



Nauru Bulletin

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PSD: Building back better from COVID-19

The 2022 Public Service Day was celebrated at the Sports Complex on 24 November to the theme 'Building back better from COVID-19 through innovation and partnership'.

Justice and border control took out the 2022 department of the year award from arch rival Nauru Police Force - winners of last year's Public Service Day. Gaelyn Dake, administration and finance manager at Nauru Media won the employee of the year award.

An enjoyable week-long sports program leading up to the PSD commenced on 17 November and concluded on 25 November with prizes and an awards ceremony.

Government departments gathered early that morning to showcase their work, join the celebration and take part in competitions.

His Excellency the Acting President Martin Hunt says that public service may not be the "most glamorous or profitable line of work, it is however, one of the most important."



Gaelyn Dake is 2022 employee of the year

[Photo: Facebook/Gaelyn]

"We sometimes take our public servants for granted but in fact they provide essential services.

"They are the women and men who teach our kids, maintain our roads, protect our environment, take care of our sick in hospitals, keep our streets safe, process our salaries and social welfare benefits, guard our prisons and do countless other things for us every single day. Hence, it is right that we

honour public servants."

The program included departmental display booths, quizzes, demonstrations, free food, games, giveaways, and novelty sports including synchronised marching and tug of war.

Prizes for the week-long activity and awards for individual and department achievements were presented on 25 November by Acting President Hunt, Acting Chief Secretary Ipia Gadabu and Australian High Commissioner Dr Helen Cheney.

PSD celebrates the values and virtues of public service and acknowledges the public servants' contribution to the community and development process.

The United Nations General Assembly declared 23 June as Public Service Day in December 2002 to which Nauru has celebrated for many years.

This year Nauru postponed the celebration due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in the community •

First Taiwan medical team to visit since 2019

The latest team of Taiwan medical practitioners did 317 patient consultations and performed 41 surgeries during their two week medical mission on Nauru.

The Taiwan Mobile Medical Mission is an arrangement under a memorandum of understanding between Nauru's Ministry of Health and Taiwan's Taichung Veterans General Hospital to provide medical treatment and care for Nauruans either in Nauru or Taiwan.

The team attended to patients at the Public Health Centre and RON Hospital and conducted 41 surgeries involving amputations, intravitreal injections and tumour incisions amongst many others.

The medical team consists of an ophthalmologist; a cardiovascular surgeon; a reconstructive plastic surgeon and three nurses who arrived on Nauru Sunday, 27 November and will departed next week.

Recommendations for various extended treatment or overseas medical referrals are made by the team for consideration and final approval by the Ministry of Health.



Taiwan Ambassador Dean Wang (centre) and Deputy Counsellor Joseph Hsu (right) with Taiwan medical team

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First Taiwan medical team to visit since 2019

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Reconstructive Plastic Surgeon Dr Chung Ming-Hsien says although their team's experience in Nauru was a challenging one, given that there are many patients who suffer from diabetes and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs) says that they were ultimately successful in treating the patients.

Taiwan Ambassador Dean Wang said he is very proud of the team's efforts here in Nauru and that he is grateful to their service in not only helping those who are sick, but strengthening the bond between Nauru and Taiwan.

This is the first mobile medical team to return to Nauru since October 2019 when international travel was restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It has been a long wait for many patients but very appreciated to finally get the additional medical attention from specialists.

Under the MOU two missions are expected to visit Nauru each year. With borders reopening the teams are expected to return in May and October next year •

Australia continues priority sector assistance

His Excellency President Russ Kun met with Australian Ministers to discuss assistance for Nauru's priority sectors, 22 November.

At the meeting with Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator Penny Wong and Minister for Pacific Affairs Pat Conroy, President Kun acknowledged Australia's continued assistance and support for Nauru's priority sectors including health, education, infrastructure, and economic recovery.



President Kun meets Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong in Canberra

Australia's additional offer of \$2.5 million to address the impacts of COVID-19 and to bolster Nauru's recovery efforts post-pandemic was also acknowledged.

President Kun also introduced Nauru hosting of the Micronesian Games in 2026, a first for Nauru.

President Kun then paid a courtesy call on the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, Hon David Hurley.

The meeting with Ministers Wong and Conroy were to further discussions held during the recent visit of Australia's Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles in early October and Minister Wong in mid-October •

Nauru to host 2023 aviation meeting

Nauru will host the third Regional Aviation Ministers Meeting (RAMM3) as announced at the 9th Pacific Aviation Officials meeting held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, Wednesday, 30 November.

The face-to-face meeting is tentatively scheduled for early November 2023.



Officials discuss priorities set by aviation ministers to achieve the vision to improve air connectivity and economic growth for Pacific peoples

"RAMM3 will mark a significant step towards aviation growth through regional collaboration and commitment," Nauru's Secretary for Transport and Chair of the Aviation Officials Meeting, Nodel Neneiya said.

"We look forward to our Pacific aviation ministers coming together in Nauru to discuss strengthening the region's aviation sector and air connectivity," Secretary Neneiya said.

The meeting was attended by senior aviation officials from 13 Pacific States including Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Officials discussed the progress made against the ministerial priorities set by Pacific Ministers to achieve the vision of the Port Moresby Declaration to improve air connectivity and support economic growth for the benefit of Pacific peoples.

"The launch of the Pacific Regional Aviation Strategy at the 41st Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) was a significant milestone and creates a real opportunity to accelerate aviation improvements for our Blue Pacific," Mr Neneiya said.

He adds the 10-year aviation strategy is aligned with the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and seeks to create and connect Pacific aviation systems that will mutually benefit Pacific states for sustainable aviation.

Mr Neneiya says that positive progress continues in developing the aviation action plan, the next steps for the amendments to the Pacific Islands Civil Aviation Safety and Security Treaty (PICASST), and establishing an enhanced regional aviation organisation through further consultation and dialogue.

Financial support from the Australian and New Zealand governments, the World Bank, and the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility to support regional aviation collaboration and strengthening was acknowledged at the 9th Pacific senior aviation officials meeting •

Youth parliament training, beneficial

Twenty-one successful applicants joined the newly established Nauru Youth Parliament (NYP) three-day training session, 22-24 November.

A similar exercise was initiated a few years ago for year 12 students whereas this project is open to young adults aged 18 to 25 years.

The initiative aims to inspire young people to take part in politics and is a platform offering them the opportunity to learn about democracy and how the parliamentary institution works through replicating real parliament sessions as close as possible.



Youth parliament training aims to inspire understanding and pathways in democracy, politics and the parliamentary institution

Participants were briefed about current youth issues and Nauru's democratic and parliamentary systems by key departments such as Health, Education, Youth Affairs, the Nauru Police Force, the Nauru Electoral Commission and the Nauru Parliament.

The initiative is jointly organised by the Nauru Parliament, the Department of Youth Affairs and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) through the assistance of the Nauru Parliament's Accountable and Inclusive Government Project.

The theme 'Let's make a mark for the young voices of Nauru' or 'Ang nim wemai nongin aen ngain Naoero' underpins the goal to inspire and empower a young generation of informed, open-minded, responsible and active citizens.

The Clerk of Parliament Ann-Marie Cain, Australian High Commissioner Dr Helen Cheney, UNDP Regional Representative Levan Bouadze and former speaker of parliament Ludwig Scotty were also in attendance and offered words of encouragement to the participants.

Ms Cain said the initiative will be beneficial to young Nauruans and Nauru as a whole as it is an educational experience for young people aspiring to stand for elections.

The NYP has yet to elect members to positions and expects to hold the first mock sitting sometime next year •

International children, mens day celebrated

The Department of Women's and Social Development Affairs (WASDA) held a fun day at Aiue Boulevard to jointly celebrate International Children's Day and International Men's Day, 19 November.



The double celebration hosted by the women's department promotes openness and inclusivity

First established in 1954, International Children's Day is celebrated on 20 November to promote international togetherness, raise awareness on issues facing children and improving their overall welfare.

Nauru ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on 27 July 1994 joining 196 other countries in protecting the rights of children in all areas including the right to life, education and freedom from violence and neglect amongst many others.

Director for Child Protection, Anne Scotty said that the event at Aiue was highly successful with many children attending to enjoy the fun activities and free food, promoting openness and inclusivity.

In addition, International Men's Day is celebrated on 19 November in recognition of the contributions made by men and aims to inform people on the many social issues that they face, such as mental health, addiction, and workplace and health safety amongst many others.

While International Men's Day is not formally recognised by the United Nations, Director for the Gender Mainstreaming Unit, Tara Detogia says that WASDA wanted to be inclusive of both men and women •

Safety First!

- * Drive safely this Christmas
- * Be considerate with other motorists
- * Wear your helmet
- * Have your drivers' licence ready for police inspection
- * Have a designated driver if you plan to consume alcohol
- * Don't drive if you're underaged
- * Be responsible and let's all have an enjoyable festive Christmas

God bless Nauru!

Ten graduate from uni New England

Ten students received their degrees for studies undertaken at the University of New England (UNE), 26 November.

Minister for Education Richard-Hyde Menke and UNE Professor Penelope Baker proudly conferred certificates of Bachelor of Education (Pacific Focus) to three graduates and Associate Degree in Teaching (Pacific Focus) to seven graduates at Centennial Hall.

The minister congratulated the graduates saying that their hard-won efforts have paid off.

“The skills, knowledge and experience that you have gained on this journey have not only enriched you as an individual, but will be making a difference in the lives of the students you will cross in your teaching paths.”



Over 50 Nauruan students have graduated from UNE through the Nauru Teacher Education project

On behalf of the students, Taraina Notte thanked the project team, education department and families for their support throughout the journey. She also shared her experiences while studying at UNE, highlighting the importance of time management skills.

Over 50 Nauruan students have graduated from UNE through the Nauru Teacher Education project which has been led by Professor Baker since its commencement in 2013.

Minister Menke says that Ms Baker has been the back bone and “driving force and success throughout the life of this program.”

The education department aims to increase the percentage of teachers with a diploma or degree and this training and professional development for high-quality teacher education has allowed for that.

“I acknowledge and thank the Government of Australia for the remarkable support rendered to our education system,” Minister Menke said.

Also in attendance were Australian High Commissioner Dr Helen Cheney and Secretary for Education Darrina Kun.

Graduates with a Bachelor of Education (Pacific Focus) are: Taraina Notte, Elvira Hubert and Joslyn Gaskell.

Graduates with an Associate Degree in Teaching (Pacific Focus) are: Daniel Appin, Ilka (Ennea) Ika, Litia Batiku, Milly Deduna, Jodia Edward, Anahbele Nokimauria and Lucia Tsitsi •

Disability day celebrated

Nauru celebrated the 2022 International Day of Persons Living with Disability (IDPD) with the year’s theme ‘Transformative solutions for inclusive developments: the role of innovation in fueling an accessible and equitable world’, 3 December.

The United Nations General Assembly declared 3 December as a day to observe IDPD and recognise the rights, wellbeing and inclusion of people living with disabilities in all spheres of society.



Karwoski Akua receives entrepreneurship award from Australian High Commissioner Dr Helen Cheney

[Photo: Aust HighComm]

The Department for People Living with Disability (DPWD) hosted two events to commemorate the day under three thematic topics aligned to the main theme.

The topics were: Innovation for inclusive development in employment (SDG8), Innovation for disability inclusive development - reducing inequality (SDG10), and Innovation for disability inclusive development - sports as an exemplar case.

Secretary for DPWD Riddell Akua was amazed with the huge crowd turnout saying the International Day of persons living with disability celebration was “very successful.”

The first and main event was held at the Tomano room Menen hotel on 1 December where department staff, people living with disabilities and their families gathered for a feast and an awards ceremony to members of the disability community who are winners of the Olympic Coca-Cola fun run and small business entrepreneurship.

Special guests from Capelle & Partner and the Australian and Taiwan high commissions were invited to join the special occasion.

Coca-Cola fun run awardees are Mary Appin, Faithful Thomas and Kouratke Rino; and the entrepreneurship awards went to Nancy Temaki and Karwoski Akua.

For the second event, Nauru Media with DPWD hosted a radio talk show the week after to recapitulate on the IDPD celebration•



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NTV upgrades to digital system

The Nauru Media Bureau launched its digital system for Nauru Television at its office, 23 November.

Acting Minister for Nauru Media Wawani Dowiyogo and Australian High Commissioner Dr Helen Cheney cut the ribbon to officially launch and convert the television transmitters from analog system to digital.

Nauru Television is now able to provide its audience with a wider selection of channels with high definition and better-quality viewing.

This project is sponsored by the Government of Australia to improve radio and television in Nauru. For about two years, the project was on hold due to the COVID-19 outbreak and lockdown on Nauru.

However, upon borders reopening, Australian-owned N-Com Broadcast engineer Glen Thorley and technician Liban Hussein arrived to help the media technicians complete the transition and get the digital systems running.

Mr Thorley also held a workshop for the Nauru Media staff educating them more on the digital systems during his time on island.



L-R: Australian High Commissioner Dr Helen Cheney, Acting Minister for Media Hon Wawani Dowiyogo and Acting Secretary for Nauru Media Kaelyn Dekarube at the launch of the digital TV conversion

Acting Secretary for Media Kaelyn Dekarube extended her appreciation to the N-Com team and all contributors that made the transition a success.

Ms Dekarube said that going digital has been long awaited and Nauru media is very excited to welcome new opportunities for financial and business possibilities in the near future •

Message from the Ministry of Finance

The 2023 aerodrome (rental) will be rolled out commencing today, Friday, 9 December 2022.

The Department of Land Management will continue distributions over the next two weeks with the view to conclude all payouts before the Christmas holidays,

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the lands department on mobile 5573762.

Message from the COVID-19 Taskforce

As we head into the festive season, the gift that you don't want to give your loved family and friends is COVID-19 infection.

Don't let COVID spoil your Christmas celebrations this year.

Ensure that you are up to date with your COVID boosters.

COVID vaccinations are available from the Public Health Centre between Monday and Friday, from 10am to 5pm

The Nauru Bulletin is a fortnightly publication of the Government of the Republic of Nauru.

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Republic of Nauru

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