CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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There are no substitutes for good friends and a good education.

Prepared by Opeta Alefaio, Director, National Archives of Fiji
Presented by Helen Walker, Director International and Strategic Liaison, National Archives of Australia
“If the connections between public record-keepers in Australia, New Zealand and the Islands continue to be developed on the basis of mutual respect it is likely that Island governments will be persuaded to recognise the value of their own record-keeping institutions and fund them accordingly.”

Ewan Maidment - Executive Officer, Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, at the 2008 Pacific History Association Conference, Suva, Fiji.
Dorothy Crozier  Ian Diamond  Bruce Burne
INAUGURAL CONFERENCE, SUVA — 1981

Setareki Tale Awarded Fellow of ICA

- UNSW trained
- Used training to build Fiji’s profile internationally
- PARICA
- ICA
- ACARM
- Capacity building
- PARBICA Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit
- New Building 2008
“He waka eke noa – a canoe which we are all in with no exception”

- Archives ethos
  - Professional respect – Do not assume to speak for others
  - All voices heard
  - Toso vata - move together
- Pacific Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (PARBICA)
  - Consultation and Collaboration
  - Biennial professional conferences, for networking and learn from world leading practitioners from Aust, NZ, and beyond
  - 2005 – 2011 Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit (AusAID, NZAID supported, over $AUD1m)
Impact - Staffing

- 2012 Civil Service Reform
- Using knowledge and confidence gained through experiences with PARBICA and through formal qualifications from Monash
- Increased Staffing from nineteen (19) in 2011 to thirty one (31) in 2015.
- Increased Budget one hundred and fifty eight (158%)
Impact - Quality Assurance

- Commence appraisal programmes (sentencing) to clear back logs
- Stocktake and cataloguing our Legal Deposit Collection
- High Return on Investment = National Birth Certificate
Impact – Save Fiji’s AV Heritage

• Secured $1m to restore and digitize Fiji’s AV heritage (discarded and in advanced state of decay)
• 97% recovery rate (thanks to DAMsmart Ltd)
• Footage is being repackaged into a “Back in time” TV programme
• Aired on free to air TV at no cost to public
• Back in Time is into its third season (40 episodes)
• First two seasons ran over 70 episodes
Impact – Public Engagement

- Take Archival records out into the community
- Enable Fijians to connect with their heritage
- Increased by 500% between 2012 and 2015
SDG 16.10 “Access to Information” – Rotumans seeing their land and genealogical records for the first time
Impact – Social Media

- 33K followers on NAF Facebook page
- Now our major communications channel
- 2016 Fiji Day post = 199258 facebook accounts reached
- That’s 22% of our population!
Thank you!