



Reports on Member of Parliament grants and discretionary donations in the Cook Islands

SEPTEMBER 2016 – REPORT 3

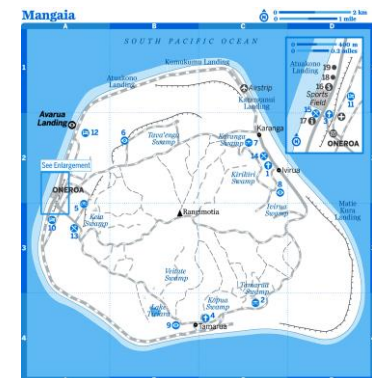
February 2016

Tamarua Girls Brigade

The Tamarua Girls Brigade Company consist of a Captain, Girls Brigade officer, and 12 girls (age 3-18) who meet every Monday evening for 2 hr to do various activities that enable the girls to learn physical, spiritual, social and educational activities that will enrich their lives. They do various activities in the community such as helping the elderly, cleaning community buildings and even celebrating special occasions for the mamas and papas in the village.

The Girls Brigade has given young girls in the Tamarua village the opportunity to gain knowledge and acquire skills for the betterment of their lives and to unify the community. The girls also utilise the knowledgeable mamas in the community by learning embroidery skills or even art and craft skills. The group wear special uniforms to represent their company and applied for funding from the Cook Foundation to purchase uniforms, badges and stationary.

Tamarua is one of the six traditional districts on the island of Mangaia, Cook Islands. Mangaia is the second largest island after Rarotonga and is the most southerly in the Cook Islands.



April 2016

The Cook Foundation supports Teremoana Vaevae

Ms Teremoana Vaevae is a mother of two teenagers; she is currently employed as a housekeeper at the Rarotongan Beach Resort and Spa. Her son was recently referred to NZ for a medical check-up via the Ministry of Health International Patient Referral System. As a single income earner of the family, with no financial support from her former partner, her son had been accompanied to NZ by Ms Vaevae's sister-in-law so as to ensure that Ms Vaevae could continue to earn an income to support her son from Rarotonga. Ms Vaevae was advised by medical experts that her son was unwell with significant heart failure and complications related to the heart, and she was urgently required to join him in NZ.

Ms Vaevae and her family were residents of Amuri, Aitutaki up until late 2010 after her family home was completely destroyed by Cyclone Pat. As a result of the cyclone, the family lost all of their passports. A request for a grant was made to the Cook Foundation for the cost of a temporary passport and one way airfare to NZ.

On February 10th 2010 cyclone Pat passed directly over Aitutaki, resulting in severe damage on approximately 79 percent of the homes including the Vaevae family, with 72 structures destroyed.

Below is a photo of one of the homes destroyed by Cyclone Pat.



May 2016

Teenui and Mapumai Growers Association

The Teenui and Mapumai villages of Atiu have formed a Growers Association to manage and implement the agriculture work on Atiu. Recently machinery for agriculture purposes has been donated by the Chinese government for community use and is the main reason the Growers Association has been revived.

The Growers Association has decided to keep the all agriculture machinery and equipment under the care of the Chairman Teaukura Isaia in his yard; however, there is no covered shelter available. The association requested funding for assistance to help purchase materials for a shed for storage of the machinery. The shed will be built mostly out of local timber growing on the island and roofing from the Cook Islands Steel Company.

Also known as Enuamanu (the island of birds) Atiu lies 187 kilometres northwest of Rarotonga with a small population of 472, and is divided into 5 villages.



The Teenui and Mapumai villages are the biggest of the 5 with the Atiu airport and harbour in Teenui and blusky, radio Atiu and the village school in Mapumai.

June 2016

Tamarua Community receive support from the Cook Foundation for Hall

Tamarua is a village in Mangaia, Cook Islands. The Tamarua community hall is where meetings and family gatherings are held and is also used for youth groups and other gatherings. The lack of kitchen utensils for the kitchen facility in the community hall was a concern for community members as people had to bring their own plates, cups and cutlery for any functions.

The community granted a request to the Cook Foundation to buy kitchen utensils for the community hall. On the 18th of November 2015, the community hall had been blessed with its own cups, plates, bowls, spoons, water igloos and table cloths. The people of Tamarua are very grateful for the support from the Cook Foundation.

Mangaia is the most southerly of the Cook Islands and the second largest after Rarotonga. It has the distinction of being the oldest island in the Pacific. The population comprises of about 700 people.



August 2016

Cook Foundation supports inclusive education

Apii Te Uki Ou School is a primary school located on the south east side of the island of Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Ngatamaine (Ake) Poturu is a student that attends that school; she suffers from development delay and has severe learning difficulties. She is a challenge to teach due to her disabilities and ATUO is the only school on the island with a dedicated learning support program. The Cook Foundation has generously funded her school fees for the past three years; enabling both her and the students to benefit from inclusive education.

Ake will have a personal development program specific to her needs. Over the past years Ake had shown marked improvement in her social behaviour and learning as a result of being integrated with children her own age. The school would like to continue to offer Ake the support she needs in 2016. The amount requested will cover her school fees and EOTC fees for the rest of the 2016 school year.

Apii Te Uki Ou School is a privately funded school located in the village of Ngatangia on the main island of Rarotonga.



An independent school offering quality pre- school and primary education.



Cook Foundation supports Tamarua People with Disabilities

Tamarua people with disabilities are a group of vulnerable people in the village of Tamarua and they are aged 12 years to 65 years. There are 10 of them altogether and thus are unable to be employed. However, they are on disability benefits with the exception of 3 who are under the age of 18 years, the oldest of the group is 65 years old and is on pension.

The people supporting this project have been given a piece of land to plant and therefore are requesting for some pig fence to fence their vegetable garden to keep wandering animals out. This agriculture venture would enable them to plant, tend and look after the 'fruits of their labour' (vegetables and root crops) and thus would allow them to sell their fresh produces to the community. In their current situation, some of vulnerable people rely on others for assistance so the grant for a pig fence will be one way of giving them more independence.



Tamarua is one of the six traditional districts of the island of Mangaia.



Mangaia is the second largest and oldest island in the South Pacific.

Outstanding Youth: Confident + Unstoppable

The company owners of Cream of the Crop Leaders have generously offered to donate their youth/adult confidence workshop, Outstanding Youth: Confident + Unstoppable, (value of USD \$18,000- \$21,000) for the Araura College students and Aitutaki Youth. This workshop will enable the participants to practice the exercises required to boost confidence and self-esteem for positive implications including better chances of being selected/hired for universities/employment, improved mood, lowered stress. The Araura youth have been given a rare opportunity to transform with authenticity and relish the experience of positive learning and exercise.

Harvard university research shows that learned confidence can be real, and show effective results as the tools and methods that are offered in the workshop are also correlated with reduced youth/adult anxiety, depression and substance abuse. By the end of the workshop it is guaranteed that participants will exude a confident, benevolent and radiant power. The Araura College requested sponsorship from the Cook Foundation for travel, food and accommodation for the two presenters of this course.

Aitutaki, also traditionally known as Araura, Ararau and Utataki, is one of the Cook Islands, north of Rarotonga. It has a population of approximately 2,000. Aitutaki is the second most visited island of the Cook Islands.



Araura College is the only secondary school on the island of Aitutaki, Cook Islands. The school has the role of teaching approximately 200 students from Year 7- Year 12.

PRESS RELEASE: Youth Empowerment Workshop for Cook Islands' Youth

For Immediate Release: 27 AUGUST 2016

Contact: Sioux Messenger, Sioux@CreamoftheCropLeaders.com, Rarotonga phone (682) 71-416 (this phone only August 30 - September 7) or anytime through Skype: COTC.Leaders

Sometimes extraordinary things happen in far way places. On our remote little island of Aitutaki, peaceful and vibrant in the vast South Pacific, students and faculty leadership team members from Araura College will be taking part in an exceptional experience, a highly-interactive 2-Day youth empowerment workshop donated and facilitated by USA based [Cream of the Crop Leaders](#). Cream of the Crop Leaders is co-founded by Dan and Sioux Messenger, whose clients include top leaders from *Facebook*, *Apple*, *Macy's*, *Doctors Without Borders*, and *U.S. Department of Education*. *Air Rarotonga*, *Aitutaki Beach Villas*, and *The Cook Foundation* have all generously partnered with Cream of the Crop Leaders to make this special experience possible for Cook Islands' youth.

The workshop is called [Outstanding Youth: Confident & Unstoppable](#), and it will teach Aitutaki youth unique tools shown by exciting new research - including research from *Harvard University* and *Wharton Business School* - which suggests that *learned* power and confidence can become *authentic* and improve one's chances of being selected for desirable positions with top employers and leading universities. Even more, learned power can improve mood, decrease stress and cortisol, and lead to proactive challenge-*approach* habits, so important for creating a full and meaningful life and career.

And these challenge-*approach* habits are just what *Araura College* Principal Tracy Spiers is looking for: "I want our student leaders to develop confidence and necessary life skills to face challenging situations". Principal Spiers is committed to ensuring that Araura College continues as a center of learning for the Aitutaki community.

How does it work? *Cream of the Crop Leaders'* participants repeatedly practice the mannerisms that confident people use, including confident body postures, confident uses of voice, and other non-verbal mannerisms commonly seen by those who radiate credibility. The best part: participants soon begin to *feel* authentically confident. Cream of the Crop Leaders' CEO Sioux Messenger states, "This is not about creating false, cookie-cutter people. Each participant will radiate their own unique version of shining dignity. After all, personal power and confidence is everyone's birthright. Our company mission is that all beings remember their full magnificence and benevolent power. Even more, equality of all human beings is our top company priority; with these tools, we level playing fields and shrink gaps."

And learned power is for everyone. Even highly accomplished leaders, many of whom attend the adult version, [The Executive Presence Training](#), note that their re-kindled power has allowed them to approach big challenges with gusto, and radiate the credibility needed to influence key stakeholders, inspire employees, advance their own careers - and even overcome long-standing obstacles in their personal lives.

Says Messenger, "We love what we do, and, truly, it's our absolute joy to give back." Araura College will be taking part in this *Cream of the Crop Leaders'* youth empowerment workshop in early September. Stay tuned to hear the results.

Mitiaro Fishing Club

Mitiaro is a beautiful island located in the South Pacific. With little influence from the western society the people of Mitiaro have sustained their culture and tradition with both traditional and contemporary fishing techniques. Fishing is essentially one of the most important assets the island and community have.

The Mitiaro Fishing Club community group have requested funding for an aluminium ladder to assist people getting into or out of the fishing boat at the wharf of the harbour. The sea level during low tide makes it difficult and dangerous for fisherman to climb up or down onto the boat. A ladder will enable fishing activities to continue without the risk and danger.



Also known as Nukuroa, Mitiaro has a small population of 189. Unlike Rarotonga, Mitiaro only has a handful of tourists that visit each year. If you are seeking a traditional culture experience Mitiaro is the place to go.



Rarotonga Organic Growers Inc

The Rarotonga Organic Growers Organisation purpose is to promote 'organic healthy food security'. The established and registered group of local growers consists of about 20 members with the executive of Chairman being Tupe Short.

The organisation has acquired a vegetation mulcher from the Agriculture Department and are seeking financial assistance to purchase a trailer which will enable the mulcher to be mobile. The trailer will be constructed by another local business. The idea of making the mulcher mobile is that anyone around the island wanting this service can phone in and the mulcher can be taken in on the trailer to the site or home to do the mulching that can be used for composting rather than burning. The trailer will make the mulcher available for all members of the group and other members of community.

The Organic Growers Organisation was founded by Tupe Short, a well known local known for his involvement in the community.

