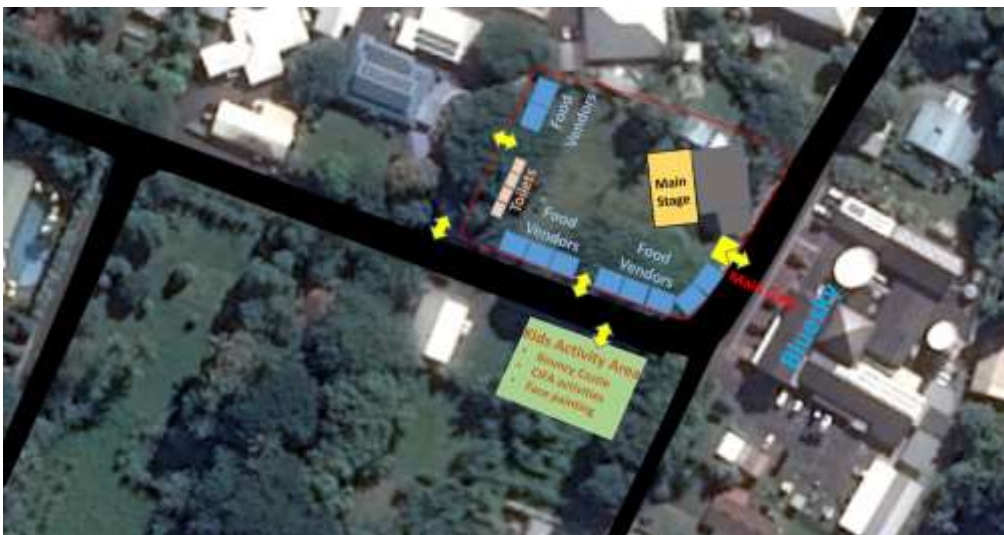
## ACTIVITIES

- Arts and crafts and food sales during the day for Christian youth groups to fundraise
- Face painting, bouncy castle, and activities with CIFA will be conducted in Kids Activity Area (see map)
- Music will be played from early afternoon starting at 1 pm until 10 pm in the evening

## LONG-TERM PLAN

We envision this becoming an annual event that will grow to include overseas Christian Youth groups and Christian artists who would like to be a part of this festival. The hosting of this festival may be rotated among the three *vaka*, with the inaugural event hosted by *Te Au o Tonga* at Te Atukura grounds in Parekura (see map below). As the event grows, we anticipate running the festival over a few days. Currently, we have the support (both financial and in-kind) from local businesses, churches, and Government Ministries and we are still accepting donations to help us get this first event off the ground.

## Site Plan



DATE: 15 DECEMBER 2018  
VENUE: TE ATUKURA  
TIME: 1300 – 2200 HOURS



## LOGISTICS

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### Stage Construction, Artist mustering & Sound Coordinator

Event Coordinator: Mo Newport  
Stage and Dome: Rongohiva  
Lighting: Ina Tipokoroa/Rongohiva  
Sound system: Noo Vaevaepare/MOCD/Rongohiva  
Band equipments: Tuaine Papatua/MOCD  
Tent setup: Raro Xpo  
Generators: Rongohiva & McConnell Dowell

### Grounds management on the day

CICC Mapu coordinator for Avarua -Tutai Williams.

- Security
- Parking ushers

### Vendors

- Kids' activities (i.e., face painting, bouncy castle)
- CIFA activities
- Food vendors (10 slots available)
  1. CICC youth
  2. AOG youth
  3. Catholic youth
  4. SDA youth
  5. LDS youth
  6. Apostolic youth
  7. Celebration on the Rock
  8. Three more slots available

### Marketing/promotion

- Thomas Wynne (Social Media)
- Jackie Rongo (Social Media)
- Jeanne Matenga (Pitt Media)
- George Williams (88FM)
- Dave Ruther (Vaka TV)
- William Framhein (Matariki FM)

## EVENT MANAGEMENT/PROGRAMME

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### Master of Ceremony (MC) – tentative

Danny Mataroa  
Paul Lynch  
Emile Kairua  
Jessica Puirī/Jenida/Naomi Meteka  
Tony Fe'ao/Tuaine Papatua

**DJ** (to be confirmed)

### House Band

Coordinator: Tuaine Papatua

### Performers & Acts

**Feature Acts** (Coordinator: Tuaine Papatua)

Ephraima & Kimi Taokia	30 minutes
Jerome Vaevaepare	30 minutes
Tara Kauvai	30 minutes
Teata Nga	15 minutes
Andre Tapena	15 minutes
Anania and Bobby Brown	15 minutes



Katreena Smith 15 minutes

**Young and undiscovered singer/musician**

(Spot available) 5 minutes  
 (Spot available) 5 minutes  
 (Spot available) 5 minutes  
 (Spot available) 5 minutes  
 (Spot available) 5 minutes

1. Takamoā Theological College 10 minutes
2. Avarua CICC 10 minutes
3. Nikao CICC 10 minutes
4. Arorangi CICC 10 minutes
5. Titikaveka CICC 10 minutes
6. Ngatangia CICC 10 minutes
7. Matavera CICC 10 minutes

**1. AOG**  
 Coordinator: Tuaine Papatua  
 (Also the House Band) 30 minutes

**2. Apostolic**  
 Coordinator: Apii Kaina 10 minutes

**3. LDS**  
 Coordinator: John Mateara 10 minutes

**4. Catholic**  
 Coordinator: Tatari Mitchell 10 minutes

**5. Cornerstone Church**  
 Coordinator: Tanga Morris 10 minutes

**6. Celebration on the Rock**  
 Coordinator: James Cargill 10 minutes

**7. Inspirational Speakers**  
 Raj Narayanan 10 minutes  
 To be confirmed (youth) 10 minutes

**BUDGET**

A tentative budget to host this event in the first year is around \$15,500. Those who have been working hard behind-the-scenes to make this festival a reality, are volunteering their time towards the logistics to getting this event off the ground. Confirmed artists and those who will be running the event on the day will also volunteer their time. For items where costs will be incurred, we are seeking and accepting donations and sponsorship from the community to cover these. They include the following:

**1. Equipment hire**

Stage & dome truss	\$ 5,000
Extra sound gear	\$ 1,500
Stage lights & generators	\$ 1,000
2. Tents and portable toilet hire	\$ 1,500
3. Advertising & Promotion (TV/Radio & print materials)	\$ 5,000
4. Security	\$ 1,500

**TENTATIVE TOTAL \$15,500**

*Any surplus from the donations will go towards hosting the 2019 festival.*

## MEMORY LANE

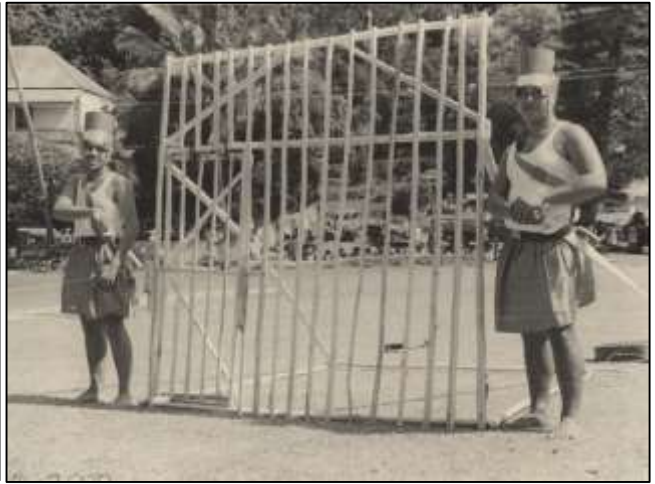
*I am indebted to the Head of the Ministry of Cultural Development (Anthony [Ants] Turua), Government of the Cook Islands, for kindly granting me permission to access and publish via this newsletter, Cook Islands memory-lane photos of yester-years from the Archive Division of his Ministry. Much appreciation also goes to Ms Paula Paniani, the Ministry's Archivist, for going through old records and collections to retrieve and make e-copies of the images. There is only one purpose here; to facilitate dissemination of the images to Cook Islanders (and interested non-Cook Islanders as well) scattered all over the Pacific and beyond, who will no doubt resonate with some of the images in this and future issues of the newsletter for a number of reasons: they might sight ancestors or can recognise some of the current events related to those of years gone by, and so on. Such a rich collection of memories should, i strongly feel, come out of the closet to be enjoyed by a much wider audience: not everyone will ever get the chance to visit the Ministry's Archive and view the images for themselves on the spot. As you Cook Islanders view and decipher the comparison of the world then and now, perhaps take a few moments to imagine and appreciate how far things have evolved and more importantly, where might they be heading tomorrow in this increasingly IT-driven, fiercely competitive, world today that we call our home. Editor.*

### Gospel Day (Nuku) images on Rarotonga from the 1960s and 1970s

October 26 every year is public holiday to commemorate the arrival of Christianity to the Cook Islands (Aitutaki) on this day in 1821. The CICC parishes get together to showcase allocated Biblical dramas, known as Nuku. The Nuku photos below come from the Johnson Studio collection being kept at the National Archives. According to Paula, a deal was struck in 1987 between former Museum Archivist George Paniani and Marguaret Johnson (of the Johnson Studio) for the collection to be kept by the Archive for the enjoyment of future generations.











## CALL OF THE APOSTLES

(They trod the dusty roads of Galilee – An Independent Study on the Apostles of Christ)

### PART 6 (continued from last newsletter)

Bartholomew – A Sermon from Silence



In the list of the apostles found in Mark (3:16-19), Matthew (10:2-4), Luke (6:14-16) and Acts (1:13) the name of Bartholomew appears. However, there is no further reference to him in the New Testament. While it is characteristic of the Scriptures to emphasize the message and not the man, it seems extraordinary that no information be given about one of the pillars of the Church. Perhaps there is a solution to the concern. Sometime in the ninth century AD, a man named Elias of Damascus set forth the proposition that Bartholomew could be identified with Nathanael. (John 1:45-51) Since then, many reputable scholars have agreed and contend that Bartholomew is Nathanael for the

following reasons.

Bartholomew is not a first name, but a distinguishing second name. The word *Bar* means *son of*. Perhaps the apostle was Nathanael Bartholomew or Nathanael, the son of Tolmai. (2 Sam. 13:37)

The first three gospels Matthew, Mark, and Luke never mention Nathanael while John's gospel never mentions Bartholomew. When Nathanael is mentioned in the fourth gospel, he is spoken of in such a way that he is an apostle. (John 1:43-51, John 21:2) Nathanael was with Peter, James, John, and Thomas when they met with the Master following His resurrection.

In the lists of The Twelve the names of Philip and Bartholomew always occur together as if it were natural to speak of them in such a manner. It was Philip who brought Nathanael to Christ.

If Bartholomew is Nathanael then the total silence of Scripture is broken and we learn something about the man beginning with his friendship with Philip. Most people meet many others in life who are very special, but true friendship is rare. It is tested in fires of disappointment and disagreement. It is also manifested in whether or not someone has the best interest of the other person in mind. Philip had the best interest of Nathanael in his heart for he tried to bring him to Christ. Because you truly care for someone, bring them to Christ.

When Philip informed Nathanael of his own great discovery, (John 1:45) he was skeptical and asked, *Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?* It was not pride or prejudice that prompted this immediate response but a deep sense of personal shame. Nathanael was also a Galilean and as such felt the social stigma of his day. Nathanael knew all too well how the people of Judea felt toward Galileans and so he wondered if the Messiah could really come from among the poor and obscure part of Palestine.

Had Nathanael known the Scriptures better, he might have realized that it was prophesied that Jesus would be as a *root out of a dry ground*. (Isa. 53:2) It was foretold the Suffering Savior would have no physical beauty that people should desire Him. (Isa. 53:3). He would be despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. (Isa. 53:3) *Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?* asked Nathanael. *Come and see*, said Philip. (John 1:46) Nathanael came to Christ and was shocked to see the Lord in His splendor and glory for immediately Nathanael learned something about Jesus: He was all knowing.

As soon as Jesus saw Nathanael He said three things about him:

1. The Lord commended his faith. *Behold, an Israelite indeed!* What did Christ mean? He meant that in Nathanael there was genuine faith for, *Not all Israel is Israel*. According to Scripture, the true Israelite is the person who has the faith of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. A true Israelite is a person who is seriously religious.



To draw a modern day parallel, it could be said of someone in this generation, *There is a Christian, who is a Christian indeed*, The meaning would be clear. There are those who take the Christian life seriously.

- a. The Bible is read and meditated upon.
- b. A local church is identified with and supported with spiritual gifts
- c. Missionaries are supported
- d. There is gospel obedience to the ordinance of baptism
- e. The hour of worship is longed for
- f. Christ is loved and God is worshipped in spirit and in truth
- g. Souls are sought out for salvation
- h. The Scriptures are diligently studied
- i. A life of prayer is found to be pleasant and profitable

There are Christians indeed, and there were Israelites, indeed.

2. Jesus commended Nathanael for his virtue. Nathanael was not only religious but he was righteous. He was a child of grace and part of the covenant blessings. He was fortunate to have escaped the pollution of this world with vices that haunt the heart and destroy the happiness of the soul. He was not a weak man who wanted to love virtue, but found himself enslaved to some sin. He was good and decent and upright but he still needed salvation because good works can never justify a person in the sight of God. Virtue can be commended, but it does not save.
3. The Lord commended Nathanael for his transparency. *Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile [or deceit].* There was no subtlety in Nathanael like there was in other men such as the patriarch Jacob.

Jacob tricked his father Isaac and stole the family blessing by deceit. Nathanael was a clear as crystal in his conscience and that was reflected in his countenance. David, king of Israel, described the guileless man in Psalm 15.

When Nathanael heard the assessment of Christ upon his life, he was astonished and responded to the flattery with amazement. *How do you know me?* he asked, and learned something about the deity of Christ. The Lord knows what is in all men just like He knows what is in your heart and mine.

The Lord knows who you are, and what you really want in life, but also what you are doing every moment of every hour of the day. *Nathanael*, said Christ, *i saw you when you were under the fig tree.*

The fig tree is used in Scripture symbolically to refer to Israel as a nation (Matt. 24:32) because under the fig tree pious Jews would go to pray and mediate. Under the shade of the tree Nathanael thought no one would notice if he communed with God but under the fig tree the King in His beauty saw Nathanael. Has the Lord ever seen you under the fig tree? Do you have a shady place of spiritual rest where you go to be with God? Do you have a sacred spot somewhere to pray and meditate with the King of Glory?

William Law in his book, *A Serious Call*, offers this counsel. *Pray always in the same place: reserve that place for devotion, and never allow yourself to do anything common in it.*

1. Adam and Eve once had a shady place in Paradise where, in the cool of each evening they walked with the Lord.
2. Isaac had a shady place in the green field at even tide.
3. Elijah had a special place in the mountain cave.
4. Jesus had a special place in the Garden of Gethsemane.

As Jesus spoke, the heart of Nathanael opened up and he made a great confession manifesting a converted heart as he said, *Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the king of Israel.* And Jesus smiled. *Nathanael, do you now believe? i know you believe and because of that, i will show you greater thing.* Faith is always rewarded with more faith. *Nathanael, hereafter, ye shall see the heavens open, and the angels of God, ascending and descending upon the Son of God. Now follow me.* (John 1:51)

With Philip, Nathanael followed Christ and so was present when the omnipotent power of Christ was manifested following the Lord's resurrection. The story is told in John 21. In a final meal, Jesus fed His faithful disciples

from His own abundant resources and they were satisfied. (John 21:6) And so we have two cameo appearances of Nathanael. At the beginning of the Lord's ministry he was a witness to omniscience and omnipresence. At the end of the Lord's ministry he was an eyewitness to His omnipotence. These things become compelling reasons, for many, to accept the proposition that Nathanael is Bartholomew and one of the Twelve Apostles. However, to be honest, biblical scholars are not united in this matter. The *Encyclopedia of Religion* notes that...*identification with Nathanael in John 1:45 is only conjectural*. Here are the logical concerns of identifying Nathanael as Bartholomew.

It was 800 years before Christians made a linkage between Nathanael and Bartholomew, which leads to a word of warning. New ideals and insights into the Scriptures unheard of by previous generations should always be suspect. That is how error is born and breeds heresy.

A basic principle of Biblical study is to speak when the Scriptures speak and to be silent when the Scriptures are silent. Novel interpretations of the Bible are enjoyable and interesting but usually unprofitable to the soul. If God the Holy Spirit wanted to say more about Bartholomew, He would have done so. The man as well as his message would have been made plainer. And yet, there is a sermon from silence. There are practical lessons to be learned.

In the kingdom of God, the first shall be last and the last shall be first. Today, the apostles are honored. Special holy days are set aside as their names adorn religious structures throughout the world. The last is now first. And yet, the silence that initially surrounded Bartholomew testifies that he did not mind being obscure if Jesus Christ was exalted. He was not out to make a name for himself in the world of religion, he only wanted to preach Christ.

Those who are worthy of honor can be dishonored by unworthy deeds committed in their name. Perhaps you have heard of the St. Bartholomew Massacre. It is a matter of history that on August 24, 1572 the Catholic Church began a great massacre of Huguenots in France on St. Bartholomew's Day. The Huguenots were French Calvinist Protestants. More than 30,000 men, women, and children were killed without mercy with the approval of King Charles IX under the influence of his mother, Catherine de Medici.

In the kingdom of God there are many unsung heroes of the faith. Countless Sunday School Teachers, pastors of small churches, missionaries on foreign fields, and shut ins will never be recognized in this world. There are many gifted people who go unloved, un-rewarded, and unwanted by the world.

Hebrews 11 speaks of nameless saints who: "...had trials of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword; they wandered about in sheepskin and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; of whom the world was not worthy...." Bartholomew represents all the silent souls who are unknown to men but who are well known to God.

In the final analysis, to have one's name on the roll of the Book of Life is reward enough. In Revelation 20 a terrifying scene is witnessed. John sees all of the dead standing before the final judgment of Christ.

There is a Great White Throne and on the throne sits the Son of God. He lifts up His eyes and beholds millions upon billions of souls for all of humanity stands before Him. The face of each person is intent upon the throne. An angel flies overhead. He is carrying a large scroll. With majestic solemnity the angel hands the scroll to the Lord. Slowly the scroll is unrolled. Ears strain as individual names are called. By each name there is the record of human deeds. *and they were judged every man according to their own works. And whosoever was not written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire*

It is not wrong for each person to ask, *Is my name written in the Book of Life? Does heaven have a record of my holy works?* While salvation is by grace through faith apart from works, we will be judged for the deeds done in our body, both good and evil. Jesus told the Apostles, *rejoice because your names are written in heaven.* (Luke 10:20) Bartholomew's name was written in the *Book of Life*. It is enough.

Despite the absence of concrete information about Bartholomew in the biblical narrative there are some obvious things, which can be noted.

Bartholomew was a privileged man. In the providence of God, Bartholomew was numbered among the chosen twelve to be a pillar of the New Testament church. The Lord God is sovereign. He has a right to make and create whom He wills and how He wills. Every individual exists at the good pleasure of His will. We are appointed our appropriate place in the Divine decree of things. Bartholomew's place was as an apostle.

Not only was Bartholomew a privileged man because of his place in the kingdom of heaven, but he was privileged because of what he was a witness to. Bartholomew was present when Jesus preached a sermon to a large crowd gathered on a mountainside. He was standing nearby when Jesus touched the blind and made people see, spoke to the cripple and made them walk. He watched in awe when Jesus spoke at a funeral and the dead lived. Bartholomew sat at the table of the Lord's Last Supper. He touched Jesus, prayed with Him, and learned the great lessons of life. The mercy of God fell greatly upon Bartholomew and he did not prove to be unworthy of the Divine mercies.

Bartholomew was faithful unto death. As we turn to the legends that surround the name of Bartholomew care is taken for many fantastic things are claimed about each of the apostles.

There are three places Bartholomew is alleged to have ministered:

1. He is said to have ministered in India. The early church historian Eusebius and Jerome record a story associated with Bartholomew in India. (Eusebius, *The Ecclesiastical History*, 5,10,3; Jerome, *Concerning Illustrious Men*, 36) There was a well-known stoic philosopher of Alexandria named Pantaenus, who came to faith in Christ and went to preach in India. When he arrived he was amazed to discover many converts. *For Bartholomew, one of the apostles, had preached to them, and left them with the writing of Matthew in the Hebrew language, which they would have preserved till that time.*
2. He is said to have ministered in Phrygia. And here he was killed despite the stories that he escaped martyrdom and lived to preach the gospel elsewhere.
3. He is said to have ministered in Armenia. The Armenian Church claims Bartholomew as its founder. Here Bartholomew is said to have preached with great power. A personal description of him is given. *He has black, curly hair, white skin, large eyes, straight nose, his hair covers his ears, his beard long and grizzled, middle height. He wears a white robe with a purple stripe, and a white cloak with four purple gems at the corners. For twenty-six years he has worn these, and they never grow old. His shoes have lasted twenty-six years. He prays a hundred times a day and a hundred times a night. His voice is like a trumpet; angels wait upon him; he is always cheerful, and knows all languages.* The legends and the physical descriptions are all very interesting, and so is the apocryphal *Gospel of Bartholomew*.

This spurious writing describes a series of questions that Bartholomew addressed to Jesus and to Mary in the time between the resurrection and the ascension.

- a. Bartholomew asked Jesus where He went from the Cross. The Lord answered that He went down from the Cross to Hades, *and brought forth thence all the patriarchs and came again unto the Cross.*
- b. Bartholomew asked how many souls die and are born each day. The answer is that 30,000 souls die each day, of whom only 3,000 are found righteous; and 30,001 souls are born each day into the world.
- c. Bartholomew asked Mary about the Annunciation, and Mary described her experience in great detail. The summary of the life of Bartholomew is simple since the *New Testament* reveals nothing about him except his name. The legends that arose around him are valuable for they reveal a man who intimately knew the Lord and lived to introduce others to Him.

According to tradition Bartholomew died a painful death:

1. He was first flayed alive for his preaching in Armenia.
2. He was punctured through the thighs with a spear after being severely beaten by clubs.

If that is true, then the church is reminded once more that it is blessed with a rich spiritual heritage of self-sacrificing, suffering souls. Surely the apostles are worthy of our admiration and even our gratitude. In the person of Bartholomew, we are reminded that we are a privileged people. Millions have lived and died without hearing the gospel or the name of Jesus. We have. And for those who desire to know Christ intimately, we are even more privileged for Christ said that anyone, who came to Him, He would never cast out.

3. In the person of Bartholomew we discover a sense of unworthiness in ourselves. All of the apostles, with one exception, entered into the sufferings of the Lord in a very real way.

They were all faithful men unto death.

And so the song writer Wells asks,

*Must Jesus bear the Cross alone?  
And all, the world goes free?  
No, there's a cross for everyone,  
And there's a cross for me.*

Bartholomew is the quiet man among the apostles. He does not speak in Scripture officially but i think i hear him saying, *My life with Christ was worth it all.* And to that end we can all say, *Amen.*

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*(This is a 14-part series; the full document can be emailed to whoever wants a copy; email the editor on [gensec@cicchq.com](mailto:gensec@cicchq.com). Alternatively, email Vaka on [vngaro@gmail.com](mailto:vngaro@gmail.com). Rev. Ngaro is currently the minister for Avarua parish of the CICC, Rarotonga).*

## SHARE YOUR PHOTOS

This is an open space for anyone wanting to share his/her/their photos – preferably church-related. Send/email to the Editor. Photos below are: (a) on the 11th PCC Assembly held in Auckland, NZ, during 26 Oct. – 1 November 2018 (*photos by Nga Mataio*), and (b) 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of PIPC in Newton, Auckland (*photos sent in by Louisa Heather*).

### Saturday 27, welcome ceremony







Sunday 28, opening ceremony



*Note: images of the assembly business days – Monday to Thursday – will be in the next newsletter.*

**70<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary of the Pacific Islands Presbyterian Church (PIPC) at Newton, Auckland**



## WHAT THEY ARE GOOD FOR

### GOOD TO KNOW:

- ◆ Contributors (articles/photos) - Rev. Vaka Ngaro, Nga Mataio, Paula Baniani, Ngara Katuke, Talissa Koteka, Tangi Taoro, Rev. Tere Marsters and Takamoa students, Rev. Nio Mare, Tutai Mauke, Itirangi Pennycook, Tereora Makaua, Niki Smith, Yasmin Manavaroa, Rev. Tinirau Soatini, William Framhein, Taamo Heather, Oki Teokoitu, Louisa Heather, Aisake Casimira, Rev. Takaiura Marsters, Gee Iru, Chris Manu, Rev. Oirua Rasmussen, Tangi Tereapii, Nga M. Manavaikai, Travel Makara, Junior Ngatokorua, Ruth Aerei, Vaine Tutavake
  
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### GOOD TO REMEMBER:

- Next issue due: March 2019
- Free electronic copy Can be emailed to whoever wishes to receive the CICC Newsletter. Email an email address to the Editor. Alternatively, a copy can be downloaded free of charge from the church's website above.

### GOOD TO DO:

- ✓ Comments on the format and presentation are welcome, email the Editor.
- ✓ Church-related articles/photos for inclusion in future issues are most welcome, email the Editor.
- ✓ Those already on the email distribution list who do not wish to continue receiving a copy of this publication, email the Editor.
- ✓ Feel free to forward on to your contacts and networks.