

Sunrise over Adamstown from the Claymore's deck

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Pitcairn News

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Kari on Pitcairn tull: There was a busy time after the "Claymore" dropped off cargo from New Zealand end of August. She did two more trips to Mangareva to pick up passengers, the first rotation included the Mangareva mayor – Monique, who visited for the first time – her interpreter Clement – and our Deputy Governor Kevin from the Auckland office. The next rotation brought two of the National Geographic team – Enric and Neil (Dem Tull April/May) - and three envoys from PEW Environment Group – Heather, Elisabeth and Jay. There were also some tourists coming and going. Doc Kevin and wife Sharon left after a year's service, and Doc Peter and Maria returned for another year.

Claymore left again for Tauranga, New Zealand, with our mail bags and honey to be forwarded to destinations in the rest of the world. We thank Tania, Brian, Michael, Melva, Jaki Ernst, Alan Fillmore and Julie for pictures in this issue.



OUR LOCAL ADVENTIST CHURCH – Kari tull: I regret not doing an interview with Anne and Ray Codling, our missionary couple, before they left in March, but I was so wrapped up in my own departure on the March ship, that it was forgotten. So now, over half a year later, I have to do my best to write about the almost six years that the Codlings spent here with us as our spiritual guides. Usually our pastors spend two years here, but Ray volunteered for another and yet another extension, and Anne supported him. Ray was very active around in the community, he was the first one to set up a local radio transmitter to broadcast music and sermons to Adamstown, and then he set up the antenna disc and battery bank up at Ship Landing Point to transmit Hope TV and radio program from satellite (Dem Tull May 2011). And it is still going strong, Ray! Together with Dave, Ray used to arrange our Gaither singsongs in the church or at the Square, preceded by a public dinner. Favourites from the Bill Gaither Homecoming DVDs were selected to sing along with, and it used to be a popular event. While the men were still locked in Bob's Valley, Ray recorded his Sabbath sermon for them, and also visited every Saturday night.

Anne was a wizard with knitting and crocheting needle, and shared her yarn and her patterns with us who were interested. She was also in charge of the children's Sabbath School. She and Ray had a huge DVD library, which we could borrow from anytime, and they had some real "jewels". They liked Pitcairn well enough to plan their retirement here, they obtained Pitcairn residency, and have a shed up Hulianda with lots of stuff in for when they return.

We do miss them here. It is sad seeing the Mission House sitting empty for over six months, that has never happened before – ever since 1961 when it was built, there has been a Pitcairn pastor living in it. It is rumoured we are getting an Adventist pastor and wife team from Tahiti for a six month period, arriving on the November ship.

A handful of church goers still attend Sabbath School and Church, and our current schoolteacher, Paul, is delivering some excellent sermons, we are grateful for his contributions. He and Ruth are leaving on the November ship, and the next schoolteacher will arrive early next year.

Bounty Pitcairn Conference



The Bounty Pitcairn Conference – BPC – was scheduled for 19th to 21st August at the Pacific Union College in Angwin, California. The previous conference of this kind had been in St Petersburg, Florida, in 2005, and was a big success, as this one also proved to be. Over one hundred Pitcairn enthusiasts attended, including the lecturers, who spoke on an amazing variety of subjects regarding Pitcairn – shipping, coinage, language, politics etc. Professor emeritus Herb Ford, leader of the Pitcairn Study Center at the college, had together with Ted Cookson, set up the program, and everything went smoothly. The website www.BPC2012.com now presents the lectures in writing as well as by video for those who are interested.



Pitcainners attended, too. David Brown came from his work on “Picton Castle” in Canada, Melva took time off from visiting her children, Kari on her way from Norway back to Tahiti and Pitcairn, plus Jackie and her partner Leslie. Also Pitcairn girls who married Americans and settled there over 30 years ago, like Marie (Christian) Thomas and her husband Leroy, Margaret (Young) Hansen with husband Lorne, as well as Dave Evans who has lived on the island off and on through the years.



Herb Ford pictured in the Pitcairn Study Center, which contains more books, documents and artifacts on or from Pitcairn than any other place in the world. Pacific Union College's connection to Pitcairn originated from some Pitcairn students who in the 1890s attended the Healdsburg Academy, founded in 1882, but in 1909 was moved to Angwin in Napa Valley with the new name Pacific Union College.



Melva and Marie



Marie, David and Melva



Leslie, David, Melva, Jackie
& Marie - singing

Melva, Margaret and Lorne



**PITCAIRN ISLANDERS WHO
ATTENDED**

OTHER PITCAIRN FRIENDS ATTENDING:



Mary Crowley, Alice Cochrane and Barbara Stein. Mary is president of Ocean Voyages Inc, which has sent loads of tourists on chartered sailing boats to Pitcairn through the years. Alice was married to the late Ted Cochrane, a great fan of Pitcairn and a many time visitor. Barbara was the conference moderator

from left: Leroy Thomas, Pauline Ernst - who has done research into ship captains' reports on Pitcairn from the very early days plus the Bounty bibles (Dem Tull August 2011), Kari and to the far right Ron Edwards (Australia and Norfolk), who spoke on Pitcairn numismatics. Yes, we do have our own coins!



Roger Stuart-Andrews lectured on the possibility of Fletcher Christian escaping back to England, where he is said to have been observed two hundred years ago. Here Roger with wife Hanna, both from Australia.



another group of visitors to Pitcairn - Ron Edwards in 1984, Eric Huffey in 1990 for our Bicentennial, Alan Filmore in 2009 (from the English Pitcairn Island Study Group)



Christine Johnson from Nevada, and a great friend of Charlene on the island – she visited there with her daughter in 2004.



The Bercaw family - mum Gretchen with Sean, Mary Kay and Katrina – all avid sailors. Dad Jay was on Pitcairn first time in 1951, the whole family visited on their own yacht in 1972, and Sean on his own also visited in 1987 and 2002. Teenagers Mary Kay and Katrina were extremely popular during their 1972 visit, and set the hearts of young Pitcairn boys all aflutter.

Sales of Pitcairn-related books, stamps, curios and tshirts before, after and in between lectures.



From the conference room – to the left the video screen during the vidlink with the Public Hall on Pitcairn.



ELECTRIC POWER ON PITCAIRN - Forty years ago the Pitcairn generators provided power to Adamstown every afternoon and evening from 5pm till 11pm, and on Sunday mornings from 9am till midday. The Sunday morning power was for laundry purposes, every household had their old-fashioned wringer washing machines going, and all lines were full of flapping sheets, towels and clothes. Later on power was extended to all mornings from 8 till midday, so now we could choose our laundry day. When power went off at night, Adamstown was plunged into darkness and we all went to bed. Usually. But of course after a while we all had battery powered lighting, and TV/video also worked on inverter. This year power was increased again, from 7am to 10pm, 15 - fifteen - hours of power a day!!!! What a luxury! No more filling up the thermos with boiling water for the afternoon cuppa when power used to be off. We have come a long way!

THEFT – again (Dem Tull August 2010) . Honey had already been removed when a local beekeeper went to harvest the honey in his beehives. The matter was reported to the police. The policeman says he can't do anything unless there is any evidence left behind. Also both fuel and some fishing gear had been removed from a fishing canoe in the shed down The Landing. Guess we'd better stand guard around our beehives and canoes to secure our belongings from now on.

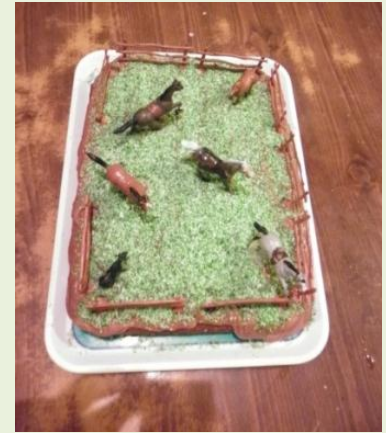
Darlene came for a visit from Auckland with her two boys, Caleb and Dylan, and stayed for six months with her parents Tom and Betty. She loved being back home, she even enjoyed weeding the gardens(!), and the peach orchard up Dubbin is a joy to behold. Still no weeds there, Darlene! Her boys also enjoyed the freedom of Pitcairn life, but with her husband waiting back in NZ, they left on the Claymore in September





A group of Pitcairners recently caught by the camera in Auckland – Clarice, Nig, Nancy and Yvonne. Clarice was home on Pitcairn earlier this year to visit her father Len. (Nig we wont mention the comments on Facebook regarding your expression)

GATHERING AROUND THE TABLES AGAIN - for Emily's eighth birthday celebration at Big Fence. Emily loves horses – just look at that cake! – but has never seen one in real life. We don't have horses on Pitcairn. About a hundred years ago we imported several horses from Mangareva, and had them swim ashore from the trading schooners, but the danger of tetanus, which many people died from, did not encourage horse keeping.



VISIT OF THE MANGAREVA MAYOR – MME MONIQUE RICHETON

For the very first time, the Mangareva mayor, Mme Monique Richeton, visited the island, travelling on the "Claymore" to spend three days here. She had a busy time, her schedule set up by the Council, to have meetings with different officials and attend a Council meeting. On her first evening, a public dinner in her honour was launched at the Square, with Monique accepting a gift from Pitcairn, the children singing their songs, led by Meralda, and lastly the whole community singing our trademark hymn "*In the Sweet by and by*".



Meralda and the Children



Gathering around the table



Monique accepting the gift from the community, a wooden Bounty model, from our mayor, Mike, and they are standing in front ofwhat else? The real Bounty's anchor.

DEM TULL HALL OF FAME: TEEHUTEATUAENOA



Teehuteatuaenoa was born in Polynesia, probably on Tahiti. She was evidently of noble blood, as evidenced by the “atua” in her name. Unfortunately, that is all that is known of her early life and background.

When the *Bounty* first dropped anchor in Matavai Bay in 1788, she was one of the first to form an attachment, to the crewmember Alexander Smith (John Adams). She even got a tattoo on her left arm which said “AS 1789.” Their relationship lasted into the next year when for reasons not entirely clear their relationship ended, and she instead began a relationship with Isaac Martin, whom she would always after affectionately refer to as “Madden.”

After the *Bounty* mutiny, Martin was among those who returned to Tahiti, and he and Teehuteatuaenoa renewed their relationship, and she departed with him to Tubuai. She was a witness to the carnage that followed, and in her later years she revealed that there was an inside plot by one of their Tahitian allies to murder the crew of the *Bounty* and take all they owned, which was thwarted.

Returning to Tahiti, she elected to remain with Martin, whom she was said by now to have married. They were among the few who left on the *Bounty* and eventually ended up on Pitcairn Island. She and Martin settled down to what they hoped would be a quiet life, tending to their property and gardens and trying to stay out of the intrigues which soon culminated in multiple tragedies.

Following the Tararo “rebellion,” Teehuteatuaenoa and Martin took the Tubuaian Tetahiti and his wife Tinafanea to work for them, in order to spare them from the humiliation that the other Polynesian men were suffering at the hands of the *Bounty* crew. Sadly, things would only get worse. Barely three years after landing on Pitcairn, the remaining Polynesian men took up arms and went on a massacre, which took the lives of all but four of the former *Bounty* crew. Martin was among those killed, by the Polynesian Manari'i. Distraught at the murder of her beloved “Madden,” and furious at Tetahiti for having taken a part in the massacre, Teehuteatuaenoa entered into a tense alliance with the mutineer Edward Young and some of the other women. Two of the four Polynesians were soon killed, and Teehuteatuaenoa, acting as a decoy, attracted Tetahiti into her bed, giving Young's wife Teraura the opportunity to kill him with an axe, while around the same time Young killed the final Polynesian man.

Teehuteatuaenoa moved in with Matthew Quintal and his wife Tevarua, but she did not stay with them long. Having lost Martin, and being of an independent spirit, she stayed (at least part of the time) around Western Harbor with the woman Mareva, where she tended a breadfruit plot. Since Martin's head, and hence his skull, was completely mutilated, she received permission from Toofaiti to carry around her deceased husband, John Williams's skull, as per custom. Young, on seeing this, as well as other women carrying the skulls of the departed, demanded all the remains be buried. Teehuteatuaenoa was notable for being the first to tell him no, and so a new rebellion began, this time with a group of the women, with Jenny leading them, fighting the four surviving mutineers and a couple of the women who supported them. In the end, Young proposed to Jenny to build a ship for her and her supporters so they could sail back to Tahiti. She agreed, and even tore down her and Martin's old house to use as building materials, but Young and the other three men sabotaged the ship, and it capsized. Teehuteatuaenoa came very close to killing Young after this, but they both decided to make peace. All the remains of the killed men were buried, and life settled down, with Teehuteatuaenoa and Mareva (and possibly others) living in Western Harbor.

Within a decade of the *Bounty* landing on Pitcairn, all of the *Bounty* mutineers except Alexander Smith had died. Around this time, Smith converted to Christianity, and so did most of the population. Teehuteatuaenoa still adhered to the spirituality of her forefathers, but at the same time adopted many of the aspects of Christianity. But she always had a longing to return to Tahiti. When the *Topaz* visited Pitcairn in 1808, she (and possibly Mareva) spoke to Captain Folger about passage, and he told her he hoped to return in eight months time. Due to a number of circumstances, he never did. However, in October, 1817 the ship *Sultan*, under the command of Captain Reynolds visited Pitcairn and gave Teehuteatuaenoa passage on to Tahiti. Her friend Mareva would not go, opting to remain on Pitcairn (she would die a couple of years later).

After a long trip, Jenny eventually returned to Tahiti. She found it changed, and in her opinion, for the worst. However, it was here that she arguably made her greatest contribution to Pitcairn. Very shortly after arriving she was interviewed about her experiences with the *Bounty* and Pitcairn, which was printed in the "*Sydney Gazette*" in 1819. In 1824 she was interviewed by the explorer Otto von Kotzebue, but her most in-depth interview was given to a Captain Dillon and the missionary Mr. Nott, which was printed in the "*United Service Journal and Naval and Military Magazine*" in 1829.

Always championing for the Pitcairn Islanders to be moved to Tahiti, this dream was eventually realized in 1831. Her old friends found her by now to be a bitter, jaded woman, but she nonetheless helped the small community as much as she could. Disease would claim a large number of them before they managed to get back to Pitcairn. Teehuteatuaenoa did not go with them. Some say she died while the Pitcairners were in Tahiti, while others say that she decided to remain there, waving them off when they departed on the American whaling ship *Charles Doggett*. Though the time and manner of her death is not completely known, she passed away on her homeland.

Though she wasn't born on Pitcairn, or died on Pitcairn, Teehuteatuaenoa, or "Jenny," as she is more commonly known as, was one of the original settlers of the present Pitcairn Island community. Her contributions to the women's independence, and the history of Pitcairn are considerable, and she is someone whom the Pitcairn people should be justly proud.

For this induction I used the sources provided by Teehuteatuaenoa herself, namely Otto von Kotzebue's account in "*A New Voyage Around the World*," Volume I (London, 1830), the article in the *Sydney Gazette* (July 17, 1819), and the article in the "*United Service Journal and Naval and Military Magazine*," 1829 Part II. I got some of the information from Young's journal extracts in Captain Beechey's "*Narrative of a Voyage to the Pacific and Beering's Strait*," (London, 1831). A thank you also to Pauline Reynolds, who gave me insight into the name of Teehuteatuaenoa, and the significance of "atua." Also, my deepest gratitude to my elders, who over time told me stories which are not written down (at least to my limited knowledge). Finally, most importantly to Teehuteatuaenoa/Jenny is owed the greatest debt. If not for her, so much would have been lost to time.

Picture: A view of "Jenny's Bread," where Teehuteatuaenoa had her breadfruit plot.



WE ARE SAYING FAREWELL TO:

Radley Christian passed away in Wellington, and Pitcairners gathered for the sad occasion. Radley was born on Pitcairn 26 March 1931, married Joyce and had four children - Noeline, Gladys, Freda and Reuben, also two step children – Les and Nancy. The family moved to New Zealand in the 1960s during the Pitcairn exodus when so many families left the island, and he died 4 July this year.



Clarence and Pat Young now together at rest

Pitcairn folks in Auckland gathered for the sad occasion of **Clarence Young's** funeral where one of his grandchildren read a poem from the book of Rosalind Amelia Young and we sang the Pitcairn favourite song "In the Sweet Bye and Bye" accompanied by another of his grandchildren playing the guitar. So moving and tearful. Clarence was born to Andrew and Katie Young on 13 November 1925, married New Zealander Patricia Wynn in 1949 and they had four boys – Kevin, Wayne, Kerry and Darrin, spending many years here on Pitcairn, where some of the boys were born. They moved back to New Zealand, where Pat died recently (Dem Tull February 2012). Clarence passed away on a Monday morning in September.

SWEARING IN OF OUR APPEAL COURT JUDGE -

The Pitcairn Appeal court judge Sir Bruce Robertson while visiting the island for three days, officiated at the vidlink swearing in of newly appointed judge for the Pitcairn jurisdiction, Ms Judith Potter. We understand this is the first time a judge was sworn in via vidlink on Pitcairn. The Appeal court seems to be set up with the requisite judges, replacing retiring ones. We understand the Supreme Court is still short of a judge following the death of Mr Russell Johnson.



SCHOOL CHILDREN AT PULAU invited the community out to school to share their progress in reading and academics the last term. Many people attended, and nibbles were served afterwards

VISIT BY THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TEAM AND THE PEW CREW :

The National Geographic Team (Dem Tull March 2012) and the PEW crew (Dem Tull March 2011) stayed with us for three days, attending the public dinner at the Square followed by the showing of their hour long movie from the recent diving around the four Pitcairn islands – Oeno, Ducie, Henderson and Pitcairn. They also presented each family with a dvdcopy of film recorded by Louis Marden in 1957, when he spent some time on the island and among other things had the Bounty anchor brought up from the bottom of Bounty Bay. Everybody enjoyed watching their parents, grandparents and greatgrandparents in action around the island, in some cases they even recognized themselves from way back when. There were not many cameras owned by islanders then, much less movie cameras, and not much is recorded in family albums etc.

Heather and Elisabeth visited the island almost two years ago the first time – excerpts from Council 10th March 2011

“Heather advised Council they had visited all households on the island with the exception of Mr and Mrs S Young and had generally received a level of support for the proposal of a marine reserve. They explained that they would now work on developing the concept and wished to return to the island with a more concrete presentation/concept. Heather presented a slide show presentation outlining the work of the PEW Group internationally to Council. A vote on support for the concept was taken with 6 positive votes and 1 negative vote recorded”.

Heather returned in March 2012 to present the more developed concept of the Pitcairn marine reserve and to accompany the Nat Geo divers on their joint expedition. In September she came back again with the rest of the team, with the proposal ready.

First some words about the PEW Charitable Trusts – an independent and non-profit organization funded in 1948 by the children of Joseph and Mary Pew, to improve public policy, inform the public and stimulate civic life. The Pew Environment Group is only one of those trusts, which also extends to fostercare system and preschool access. Global Ocean Legacy is a project of the Pew Environment Group, working to protect and conserve the Earth’s unspoiled marine ecosystems by establishing very large and protected marine reserves. The part of the Pacific belonging to the Pitcairn islands is huge – 800.000 square km. We are unable to police our waters, there is a lot of illegal fishing going on by commercial enterprises, but our commitment to a marine reserve might discourage illegal fishing and also facilitate some policing by satellite. Ducie and Henderson were described by the divers as pristine coral reef ecosystems, and all islands, including Pitcairn have extremely clear water along the coast, down to 75 meters. There were obvious signs of illegal fishing, though, and time is running out to save the biodiversity of our rich marine life. Pitcairners will still be able to fish for their own consumption within a 20 mile zone. So really we had nothing to lose by making a commitment to the proposal.

Council members wanted more time to debate the conditions for the marine reserve, and on 26th September finally called a public meeting for a vote, which resulted in overwhelming support for the reserve.

From left: Neil the Nat Geo cameraman, Jay from PEW, Heather from PEW, Enric from Nat Geo, Elisabeth from PEW.



For those who wants to know more about Pitcairn, check out the official website. www.government.pn, with links to travel, tourism, accommodation (with pictures from all the 14 accommodation providers), history, things to see and things to do. There are also private websites like www.tibicraftspitcairn.com and www.pitcairn.pn/~dennisirmaproducts and www.meraldaonpitcairn.com

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