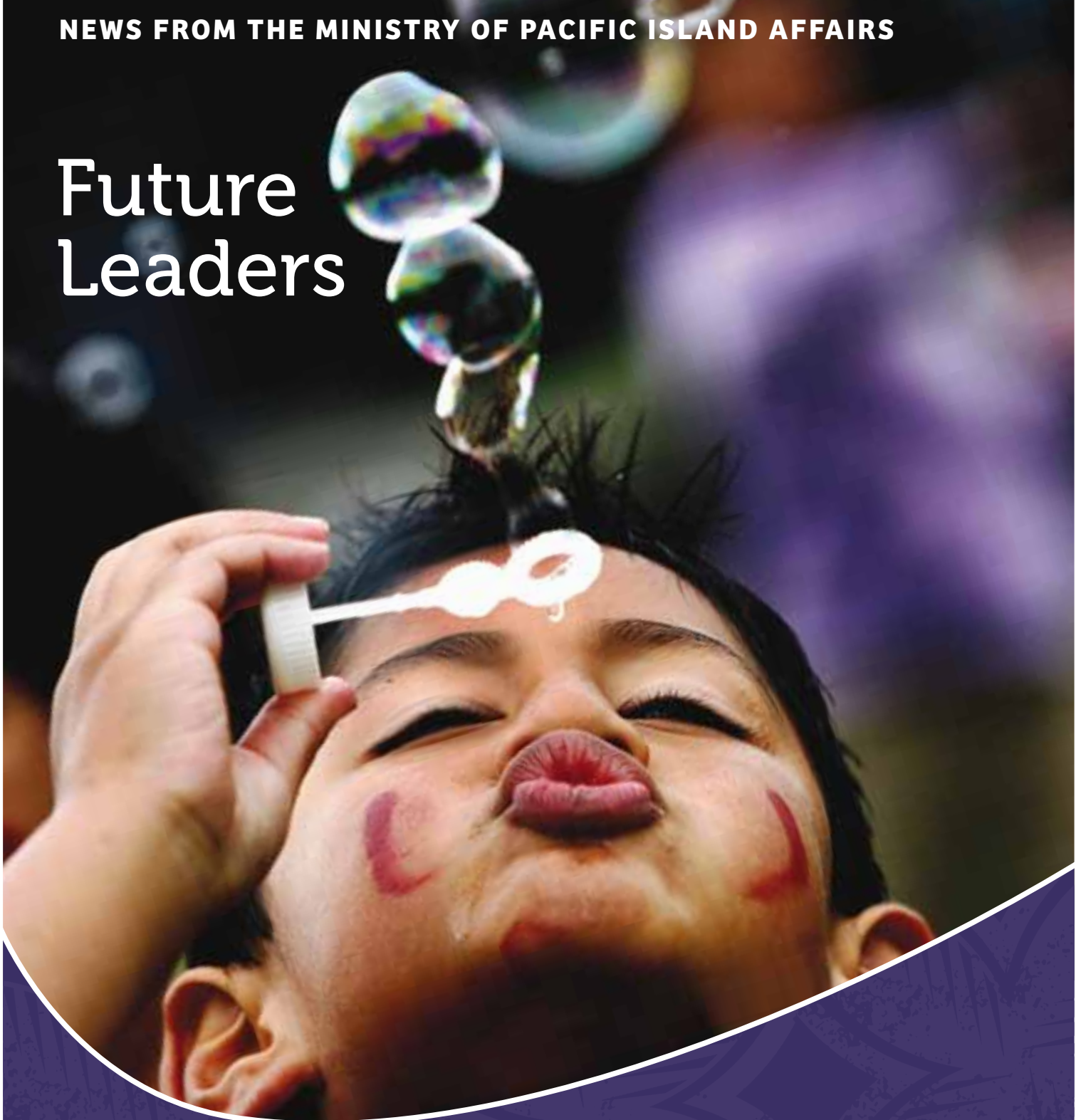


Leo Pasifika

NEWS FROM THE MINISTRY OF PACIFIC ISLAND AFFAIRS

Future Leaders



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Leo Pasifika



Our Future Leaders

This issue of *Leo Pasifika* focuses on our young people, our future leaders.

They deserve the best education, skills and life experiences to prepare them for the future.

We have young Pacific leaders in community development, management and business, arts and sports, who contribute to our

society in many ways. We need, and expect to see, more of them.

We are encouraged by the way our families support and nurture their young.

A lot of innovative work is being done by community and church groups. The churches, in particular, have an important role to play in promoting changes for the better, and influencing the influencers.

Our youth come from diverse backgrounds, which means different approaches are needed to capture their hearts and minds.

Government and other agencies recognise these needs and we will work with them to provide the best for our young people.

la manuia

Dr Colin Tukuitonga
Chief Executive

WELCOME TO LEO PASIFIKA

Leo Pasifika or Pacific Voice is the quarterly magazine of the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs. It's here that we report on our work, comment on matters of interest to Pacific people and celebrate achievement among our diverse and vibrant Pacific communities.



4 Our youth / our future

Bringing fresh enthusiasm and new ideas, we look at how the 'text generation' are embracing the future.

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The deep compassion felt for those affected by the Tsunami in September, prompted a variety of fundraising efforts resulting in a cheque for NZ\$580,000 being presented to the Samoan government.

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New Year Honours are awarded to those who have served their communities.

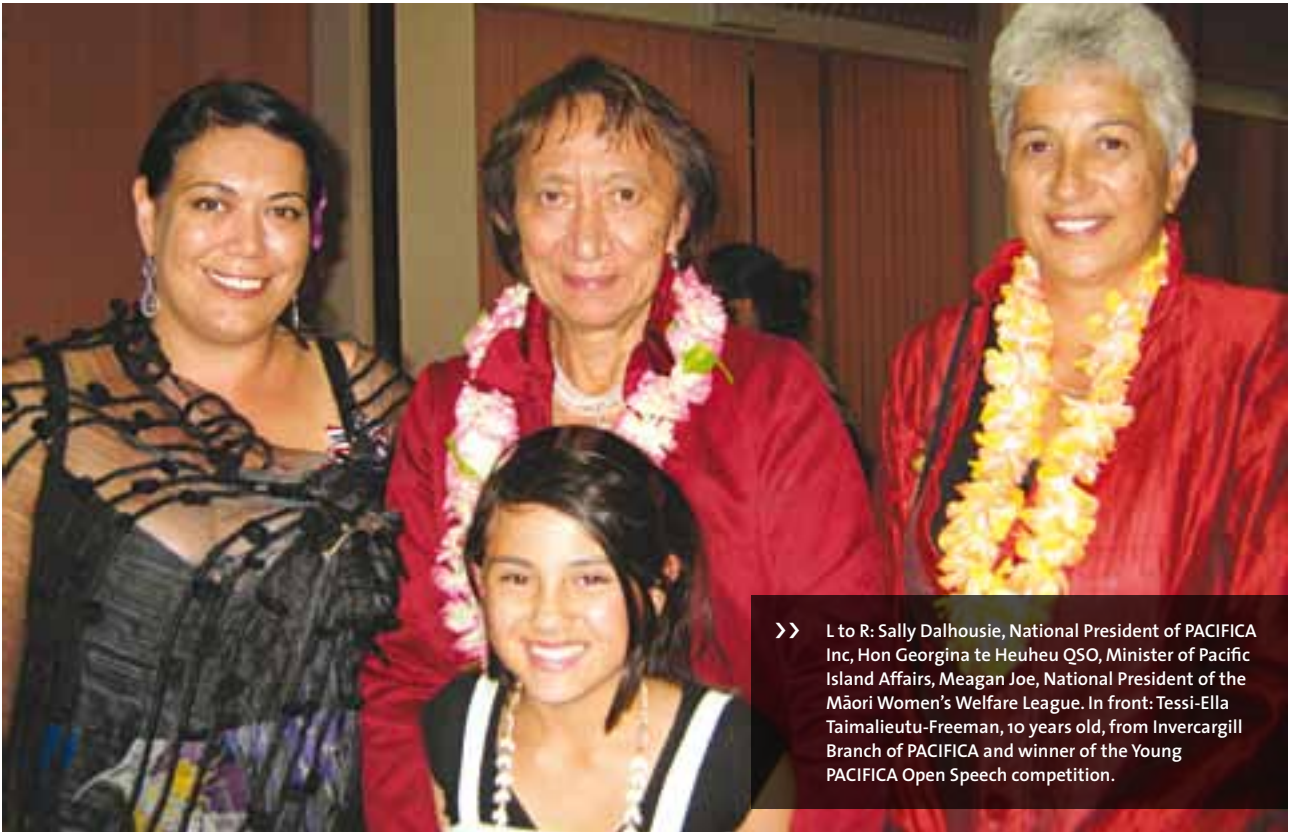


Photo credit: PACIFICA Inc

>> L to R: Sally Dalhousie, National President of PACIFICA Inc, Hon Georgina te Heuheu QSO, Minister of Pacific Island Affairs, Meagan Joe, National President of the Māori Women's Welfare League. In front: Tessi-Ella Taimalieutu-Freeman, 10 years old, from Invercargill Branch of PACIFICA and winner of the Young PACIFICA Open Speech competition.

Young Pacific leaders embrace digital future

Young Pacific people are taking up the mantle of leadership in different ways from their trailblazing forebears, Pacific Island Affairs Minister Georgina te Heuheu says.

Speaking at the Pacific Allied Council Inspires Faith in Ideals Concerning All (PACIFICA) annual conference in Wellington last month, the Minister welcomed the emergence of the 'text generation' of leaders – people under 30 years of age who use text and the internet to communicate.

"Not only do these young leaders bring fresh enthusiasm and new ideas to the table, they also embrace digital communication which is immediate and far-reaching."

Mrs te Heuheu said the new breed of young leaders would be following in the footsteps of their trailblazing forebears who had provided inspirational and courageous leadership for the past three decades.

"The outstanding performance of past leaders has ensured that PACIFICA is in good stead for the future.

"It is fitting that we recognise these trailblazers – women such as Eti Laufiso (69) and Nancy Sheehan (48), who passed away last year. We also recognise the significant contribution of Louisa Crawley, founding member and National President of PACIFICA."

These past leaders are pioneers who have blazed the trail for future leaders to follow.

“ I encourage the emerging text generation of young leaders to show the same inspiration and courage as their predecessors, to accept the mantle of leadership and to serve their communities well, ” Mrs te Heuheu said.



Career opportunities EXPO

A unique learning experience is helping people to get the best out of education in New Zealand.

The Vahefonua Education and Training Expo 2010, held in January, attracted hundreds of people who were keen to learn about the education choices available from early childhood to tertiary level.

While the themes were mainly about training and education, a key focus involved Pacific parents – because they often influence the career choices for their children.

A series of workshops aimed to help people make informed choices about courses and careers. The sessions covered issues such as national certificates for educational achievement, literacy, apprenticeships and empowering parents.

Trainers and educators from different organisations promoted a wide range of opportunities in the professional and trade-related sectors.

This year's event was opened by the Vice-President of the Methodist Church, Lana Lazarus.

Magila Annandale, Director of Communications and Relationships, spoke about apprenticeship opportunities for



Tongan youth and the Ministry's effort to encourage Pacific people to undertake further education.

The Vahefonua Expo 2010 is the latest in a series and was co-sponsored by the Best Training Pacific Institute, Methodist Church of New Zealand and the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs.

Tokelau youth thrive

A group of young Tokelauans now have jobs under a community project which pays them while they learn new skills.

Twelve Tokelauan youth and their three Tokelauan supervisors are part of the six-month *Community Max* initiative. They are employed by Te Umiumiga a Tokelau Hutt Valley Incorporated where they are able to contribute to their local Tokelau community and at the same time gain valuable work experience, training and skills.

In the first week, a visit to the local WELTEC institute in Petone, Lower Hutt, was organised with the institute's Pasifika Centre Advisor Aleki Silao. As well, an additional five Tokelauan young people with an interest in the trades were able to access a year's tuition paid for through *Youth Guarantee*, another government-funded scheme for those who are aged 16-17 and not currently engaged in compulsory education.

"This is a great opportunity to assist our youth at risk," said Project Manager Filipino Lui, who added that *Community Max* and *Youth Guarantee* initiatives provide an opportunity for Tokelauan young people to find ways to build a better future for themselves.

These projects also apply to the cultural principle of 'inati' which underpins the *Ko Na Nanu o te Tifa Tokelau Hutt Valley Youth Development Strategy* – where resources are shared for the benefit of the collective, especially the most vulnerable within the community.

The *Ko Na Nanu o te Tifa Tokelau Hutt Valley Youth Development Strategy* was presented to the Minister of Pacific Island Affairs, the Hon Georgina te Heuheu, when she met with the Tokelau community in August 2009. Through her encouragement to utilise *Community Max*, the community took up the initiative.

Regional Labour Market Manager Mel Harrington and Enterprising Communities Advisor Alan Sanders of the Ministry of Social Development have been working closely with the Tokelau community on the *Community Max* project. Alan believes it provides a positive work opportunity for Tokelau young people,

"The project is targeting unemployed Tokelauan youth and has a clear focus on developing a work ethic and basic work skills that should lead to further training or employment."

**“ This is a great opportunity to assist our youth at risk, ”
said Project Manager Filipino Lui.**



» FRONT L to R: Senia Iasona, Malia Tumua, Daisy Pereira, Helena Little, Malia Timoti and Alan Sanders (MSD Wellington Regional Advisor).
SECOND ROW L to R: Panapa Rimoni, Lafele Pasilio, Philip Lui, Hohimo Manuele and Filipino Lui (Project Manager – *Ko Na Nanu o te Tifa*).
BACK ROW L to R: Hokimi Kauone, Matiahi Kauone, Mason Tavite, Peter Kauone, Setefano Sakaria and Iosefo Sakaria.

Youth Leadership

A new parliament will take over in Christchurch next month with about 60 young people leading the way.

The Pacific Youth Leadership and Transformation (PYLAT) project opens on Monday 12 April and runs for a week. The intensive orientation for the course was held during 13-14 March.

The orientation process saw a number of invited guests speak to the budding parliamentarians. It was conducted by local MPs, journalists and communications specialists who had worked in Parliament either as press secretaries or political advisors.

Youth participants were of a high quality and were eager to gain as much knowledge as they could.

Our future leaders have until 12 April to tackle some of the issues facing Pacific people, prepare to negotiate decisions with different groups and begin their journey to improve their leadership skills.

To add to the pressure, some of the participants will act as journalists, lobbyists, consultants, civil servants and special-interest groups.

The leaders have come from schools, tertiary bodies and youth groups in Christchurch.

The exercise includes several days when speakers will present their cases in front of an audience while trying to sway the decision-makers.

A communiqué based on the presentations will be publicly released at the closing ceremony on Friday 16 April.

The project is led by the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs and is supported by partners from government, community organisations and academic institutions.



Pacific Youth Leadership and Transformation is designed to identify young Pacific leaders and immerse them in real-life situations, enhance their ability to solve problems, and improve their leadership skills.

Pacific teens support HPV immunisation

A high number of young Pacific women chose to immunise against Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) when it was offered for the first time last year in some New Zealand schools.





“ Pacific women are more likely than some other groups in New Zealand to develop cervical cancer, so the support is very pleasing, ” said Dr Api Talemaitoga

Immunisation against the Human Papilloma Virus helps to prevent cervical cancer by protecting young women now from HPV infection and the risk of developing cervical cancer later in life.

About 71 percent of those who were eligible chose to have the vaccine.

“Pacific women are more likely than some other groups in New Zealand to develop cervical cancer, so the support is very pleasing,” said Dr Api Talemaitoga, the Ministry of Health’s Chief Advisor for Pacific Health.

“The programme is about helping to prevent cervical cancer in our future generation of Pacific women,” Dr Talemaitoga said. “I encourage girls and young women to discuss the immunisation with their families so they can make an informed choice.”

“More than 99 percent of cervical cancer is linked to HPV infection, and this vaccine protects against 70 percent of them. Over time, HPV immunisation is expected to halve the rates of cervical cancer in New Zealand.”

Dr Talemaitoga said that girls who are immunised will still need to have regular cervical smears when they are older.

“HPV immunisation and cervical screening work together to greatly reduce the risk of cervical cancer. The vaccine doesn’t protect against all HPV types that can cause cervical cancer, so once women are sexually active they still need to have a smear test every three years between the ages of 20 and 70.”

He says studies indicate the HPV vaccine will offer long-lasting protection.

“Ongoing clinical studies show that, after five years, protection against the HPV virus remains high and suggest that protection will last much longer – possibly for life.”

Dr John Holmes, Chief Advisor Population Health, says that the vaccine has been used in more than 100 countries and 54 million doses have been distributed to more than 17 million people worldwide.

In New Zealand, HPV immunisation is free for girls and young women born on or after 1 January 1990. Young women born in 1990 or 1991 have until 31 December 2011 and girls born from 1992 have until their 20th birthday to start the programme.

For more information about the HPV programme, contact:
www.cervicalcancervaccine.govt.nz or
0800 IMMUNE (0800 466 863).

Are there any side effects?

- » Reactions reported from the HPV vaccine are similar to those from other immunisations.
- » Some people experience minor side effects such as pain, redness and swelling at the injection site (the upper arm) and mild fever.
- » Other less common reactions include vomiting or fainting. This can follow any immunisation, and it is recommended that girls eat breakfast and lunch and avoid excessive exercise on vaccination day.
- » The only known severe side effect is an acute hypersensitivity reaction, or anaphylaxis, in rare cases.
- » Anaphylaxis can occur with any vaccine. Based on clinical studies and experience from overseas, we can expect around 3 anaphylactic reactions per 1 million doses of vaccine administered. This is similar to the rates for other vaccines given to children and adolescents.
- » If anaphylaxis does occur, it can be treated. For this reason, girls are asked to wait for 15 to 20 minutes after vaccination. Every vaccinator is trained and equipped to deal with such a reaction.

Source: Ministry of Health.

HELP TO SHAPE OUR children's future

You can make a major difference by joining your school board of trustees.

Boards of trustees make decisions so that students, including Pacific students, receive the best education at their school. You can be a driving force behind improving school education for Pacific students.

"Education is one of the foundations for achieving successful Pacific communities," said the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, Dr Colin Tukuitonga. "Many Pacific people have the right experience and skills to be on school boards."

Pacific parents on a school board can help to ensure a stronger voice for Pacific people.

More Pacific people are needed to serve on school boards. Pacific students make up nearly 10 percent of school rolls, but only 3.6 percent of trustees are Pacific. The MPIA, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, is urging Pacific parents to stand for election.

For most schools, election nominations open on 15 March and close on 23 April. Elections are due before May 2010 at all schools.

So if you care about the future of Pacific students and their education, put your name down as a candidate for election. Your family and friends can help by rallying support from your community.

"Pacific representation is needed at all levels of education decision-making. Leadership on boards encourages Pacific communities to hold their local schools accountable for their children's education," said Dr Tukuitonga.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you want to know more about how to join your school Board of Trustees, please contact **Sylvia Beumelburg at the Ministry of Education.**
Email: sylvia.beumelburg@minedu.govt.nz or
Phone: (06) 349 6300.



“ So if you care about the future of Pacific students and their education, put your name down as a candidate for election to your local school board. ”

Attendees at the West/Central Pasifika Trustee Fono

L to R: Lydia Sosene (Mt Albert Grammar), Taulagi Teleso (Pt England Primary), Edwin Talakai (Bailey Road Primary), Linda Aumua (MPIA), George Gavet (Kelston Boys High School) and Nemai Vucago (Glenbrae Primary).



“ Waisale Beci is a man on a mission as Fiji win at the colourful Wellington Sevens tournament. ”

By Sri Krishnamurthi

Fiji triumph in Wellington Sevens, Samoa strikes the jackpot in Las Vegas

Message from Fiji: sa vinaka (thank you) Samoa for taking out New Zealand in the semifinals of the Rugby Sevens tournament in Wellington 24-14 because we couldn't have done it without you.

Fiji was arguably the best team in Wellington from day one and they proved that with a pulsating 19-14 win over unlucky Samoa in the final.

Samoa, though, weren't just unlucky; they were desperately unlucky to lose their playmaking maestro Lolo Lui to suspension for an incident in the semifinal.

However, there was no denying the Flying Fijians who thumped England 28-19 in their semifinal to advance to the Cup final.

With the veteran William Ryder playing off the bench in this tournament, Fiji always had that little bit extra on their side and his presence ensured they kept their nerve to the final whistle.

Captained by inspirational Uale Mai, Samoa's Mikaele Pesamino scored twice to nearly cancel out the three Fijian

tries to Jiuta Lutumailagi and captain Emosi Vucago on either side of halftime, with tournament sensation Osea Kolinisau dotting down the winning points.

The win avenged Fiji's loss to Samoa in the 2007 final and it was their third victory at the colourful Wellington Sevens tournament.

Wellington's Fijian community, fans and the team gathered for a long night of revelry and celebration at the Boatshed on the waterfront.

However, two weeks later in round four of the IRB World Series in Las Vegas, Samoa hit the jackpot. Australia outclassed Fiji in the quarterfinals 28-7 but then went down to Samoa 14-12 in the semifinal while New Zealand beat Kenya 21-7.

There was no denying the flair, class, pace and power of mighty Samoa, who steam-rolled New Zealand 33-12 in the final.

New Zealand, nevertheless, remained on course for the series title with 84 points, followed by Samoa on 70 points and Fiji 68 points.

The remainder of the series is played in Adelaide (March 19-21), Hong Kong (March 26-28), England (May 22-24) and Scotland (May 29-31).



Hon Georgina te Heuheu, Minister of Pacific Island Affairs and Hon John Key, Prime Minister.

Pasifika FESTIVAL

New Zealand's biggest community event, the Pasifika Festival in Auckland, celebrates the best of Pacific talent and treasure.

This year's themes were the molokau (centipede) and the frangipani flower, symbolising determination, fertility and growth.



PHOTOGRAPHER: DAN LABAN

Organisers spent months preparing to host the more than 200,000 people, and 1,000 performers, who enjoyed a week of activities leading up to the festival day on Saturday 13 March.

Star billing for the opening night was a concert of massed Pacific groups, joined by local and international artists. This spectacular display provided a glimpse of the rich and diverse cultures and languages in the Pacific.

Other attractions included performances in Auckland by the top 10 performers and groups who auditioned in January to perform at the Pasifika event.

A debate series, Fakakaukau, at the Auckland Town Hall and Aotea Centre kept the festival themes running, though at a lower volume. Activists, artists and academics offered food for thought on diverse topics ranging from identity to education.

A highlight for the 2010 Pasifika Festival was a collaboration between Mika and the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra in the production *Po: Beautiful Darkness*, described as a tribal pop opera.

The mix of Pacific styles, scents and sounds reached their height on the festival day at Western Springs. This has

always been a very popular family event that attracts thousands of visitors.

And before the celebrations end, there is always the opportunity to pick up some lasting mementos. Among the offerings this year was a special Pasifika album of music hits from top Pacific artists over the years.

The Pasifika Festival is organised annually by the Auckland City Council and is in its 18th year. Of the more than 266,000 Pacific people who live in New Zealand, two-thirds are based in Auckland.

LIFE WITH LAKI

We live in crazy times, rushing to fit in friends, family, gym and church. There's never enough hours in a day to do everything. Let alone watch our favourite shows on the box.

Which is why, I suggest *My Sikai* is the coolest thing since the other side of the pillow. With *My Sikai* you can record all your favourite programmes without even being at home and then view them when you want.

So I find myself on a Sunday afternoon sitting on my most beloved armchair catching up on all the Super 14 rugby I've missed. I can watch six games in less than an hour. Yes! Six games in less than an hour.

You see, this amazing invention has made me impatient. With the ability to fast forward even live TV, I have become what I call a 'Skim Viewer'.

I have lost the patience to watch players walk to the next line-out or even bear with Daniel Carter as he lines up his kick at goal. My finger is pressed firmly on the fast forward button and, just like that, the game is all over.

I go to Eden Park to watch the Blues play and get frustrated because I can't use my remote to make the players move faster at each scrum.

But it goes well beyond the realm of sport.

While standing in line at the local post office to get a new car rego, I find that my right thumb begins to twitch uncontrollably. I get sweaty. My heart is thumping so hard I'm scared it will pop right out. (Who will catch my heart if it happened? Will I then have to marry them?) What's happening here? The questions scream in my head, which starts to spin! The walls seem to be closing in on me.

It seemed like hours but, in reality, it was no more than 10 minutes when the line moved forward. I move a further inch forward (it would've been two steps further if the guy in front of me had discovered the benefits of a shower). That's when it hit me!

I wanted to *My Sikai* my life! The reality of actual time is now a burden to me. Why can't I have a remote that lets me fast forward all the mundane parts of my life? And replay all the good times?

"Can I help you sir?", the woman behind the counter repeats. I stumble forward.

"How can I help you today?", she greets me. "Rego", I respond. "And would there be anything else I can help you with today?", she asks with a forced smile.

"Nah I'm good! It's my life ... and I wanna live ... every minute and every second of it!"



PACIFIC STARMAP hits it big

A website promoting Pacific artists has recorded a million hits of its own.

Pacific Starmap was launched in August 2008 and passed the milestone in January this year.

The site helps to put emerging artists in touch with *Starmap* champions who offer advice about their own journeys to success. There is also information about careers, scholarships and awards, and funding support, as well as news updates from the Pacific arts scene.

A 'Directory of Artists' serves as a hub for artists to get in touch with each other.

The site (www.starmap.co.nz) is a key resource for a wide range of organisations and is being revamped for a new look in April 2010.



Stone Carver: Johnny Peninsula
Starmap champion.



ALBERT WENDT

Starmap profile

Albert Wendt, one of New Zealand's and the Pacific's foremost storytellers, has won the Commonwealth Writer's Prize for the Asia Pacific Region for his novel *The Adventures of Vela*.

"It is a great honour to be recognised in this way," said Professor Wendt at the awards ceremony in Sydney. "Vela has been a character I have thought about for a long time so this is a lifetime's work." *The Adventures of Vela* now goes through to the final phase of the competition where an international judging panel will meet to decide the overall Commonwealth winners for Best Book and Best First Book with other regional winners from Africa, the Caribbean, Canada, South Asia and Europe.

The announcement of the two overall winners will take place on Monday 12 April 2010. Albert Wendt is one of the *Starmap* champions; we wish him luck.

Pasifika Education Plan

A new education plan is expected to improve the education results for Pacific people.

“Along with young Māori, Pacific young people are our future workforce,” said Pacific Island Affairs Minister Georgina te Heuheu at the launch of the revised Pasifika Education Plan 2009-2012.

“It is critical that we have a coherent and effective approach for Pacific students from early childhood to tertiary education,” she said at the gathering at the Cook Island Community Centre in Flaxmere, Hawke’s Bay.

“The education system must work for Pacific students so that they gain the knowledge and skills they need to thrive, excel and contribute to the overall economy and social wellbeing of New Zealand.”

The Pasifika plan was revised to include key education goals in literacy and numeracy as well as recognise and promote the value of Pacific languages and culture in schools.

“We want everyone in the education sector to concentrate on what will make the most difference for Pacific students. That involves building strong learning foundations, lifting Pacific literacy and numeracy, and increasing the number of Pacific students achieving school level qualifications.

The Minister said that while progress had been made by young Pacific people, it was important to build on that platform to ensure all Pacific children succeeded in their education.



L to R: Karen Sewell, Secretary for Education. Lesieli Tongati’o, Pule Ma’ata Pasifika Education. Minister Te Heuheu and Rawiri Brell, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Education.

Minister VISITS TOKOROA

Pacific Island Affairs Minister Georgina te Heuheu visited Tokoroa on Tuesday 9 March where she and local Tāupo MP Louise Upston acknowledged the Pacific community.

Once a thriving part of the township, the shutting down of the timber and paper mills and last year’s recession has seen the mainly Cook Islands community go into decline.

Economic hardship has resulted in many young Pacific people leaving in search of employment or study elsewhere or moving to Australia, with just 22,641 people left in Tokoroa.

Of that population, 12 percent, or 2,565, are Pasifika, and they remain an integral part of Tokoroa’s multicultural make-up.

Tokoroa still hosts an annual Polynesian festival in September featuring mainly Cook Islands and Māori entertainment.

The Minister congratulated Tokoroa’s Pacific population for remaining loyal to the town and for continuing to proactively promote healthy lifestyle initiatives and sustaining traditional cultural practices.



L to R: Sia Batcheler, Minister Te Heuheu and Guinevere Newport.

MPIA Office joins Inland Revenue to reduce costs

Under an agreement reached last year, the new Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs office in Cashel Street, Christchurch, now shares office space and some services with the Inland Revenue Department.

The move provides a win-win outcome with considerable reduction of costs to the Ministry and some income in the way of rent to IRD. The savings are earmarked for other projects. The move opens the way for other agencies to follow suit.

During her visit to the Ministry's new premises in Cashel Street, the Pacific Island Affairs Minister, joined by Pacific Community people, praised the move.

“ I would like to congratulate my Ministry and the IRD for taking this pragmatic step which will help in the trimming of costs as the government continues to drive for a more efficient public service, ” said Mrs te Heuheu.



L to R: Robert Nicole, Sia Batcheler, Selma Scott, Ceryse Scott and Ashalyna Noa.



L to R: Colin Tukuitonga MPIA, Tuiataga Asi Blakelock, Samoan High Com, Dr Jimmie Rodgers, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Wendy McCarthy, Pacific Friends of the Global Fund, Misa Telefoni Retzlaff, Pacific AIDS Commission and Deputy PM of Samoa, Dominica Abo, Anglicare Stop AIDS PNG, Dr Kazatchkine, Global Fund, Temo Sasau, Pacific AIDS Foundation, Api Talemaitoga, Ministry of Health and Bill Botwell, Pacific Friends of the Global Fund.

MPIA hosts Global Fund meeting

Key players in the fight against HIV/AIDS in the Pacific met in February to share ideas on tackling the disease.

The meeting in Wellington was hosted by the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs.

Participants included the Executive Director of the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria, Dr Michel Kazatchkine, and Samoa's Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Pacific Aids Commission, Misa Telefoni Retzlaff.

The Global Fund has an annual budget of US\$12 billion. It is pivotal in the fight against HIV/AIDS in the Pacific and other regions.

The meeting discussed the need for better coordination of funding in the Pacific for HIV/AIDS and other diseases.

During the talks, Misa Telefoni presented the Commission's report, *Turning the Tide*, to Dr Kazatchkine.



L to R: Simon Harger-Forde, NZ AIDS Foundation, Dr Jimmie Rodgers, Temo Sasau, Dominica Abo, Sally Davidson and Kiki Maote.



L to R: Wendy McCarthy, Dr Kazatchkine, Colin Tukuitonga, Magila Annandale MPIA and Misa Telefoni Retzlaff.

Turning the Tide – key points

- Not enough is known about the levels and distribution of HIV in the Pacific. Each country has its own pattern of infections.
- Pacific leaders must be actively engaged and translate their global and regional commitments into national action.
- The Pacific has all the elements for major epidemics - high levels of STIs, high risk behaviours, commercial sex, pockets of injecting drug use, young and mobile population, income inequality and often poor access to health and education services.
- The stigma of AIDS can deter people from getting tested, rob them of basic rights and access to care, and prevent them from living a dignified life. Legislation needs to protect the rights of people living with HIV.
- Poor quality health services limit the capacity for diagnosis, reporting and treatment.
- Countries must focus on implementing programmes and also ensure best use of resources.
- AIDS should not be seen as a burden which diverts resources away from other priorities.



Eating actively

Ms Arnell Hinkle › American health professional

“ Asking people to eat well, and exercise more often, is standard advice from health experts.”

But are there better ways of getting this message across to Māori and Pacific people?

An American health professional, Ms Arnell Hinkle, is trying to find out.

Ms Hinkle is in New Zealand under an Ian Axford Fellowship in Public Policy to study how Māori and Pacific people engaged with the government's former Healthy Eating-Healthy Action campaign. She is based at the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs and is being mentored by Dr Colin Tukuitonga.

Arnell's interest in nutrition has taken her on some interesting journeys: from private chef for Diana Ross and John Belushi, to a vegetarian restaurant manager in Quito, Ecuador; from organic farmer on Martha's Vineyard, to developing a community nutrition project in South India.

Her policy report and community case study will later be disseminated in New Zealand and the United States. The lessons learned will be used to help develop policy strategies to tackle health issues in target communities.

Established in 1995, the Axford Fellowship gives outstanding American professionals the opportunity to study, travel, and gain practical experience in public policy in New Zealand. The fellowship is administered by the Fulbright Office, New Zealand.

Ms Hinkle, who is the Executive Director of CANFIT (Communities • Adolescents • Nutrition • Fitness), is one of five Axford fellows who are located in Wellington from February to September 2010.

The award scheme aims to strengthen the network of public policy experts on both sides of the Pacific and encourage ongoing policy exchange between New Zealand and the United States.



Graduates from the ImPAC workshop.

PACIFIC BUSINESS TRUST

Funded & supported by the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs

The Pacific Business Trust has supported Pacific entrepreneurs and business owners since 1985 and helps them to grow.

You can start your own business through the *impAC Start* programme. In partnership with New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE), the programme offers five workshops on starting a business. The focus is on producing your own business plan and includes:

- building your vision
- developing a marketing and sales plan
- identifying your business structure
- managing income tax, provisional tax, GST, PAYE, ACC and health and safety
- developing a financial plan.

Pasifika Unlimited Seminars

The Trust also runs *Pasifika Unlimited*, a series of business seminars that target new or existing businesses.

The seminars include guest speakers who share business tips on what helped with their success. Participants get the opportunity to ask questions and interact with business owners and entrepreneurs. There is also the opportunity to build new business ties through “Speed Networking”.



PACIFIC
BUSINESS
TRUST

Find out more about these opportunities by calling us on free-phone 0800 287 7526 or emailing www.pacificbusiness.co.nz

CASE STUDIES >>

01 SSK International Ltd

Teuaki Raymond Vakauta came to the Pacific Business Trust in August 2009 seeking business advice. His main income came from importing goods from Tonga. With no business background and more than \$30k owing to his business, he decided to take up the training offered by PBT.

Raymond completed the NZTE *imPAC* business programme and returned to Tonga to prepare for another shipment. When a lack of rain affected his income stream, he diversified into construction and landscaping in partnership with his brother.

Six Star Kids (SSK) International Ltd was launched in January 2010. Its services include stone and rock walls, fencing, design and build, landscaping, demolition, lawn mowing, rubbish removal and food imports. SSK has built two stone walls in Auckland and is gaining a market due to competitive pricing and quality. Raymond believes in being fair, working hard and in trying new things. These qualities will help him to be successful.

02 Te Huia Artworks

Henry Tupe (Māori) and his partner began a small business in 2009 to produce Māori carvings. They enrolled in the NZTE *imPAC* business programme in South Auckland, developed a business plan, and ran a successful exhibition in Manurewa, South Auckland. They recently completed two carvings which were presented to Cliff Richard in February by the head of the Cliff Richard Fan Club. Well done, Te Huia Artworks.



Elizabeth Ah-Hi • Lush Lashes

03 Eyeing up new business

Elizabeth Ah-Hi is growing a steady market with her own franchise of Lush Lashes. These are eyelash extensions that last four to six weeks and are both popular and water-resistant.

Liz's Lush Lashes operation is run from a small shop with a relaxing atmosphere in the Stokes Valley Shopping Centre.

When she started her business, Liz made good use of the help available from the Pacific Business Trust in Wellington.

She attended a number of events organised by PBT such as *imPAC* workshops, mini Biz expos and business network evenings. Liz also took advantage of business coaching and mentoring advice from the team at PBT.

She is presently able to work a second part-time job; however, she expects that her new business interest will soon become a full-time commitment.

Our next five *imPAC Start* business workshops are being held from 8 March to 6 April 2010 at the Hosanna World Outreach Centre, 1115-1121 High Street, Lower Hutt. Contact us now to register your interest and enrol.

“ She attended a number of events organised by PBT such as *imPAC* workshops, mini Biz expos and business network evenings. ”

For further information contact:

Pacific Business Trust's Wellington regional office,
Level 1, 20 Parumoana Street,
Porirua City.

Phone: (04) 238 0050

Email: maureenb@pacificbusiness.co.nz or

vaoak@pacificbusiness.co.nz



Leaders for business

Prime Minister John Key got a taste of the best of Pacific business during a visit to the Pacific Business Trust regional office in Wellington.

Business Advisors Maureen Tukaroa-Betham and Fa'avaoa Kerr hosted the event which included presentations, a mini-Pacific Business Expo and a networking opportunity for the participants.

Mr Key was accompanied by the Minister of Pacific Island Affairs, Georgina te Heuheu, National MP Hekia Parata, the Deputy Mayor of Porirua, Litea Ah Hoi and other dignitaries.

The event in March included a visit to the Porirua business Connect Global which is run by Siuai and Serena Fiso.



Pacific Business Trust Wellington regional office Business Advisors Maureen Tukaroa-Betham and Fa'avaoa Kerr hosted The Prime Minister John Key and the Minister of Pacific Island Affairs Georgina te Heuheu.

CAREER development

A Pacific Careers Network has been set up following a meeting last November hosted by the government agency Career Services.

The Fifth International Symposium on Career Development and Public Policy was attended by delegates from 24 countries and included an address from Georgina te Heuheu, the Minister of Pacific Island Affairs.

The meeting explored social, economic and technological trends in the global labour market and discussed how to build better networks for improving career development.

The new Pacific network will share ideas and develop joint initiatives to benefit people in New Zealand and the Pacific.

A communiqué outlining a vision and future action will guide the careers agenda for the network.



PACIFIC CAREERS NETWORK

BACK L to R: Steve Thomsen (facilitator), Heker Robertson (MPIA), Lafi Sanerivi (SPBEA), Charlene Tukiuha (Niue), Paul Roughan (Solomon Islands), Patrick Daudau (Solomon Islands), Tevita Mau (Tonga) and Celsus Talifilu (Solomon Islands).

FRONT L to R: Linnae Pohatu (Career Services), Matalena Leaupepe (Career Services), Sydney Faasau (Samoa), Richard Hipa (Niue), Hon Lord Tu'ivakano (Tonga), Repeta Puna (Cook Islands) and Meleoni Uera (Tonga).



Rebuilding Samoa

A tsunami appeal in New Zealand has presented NZ\$580,000 (1,030,000 tala) to the Samoan government to help those affected by last year's Pacific tsunami.

Samoa's Prime Minister, Susuga Tuilaepa Sailele Lufesoliai Malielegaoi, acknowledged the generosity of spirit behind the many donations, both large and small. He received the funds in his role as Chair of Samoa's National Disaster Council.

The money was collected by the Samoa Tsunami 2009 Appeal Charitable Trust, headed by Samoa's Consul General in Auckland, Afioga Faolotoi Reupena Pogi.

The final amount includes NZ\$261,000 from the organisers of the 'I Love the Islands' relief concerts that were performed in New Zealand and Samoa.

Prime Minister Tuilaepa met with Trust members who paid their way to Apia for the handover of relief funds. The delegation also visited the affected areas on Upolu's south-east coast.

The Trust was set up when news of the tsunami broke, prompting an immediate response from individuals and groups across New Zealand and elsewhere. In addition to fundraising, the Trust also shipped more than 20 containers of relief supplies to Samoa.

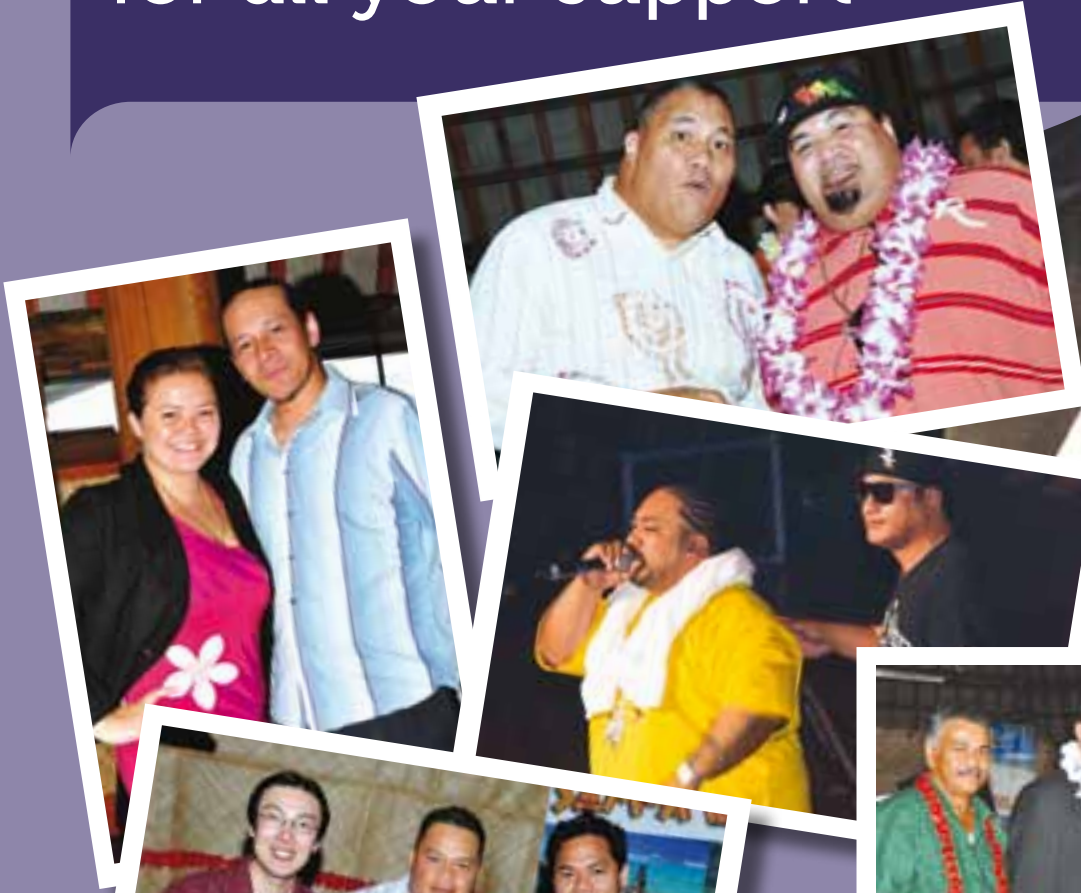
The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs helped to set up and support the temporary office for the Trust appeal in Auckland.

“ Samoa's Prime Minister, Susuga Tuilaepa Sailele Lufesoliai Malielegaoi, acknowledged the generosity of spirit behind the many donations, both large and small. ”



L to R: Faolotoi Reupena Pogi, Consul General Trust, Gagau Annandale, Susuga Tuilaepa Sailele Lufesoliai Malielegaoi, Prime Minister of Samoa and Magila Annandale, Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs.

Fa'afetai tele lava for all your support





New preschool for Manono

Richard Khouzame is a man whose vision has become a reality for the people of Lepuia'i village on Manono Island in Samoa.

Mr Khouzame was invited to Manono to attend a friend's wedding which was postponed due to the 29 September tsunami. The wedding was held instead in Wellington, but Richard and his friends' hearts were still on the island. Moved by the plight of the people there, he arranged a fundraiser at his pizza shop in Waikanae, Wellington and departed for Samoa with cash, equipment, tools and food in early October.

The thing that touched him the most during his month-long stay as he helped to clean up the devastation brought by the tsunami was the sight of the children walking past a concrete foundation everyday pointing to the remains of their preschool.

"During this time, I made up my mind that I would build a new school for them on higher ground," said Mr Khouzame.

“ During this time I made up my mind that I would build a new school for them on higher ground, ” said Mr Khouzame.

With this mission in mind, he returned to Waikanae and set a target of raising \$50,000. He received help and support from two retired builders and an architect who drew up the plans and made a list of materials that would be required.

In partnership with the charitable trust Waterharvest.org, Richard held slide presentations, an art auction and a live concert at a local bar. He also canvassed local businesses for donations and volunteers.

"It's all about the difference we can make in someone else's life. We have peace in our lives. We have drinking water which they do not have. People have been amazing with making donations. I was surprised when a single mother of three children donated \$160."

"Single drops fill the bucket," Mr Khouzame says.

Six weeks after he began fundraising, and with more than \$25,000 in the bank, plus a group of volunteer builders and a support crew, Richard

left New Zealand to begin the mission he'd set himself.

Work on the preschool started in early February and, thanks to the dedication of both the volunteer team and the local people, the new preschool was finished in 10 days.

There's still some work to do – the building needs to be lined, fencing erected, and a playground built. The aim is to return in July to carry out phase two of the building.

In the meantime, the children of Lepuia'i village on tiny Manono Island have been able to return to school, thanks to the vision and community spirit of Mr Khouzame.

Tax deductible donations to Project Preschool 2010 can be made by bank transfer to Waterharvest Trust 02 0591 0006120 000.

Reproduced with permission from the Samoa Observer.

MPIA Director Magila Annandale met with Richard on her recent visit to Samoa.

Volunteer training

People wanting to help after a disaster often need an update on what to expect.

One such group involved volunteers from the Housing New Zealand Corporation (HNZC). They were briefed before their travel to Samoa to work with Habitat for Humanity on a rebuilding programme.

The Pacific tsunami last September had left nearly 200 people dead in Samoa, Tonga and American Samoa and caused widespread damage.

Most of the deaths – 143 including 10 tourists – were in Samoa.

While most of the country escaped the effects of the disaster, 19 villages were severely impacted, with many people relying on emergency shelter and supplies.

The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs Chief Advisor, Heker Robertson, worked with HNZC to prepare and deliver a deployment training package for these volunteers. The package included briefings on Samoa's infrastructure, economy, culture, health and emergency procedures.

This training aimed to help the team quickly settle in so they could focus on the rebuilding effort.



Heker Robertson, Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs Chief Advisor.

In memory

“From the very worst of events we often see the very best of the human spirit” –

New Zealand Prime Minister John Key, at a memorial service in Auckland.

As Pacific communities recovered from the September tsunami, they also found comfort at special memorial services to remember loved ones. Families and friends filled the national stadium in Apia for a service marked by a deep sense of loss, as well as hope.

The most poignant moment of the solemn service came during the reading of the names of the victims.

The memorial service in Apia was one of many organised by Pacific communities in different countries.

At one of those services, in Auckland, New Zealand Prime Minister John Key said that, despite the tragedy, “the faith, the hope and the optimism ... still shone through.”



L to R: Tuiataga Asi Blakelock, High Commissioner of Samoa, John Key, Prime Minister and Georgina te Heuheu, Minister of Pacific Island Affairs.

He also said the huge public support for relief efforts was a real sign of the deep compassion and friendship that Kiwis have for the people of Samoa and Tonga.

The September tsunami was the country's worst national disaster in terms of loss of life since the flu pandemic in 1918 killed nearly a quarter of Samoa's population.

NEW YEAR HONOURS 2010

Honouring those who have served us

The Queens Service Medal - QSM

For services to the Pacific community

The Elder Reverend Aotofaga Tupulua Lemuelu II

Reverend Lemuelu has been involved in the Pacific Islands community in Southland and Auckland for many years. He was the first Presbyterian Minister for the Invercargill Pacific Island community and was an advisor and Chaplain to Pacific Islanders at various local workplaces for 10 years. He is the moderator of the Pacific Island Synod, a member of the South Auckland Presbytery, a Minister for St Paul's Trinity Pacific Islanders Presbyterian Church, and involved with the Otara Pacific Islanders Presbyterian Church. He established workshops and schemes for Pacific youth to gain skills in trades. He was instrumental in the establishment of the South Seas' Health Centre. Reverend Lemuelu was also responsible for establishing the Lotu Moui Health project which promotes health in the Pacific community in South Auckland.

For services to the Tokelauan community and the community

Isitolo Isaac Pakome, JP (1997)

Mr Pakome has contributed to the Tokelauan community of Taupō for 35 years through his service to many community organisations. He has been President of the Catholic Tokelauan Group, Secretary of the Tokelau Island Community Group, and a member of the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs national advisory council. He was a trustee for the National Tokelau Islanders Trust and chaired the Tokelau Island fundraising committee for 15 years. He has been involved in other community organisations, including the Taupō Māori Wardens, Taupō Primary School, Taupō Crime Prevention and Safety Committee and the Taupō Rugby Club. Mr Pakome chairs the Taupō Pasifika Charitable Trust Deed.

For services to the Pacific community

Loine Louisa Tapaotama Lavakula

Mrs Tapaotama Lavakula has been involved with the Pacific Islands community in Auckland for more than 20 years. She is the coordinator for the Pacific Information Advocacy Support Services Trust, where she has been an advocate for the support of the health and well-being of children, elderly, and those with mental disabilities. She is a founding member of the Pacific Island Advisory Committee of the Manukau City Council and was a member of the Otara Community Board. Mrs Tapaotama Lavakula is a member of the Counties Manukau District Health board, the Niue representative on the Pacific Island Advisory Committee and a founding member of the Niue Kaufakalataha Arts.

For services to the Pacific community

Monica Tongia Unuia

Mrs Tongia Unuia has been involved with the Pacific Islands community and in particular the Cook Island community in Mangere for more than 30 years. She has been involved with Koru School as a volunteer sports coach and cultural tutor. She has been an advocate for youth, education, and promoted cross-cultural leadership. She was associated with the establishment of the Pacific Islands and Cook Islands Catholic Church in Auckland in 1974. She was cultural arts director for Pacific performing arts during the Auckland Commonwealth Games in 1990 and vice chair of the Cook Islands Catholic Church Council.



For services to the Tokelauan community

Ineleo Nonu Tuia

LOWER HUTT

Mr Tuia has contributed to the Tokelauan community in the Wellington region for some 40 years. He has helped the local Catholic Church with the housing and resettlement of recent migrants to the region. He has translated for Tokelauan people and helped families with social, legal, and health issues. He has organised many functions for the Tokelauan community and supported the maintenance of Tokelau traditional language and culture. He formed the Tokelau Performing Group, which has performed at national celebrations. In conjunction with the Alexander Turnbull Library, he has helped maintain Tokelauan historic artefacts. For 20 years, Mr Tuia has contributed to the University of Otago Medical School's migration study of Tokelau people migrating to New Zealand.

For services to the Pacific community

Toleafoa Kirisimasi Aiolupotea, JP (1980)

MANUKAU

Mr Aiolupotea has been immersed in the Pacific Islands community in Otara for more than 30 years. He is a foundation member of the Otara Pacific Islands Church, where he has held all offices, including the session clerk for the Cook Islands, Niue and Samoa, the Samoan Group Secretary, and has been an elder and leader of the South Auckland regional Pacific churches. Mr Aiolupotea served with the Pacific Island church synod of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand and is an executive member of the fono Samoa Pacific Island church synod.

Member, New Zealand Order of Merit - MNZM

For services to Pacific community health

Professor Sitaleki 'Ata'ata Finau

Professor Finau has contributed to Pacific Island health in New Zealand for many years. He was the driving force behind the establishment of the Tongan Health Society. He developed an ethnic-specific model of health care and established the Langimalie Clinic in Auckland, which is the only Pacific ethnic-specific primary care organisation in New Zealand. He instituted Hepatitis B screening programmes which have targeted Pacific people. He helped re-establish the New Zealand Tongan Nurses' Association, and is a founding member of the New Zealand Pacifica Medical Association. Professor Finau has been a member of the Pacific Health Research Council, the Aotearoa Tongan Education Association and the Centre of Pacific Studies at the University of Auckland. He has recently been Director of Health in Niue.

Professor Futa Helu (1934 – 2010)

As one of the region’s leading educators, emeritus Professor Futa Helu took great pride in the promotion of learning.

Professor Helu maintained close links with tertiary institutions overseas while also establishing the ‘Atenisi Institute for Critical Thinking in the South Pacific in his native Tonga.

“He was highly respected for his work in developing the ‘Atenisi Institute from a night school, to a high school, and eventually a university,” said the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, Dr Colin Tukuitonga.

‘Atenisi is Tongan for the Greek capital, Athens, and the name highlights the scientific and democratic approach favoured by the ancient Greeks. Since its establishment in 1966, it has remained independent.

The institute now confers tertiary level qualifications in collaboration with universities in Australia and New Zealand. In June 2008, Professor Helu, was inducted as one of six fellows of the Atenisi Institute.

“ Dr Tukuitonga said Professor Helu’s contribution to education in Tonga, over many decades, was significant and he had a huge influence on Tongan society.”

Born on 17 June 1934, Professor Helu studied at the Newington College in New South Wales and attended Sydney University where he studied philosophy, English literature, mathematics and physics.

He and his wife, Kaloni Schaaf, who died in 2008, had six children. Professor Helu died on 2 February at the Vaiola Hospital in Tonga, aged 75.

Pacific Appointments to government boards and committees 1 July to 31 December 2009

Dr Etuate (Edward) Saafi
Northern Regional Ethics Committee

Pefi Kingi
Occupational Therapy Board

Jane Poa
The Eastern and Central Community Trust

Dr Monique Faleafa
Psychologists Board

Laauli Michael Niko Jones
Pacific Corporation Foundation

Brian Hemi
Quotable Value Ltd

Dr Kiki Maoate
Jordan Salesa
Dr Paopio Luteru
Eseta Finau
Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal

Pauline Winter
Tertiary Education Commission

Dr Airini
Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Board

Selma Theresa Scott
Human Rights Review Tribunal

Panu Mark Raea
Small Business Advisory Group

Fatuma Elmi
Lottery Waikato Community Distribution Committee

Mele Wendt
Lottery Wellington /Wairarapa Community Distribution Committee

Pauline Winter
Transport Accident Investigation Commission

Fa’amatua’inu Tino Pereira
National Pacific Radio Trust

Hamish Crooks
Selma Theresa Scott
Caren Jane Rangī
Sitiveni Mavoa
Shirley Sisepi-Fraser
Pacific Business Trust



Pasifika Festival, March 2010

