

ESPRESSO

VANUATU BUSINESS & LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

ISSUE 04 | SEPTEMBER 2021 | 250VT

Keeping a good vibe !

COVER STORY

Our athletes are back !

INSIDE

- **Economy:** What the future is holding for Vanuatu
- **Business :** Ask the Coach
- **Interview Andrew LEONG**
- **Danielle Mathews: this is the Voice !**
- **Namatan Festival**
- **Games and much more**



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Editorial

Spring is finally coming! Vernal equinox is expected at the end of the month and the temperature is already gently rising. The beautiful blossoming nature is reminding us of the strength of life and teaching us to always keep faith in a brighter future. We keep our spirits high and we are happy to have found great initiatives, people and entertaining events coming up to fill up our pages but also our minds and hearts. We appreciate your encouragements on our Facebook page and will continue to open up to your suggestions.

We would like to give a special thanks to our sponsors and also to all our distributors, the first ones and the new ones, that have warmly welcomed ESPRESSO on their shelves.

As we go, we discover many more treasures of Vanuatu that deserve to be in the spot light and we wish that our stories will inspire you. We can hardly wait to go back to work on the next one.

In the meantime, we hope you have as much pleasure reading this issue as we had preparing it.

Vanuatu has so much to show, tell and share !



Vanina Galloni Weber

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Forecast has never been such a difficult task

A plunge in economic data analysis in Vanuatu



Trevor Trief, Economist in the Ministry of Finance

Trevor Trief could you tell us more about yourself and your occupation ? Can you explain to us what the economic forecast is ?

I have been serving the Government as an Economist within the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM) over the past 10 years since finishing my undergrad studies in Commerce. Our role evolves around more on collecting raw data from various sources (internal and external) and making Economic growth forecasts. Economic forecasting is more of predicting what the economic growth rate will be the following year.

The rate of economic growth predicted is then input into the fiscal framework to forecast Government revenue for the following year which then forms the Government budget envelope for a financial year. Moreover, the Government economists also assist the Government to determine fiscal and monetary policies over the medium and long term.

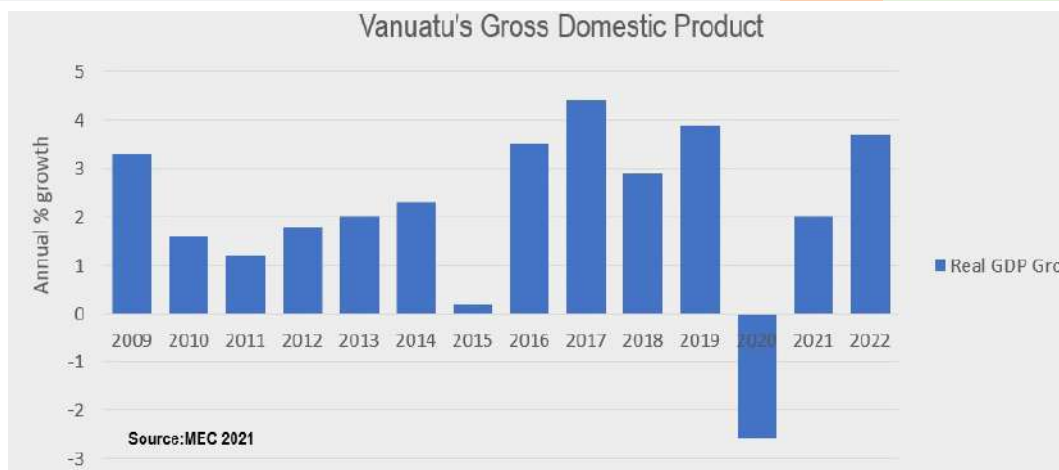
What are the methods and the tools you use to deliver your reports and how do you liaise with the different public financial institutions ?

There are procedures and methods in place to collect information within Government departments and private firms/institutions. The quarterly data information collections are often collected from the National Statistics Office which can be used to make forecasts. Where there's no data availability, we usually do Economic business surveys throughout the islands to collect information on respective sectors performance. These survey reports are then aggregated into sectoral contributions which form the basis of Vanuatu Gross domestic product (GDP). Vanuatu being a developing island economy is often faced with availability of timely data so these are a few challenges Economist faced when doing forecasts reports. We usually publish Quarterly Economic reports which can be downloaded from our webpage. <https://doft.gov.vu/>

Collecting data, exploitation is strategic, data visualization are strategic. Would you say that you see more efforts and improvements in the last years in Vanuatu in the way public policies are using this information ?

Certainly, now more interested users are enquiring about information on Government Finance and economic reports. Information is powerful when it is passed to locals in a simple and meaningful way for their understanding. There has been a lot that changed over the past 10 years with more citizens understanding Government fiscal policies reports and its implications on their daily lives.

Actual Growth												
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.3	1.6	1.2	1.8	2.0	2.3	0.2	3.5	4.4	3.9	-2.6	2.0	3.7



Is there any open data? and where can it be found ? Can companies or individuals interested in economic intelligence directly come to your service ?

Yes, as Government employees we are required to provide services and information to all interested users. We do have published reports that the public can have access too. The Department of finance and Treasury has a website that can be accessed online -www.doft.gov.vu – Government financial position and fiscal and economic reports can be viewed and downloaded.

October is coming and the budget must be in preparation. How do you build your forecast under such complicated circumstances? Do you collaborate with others to reconcile information and design scenarios to help the next year's budget?

The global pandemic has slowed down most developing economies around the world with tourism dependent countries taking a huge impact on their financial performance and creating uncertainties forecasting economic growth. The closure of borders has seen most countries implementing policies that will limit the negative impact of Covid19 and concentrate more within their sectors to boost domestic demand and growth.

The disasters and closure of borders have remained a challenge which often undermined development gains, which often are downside risk. However economic growth projections often take into account the downside risks that can affect growth. Thus, forecasts are more often being conservative and not too optimistic. Despite the disaster's development partners continue to remain supportive in providing assistance through budget support.

In Vanuatu the Government continues to invest in infrastructure projects as well as implement its policies that target productive sectors. We have a technical working group of officials known as the Macro Economic Committee (MEC) consisting of RBV, MFEM and PMO officials that sits quarterly to discuss and deliberate on economic activities in particular gross domestic product (GDP).


The Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Prime Minister's (policy aspects) usually collaborate in designing the 2022 budget allocation. The officials usually present reports in front of the Ministerial Budget Committee (MBC) that decide and approve the Government budget for the following year. The 2022 budget has been approved by the MBC members recently and is expected to be appropriated in parliament in November 2021

In your opinion and especially concerning Employment, how do you see the situation unfolding in the next months if Vanuatu joins the NZ and Australian bubble ? How long will it take for full resilience?


Vanuatu has launched its Labour Mobility Policy in 2019 in order to pave the way for more local workers to work overseas (particularly in Australia and New Zealand). While it is a boost to employment opportunities for local workers, the Government also needs to find balance concerning its domestic policy in supporting the productive sector being sustainable over the medium term. Being a Covid-free island country will continue to be in high demand for the skill and unskilled labour going into the future. Our workers' positive attitude towards employment and hardworking will continue to embrace their employers for more opportunities.


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Is Vanuatu ready for the knowledge economy?

A chat with Martin St-Hilaire, Chairman of the Financial Centre Association



The FCA has been around since 1993 but its role is still not widely understood. Can you sum up why the general public should care about the FCA? What's in it for us?

While the FCA's core membership was initially made up of financial services providers, there's a persistent misconception that we're this secretive group of bankers plotting to line our own pockets. The reality is quite something else. A long time ago we figured out that the only way to grow our industry was to grow the entire economy of the country – because they are mutually dependent – and to do so by taking a broader view across business sectors.

The key to economic development is diversification of Vanuatu's economy beyond agriculture and tourism, and this vision is reflected in the diversity of our membership. The FCA now unites concerned professionals from a variety of backgrounds, from insurers to lawyers to real estate agents. In addition to our own projects and committees, we operate in close relationship with other trade groups such as the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI), the Hotels & Resorts Association (VHRA), or institutions like the Foreign Investment Promotion Agency (VIPA) to name just a few. We also have a symbiotic relationship with government agencies including the Financial Services Commission (VFSC), the Reserve Bank and the Financial Investigation Unit.

So, I would say, yes, the FCA is deeply woven into the fabric of Vanuatu's professional services sector but that goes way beyond finance. We have a key role to play in diversifying the economy, creating new career opportunities for Vanuatu's youth and, with a clear vision and some perseverance, igniting Vanuatu economic growth and development.

To what kind of new jobs should Vanuatu youth look forward to?

We believe our country's best shot at creating real economic growth is through the knowledge industries of the 21st century. Besides our financial sector, which has tremendous potential, we hope to see Ni-Vanuatu software developers, digital marketers, graphic designers, legal advisors, compliance officers, support agents, chartered accountants, mechanical engineers, online teachers, business analysts, technical writers - you name it - any job for that matter that can be performed remotely for clients or employers wherever they are in the world.

The competition for talent is global, and foreign companies will hire Ni-Vanuatu if we can provide them with attractive candidates. What our youth needs now is an Internet connection and higher education. That's why one of the FCA's key recommendations for the latter is to connect every school in Vanuatu, so that all of our children can access quality education online as a complement to the vital role their teachers play.

A single satellite connection can help schoolchildren on a remote island learn English and computers and other subjects as easily as their peers in Port Vila. This provides a clear path to a higher education in fields their family would have never thought possible. For less than 1,000 Vatu per child per year, you can provide internet to all schools of the nation, and ten years down the line a youngster in Maewo creates an award-winning video game or invents a new organic fertilizer. Granted, these are extreme examples; but just having our youth envision trades that don't involve farming or catering to tourists would already be a huge step toward economic diversification and greater prosperity. If we build it, those jobs will come.



Sure, young people can learn a lot online, but who's going to give them their first job?

No one's going to give a young person with no education a job in a knowledge industry. Work experience follows a ladder model. Once they have a basic education including exposure to information technology, young workers get hired in entry level positions, the first rung of the ladder. They then undergo various degrees of training. Most important, they gain experience through the mentorship of more senior colleagues, climbing the ladder as they do.

The problem with Vanuatu is that a lot of these knowledge industries are yet to be developed. If people with the right knowledge start the first software development company, hire and train the first coding team, find the first customers, and get the business rolling, then a new Vanuatu industry is born. But who are those people you are asking? That's where imported skilled labor comes into play, by creating the first –and most difficult – step of the ladder.

The FCA's been sponsoring research that clearly demonstrates the beneficial role of highly skilled foreigners on our shores. Not only do they help fill gaps in our labor market that local workers can't immediately fill, they are instrumental in kickstarting new industries, and then coaching the new generation of Ni-Vanuatu up the skills ladder, until eventually they take the lead. These skilled foreigners come work for existing companies, or they start new ones, or they take advantage of our new remote worker visa to live here while earning their wage abroad.

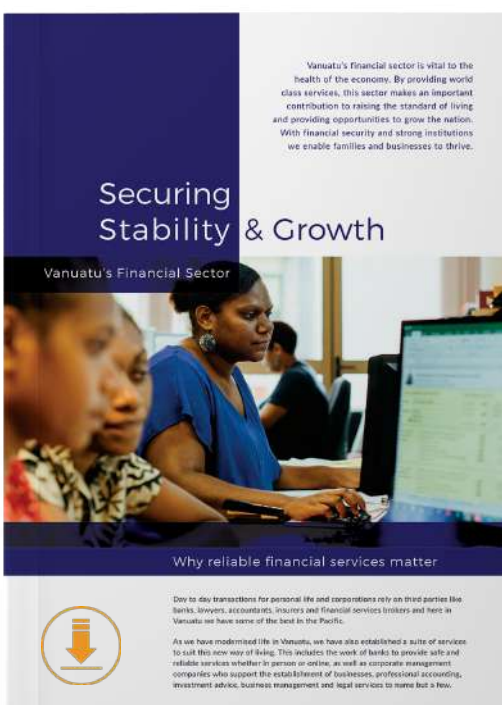
Besides inspiring our youth by showing them new kinds of jobs and lifestyles, while spending locally, these human assets are the most likely catalysts for starting knowledge businesses. Whether they are employers or senior staff, skilled foreigners are important rungs in the ladder. And that's how our knowledge economy will get its initial leg up.

How can we attract these people here?

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Say Vanuatu goes forward with everything you said. Where do you see us in twenty years?

Our natural resources and our geography are such that we will never become prosperous from agriculture and tourism alone, but the potential of our knowledge economy is limitless. Our hope is that of the 300 babies born at Port Vila hospital this month, twenty years from now, at least 150 of them will work using their knowledge rather than their muscle. They'll earn better salaries than their parents and use them to parent children who will become even better adapted to the new digital reality. That is the virtuous circle of social economic development we are working towards.



<http://fcavu.wengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/FCA-Security-Stability-Growth-2019.pdf>

Wanem ia microcredit ?

Velenie Jacob, promoting financial literacy for everyone.

Could you tell us exactly what micro credit is?

Micro credit means tiny credit. It is the same as getting a loan. It is in fact a small loan given to individuals most of the time to start a business or to be independent through self-employment.

The difference between a bank loan and a microcredit is that a bank loan is directed to people who have steady incomes, generally a salary, or those that already own a business that has a financial history. A micro credit focuses mainly on under privileged class of people or in other words low incomes earners.



Who can access micro credit and what are the advantages and the risks of this type of finances?

People who access microcredit are often people who do not have a job but have time to operate household-based businesses. Here we can say a mother who sews from home or owns a window shop from home. Microcredits offer usually small unsecured loans which means most of the time there are no assets involved, however some microcredit are operated within a microfinance establishment that allows for clients to also save some money to borrow against.

Some microcredits are structured through solidarity groups. This creates a form of motivation for group loans as well as group members guaranteeing repayment of individual members of the group. The risks involved in microcredit is that sometimes clients can go into default and the reason surrounding this is poor management, business not working well as expected and the loan repayment might be too high to afford.

Where can project carriers get more information?

We have a number of microfinance schemes which are operating and focusing mainly on women. We can name Vanwods Microfinance, SPBD Microfinance, World Vision and there are also a number of cooperative loans and saving schemes.

Velenie JACOB has become a Vanuatu financial expert over the last ten years. She started her career working for VanWods microfinance helping women with low income in the communities. She has also evolved to credit corporation specialized in motor vehicles, personal and business loans. Today, she is a Finance Officer at the VFIPA (Vanuatu Foreign Investment Promotion Agency) and has decided to make a difference by sharing her strong experience with others.



“Many Ni-Vanuatus have brilliant business ideas but lack startup capital. Accessing funds is a difficult path. A survey I carried out with about 70 entrepreneurs showed the following as source of capital:

- 1. 70% Self Investment (Own Savings)**
- 2. 30% Love Money (Money given by family and friends support)**
- 3. 10% Loans**

It is important for any project career to build enough confidence and network to get direct information before going for a loan. It is everyone’s best interest to be financially literate not only for business but personal as well”



Ask the Coach

Every month, ESPRESSO asks business coach Chris Elphick of Breadfruit Consulting to answer a local entrepreneur's question. This week the question comes from Harriet Sam, a professional nurse who wants to start a business growing new and forgotten plants and fruits to contribute to healthy living in a country where non-communicable diseases such as Type 2 Diabetes are damaging so many lives. Harriet is nervous about starting her first business so her question for the coach is:

“Is it a good time to start a business ?”

What a great and relevant question. Thanks Harriet.

These are certainly tough times but there is never a perfect time to start a new business. If it's not Covid it might be a cyclone, competition you did not expect, or some other threat.

The trick is to do something that you know about and have a passion for. Set yourself a goal then plan the steps to achieve it. Make a financial plan. If you do not plan you are likely to fail. Start small to test demand for your products or services.

Right now, many people want to start a business because their income has gone down or stopped altogether. That's understandable but starting the same type of business as lots of other people and without any planning is almost certainly not going to work. And borrowing money is not the answer either. Starting off in debt is not a good idea! In the Covid crisis, there are fewer business opportunities out there than before, but if you look really hard you could find a good one. There are great local examples of tourism businesses that have reinvented themselves to serve markets they did not see before. It is critical to find a 'niche', to fill a need that is not completely satisfied by other businesses.

If you want a business but don't have a business idea, don't despair. Look around you with your eyes wide open, use your imagination, talk to people, identify your own talents. I work closely with V-Lab where we have a Bisnis Nakamal workshop program all about thinking creatively and coming up with new ideas! <https://www.v-lab.org/the-bisnis-nakamal.html>

So my answer is, Yes, this is a good time to start a new business, if you have a product or service that people want and are prepared to pay for, you have heaps of determination and are ready to get out of your comfort zone, to think and plan, and to learn from others. The Covid crisis has seen a rise in the number of programs available to help people starting new businesses, or adapting their existing businesses to the new conditions, including those offered by V-Lab, the Chamber of Commerce & Industry, the Department of Tourism, the Department of Industry, and Vanuatu Skills Partnership.

Good wishes for your new venture Harriet! If you can make your business work in the current climate then you can probably make it work anytime!



If you have any question for the coach,

Send it to hello@next.com.vu

We will choose one to feature on our next issue.



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What is a chatbot ?



How strange ! Customer's service is changing nowadays especially online! As you surf on some websites or pages there seems to be someone constantly ready to answer all your questions ? Well, in fact, no, not really, ... we are in the digital era and these are chatbot !

It is basically a software application used to conduct an online chat conversation via text or text-to-speech, instead of providing direct contact with a live human agent. Most chatbots are accessed online via website popups or through virtual assistants.

Some of these assistants can be given names or come with an avatar. There are designed to convincingly simulate the way a human would behave as a conversational partner. Chatbot systems typically require continuous tuning and testing, and many in production remain unable to adequately converse or pass the industry standard Turing test. But as years go by they really improve. They will never replace humans and of course have no emotions although some as quite close to be able to lead a simple but proper conversation.

The term "ChatterBot" was originally coined by Michael Mauldin (creator of the first Verbot) in 1994 to describe these conversational programs.

Chatbots are used in dialog systems for various purposes including customer service, request routing, or information gathering. While some chatbot applications use extensive word-classification processes, natural language processors, and sophisticated AI, others simply scan for general keywords and generate responses using common phrases obtained from an associated library or database.

As Vanuatu is developing e-commerce, learning this technology can be useful. It is also used in education, entertainment, finance, health, and news for example. A lot of ideas to work on for our techy friendly Nivanuatu youth !

Trendy apps



Online learning community where millions come together to take the next step in their creative journey. Thousands of inspiring classes for creative and curious people, on topics like drawing, watercolor, calligraphy, photography, graphic design, illustration, hand lettering, icon design and more.



Learn a new language with the world's most-downloaded education app! Duolingo is the fun, free app for learning 35+ languages through quick, bite-sized lessons. Practice speaking, reading, listening, and writing to build your vocabulary and grammar skills.



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Big in Japan with Elizabeth Mokoroe



Espresso: Can you tell us more about yourself, where you come from and how you ended up in Japan?

My name is Elizabeth Mokoroe and I come from the beautiful island of Ambrym. I am happily married with 2 kids who also speak Japanese fluently and we all live in Hokkaido prefecture northern Japan. I am a francophone and can speak a little English and fluent Japanese. My story of how I ended up in Japan is quite a story of 1 out of a million chances but as a Christian I believe God had planned this out for me and blessed me with this great opportunity. Growing up when I was asked what I wanted to do in life? I couldn't give an answer because I wasn't sure, to me I was still searching for the answer but one thing I was sure about was that I wanted to do something different.

It all started back in my high school years at Lycee LAB, the school started to introduced Japanese classes. One day during the lesson Miss Noriko (JOCV) showed us some slides of Japan. I saw the Sakura flowers (Cherry blossom) it was so beautiful and she made me and a few of my friends wear the yukata (Japanese traditional wear for summer). From that day I knew I wanted to study Japanese, get to know more about this beautiful country and possibly if by chance travel

there one day. After high school, I went to work at the south pacific tours, a travel agency run by The Melanesian Port Vila. Most of our clients came from Japan and some of them don't speak any English. It was difficult to communicate with them.

Long story short with the slimiest chances of achieving my dream I never gave up on the idea. One day my life was changed forever, luck came my way and I got to know one of our interesting guest Mr. Asari Hiroshi who would later become my Japanese father. He didn't speak any English and to this day I still can't believe what happened. He later told me he saw something in me and knew I would be interested in going with him to Japan.

Without any hesitation he asked if I was interested in going to Japan to study and he would be honored to be my sponsor but I have to promise him to become someone who can help Vanuatu in the future. I told my parents who were shocked and after a family discussion they agreed. Mr. Asari knew that my parents would be worried so he went out of his way to get my parents to accompany me to Japan and see for themselves that I would be safe and in good hands. Finally, on the 14th of January 2008, Mr. Asari arranged for me and my parents to fly to Japan.

Espresso: What was the most sticking to you when you first arrived?

Well, we just transited in Tokyo that first day so I did not see much of the city. I've never seen a huge airport before like Narita. It was very busy with flights coming in and out. Later on In 2009 June, I was invited to be part of a TV program World Great TV (Sekai Marumie) to talk about Vanuatu. That was when I had the opportunity to see more of Tokyo. It was an eye-opening moment for me. I have never seen so many tall buildings and sky scrapers in my entire life. I experienced for the first time a bullet train ride and saw how subways were busy 24 hours 7 days a week, a city that never sleeps while everything ran on time.

People were always rushing and everyone is busy. I have never been on set for a TV program also. I had the honor of sitting with two famous Japanese TV host, Tokoro George and Takeshi Kitano where we talked about Vanuatu. I love Tokyo because we can visit both city life and also natural landscapes, shrines and beautiful parks. We can enjoy delicious Japanese cuisine and also visit the imperial palace where the emperor lives while also enjoy shopping in Akihabara a buzzing shopping hub famed for its cheap electronics retailers, ranging from tiny stalls to vast department stores.



Espresso: Where you able to visit the entire Archipelago? Japan is quite big and I would have loved to visit the whole archipelago but at the moment I have only visited a few places. I have been to the cities of Nara, Kyoto, Fukushima and Tokyo including a few parts of Hokkaido where I am living with my family. Japan itself is made up of prefectures that display and have their own rich history and culture that differentiates themselves from others like the tropical Islands of Okinawa to the cold snowy Hokkaido, so I would recommend you visit the whole of Japan if you had the chance. From my travel experience I will recommend Nara for those people who want to know more about the rich history of Japan.

As a fun fact did you know 1,400 years ago Nara used to be the capital of Japan. You can find historical sites such as shrines and temples which are more than 1,000 years old. There are a lot of famous Maturis or festivals all around Japan that I would also recommend but one that stands out for me and I'm sure for a lot of nivans is the amazing Snow Festival of Hokkaido. It's called the Sapporo Yuki Matsuri or the Snow festival and it's held annually every February for 7 days in Odori park. A huge variety of snow sculptures are constructed at Odori park where artist from around the world and Japan are invited to show case their skills. Sounds and light effects are added to sculptures bringing them to life and best seen at night from Disney characters to a large White house replica. The snow sculptures are changing every year. There are also activities for the public such as skating rings etc. and outdoor food stands from warm ramen to hot kebabs, a wide range of foods and drinks to pick from while enjoying the festivities.

I would love to see if the Vanuatu government can create opportunities for students to do undergraduate studies in Japanese Universities which would be a great experience for them.



Espresso: Japan is known for being a country where people are very dedicated to their jobs and careers.

How have you adapted? Yes, the Japanese people are very dedicated to their jobs and careers. It was hard at first as a foreigner working in a Japanese company after my graduation but I believe studying for 6 years from Language school to university here help me prepare for what to expect. I can only speak of my experience which is not necessarily the same with others. These are the few things that I learned from the Japanese company.

Keeping the office inside and outside clean. It's a Shintoism teaching that associates evil to dirtiness and good with cleanliness, Every year the company organized medical checkups, never go home before the boss, team work is very important, workers in Japan takes responsibility for mistakes of their company. When company did something wrong the employees apologize or when something goes very wrong the entire team is likely to quit in apology.

Lastly, omoiyari no kokoro is a Japanese custom which means to be caring, compassionate and considerate towards other people's needs. I am still learning new things from superiors and my co-workers. I am grateful for this wonderful opportunity.

Espresso: Japan, like Vanuatu deals with natural risks but also covid, how are things going today?

Unfortunately for Japan like the world, COVID 19 has really taken its toll on the economy. Many businesses are closing down and a lot of people are out of their job. The vaccination is still in progress In Sapporo city. Things are not really normal as it used to. I am optimistic about the future and believe we will find our way to beat COVID 19 together and the world may go back to some sort of normalcy but in the meantime, we should take care of our health (Physical, mental, emotional) make time to reconnect with our families, friends and stay positive always.

Espresso: What are your plans for the future and what do you miss the most from home?

My plans for the future are still uncertain at the moment but I'd really like to take back with me as much as possible what I have learned here while also establishing and supporting links to continue this relationship between Japan and Vanuatu. I would also love to see, if possible, for the Vanuatu government to create opportunities for students to do undergraduate studies in Japanese Universities which would be a great experience for them. I believe as a bilingual country we have a better advantage in terms of learning new languages and with that is a plus for Vanuatu for the tourism market to business opportunities where language and communication is usually a barrier. What I miss most about Vanuatu is the warm weather when it gets down to minus zero degrees during winter and off course the local food from roasted taro to laplap plus island cabbage which we don't have access to here in Japan. Living here for quite a number of years I have also made Japan my home and pretty sure I will miss it when I return one day to Vanuatu.

Team Vanuatu came back from Tokyo Welkam back !



Antoine BOUDIER, President of VASANOC, with the Tokya Team.

After a safe quarantine process, the Vanuatu athletes and their team are finally back home. The President of the VASANOC Antoine BOUDIER could not resist saying how relieved he was they all came back safe and healthy. These games have been a wonderful experience for all and despite all the challenges faced because of the pandemic, it will stay for everyone a great memory. Every competition is an occasion to improve, not only for the athletes but also for the Vasanoc more than ever carrying its motto: A better Vanuatu through sport !

Let's read about the athletes' mindset as they are back!

JUDO- Hugo COMBO, felt very proud to represent Vanuatu and realized that competing at this very top international level probably increased his own game. The last days of preparation were difficult as he could not train with someone in his weight category but he did his best and he will always cherish this unforgettable experience. The organization was amazing and that he did get a very unique occasion to meet amazing people among the coaches, athletes and the staff.



Hugo Combo et Ennio



Rillio Rii Rii

ROWING- Rillio Rii, as well underlined how he particularly enjoyed participating as a team, travelling with athletes in other sports than rowing which was a change for him. He participated in 4 races. It was a beautiful experience that made him stronger. He is now looking forward for other competition coming up. Wearing a mask was not at all comfortable but the rest of the adventure was a delight, especially the food. It was a pity not to be able to visit more because of the situation but the view from the hotel room was sopectacular.



TABLE TENNIS- Yosh is proud to have been able to represent Vanuatu and the South Pacific. The exposure during the games was quite impressive but did not cast a shadow on the fun. He enjoyed himself and feels grateful to be back safe thanks to the care of the organization team.



Yosh Shing



David Lolo, Development Officer at the Vasanoc and Team manager for the Tokyo games.

David Lolo insisted on his gratitude for all institutions helping along. The Government of Japan organized so well and all the journey was definitely a success thanks to the Vanuatu Government, the Ministry of Sports, the Japan Embassy, the French Embassy, the New Zealand High Commission, the Australian High Commission and New Caledonia Government.

When you ask them about the international buzz during the opening, they burst out laughing and say it was actually a very awkward moment as there were no spectators on the bleachers but just a forest of cameras.

Sports events coming up in Vanuatu !



Saturday 2nd October (Tanna)



Saturday 6th November (Efate)

Now let's get ready for the Commonwealth Games !

The Commonwealth Games is an international competition that takes place every four years. The participating nations are all members of the Commonwealth, that is to say a British colony or former colony. In the 2018 edition, Vanuatu brought home its first two medals. One in gold in the rowing event won by Rillio Rii and the other in bronze won by the women's Beach volleyball team.



A chat with Andrew LEONG, President of Galaxy Football Club Club



Andrew LEONG, Owner of Galaxy FC with the President Jackson GEORGES.

ESPRESSO has met Andrew LEONG at the Mangoes on a chilly Friday morning. The place is chic, cozy and quiet...perfect to have a chat around a hot coffee and steal a few minutes of his busy schedule. No need to elaborate an ice breaking conversation, Andrew, the President of the mythical Galaxy FC is a warm person, open to share how much he cares about football in Vanuatu.

But first things first, we couldn't resist taking a plunge in the past to understand better his passion.

Picture in your mind, 1974 : 1st oil shock tumbles the worldwide economy, the American President Richard Nixon resigns after the Watergate scandal, Mohammed

Ali and Georges Foreman face off in an anthology box fight in Zaire, Germany, still broken in two, wins the Football World Cup for the its West ... but thousands miles away, in Efate a hundred kids could not care less about all that.

Not even yet in their teens, all they want to do is have some fun and play pretend Nambatu is their huge stadium. As soon as the schools bells shout class is finished, they cheerfully kick the ball around the trees with bear feet. Andrew is one of them. He enjoys playing and above all organizing the most exciting tournaments among the teams of the neighborhoods: Nambatu, Nambatri, Pango...What could be more thrilling, especially when fair play and fun are the only rules.

Two or three years go by, and football becomes more than a crush. Andrew decides to join the Tongoa United. He still beams today when he recollects those memories: joining the club - at the time at Manples, was a new and great experience. It was structured, well organized and it helped many young boys build good skills. It was not just about becoming a good player; it was also values and useful lessons for a lifetime. By the time he celebrated his 25th birthday he became President of the Club.

For Andrew the story was just starting. Despite a busy professional life and starting a family that makes him so proud today, football is still and will always be a passion.





In 2010, the Amicale Football Club founded by the late Corsican Antoine Rossi, was sadly not as flamboyant as it used to be. When Andrew takes over, the club was at the bottom of the scoreboard. He decided to push its luck and import new players: a bold move at the time. The first foreign footballers came from Solomons and Fiji. The results were soon there, Amicale won the National Championship five years in a row.

Opening up to overseas made a huge difference: Batram Soury, Mae Mae left wonderful souvenirs to all those who watched the games at that time. Unsurprisingly this stimulation had a positive effect for everyone. Soon, Ni-Vanuatu players were ready, as well, to live their dream and got selected in prestigious teams abroad. Kency Tangis joined for a while the Solomon Warriors and Central FC Tahiti. The Polynesian team also welcomed later one of Vanuatu's great top scorer Feneti Masauvakalo and Francois Sakama.

Later Benkalo participated in the U20 World cup in Korea and had the opportunity to train an play in Lugano in Switzerland and to Leganes in Spain

But let's dribble to 2014... Au Bon Marché being one of the largest employers of Efate had among their staff some passionate players that started a little club that they named GALAXY Football club. They started discreetly in second division. Family spirit is at the genesis of ABM's history and it was obvious for Andrew that he had to give a push. From the very beginning he had big ideas for the Club. He was sure he could take them to qualify in Oceania Football Confederation. Winning the million dollar championship and bringing the cup home, that would



There again, he applied the same methods: rigor, good training, and mingling local and international players. He says: "I always tell the players they need to watch out. They must prepare their own life after their football career. It is important for players to understand how important it is from a very young age to respect a healthy lifestyle and also to study."

Galaxy won again the National Championship this year and will have to wait for the pandemic to be over to have the opportunity to compete in the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC).

Twice Galaxy FC made it up to the Final and Andrew is more than ever hoping to make it the next time.

Andrew is not only proud of the male team but also about the girls. "They are doing so well and it is important to support the feminine football as many girls are eager to play and very talented."

Finally when we asked Andrew who was his favorite international player and what he thought about Messi's arrival in Paris, he just smiled and said: "I will not answer that question, team spirit is the most important!"

He finally confessed that he does admired Manchester United for the longest time but is not too fond about the football star system.

One thing is sure though, he has been one of the lucky stars watching over Vanuatu's football those last 37 years.

TV GUIDE



What's on



MONDAY

- 5:50am** Morning Devotions
- 5:57am** Healthy Living - Get Fit
- 7:00am** Le Vanuatu Hebdo
- 7:30am** ABC Covid-19 Update
- 7:37am** Questions pour un champion
- 8:14am** C'est toujours pas sorcier
- 8:41am** Des Chiffres et des Lettres
- 9:07am** What now
- 11:07am** Escape to the country
- 12:00pm** VBTC News & meteo
- 12:08pm** Sports Highlights
- 12:30pm** Insaed lo Nius
- 1:30pm** Motorway Patrol
- 1:58pm** BBC Travel Show
- 2:18pm** Fanimal
- 2:50pm** Une saison au zoo
- 3:16pm** The Wilggles
- 3:39pm** Children's Bible Study
- 03:59pm** Children's movie -Snob
- 4:46pm** Whanau Living
- 5:00pm** VBTC News Headline
- 5:03pm** Country Calendar
- 5:30pm** French News
- 6:00pm** ABC News
- 6:30pm** Comedy French
- 7:00pm** VBTC News
- 7:30pm** Insaed lo Nius
- 8:30pm** TV Series - Chicago Fire
- 9:12pm** TV Series - Hawaii Five
- 10:00pm** VBTC News
- 10:35pm** Evening Devotion
- 10:40pm** Pasifika TV

TUESDAY

- 5:50am** Morning Devotions
- 5:57am** Healthy Living - Gardening
- 7:00am** 7pm previous night's news
- 7:30am** ABC Covid-19 Update
- 7:37am** Questions pour un champion
- 8:14am** C'est toujours pas sorcier
- 8:41am** Des Chiffres et des Lettres
- 9:07am** What now
- 11:07am** Escape to the country
- 12:00pm** VBTC News & meteo
- 12:08pm** Sports Highlights
- 12:30pm** Better homes & gardens
- 1:30pm** Motorway Patrol
- 1:58pm** Get Arty
- 2:18pm** Fanimal
- 2:50pm** Une saison au zoo
- 3:16pm** The Wilggles
- 3:39pm** Children's Bible Study
- 03:59pm** Children's movie -Snob
- 4:53pm** Whanau Living
- 5:00pm** VBTC News Headline
- 5:03pm** Totally Wilds
- 5:30pm** French News
- 6:00pm** ABC News
- 6:30pm** Comedy English
- 7:00pm** VBTC News
- 7:30pm** VBTC Sports
- 8:30pm** TV Series - NCIS
- 9:12pm** 60minutes in Australia
- 10:00pm** VBTC News
- 10:35pm** Evening Devotion
- 10:40pm** Pasifika TV

WEDNESDAY

- 5:50am** Morning Devotions
- 5:57am** Healthy Living - Eating right
- 7:00am** 7pm previous night's news
- 7:30am** ABC Covid-19 Update
- 7:37am** Questions pour un champion
- 8:14am** C'est toujours pas sorcier
- 8:41am** Des Chiffres et des Lettres
- 9:07am** What now
- 11:07am** Escape to the country
- 12:00pm** VBTC News & meteo
- 12:08pm** Sports Highlights
- 12:30pm** Insaed lo Nius
- 1:30pm** Motorway Patrol
- 1:58pm** BBC Travel Show
- 2:18pm** Fanimal
- 2:50pm** Une saison au zoo
- 3:16pm** The Wilggles
- 3:39pm** Children's Bible Study
- 03:59pm** Children's movie -Snob
- 4:53pm** Whanau Living
- 5:00pm** VBTC News Headline
- 5:03pm** Totally Wilds
- 5:30pm** French News
- 6:00pm** ABC News
- 6:30pm** Comedy French
- 7:00pm** VBTC News
- 7:30pm** Insaed lo Nius
- 8:30pm** TV Series - Chicago Fire
- 9:12pm** TV Series Hawaii Five
- 10:00pm** VBTC News
- 10:35pm** Evening Devotion
- 10:40pm** Pasifika TV

THURSDAY

5:50am	Morning Devotions
5:57am	Healthy Living - French gardening
7:00am	7pm previous night's news
7:30am	ABC Covid-19 Update
7:37am	Questions pour un champion
8:14am	C'est toujours pas sorcier
8:41am	Des Chiffres et des Lettres
9:07am	What now
11:07am	Escape to the country
12:00pm	VBTC News & meteo
12:08pm	Sports Highlights
12:30pm	Australian Gardening
1:30pm	Motorway Patrol
1:58pm	Get Arty
2:18pm	Fanimal
2:50pm	Une saison au zoo
3:16pm	The Wiggles
3:39pm	Children's Bible Study
03:59pm	Children's movie -Snob
4:46pm	Whanau Living
5:00pm	VBTC News Headline
5:03pm	Totally Wilds
5:30pm	French News
6:00pm	ABC News
6:30pm	Comedy English
7:00pm	VBTC News
7:30pm	Pacific Sports Show
8:30pm	TV Series - NCIS
9:12pm	60minutes in Australia
10:00pm	VBTC News
10:35pm	Evening Devotion
10:40pm	Pasifika TV

FRIDAY

5:50am	Morning Devotions
5:57am	Healthy Living - Get fit
7:00am	7pm previous night's news
7:30am	ABC Covid-19 Update
7:37am	Questions pour un champion
8:14am	C'est toujours pas sorcier
8:41am	Des Chiffres et des Lettres
9:07am	What now
11:07am	Escape to the country
12:00pm	VBTC News & meteo
12:08pm	Sports Highlights
12:30pm	Insaed Io Nius
1:30pm	Motorway Patrol
1:58pm	BBC Travel Show
2:18pm	Fanimal
2:50pm	Une saison au zoo
3:16pm	The Wiggles
3:39pm	Children's Bible Study
03:59pm	Children's movie -Snob
4:46pm	Whanau Living
5:00pm	VBTC News Headline
5:03pm	Totally Wilds
5:30pm	French News
6:00pm	ABC News
6:30pm	Comedy French
7:00pm	VBTC News
7:30pm	Insaed Io Nius
8:30pm	Friday Night at Movies
10:00pm	VBTC News
10:35pm	Evening Devotion
10:40pm	Pasifika TV

SATURDAY

5:50am	Morning Devotions
5:57am	Healthy Living - Eating right
7:00am	7pm previous night's news
7:30am	ABC Covid-19 Update
7:37am	Play School
8:14am	The best from Youtube
8:41am	SDA Church service
9:07am	Survivor Australia
11:07am	Escape to the country
12:08pm	Sports World
2:30pm	Travel Guide
3:30pm	Children's Bible Study
4:00pm	Children's movie
4:53pm	Whanau Living
5:00pm	Music Show
6:20pm	Tagata Pasifika
7:00pm	ABC News
7:30pm	Cultural Centre Program
8:30pm	Saturday Night at Movies
10:00pm	TV One News
10:35pm	Evening Devotion
10:40pm	Pasifika TV

SUNDAY

5:50am	Morning Devotions
5:57am	Healthy Living - Zumba
7:00am	French News
7:30am	ABC Covid-19 Update
7:37am	Play School
8:14am	Gospel Music / concert
8:41am	Church service
9:07am	Pacific Island Food Revolution
11:07am	Documentary
12:08pm	Pacific Way
12:30pm	Documentary Pacifika TV
1:30pm	Documentary - ABC Australia
1:58pm	Documentary - BBC London
3:08pm	Faut pas rever
3:30pm	Children's Bible Study
4:00pm	Children's movie
4:53pm	Whanau Living
5:00pm	Thalassa
5:28pm	Pacific Sports Show
5:30pm	French News
7:00pm	Le Vanuatu Hebdo
7:30pm	Cultural Centre Program
8:30pm	Sunday Night at Movies
10:00pm	ABC News
10:35pm	Evening Devotion
10:40pm	Pasifika TV

Get ready for the Namatan short Film Festival 3, 2, 1 Action!



Air Vanuatu People's Choice Awardee, Jordan Aru, VBTC's CEO, Francis Herman, Digicel's Representative Matthew Nute, ANZ Bank Vanuatu's CEO, Sheng Lee, Acting Australian High Commissioner, Ms Clemency Oliphant & Air Vanuatu's Representative, Greg Wilson at the launch of 2021 Namatan Short Film Festival.

The Australian High Commission and the Vanuatu Broadcasting and Television Corporation (VBTC) launched the first Namatan Short Film Festival in 2012 to give the people of Vanuatu a chance to express their ideas and creativity through film. The festival has continued every year and in 2020 the finalists were screened to over 15,000 people around the country and many more online. Namatan was possible thanks to a partnership with VBTC and the support of sponsors such as Digicel Vanuatu, Air Vanuatu and ANZ Bank. Now in its tenth year, Namatan is expected to be even bigger and better!

The name 'Namatan' (or 'eye') and slogan 'ae blo yu, lukluk blo mi' were chosen to represent the festival. Namatan's aim is for ni-Vanuatu filmmakers, amateur and professional, to share their vision and for the audience to take their own messages away from each story.

At a packed theatre at Tana Cine, Acting Australian High Commissioner, Ms Clemency Oliphant, and Vanuatu Broadcasting and Television Corporation (VBTC) CEO Francis Herman, launched the 2021 Namatan Short Film Festival, together with Namatan sponsors, ANZ Vanuatu, Digicel Vanuatu and Air Vanuatu.

"The people of Vanuatu have so many stories to share about their culture, society and families and short films are an excellent way to convey these stories. I encourage everyone with a story to tell to submit a film in this year's competition. In addition to reaching a large audience, there are some great prizes on offer," said the Acting High Commissioner. VBTC CEO, Francis Herman, said "Namatan helps to develop the skills of Vanuatu's budding filmmakers and we're always supportive of initiatives that support homegrown solutions to creating more local content."

The launch included a screening of the 2020 Namatan finalists and announcement of the 2020 Air Vanuatu People's Choice Award. The award went to Jordan Aru for his film, 'Wanfala taem long Port Vila'. Jordan received two Air Vanuatu tickets to travel anywhere in Vanuatu.

"This was my first experience with filming. I wasn't thinking about winning the People's Choice Award and so I was shocked when my name was called. I encourage others that the best stories are those close to your experience," said Jordan Aru.

At the launch, the Acting High Commissioner unveiled the unique item for this year's festival, the letter 'V' which she said is a good representation of the year 2021 to mean 'Vaccine', 'Vanuatu' and 'Victory'.



Guests at the launch included the Minister of Health, Honourable Silas Bule Melve, last year's film makers, NGO partners, the business community and the diplomatic corps.



VBTC team is highly supportive. As one can see, familiar smiles as Leah, Moses and Benina... all wearing the official T-shirt to manifest their encouragement to participate.

Some team members have participated in launching the very first edition, and are proud to see how popular it has become.

VBTC CEO and team with their Namatan T-shirts

The winner of Namatan Festival's last Edition

Marius Metois (Facebook and Instagram @Aelan_lens) is the winner of the Namatan short film festival 2020 "We decided to base our short-film on the way in which the residents of the 21 Jump Street area demonstrate through the project "21 Champs" their resilience facing the current pandemic and the consequent crisis." "I was very honored to win this first prize, the fact that I am only 17 years old and receiving such recognition is something that really pushed me to improve and continue to exercise my passion."



NAMATAN



Short Film Festival

The 2021 Namatan film competition is still open, with a first prize of VT500,000 sponsored by ANZ Bank. The second and third prize winners will receive a Samsung Galaxy A72 or a Samsung Galaxy A21s, sponsored by Digicel Vanuatu, with the winner of the Air Vanuatu People's Choice Award receiving two domestic return tickets.

Entry into the Namatan Short Film Festival competition is free and is open to everyone in Vanuatu, and there are no age restrictions.

The competition closes on 29 October

For more info :

Visit the Australian High Commission web page, <https://vanuatu.embassy.gov.au/pvla/events.html>, for entry and consent forms as well as information on how to apply or call VBTC on 22999 for more information.

Dubai Expo

Although the EXPO is more of an exhibition than a fair trade some local business and associations will participate to promote Vanuatu's products.

- Handicraft Market
- Eau des Iles
- Tanna Coffee
- Aelan
- Vanuatu Bijouterie
- Fine foods.

“The birth of the world exhibition begun in 1851 as the great exhibition, the works of industry of all nations, reflecting the rapid changes of industrial revolution. This great exhibition became the world expo event till today, it is more than just a trade fair as we see in Vanuatu and the Pacific region, but an exhibition concept that is able to educate the public, promotes exchange and exhibiting new ideas & cultures, technology, innovations and product developments.

World Expo is described as a big exhibition of showcasing a changing world, a dawn of a new era and building a better future for all. Vanuatu is a member to the Bureau International des Exposition (BIE), on the 16 November 2007, but its journey started in 2000, and has been participating for the last seven world expo events.

“Opportunity, Mobility and Sustainability”

Vanuatu participation in this Dubai World Expo event is to showcase Vanuatu life stories, its people, culture, product developments and opportunities to visit and invest, to the rest of the world. It will express itself based on its national trades, economy and policies that aligns to the main expo theme of “Connecting minds, Creating the Future” and focuses on the thematic areas on Opportunity, Mobility and Sustainability. I trust that this world expo event would provide Vanuatu new open doors and accessibility to new markets opportunities to the rest of the world.

“Connecting minds,



China Internantional Expo

The China International Expo (CIE) is a major initiative of the firmly support trade liberalization, economic globalization and market opening-up. It world strengthen's trade exchanges and cooperation around the world, promote global trade and economy growth, and push forward the development of an open global economy.



With different styles pavilions, every participating country and international organization fully utilize high tech methods and diversified forms to demonstrate unique regional culture and characteristic leading industries of it's own.

Vanuatu will once again participate in this huge event. Unlike 2019 there will be no delegation travelling because of the current situation. Nevertheless a container of Vanuatu products was sent to China and Vanuatu's booth will be animated by NiVanuatu students actually in China.

This is an important occasion for Vanuatu its products and to promote its culture. No doubt it will have a positive impact on the country's economy. Chinese people are very curious in knowing more about Vanuatu. Other countries will also be present. Therefore this impact of the archipelago's presence and its exposure are worldwide.



"Promote global trade and economy growth"

"World strengthen's trade exchanges and cooperation around the world"

Creating the Future"



The booth of Vanuatu was seen at the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 8, 2018.

The Voice Australia might come this year from Vanuatu



Never heard of the TV serie the Voice?

For some of you who never watched or heard of this TV serie, it is a very famous international reality television and singing competition franchise that was based on the Voice of Holland, which was originally created by Dutch television producer John de Mol.

Many other countries have adapted the format and begun airing their own versions since 2010, that is why we have now performances of the Voice all around the world. It has become a rival to the Idols franchise, Rising Star and The X Factor. As of 2020, the franchise is now owned by ITV Studios.

What a great surprise for the audience a few weeks ago. Danielle Matthews, originally from Vanuatu by her father Albert Watt was the first Ni-Vanuatu to participate in one of the most famous Music shows, The Voice Australia. Professional singer at the Opera, Danielle had a lot of encouragements during these past years by her friends and family to participate in this famous show of The Voice and share her talent with the world. It is finally this year 2021 that she has made her decision to participate and to do her audition on Sunday 22nd of August on The Voice Australia located in Carriageworks, Everleigh in Sydney.



Danielle Matthews with her dad and her sisters from Vanuatu



Despite the closure of the borders, she was fortunate to have her mother at these ratings to support her and her family and friends who motivated and supported her from home. It was with joy but also with great stress that Danielle sang a famous classic song called Zero Gravity by Kate Miller-Heidke. Thanks to her angelic voice, she was able to blow the judges away by having turned 3 chairs out of four, Guy Sebastian's chair, Jessica Mauboy and Rita Ora that turned a few seconds before the end. Despite the three chairs turning, Danielle was only able to choose an artist to continue with. Who did she choose between those three coaches ?

Famous Australian singer Danielle Matthews originally from Vanuatu is now part of this famous worldwide Music show The Voice Australia and will continue her adventure with the support of her friends and all her family from Vanuatu.



<https://www.facebook.com/itsdaniellematthews/videos>

Inhaler – It Won't Always Be Like This

Elijah Hewson (singer and guitarist), Robert Keating (bassist), Josh Jenkinson (guitarist) and Ryan McMahon (drummer), four young guys from Dublin (all born between 1999 and 2000) have just released a very promising debut album that went straight to number one in the Irish as well as the UK album charts.

Elijah Hewson? Dublin?

Okay, I guess some of you have already seen the elephant in the room... Elijah is the son of Paul Hewson, also known as Bono, the leader of U2. No doubt, he will have to deal with some inappropriate comparisons with his father for a long time. However, Inhaler is much more than just the band of Bono's son and it would be a shame to relegate interest in their music to behind his family tree.

Of course, the young singer sounds a lot like his father and some of the guitar riffs take us back to the early 80s. However, the boys have been working to find an identity for themselves, highly influenced by the “Manchester sound” (Joy Division and the Stones Roses are regularly mentioned by the Irish), and, in our opinion, some American bands (the Strokes, the Killers).

The record has an exciting energy. The band is excellent when it comes to direct and effective melodies (“It won't always be like this”; “Honest face”; “When it breaks”; “In my sleep”). Impressive guitars, strong drummer, those tracks stay in your head from the first listen. This search for the hit can lead to radio-friendly tracks (“Cheer up Baby”) that remain nevertheless quite pleasant. Anyway, you do not blame 20-year-olds for being young. But anger and resentment are never too far away. In the acoustic and symphonic “My King Will Be Kind”, the bitterness of the lyrics is perfectly framed by the haunting guitar melody and empty drum beat.

Promising and full of potential, Inhaler is a band to follow closely in the future. It seems obvious that their intoxicating indie rock cuts are here to stay. And really, even if it was always like this, it would not be so bad.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTVg-C61LZo>



Vanboii Phenomena

Vanuatu music producer and well known as DJ Vanboii has signed a deal with Warner Music after he remixed Ali Gatie – What If I Told You That I Love You. The song went viral on Tiktok that on August 9 Ali Gatie went live on Tiktok asking to connect with Vanboii.

Ali Gatie is an Iraqi-Canadian rapper, singer and songwriter. His 2019 song “It's You” charted worldwide, charting on the US Billboard Hot 100 and reaching the top 40 in Australia, Canada, Ireland and Sweden and the top 10 in New Zealand and in Germany.





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Titan FX, giving back to the community

Losalava Primary School.



Business analyst Aurelia Karie from Titan FX with headmistress Edith Tasso at Losalava Primary School.

Titan FX, the retail brokerage based in Port Vila, has been an established hub for financial services in the Asia / Pacific region since 2017. From their headquarters in Port Vila and their satellite office in Maewo, they serve financial traders around the world in the \$5 trillion a day currency market.

They believe Vanuatu provides the perfect environment for fintech businesses to grow and prosper. Titan FX definitely want to make a meaningful contribution to the Vanuatu community not just economically, but socially and culturally as well. They always looking to support programs and organizations that enrich and inspire the There are only 7 schools on Gaua, a northern island of Torba Province. Losalava, located on the Northern East part of the island, has a primary school and a Junior Secondary School. The Primary school counts 5 teachers, a temporary teacher and a helper, the team takes care of 189 students. With only 6 classrooms, one can contain around 40 students, which can be a difficult task at some times. Edith Tasso, who got promoted this year as the head mistress, is happy to take up this new responsibility. As the only woman holding such position on Gaua, she is very proud and has already stepped up in her role, putting her team on the government payroll early this year.



Aerial view of of Losalava Primary School



Pens, color pencils, glue, paper are basic items much needed in remote islands... They are necessary to give everyone a chance to learn and thrive. As Torba is one of the most remote province, Titan FX donated some school supplies to help Edith and her team. Although the students were on holiday during that time, the gesture was greatly appreciated by the school management.

What to Shop

Chandelier

Support Vanuatu businesses and get your local chandelier now. Made by Alice, it is one of the beautiful handicrafts produced by the mama's at the Seafront next to Nambawan café.



Address: Seafront, Mama's market

Oils of paradise

We design our local beauty products to make you look fabulous, and leaving you feeling refresh and confident everyday. When ever you wearing our products, you taking our local fragrance with you which remind you of our roots.



Oils of paradise | [f](#) @OilsofParadise

Contact: 599 1416

Address: Nambatu AreaPort-Vila, Vanuatu, 000

70% Dark Chocolate

Their Dark 70% Single origin Vanuatu chocolate bar has won the Silver medal in the 2021 Academy of Chocolate Awards in London.



Gaston Chocolat | [f](#) @vanuatuchocholate

Contact: contact@gastonchocolat.com

Address: Kumul Highway, Opposite Fung Kuei

Macramé art

Originated with 13th-century Arab weavers, these artisans used decorative knots to finish the excess thread on shawls, veils, and towels. The word macramé is derived from the Arabic term migramah, which means "ornamental fringe". I think we make justice to the name, Natorik is definitely all about long fringes.



Natorik | [f](#) @natorik.macrame

Contact: 521 2929 | Contact Natorik on Messenger



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Carnet de Voyages et autres découvertes...

J'ai rencontré Petro sur la côte Est de Santo, chez lui. Un endroit magnifique ! En face de son terrain, un petit îlot vierge où vivent des animaux sauvages. Tout autour, une eau turquoise. Une jolie petite baie sur la gauche, avec une plage de sable blanc. Le lieu s'appelle Hideaway Beach Resort.

On sent très vite que Petro aime discuter. Son intonation et son accent me font immédiatement penser à la voix d'Aloïï Pilioko. Il a aussi comme lui un visage calme, sage, bienveillant. Il me raconte un peu l'histoire de sa vie. Petro Rite naît en 1954 à Santo. Il descend d'une lignée de chefs. En effet un de ses aïeux était Vuster, c'est le rang coutumier le plus haut à Santo. « Un Seigneur » me dit-il.



Il va à l'école à la mission de Port Orly. Il y apprend le français. Il finit ses études à Port Vila. À l'époque, c'est encore le condominium. Il travaille sept ans à la poste de la capitale, qui avait alors deux guichets: un anglais et un français.

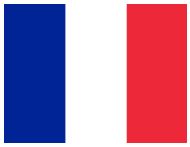
À l'indépendance, il rentre à Luganville. Il reçoit de son père un terrain côtier. De la même façon, il partagera lui-même ce terrain entre ses sept enfants. Il fera toujours le choix de ne pas vendre. Pourtant, il a vu de nombreux étrangers passer chez lui, lui proposant beaucoup d'argent. Certains avec des valises pleines de billets! Il a toujours dit non. Impossible pour lui d'imaginer avoir des millions à la banque mais ne plus pouvoir accéder à la mer librement.

Alors, il se lance dans l'aventure. Petit à petit, il va construire lui-même huit Bungalows au bord de la mer. Redoublant d'imagination, il en fait un sur pilotis, un sur le corail, un en haut d'un banyan, un autre avec un étage... Jusqu'à l'arrivée du Covid, les touristes affluaient. À présent, c'est très calme, son fils aîné qui l'épaulait est parti travailler en Australie pour trois ans. Il est un élément actif du développement du tourisme à Santo. Sa réussite est donnée en exemple aux jeunes entrepreneurs. Il vient d'ailleurs de terminer la rédaction d'un document relatant son aventure. Il va le remettre au président de l'université nationale de Vanuatu qui doit le publier.

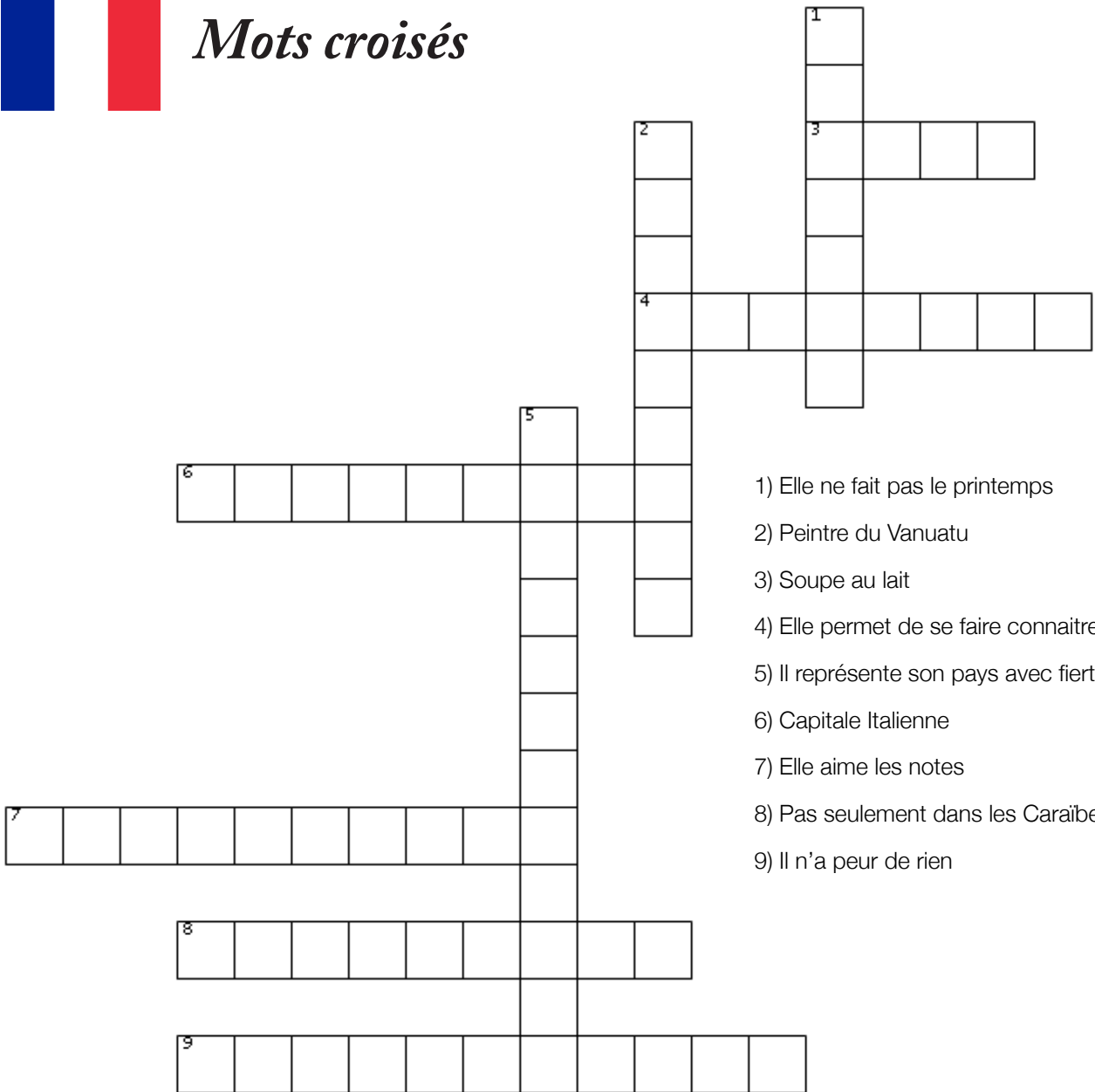
Si vous passez par là-bas, n'hésitez pas à lui rendre visite, il aura sûrement bien d'autres choses à vous raconter...

Par Robert Ferry





Mots croisés



- 1) Elle ne fait pas le printemps
- 2) Peintre du Vanuatu
- 3) Soupe au lait
- 4) Elle permet de se faire connaître
- 5) Il représente son pays avec fierté
- 6) Capitale Italienne
- 7) Elle aime les notes
- 8) Pas seulement dans les Caraïbes
- 9) Il n'a peur de rien

NESPRESSO

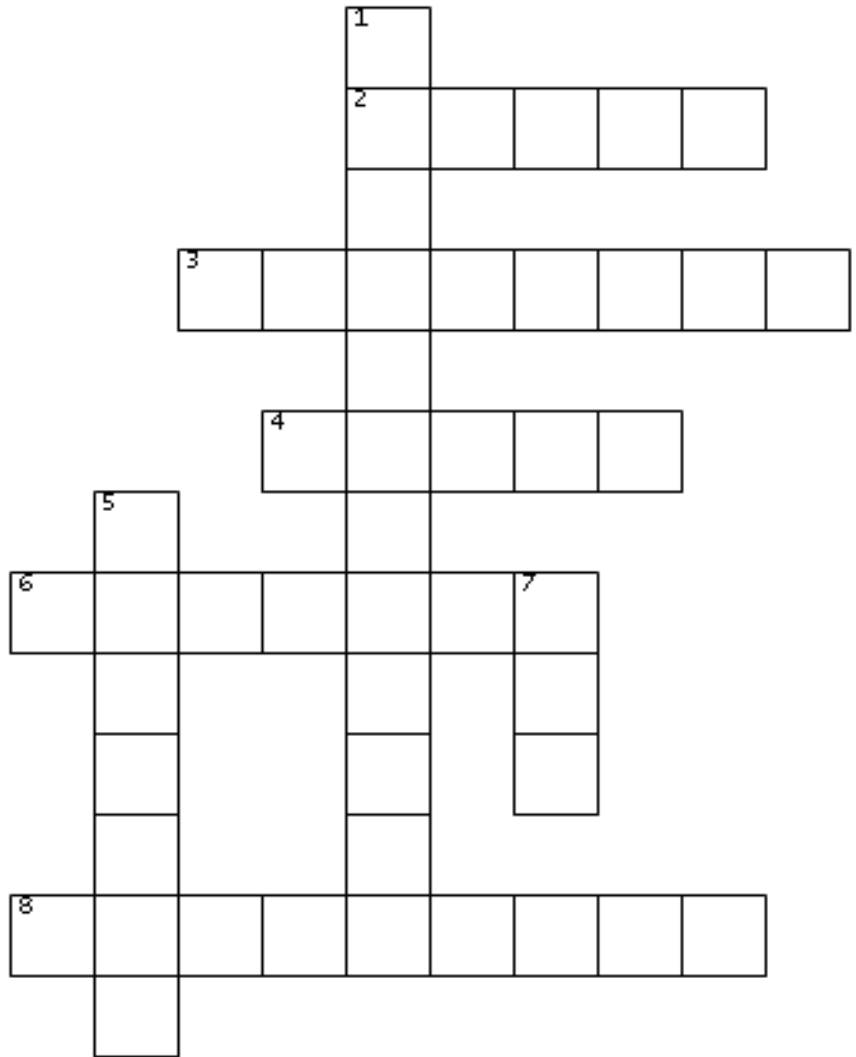
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Cross word puzzle

- 1) Flavour you can find in Vanuatu
- 2) Snaky Fish
- 3) Where you will stay
- 4) Curious flying animal
- 5) Spices up your food
- 6) Green, white or red vegetable crop
- 7) Dangerous with his hands
- 8) Northern province

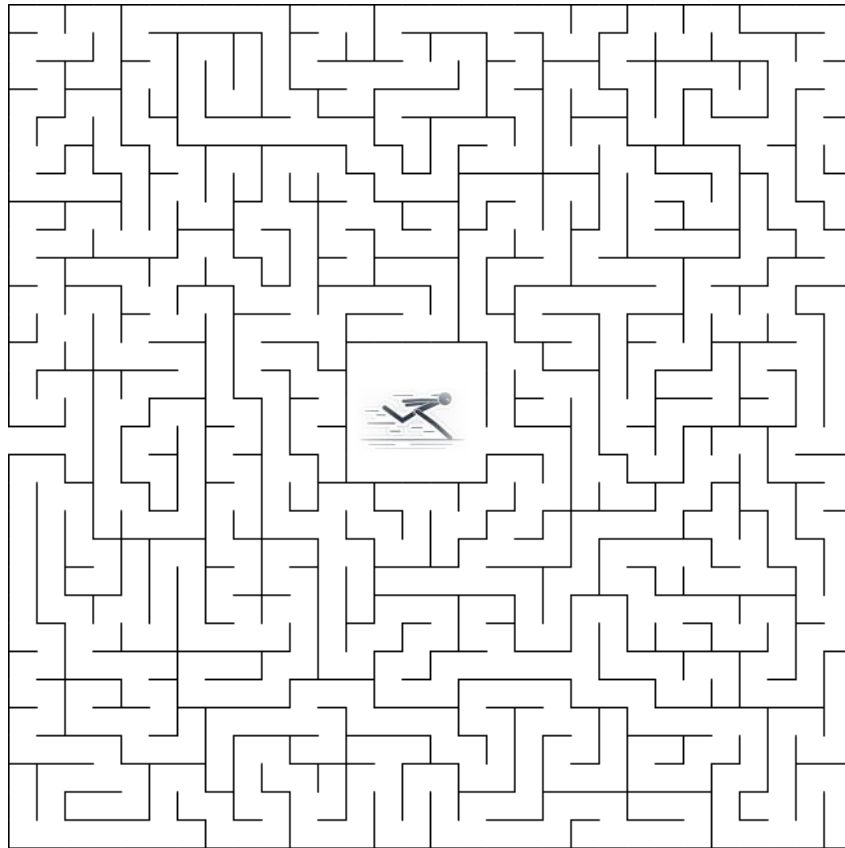


Sudoku

3				1				9
8		2		6		5		
4				1	7	2	9	
				6				
1	7					8		6
6				3	5	1		
		5		9	3	7		

9		6		3				1
	3					6		8
	5		1					3
		9		2	4			
	8						7	2
5	7	2		9	6			4
		7				8		9
				8		3	4	
				1		2		5

Escape the Espresso room



Word search

S	S	G	O	A	I	M	S	R	I	L	L	L	F
I	B	H	T	W	O	R	G	B	A	D	R	R	A
O	E	U	U	Y	T	B	I	A	G	M	E	S	T
S	T	U	S	S	A	M	V	A	N	E	S	E	U
T	W	A	S	I	T	H	A	E	B	I	I	D	M
I	R	U	V	I	N	J	L	T	A	U	S	S	A
O	O	A	D	N	A	E	N	M	A	B	D	O	R
Y	T	D	V	I	S	T	S	E	T	J	M	A	U
I	H	A	Y	E	G	L	A	S	E	T	L	A	S
U	A	F	H	T	L	I	I	S	I	M	U	A	U
E	L	B	A	N	I	A	T	S	U	S	F	E	T
U	S	O	I	S	J	H	B	A	D	I	Y	U	G
B	V	A	R	S	T	F	N	U	L	A	O	A	S
M	T	O	U	R	I	S	M	S	S	O	J	S	I

- BUSINESS
- DUBAI
- JOYFUL
- DIGITAL
- TRAVEL
- SUSTAINABLE
- AMBAE
- TOURISM
- FATUMARU
- GROWTH

Coffee Kalja



The genetics and origins of Coffee

After taking a close look at where the coffee culture was born and the coffee habits that were adopted, how they were influenced by the different cultures around the world, we will now take a dive into its origins and varieties. You might ask yourself why the origins and genetics of coffee matter, and how they affect your regular coffee drinks? Well, like wine and chocolate, they all have in common the notions of fermentation, terroir and processing (dry or washed) which give them a unique flavor profile.



The knowledge of coffees from all around the world and the mapping of the different flavors is an exquisite exercise for coffee lovers. Since we are based in Vanuatu, a coffee growing country, we'll start our journey with coffees grown in the Pacific and Asian region.

One of our closest neighbors has built itself a worldwide reputation for the quality of both its coffee and cacao and it is the Papua-New Guinea. Its Bourbon genetic is grown on the highlands of Enga, Chimbu and Jiwaka at altitudes of 1,200 to 1,900m which allows for complex and savory coffees. The typical flavor for PNG coffees are herbal/woody notes, fruity and tobacco, and make dense coffee texture. The main variety is called Typica Bourbon, it's an Arabica type and it is washed in the process. Papua New-Guinea holds a 17th rank in the world and produces 0.7% of the world's annual production.

Now let's have a look at another neighbor, Australia. Though it is a much bigger country with vast land, coffee only grows on its North and Central-East coast and ranks 50th in the world production. Arabica was introduced in the 19th century with Typica and Bourbon genetics, but over the last decade farmers have introduced new genetics like Catuai, Mundo Novo or K7 hybrid. Coffees grown in Australia have a distinct natural sweetness, chocolate and nutty flavors. The dry processing of beans is commonly adopted and the typical weather with dry and cold conditions is the main factor for lighter coffee and low in caffeine.

The regional champion is Vietnam with its second position at the world ranking in terms of production, and a focus on Robusta genetics which represents 95% of the national production. Vietnamese farmers mostly use the dry process and have produced coffee since 1857 when it was introduced by the Government with a national scheme which started in 1900, the country became one of the largest producers in the world within a decade. Quite an achievement! The downside of it is a focus on a type of coffee that trades fine flavors for higher yield which trades at low prices.

Over the past decade the government has launched a program focused on Arabica to re-balance the genetic diversity. It started in parallel with a program for the rejuvenation of cacao plantations and genetic diversity. Both problematic are, at a smaller scale, equally true and important for Vanuatu and an interesting fact is that most of our local plantations were developed by the Vietnamese Diaspora which has been established for almost a century.

China is not the first country that comes to mind when talking about coffee, however it has grown Arabicas since 1887 in the southern provinces of Yunnan, Fujian and the island of Hainan.

The main genetics are Catimore, Bourbon and Typica which are usually harvested from November to April and have distinct and well balanced nutty aroma and sweetness with low acidity and medium density when brewed. China currently ranks 20th in the world production by volumes.

India ranks 6th in the world production and has a 60/40 ratio between Robusta and Arabica. The main genetics are Catimore, Covery, San Ramon, Devamachy, Caturra and Kent (a locally developed variety which was later exported to Africa) and it involves an impressive number of 250,000 producers across the country. But the most interesting fact about India is their unique processing known as “Monsooning”, which consist in living the beans exposed to the monsoon weather conditions and wind for an extensive period post harvest until they dry and their flavor profile is changed. India has built its reputation for growing the best Robusta in the world and the Karnataka region in the south counts for half of the country’s production itself.

To close this chapter on coffees grown in Oceania and Asia, Indonesia is the third largest producer worldwide and has a 75/25 balance between Arabica and Robusta. The genetics are Typica, Bourbon, Catimor and Tim Tim and some Ethiopian genetics the Rambung and Abyssinia. Though Indonesia is one of the largest producers, it has built a reputation for inconsistent quality and logistical issues. Here again we can relate at a smaller scale on issues faced by the local farmers in Vanuatu facing inconsistent shipping schedules and expensive freight which are two of the main lockers for exports of high-end quality commodities. The main producing areas of Indonesia are Java, Sumatra and the Sulawesi. Last, Indonesia is known for its own processing technique called “Giling Basah” which consists of depulping the cherries, drying the beans for a day and half and removing the husk while the beans are still wet. A process that gives a distinctive blue taint to the coffee but also enhances the risks of damaging the beans in the process.

Now when it comes to our small island nation, coffee has been grown since 1852 (at least as historically recorded and documented) when the first Bourbon plants were imported from New-Caledonia in Tanna. Streams of Fijian Arabica were imported later in the sixties but a sickness known as “Coffee rust” decimated the plantation and it is finally the Arusha variety from Tanzania and the Catimor which proved the most adapted to the local terroir and were planted in large numbers between 1982 and 1986 in a national program over 400ha. The aromatic Arabica coffee is full-bodied and has nutty aromas and the main producer is the Iconic Tanna Coffee which harvested an average of 40 to 60 tons per year over the last decade. Small on a world scale, it is nevertheless a fine flavor highly aromatic coffee with intense nutty and fruity flavors which particularity is to grow at a low elevation of only 400m above sea level. Now after this journey through the region’s best coffee, how about enjoying your own cup prepared in the best coffee shops in town?

Feature coffee of the month

There is only one way to enjoy coffee and genetics from all around the world and it is with a traditionally infused black coffee.

Our next edition will focus on coffee techniques, meanwhile you can practice at home doing your own brew. All it requires is a water boiler and a filtering glass, a set of v60 filters and a few pouches of coffees from all over the world. Advanced baristas use micro scales for precision and filtered or low mineral water. Vary the origins, the amount of water and coffee in your brew and you just opened an endless world of possible.



Ikkana Fighting breast and cervical cancer



Harriet talking to the girls about reproductive health



Support Ikkana now !



www.raise-vanuatu.com

Pink October is coming soon but breast and cervical cancer is an every day battle. Last month IKKANA accomplished a great work in Ambae. Once again, the association has organized a trip to meet other communities far from medical facilities. This particular outreach was funded by New Zealand High Commission.

In Ambae, the screening was done in two locations: Walaha and NduiNdui. The mission was a success as 470 women got screened for both breast and cervical cancers. Also, 63 girls (12 years and older) attended reproductive health education sessions conducted by Mrs Harriet OBED. Well done IKKANA and remember you can be active by supporting them through RAISE. Results will soon come from Australia as they are now being read by IKKANA's volunteer cytologist. Once the results received all women who have high grade precancerous lesions will

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An aerial photograph of a tropical landscape at sunset. The scene includes a large body of water, a green field with scattered trees, and a road with a car in the bottom right corner. The sky is filled with dramatic, golden clouds. Overlaid on the center of the image are large, stylized numbers '83' created with thick, black brushstrokes. The numbers are semi-transparent, allowing the landscape and sunset colors to show through them.

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