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# EDITORIAL

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## NATIONAL DEPOSIT ACT FOR PUBLISHED / UNPUBLISHED ITEMS

Cap. 57 of the Fiji Laws is the Deposit (of Books) Act which identifies the Fiji National Archives and the University of the South Pacific Library as the two institutions in the country to which all published items are to be deposited for posterity. This is serving the country well in terms of the preservation of its written history. The Act gives legal authority to the two institutions to ask for and demand, if necessary, from publishers and authors, one copy of a published item.

Designed at a time before non-print formats the Act refers to books. However, since the increase in publishing in other formats, printers and publishers have been very responsive to requests for the deposit on non-print items.

In Fiji, the majority of publishers comply though this has been questioned by some authors mainly relating to access for a fee at the USP Library. Deposit in the closed-access Pacific Collection ensures its preservation and posterity and as with all

closed collections, rules apply.

Few Pacific countries have such an Act. Some years ago, the USP Library recommended through the USP Council that USP member countries be encouraged to establish national deposit acts. Included in this was the recommendation that the USP's Pacific Collection at Laucala is the off-site national and regional depository. It made the agenda of the Council and the principle was supported. What remained then was for each member country to initiate this nationally. There, the matter now rests.

It is hoped that this editorial might spur the interest of libraries, library personnel, archivists and museum personnel, authors, publishers and leaders in our region to pursue the establishment of a national deposit Act inclusive of published and unpublished works in all formats for the preservation of our heritage.

**Elizabeth C. Reade Fong**



## FORMER BISHOP ENGAGED TO DOCUMENT CHURCH RECORDS

TUESDAY, 03 MARCH 2009

FORMER bishop of Malaita Diocese the Rt Rev Terry Brown is being engaged to properly reorganise and document the church's historical materials.

Some of these materials span more than 10 decades. Here's how Rev. Brown takes on the project:

"During my last couple years as Bishop of Malaita, I frequently consulted the Church of Melanesia archives (old books and papers) on deposit at the National Archives of the Solomon Islands in Honiara.

These cover the period of about 1850 to 1980, though there are many gaps. I frequently found that the National Archives staff could not find the material I requested and some of it was damaged or in the wrong place.

I decided that a good retirement project would be to assess and reorganise these archives. At the same time, many important papers have accumulated at the provincial office since the inauguration of the province in 1975 and these also need organizing.

I put my proposal to the Council of Bishops last and they agreed to provide me housing in Honiara for four years in exchange for my working on these archives.

Last November I visited the national archivist and explained my plan and she very kindly gave me free access to the repository where the Diocese of Melanesia books and papers are stored and also an office to work in undisturbed. I have surveyed about half the archives and will give a report and put a work plan to the Council of Bishops in late February.

I believe an archives has two main responsibilities – to preserve old and important papers but also to make them accessible. Sometimes these two aims seem to be in conflict, for if many different people handle old photos and papers they are soon destroyed.

Therefore, I shall be both preserving but also making photocopies or digital copies to make them accessible.

For example, I have scanned some 440 photos of R. W. Beattie, the Tasmanian photographer who visited Melanesia on the Southern Cross in 1906. I hope to put these on an inexpensive CD for sale at the provincial book store.

Likewise, I have been transcribing some of the journals and hope to publish them or put them on the internet. Already I have put many early Melanesian Mission published materials on the Anglican church history site, Project Canterbury, [www.anglicanhistory.org](http://www.anglicanhistory.org), on the Oceania directory.

Just as an example of the kind of material in the archives, here is a picture of a letter from Bishop George Augustus Selwyn, written on 6 February 1855 from the Selwyn family home in Richmond (London) to the young priest, John Coleridge Patteson, "Coley", telling him that the ship for New Zealand will be leaving soon.

It can be seen that the letter is damaged, probably by insects, and that the signature has been torn off, probably by someone who sold it to an autograph dealer.

However, the embossed mitre with GANZ and the handwriting makes the letter clearly recognizable as Selwyn's.

It reads:

'My dear Coley,

'I have now at length strong reason for believing that next Sunday will be your last at Feniton, as the leak has been discovered [and] the process of repair is [now] going on. I know [nothing] to detain us after this week, and even if the wind should not be fair. I should like to get the party on board as soon as we are ready.

'I will write once more to tell you when to start.'

I sent a copy of this letter to the Librarian at St. John's College, Auckland, who is making a collection of all of Bishop Selwyn's letters. Soon it will be available for all to see, while the original remains protected from further insects and other damage.

My hope is to concentrate on this collection this year and then in 2010 move on to the papers at the provincial office.

As Archbishop Ellison told the last General Synod, however, the ACOM needs a room or building in which to house its own archives.

The SI National Archives were subject to some theft during the ethnic tension period. It would be better if the ACOM had its own facilities. If you have old Melanesian Mission or Diocese of Melanesia materials, do not hesitate to contact me at [tmb@solomon.com.sb](mailto:tmb@solomon.com.sb).

Please consider depositing them for a secure future in the ACOM archives. Likewise, if you are hunting for information and think there might be something in the ACOM archives, please be in touch with me."

– *Melanesian Messenger*

## COOK ISLANDS NATIONAL LIBRARY'S CATALOGUE ONLINE

The catalogue of the Cook Islands National Library is available online at <http://library.mocd.gov.ck/cgi-bin/koha/opac-main.pl>

The implementation of Koha was made possible through support from the UNESCO Office of the Pacific States with technical assistance from the USP Library Systems Librarian.

## VIRTUAL ACCESS TO TONGAN HISTORY AT FAMILYSEARCH.ORG.

Tongans in the Pacific and all over the globe can listen to the voices of their parents, grandparents and ancestors through the Tongan oral history collection made available through the non-profit service FamilySearch.org.

In the 1970's over 800 reel-to-reel tapes were made by the LDS, the contents of which were then painstakingly transcribed, and then microfilmed. Enter the 21st century as the tapes, once transferred to

# REGIONAL CONNECTION

compact discs have been converted the digital, audio MP3 files and are ready for listening.

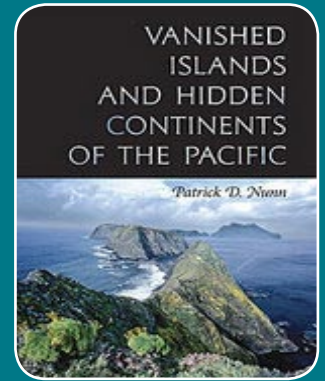
While some may be merely curious about Tongan family histories, accurate family lineage has implications for land tenure and acquisition as well as social rank. Guided by custom, extended family relationships play a large role in public and private life.

All of the oral histories contain genealogies, and can be searched using a keyword on the family history library catalog. Traditional Tongan family histories have been oral or written onto a family map known as hohoko. Whilst the hohoko are not available, the translated transcribed text of the oral histories can also be viewed via the website.

Finding a history to listen to is made easier by the keyword searches for surname, first name, place of residence and nearby 'about' places, thus allowing searchers to cross reference entries. The formal catalog records cite the speaker as the author, and includes subject headings and has the interview date.

The Family Search Research library is an activity of the Mormon Church. Detailed holdings for other Pacific Island countries exist, but Tonga's collection is the most uniquely accessible.

Cardon, N.N. (2006) Pacific Island Guide to Family History Research. Retrieved 27/05/09 from [https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Pacific\\_Island\\_Guide\\_to\\_Family\\_History\\_Research](https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Pacific_Island_Guide_to_Family_History_Research)



## VANISHED ISLANDS AND HIDDEN CONTINENTS OF THE PACIFIC

*Dr. Paddy Nunn is one of the University's most prolific researchers and publishers. His latest book received the following write-up by CHOICE.*

"This delightful book examines the nature of vanished and vanishing islands of the vast Pacific Ocean. Oceanic geoscientist Nunn (University of the South Pacific, Fiji) blends the geologic origin and development of specific islands with the history of their human settlement. He explains in fascinating ways how the local folklore and myths, recorded in oral and written traditions, are frequently grounded in natural phenomena, such as submarine eruptions, earthquakes, slumping, tsunamis, rising seas, and the like. The writing is engaging and personal, and the science is clear and accessible. Its 11 chapters include black-and-white photographs, maps, and figures, as well as copious notes, several appendixes, and about 575 references. Because of the book's island focus, this reviewer expected that some of the chapters would be somewhat repetitive; they are not. This is truly a fine, engaging read. Summing Up: Highly recommended. \*\*\* Academic and public libraries, all levels."

P. R. Pinet, CHOICE (Current Reviews for Academic Libraries), April 2009

## Library books help arrives



Angela Jowitt (right) with some happy recipients of books.

A Good Samaritan has come to aid the need for more children's books in Samoan schools.

Angela Jowitt became aware of the problem when she was teaching the Schools Library Assistants course, offered through the University of the South Pacific, Alafua, in conjunction with the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture (MESC).

Ms Jowitt, who is currently working as the Senior Librarian for USP Alafua, decided to do what she could to bring surplus children's books from libraries in New Zealand over to Samoa.

After contacting the libraries there, she found many were willing to donate books being discarded from their libraries.

The books arrived just before Christmas 2008.

It was a fabulous Christmas present - what great titles and authors had been donated by the New Zealand libraries.

The books were sorted into piles of text books, junior fiction, young adult fiction, non-fiction and school manuals.

After consultation with colleagues from the National University of Samoa

(NUS), Nelson Memorial Public Library, MESC and USP, the decision was made as to which lucky schools would receive the books.

St Mary's College received religious textbooks and young adult fiction for their library. The Sotoosolo Study Centre, which caters for all children in the Sotoosolo village and offers homework help and promotion of literacy, also received some books.

The bulk of the donations were given to the Sasa'ai Primary School in Sasa'i who will be able to use the picture books, fiction, non-fiction and school journals to start their library collection.

Children from Sasa'ai Primary School were excited and happy to see the new books and immediately picked them up and began to read.

"It is hoped these donations will help to support the MESC 10 year strategic plan in valuing the importance of informal education such as that provided by Study Centres," a statement issued yesterday said.

"Thanks is given to the USP Alafua Campus Continuing and Community Education section who arranged transportation of the books to Sasa'i.

"Aidy McFell McCaffery, Pacific



Meafou Gafa, Avalogo Toji Tanapopo and Angela Jowitt at the Sotoosolo Study Centre.

Liaison Librarian at The University of Auckland, offered to collect the books at the New Zealand end and must be thanked for organising a team of packers to seal and label boxes ready for shipping.

"Rotary International also need to be thanked for their kind assistance in paying to ship the 40 boxes of books over to Samoa.

"On behalf of the schools receiving the donated books we would like to thank the following New Zealand libraries and

people for their kind donations.

"It is hoped this project may be repeated again in the future. Alliston College, H B Williams Memorial Library, Carmel School, Sunnyside Primary School, De La Salle College, Sylvia Ashton-Warner Library, Ann Laxton, Remuera Library, Oranga District School, Meadowsbank School, University of Auckland General Library, Mary Natali and Landcare Research Ltd."

## FS\$25,000 AUSTRALIAN GRANT FOR FIJI SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN THE WEST

Four schools in Fiji will benefit from an ongoing commitment towards education by Australia's funding grants totalling a little over \$25,000. One of each school from Vatukoula, Ba, Lautoka and Tailevu are set to benefit from the funding.

Australia's High Commission based in Suva in a statement said the 'DirectAidProgramme' aims to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development by address humanitarian issues.

Australian High Commission spokesperson said the funding will provide assistance for small scale development projects with a particular focus on addressing the developmental needs of disadvantaged groups.

"In Vatukoula, a grant of just over \$8,700 to the Vatukoula Convent School will be used to purchase much needed school books. Many of the schools students are children of miners who became unemployed following the closure of the Vatukoula gold mine in December 2006."

The Qerelevu Hindu School in Ba will also use its grant of just over \$6,700 to purchase library books. Children from the school have to travel almost 25 kilometres to the nearest public library.

While in Saweni, near Lautoka, students attending the Gurukul Primary School will also have access to a wider range of library books following a grant of just over \$7,800.

"An amount of just over \$1,800 has been provided to Tailevu North College for the purchase of agricultural equipment

for the schools Agricultural Science Department. Tailevu North College is located in a largely farming community and the Australian grant aims to support and encourage interested students to pursue further studies in agriculture," the statement said.

from: PATVET (Pacific Association of Technical and Vocational Education and Training)

## KNOWLEDGE IN BOOKS

BOOKS are the cornerstone of knowledge and learning, even in an age where the Internet and television take up an increasingly large part of the little spare time people have.

However, many people are turning to the Internet and TV as sources of knowledge and entertainment. Libraries in schools and municipalities have become more disused over the years as books appear to become less important in the lives of people. The few libraries which are used extensively are at the University of the South Pacific and other institutions of learning.

Municipal libraries which sprang up across the country in the 1960s and 1970s have become places where students find a quiet area to complete their projects before going home.

Tertiary students sometimes make use of the facilities to do their research and gather materials for their assignments. It appears, however, that after secondary or tertiary education, books are set aside and very little reading takes place.

Reading is often seen as a laborious and expensive activity. It is easier to collapse

in front of a television set than to pick up a book and find a quiet corner in which to read. But a good book can open up wondrous opportunities for adventure, romance, travel and learning without moving from the comfort of your home. More important, reading opens the door to new words and helps develop invaluable language skills. In 1625, Lord Bacon said: Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man and writing an exact man. Despite the passage of time, his words remain true close to 400 years later.

One of our greatest failures as a nation has been the inability to record in writing the history and legends of the people who make up this wonderful place. Fiji is a land of rich, diverse cultures and thousands of tales which existed before the arrival of the Europeans. Yet few of the legends or tales of the Fijian, Indian, Chinese, European and island communities exist for people to read. The argument often used in this country is that our history has been handed down in songs and dance or by word of mouth.

That is no longer valid, given the level of education which our people have reached and achieved. It is only when reading is encouraged in the home as a useful pastime that true value will be placed on books.

Parents, teachers and guardians have a sacred duty to see that the young return to reading as a hobby.

Our people have a duty to put in writing the legends and tales which lend flavour to this land of rich differences.

Source: The Fiji Times [Editorial] Wednesday, May 13, 2009 <http://fijitimes.com/story.aspx?item=leader>

## A NEW LIBRARY FOR SUVA

THE Library Service of Fiji has finally found the easiest and cheapest way to provide its service to the people. Yesterday, the library situated at the corner of Vuya Road and Sukuna Road at Veiuto, opened its door to students and researchers 20 years after it abandoned the postal book loan scheme.

Senior librarian Merewalesi Vueti said the postal loan scheme was where members had to loan a book from them using the postal service to send and receive library books.

"It was really difficult and expensive for us because we had to pack and post the books to members and they returned them using the same medium. When we send books, we have to pay for the delivery and they pay when they return the books to us," she said.

Ms Vueti said there was the problem of accountability because fines were not paid, making it hard for the general operation of the library.

"Our review of the operation showed that there is a need to have a public library and this is what we have done. We plan to offer internet library and other computing research services in the long term," she said.

According to Ms Vueti, they made a submission to the Ministry of Finance for this purpose and they are optimistic about it. The library is open to all members of the public, including primary school students, from 8am to 5pm on week days and from 8.30am to 2pm on Saturday. It is closed on Sundays and public holidays. Source: The Fiji Times, Wednesday, May 13, 2009 <http://fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=121227>

## UNI IMPLEMENTS LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

A library management system has been implemented by a University in the west of Fiji.

University of Fiji Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Srinivasiah Muralidhar said the move highlighted the University's efforts in using best practices in everything it does.

Professor Muralidhar said that the University of Fiji's Library is now fully automated thanks to an installation project undertaken by experts from Australia last month. "The implementation of the Liberty 4 software as the new Library Management System took place over a one week period," Professor Muralidhar said.

"It was done by Softlink Australia, a highly successful company experienced in software development and implementation".

Professor Muralidhar said students logged into the system will be able to search the catalogue and see what resources are available and their location on the shelf.

"If a book is loaned out, they will be able to place a reservation. Once the book becomes available, they will be notified by the library staff," he said.

Softlink Australia's Technical Analyst Sarah Thompson who was responsible for training and implementation said everything in the library used to be done manually. [Adapted by Elizabeth Reade Fong]

[http://www.fjijisun.com.fj/main\\_page/view.asp?id=19504](http://www.fjijisun.com.fj/main_page/view.asp?id=19504)  
Fiji Times, 13 May 2009 with some adaptation by the editors.

## MEET THE INFORMATION EXPERTS @ THE USP LIBRARY INFO. DESK

Where would you go to answer a question about women's leadership in the Pacific, housing settlements in Suva, or even an equation for universal soil loss? You have searched the catalog, you have walked the shelves, you have tried Google but you just can't pinpoint the materials that you want. Maybe it is time to talk the library staff at the Information Desk.

Upon entering the USP library through the main door, almost the first thing you will see is the USP library's Information Desk (ID). Located front and center, it is staffed from early morning to late at night by either a librarian or trained library assistant.

For off site students and researchers, information help is available through the Ask-a-Librarian service: [asklibrarian@usp.ac.fj](mailto:asklibrarian@usp.ac.fj)

The ID staff provide quick answers to ready reference questions, as well as work with researchers to develop or refine questions, create strategies for searching, and to direct users to resources.

The USP library holds more than a quarter million records, and teaching students and researchers how to use they system to the best advantage is a key activity at the ID. Likewise, with 40+ online databases, choosing among them is less difficult with guidance from the staff.

Once a patron has selected a resource, staff will show users how to hone their searches by using a variety of search terms in the assorted fields, and how to save or email, format or manage the results.

In a typical semester, the Information Desk will handle 1,200 requests, about one third of requiring in-depth responses.

Another quarter of these questions contain Pacific component. A 10 minute consultation with the ID experts, has the potential to shave hours from searches.

## TIMELY JAPANESE FUNDING FOR SCHOOL

By UNAISI RATUBALAVU  
Fiji Times, Friday, May 22, 2009



*Banderas Hubert, a Class Eight student of Toga District School, looks at some of the books in their new library during the opening of the new classroom block on Wednesday 21 May, 2009.*

The children and teachers of Toga District School had a reason to smile because the Japanese Government opened new education facilities yesterday. Japanese ambassador Yutaka Yoshizawa was chief guest at yesterday's ceremony.

He said that the Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) program enabled them to help many grass-root people like those from Toga in Rewa.

The GGP scheme provided a grant of US\$74,952 (F\$158,478) to the school to cover building materials for construction of three classrooms and a new library, furniture and

restoration works.

School manager Ilaisa Dredre thanked the Japanese Government for choosing Toga District School as part of the GGP scheme this year.

"I am hopeful that this project funded by the Japanese Government will empower this district school with the best of resources to achieve academic excellence and will greatly assist in improving literacy in society to a competent level," Mr Yoshizawa said

Vilimaina Vakaciwa of the USP Library took leave to assist with the Library.

## JOIN THE LIBRARY AND BROADEN YOUR MIND

THE television has mesmerised many Fiji citizens to a point that they start to notice re-runs, the many insistent advertisements that pay for free-to-air station and program blanks and are now asking for their money's worth or the rights of a portion of the populace.

I suspect some avid television watchers may now be squared-eyed. To remedy the problem and get back normal oval eyes, may I suggest you read the editorial comment of May 13 of the Fiji Times.

In Lautoka, I have the privilege of being a member of the Western Regional Library. In Suva you have the Carnegie Library.

The library is a joy to visit, I tell you. Reading enriches the mind, gives you the ability to enhance the imagination and you get to meet a lot of clever people. So, join a library, please.

Allen Lockington (Lautoka, Fiji) Fiji Times, 14th Letter (check date) to the Editor [date] <http://www.fjitimes.com/story.aspx?item=letters>

## THE REEFBASE PACIFIC PROJECT AND INFORMATION PORTAL: DELIVERING INFORMATION OF REEF ASSOCIATED LIVELIHOODS, FISHERIES AND BIODIVERSITY / DIKOILA VALEMEI AND PIP COHEN

*An interview with Vilimaina Vakaciwa, Libraries PaCfika*

### *What is ReefBase?*

ReefBase is a web based global database of information relating to reef resources of the world ([www.reefbase.org](http://www.reefbase.org)) This system stores and serves an extensive amount of reef related data to a large international audience of people (19 000+ people per month) with interests in reefs and associated systems. In addition to constantly updating the website and master database, the ReefBase team is involved in a growing number of projects, involving collation of reef associated data sets and the production of databases that meet the expressed needs of stakeholders (e.g. GEF Lessons Learned database [www.reefbase.org/gefl](http://www.reefbase.org/gefl), MPAs of East Asia and Micronesia [www.reefbase.org/key\\_topics/coralreefmpas.aspx](http://www.reefbase.org/key_topics/coralreefmpas.aspx) ). All ReefBase Pacific projects can be viewed at [www.reefbase.org/projects\\_partners/projects.aspx](http://www.reefbase.org/projects_partners/projects.aspx).

### *What is the history of ReefBase?*

Launched in 2002, ReefBase was developed by the WorldFish Center ([www.worldfishcenter.org](http://www.worldfishcenter.org)) in collaboration with the International Coral Reef Action Network. Following the success of its collaborative and comprehensive online resource FishBase, WorldFish envisioned ReefBase as a similar global information system but focused on coral reefs and the communities that depend on them. ReefBase thus strongly supports the WorldFish mission to reduce poverty and hunger by improving fisheries and aquaculture. The WorldFish Center continually investigates and develops the role of ReefBase to ensure it continues to meet and adapt to the needs of people involved in reef associated management and research.

### *What is ReefBase Pacific?*

ReefBase Pacific is a project of the Coral Reef Initiatives of the Pacific (CRISP - [www.crisponline.org](http://www.crisponline.org)) and is the first regional focus of ReefBase. The project is executed by the WorldFish Center, and involves a team made up of the ReefBase team and partners in the region: University of the South Pacific, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Secretariat of the Pacific Community and

Le Centre de Recherches Insulaires et Observatoire de l'Environnement.

### *What are objectives of the ReefBase Pacific Project?*

The Pacific experiences particular issues in terms of marine information management, access and distribution. These include a lack of resources or priority for addressing information management issues, poor access to the internet, gaps in existing online repositories, poor flow of information into the public domain and a lack of information relating to Pacific inshore and reef resource use, status and management.

Against this background, ReefBase Pacific was designed and implemented, with the goal of improving access and availability of information to support effective reef resource management, conservation, research and education in the region. The team works closely with formal technical partners and other key stakeholders to realize the objectives of the project.

- To assemble an unprecedented knowledge-base on reef fisheries and coral reef resources monitoring, conservation and management in the Pacific

- To utilize the network and knowledge-base to establish an easily accessible information system which provides researchers, managers and local stakeholders with instant access to relevant information for the sustainable use of coral reef resources in the Pacific

- To widen the scope, impact, and effectiveness of current reef fisheries and coral reef management, conservation and information sharing activities, across Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia

What are the relationships of ReefBase Pacific with other information service agencies in the region and beyond?

Due to a huge range of partnerships with regional organisations, global data management projects, NGO and government partners in Pacific Island Countries it has been possible to ensure activities and systems build on, strengthen and network with existing systems and initiatives. The ReefBase Pacific team maintains constant dialogue and coordination with partners to ensure that efforts are appropriately directed to provide maximum benefit to the region.

In terms of building a digital library,



*Dikoila Valemei demonstrates ReefBase to visiting students*

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the ReefBase Pacific project has focused on literature that has not to date been captured by existing digital libraries. The systems and data standards used support networking with other systems now and in the future, thereby providing a mechanism to contribute to the broader pool of literature relevant to marine and coastal systems of the Pacific.

## *What are the achievements of the ReefBase Pacific project?*

The ReefBase Pacific project has developed with partners, information products that meet the needs of our stakeholders in the region. These include a large database of publications, images, projects, and details of key people and organizations; due to the activities of the project much of this information is for the first time easily accessible.

This database has been made available on the ReefBase Pacific website (<http://pacific.reefbase.org/>) and a DVD produced in late 2007. An updated version of the DVD will be produced and distributed by early 2009, and this will include an auto-update function to allow users to update their database with the latest additions to the master ReefBase Pacific system.

The project has also produced an annotated bibliography of socio-economic and ecological impacts of marine protected areas of Pacific Island Countries, and is shortly due to complete a bibliography of information relating to the marine

protected areas of French Polynesia.

The project contributes to the production of the report 'Status of the Coral Reefs of the World' with the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network and CRISP; this report will be made freely available in database, electronic and printed formats. The project has also produced 'Pacific ReefGIS' which captures and presents information relating to reef locations, monitoring activities, marine managed areas, threats to reefs, images of reefs and more.

You can view these and other outputs of the ReefBase Pacific project at <http://pacific.reefbase.org>, contact [reefbase@cgia.org](mailto:reefbase@cgia.org) or view the products at the library of the University of the South Pacific.

## *How does the ReefBase Pacific project ensure the use of this information?*

In addition to the production and dissemination of information products, the ReefBase Pacific team are involved in activities in the region, and globally, to ensure that relevant and useful information reaches the people who need it; the team consider that information mobilization is a critical component of this project.

Both ReefBase, and the ReefBase Pacific projects and products are presented at international events that focus on coral reefs, fisheries, marine education and information management. ReefBase Pacific information products and interactive research activities have been

delivered at the University of the South Pacific, University of French Polynesia and numerous regional reef related workshops. ReefBase Pacific provides to these courses, valuable information resources for current and future students.

## *How often is ReefBase Pacific database updated?*

The ReefBase Pacific team continually identify, gather and input information of value to our stakeholders. The ReefBase Pacific team also maintain connections with regional and global data management initiatives to ensure there is a consistent flow of data into the system through established connections. There are new data added to the online database everyday.

## *What is the future of ReefBase?*

The long term objective of ReefBase is to act as a secure repository for reef associated data, to continue to serve data for reef associated management, conservation, research and education, and to adapt and improve systems to address the evolving needs of stakeholders.

The ongoing update and maintenance of both ReefBase and ReefBase Pacific are a commitment of the WorldFish Center. By playing a role in ongoing and future projects, established systems will be updated and further developed to ensure that ReefBase systems continue to address information management needs globally and in the Pacific region.

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## FORMER BOSS JOINS USP BOOK CENTRE

Armin Kullack returned to USP Book Centre to take over the role of Manager for a second time. Armin left USP in 2000 after six years as manager of the Book Centre.

"I left with a sense of achievement having grown the operation quite substantially and in the knowledge that I was leaving the business in the hands

of a capable successor."

His successor Robert Hemi decided to leave after serving as manager for eight years.

"It appeared that there was nobody in house ready to take over the role of manager; my circumstances were such that I was very happy to take up the role for a second time."



Armin Kullack

Every business is confronted with challenges; the USP Book Centre is no exception as it has to maintain and increase its sales. Armin adds, "the Book Centre is now a mature business and we need to come up with new ideas on how to grow the business."

The Book Centre physical position in the heart of the campus is a mixed

blessing; he commented that it is well located and central to their primary clientele, students and staff of USP, while on the other hand it is not conducive to attracting customers from outside the campus.

"We need to address this if we are going to grow our customer base".

There are certainly areas of operation that need upgrading, "we need to upgrade our web presence in that our site is now

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ten years old and is starting to show its age”, he admits.

“Our sales in this area have stagnated for a while and I hope we can develop a more exciting web presence to help boost our internet sales.”

*Having a University Press – what is your view, considering the current global economic crisis, the political instabilities in Island state nations of the Pacific, Fiji in particular?*

A USP Press, like any other USP activity, has to make sense in terms of the University’s goals and objectives overall. I think there is a very strong case for a USP Press in that it will serve to disseminate some of the ideas that our teachers and researchers at USP

have developed as part of their work. As a regional university we should probably serve as a vehicle for the expression of views and opinions of the wider Pacific community.

We have some exceptional talent and creativity within our community and a USP Press would allow that talent to be heard and shared by a wider, possibly global, audience. The economics of all this is a different matter and University Presses generally are not a profitable exercise in dollar terms. But with a combination of business acumen, good marketing strategy and a choice of publishing platforms it should be possible to have a Press that is not a financial drain on USP resources.

*The Library and Book Centre have built good work relations and partnerships*

*for years; the sponsorship of the Libraries Pacifika is one. Will you continue supporting? Any new partnership ventures you will like the Library and Book Centre to develop or strengthen, particularly in the new direction for a University Press?*

The Library and Book Centre are both engaged in similar activities. We are both support organizations albeit one operates on a business model and the other on a service model. Insofar as the Library is a major customer of the Book Centre it is in our interests to support the Library where possible, including sponsorship of Pacifika.

In the event that a USP Press does get off the ground I can see many opportunities for the Book Centre and Library to work together.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Available from the USP Bookshop: <http://www.uspbookcentre.com/>



**Reference Map of Oceania: The Pacific Islands of Micronesia, Polynesia, and Melanesia, 2nd Edition**

by James A. Bier

“Making sense of as complex an area as Oceania challenges the best of cartographers. Bier and the University of Hawaii Press have risen to that challenge producing a manageable double-sided sheet full of well laid-out information.” —Special Libraries Association Bulletin

Completely revised and updated with enhanced readability, James A. Bier’s Reference Map of Oceania is the most comprehensive Pacific map in existence. Its main map and 52 inset maps of all major parts of the region provide a wealth of information in one source. Principal cities, towns, and villages are shown along with roads, topography, and population figures where available. The main map’s Mercator projection is useful for planning routes. Time zones for the Pacific and individual countries are also included. It

is the only map that clearly focuses on the political units of Micronesia, Polynesia, and Melanesia, using as its boundaries the 200-mile Extended Economic Zone. With more than 3,400 place names, Oceania will be an invaluable reference for everyone interested in or living in the Pacific islands, including teachers, students, historians, anthropologists, businesses, and travelers. 39 x 25 inches, color



**Gagana Samoa: A Samon Language Coursebook, Revised Edition**

by Galumalemana Afeleti Hunkin

Gagana Samoa is a modern Samoan language resource. Designed for both classroom and personal use, it features a methodical approach suitable for all ages; an emphasis on patterns of speech and communication through practice and examples; 10 practical dialogues covering everyday social situations; an introduction to the wider culture of fa’asamoa through photographs; more than 150 exercises to reinforce comprehension; a glossary of all Samoan words used in the coursebook; oral skills supplemented by an optional CD.



**Dancing from the Heart: Movement, Gender, and Sociality in the Cook Islands**

by Kalissa Alexeyeff

224 pp. March 2009

cloth, ISBN 978-0-8248-3244-5, \$55.00

Dancing from the Heart is the first study of gender, globalization, and expressive culture in the Cook Islands. It demonstrates how dance in particular plays a key role in articulating the overlapping local, regional, and transnational agendas of Cook Islanders. Kalissa Alexeyeff reconfigures conventional views of globalization’s impact on indigenous communities, moving beyond diagnoses of cultural erosion and contamination to a grounded exploration of creative agency and vital cultural production.

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