

# WOMENS GROUP BRING THE SUNSHINE



**TEVIAKAI**  
Newsletter

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## ***GM's Corner***

Communication and the dissemination of information is a big issue for any administration. That is why I am quite happy that the Te Vakai is rolling again. Welcome to this 'new' edition of the Te Vakai.

I hope that the Bulletin will provide useful information to our people in Tokelau, New Zealand and abroad, to friends and colleagues in the Office of the Administrator in Wellington on how things are going on in Tokelau.

In this Bulletin I would like to acknowledge the contribution Mr David Payton has provided to Tokelau until the end of his term last week. David Malo ma fakafetai! We also acknowledge the new Director of the Office of the Administrator Mr Jonathan Kings. Tokelau welcomes you and look forward to working closely with you during your tenure. I would also like to convey that Council had just completed its meetings to discuss shipping, energy, Infrastructure project and implementation of the Tokelau National Strategic Plan 2010-2015.

If you want to know more about department and village activities feel welcome to go into the official government website [www.tokelau.org.nz](http://www.tokelau.org.nz). We thank all that have helped in re-designing this site and we would like to acknowledge Chris Streadfield, a close friend of Tokelau, for the support he had provided Tokelau in looking after the website over the years.

It has been a challenging week for all and I hope to brief you again in the next Te Vakai edition.

## ***Council Meeting in Apia***

Due to some urgent and pressing ongoing government issues the Council is meeting in Apia. Council issues range from issues such as Shipping, Infrastructure Project, Government funding, Power Project and other ongoing Government issues.

Council comprise of Faipules and Puleukus of the 3 villages. The meetings were supported by senior members of the Tokelau Public Service.

It is anticipated that Council meeting will be completed Thursday 2 September. The Council members will depart for Tokelau Friday 3 September while the Ulu o Tokelau (as Minister for Environment) will attend the Ministerial session of the 21<sup>st</sup> SPREP meeting.

## ***From Office of the Administrator of Tokelau***

Jonathan Kings has joined the Office of the Administrator of Tokelau as Acting Director for six weeks from 23 August 2010. Jonathan comes with experience in law, the corporate world, and the public sector.

Recently he has been leading New Zealand's bid with Australia to host the Square kilometres Array. The Square Kilometre Array is a radio telescope that will be by far the most powerful of its type in the world, with a discovery potential 10,000 times greater than current instruments. The telescope is one of the world's most significant mega-science projects of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Before that he was a senior manager with New Zealand Trade and Enterprise and Industry New Zealand for nine years. He had a range of responsibilities including leading Investment New Zealand, which is New Zealand's investment attraction agency, spending two years at the OECD in Paris working on regional development issues, and managing New Zealand's trade promotion offices in Europe and the Middle East and in the Americas.

Prior to joining the public sector Jonathan was the chief executive of a consulting firm in the energy sector with offices in New Zealand and Australia, and before that he was a senior manager with a multinational in the energy sector.

## ***From Department of Education***

Five new scholarship students were located to Suva and Vanuatu campuses at the start of semester 2 at the end of July. Four students began at Laucala Campus, Suva to complete Bachelor of Arts programmes and one student began her law degree at Emalus Campus, Vanuatu.

Students are progressing well in the Years 12 and 13 programmes in each of the respective schools. The Department of Education acknowledges that it needs to put in place more vocational and trades-based courses to cater for wider student needs at this level of schooling. The Department plans to do more work on this and keep the communities informed on this.

National assessments are being developed in English, Tokelau language and mathematics for Years 4 and 6. These will be trialled across all three schools in November this year. This will allow the Department to gauge more closely the literacy and numeracy levels for our students in these classes and work with teachers to improve teaching in the gaps that are identified from these assessments.

National workshops for teachers are very important for professional development and ongoing training and keeping teachers informed of new developments. A workshop for all Early Childhood Education teachers was held recently in Fakaofu and facilitated by Pulekelia Aloisio.

Another national workshop for training teachers and principals on how to report student assessments to parents is planned for late September and will be facilitated by South Pacific Board of Education and Assessment (SPBEA).

The Director of Education plans to carry out consultations with villages in September and October. The specific issues for this consultation include the review of the Scholarships Scheme and a proposal for improving teacher qualifications across all three schools. Village General Manager / Coordinator/Director will be informed of these dates and papers for discussions distributed once dates for this are confirmed.

Shipments of books from New Zealand schools, organisations and individuals have been sent to the schools over the last six months. The Department of Education acknowledges the support from the following for these donations which benefit our children and schools:

**Mr Luther Toloa (Wairarapa)**  
**Mrs Sylvia Barber (Manurewa South School, Auckland)**  
**Mr Jeff Evans (Ocean of Books, Auckland) and the**  
**NZ Ministry of Education**

Hopefully these books are being put to use in the classroom and in the promotion of reading within respective schools.

The Department of Education will re-launch its newsletter Mata Malama by the end of September. This will help to keep communities informed of developments in the education sector across Tokelau.

### ***From Department of Energy***

Work on Tokelau Renewable Energy project has been progressing well. Tokelau and NZ MFAT have been working closely to finalise the express of interest (EOI) document. The EOI is currently advertised in the Government of NZ Electronic Trade Services website. Proposals for EOI will close on 23 September then followed with an evaluation which will take place on 27 September 2010. This will then followed with submission of a report to the General Fono to consider the cost of the project.

Subject to the decision of General Fono, more negotiations will be made with suppliers on preparation for the physical execution of the project.

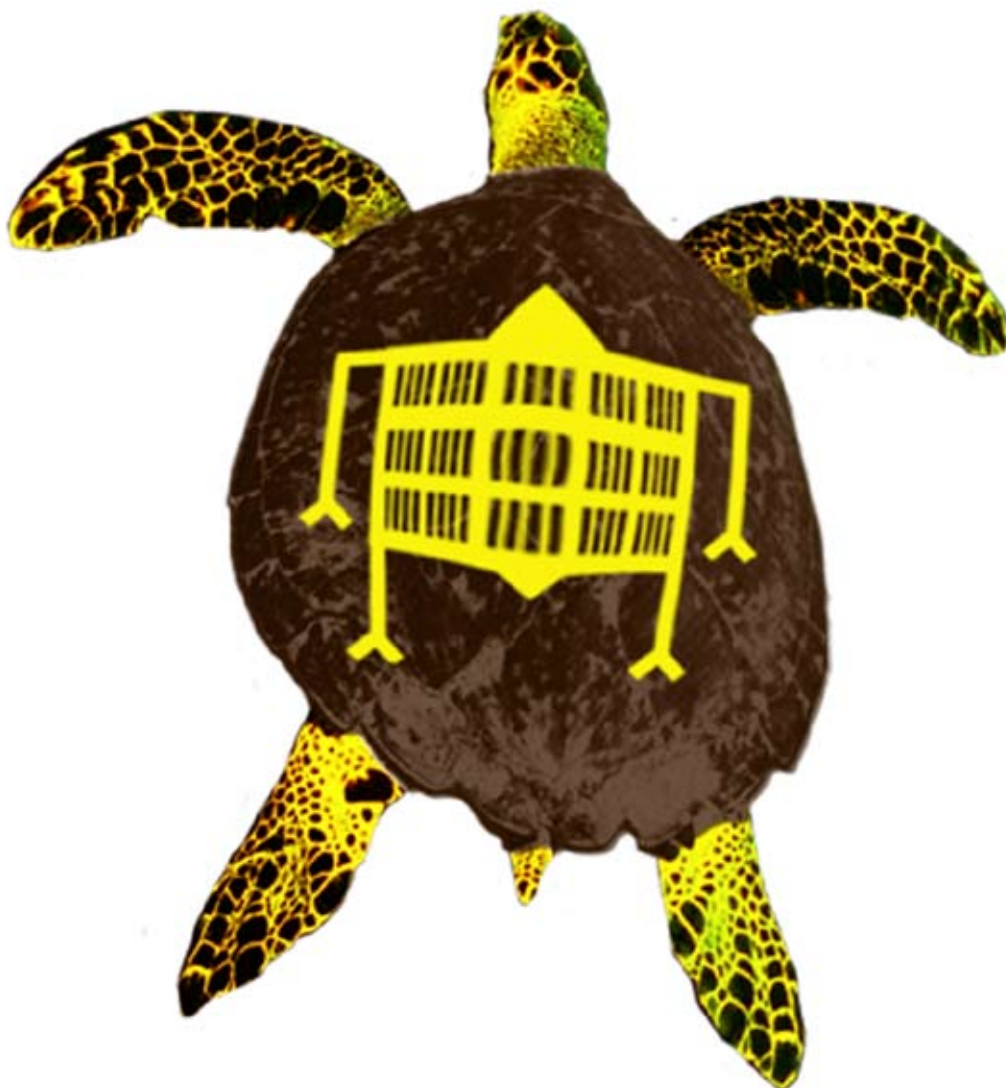
In considering the tender process and evaluation of project, it is expected that Tokelau will commission its solar power around October 2011.

Staff of the Department of Energy were recently on Nukunonu to help with rectifying electrical fault that was specifically developed on one of the distribution lines in the main village. They also helped with the installation of prepaid meters, testing and rectifying electrical house wiring and appliances that were affected by the damaged power line.

The GM of the Department has been invited to attend the Energy summit at the USP in Fiji. He will present a paper on Renewable Energy development, training and capacity building requirements and the challenges faced by the Department of Energy with the implementation of renewable energy technology in Tokelau.

## ***Infrastructure Development Project (IDP)***

Following IDP Steering Committee meeting it is confirmed that the construction of schools in Atafu and Fakaofu and hospital in Nukunonu will commence this month with the shipment of building materials. It is anticipated that the buildings will be completed 12 months from construction.





- 1 The Taupulega is very concerned about the long delay in constructing of the hospital under the IDP project. IDP is on hold however there is a continuation of normal work on housing scheme, seawall and water catchment.
- 2 There are currently 3 consultations going on in the villages. These started on Tuesday 31 August and should complete by Wednesday 1 September. These consultations are:
  - (i) Mose and SPC Officials
  - (ii) VSA, Mr Peter Swain
  - (iii) Suicide, Rev Linda Teleo Hope
- 3 The Fatupaepae met to plan their normal programme for Fathers' Day. The normal service to be held on Sunday and a public holiday on Monday. Activities will take place at the Falepa. It will kick off with breakfast, morning tea and a lunch at midday for fathers and the village.
- 4 A new Priest is already on the island to replace Monsignor O'Connor who is travelling overseas.
- 5 The able men have been fishing for 2 days and nights out in the open ocean and all catches were distributed as inati to the families.
- 6 **Medical News**
  - (i) Tomasi Tafia's daughter-in-law had a baby. There was concern that the mother might have trouble during birth. Nurses were brought in from Atafu to assist if a caesarian was needed however that was not the case.
  - (ii) Two patients at the hospital – Kalolo Wright and the new mother & baby.
  - (iii) H1N1 vaccination has been completed in the village last week.
- 7 Sports put forward a proposal to the Taupulega to continue their trainings from 2:00pm for the September games in Atafu. Some Taupulega are helping the athletes in this area too.
- 8 The two vegetable gardens development is going well. They have cabbages, very tasty cucumbers good for salads, etc. One is at the school and the other one is run by the Fatupaepae. They will share the knowledge of the vegetable adviser on Nukunonu with Fakafo and Atafu villages. They want the villages to work together in these areas.
- 9 The Taupulega is proposing planning committees to plan the work within the village on a weekly, monthly or annual basis. This is mainly to align with the Tokelau National Strategic Plan. They have Mika Perez as the Manager in the Village Economic Development and Culture. He coordinates the work plan on these issues in the village. They also appointed Silvia Tavite as the Human Development manager, not just for the public servants but to look at ways to improve the monitoring of village scholarships/trainees. Other committees are: Co-op Store, Health, Education, Planning, Law and Village Development.

The Taupulega wants a local approach in the allocation of roles and responsibilities of these committees, e.g the Education Committee is similar to a Board in looking at how effective the principal's performance. But the teacher's performance lies with the principal. They just want Nukunonu to benefit in the implementation of the TNSP.

- 10 Work continues in improving plumbing in the government buildings and private homes, including the church. Showers in the houses have improved. Andrew Baker is helping in this area. The village is looking at saving as much water as they can and are therefore continuing working on the water catchment.
- 11 Co-op Store is almost complete and it is a beautiful building. The carpenters are awaiting the last shipment of tiles to complete the project.

The Co-op committee has already made contact with some suppliers in New Zealand in order for stocks to come direct from NZ. They are happy with the response from NZ. They want to improve the quality and daily availability of supplies. It does not mean they will ignore the support of the Office in Apia in identifying what to supply from Samoa.

## 12 **Maintenance & Repairs**

The Bobcat and digger are not working and there is a need for repairs and maintenance of big machines including truck. Parts should be available at all times. Village buildings such as school and Falepa needs repairs. This is a safety issue. They proposed for repairs/ maintenance under the current ESA.

It is confirm that the work on the hospital (if project starts) will take 12 months. This is what they experience from the work on the Co-op where all men were involved. Some men were involved in designing, some getting sand, some in mixing the concrete, etc.

All and all the village is OK.



- 1 Work is continuing on the Fenuafala on building another channel. Some women are working at Fenuafala preparing food for the able bodied men working the channel.
- 2 The majority of the Fatupaepae are continuing with the weaving of a handicraft order for a New Zealand market.
- 3 Repairs and maintenance is still continuing for the Village Administration Building (office upstairs).
- 4 The youth and are concentrating on their preparations for the inter-atoll sports and athletes are on full speed on their trainings.
- 5 The Taupulega met on Monday for their normal weekly routine.
- 6 This afternoon the village is expecting the suicide consultant for consultation with the village as well as the fisheries officials for consultation with the aumaga. The consultations will take place on Thursday and Friday (2-3 September).
- 7 Tamiano Perez came on the Lady Naomi yesterday to take care of the Catholic flock in Fakaofu.
- 8 The H1N1 vaccination for the village has been completed.



- 1 The Taupulega had their regular meeting as usual to manage and to ensure all village activities are all well looked after and accommodated for. To ensure no disturbing activities or behaviors emerge within the village.
- 2 Village projects (Housing/ Sanitation/ Water Catchment) – In general, work is slowly progressing due to the delay in shipment of building materials.
- 3 Village School/ USP – Normal and regular daily operations.
- 4 Youth & Sports – Tutolu games are expected to be held here in Atafu late this month, hence, without delay all trainings are on track early mornings and afternoons.
- 5 Telephone system – Telephone system is inoperative in most households. However, we have contacted Teletok accordingly.
- 6 Fatupaepae – with their usual and supportive assistance, Fatupaepae is now prioritizing all preparation towards hosting the Tutolu games and most of all the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Church Arrival.
- 7 Consultations – Atafu hosted 3 consultations during the weekend which include groups from SPC & Department for Environment, VSA and Suicide Awareness workshops.
- 8 Aumaga – Continuously involved with all Village Projects as usual.

# FROM NEW ZEALAND



The touring "Titanika" women's cultural group from Atafu performed with flair and vibrancy to an entertaining packed house at the Matauala Hall, Cannons Creek, Porirua. The Titanika group is on its way to Townsville, Australia after showcasing their talents in Auckland, Hutt Valley and Porirua.



## Tokelau Community Language Radio Programme

Music, News from around NZ, Australia & Hawaii, talkback, Competition, Events and Stories in **OUR LANGUAGE.**

Every Sunday NZT from 4.00pm to 8.00pm





*"E lafa kita ko te fanau,  
ko te lumanaki ia o fenua"*

Whatever we do is for the **children,**  
the **future** of the land

TOKELAU PROVERB