

MINISTRY OF
**PACIFIC ISLAND
AFFAIRS**

March / April 2008

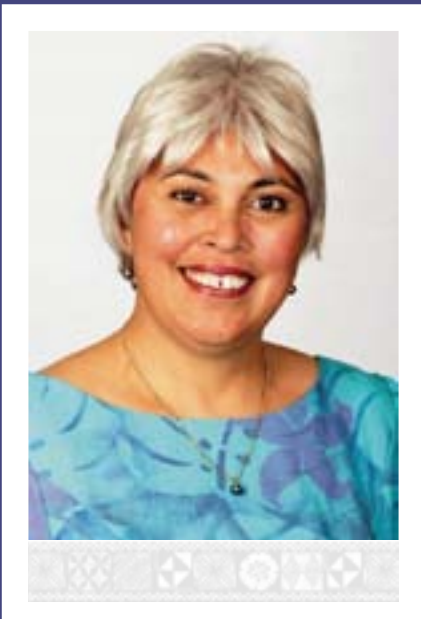


A NEWSLETTER FOR PACIFIC ISLAND COMMUNITIES



www.minpac.govt.nz

**THE EMERGING FACE OF
PACIFIC PEOPLES IN AOTEAROA**



HON LUAMANUAO WINNIE LABAN

TALOHA NI, TALOFA LAVA, MALO E LELEI, FAKAALOFA LAHI ATU, NI SA BULA VINAKA, NAMASTE, KIA ORANA KOUTOU KATOATO, IA ORANA, GUD DE TRU OLGETA, TALOFA, KIA ORA TATOU AND WARM PACIFIC GREETINGS TO YOU ALL.

We know that our Pacific population is growing faster than the New Zealand average population – we are young, vibrant and full of potential. This is an important factor to consider when looking at our future contribution.

The lowest unemployment rate on record and the highest ever labour force participation rate means many of our people today are faced with an exciting new dilemma. Instead of looking for jobs and worrying about how to put food on the table, Pacific people are thinking about starting new businesses, buying a home, doing tertiary study, and saving for retirement.

While I acknowledge the opportunity for a bright future for our Pacific communities, I also note that our Pacific people are currently among the lowest paid New Zealand workers.

Lifting our Pacific families out of these income brackets and level of relative disadvantage is something we must all focus on as we prepare ourselves and our Pacific young people to be the workforce of the future.

The Pacific Economic Action Plan and the Pacific Women’s Economic Development Plan are a key piece of work for the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, focusing on areas of development for moving our people into higher income and higher skilled jobs.

Pacific achievement at all levels of education is vital, leading to a skilled and versatile workforce. Our people are being encouraged and supported to develop and run their own businesses. The importance of more Pacific people in key decision-making positions, spread throughout the public and private sectors, in boards and other leadership

As Pacific people we gain our strength from our history, culture, language, traditions and families, with our communities adding an inherent richness and diversity to New Zealand’s national identity.



SHORT FILM COMPETITION HAS CLOSED

Open to all New Zealanders aged 12-24, the ID360 short film competition has given young people an opportunity to tell their stories and let New Zealand know what identity and diversity means to them.

A judging panel have reviewed all of the entries and narrowed them down to 15 short listed films, five for each of the three different age categories. The 15 short listed films are displayed on the ID360 website: www.id360.govt.nz so you can check them out now!

Two talented film makers are part of the judging panel; Jess Feast and Zoe McIntosh. David Rea, General Manager of the Ministry of Youth Development, who is the third member of the judging panel, is pleased to

have talented young film makers of such a high calibre involved in judging ID360.

“Jess and Zoe are both award winning independent filmmakers who are no strangers to the rigours of competition and have demonstrated a commitment to exploring identity and diversity in their work.”

The overall winners were announced by the Minister of Youth Affairs at an awards ceremony at the New Zealand Film Archive in Wellington on 21 April 2008.

The purpose of ID360 was to get young people to show everyone what it means to be a young person growing up in New Zealand today.

Finalists for the 12 to15 age category were: Muffatag Productions: *Uncut* by Corben Taylor (Auckland), *A glimpse of our world*

by Thomas Devereaux (Auckland), *No-one else* by Jessica Kilbride Parris (Nelson), *Just another day* by Alice Tate (Gisborne), *Sand and Ice Cream* by Finn Stichbury (Auckland)

Finalists the 16 to18 age category were: *Circle* by Samuel White (Balcutha), *Identity and Diversity: New Zealand Youth* by Kathleen Collins (Wellington), *No Kiwi Restaurants* by Thomas King and Carl Naus (Auckland), *Play* by Matthew Girvan (New Plymouth), *Me, Myself and Plasticine* by Tegan Hall (Hamilton)

Finalists for the 19 to 24 age category were: *A Small Film about a Stranger* by Jesse Taylor Smith (Wellington), *From Within: A Boys Story* by Aleisha Frazer (Amberley), *Life* by Jamuel Enriquez (Auckland), *People of the Mist* by Peter Young (Hamilton), *Project life Us* by Jay Newdick (Wellington).

positions is also being emphasised, so that unique skills and talents can be utilised.

The Ministry's whole of government approach, working with both the private sector and community groups, is achieving results that ensure our Pacific peoples have the skills and support needed to succeed, both now and in the future.

An excellent example is a programme to increase the participation of Pacific women in nursing, by providing flexible, tailored learning and English language training to women who hold nursing qualifications gained in Pacific countries. A partnership has been formed with the District Health Boards in Auckland and Wellington to employ these women, with further pastoral care provided to ensure that they remain in employment. These women would otherwise be unemployed or in low-level employment, but this programme encourages the utilisation and development of their professional skills.

Massey University's recent Pasifika graduation was also an illustration of Pacific people up-skilling and being encouraged to enroll in high-

value courses. It was fantastic to see our Pacific graduates with a range of degrees, including a Bachelor of Aviation, Bachelors of Business Studies, Masters in Management and three Doctors of Philosophy.

These people are our future role models, promoting the economic development of our Pacific communities.

Strong relationships, mutual support, and people getting involved in their communities and churches directly relates to positive outcomes for improving the lives of our Pacific peoples. We need to share our strengths and knowledge to build a strong foundation for our Pacific families, young and old.

Supporting and encouraging Pacific potential is vital for our communities' contribution to New Zealand's economic, social and cultural fabric.

la manuia

Hon Luamanuvao
Winnie Laban

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CONTENTS

- 4 *Message from the Chief Executive*
- 5 *Ministry meets with Pacific Delegation*
- 5 *Ministry continues support for Celebrate Pasifika*
- 6 *Absolutely Positively Pasifika Festival*
- 7 *Pacific Artists Try Their Luck For Trophy*
- 8 *Tribute - Kalafitoni Pole*
- 8 *Pacifica Passion Evening*
- 9 *Get Ready To Vote*
- 9 *First Home Buyers Free Seminar*
- 10 *Pasifika Cultures In The Wairarapa*
- 11 *Pacific New Zealanders Celebrate Children's Day*
- 12 *Nominations Service*
- 12 *NZ Royal Honours*
- 13 *Siia Figiel Visits The Ministry*
- 13 *Carers Regognised Through Strategy Launch*
- 13 *Introducing The Brown Pages*
- 14 *Winners Of Dancing With The Stars*
- 14 *Are You The Next Big Star - Pacific Starmap*
- 15 *Change Needed At The Ministry*
- 16 *Time To Apply For Scholarships!*
- 18 *Romancing The Stove In A Pacific Way*
- 19 *Ministry Part Of Pasifika Festival 16 Yrs Stronger*
- 20 *Bella Kalolo, Another Gifted Pacific Singer*
- 20 *Realising ASB Polyfest Showcase Potential*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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NEWSLETTER CORRECTIONS DECEMBER 07 - JANUARY 08

The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs strives to maintain the highest level of accuracy in our reporting. We apologise for the errors found in our December 07-January 08 Newsletter with regards to the following articles;

PACIFIC ACHIEVEMENT – DUX ARANUI SCHOOL (page6)

The correct spelling of the village is Satitoo, Aleipata and NOT Satutoa.

COLLECTIVE SOCIAL SERVICE AND JUSTICE CRG ENGAGEMENT – CHRISTCHURCH (page8)

We apologies for misidentifying the correct title for Mr Colin Lemalu in the photo caption. The correct title is Constable Colin Lemalu and NOT Inspector.

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL RELEASE LOCAL AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES GUIDE (page 9)

The link supplied for the Local Agency Guide was incorrect. The correct link is: <http://www.ccc.govt.nz/Christchurch/Migrants/Agencies/>

If you believe you have found an inaccuracy in our materials, please alert us by sending a message to Angie Enoka, Senior Communications Advisor (Cluster Leader Information) to email: angie.enoka@minpac.govt.nz or phone 04 471 8245.





MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

WARM PACIFIC GREETINGS

Welcome to our March/April newsletter, which has a focus on the emerging faces of Pacific Peoples in New Zealand. This edition is dedicated to our people and celebrates their contribution to New Zealand as a nation.

This newsletter also recognises the many wonderful events and initiatives of Pacific peoples who have made great contributions to New Zealand.

This newsletter also recognises the many wonderful events and initiatives of Pacific peoples who have made great contributions to New Zealand.

Over the past few years, the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs has worked closely with many government agencies to help build the capability of Pacific people to participate fully in all levels of New Zealand society.

The work the Ministry relies primarily on influence we have on government policy and services for Pacific peoples. This year, I would like the role of the Ministry to be essentially one of knowledge creation and dissemination and helping other key government agencies to deliver services that are responsive to our peoples.

We have had a busy time since the beginning of 2008.

The Pacific Economic Action Plan and the Pacific Economic Development Plan are both in progress and I encourage more people to look into them.

The key activity in the first half of this year has been the reorganization of the Ministry and the recruitment of new staff. I wish to acknowledge the high level of interest shown in working for the Ministry.

We have also been busy with the production of our Statement of Intent (SOI) for the next three years. The SOI sets out the broad direction of our future work in order to support our overall goal of improving our economic, social and cultural wellbeing. Our three confirmed contributing outcomes are:

- *Pacific peoples participate fully in New Zealand's economy*
- *The social wellbeing of Pacific peoples is enhanced*
- *Pacific peoples' cultures and heritage are valued, supported and developed.*

I also wish to note the expression of cultures taking place around the country. The Pacific festivals being staged in many regions are a sign of Pacific people's influence on building New Zealand's national identity and our place in New Zealand.

The Ministry was shaken at the beginning of this year by the passing of Mr Toni Pole. On behalf of the Ministry staff and on behalf of the Minister of Pacific Island Affairs, I would like to express our deepest condolences and sympathy to Toni's wife and his family.

He was an inspirational staff member and an active work colleague. He was an influential force in the Ministry and his presence, leadership and character will be sadly missed by the Ministry staff and by the Tongan community.

I would also like to convey the Ministry and our Pacific communities' deepest condolences to the family of Rev Langi Sipeli on his passing. His death has come as a shock to many and we pray that the Almighty extends his grace and comfort to Langi's family in this most difficult time. Reverend Sipeli was a long-standing friend of the Ministry.

Ki a Monuina

Dr Colin Tukuitonga
Chief Executive

MINISTRY OF PACIFIC ISLAND AFFAIRS



MINISTRY MEETS WITH PACIFIC DELEGATION

Last month, the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs hosted a lunch for the Pacific delegation, including Samoan Minister of Health, Hon Gatoloai Fa'ana Amataga Alesana Gidlow, Cook Islands Assistant Finance Minister, Mr Terepai Moate Jr, Hon Judi Moylan from Australia along with overseas health officials. The delegation was in Wellington attending an international forum on diabetes.

Attending the shared lunch were staff of the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs and officials from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



Pacific delegation attending an informal lunch with the Ministry staff

"I welcome the opportunity to have our brothers and sisters from the Islands for a shared lunch" Dr Colin Tukuitonga said. "We greatly value these regular exchanges of views and welcome you all to the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs."

Chief Executive of the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs said the informal discussions had covered bilateral issues as well as shared regional interests.

The delegation from the Pacific was part of over 2,000 delegates in Wellington attending, considered to be the country's largest health conference. The theme 'Diabetes Asia Pacific: Working for Solutions', assists many different organisations to identify solutions.

This is the first time for New Zealand to host an International Diabetes Federation Western Pacific Region (IDF-WPR) Congress since the last one held in Bangkok in 2005.

MINISTRY CONTINUES SUPPORT FOR CELEBRATE PASIFIKA



The Pasifika festival is a part of the Celebrate Pasifika programme of events that runs throughout March. This year's programme encompassed a range of events including film, performing arts, concerts, sculptures, sports, children activities and expos.

Celebrate Pasifika is an event programme involving three councils (Auckland, Waitakere, Manukau) in the Auckland region, over the three weeks in the lead up to Pasifika Festival. The majority of events were free to the community. It has a long term vision to provide a festival that engages with the wider New Zealand community in a diverse, unique and authentic Pacific experience.

This year, the Ministry continued its sponsorship towards Lemi Ponifasio's three events for TUTAU.

TUTAU was a forum curated and hosted by Lemi Ponifasio / MAU. TUTAU involves performance, discussion and demonstration on traditional knowledge and practice of Pacific

rituals, philosophy and arts. TUTAU is presented every year as part of Celebrate Pasifika.

The Ministry's sponsorship covered the following events:

Inaugural Pacific Thought Symposium: This explored two major concepts in Pacific thinking: Tā and Vā? The symposium was an opportunity to invite cultural practitioners (artists, performers, academics) to present their work and research in a series of panels grouped around the thematic of Tā and Vā. The day concluded with a summary forum of interested participants, scoping out an outline for future Pacific Thought Symposiums.

Oratory & Ceremony: This event brought together master orators, composers, artists, scholars, and creators of Pacific traditional and contemporary music and dance in an evening of ceremony and debate.

Dance & Performance: The Exchange/Performance by the Kiribati Community of New Zealand and the Kirimaau Group from the Kiribati Islands and others.

"The Ministry support for TUTAU 2008 supported the national identity key work of bringing together master orators, composers, artists, scholars, and creators of Pacific traditional and contemporary music and dance, and also involving performance, discussion and demonstration on the knowledge and practice of Pacific rituals and arts", says Dr Colin Tukuitonga, Chief Executive for the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs.

This is an important contribution to our Pacific peoples' creativity, vibrancy and diversity", added Dr Tukuitonga.

For more information and event highlights, visit www.celebratepasifika.com



WELLINGTON'S FIRST ABSOLUTELY POSITIVELY PASIFIKA FESTIVAL

The atmosphere at the Wellington's Frank Kitts Park was filled with bright colours, distinctive Pacific flavours, big smiles and a taste of island life in February as the city celebrated its inaugural Absolutely Positively Pasifika Festival.



(1) The lovely smiles from the Tokelauan community taking part in the Wellington Festival

(2) From left to right - Her Worship the Mayor of Wellington Kerry Prendergast, MP Charles Chauvel, Dr Colin Tukuitonga, Deputy Mayor of Wellington, Councillor Ian McKinnon

(3) The young ones representing Fiji community as their contribution to the festival

The light rain did not stop the Wellington's seven main Pacific nations being represented on the day, with colourful village stalls from Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Tuvalu, the Cook Islands, Tokelau and Niue. The different ethnic villages proudly displayed their traditional handicrafts, from tapa and embroidery to weaving, shell jewellery and wood carving. A range of delicious ethnic foods was the cream of the festival and were loved by everyone.

Chief Executive of the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, Dr Colin Tukuitonga joined other dignitaries in the opening of the festival. "The festival is certainly a great way for Pacific people to access many of the agencies' services and for all to celebrate the unique and diverse traditions and cultures of the Wellington Pacific communities", says Dr Tukuitonga.

The mayor of Wellington, Her Worship Kerry Prendergast officially opened the festival, followed by showcase performances from each Pacific nation throughout the day. The festival ended on a high note and acknowledged the important contribution Wellington's Pacific people make to the city's vibrant community life.

The organizing committee hopes that the festival will become an annual event. It is something to look forward to and there is no doubt that the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs will be part of it next year.

PACIFIC ARTISTS TRY THEIR LUCK FOR TROPHY

Pacific artists and musicians are trying their luck in the battle for a trophy at the 2008 Pacific Music Awards, to be held at the Telstra Clear Pacific Events Centre in Manukau at the end of May.



The Yandall sisters - Mary, Adele and Pauline who were honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award sponsored by MPIA at the Pacific Music Awards last year - pictured with Hon Luamanuvao Winnie Laban and Ministry staff Heker Robertson (Chief Advisor - right), Reno Paotonu (Principal Analyst - left) and Theresa Fabricius (Senior Analyst Governance)

The awards are in their fourth year and winners will be announced at an event honouring and celebrating Pacific musicians.

The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs is supporting these Awards, along with the Manukau City Council, Pacific Media Network, APRA, NZ Music Commission, Counties Manukau District Health Board, Smokefree, Tagata Pasifika and Pacific Blue.

A new people's choice award for the Best Pacific Artist has been introduced to the lineup this year. All the category finalists are eligible for this award and the public are encouraged to cast

their votes by logging on to the website www.pacificmusicawards.org.nz

The most loved female group in New Zealand over the past 30 years, the wonderfully talented Yandall Sisters, Mary, Adele and Pauline, were honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award, sponsored by the Ministry last year.

The Ministry is sponsoring the same Award this year and Chief Executive, Dr Colin Tukuitonga, says he's delighted with the Ministry's involvement with this event emphasising the depth and vibrancy of Pacific music in New Zealand.

Pacific music continues to contribute in strengthening New Zealand's national identity and end of May we honour the hard work put in by all Pacific musicians and artists.

IMMIGRATION NZ

PACIFIC COMMUNITY MEETINGS

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT NEW ZEALAND'S IMMIGRATION WORK IN THE PACIFIC REGION AND FOR PACIFIC PEOPLE?

The Department of Labour's Pacific Division of Immigration New Zealand is visiting your region soon to tell you all about it – and we want you to be there.

This is your chance to hear about the Recognised Seasonal Employer Policy, the Samoa Quota and Pacific Access Category Ballots, and a progress update on the Immigration Act Review.

ALL MEETINGS START AT 6.30PM

DATE	LOCATION	VENUE
Mon 28th April	Nelson (Tasman/West Coast)	Victory Community Centre, Totara Street, NELSON
Tue 29th April	Blenheim (Marlborough)	St Andrew Presbyterian Church, 5 Henry Street, BLENHEIM
Tue 06th May	Wellington	Elim Church, 11 Herlot Drive, PORIRUA
Wed 07th May	Manawatu (Taranaki/Wairarapa)	Presbyterian Church, 87 Oxford Street, LEVIN
Tue 13th May	Hawke's Bay (Central Hawke's Bay)	Cook Island Community Centre, FLAXMERE
Wed 14th May	Bay of Plenty (East Coast)	**St John the Baptist Anglican Church, Jocelyn Street, TE PUKE
Tues 20th May	Hamilton (Waikato)	Celebrating Age Centre, Hamilton City Council, HAMILTON
Wed 21st May	Northland (Kerikeri/Whangarei/Kaikohe)	**Northland Pacific Island Charitable Trust Building, 22 Finlayson Street, WHANGAREI
Tue 27th May	Auckland (Tongan)	Tokaikolo Church, "Nasalet" 148 Coronation Street, MANGERE BRIDGE
Wed 28th May	Auckland (Pan Pacific)	**
Thr 29th May	Auckland (Samoan)	**Malaola Catholic Centre, MANGERE
Wed 4th June	Christchurch	Latimer Hotel, 30 Latimer Square, CHRISTCHURCH
Tue 10th June	Dunedin	**Burns Hall, First Church, Moray Place, DUNEDIN

** These venues are yet to be confirmed. Please contact the Immigration call centre on 0508-55-88-55 or email faalogo.vaai@dol.govt.nz for an update.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE LATE KALAFITONI POLE

The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs would like to pay special tribute to the late Kalafitoni Pole. Toni was a staff member of the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, based in Auckland.

Dr Colin Tukuitonga would like to convey his sincerest condolences to all of his family.

In February 2008, the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs received the tragic news of Kalafitoni (Toni) Pole's passing.

"Toni has been a great staff member. I feel his conscientious work attitude and enthusiasm will always be remembered. Toni's passing was a great loss to the Ministry and his Tongan community in South Auckland", says Dr Colin Tukuitonga.

Kalafitoni Pole started working in the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs in March 2004 as a Regional Advisor. Subsequently, he was given the health portfolio, to coordinate and facilitate health policies and activities in the Auckland region. He had

a close working relationship with both the Ministry of Health and the District Health Boards.

In his portfolio he represented the Ministry in various forums, including the Auckland Settlement Strategy Committee, Lui Ola Pacific Disability Action Plan Working Party, Manukau Healthy City Committee, North Shore Pacific Advisory Council, and the Hamilton Pacific Senior Officials Group.

"We as a Ministry family acknowledge the hard work and contribution Toni has made to progressing health and safety for Pacific peoples in Manukau. He will always be missed", adds Dr Tukuitonga.

"Toni has left an impact on the lives of so many people. In this newsletter, we honour his memory and we would all do well to remember that while he is no longer with us, we can act in his behalf".

May you rest in peace!



The late Kalafitoni (Toni) Pole



PACIFICA PASSION EVENING RAISES AWARENESS OF BREAST & CERVICAL SCREENING FOR PACIFIC WOMEN

With an elegant air of Pacific femininity, P.A.C.I.F.I.C.A fashion models walked out one by one to a Pacific beat, and the applause of families and friends attended the Wellington Central Branch of P.A.C.I.F.I.C.A event aimed at raising awareness of breast and cervical screening for Pacific women, at the Marist St Patricks Clubrooms in Hataitai, Wellington.

"Give it a bit of a twirl," said Hon Luamanuvao Winnie Laban, who opened the event and spoke confidently about her personal experience with breast cancer. Well known acts such as 'The Laughing Samoans', singer Moana Ete and Pacific fashion designers were all under one roof to honour such commitment to raising awareness of the cause.

Another interesting part of the night was the auction. Various businesses who



Mele Wendt, President PACIFICA Wellington with Hon Luamanuvao Winnie Laban, Dr Peter Swain and Ma'anaima Soa-Lafoa'i

stepped forward to support this event donated goods for an auction which was held towards the end of the night. The funds that were raised go towards a Pacific health service providing free screening clinics for Pacific women in Wellington.

"Our branch members really wanted to do something to get our people talking about these issues openly and understanding the importance of getting regular checkups. It can save lives. We are very excited about the attention and support P.A.C.I.F.I.C.A Passion has attracted. It was a fantastic

night" says Mele Wendt, Wellington Central Branch President.

Last year the Government launched a National Cervical Screening Campaign targeting Pacific and Maori women. It was believed that the number of women getting screened to prevent cervical cancer has increased following the launch of a new national campaign.

This is great news for women and the work of P.A.C.I.F.I.C.A contributes to this campaign, so there is greater awareness of the risks of breast and cervical cancer.

GET READY TO VOTE IN THIS YEAR'S ELECTION – ENROL NOW!

A major enrolment drive starts in May, to ensure everyone is enrolled to vote for this year's election.

On 5 May the team at the Electoral Enrolment Centre is sending an enrolment update pack out by mail to every person who is enrolled.

"If you don't get one of these packs, you're not enrolled to vote," says Murray Wicks, National Manager of the Electoral Enrolment Centre.

"Keep a look out in your letter box for the pack – it has pictures of the orange 'elector' character on the front, so you shouldn't miss it," says Murray.

Check the details in the pack, and if they need to be updated, fill in the form, sign it and send it back. If you get a pack for someone else please send it on to them, or send it back. If you or members of your family aren't enrolled – it's really important to do it.

HOW TO ENROL

To get an enrolment form or update your details either:

- freetext your name and address to 3676
- visit the elections website www.elections.org.nz and enrol or update your details.
- call 0800 ENROL NOW (0800 36 76 56)
- visit any PostShop or Citizen's Advice Bureau

Enrolling now means you're set up to vote when the election takes place. Closer to Election Day you will be sent a personalised EasyVote card with your name and address on it, to take along when you vote. This will make voting a lot easier.

WHO CAN ENROL

A reminder of who is eligible to enrol. You can enrol if:

- you are 18 years or older
- are a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident
- have lived in New Zealand for more than one year continuously at some time in your life.

CAN YOU OR YOUR ORGANISATION HELP?

The Electoral Enrolment Centre's team of Registrars of Electors is working in communities raising awareness of the need to enrol to vote.

Are there events or opportunities they can tap into to spread the word amongst the community to get people enrolled? Please let them know. Contact your local Registrar of Electors in your electorate (their details are at www.elections.org.nz or in the phone book under New Zealand Post) or email enrol@elections.org.nz.



Nerony Manoa Tamatoa, Registrar of Electors for the Tamaki Electorate

In Auckland's Tamaki electorate, Samoan born Nerony Manoa Tamatoa is gearing up to get as many people enrolled to vote as possible. This is his first election campaign as a Registrar of Electors.

"I'm excited about the challenge. I am committed to ensuring we get people enrolled and get the message out there – particularly amongst Pacific communities – about the importance of being enrolled to vote," says Nerony.

In his job, Nerony keeps the electoral rolls up-to-date for the Tamaki electorate. This involves getting people enrolled for the first time, and working hard to ensure they keep their details up-to-date, particularly if they move house or go and live somewhere else. He is also helping his colleagues around the country reach into communities to get Pacific peoples enrolled.

"By enrolling, people have their chance to have their say at election time. They can't take part if they are not enrolled," says Nerony.

Nerony came to New Zealand when he was 16, leaving his home town of Apia behind and settling in Auckland. He hopes to work through his church and youth networks to raise awareness of the need to enrol, and to get people to enrol.

"As we head towards Election Day it is a very important time. I am urging people to make sure they are enrolled, and to do this now," says Nerony.

FIRST HOME BUYER FREE SEMINARS FOR PACIFIC ISLAND COMMUNITIES

With KiwiSaver taking the lead as a new scheme which has enormous benefits for New Zealand, it is also proving that free seminars can be another tactical approach for Pacific New Zealanders.

Housing New Zealand provides a contract to Salvation Army Employment Plus, to run free workshops for first home buyers.

The workshops are completely free to participants and run over a one day period from 9am to 4pm or over three evenings

from 6.30pm to 9pm. The organisers provide morning and afternoon tea, and lunch. There is also an extensive manual provided free to all participants, along with other resources. Guest speakers are invited to these seminars and talk about all aspects of the process of buying a home.

Guest speakers include a

- Lawyer
- Real Estate Manager
- Mortgage Broker
- Budget & Goal Setting Advisor
- Presenter of the Welcome Home Loan
- Building Inspector/ Valuer

It is the hope of Salvation Army Employment Plus, to cover the areas of West and North Auckland including the North Shore, Avondale, New Lynn,

Henderson, and the Rodney District, as well as Manawatu, Taranaki, Gisborne, Wairoa, Wellington, Canterbury and Otago.

"We can organise workshops within any of these areas or we will go to the venue of choice within these areas if Pacific Islanders wish to organise a group gathering, like a church group", says National Co-ordinator of the Salvation Army Employment Plus "First Steps" Home Ownership Programme Brenda Tuffery.

"The workshops are purely educational and enlightening and everyone who attends has said how valuable they are", she adds.

**To attend or organise a free workshop in your area, call...
0800 178 783**

CELEBRATION OF PASIFIKA CULTURES IN THE WAIRARAPA

The Wairarapa Pasifika Festival, held at Masterton's Queen Elizabeth Park earlier in March, an opportunity to celebrate the rich, colourful differences of Pacific culture in the region, through songs, dance, arts and crafts, and was attended by many.



The Wairarapa District Health Board initiated the festival in recognition of the positive and vibrant contribution the local Pacific community brings to the Wairarapa. The inaugural festival was opened by MP Charles Chauvel and promoted healthy messages, emphasising the importance of good health.

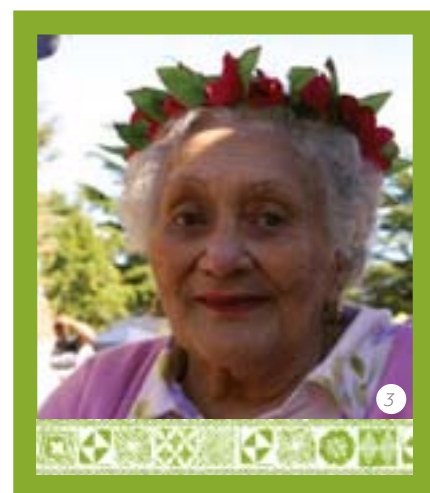
"It was a great event to push health initiatives and attracted committed providers to showcase their services", said festival coordinator Mata Emile.



The festival was a hit with entertainment from local Pacific groups and artists including the popular 'Laughing Samoans' duo, Tofiga Fepulea'i and Eteuati Ete.

"This festival serves as not only a celebration of cultures, energy and performance, but that there is a strong underlying message about the importance of enjoying good health, to enable full participation in family, community and within the Pacific cultural environment" said MP Charles Chauvel.

The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs was one of the stallholders, displaying information and services for Pacific peoples in the region. The festival was an affirmation of Wairarapa based Pacific peoples' considerable creative and cultural talents.



"I look around and I see how a small community can contribute so much. The energy, dedication and passion is evident", he added.

Congratulations to project leader Mata Emile from the Wairarapa District Health Board, and fellow members of the Wairarapa Pasifika Festival Committee, for staging such a successful event; Terry Lenihan (South Wairarapa Safer Community Council manager), Stephanie Turner (Director of Maori Health), Tere Torea (Community Co-ordinator), Jo Matiaha (National Immunisation Registrar), Nicky Poona (Health Promoter), Eugene Paewai (Protection Officer), Anna Stuart (Health Promoter), Lisa Beech (Health Promoter), Tracey Winmill (Health Promoter), Wendy Woodhouse (Health Promoter).

According to information from the last census count, there are 141 Pacific peoples in the Wairarapa; 63 Samoans, followed by 24 Tongans, 18 Fijians, 15 Niueans, 9 Tokelauans, 9 Cook Islanders and 15 other Pacific peoples. Many attended the festival, including Pacific peoples from areas nearby.

The festival was included stalls outlining various health and social services. Its purpose is to strengthen community actions and to provide a total cultural experience for Pacific people and the wider community.



- (1) A stunning performance of traditional Samoan siva from the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa
- (2) Mata Emile (Festival Coordinator and Pacific Community Health Worker at the Wairarapa District Health Board)
- (3) Annie Nooroa the oldest member of the Pacific Wairarapa community taking part in the festival
- (4) From left to right - Maggie Morgan, General Manager Public Health, Wairarapa District Health Board, MP Charles Chauvel, Debi Lodge-Schnellenberg, Manager Wairarapa Public Health, Wairarapa District Health Board and Bob Francis, Chairman, Wairarapa District Health Board

ALL PACIFIC NEW ZEALANDERS CELEBRATE CHILDREN'S DAY IN MARCH

The National Children's Day, now celebrated on the first Sunday of March, and was a hit despite the change from the month of October. The Children's Day National Steering Group were pleased that the date change did not adversely affect the many New Zealanders who were involved in events throughout the country.

More than 1000 events were organised and staged across New Zealand to celebrate the 8th National Children's Day on Sunday March 2nd.

The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs is one of the Steering Group members. "Many of the events were successful and the hope for all New Zealanders to celebrate and make children feel extra special on Children's Day was realised," says Angie Enoka, Senior Advisor/ Cluster Leader Information. "Most Pacific families were highly involved and it was a pleasant to see the extended family playing a role caring for the wellbeing of our children."

Children's Day is a community-owned day that is growing every year. Community events were organised and staged around the country so children and their families could take part. This event encourages many families to either join in the celebrations or create their own.

The Steering Group was delighted with the number of requests and range of events that were registered through the Children's Day website.



Hon Luamanuvao Winnie Laban reading to children with the Mayor of Porirua, Her Worship Jenny Brash at the Kapi Mana Teddy Bear's Picnic and Fishing Carnival held at Aotea Lagoon, Porirua as part of Children's Day celebrations.

(PHOTO COURTESY CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY)

One of these events was hosted by the Governor General the Hon Anand Satyanand, PCNZM, QSO and his wife Susan Satyanand in Wellington. It was a fun filled day and the presence of our Pacific star Monty Betham and his dancing partner Nerida Jantti was a highlight.

"We hope that Children's Day will continue to grow for families to spend time together. It's all about giving time to children," says Sue Lytollis, Public Education Team Leader for Child Youth & Family.

The National Steering Group is made up of both government and non-government organisations including: Rotary, Barnardos, Office of the Children's Commissioner, the Families Commission, Presbyterian Support Central, Ministry of Social Development, Child, Youth and Family, Ministry of Education, Te Puni Kōkiri, Police Youth Education in Schools and the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs.

CHILDREN'S DAY KEY THEMES FROM THE PAST

- 2000 Treasure box
- 2001 Frog, giving time and new experiences
- 2002 Tuatara
- 2003 Bat, all themes
- 2004 Tuna, praise and encouragement
- 2005 Tui, love and affection
- 2007 Hector, giving time
- 2008 Our characters, new experiences



PHOTOS COURTESY CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY

From left to right – Cindy Kiro, Sue Lytollis (CYF), Her Excellency Susan Satyanand, the Hon Anand Satyanand, CEO Barnardos Murray Edridge, Esther Wallace (CYF) and Justina Leaupepe-Higgs (CYF)

THE MINISTRY OF PACIFIC ISLAND AFFAIRS' NOMINATIONS SERVICE

There are many State sector boards, tribunals, advisory bodies and other entities which impact on the lives of New Zealanders and it is essential that capable people are appointed to the boards of such entities.

The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs is part of a Government run Appointments and Governance Group. The aim of the group is to create a cross selection of leaders and decision-makers on State sector governance boards and committees. The Ministry's role is to nominate and increase the numbers of skilled Pacific people into these roles. To help us do this, our Nominations Service has a database of Pacific people who have relevant skills and experience, and the potential to be nominated to State sector boards and committees.

How does it work?

The Ministry is contacted by other government agencies and/or our Minister, to nominate someone for a board or committee appointment. We scan our database for people with appropriated skills and experience requested. Potential candidates are contacted for their availability and consent to put their name forward.

Once we get consent, we then forward potential candidate information on to the requesting agency and or Minister and this completes our part in the nominations process. The appointing agency will consider all candidates, much like applying for a job, and if successful, candidates are contacted by the agency and invited on to the board or committee.

As these positions are not advertised, it is imperative you register for our database in order to be considered for nomination. If you have any questions, just email or call us using the contact details below.

Register on our Nominations Database

Our nominations database was created to recognise suitable people to represent Pacific interests and to provide a Pacific perspective in strategic guidance and advice across a variety of State sector boards and committees.

If you believe you have the skills to lead and sit on a State sector board, then evaluate your potential for nomination to a state sector board by reading the Self Evaluating Check List on the opposite page!

If you have answered yes to two or more questions, then you may be a suitable candidate for a board appointment. If in doubt, give us a call.

To register for the Ministry's Nominations Database, send us your CV via email, fax or post –

Post: Theresa Fabricius
Nominations
Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs
PO Box 833
Wellington 6140

Fax: 04 471 - 2282
Attention: Theresa Fabricius
(Nominations)

Email: theresa.fabricius@minpac.govt.nz

We will then send you a registration and disclosure of information form to sign. This will allow us to keep your information on our database and share it with relevant government agencies.

The information held in the Nominations Database and any curriculum vitae held by the Ministry are used for the consideration of nominations and / or appointments only. Information is treated in the strictest confidence. In providing this information you have all the rights of access to, and correction of, your personal information as provided for by the Privacy Act 1993.

For more information, contact Theresa Fabricius on 04 495 0028 or email her at the email address above.

NEW ZEALAND ROYAL HONOURS

The New Zealand Royal Honours system is a way for New Zealand to say thanks and well done to those who have served and those who have achieved. These are announced twice a year, on the occasion of the Queens birthday (Queens Birthday List) and at the New Year (New Years List).

The Ministry's Nominations Service also nominates Pacific people for New Zealand Royal Honours. We will search our database for those individuals that have served our Pacific communities through their commitment, selfless endeavours, support and personal sacrifice.

However, there are many Pacific people that are not on our database that you may know. Pacific people in your community that have worked for many years, behind the scenes, most times on a voluntary basis, that are committed to making a difference and achieving this, for Pacific people and their community as a whole.

The Ministry's Nominations Service is not the only way nominations can be made. Any person or persons can make a nomination by completing a nomination form and sending it to the Honours Secretariat in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. If you or your group would like to nominate someone in the community, you may do so by visiting the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet New Zealand Royal Honours website to obtain a Nominations form and guide, or you can read more about New Zealand Royal Honours in this Newsletter.

Important Dates for receiving nominations for the New Zealand Royal Honours are:

Queen's Birthday List
no later than 1 February

New Year List
no later than 1 August

Website: <http://www.dpmc.govt.nz/honours/nominations/index.html>

SIA FIGIEL VISITS THE MINISTRY

Samoan author Sia Figiel was recently in New Zealand to promote the play adaptation of her book *Where We Once Belonged* at the International Festival of the Arts.

Where We Once Belonged is a coming of age book about 13-year-old Alofa Filiga, set in Malaefou, Samoa. Sia Figiel is one of the Ministry's creative sector champions (see Pacific Starmap story). In its capacity as a supporter of the creative arts industry, the Ministry is supplying the reprint of Sia's award-winning book.

The book is available from Unity Books and Dymocks in Wellington and Auckland; the Women's Bookshop and UBS University Bookshop in Auckland; on website: www.starmap.co.nz at the end of May or you can get a discounted copy from the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs on (04) 473 4493 for NZD\$20.00.



Sia Figiel, Pounamu Figiel and Malamalama Figiel with Priscilla Rasmussen and Ma'anaima Soa-Lafoa'i from the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs.



CARERS RECOGNISED THROUGH STRATEGY LAUNCH

The New Zealand Carers' Strategy (NZCS), launched last month by Minister Hon Ruth Dyson, is supported by a Five-year Action Plan to begin addressing issues that impact on the thousands of New Zealanders who assist friends and family members who need help with everyday living because of ill health, disability or old age.

During extensive consultation, The New Zealand Carers Alliance said they needed help in learning how to protect their own health and wellbeing, better access to support enabling them to balance their caring role and employment. The NZCS is a joint initiative between the Government and the New Zealand Carers Alliance, a network of 45 non-governmental organisations.

In recognising the importance of the Carers Strategy in improving outcomes for Pacific carers, their families and the wider community, the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs has been involved in its development since April 2007.

Findings captured by the Ministry and members of the New Zealand Carers Alliance during consultation, coupled with Policy advice, have resulted in specific initiatives for Pacific peoples being incorporated into the strategy. These include the translation of carer information into Pacific languages and ensuring that carer training is culturally appropriate.

The 2006 Census shows 419,334 people, or 13.3 percent of the New Zealand population, aged 15 years and over reported looking after an individual who is ill or has a disability. Of those carers, 12 percent are 65 years or older.



INTRODUCING THE BROWN PAGES

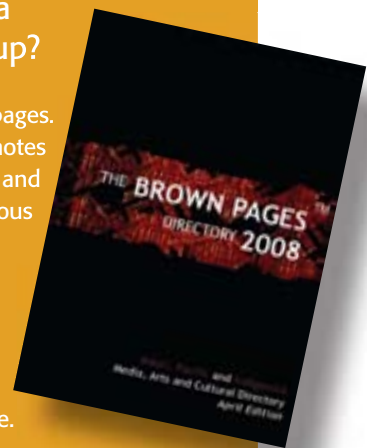
Where on the Internet can you find a Samoan actor and a Fijian newspaper publisher alongside a Fijian artist, a Hawaiian film maker and a Cook Islands weaving group?

The Brown Pages www.brownpages.com is a website which promotes Pacific peoples in media, arts and culture, as well as Maori and indigenous peoples.

What began as a directory in 1993 has become a regularly updated online database which is accessible 24/7 and is actively promoted to mainstream organisations worldwide.

A hard copy of the directory will be available in May and will be published every six months. The website will have more features added in the coming months including news, audio and video streaming and sharing, a production office, treaties and protocols from the Pacific, blogs and news archives.

If you're involved in aspects of media, arts or culture and would like to list yourself or your organization in our database, you can do so for free; simply go to the website and follow the instructions. Also if you have film/video clips, showreels, images, audio clips, news or press releases, send your information to admin@brownpages.com. The website has an archive of images and information dating back to 1996 which is being uploaded ready for launching in July 2008.



MINISTRY CONGRATULATES WINNERS OF

DANCING WITH THE STARS



Far left: Winner of Dancing with the Stars Temepara George and dancing partner Stefano Olivieri (photo courtesy TVNZ)

Left: Dancing with the stars runner-up Monty Betham and dancing partner Nerida Jantti (photo courtesy TVNZ)

The Ministry would like to congratulate Temepara George (Maori/Samoan) and dancing partner Stefano Olivieri as winners of the popular TVNZ programme 'Dancing with the Stars' 2008, which screened on TV1 at 8:30pm every Tuesday.

The netballer beat former rugby league player and professional boxer Monty Betham (Samoan) and his partner Nerida Jantti in the finals.

The two-hour-long grand final saw the finalists performing three dances; one they had performed previously, a new

dance, and a freestyle piece, before an audience which included Prime Minister Rt Hon Helen Clark.

Temepara George's partner, former Kiwis and New Zealand Warriors player, Sione Faumuina celebrated the night on a high with his winning star.

ARE YOU THE NEXT BIG STAR?

**Pacific Starmap
is going live soon.**

It's a hip new website about the Pacific creative community, for the Pacific creative community and everyone that loves them!

"The website is designed to feature news about Pacific artists, writers, actors, musicians, filmmakers ... in fact any Pacific creative practitioner," says Project Manager Priscilla Rasmussen.

"But it's also about giving those Pacific peoples with emerging and potential creativity, the chance to shine."

Starmap will host online mentoring from those who have made the big time – like Samoan actor Nathaniel Lees who starred in *Sione's Wedding*, *Lord of the Rings* and *The Matrix*.

Lees brought the idea of *Starmap* to the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs. He was keen to see the Ministry become a driving force in the creation of a framework that produced "a pathway for a coordinated and powerful contribution to the creative industries".



WHY IS CHANGE NEEDED AT THE MINISTRY OF PACIFIC ISLAND AFFAIRS (MPIA)?

Organisations need to constantly adapt themselves in response to the changes in the environment in which they operate. The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs must do the same.

When the Ministry was first established in 1990, the political, social, economic and cultural environment in New Zealand was very different from the situation that exists today. These changes will continue and may accelerate.

In those early days, information requirements and community expectations were hopeful but modest. Government agencies were not well informed about the needs of Pacific peoples. The Ministry played an important role in working with departments to build their abilities to serve Pacific communities better.

Major changes are taking place in all aspects of life in NZ, including the public sector. Many government agencies now have their own capability to work with Pacific peoples. Information requirements have become very sophisticated. Many of these agencies now have information and Pacific expertise well beyond the capabilities of the Ministry and these agencies are generally better resourced than MPIA.

Therefore, it is vital that the Ministry demonstrates where and how it adds value for the money it receives. It must also secure renewed relationships with Pacific communities that are mutually supportive.

We exist only on the value we bring to the work – there is no legislative mandate.

The changes make it necessary for the Ministry to position itself where it can be most effective. I believe that this opportunity is in the identification, collection and dissemination of relevant and useful information on the context, circumstances, issues and opportunities faced by Pacific communities in NZ.

Traditionally, the Ministry has worked across sectors of government with a limited and declining resource base. The impact has been uncertain. Clearly some progress has been made but we need to do more and to do better. Furthermore, it has not invested enough in research and has limited ability to obtain the information it needed to inform its work on policy and other strategies.

Limited resources have also compromised the Ministry's ability to recruit or retain experienced staff. It has constantly lost trained staff to other agencies. While this is good for Pacific communities, it is inefficient for the Ministry. In the future, it also needs to secure specialist and technical staff in order to be able to influence policy



and programmes with relevant agencies. We cannot simply rely on generic policy experience and skills.

Following a comprehensive review in late 2007, it has embarked on a programme of change. Changes at the Ministry are designed to improve its efficiency and effectiveness and limit its work to selected priority areas. The first stage involves improving internal systems, recruiting new staff and securing mutually respectful relationships with other agencies. Staff recruitment is now largely complete but it will take some time for a new culture to emerge. The Ministry has established a new research function and strengthened its communications and community engagement functions.

It is now time to focus on working on a few things really well. More work needs to be done to identify the right things to focus but this is likely to be in education, training and employment and young people.

Goal 4 of the Ministry's Pacific Economic Action Plan is geared towards the Emerging and Creative Industries.

"This is a step towards achieving the aims," says Lees.

Award winning writers – author Sia Figiel, playwright Victor Rodger and poet Karlo Mila have also joined *Starmap* as literary Champions. Budding writers will be able to interact with the Champions via the website through live chats and online mentoring, and writer's blogs.

There will also be a section for the traditional arts, so traditional Pacific practitioners don't miss out.

The site will also enable networking between artists—potential, emerging and established—and the Pacific community!

"So watch out Bebo!" says Ms Rasmussen.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON STARMAP!

Pacific Starmap is a website by us, for you! It's a map to the stars for creative Pacific peoples and will feature news, resources, music, videos, forums, profiles, a calendar of events and much much more!

If you would like to:

- Know more*
- Make suggestions*
- Become a Champion*

Email priscilla.rasmussen@minpac.govt.nz or call 021 421 909

TIME TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS!

It is time for our Pasifika secondary and tertiary students to start applying for scholarships for the upcoming year of study or for the next semester.

The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs has put together a list of Pacific Liaison Officers for several tertiary institutions (universities & polytechnics) to be contacted regarding scholarship information, grants or funding towards Pacific people.

The process of applying for a scholarship can be a bit daunting but Senior Communications Advisor (Cluster Leader Information) Angie Enoka says this is an excellent start to divert the many queries we receive daily, about scholarships available to Pacific.

In accordance with the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs Goal 1 of the Pacific Economic Action Plan (PEAP), which focuses on education, a careers website has been developed as an initiative to utilise successful Pacific role models to promote a range of career pathways and choices to Pacific students, as well as offer information and advice about grants and scholarships.

This website will be a one-stop shop to host all information on grants, funding and scholarships available to Pacific. It is intended that this website will be up and running in June 2008.

HERE ARE SOME TIPS...

WHAT IS A "SCHOLARSHIP" AND HOW CAN I APPLY FOR ONE?

A scholarship is monetary assistance to help pay for tertiary fees, given to those studying towards gaining higher qualifications. Scholarships are highly sought after by students simply because it means they don't have to worry about asking their parents for money, get a part-time job, or worry about having a student loan to pay off when they attain their qualification and start working.

WHO OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS?

Different agencies and private organisations administer funds for Pacific Scholarships. They are all listed in each tertiary institutions website (the links to these websites are provided below).

SCHOLARSHIP TIPS LIST

1. Contact the University or Polytechnic Scholarships officer, and request their Scholarships booklet be sent to you.
2. If you are at Secondary School, start with your careers advisor first for help.
3. Visit the University or Polytechnic and talk to the Information Centre staff or Faculty Staff about Scholarships.
4. Contact the University or Polytechnic Liaison Officers.
5. Visit the New Zealand Vice Chancellors website and look at the scholarships information online.
6. Other Government Agencies also offer Scholarships, so please look at all of their websites.
7. Visit the Breakout Database website and look at the scholarships and funding information online. Please note that this is a subscription based service and will incur a cost.
8. Prepare your CV and gain references from your contacts and supporters (e.g. coaches, parish priest, teachers, employers).
9. When completing your application forms, take your time and do it carefully, and ask a friend or Liaison officer to check your application is correctly filled in.
10. Post your applications in on time and good luck.

SCHOLARSHIPS FROM EDUCATION PROVIDERS & NAMES OF THE PACIFIC LIAISON OFFICER

UNIVERSITIES

Auckland University of Technology

Isabella Rasch

Pacific Student Support Advisor

Ph: (09) 921 9892

Fax: (09) 921 9857

Email: Isabella.rasch@aut.ac.nz

Auckland University of Technology

Private Bag 92006

Auckland 1142

Website: http://www.aut.ac.nz/students/student_services/scholarships/

Lincoln University

Sarah Benton

Liaison Officer

Ph: (03) 325 2811 extn 8524

Email: BentonS@lincoln.ac.nz

Lincoln University

PO Box 94

Lincoln 7647

Christchurch

Website: <http://www.lincoln.ac.nz/forms/scholarships.asp>

Massey University – Wellington

John Rousseau

Student Liaison Officer

Ph: (04) 801 5799

Fax: (04) 801 2692

Email: J.Rousseau@massey.ac.nz

Massey University Wellington

PO Box 756

Wellington 6140

Website: http://awards.massey.ac.nz/massey/fees/scholarship-bursary-award/search/search_home.cfm

Website: http://awards.massey.ac.nz/massey/fees/scholarship-bursary-award/search/search_home.cfm

Massey University – Auckland

Tavita Funaki

Pasifika Student Liaison Advisor

Ph: (09) 414 0800

Fax: (09) 443 9704

Email: T.F.Funaki@massey.ac.nz

Massey University Auckland

Private Bag 102-904

North Shore Mail Centre

Auckland 0745

Website: http://awards.massey.ac.nz/massey/fees/scholarship-bursary-award/search/search_home.cfm

Website: http://awards.massey.ac.nz/massey/fees/scholarship-bursary-award/search/search_home.cfm

Website: http://awards.massey.ac.nz/massey/fees/scholarship-bursary-award/search/search_home.cfm

University of Auckland

Cathleen Fetokai

Pacific Equity Advisor

Ph: (09) 373 7599 ext 87844

Email: c.fetokai@auckland.ac.nz

The University of Auckland

Private Bag 92019

Auckland Mail Centre

Auckland 1142

Website: http://www.auckland.ac.nz/uoaf/currentstudents/money/scholarships_awards.cfm

Website: http://www.auckland.ac.nz/uoaf/currentstudents/money/scholarships_awards.cfm

University of Canterbury

Maria Lemalie

Pacific Liaison Officer

Ph: (03) 364 2987 ext 7594

Email: maria.lemalie@canterbury.ac.nz

Website: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/pacificstudents/scholarships.shtml>

Website: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/pacificstudents/scholarships.shtml>

Website: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/pacificstudents/scholarships.shtml>

Website: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/pacificstudents/scholarships.shtml>

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Website: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/pacificstudents/scholarships.shtml>

Website: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/pacificstudents/scholarships.shtml>

University of Otago

Christine Anesone

Community Liaison Officer for the Pacific Island Centre
Ph: (03) 479 1100
Fax: (03) 479 8692
Information Line: 0800 80 80 98 (callers within New Zealand only)
Email: Christine.Anesone@otago.ac.nz
University of Otago
PO Box 56

Dunedin

Website: <http://www.otago.ac.nz/study/scholarships/>



University of Waikato

Awhimai Huka

Student Recruitment Advisor
Ph: (07) 838 4945
Email: Awhimai@waikato.ac.nz
University of Waikato
PO Box 3105
Hamilton 3240
Website: http://www.waikato.ac.nz/research/scholarships/scholarships_and_prizes.shtml

Victoria University of Wellington

Sera Gagau

Pacific Liaison Officer
Ph: (04) 463 6670
Fax: (04) 463 5193
Email: Sera.Gagau@vuw.ac.nz
Victoria University of Wellington
PO Box 600
Wellington 6140
Website: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/scholarships/

POLYTECHNICS AND INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY

Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology

Sam Uta'i

Community Studies Tutor
Ph: (03) 940 8339
Email: utais@cpit.ac.nz
CPIT
PO Box 540
Christchurch 8140
Website: http://www.cpit.ac.nz/student_services/scholarships

Eastern Institute of Technology Hawkes Bay

Steve Tipu

Maori/Pasifika Liaison Officer
Ph: (06) 974 8000
Email: STipu@eit.ac.nz
EIT Hawkes Bay
Private Bag 1201
Taradale
Napier
Hawke's Bay
Website: http://www.eit.ac.nz/scholarships/scholarships_general.aspx

Otago Polytechnic

Tasi Lemalu

Pacific Island Liaison Officer
Ph: (03) 479 6051
Email: tasi@tekotago.ac.nz
Otago Polytechnic
Cnr Erris and Ray Streets
PO Box 16
Cromwell
Website: <http://www.otago.ac.nz/study/scholarships/>

Manukau Institute of Technology

Helen Oge

Pasifika Liaison
Ph: (09) 968 8000 ext 8074
Email: hoge@manukau.ac.nz
Manukau Institute of Technology
Private Bag 94006
South Auckland Mail Centre
Manukau 2240
Website: <http://www.manukau.ac.nz/students/finance/Funding%20Booklet%202008.pdf>

Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology

Viliani Lagi

Pacific Island Liaison
Ph: (03) 546 9175 ext 865
Email: viliani.lagi@nmit.ac.nz
NMIT
Private Bag 19
Nelson 7042
New Zealand
Website: http://www.nmit.ac.nz/portal/tabID__3436/DesktopDefault.aspx

Northland Polytechnic

Janelle Beazley

Administrator
Ph: (09) 470 3898
Email: J.Beazley@northtec.ac.nz
Private Bag 9019
Whangarei, 0140
Website: http://www.northland.ac.nz/student_life.asp?pageid=81

Southern Institute of Technology

Emma Haughtey

Maori/Pacific Liaison
Ph: (03) 211 2699
Email: emma.haughtey@sit.ac.nz
Southern Institute of Technology
Freepost 102460
PO Box 2488
Oxford Road
Wigram
Christchurch 8082
Website: <http://www.sit.ac.nz/pages/services/scholarships>

Telford Rural Polytechnic

Jan Johnsen

Liaison Officer
Ph: (03) 419 0300
Email: Jan.Johnsen@telford.ac.nz
Telford Rural Polytechnic
Freepost 73901
PO Box 6
Balclutha
South Otago
Website: <http://www.telford.ac.nz/scholarships/scholarshipsbro.htm#9419-0300-0300>

UNITEC Institute of Technology

Terri Leo-Mauu

Pasifika Liaison
Ph: (09) 815 4321 ext 7623
Email: tleo-mauu@unitec.ac.nz
Unitec New Zealand
Carrington Rd, Mt Albert
Private Bag 92025
Auckland Mail Centre
Auckland 1142
Website: <http://www.unitec.ac.nz/?ED290B6E-C380-4D53-A300-89726D9323B1>

Waikato Institute of Technology (Wintec)

Telesia Kalavite

Pasifika Learning Advisor
Ph: (07) 834 8815 ext 7539
Email: telesia.kalavite@wintec.ac.nz
Freepost 566
Student Enrolment & Information Centre
Wintec
Private Bag 3036
Waikato Mail Centre
Hamilton 3240
Website: <http://www.wintec.ac.nz/index.asp?pageID=2145824637>

Scholarships and awards offered at Waikato Institute of Technology

Wellington Institute of Technology (Weltec)

Aleki Silao

Pacific Island Liaison Officer
Ph: (04) 920 2488
Email: aleki.silao@weltec.ac.nz
Weltec
Private Bag 39803
Wellington
Website: <http://www.cit.ac.nz/scholarships/index.php>

COLLEGES OF EDUCATION

Christchurch College of Education

Moana Matthes

Pacific Department
Ph: (03) 364 2987 ext 6957
Email: moana.matthes@canterbury.ac.nz
University of Canterbury
Private Bag 4800
Christchurch 8140
Website: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/scholarships/?source=currenstudents>

International Pacific College

Rebecca McIntyre

NZ Recruitment
Ph: (06) 354 0922
Email: rmcintyre@ipc.ac.nz
IPC
Private Bag 11021
Palmerston North
Website: <http://www.ipc.ac.nz/index.php>

Te Whare Wananga O Awanuiarangi

Ngereteina Puna

Pacific Island Advisor
Ph: (09) 256 5902
Email: Ngereteina.Puna@twoa.ac.nz
Te Whare Wananga O Awanuiarangi
PO Box 43112
Mangere
Auckland
Website: [http://www.twoa.ac.nz/index.php?id=46&no_cache=1&sword_list\[\]=scholarships](http://www.twoa.ac.nz/index.php?id=46&no_cache=1&sword_list[]=scholarships)



ROMANCING THE STOVE IN A PACIFIC WAY



When Ifopo Maposua Fareti goes to his Porirua Pacific takeaway, 1C Hagley Street, opposite the Porirua Police Station, he drives up to the front door every day with his wife Paepae Fareti, both working on menus in their heads.



The entrance of their takeaway place greets customers with the name NATALIA, after their only daughter currently studying at Victoria University to become an Economist.

Ifopo and Paepae, both Samoans, came in New Zealand many years ago for similar reasons to many other Pacific people; in search of a better life. Their dream came about when they both discovered that a Pacific catering and takeaway business would be a hit with the many Pacific in Wellington.

The place is incredibly Pacific, with relaxing melodies in the background, and customers greeted in a Pacific manner. "Talofa, can I help you", says Paepae, whose friendly service encourages more people to visit every day. Mr Fareti conquers the kitchen, sending out special dishes from chop suey, curry and chow mein, to raw fish with baked taro and bananas. You name it; they have it on the menu.

This kind of business is popular in the Auckland region and particularly South Auckland, where the Pacific population is growing every year. In Wellington, they are not yet that popular, but Mr Fareti's talent, ambition and motivation may well change that.

"I never knew I would be able to go this far. I always envisaged myself ending-up in politics or in a similar area but I never thought I would be so passionate about this business as a service for our Pacific people."

Natalia Takeaways, perhaps the best Pacific taste in the whole of Porirua, are offering Pacific people many choices of delicacies; a taste of Pacific where quality meets quantity. This is a breakthrough known to many for its culinary heights every bit as much as its traditional Pacific flavours, where supply meets demand.

Natalia takeaway chef and owner Ifopo Maposua Fareti (villages of Leusoali'i, Moata'a, Faleatiu, Nofaoli'i and Lauli'i in Samoa) explains, "This takeaway has a

story to tell, as I started off from humble beginnings. It was a hobby for me but I am now passionate in what I do. I started this business in 1999 and I also covered catering for almost ten years. I helped my parents many years ago and this talent in me can be traced back to my home where it all began".

The journey Mr Fareti has undergone with this business has been challenging. His Pacific fast food industry began at a cafeteria in Preston specifically targeting workers in the area. This was followed soon after, with the setting up of a takeaway business named 'Natalia' in Newtown, and his first attempt was a success. His vision to have a Palagi café in Cuba Street in the city was also realised and has since been followed by the establishment of another arm of Natalia takeaway in Porirua.

"A Pacific takeaway is a great way to really 'wow' your customers. My wife and I teamed up well and we ensure the prices are reasonable and that we share a spirit of service for our people" says Mr Fareti. "Basically, we would like to match the standards of a mainstream business. We thought to ourselves, if they can do it, we can do it too."

Natalia creates its own image, which sets it apart from other takeaways in the area. Despite the perception of a Pacific plate that feeds 4-6 people, the circumstances blend in well with its location. The menu is simple and not just limited to Pacific taste, appealing to everyone.

"Anyone is a customer and I would say proudly that we even cut into the Palagi market, as people of all races and nationalities come around for a taste, with the numbers growing every week", says Mr Fareti. This increase in custom has seen the expansion of its menu.

Ifopo's knowledge and his 'know how, can do' attitude has enabled him to tap into his business advancement skills over the years, to unlock his potential and spread his creativity with his pure authentic Pacific taste.

For more information about Natalia's takeaway, contact Ifopo Maposua Fareti by phone: (04) 237 0801.

MINISTRY PART OF PASIFIKA FESTIVAL 16 YRS STRONGER

Every year, the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs has a presence at the Pasifika Festival, one of the South Pacific's largest Pacific Island community events. This year marks the sixteenth anniversary of the Pasifika Festival, which brings excitement and pride to Pacific people in Aotearoa. It is also the first year of key themes for the festival.



The 2008 festival embraces the eel connection, exploring the different ways Pasifika people are connected through their stories of the eel.

"The story of the eel brought a significant meaning to our Pacific people enhancing the mythology connection for many of our Pacific Islands", says Festival Director Ole Maiava. Other changes included the cultural stages being relocated and each of the ten villages having their own dedicated stage.

The ten Pacific Island villages (Tagata Whenua, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Tahiti, Tokelau, Tonga and Tuvalu) showcased their cultures, offering an insight into cultural practices, ceremonies, art, food, music and performances.

The number of participants has increased each year and the Ministry was one of the many organisations, business people and community groups who had a stall at the two day event. Some of the Ministry's staff attended the Mayor's civic reception at the opening of the festival and later joined other government agencies in a stall positioned at the Niu Sila village (near the Push Play contemporary stage), which provided free information and engaged in deep and meaningful conversations with festival attendees. The Push Play contemporary stage was another new addition, dedicated to acknowledging

notable families who have contributed to New Zealand's music.

Prime Minister Rt Hon Helen Clark visited the Niu Sila village on her rounds with other Pacific MP's, to experience a taste of different village settings in the afternoon. It was also an opportunity for the Ministry staff to meet the Prime Minister and her dignitaries and give them a quick run-through of the Ministry stall.

The Ministry's colourful water bottles were popular give-aways and could easily be spotted from a distance.

"We were trying to engage with our Pacific peoples and water bottles proved to be a great hit for us, attracting many people to our stall", said Angie Enoka, Senior Communications Advisor (Cluster Leader Information). "We were quite happy with the result, as many people (young and old) visited our stall and many asked about our service, roles and responsibilities and what the Ministry is all about" she added.

According to Angie, the Ministry received close to a hundred people subscribing to the Ministry newsletter mailing list on the day. These are the names of people interested in receiving information about services specifically for Pacific. This added to the 4,000 individuals who are currently already on the Ministry mailing list.

The potential of this festival has been growing and changing every year. With the introduction of key themes, the festival moves on to another level and there is no doubt this event will



Top: Prime Minister visits the the Ministry stall at the festival. From left to right – Melissa Stanley (MPIA), Rt Hon Helen Clark, Inspector Leilua Lou Alofa (NZ Police), Angie Enoka (MPIA), Kalolo Fihaki (MPIA)

Middle: from left to right – Tauilili Nari Auelua, Kolose Lagavale, Caroline Mareko, Angie Enoka and Justina Leaupepe-Higgs

Bottom: Minister of Pacific Island Affairs Hon Luamanuvao Winnie Laban and Deputy Prime Minister of Samoa Hon Misa Telefoni at the Auckland Pasifika Festival opening

continue to embody many of the strengths of Pacific peoples who are contributing to New Zealand's economy in different ways.

The 2008 Pasifika Festival was an ultimate cultural experience for many, but for the Ministry it was another opportunity to get information out to the community.

PHOTOS COURTESY JUSTINA LEAUPEPE-HIGGS

BELLA KALOLO ANOTHER GIFTED PACIFIC SINGER

Bella Kalolo is a wonderful, talented singer and performer who has from a young age performed in many of Australasia's leading television programmes, films and live shows. Born in Christchurch but now based in Wellington, Bella (Samoan, Tongan, Scottish and German decent) has proven herself with a very successful musical career.

Bella's career as an original singer strengthened in the 'Dancing with the Stars' (DWTS) television programme. She accompanied a performance by the Youth Dancers in one of the DWTS episodes, with her spectacular rendition of Donna Summer's original 'Last Dance'.

Bella has held roles in the hit romantic comedy *Sione's Wedding*, *The Lion King*, *Dancing with the Stars*, *Coca Cola Christmas in the Park*, and the TV2 children's television



PHOTO COURTESY EVENT POLYNESIA LTD

series *Jandals Away*. She has also appeared in the musicals *Hair* and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* with the Auckland Theatre Company, and *Little Shop of Horrors* at Wellington's Downstage theatre, in addition to performing in Air Force Proms in 2006.

Bella's singing talent has been showcased in a variety of musical recordings and music videos. It is nice to see another Pacific person doing well in this field.

REALISING ASB POLYFEST SHOWCASE POTENTIAL

The winning groups from this year's ASB Polyfest all performed under one roof at the Telstra Clear Pacific Events Centre last month in a one night extravaganza of cultural dance.

The ASB Polyfest Showcase is a new event which celebrates cultural diversity and performance excellence, and allows the public to see Maori and Pacific Island performance at its best.

The idea of holding a Secondary School Showcase to celebrate the talent of young Maori and Pacific Island performers has been discussed for a number of years. The concept was finalised this year, with the following school cultural groups taking part on a night filled with Pacific energy and fun.

The participating groups were; Maori Auckland Girls Grammar, Cook

Islands Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate, Niue Avondale College, Samoan Avondale College, Tonga James Cook High School & Wesley College

The ASB Polyfest has been running for 33 years, in which time it has grown into the largest Maori and Pacific Island festival in the world. This year's festival saw 66 schools, 200 cultural groups, and 9000 students involved.

The festival was highly competitive, with students devoting numerous hours to planning and practicing, to perfect their cultural dance performances. The ASB Polyfest Showcase provides the opportunity for the best of the Polyfest

performances to dance on the same stage in a full theatrical production.

The vision of an iconic annual event celebrating the pride and passion of Maori and Pacific Island communities was realised with this first Showcase. According to Helen Taimarangai, Communication Advisor (Information), the level of each performance and the diversity of unique cultural elements that made up a dance were amazing. It is this that makes ASB Polyfest Showcase different from any other event.

The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs was a proud sponsor of this event.

