

T E N T H   E D I T I O N

# TE VAKAI

AN INSIGHT TO TOKELAU

## The 2012 ULU O TOKELAU

Mata Malama

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Recognised with  
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Police Officers Presenting the Tokotoko of the Uluship

## Next edition of the Te Vakai Four More Officers Recruited into Samoa Basic Police course

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# Mata Malama

February 2012

Kei na Tu mai ta O  
(Arise let us Proceed)  
Kae fakatonu ko to ta aho  
(Let's Plan Our Day)  
Kei na tu mai ta o  
Kae fakatonu ko toku Alik  
(The Lord Guides Us)  
Hoa! He Hoa Lava!  
(Companionship! Togetherness!)

I have used this cultural introduction to anchor this inaugural Uluship speech to this coral land of ours, passed on from our ancestors for us to enhance, and likewise pass it on to our children. "Mata Malama" implies alert observations, predicative and clear vision.

The 'Hoa' Chant reflects Tokelauan values, culture and traditions, way of life in determining and finalising decisions. It is a Prayer for divine guidance and interdependence through mutual kin relations.

Coming back to NOW – Since I have been attending and taking part in discussions at the table of the Taupulega and Ongoing Government of Tokelau.....Today I will share with you some views on a few significant issues. They generally cover the following three categories:

- Shared or collective successes
- Areas of concern and
- Opportunities appearing over the horizon.

However, first, let us today acknowledge and thank New Zealand for its everlasting support; Australia for its continued depositing regime to increase our Trust Account, to name a few Pasifika countries. Our fakafetais also go to the United Nations' organisations as well those in the region. These contributors have given us resources so that we can plan confidently for the future of our children.

Looking internally, we must celebrate the following achievements:

- Solar Energy project
- EEZ projects
- Work commenced in establishing USP Centres in Fakaofu and Nukunonu
- Progress in aligning National

programmes and to those of the villages – the Strategic National Plan has been useful in this respect.

- Ongoing work on the 'New' Ship Project
  - The Departments and Nuku sectors who have completed their Corporate as well as their Action Plans
- These are all ongoing and we need to continue to improve on what has been achieved so far.

The areas of concern are:

## a) **The Current Parliamentary Governance Model**

This is still unclear to the Elders and at worst to them - it is blurry. This status may be caused by the structure not being well defined or explained. Or is it too foreign a concept – from the traditionalist?

**Why is it blurry?** We know that traditional authority flows from Taupulega to office holders who are the: voices, eyes, ears and even the feet of the Taupulega.

I know at the Faipule/Ministerial end – we are overloaded. This is caused by this individualistic expectation rather than a shared responsibility model – one which we know well – HE HOA LAVA.

Tokelau can create any governance model to suit its internal needs and external expectations.

Can we have a Team approach?  
Can we have a Team Tokelau approach?

This kind of approach may address many tensions of the current system and cultural and traditional practices and also any individual having or seeking unreasonable powers over others. We have yet to deliver the promised assistance to those at the 'stern of the canoe' (an elder to be at the stern of the canoe) and their assistants.

Could this be the cause of the unclear understanding about our current parliamentary model? Have the office holders understood that due to our cultural and traditional setting they are "Steering the ship of the State" through delegation of powers from the village.

## (b) **Language & Culture**

The survival of the Tokelau language - is our responsibility. The language is an integral part of the culture.



Ulu o Tokelau, Alik Faipule Kerisiano Kalolo

Currently there is no formal process on standards for the translation of texts or creation of new words. The establishment of the Tokelau Language Commission will ensure the survival of our language and culture into the future. It is a priority.

## (c) **Youth of Tokelau**

There are global developments which may impact adversely on us, particularly the pathways for our youth in the next 3-5 years. It is predicted businesses will struggle and thus a lot of people will be unemployed. Some of the bad news is about the supply of money available to businesses to grow and employ people. Our greatest friend New Zealand is not exempted from this global phenomenon. New Zealand itself is investing in its Youth by channelling them into ongoing training. This ensures they are occupied in doing useful activities – not just hanging aimlessly around. Thus we have to be smarter in how we make our spending or investment decisions.



Sonya Cameron and Anna Reid from the Office of the Administrator





Former Ulu Faipule Foua Toloa hands over the Uluship to the 2012 Ulu, Alik Kerisiano Kalolo during the inauguration ceremony in Atafu

## “.. we have to be smarter in how we make our spending or investment decisions.”

At the National Governance level- How can we spend smarter? We must look at New Zealand's availability to represent Tokelau in the international arena. Can NZ stand in for us at some of these conferences and they brief us at the end? Do we need to be at every conference around the World?

### **d) Tokelau Public Service**

We do not have an independent Public Service. The Manager, Human Resource Development is currently attached to the Office for the Ongoing Government. The selection of senior staff including Directors and Managers rests with the Ongoing Government. The Government must come up with a mechanism that ensures the independence of the Public Service in their decision making, and is free from external interference.

### **e) Infrastructure Development Projects**

The progress, or lack of it, particularly in the two school buildings for Atafu and Fakaofo is a concern as it impacts on all other ID projects. Highlighting Education as one of the priorities is not reflected in current practice. However, at the same time, there are opportunities for us to explore and then invest in them accordingly.

### **a) Sports, Health Exercises and Recreation**

One of these is the exploratory work initiated by my colleague Faipule Foua Toloa. It is about Tokelau Sports. I understand there was a gathering in Apia last week where our Tokelau relations from Australia and New

Zealand joined our children from Tokelau and produced some important documents for the way ahead. We may hear from Faipule Foua Toloa about this important development.

My excitement, however, is caused by the possibility that this development in sports may bring about so many positive outcomes for the benefit of all Tokelauans. I understand the proposed programmes may cover all sectors including government departments. The wellbeing of all will be improved relative to negative data in recent reports. Students and teachers at schools will be energized, and all participants in the proposed physical activities will become healthy. All sectors may be asked "is there anything in this sports development for you?"

### **b) Community Based 'Development'**

All departments and Nuku sectors need to promote the Community/ Nuku as the basis of development projects. This could be achieved through communal projects and the availability of resources for small businesses. Such programmes should focus on Self-Reliance, Sustainability and Intergenerational Equity as major themes.

There are other issues to be brought to the attention of the General Fono but time constraints brought about by the sun restricts what I can say today but the sun itself also provides a solution - it will rise again tomorrow - and we continue our dialogue.

In summary, I have identified some successes for which we should

celebrate; some concerns which we can work through this next year or so and finally, signalled opportunities arising from Tokelau Sports development for which we can all participate in.

I will end with the Tokelauan Prayer: Tokelau, Tutia te Po ke Ao Literally, Stand the Night until Break of Day.

It is a prayer to the pantheon asking for one's strength, courage and endurance, so one can persevere the challenges of the night until dawn signals the light of the new day. This enhances the amanaki spirit as the prayer is always associated with services to the family or community.

Kelihiano Kalolo  
Faipule, Atafu. February, 2011



The Uluship tokotoko

The direction for our canoe has been set and those who believe differently must seriously re-evaluate their positions or jump ship.

## Ulu o Tokelau



(left-right) Ulu o Tokelau, Alikai Faipule Kerisiano Kalolo, Alikai Faipule o Nukunonu Salesio Lui and Alikai Faipule o Fakaofu Foua Toloa

**Theorists on leadership claim that there are two things that make people want to follow a leader – firstly they want to be guided by those that they respect and secondly that the leader has a clear sense of direction.**

24 February 2012, Atafu

The phase of development that Tokelau has moved into is challenging for all of us involved in it. The General Fono decision to adopt the Tokelau National Strategic Plan as the direction document for our national development from 2010 to 2015 has set our path from that time.

The vision that we have for our nation clearly spells out what we aspire to for our children in future generations. We want 'healthy and active communities with opportunities for all'.

We want development for Tokelau that will improve the standard of living for all. But we have stated very clearly that the development for Tokelau will not compromise our environment and nor will it be at the sake of our culture.

It is these bottom line principles that I want to highlight for my final address as Ulu before I hand the reigns over to Alikai Faipule Keli.

Our natural resources provide Tokelau the means for economic returns in the form of our fisheries but more importantly, our natural resources are what will sustain us and our future generations.

We cannot afford to take for granted our natural marine and land resources.



Coconut crabs

Decisions cannot be short-sighted.

While the economic gains in the present time may be attractive with financial gains in the short-term, we have to consider the effect that this will have on our ecosystem and future food security.

Our culture is closely entwined with our environment. A vital part of our culture is our language.

Our language is what binds us as a people and identifies us as Tokelau. And yet, in time without careful planning and strategizing, we could lose our language.

The activities that we must have in place to continue to strengthen our culture should ensure that this knowledge and our traditions are understood by our younger generations.

We all have a collective responsibility to be good stewards of our traditions and language. This stewardship should encompass not just our communities on our three atolls of Atafu, Nukunonu and Fakaofu, but include for the sake of our viability, all communities of Tokelau in other parts of the world.

The other major factor that will influence our viability as a nation is our health and wellbeing. The prevalence of NCDs amongst our people presents a threat to us that is just as deadly as the effect of climate change on our nation.

The early onset of diabetes, the increase of coronary diseases and renal failure are statistics that we should be addressing as a matter of urgency. We have to look at our consumption of alcohol and tobacco. As leaders we need to assess how we

address other issues related to health and wellbeing of our young people, such as the availability and uptake of other drugs on our villages and the trend towards petrol sniffing and other unsafe practices.

If we are serious about the viability of our nation we must address these issues head on and not just sweep them under the carpet and hope that they go away.

Our environment and culture is what defines us as unique, it is what defines us as Tokelau. Without either of these Tokelau – the land and the people would not exist. We state emphatically that our vision for Tokelau relies on sustainable national development that results in an improved quality of life for all our people without compromise to our environment and future viability. We cannot forsake our responsibility to ensure that our lands and oceans can sustain our future generations and that our children and their children will still be able to communicate in the language that God has given to us and sets us apart and give us our uniqueness.

I was undecided as to what I wanted to focus on as my final address in my second term as Ulu o Tokelau.

This last year has been very demanding for me on a personal and professional level. I have had to make many sacrifices that have taken me away from my family and from my nuku for long periods of time.

But despite the demanding schedule of activities to which I have attended to over the last year, I have certainly been very proud of the opportunity given to me to lead the Council for the



# We cannot allow personal agendas to cloud the direction for our nation. Tokelau is at a cliff face, looking out at what lies ahead.

Ongoing Government. Thank you for this opportunity.

Theorists on leadership claim that there are two things that make people want to follow a leader – firstly they want to be guided by those that they respect and secondly that the leader has a clear sense of direction.

I can honestly say that I have fulfilled the second of these traits. I have provided a clear sense of direction for Tokelau as Ulu.

In terms of the first trait, however, I know that some individuals would say that they have no respect for me. I have been accused of leading in a dictatorial fashion without regard to the feelings of those who have been in firing line of my passion to do what is right for Tokelau.

There have also been accusations made directly to the Administrator that the Council do not work harmoniously. Sadly the individuals who see fit to make such accusations and challenge the good working relationship of the Council are gutless, hiding behind their anonymity.

They lack the courage to make those challenges directly to me.

But I can honestly hold my head up and look at any of you in the eye and say that all that I have done and achieved have been with only one intention – to get what is the best for my people.

Over the last year, I have kept faithful to the oath taken when the Uluship was bestowed on me. So I will not apologise to those individuals who have an agenda that is different to that which I and the Council have been tasked to carry out for the good of our nation. The direction for our canoe has been set and those who believe differently must seriously re-evaluate their positions or jump ship.

As leaders of our nation, we must look at the big picture.

We cannot allow personal agendas to cloud the direction for our nation.

Tokelau is at a cliff face, looking out at what lies ahead.

As General Fono delegates we must decide should Tokelau take the plunge, make difficult decisions and stand

**The vision that we have for our nation clearly spells out what we aspire to for our children in future generations. We want ‘healthy and active communities with opportunities for all’.**

by principles of good governance, steadfast leadership and wisdom beseeched from God which will give us strength to endure the challenging times in the future? This is what has given me direction over my time as Ulu o Tokelau and I wish this also for my colleague, Alikali Faipule Keli Kalolo. That God will be his strength to provide the leadership necessary to continue to progress the development journey of our nation of Tokelau.

## Tokelau Ulu calls for immediate solution to ferry woes



Tokelau's Ulu says although ferry sinkings in other parts of the Pacific are causing his people to worry about using their country's ageing vessel they have no choice.

Tokelau's people, who are New Zealand citizens, depend entirely on the MV Tokelau for transport and supplies and the New Zealand government has been working on a replacement vessel since 2005.

Keli Kalolo says travelling on the ship,

which is more than 20 years old, is especially worrisome in view of the recent sinking of a Papua New Guinea ferry and Tonga's Princess Ashika tragedy in 2009.

"There is a fear among the leaders that we don't want that kind of situation to happen in Tokelau, although we still need a boat. It's good to replace this boat but we need an immediate solution to this."

Keli Kalolo says the council will be

taking its preferred options for a replacement ferry to Tokelau's New Zealand-based administrator later this month.

**"There is a fear among the leaders that we don't want that kind of situation to happen in Tokelau, although we still need a boat. It's good to replace this boat but we need an immediate solution to this."**



# MV Tokelau For Sale

**“It’s New Zealand commitment to get a new boat for Tokelau and have advised Tokelau to sell the boat - Tokelau have agreed,”**

Government to Sell MV Tokelau  
Tokelau’s only cargo/passenger vessel will be sold after Government agreed to New Zealand advice.

According to Director of Transport and Support Services, Asofa Fereti, the decision to sell the MV Tokelau came after meeting held on Atafu by the Government of Tokelau.

It suggested that it is judicious to sell the vessel which has been serving for about 30 years due to development plans to have an upgrade vessel to replace it.

“It’s New Zealand commitment to get a new boat for Tokelau and have advise

Tokelau to sell the boat - Tokelau have agreed,” says the new Director.

“Selling the boat is part of our Tokelau Total Transport Solution to get a new vessel,” he added.

## TOTAL TRANSPORT SOLUTION BACKGROUND

The Total Transport Solution is a strategically plan project between New Zealand and Tokelau for a new ship to operate between the Apia-Tokelau route. Also building an airstrip with all associated services with inter-atoll transport.

Total Transport Solution was approved by the General Fono in March 2010.



Director of Transport and Support Services,  
Asofa Fereti

## Anthem finally approved

The anthem of the nation have finally been approved by the General Fono. The complication came after some of the lyrics were not agreed on and the way it was sung.

Now they have agreed to the changes with the first line change to the “Te Atua o Tokelau” and have agreed that the last line should not to be sung but to be said.

The complication came after some of the lyrics were not agreed on and the way it was sung.





(picture on your right)  
Luther Toloa

## Project MV Joyita

Tulou, tulou, tulou.  
Tulou ia Alik, te uluhina ma poutu o  
Lotala, o Talikilagi, o Fakafotu.  
Tulou te vaka atua  
Tulou te fatupaepae, the pale o  
kaiga  
Tulou oku uho ma oku tuafafine,  
tatou na palelaumea a kaiga ma  
matua  
Tulou te fanau, na mokopuna, to  
tatou lumanaki  
Acknowledge the dignitaries once  
confirmed.

Honourable Hekia Parata, Minister  
of Pacific and Island Affairs.  
Honourable John Hayes, our host  
and Chairman of Foreign Affairs and  
Trade Select Committee,  
Honourables Jacqui Dean, Peseta  
Lou-Liga, Alfred Ngaro, Sua William  
Sio, and Kris Faafoi.  
Ulu Keli Kalolo and Alik Faipule  
Salesio Lui and Foua Toloa, and  
members the Council  
Members of the Diplomatic Corps  
Families of the Joyita 25  
Church leaders and representatives  
of the wider Joyita Community,  
Ladies and gentlemen

The story of the Joyita is a classic  
maritime mystery, referred to by  
historians as the Mary Celeste of  
the South Pacific.  
The story conjures up visions of  
majestic sunrises and serene  
sunsets, care free adventure, and  
the beautiful islands of the south

# Joyita finally remembered

Families and Friends from around  
the world came to witness the plaque  
erected in memory of the crew and  
passengers of the M.V Joyita at a the  
memorial service held in Mulinu, Apia.  
The mystery, pain and conjecture of  
what may have happened to the vessel  
and its 25 passengers have been laid  
to rest ,55 years after departing the  
port of Apia.

Administrator for Tokelau, Jonathan  
Kings elaborated on just how it might  
have felt for the families of those  
onboard by relating it to the three  
Tokelauan kids that were lost at sea  
for three months, the pain and anguish  
seen in the communities and one can  
feel how the families and relatives of  
those onboard the M.V Joyita would  
have gone through.  
Luther Toloa who led the investigation  
of finding the families of the 25  
passengers onboard, shared how  
difficult it was over the past three years  
during his investigation and understood  
how relieved the families would be now  
that it is finally being put to rest.  
“Finally, since its disappearance  
the focus of the story of the Joyita  
has been about the boat and what  
may have happened to its crew and  
passengers.

While so far we have an interim  
answer, little has been said about you,  
the families who were left behind.  
In my discussions with you over the  
last three years, I heard your anger,  
your regrets and the grief you have



suppressed for 56 years.

You, and your loved ones who have  
passed on in the intervening years,  
have shed tears while watching  
memorial service after memorial  
service of other New Zealanders killed  
or who have disappeared in similar  
circumstances, and quietly whispered,  
“what about us?” “What about us and  
our loved ones?”

You have recited stories of your loved  
ones and how they came to be on the  
Joyita, and I wish I had answers to  
your questions.

What I can say, however, its been an  
honour for my family and I to undertake  
this project, in collaboration with the  
good folks I have mentioned, to bring  
you some closure.

While indeed we remember your  
loved ones with these memorial  
plaques, today is about you, the  
surviving families and descendents,  
te fanau tukua, te kaiga tukua, to  
commemorate, to remember together,  
your loved ones, the Joyita 25,”



pacific and its peoples.

Unfortunately, for 25 families it also brings to life painful thoughts of what their 25 loved ones may have endured. Twenty people whose official status remains 'inexplicable'.

The conflict between these two visions or memories --- one of the serene beauty of the south pacific, the other of deep heartache --- is reflected in the comments by the late David Wright in his book; 'Joyita, Solving the Mystery'.

In this book, he lamented the ironic if not accidental inclusion of the word 'Joy' in the first three letters of the ship's name - "Joyita".

I would have loved to explore this further with him, had he known that the last three letters, 'i t a', in both the Samoan and Tokelaun languages denotes the exact opposite of joy – angry, irate or annoyed.

Perhaps fate had decreed that this ship, with such a peculiar name, should not have plied the waters between these two beautiful pacific islands. Despite suggestions of its seaworthiness, the Joyita chartered its course into history when it departed Apia, Samoa for Fakaofu, Tokelau. It was scheduled to leave on 1 October 1955 but was delayed due to the extra cargo. Shortly after it left on the following day, it broke down and was reportedly towed back into Apia harbour.

When it finally melted beyond the horizon on 3 October, that was the last time anyone, known thus far, saw its 16 crew and 9 passengers, made up of one each from Great Britain, Ireland and the United States of America, two from Kiribati, two from Samoa, three New Zealanders and 15 Tokelauans.

The oldest was 66 and the youngest was a 3 year old girl. She was also one of the two females, the other being her adopted mother. The average age was 30 years.

Whereas on its maiden voyage to Tokelau in the April 1955 the Joyita visited all four islands Atafu, Nukunonu, Fakaofu and Olohega, on this fateful voyage it was a one stop to Fakaofu then back to Samoa.

This explains why the vast majority on those on board in respect of crew members and the passengers were from Fakaofu.

When the Joyita didn't arrive on schedule, with goods for White Sunday, to collect copra and for Dr Parsons to undertake an emergency amputation, a maritime search commenced.

However, after covering an area of 100,000 square miles of ocean, the

search was discontinued.



**MV Joyita**

Some five and a half weeks later it was found half submerged north of Fiji, some 600 miles off its original course. To this day, despite many theories and a great deal of speculation, no one is any the wiser as to what happened to the 25 who were on board.

While the Commission of Inquiry (which sat in January 1956) reported to this House, the New Zealand Parliament, that engine and radio failures were the cause of the boat's demise, no formal finding was or has ever been established in respect of the 25 crew and passengers.

We, representatives of the wider Joyita community, families and descendants of the Joyita 25 together for the first time, are here to remember and commemorate their lives and bring about some closure for what is, I believe, a significant event of our recent history.

The more I read and the more I heard from you families and descendants and others directly linked to this disaster, the stronger the conviction that this outcome for you 25 families is well overdue.

After this commemorative service the two plaques will be moved to Samoa where one will be erected in Apia harbour, the port of departure, and the other on Fakaofu, the intended port of arrival.

This process will effectively complete phase 1 of our two phase project. Phase 2 is to formally request the Solicitor General to declare, or to lodge an application to the High Court seeking a direction to the coroner to hold an inquest and formally declare that your loved ones, for whatever reasons the Coroner may elect, have indeed passed away.

It is with regret that this step in responding to such a tragic event has not been undertaken, given that in 1955 New Zealand's international jurisdiction included both Tokelau and Samoa, that the vast majority of the



**Pictures above of the family relatives of the MV Joyita passengers/crew.**

25 were New Zealand citizens and the boat was undertaking official New Zealand government business.

While Samoa's constitutional and political status changed in 1962, there was a window of opportunity where such declaration could have been made relying on the presumption of death after 7 years.

Tokelau's status has not changed since and, in effect, such a declaration has been in abeyance for 49 years.

Our family, with respect, hold the view that this inaction is unreasonable. As such, over a meal at a recent family reunion, we decided to do something about it.

Having said that, it is important for the family to highlight the following points. Firstly, the decision to undertake this project was a borne out of genuine desire to see something put right, nothing else. The family is not interested in apportioning blame or pointing the finger.

Secondly, we consider that this tragedy is such a significant event in our recent history that it can no longer be left gathering dust, placed in the "too hard" basket, or cast to the wind for the



passage of time to render it irrelevant. Finally, we felt that it was unjust that while some of the Joyita 25 had their full names (even nick names) recorded on official documents, the majority of Pacific Islanders had incomplete personal details - 16 had just one or a partial name recorded.

Irrespective of who they were, all 25 left families behind and, in our view, they all deserve to be treated with equal respect.

Many people have put their weight behind the project, culminating in today's gathering. They are listed in the programme document. I however wish to specifically mention the following people.

Firstly, the principal benefactors, Shirley, Gnaesh and Stuart of Glover Memorials of Porirua and Upper Hutt; and Stuart and Maree Wheeler of Guardian Funeral Homes of Porirua. Your generosity in providing and scribing the two plaques meant that the focus and energy shifted to locating and speaking with families of the missing. Thank you.

The Poasa and Salome family for your belief that we needed to do this, and the financial contribution to kickstart it. I want to acknowledge the head of our family, Opetā Faraimo.

Opetā's oldest brother, Isaia was on the Joyita when it disappeared. It was indeed Opetā who sowed the seed to get this project started many, many years ago.

At the end of our family discussion Opetā was gracious and accepted that time has moved on, and this two prong focus was the best way of moving forward.

Kia koe te tamana, kua fita koe. He kavega hoki a koe kua leva te amo. Moni lava nae iei ni tahi mahauhauga o koe mo te matakupu tenei, fakafetai o koe malie koe ke fai te tama galuega



Prime minister of Samoa, Hon. Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi



**Official government guests at the ceremony**  
tenei, kua mafai e te fanau o to kaiga, ke fakamomoe filemu ai te uho, ma te vaega katoa.

I want to acknowledge the roles of Governments of New Zealand, Samoa and Tokelau and their respective political leaders and officers in making this day happen, for the families. I also want to acknowledge the support provided by the former Samoa High Commissioner to New Zealand Mr Asi Blakelock and my electorate MP Mr John Hayes.

With their help and network I was able to track families living overseas, particularly those in Samoa and Kiribati.

I also acknowledge John Hayes for stepping in at the last minute to formally host this service when Minister McCully became unavailable.

I want to thank my wife and family who not only gave me the time, but paid for my travel, accommodation and telephone bills and not complaining about it....too much.

To all the members of the ad hoc committee formed to complete this phase, but for your hard work, in trying circumstances at times, we would not be here today. Thank you one, thank you all.

Finally, since its disappearance the focus of the story of the Joyita has been about the boat and what may have happened to its crew and passengers.

While so far we have an interim answer, little has been said about you, the families who were left behind. In my discussions with you over the last three years, I heard your anger, your regrets and the grief you have suppressed for 56 years.

You, and your loved ones who have passed on in the intervening years, have shed tears while watching memorial service after memorial service of other New Zealanders killed or who have disappeared in similar circumstances, and quietly whispered, "what about us?" "What about us and



Ulu o Tokelau and Faipule o Fakaofu



**Council members**

our loved ones?"

You have recited stories of your loved ones and how they came to be on the Joyita, and I wish I had answers to your questions.

What I can say, however, is that it has been an honour for my family and I to undertake this project, in collaboration with the good folks I have mentioned, to bring you some closure.

While indeed we remember your loved ones with these memorial plaques, today is about you, the surviving families and descendants, te fanau tukua, te kaiga tukua, to commemorate, to remember together, your loved ones, the Joyita 25, in New Zealand's Parliament House.

Kei na tu mai ta o  
Kae fakatonu to ta aho  
Kei na tu mai ta o  
Kae fakatonu toku Alili  
Toku Alili ko Tui Tokelau  
Hau he matagi ke momoli au  
Tui o nuku, Tui of Vavau  
Hau he matagi kei na tu  
Hoa! He hoa lava.



## Administrators Speech: MV Joyita Commemorations Apia



Tokelau Administrator, Jonathan King during the Joyita commemoration in Apia, Samoa.

I am honoured to represent New Zealand at this special occasion. It is also a great pleasure to see the families that have been able to travel from Wellington and further afield to be here today. I would like to thank the Government of Samoa for their generous gifting of this land for the memorial plaque. As was said during the commemoration in Wellington, at long last, the family members of the passengers of the MV Joyita will have somewhere to come and remember their loved ones. We are blessed that it is such a beautiful site. My thanks also to Luther and his family for the dedication they have shown to the project. I am unable to comprehend what it must be like for the families of the passengers of the Joyita. The closest I can come is my experience early on in my role as Administrator, when three young boys from Atafu went missing in a small fishing dingy. Despite a sea and aerial search, they were not found until 65 days later, when they were recovered battered but alive off the coast of Fiji. The loss felt by the families during those long 65 days was very close to me, and I feel for the families of the MV Joyita who have felt that same loss for 57 years. I wish you all the best for your travel onwards to Tokelau.

# STATEMENT OF THE ULU O TOKELAU

Tulou te Lagi, Tulou te Vaka Atua

Tulou te tapu o fenua i luga o Aotearoa nei  
Tulou ia kaiga e fia

WEDNESDAY 7 MARCH 2012

On behalf of the Council for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau, I bring greetings and the salutations of our elders in Tokelau, the General Fono and of all our people in Tokelau. I would like to say 3 things:

One, today is a special day for all of us. Today will bring back memories and thoughts of our loved ones and families lost on the MV Joyita. We have all come from afar to attend this special day. To the families who have come from the four corners of the world to celebrate the lives of our loved ones, I hope that in remembering them it will also bring strength and peace in our hearts.

Secondly, the MV Joyita also reminds us that our people are still using sea transport as the only means to get to our islands. We also remember those who have lost their loved ones in the recent maritime tragedies. This is constant reminder to all of us here today in regard to the need for safer, reliable and efficient shipping service for Tokelau, our Pacific region and beyond.

Finally, the Government of Tokelau would like to acknowledge the Government of New Zealand for its support to this event. I would also like to especially acknowledge the Committee represented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pacific Island Affairs of New Zealand and the Government of Samoa and Tokelau. To all those who were involved in bringing this project together – Fakafetai lahi lele!

I would like to end this with a traditional lament .....

Vonu e  
Vonu e te lagi e mo ohaoha  
Aua na he tanua i te kelekelea  
Kae tanu i kapiti o te kamea  
Kae pae i ni tifa e atuhia  
Outou tino







## Joyita Commemoration

Photos during the ceremony held in Apia, Samoa



Celebration during the Joyita Commemoration



# Weather System Restored

“It is the most advanced weather system within the Pacific not including Australia and New Zealand”

Tokelau's only weather system restored after it was damaged by flooding in 2010.

The weather system is station at the Tokelau Affairs Liaison Office in Samoa.

With the system restored the Met Officer, Pologa Perez expressed how important to have the system back in place.

“It's great that we have all this new equipment replaced after the floods back in 2010 which damaged everything,” Pologa says.

“Now we have the tool which will provide us with the information which will keep us safe from natural disaster like tsunami, earthquake and even cyclones,” he added.

“It is program to send out alarm warning as soon as it detects any weather disaster that may affect us within the region.”

“It is the most advanced weather system within the Pacific not including Australia and New Zealand”

“This is a tool which will also contribute to our livelihood with it picking up seas weather patterns and also can tell when it will rain so forth - especially



“Now we have the tool which will provide us with the information which will keep us safe from natural disaster like tsunami, earthquake and even cyclones,” he added.

with the elnina weather prediction which cause the draught last year which we left us struggling with not enough water,” said the Met Officer. “It has enable me to provide a daily

report,” he added.

All the equipments was donated through Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) from World Meteorological

# Overspending by Health

Suggested that Tokelau Patient Referrer Scheme Apia Allowances too high.

Overspent from Department

The paper put forward to the General Fono suggested that the cause to the overspending was due to a high level of Tokelau Patient Referral Scheme in Apia. It was agreed that Tokelau Patient Referrer Scheme budget to be separate from the Health Departments core budget.

Decision have been made for the Health Department and Finance Department to review its paper put forward to the General Fono and give advice to a appropriate level of allowances payable under the Tokelau Patient Referrer Scheme in Apia.



# Strategical Workshop

**The Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy, signed off by the heads of all Pacific Islands Statistics Departments highlighted improving vital statistics as one of 4 key priority areas in statistics for the region for 2010-2020.**



**Tokelau TPS during the workshop.**

In March, representatives from the Department of Health, Support Services, and the Tokelau Statistics Unit spent 4 days working with Karen Carter, a vital statistics expert from SPC.

The Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy, signed off by the heads of all Pacific Islands Statistics Departments highlighted improving vital statistics as one of 4 key priority areas in statistics for the region for 2010-2020.

In 2011 a group of agencies including the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Health information Hub at the University of Queensland, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, and others began collaborating to coordinate technical assistance, and help countries improve their collection and use of vital statistics data for policy and planning decisions. Recording and collating information on births and deaths is important for two major reasons.

The first is to assign legal status to an individual. Birth registration ensures access to key rights such as education, citizenship and travel documents; while death registration facilitates legal processes for families such as land titles and access to bank accounts. Death registration is also critical for removing people from official

government lists such as electoral rolls. The second key is that it provides critical statistical information for planning and policy decisions.

This includes population numbers, identifying service needs (such as the number of children being born) and perhaps most critically, is vital to measuring the health of a population. Countries are increasingly being asked to account for their progress against measures such as MDG's on childhood and maternal mortality. Additionally, with non-communicable diseases becoming increasingly important in the region, accurate data on deaths and cause of death is the most effective way of measuring the disease burden in the population.

Tokelau began working towards better vital statistics in a September 2011 workshop held in Suva, with partner countries Niue, Cook Islands, Nauru, and Tuvalu.

Karen Carter visited Tokelau to review progress on the implementation of the Tokelau's vital statistics improvement plan, identify gaps, and provide expert assistance.

The Health Department, Statistics Unit, and Support Services are committed to working together to develop a complete vital statistics system for Tokelau.



**Dr. Susana Leitu**



**Lise Suveinakama**



**Karen Carter**



# 2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings

## List of tables on economic activity and employment

- 2.1.1 Activities for own household's use (total responses) by sex
- 2.1.2 Age group by activities for own household's use (total responses)
- 2.2.1 Activities for another household's use (total responses)
- 2.2.2 Age group by activities for another household's use (total responses)
- 2.3 Occupation by atoll of usual residence
- 2.4 Occupation by sex
- 2.5 Status in employment by age
- 2.6 Age group for people seeking paid work
- 2.7 Seeking paid work by sex
- 2.8 Age group by unpaid work indicator
- 2.9 Unpaid work indicator by sex
- 2.10 Type of unpaid work (total responses) by age group
- 2.11 Type of unpaid work (total responses) by sex

Table 2.1.1

### Activities for own household's use (total responses)(1)

By sex -Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings, 2006 and 2011  
For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night, aged 15 years and over

Activities for own household's use (total responses)	Census year					
	2006			2011		
	Sex					
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Work in a garden plot, bush or coastal activity, or catch fish	237	63	300	227	112	339
Make cloth, garments, mats, or handicrafts	7	161	168	24	155	179
Build or repair houses, boats, or umu	160	6	166	156	16	172
None of these	53	116	169	62	151	213
Not stated	8	11	19	16	5	21
Total people	332	333	665	365	390	755

1. Several census variables allow people to provide more than one response to the question. Where a person has reported more than one response, they are counted in each group they reported. Activities for own household's use must have been undertaken in the seven days before census day.

Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

Age group (years)	Activities for own household's use (total responses)					Total people
	Work in garden plot	Make cloth / garments	Build / repair houses, boats, umu	None of these	Not stated	
15-19	41	13	23	41	6	109
20-24	33	16	20	40	1	95
25-29	38	10	19	20	5	76
30-34	24	8	11	14	1	49
35-39	35	12	21	16	1	64
40-44	31	10	16	12	3	55
45-49	30	17	13	12	0	58
50-54	28	21	19	8	3	60
55-59	29	20	16	14	1	59
60-64	14	12	4	8	0	31
65-69	14	13	6	6	0	33
70-74	11	17	2	9	0	31
75+	11	9	1	13	0	33
Not stated	0	1	1	0	0	2
<b>Total people</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>755</b>

Table 2.1.2

### Age group

By activities for own household's use (total responses)(1)

2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings  
For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night, aged 15 years and over

1. Several census variables allow people to provide more than one response to the question. Where a person has reported more than one response, they are counted in each group they reported. Activities for own household's use must have been undertaken in the seven days before census day.

Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

Table 2.2.1

### Activities for other household's use (total responses) (1)

By sex  
Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings, 2006 and 2011  
For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night, aged 15 years and over

Activities for another household's use (total responses)	Census year					
	2006			2011		
	Sex					
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Work in a garden plot, bush or coastal activity, or catch fish	100	24	124	108	51	159
Make cloth, garments, mats, or handicrafts	4	80	84	14	61	75
Build or repair houses, boats, or umu	87	3	90	101	6	107
None of these	172	221	393	179	271	450
Not stated	15	12	27	5	18	23
Total people	332	333	665	390	365	755

1. Several census variables allow people to provide more than one response to the question. Where a person has reported more than one response, they are counted in each group they reported. Activities for other household's use must have been undertaken in the seven days before census day.

Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

# Tokelau Special Unit

Table 2.2.2

## Age group

By activities for another household's use (total responses)(1)

Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings, 2006 and 2011

For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night, aged 15 years and over

Age group (years)	Activities for another household's use (total responses)					Total people
	Work in garden plot	Make cloth / garments	Build / repair houses, boats, umu	None of these	Not stated	
15–19	28	4	10	63	6	109
20–24	15	5	14	62	3	95
25–29	19	5	16	40	5	76
30–34	11	4	7	29	1	49
35–39	14	3	11	41	1	64
40–44	10	5	9	34	3	55
45–49	12	9	7	35	0	58
50–54	16	10	13	24	3	60
55–59	15	7	10	33	1	59
60–64	8	5	3	18	0	31
65–69	6	4	5	23	0	33
70–74	2	9	1	21	0	31
75+	3	5	1	25	0	33
Not stated	0	0	0	2	0	2
<b>Total people</b>	339	179	172	213	21	755

1. Several census variables allow people to provide more than one response to the question. Where a person has reported more than one response, they are counted in each group they reported. Activities for other household's use must have been undertaken in the seven days before census day.

Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

Table 2.3

## Occupation

By atoll of usual residence

Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings, 2006 and 2011

For the employed(1) usually resident population present in Tokelau (and Samoa) on census night, aged 15 years and over

Occupation	Census year									
	2006					2011				
	Atoll of usual residence				Total people	Atoll of usual residence				Total people
	Atafu	Fakaofo	Nukunonu	Samoa <sup>(2)</sup>		Atafu	Fakaofo	Nukunonu	Samoa <sup>(2)</sup>	
Legislators, administrators, and managers	5	10	6	3	24	7	7	10	6	30
Professionals	35	30	45	9	119	40	47	26	2	115
Technicians and trades workers	23	16	6	0	45	19	35	26	1	81
Clerical and administrative workers	11	10	12	1	34	12	13	18	1	44
Labourers, agriculture and fisheries workers	52	34	61	0	147	54	80	80	0	214
Not elsewhere included <sup>(3)</sup>	1	4	1	0	6	4	1	0	0	5
<b>Total</b>	127	104	131	13	375	136	183	160	10	489

1. Employed refers to those who specified they were in paid employment in the seven days before census day.

2. The Samoa count refers to those employed by the Tokelau Public Service (TPS) based in Apia, counted on census day.

3. Residual occupation categories are included in the 2006 counts. For the 2011 counts there are no residual categories, only respondents who did not state their occupation.

Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

Occupation	Sex		
	Male	Female	Total
Legislators, administrators, and managers	17	13	30
Professionals	41	74	115
Technicians and trades workers	77	4	81
Clerical and administrative workers	15	29	44
Labourers, agriculture and fisheries workers	135	79	214
Not stated	2	3	5
<b>Total</b>	287	202	489

Table 2.4

## Occupation

By sex

2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings

For the employed(1) usually resident population present in Tokelau (and Samoa(2)) on census night, aged 15 years and over

1. Employed refers to those who specified they were in paid employment in the seven days before census day.

2. The Samoa count refers to those employed by the Tokelau Public Service (TPS) based in Apia, counted on census day.

Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand



Age group (years)	Status in employment						Total people
	National TPS <sup>(3)</sup> employee in Tokelau	National TPS employee in Samoa	Village TPS employee	Self-employed	Employee <sup>(4)</sup>	Other status in employment	
15–19	0	0	23	0	2	0	25
20–24	1	1	59	0	4	0	65
25–29	5	0	42	0	3	2	52
30–34	6	1	29	0	1	2	39
35–39	5	5	46	0	1	0	57
40–44	5	3	37	0	3	1	49
45–49	6	0	43	1	2	0	52
50–54	5	0	32	0	3	1	41
55–59	5	0	37	0	0	0	42
60–64	2	0	18	1	0	0	21
65–69	1	0	24	0	0	1	26

Table 2.5  
**Status in employment**  
 By age  
 2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings  
 For the employed(1) usually resident population present in Tokelau (and Samoa(2)) on census night, aged 15 years and over

1. Employed refers to those who specified they were in paid employment in the seven days before census day.
2. The Samoa count refers to those employed by the Tokelau Public Service (TPS) based in Apia, counted on census day.
3. Tokelau Public Service (TPS).
4. Employee refers to those who work for wages or salary from a private person or business in Tokelau or an overseas institution.

Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

Age group (years)	Seeking paid work			Total people
	Looked for paid work last week	Did not look for paid work last week	Not stated	
15–19	2	76	3	81
20–24	1	30	0	31
25–29	1	18	0	19
30–34	0	10	0	10
35–39	0	11	0	11
40–44	0	6	0	6
45–49	0	6	0	6
50–54	0	17	0	17
55–59	0	17	0	17
60–64	0	10	0	10
65–69	0	7	0	7
70–74	0	15	0	15
75+	0	30	0	30
Not stated	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>261</b>

Table 2.6  
**Age group**  
 For people seeking paid work  
 2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings  
 For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night aged 15 years and over, not in paid work(1)

1. Not in paid work relates to those who did not undertake paid work in the seven days before census day.

Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

Table 2.7  
**Seeking paid work**  
 By sex  
 2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings  
 For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night aged 15 years and over

Available to work <sup>(1)</sup>	Sex		
	Male	Female	Total
Available to work	16	38	54
Not available to work	52	149	201
Not stated	3	3	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>261</b>

Age (years)	Unpaid work indicator			Total people
	Did unpaid work last week <sup>(1)</sup>	Did not do any unpaid work last week	Not stated	
15–19	87	18	4	109
20–24	79	15	1	95
25–29	60	12	4	76
30–34	41	7	1	49
35–39	58	5	1	64
40–44	49	3	3	55
45–49	54	4	0	58
50–54	51	7	2	60
55–59	54	5	0	59
60–64	27	4	0	31
65–69	28	5	0	33
70–74	26	5	0	31
75+	22	11	0	33
Not stated	2	0	0	2
Total	638	101	16	755

Table 2.8

**Age group**  
 By unpaid work indicator  
 2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings  
 For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night aged 15 years and over

1. Last week refers to the seven days before census day.  
 Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

Table 2.9  
**Unpaid work indicator**  
 By sex  
 2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings  
 For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night aged 15 years and over

Unpaid work indicator	Sex		
	Male	Female	Total
Did unpaid work last week <sup>(1)</sup>	310	328	638
Did not do any unpaid work last week	43	58	101
Not stated	12	4	16
Total	365	390	755

1. Last week refers to the seven days before census day.  
 Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

Table 2.10  
**Type of unpaid work (total responses)(1)**  
 By age group  
 2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings  
 For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night aged 15 years and over, who carried out unpaid work in the seven days before census day

Type of unpaid work (total responses)	Age group (years)									Total people
	15–19	20–29	30–39	40–49	50–59	60–69	70–79	80 +	Not stated	
Housework	82	132	96	100	96	51	36	8	2	603
Caring for own child(ren)	55	86	75	72	65	25	33	2	2	415
Caring for other child(ren)	32	52	38	32	29	14	19	1	2	219
Helping family or other relatives	52	99	66	68	63	28	29	3	1	409
Helping with village cleaning	42	75	57	72	71	33	26	4	2	382
Helping with village weaving	6	17	18	26	41	16	20	3	1	148
Helping with village fishing	20	59	40	38	47	15	11	3	1	234
Helping with other village activities	37	79	58	70	72	30	22	5	2	375
Other unpaid work	15	21	11	14	23	7	6	2	0	99
Total people	87	139	99	103	105	55	37	11	2	638

1. Several census variables allow people to provide more than one response to the question. Where a person has reported more than one response, they are counted in each group they reported.



Type of unpaid work (total responses)	Sex		
	Male	Female	Total
Housework	286	317	603
Caring for own child(ren)	176	239	415
Caring for other child(ren)	81	138	219
Helping family or other relatives	204	205	409
Helping with village cleaning	188	194	382
Helping with village weaving	26	122	148
Helping with village fishing	212	22	234
Helping with other village activities	200	175	375
Other unpaid work	57	42	99
<b>Total people</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>638</b>

Table 2.11

**Type of unpaid work (total responses)(1)**

By sex

2011 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings  
For the usually resident population present in Tokelau on census night aged 15 years and over, who carried out unpaid work in the seven days before census day

1. Several census variables allow people to provide more than one response to the question. Where a person has reported more than one response, they are counted in each group they reported.

Source: Tokelau Statistics Unit and Statistics New Zealand

# “Love in Action”

**“This program is not for Fakaofu only but the whole of Tokelau but will have to sit down with the other islands and see how we can help”**

Upulilo Melemele was part of the team from It Is Written Oceania which visited Tokelau at the invitation of community leaders, to discuss ways in which the Seventh-day Adventist Church can assist the people of Fakaofu have now come close to finishing a project which started with a dream five years ago. It Is Written Oceania is partnering with Adventist Health and Global Mission in an effort to give Tokelau humanitarian assistance.

During their last visit, the team gave a wheelchair and crutches to several people who are either unable to walk or have great difficulty walking and more than 50 pairs of glasses were also provided for those having difficulty with the ability to see with vital health and medical care.

It Is Written Oceania, with funding from Global Mission, has appointed Bible worker Upulilo Melemele to support the people of Tokelau have confirmed they have now organised a container which will be delivered to the Island with the needed equipment they have requested.

“I’m here to follow up on how things are going and also keep that relationship with the people, as you know I came last year but due to the boat schedule



**Upulilo Melemele from “It Is Written Oceania”**

fully booked out I had to go back and reschedule but now it’s a little bit better. “So next time I will all come together with Dr Chester Kumar and also the equipment for schools, the hospital and equipment for the women committee,” he added.

“This program is not for Fakaofu only but the whole of Tokelau but will have to sit down with the other islands and see how we can help”

“But in the near future we hope to reach Nukunonu and Atafu.”

“It is great a privilege to return to Tokelau and help my people,” he added “Whenever I visit Tokelau I see my people living a very difficult life.”

“They us to show them the love of Jesus and I’m also meeting people that want to know the truth about the bible,” he passionately said.”

## GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise of men who, on the morning of 14 June 2009, rescued a woman from drowning at Lalomanu Beach, Samoa.

**Mr Otele AMITUANAI**

**Mr Mikaele MAIAVA**

**Mr Michael Peter MOLLER**

**Mr Mark Edward ROHWEDER**

On the morning of 14 June 2009, a group of men rescued a woman from drowning at Lalomanu Beach, Samoa.

A group of couples were at Lalomanu Beach when one of the men sighted a person in the sea waving for help.

He grabbed a board and paddled out into the ocean to the woman who was by now some 750 metres from shore.

After the local resort management was notified of the trouble, another man from the group and a local employee paddled a kayak towards the woman who was being pounded by huge waves crashing over the reef.

By the time they arrived to help, the first rescuer and the woman had been washed further through the reef to the outer ocean. Another local employee entered the water and paddled out on a single kayak and reached the group.

They then helped place the woman on the single kayak and pushed her back through the reef and she was able to paddle back to the safety of the shore.

The rescuers were then able to return to the beach unharmed.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

**Mr Otele AMITUANAI**

**Taulua Beach Fales**

**LALOMANU SAMOA**

**Mr Mikaele MAIAVA**

**Nukunonu**

**TOKELAU ISLANDS APIA SAMOA**

**Mr Michael Peter MOLLER**

**BRUNSWICK HEADS NSW 2483**

**Mr Mark Edward ROHWEDER**

**COOLUM BEACH QLD 4573**



Australian Governor-General Quentin Bryce with Mr Mikaele Maiava

# Hero's Recognised with Award

“nice to get the award because it gives recognition to doing the right thing and now I feel really worth it”

THREE local base men who played major roles in the rescue of a New Zealand tourist off the coast of Lalomanu beach in Samoa back in June 2009, have been recognised for their bravery in the Australian Bravery Awards which were awarded the Group Bravery Citation by the Governor-General Quentin Bryce who is on Tour around the Pacific. Said by the Governor-General, their effort has symbolised the value of the friendship relationship between the countries.

“Mr Mikaele Maiava and Mr Michael Mollar, from the morning 14 June 2009 a group of men rescue a woman from drowning at Lalomanu beach. There was a group of people were at Lalomanu beach which one of the men in the group site the person in



Micheal Nollar



Mark Edward ROHWEDER



Otele Amituanai





Australian Governor-General Quentin Bryce during the award presentation at Australian Pacific Technical College, in

the sea waving for help. Using a paddle board he paddle out to the women who was nearly 750 metre from shore and caught in a strong ocean rip.

After local resort management was notified of the incident Mr Maiava and Mr Mollar paddle the kayak towards the woman and man(first rescuer) who were pounded by huge waves crushing over the reef.

By the time Mr Maiava and Mr Mollar arrive for help the first rescuer and the woman have been washed even further through the reef to the outer ocean. Mr Amituanai then enter the water and paddle out in single kayak and reach the group.

The men help to place the woman onto Mr Amituanai's kayak and push her back through the reefs. Then the woman was able to paddle the kayak back to the safety of the shore.

Mr Amituanai, Mr Maiava, Mr Mollar and the other rescuer then return to the beach safely.

Your Excellency for their action Mr Amituanai, Mr Maiava and Mr Mollar are then recognised by the bravery group award citation."

Mr. Mikaele said was "nice to get the award because it gives recognition to doing the right thing and now I feel really worth it".

He also thank his Faipule, Puleuku and Nukunonu community for making it possible for him to be at the award presentation.

"If it was wasn't for the Puleuku it would have been possible for me to be here on time. They have to off load the boat just so we can arrive here on time." Mika said.

**Extra:**

[The Group Bravery Citation is a



(left-right) Otele Amituanai, Tokelau Representative, Director of Health Lee Pearce and Mikaele Maiava.

“..their effort has symbolise the value of the friendship relationship between the countries.”

bravery decoration awarded to Australians. It is awarded for a collective act of bravery by a group of people in extraordinary circumstances that is considered worthy of recognition. The Group Bravery Citation was created in 1990. The decorations recognise acts of bravery by members of the community who selflessly put themselves in jeopardy to protect the lives or property of others] Michael Mollar works in Samoa teaching refrigeration engineering at the Australian Pacific Technical

College, an AusAid project based at the National University of Samoa in Apia. Mikaele Maiava: Works for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau as a Public Servant on Nukunonu.

Otele Amituanai: Is an employer of the Taufua Beach Fale resort at Lalomanu, Samoa.

Mark Edward ROHWEDER: works in Samoa as a Metal Fabrication Trainer at the Australian Pacific Technical College, an AusAid project based at the National University of Samoa in Apia.



The New Amau Complex at Fugalei, Samoa.

# Decision to buy land in Next General Fono Agenda

A decision to buy a piece of land in Samoa is left to the Taupulega's to decide.

Papers put forward to the General Fono to buy a piece of land in Samoa for business purposes have been left to the Taupulega to have their decision by the next General Fono meeting in June.

The property owner of the Amau building which have offer to sell to the Government.

The property also have a two story complex which is about ten years old and is occupied by small businesses in Samoa.

If the complex build is to be fully lease out to businesses which have been calculated to produce a profitable sum per month, excluding VAGST that the Samoan government will receive.

## Tokelau leader says his people value free entry to New Zealand

The leader of Tokelau doesn't believe his people would be willing to give up their right to free entry into New Zealand, even though it's a major cause of the country's shrinking population. The Cook Islands' finance minister Mark Brown said last week the ease with which Cook Islanders can emigrate to New Zealand had resulted in depopulation and he would like to see a debate on it. Niue and Tokelau are also part of the New Zealand realm and their citizens travel on New Zealand

passports. But the Ulu of Tokelau Keli Kalolo says Tokelauns value the relationship they have with New Zealand and says it's hard to imagine a day when they couldn't enter the country freely. "When people decide to move to New Zealand it's done for the future of their children, the education of their children. For many I think it would be very difficult for them to contemplate because they've been doing this for years and besides there's so many Tokelauans living in New Zealand."

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## Land to consider for Airstrip

The General Fono noted have agree to build the airstrip on Nukunonu. Papers presented by the Taupulega o Nukunonu to the General Fono stated preperation and the progress of the airstrip under the budget agreed to with New Zealand and have suggested a change to the site for the airstrip.

It has also been noted that the aistrip will consider two option on wether to build on Aloalo o vao-Lotu or Alofi (Kamu & Puka) - Nuku.

## Tokelau Heke Fitu cancel out on Pago Pago Tournament

**Plans towards participation at the TMO Marist Pago International Sevens 2012, on the 13th and 14th April American Samoa, has now been cancelled due to the unavailability of players .**

Said the sports coordinator Susan Perez, "The invitation to participate is a recognition of our sucess at the Pacific Games in New Caledonia upsetting top countries like New Caledonia, Wallis & Futuna and Tahiti, Tokelau has created some ripples in the Pacific Sevens scene, however due to the sudden unavailability of some of our players it is very unfortunate that we will not be participating at this Sevens as the experience gained would have been valuable for our team"



# Basketball future looks bright.

Tokelau athletes are competing in a variety of codes right around the world. Last Saturday saw two Tokelauan youth play in the semi final of the South Queensland U18 Basketball semi final. Mathew Fiaola represented the Gold Coast and Josh Apete captained the Logan Thunder team. Mathew is the son of Iosefa Fiaola and Debra Van Der Toght while Josh is the son of Faamaoni and Aho Apete. A tough encounter saw the Logan side progress to the final with Josh

showing outstanding form. We wish them all the best. Also featured in this photo is Nathan Apete, older brother of Josh who is a recent club player but is currently focused on Coaching with his Under 14yrs Logan Thunder team also making the state finals.

As a truly global game we would be interested in hearing from other Tokelauan basketball players around the globe. Contact Tokelau Sports Coordinator Email [hei@lesamoa.net](mailto:hei@lesamoa.net)



Left to right: Josh Apete, Mathew Fiaola, Nathan Apete

## What is Fetal Alcohol Syndrome?

**Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is TOTALLY PREVENTABLE**

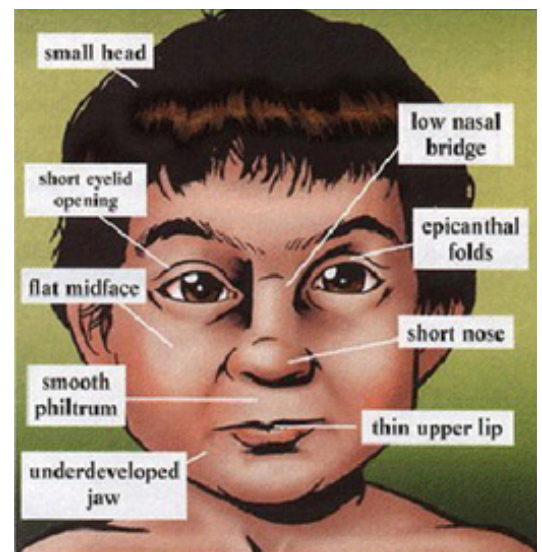
**Drinking Alcohol within the first 12 weeks may:**

- Affect the growth of baby
  - Affect brain function
  - Create Physical problems in a baby such as Heart Defects
- Poor growth while the baby is in the womb can lead to problems after birth such as:**
- Decreased muscle tone and poor coordination
  - Delayed development and problems in three or more major areas: thinking, speech, movement, or social skills, that can affect learning

### Alcohol & Tokelau

- Tokelau has high levels of Alcohol consumption across males & females (Steps Report 2006)
- Alcohol can lead to violence in all shapes & forms
- Alcohol can lead to relationship breakups
- Alcohol can lead to Erectile dysfunction
- Alcohol can lead to Infertility
- Alcohol can lead Obesity, Diabetes & Heart Disease
- Alcohol is Addictive

### FAS Facial Characteristic



Thank you for your interest, and visit our website [www.tokelau.org.nz](http://www.tokelau.org.nz)  
Direct any inquiries or comments to our TPS  
E-mail address: [jovilisi@lesamoa.net](mailto:jovilisi@lesamoa.net)

