



Business Trade Investment Board

Cook Islands

## Te Karere Ora- BTIB Newsletter December 2020



Kia Orana & Welcome to BTIB's online Newsletter for December 2020. This is our last newsletter for the year. Thank you to everyone who has helped to create stories and updates.

- Te Makete Stories
- Atiu- Where to go, What to do guide!
- New staff member joins us
- SCO Pathway for Cook Islander's
- Lunch with the Creative Centre Family
- BTIB Festive Office Hours

We look forward to providing everyone more exciting stories of new businesses in the Cook Islands as well as Pa Enea news. Watch this space!

# Te Makete Stories



## Raro Signs Rarotonga

It's the New Year coming – start with a new look or better yet, get in touch with Raro Signs today! Ray and his team can help you put something together. Contact Ray Solomon on mobile: 50501 or phone 23373.

<http://bit.ly/38bBXHnRaroSigns>



## NANAVE- WEAVING FROM 9 YEARS OLD

Nanave Taima is a talented traditional weaver, a proud Tongareva beauty who is passionate about weaving. Nanave wants to keep the tradition of weaving alive and inspire others to take up the art of weaving. This is her story. Click here for more info.

<https://bit.ly/nanavetemakete>

# Atiu - Where to go, What to do guide!



As you know BTIB has been creating a number of Pa Enea where to go, what to do guides, which is a great way to support our local businesses in the Pa Enea. A way for everyone in the Cook Islands to know who's open during Covid times. Our next guide will be about, Atiu! Do you know someone in Atiu that has a business and needs help being promoted? Contact us today!

BTIB's Pa Enea guides support local businesses including accommodation, cafés somewhere to eat, tours, and activities. All you do is tell us who they are and we will contact them so they can be seen or featured on Facebook and other social media. Thanks for your help!

## New Staff member joins us



### Welcome aboard Vaite

Business Enterprise Advisor is an important area of BTIB's business.

Vaite (Vai) Poila joins the BTIB team- she's committed and eager to help our local businesses here in the Cook Islands. Read more about Vaite and why she joined the team. We wish her all the best in her role as Business Advisor.

click <https://bit.ly/btibstaff>

## SCO - Pathway for Cook Islanders



A newly established company called SCO (SCO Rarotonga Ltd) is located in Avarua behind ANZ Building. It offers "The Business Hub" for businesses and professionals with the support of Withers & Tsang – a NZ Chartered Accounting Practice, Xero – an online accounting software, Vodafone Cook Islands' high-speed Internet and the SMART initiative scheme funding. The owners Davina Hosking-Ashford and Nick Ashford provide a pathway for young Cook Islanders to experience higher education here in the Cook Islands. It means students can graduate via distance learning and provide a place to hone their skills under the guidance of experienced professionals like Nick and Davina.

BTIB works in partnership with SCO Rarotonga along with BCI & MFEM. BTIB's newest Business Enterprise Advisors Vaite Poila & co-worker will get the opportunity to complete a Bachelors in Business (Accountancy) via online distance learning through Massey University in New Zealand. This course will run throughout a 6 year period and each one will be studying part-time and using the Business Hub learning space when needed.



Vaite says, "it's a good initiative, something new and a great study environment to be in because everything is here to help you study from textbooks to Internet usage". Ngarangi also says "Davina and Nick are very approachable and helpful". A key part of Ngarangi and Vaite's learning is the ability to communicate and translate the knowledge they learn to help local businesses here in the Cook Islands. BTIB encourages other mapu's in the workplace or school leavers to take on the challenge and speak to Nick and Davina for additional help.

For more information about The SCO Business Hub, Accounting Services or if you know someone that would be interested in this program, please contact Davina Hosking-Ashford on [info@bhub.co.ck](mailto:info@bhub.co.ck).

The Business Hub provides 8 computers all using Vodafone's Fibre internet, a meeting room with video conferencing technology that can accommodate up to 6 people, and access to basic business support from our young aspiring professional pathways team.

- Opening Hours - Monday to Friday 9am - 3pm
- Cost - Free

Bookings required for meeting room use only. No bookings required to utilise computers for business use.

## A Humbling Experience Cooking for the Creative Centre Family



BTIB staff spent half a day with the Creative Centre last week 17<sup>th</sup> of December on Thursday. BTIB had an opportunity to cook for the Creative Centre and donated a Christmas ham, it was a delicious Christmas spread which included Sticky Date Pudding as well. The Creative Centre members were so delighted and enjoyed the food that was prepared by BTIB.

It was so uplifting to be amongst our Iti tangata during this time and being able to share this special day with the members, it meant a lot to BTIB staff. It certainly is a good team bonding exercise. The staff also ended the day with a Christmas carol song and gave out Christmas favors to the members. Creative

Centre is always looking for volunteers to cook for them during the week - we encourage all other agencies to take the challenge and do the same for you and your teams in the New Year.



## BTIB Festive Season Office Hours



## **Business Trade & Investment Board**

*The Business Trade and Investment Board office hours for the Christmas and New Year period is as follows:*

Monday 21 Dec 2020	8am-4pm
Tuesday 22 Dec 2020	8am-4pm
Wednesday 23 Dec 2020	8am-4pm
Thursday 24 Dec 2020	8am-12pm
Friday 25 Dec 2020	Closed (Christmas Day)
Monday 28 Dec 2020	Closed (Boxing Day)
Tuesday 29 Dec 2020	8am-4pm
Wednesday 30 Dec 2020	8am-4pm
Thursday 31 Dec 2020	8am-4pm
Friday 01 Jan 2021	Closed (New Years)
Monday 04 Jan 2021	Closed (Public holiday)

*BTIB staff would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas*

For any urgent matters only please contact:  
Repeta on Mobile 54336 or email: [btib@cookislands.gov.ck](mailto:btib@cookislands.gov.ck)

**SUPPORT & BUY FROM YOUR LOCAL  
BUSINESSES THESE CHRISTMAS & NEW  
YEAR HOLIDAYS.**

### **BTIB ENQUIRIES**

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