



# MSC PACIFIC UNION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE I

APRIL, 2015

## Greetings from the Sacred Heart House!

### Feast Days

#### **Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Feast**

30th May, 2015.

#### **Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

### Inside this Issue

#### **PU Update News**

#### **New Appointments**

#### **Formation updates**

#### **Fiji District updates**

#### **Birthdays of the months from January to April.**

### From the General Administration

#### **Novus Episcopus MSC: Rev. Rafael Rodriguez msc.**

#### **Open Letter of the Superior General**

I trust and believe that you all had a good Easter celebrations with members of your community in wherever places you are serving. Easter season is a time of personal renewal and transformation in our lives. A time for us to recognize the risen Lord who walks and journeying with us. It is also a time to continue to share and communicate the Good News that Jesus is Risen. And our song is ALLELUIA.

This is the fourth month since I was appointed as a Union Superior and I am now starting to grow into confidence about myself as a person and Leader. I feel very encouraged with the support and words of encouragement from our confreres in the Union and many MSCs from other places. There has been already a sense of co responsibility shown by many of you so far and I want to thank you sincerely for that.

Again I want to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to Fr Simon Mani for being our Union Superior for the last nine years. Thank you for being a true MSC and as well as your wisdom and love for the Union

Our first PU Council was held in the second week of April. We spent the first part of the day in the Chapel in Wailoku Formation for a Spiritual preparation and reflection before the actual meeting took place at the Sacred Heart House later in the morning. Most of the appointments for this year, 2015 had been discussed and approved. We had also shared our own visions and expectations as members of the council for the Union.

One of my own visions for the Union is to strengthen our own identity, as who we are as Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. I think, we need to establish at the very beginning that we are not a business nor a corporate organization set up to make profits like many big businesses and companies. Rather we are missionary community of men that have been given a mission, given a vision and given a direction by Jules Chevalier and some of our founding fathers summed up for us in our constitution number 5, "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved everywhere."

*Fr Tamati Sefo MSC*

*Pacific Union Superior*



SACRED HEART HOUSE



05/Sup/15  
January 25, 2015

### Open letter of the Superior General

On the occasion of the decision of Pope Francis (January 22, 2015) to authorize the beatification of **Benedict Daswa** and in the name of the entire Congregation of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, I wish to extend our congratulations and best wishes to **Bishop João Rodrigues** and to all the people of the **Diocese of Tzaneen**, South Africa. They can be justly proud of giving South Africa its first citizen to be beatified.

Indeed, this is a great moment for the Church in Africa as well as for our Congregation and for the Chevalier Family. Benedict Daswa was guided spiritually by several of our confreres and was formed in the charism and spirituality of the Heart. This spirituality led him to lay down his life for his faith in Christ Jesus.

Many people have worked hard over the years to make this moment possible. They deserve our thanks and gratitude. I wish to mention four of our confreres who have dedicated much time and effort to the cause of Blessed Benedict Daswa:

- **Bishop Hugh Slattery, MSC**, (Irish Province) was Bishop of Tzaneen at the time Benedict was killed in 1990. He recognized the importance of this for the African Church and began the process for beatification.
- **Fr. André Bohas, MSC** (French Province) spent many hours of work during the Diocesan phase of the cause.
- **Fr. Lucio Di Stefano, MSC** (Italian Province) spent many more hours preparing the *Positio*, the basis for the decision reached by the Congregation for the Saints.
- **Fr. Jean-Jules Chassem, MSC** (Union of French-speaking Africa) accepted this cause as part of his work as Postulator General and has been busy with the many formalities necessary to arrive at Thursday's decision by the Holy Father.

To these four and to many others I cannot name, many thanks.

I would also like to mention the fact that this process has not been costly! Bishop Rodrigues on several occasions asked the Congregation for the Saints for an exemption from the normal fees. This was readily granted. Our Frs. Bohas and Di Stefano both donated their many hours of service. They, and all the MSC, are happy to have had a small part to play in the history of the Church in Africa. We are proud to have Benedict join Blessed Peter to Rot as the second lay member of our Chevalier Family to be beatified. May they inspire us to continue to work tirelessly for the mission we all share: that the **Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved everywhere!**

Mark McDonald, MSC

## CHEVALIER FAMILY GATHERING

The Chevalier Family in Fiji celebrated Christmas and New Year at Sacred Heart House on 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2014. In addition, they farewell Fr. Simon Mani and welcomed the new PU Superior, Fr Tamati Sefo. The Fiji District Superior, Br Kaake took the opportunity to thank Fr Simon Mani for his 9 years of service as the Union Superior. Fr Simon then thanked all the members of the Chevalier family for their support and prayers. He also congratulated Fr Tamati for accepting this challenging role as the MSC Pacific Union Superior and asked that the members of the Chevalier Family give him the same support that he earned throughout his term.

## FIJI DISTRICT RECOLLECTION

The first Fiji District recollection day of this year took place at Holy Spirit Parish, Veivatuloa on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 and was led by Br Kaake at Veivatuloa Parish. This was attended by the Final Vows members together with Br Robati and Br Taaia. Br Kaake thanked Fr Tavita, Br Rataro and the Parishioners of Holy Spirit Parish for the venue and lunch.

The recollection for the month of March took place at Our Lady of the Immaculate Assumption Parish, Lomary on the 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2015. The recollection was led by Fr Patrick. On that same day the attendants celebrated the birthday of Fr Simon Mani during lunch time. Br Kaake took the opportunity to thank Fr Patrick, Br Taaia and the Parishioners of Lomary for hosting as well as the special and delicious lunch.

The recollection for the month of April took place at Sacred Heart Novitiate, Wainadoi on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The recollection was led by Fr Ponevetura. Br Kaake thanked Fr Lomano and Br Tebweao for hosting the recollection.



## *From the General Administration*

NOVUS EPISCOPUS MSC

23-02-15



Today Pope Francis named Fr. Rafael Rodríguez, MSC, the First Assistant General, Bishop of the Diocese of La Vega in the Dominican Republic. Our sincere congratulations and best wishes to Bishop elect Rafael! This is a great honor for our Congregation and a further confirmation (with the appointment of Bishop Plinio in 2007 to be auxiliary bishop of Santiago) of the missionary zeal and dedication of our Canadian and Dominican confreres who for eighty years have sacrificed so much to build up the Church in the Dominican Republic.

Today Fr. General appointed Fr. Franciscus Xaverius Wahyudi, MSC, of the Indonesian Province, First Assistant General and Vicar for the Congregation.



**Samuel Benedict Daswa Tshimangadzo (1946-1990) Catechist, Martyr, Lay member of the Chevalier Family**

## MSC PU FORMATION

### POST-NOVITIATE, WAILOKU

- All Scholastics returned from school break to the Formation House at Wailoku on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2015 to prepare for another academic year.
- On 12<sup>th</sup> January - 3<sup>rd</sup> February the Scholastics had their retreat with Fr Chris McPhee msc, Assistant General of the General Administration in Rome as the Retreat facilitator. It was a wonderful and awakening retreat on Contemplative Prayer. He conducted another Retreat for the Novices from 8<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015.
- Br John Fong, on behalf of the Union thanked Fr Chris during the Fiji District Monday Night Dinner, for journeying with the novices and scholastics during the three retreats. Fr Chris left Fiji on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015.
- We also welcomed our first years into the Formation House at Wailoku: Br Aliposo (Fiji), Br Sosefo (Futuna) and Br Tiitera (Kiribati).
- The Pastoral Year Students of 2014 also returned to the Formation House to continue their seminary studies as Year 6 students: Br Beniata (Kiribati), Br Epeli (Fiji) and Br Eric (Futuna).

- We have 3 students who are doing their pastoral in various ministries in Fiji this year. Br. John Fong is at Chevalier Training Centre, Wainadoi as



2<sup>nd</sup> Retreat (Back left to front right): Rataro, Taaia, Chris, Marisiale, Gabrieli, Paul, Johnny, Epeli, Robati, Sepulona and Kirata.

an assistant Automotive and Small Engines Instructor; Br. Rataro Raimon is at Holy Spirit Parish, Veivatuloa; and Br. Taaia Tawaia –at Our Lady of Assumption Parish, Lomeri.

- Two of our PRS Year 1 Scholastics left the community: Paul Kaufuti (Fiji) and Sepulona Lute-lu (Samoa). The community thanked them for their contribution to the formation.
- Br Robati has taken up his new role and that is the Pacific Union media. He is now residing at the Sacred Heart House, Wailoku with Fr Tamati and Br Tirikai.

Installation to the ministry of Acolyte:  
Brs John, Taaia and Rataro



### PRE-NOVITIATE, WAINADOI

Wainadoi community welcomed the new Pre-Novices. The Induction to the Pre-Novitiate (welcome) was celebrated at the Sacred Heart House on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and the Para-liturgy was led by Fr Tamati. We thank Br Tebweao for his willingness and continuous contribution to his mission as the Director of the Pre-Novitiate since 2012.

## NOVITIATE, WAINADOI

The First Profession of Br Sosefo Leleivai (Futuna), Br Tiitera Kaumai (Kiribati) and Br Aliposo Waqaliti was celebrated on the day of the Solemnity of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at Chevalier Chapel in Wainadoi.

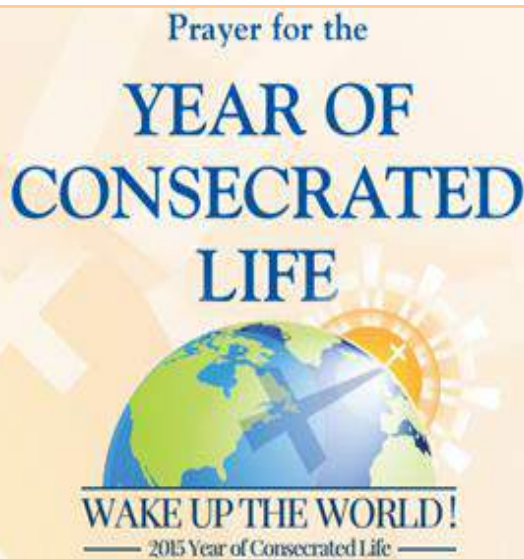
The Mass was led by Fr Tamati. After the *Sevusevu* (Fijian traditional *yaqona* ceremony) Fr Simon Mani took the opportunity to thank Fr Keleto for being a Novice Master for the last 4 years. Fr Keleto shared few words at that day and thanked Fr Simon and all the members for their



support and prayers.

The new professed brothers had begun their seminary study at PRS. Congratulations brothers!

The Reception Mass of the new Novices was celebrated on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2014.



*O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration. Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you. Continue to enrich your Church by calling forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## *Birthdays of January to April*

January: 1<sup>st</sup> 1966 – Fr Sujono Yohanes  
28<sup>th</sup> 1932 – Fr Karl Maria Brand

February: 23<sup>rd</sup> 1992 – Johnny Arnold Jr

March: 1<sup>st</sup> 1965 – Fr Yoseph Rettob  
2<sup>nd</sup> 1972 – Fr Keleto Lemo  
6<sup>th</sup> 1986 – Tibwere Teratabu  
10<sup>th</sup> 1991 – Ioakim Iabeta (PreNovice)

14<sup>th</sup> 1975 – Fr Fa'alelei Tapuala  
17<sup>th</sup> 1970 – Marisiale Weleca  
19<sup>th</sup> 1994 – Sosefo Leleivai  
27<sup>th</sup> 1969 – Fr Simon Mani  
28<sup>th</sup> 1946 – Rev. Fr Raymundo Sabio

April: 2<sup>nd</sup> 1993 – Daniel Silva (Novice)  
7<sup>th</sup> 1963 – Fr Tatieru Ewentang  
9<sup>th</sup> 1967 – Fr Simione Volavola  
10<sup>th</sup> 1976 – Fr Tavita Lemusu  
21<sup>st</sup> 1972 – Br Laisenia Ralake  
28<sup>th</sup> 1972 – Fr Tamati Sefo



*Br Laisenia Ralake cut a birthday cake with fellow birthday students of Chevalier Training Centre on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2015.*

# APPOINTMENTS 2015

## PU Council 2015

Tamati Sefo (Chair)  
Patrick Teitiaua (Secretary)  
Kaake Ioane  
Lopeti Manu  
Ponevetura Luatuanuu  
Lomano Kauvaetupu  
Tebweao Antonio

## First Councillor

Patrick Teitiaua

## Formation Board

Kaake Ioane (Chair)  
Tebweao Antonio  
Ponevetura Luatuanuu  
Lopeti Manu  
Lomano Kauvaetupu

## Formation Director

Kaake Ioane

## Admissions Board

Lopeti Manu (Chair)  
Ponevetura Luatuanuu  
Tebweao Antonio

## Vocations Team

Lopeti Manu – Fiji  
Keleto Lemo – Kiribati  
Martin Everi – Marshall Is  
Saimon Kokoria – Nauru

## Finance Committee

Tamati Sefo  
Simon Mani  
Kaake Ioane

## Administration

JeanetteMausio (Secretary)  
Kaake Ioane (Bursar)  
Merylin Swamy (Finance Officer)  
Robati Tebaiuea (PU Media)

## MSC Mission Office

Simon Mani (Chair)  
Merylyn Swamy  
John Fong

## District Superiors

Kaake Ioane – Fiji  
Keleto Lemo – Kiribati  
Ariel Galido – Marshall Is

### Fiji District Our Lady of Assump- tion Parish, Lomeri

Fr Patrick Teitiaua took up his new appointment as a Parish Priest of Our Lady of Assumption Parish on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2014. We thank Fr. Patrick for accepting his new mission. We wish him all the best.

### Holy Spirit Parish, Veivatuloa

Fr Tavita Lemusu began his new appointment as a new Parish Priest of Veivatuloa parish on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014. We thank Fr. Tavita for accepting his new mission. We also thank him for journeying with Lomeri Parish since 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014 till the arrival of their new Parish Priest. We wish Tavita all the best.

### A new Novice Master

Fr Lomano is the new Novice Master. He began

his new appointment on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December, 2014. We thank Fr Lomano for his willingness to take up this role. We wish Lomano the best.

### A New Formator at Wailoku

A week before the first term of PRS began the Formation Community welcomed Fr Ponevetura as the new Formator of the Formation Centre at Wailoku. We thank Fr Pone for his courage and generous heart in taking up this challenge in journeying with the scholastics at Wailoku. We wish Pone the best

### Other Appointments in Fiji District....

**Kaake Ioane** .....PU Bursar/Manager-  
Chevalier Hostel

**Simon Mani**..... CTC Director

**Laisenia Ralake**.....CTC Student Warden

**Gerard Shanley** .....English Teacher-Novitiate/  
CTC Farm Assistant

**Lopeti Manu** .....Parish Priest of St Agnes, Sa-  
mabula.

## Kiribati District

### **St Antonio Parish, Abemama.**

Fr Tatieru is the new Parish Priest of St Antonio Parish, Abemama and Chaplin of Chevalier College. We thank Fr Tatieru for accepting his new appointment. We wish Tatieru the best.

### **St Joseph Parish, Bikenibeu.**

Fr Ipasio is now the new Parish Priest of St Joseph Parish in Bikenibeu. We thank Fr Ipasio for his willingness to take up his new mission. He began his new ministry on Ash Wednesday.

## **Chevalier College, Abemama.**

Br Tirikai has been appointed to Chevalier College in Abemama to be a teacher in Catechism and responsible for the student's retreat. We wish Tirikai the best.

### **MSC House, Teoraereke.**

Fr Keleto arrived in Kiribati early this year and he began his new mission at Teoraereke community. He is the new Superior for the Kiribati district, the Teoraereke community leader. He is also taking care of the Aspirant program. We thank Keleto for his willingness to his new roles. We wish Keleto the best.

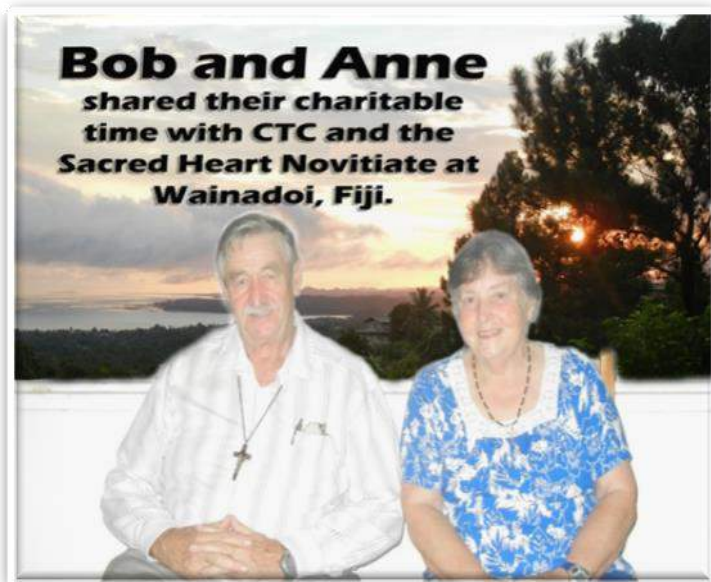
## *Appointments....*

Marshall District	<b>Martin Everi</b> <i>P Cathedral of Our Lady of Assumption, Majuro</i>
	<b>Tetoaiti Tokanikai</b> <i>PP Queen of Peace-Ebeye</i>
	<b>Ariel Galido</b> <i>PP Sacred Heart - Jaluit</i>
	<b>Yoseph Rettob</b> <i>PP Holy Rosary - Likiep</i>
Samoa Community	<b>Lu Roger Collins:</b> <i>PP St. Peter Chanel, Saleimoa</i>
Nauru Community	<b>Saimon Kokoria</b> <i>PP Nauru Parish</i> <b>Karl Maria Brand</b> <i>Retired</i>
Wallis Et Futuna	<b>Soane Fotutata</b> <i>P St Peter and Paul Parish – Hihifo.</i>

<b>Kiribati District</b>	<b>Albert Yelds</b> <i>Assistant Community Leader Teoraereke/ Director KPI</i>
	<b>Rabunaata Tararake</b> <i>Manager Maria Publication Services MPS/ District &amp; Community Bursar</i>
	<b>Ibeatabu Itimaroroa</b> <i>Maintenance - Teoraereke</i>
	<b>Iobi Aroito</b> <i>Teacher/Chaplain Santa Maria College</i>
<b>Overseas</b>	<b>Gerald Warbrooke</b> <i>Secretary General, Rome</i>
	<b>Vito Kelekele</b> <i>Rome - study</i>
	<b>Simione Volavola</b> <i>PP St John the Baptist, Pennsylvania, USA</i>
	<b>Joseph Kanimea</b> <i>Vocations Director, Provincial House, Aurora, Illinois, USA</i>

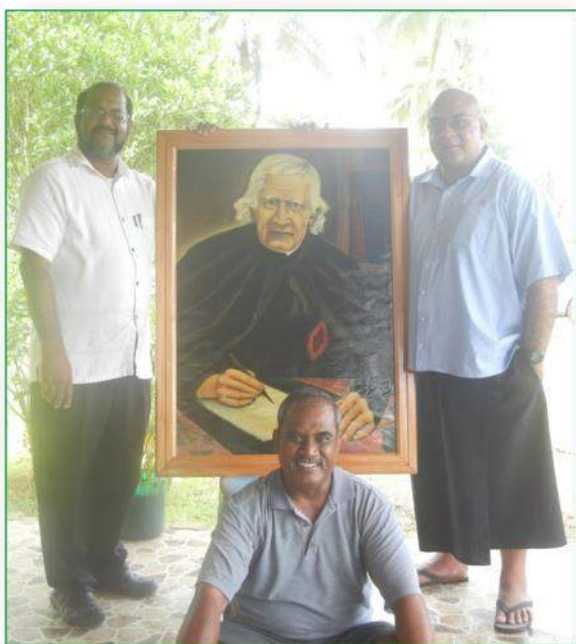
## **CHEVALIER TRAINING CENTRE, WAINADOI.**

The Chevalier Training Center academic year started on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2015. The opening Mass was led by Fr Tamati on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2015. Fr Simon is now the new Director of the School. Br Laisenia Ralake is one of the CTC staffs. He is also responsible for the students' dormitories and disciplinary matters. Because of a need to upgrade the CTC required by the Ministry of Education in Fiji, Fr Simon has done a lot of efforts so far to make a change. The CTC end their 1<sup>st</sup> Term with a joyful Eucharist celebration at the evening of 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015. The Mass was led by Fr Tamati. After Mass the school socialized together around the *tanoa* and presenting their *sevusevu* to the chief guests – Fr Tamati, Bob and Anne. At the same time the school farewell Bob and Anne and thanked them for spending their valuable time offered to the school.  
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Bob has done a wonderful job for CTC especially upgrading the safety instructions and facilities required by the Fijian Administration for Higher Ed-

ucation. He also trained and instructed the staffs mainly on the issues of safety while Anne taught English at the Novitiate. Fr Tamati thanked Bob and Anne for giving their time to visit CTC and Novitiate. The MSC Pacific Union together with the Principal, staffs and students of CTC would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Mr and Mrs Kevin and Patsy Grew from St Michael's, Thirroul NSW Australia for donating a cooking stove for CTC kitchen.



**PRAYER FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF  
FR JULES CHEVALIER MSC**

*God, our Father,  
you have loved us so much that you gave your only  
Son for the salvation of the world.  
We thank you for giving Father Jules Chevalier to your  
Church, to be your instrument in providing a remedy  
for the ills of his time. As he contemplated with Our  
Lady j°the One who was piercedj±, he became an ar-  
dent apostle of the compassionate love of the Heart of  
your Son, which he wished to make known and loved  
everywhere.*

**MSC PU FORMATION STATISTICS 2015**

*We ask you, Lord, that Jules Chevalier may be pro-  
posed to your Church,  
through his beatification, as  
an example of love for  
Christ and of passionate  
concern for the salvation of  
all people.*

SCHOLASTICS	Nationality	Year of Seminary	Year of Profession
Marisiale Weleca	Fiji	7	2
Eric Katoa	Futuna	6	6
Beniata Bakatete	Kiribati	6	6
Epeli Lutua	Fiji	6	6
John Fong	Fiji	5	5
Rataro Raimon	Kiribati	5	5
Taaia Tawaia	Kiribati	5	5
Gabrieli Dulunaqio	Fiji	4	5
Tokabwebwe Kiaman	Kiribati	4	4
Tibwere Teratabu	Kiribati	3	3
Kirata Baare	Kiribati	3	3
Sefo Vikena	Futuna	3	4
Johnny Arnold Jr	Chuuk, FSM	2	2
Sosefo Leleivai	Futuna	1	1
Aliposo Waqaliti	Fiji	1	1
Tiitera Kaumai	Kiribati	1	1

*Through his example and  
intercession, may your Holy  
Spirit unite us ever more in-  
timately with you in the  
Heart of your Son, so that  
through us  
also your love may  
transform your people and  
that the Heart of your Son  
may be the Heart of a new  
world.  
Amen.*

NOVICES	Nationality
Daniel Silva	Samoa
Sam Kananoua	Kiribati
Ribetati Tokataake	Kiribati
Toauru Tokitebwa	Kiribati
Mendhi Iva	Futuna

PRE - NOVICES	Nationality
Alapati Lui Nanai	Samoa
Lotu Tuloto	Samoa
Leausa Tuimauga	Samoa
Rui Karotu	Kiribati
Ioakim Iabeta	Kiribati
Timurua Bwebwereiti	Kiribati
Kabuaa Tonganibeia	Kiribati