

## BPC—The Committee

The Bi-Centennial Planning Committee (BPC) is the main body confirmed by the CICC General Assembly of 2009 to spearhead all preparations for the 200 years celebration of the arrival of Christianity into the Cook Islands. All programmes and events associated with this immense celebration will be a priority for the next ten years to the year 2021. The committee will accommodate all possible avenues and dimensions that will trace the routes followed by the brave and young Christian warriors.

COMMITTEES

**HISTORICAL COMM** - Collect/compile historical information regarding the growth of the CICC, Trace in-route/out-route of the Gospel, (Events for Programme)

**FINANCE COMM** - Prepare a proposed budget, Provide a fund raising plan, Seek external financial support, Provide economic cost benefit analysis. (200yrs – Overall cost/benefits)

**MARKETING COMM** - Prepare a marketing strategy plan, Identify International/regional/national activities that can be linked with the 200yrs. (200yrs Marketing Plan)

**ACTIVITY & VENUE COMM** - Identify activities to be undertaken during period, including possible venues for activities (200yrs celebration venue Plan)

### Coordinator of BPC—Tangi Tereapii

The Sub-committees consist of the following members:

**Historical Committee:** Driver—**Mauri Toa**, Members—Ngatuaiane Maui, Rev. Ngatokorua Patia, Tekura Potoru, Ken Ben, Martha Henry—

**Media Coverage**—Nga Teao

**Finance Committee:** Driver—**Tangi Taoro**, Members—Vaine Arioka, Tony Moeauri, Charlie Tamangaro

**Marketing Committee:** Drivers—**Taiti Hosking & Makirere Poila**, Members—Atatao Herman, Ngara Katuke, Selina Napa

**Activity & Venue Committee:** Driver—**Rairi Rairi**, Members—Rangi Henry, Pani Ben, Rouru Motu, Pokoina Pokoina



### RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BPC COMMITTEE

PLAN (Phase 1)

PROMOTE (Phase 2)

CO-ORDINATE (Phase 3)

### Support for the Activities of the Committee

The Bi-Centennial Planning Committee would like to extend to all those who have information concerning the last 100 odd years of the Gospel arriving to our shores in terms of:

- ◆ Old photos of Missionaries, Churches, visiting Church groups, special functions on any of the islands in the Cook Islands
- ◆ Nuku celebrations and other Church events
- ◆ Dedication of Church buildings after their construction and/or renovation
- ◆ Written articles (books, publications, brochures) about the Cook Islands Christian Church
- ◆ Other events that may have taken place in the Church that you feel would be worthwhile to be included in the activities of BPC

*If you have information to share with us on any of the above subject matters, please make contact with the BPC Coordinator or any of the committee members:*

#### For more information:

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Bi-Centennial Planning Committee  
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#### Email addresses of the Drivers of the Sub-Committees:

Mauri Toa –maurijtoa@hotmail.com  
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## Cook Islands Christian Church The Bi-Centennial Planning Committee (BPC)

Presents

PREPARATION  
for  
**200yrs**

*“Celebrating the  
fruits of the gospel  
as a Nation!”*

**2021**

The fruits of the Gospel have deepened our beliefs and our way of life ever since its arrival to our shores by entrenching Christian values and principles upon the people of this nation.

As living witnesses to God’s testament and promise, we together united as a people, celebrate the power and the glory of the Gospel.

**1 Peter 1: 25** “But the word of the Lord endures for ever. And this is the word which by the Gospel is preached unto you.”



## Objectives

The main objectives of this occasion are:

- To celebrate the richness of the fruits of the Gospel, our culture and traditions.
- To recall our past and look to the future with pride and confidence.
- To trace the root of the Gospel.
- An opportunity to develop new dimensions in all sectors of our nation.
- An opportunity to project our nation to the outside world and inviting them to strengthen our relationship.



## History of the Gospel

The first missionary to the Cook Islands, John Williams landed on Aitutaki before any of the other islands in the group and thereby established the first imprints of Christianity within our nation, which later progressed onto Rarotonga and the remaining islands of the Cook Islands thereafter. Furthermore as a result of the work and dedication of John Williams and other missionaries who later joined the (LMS) Evangelical work in the Cook Islands, Cook Islanders themselves who were converted and later trained at Takamoa Theological Seminary continued and were responsible for extending the Gospel's boundaries through mission work, into the Pacific.

In essence, Cook Islanders were pioneers into the mission fields of the Pacific, their contribution to this day is widely respected and honoured by those respective island countries.

From 1821 to 2021, back on Aitutaki where it all began, we will come together to celebrate the 200 years of the Gospel of Jesus Christ arriving in the Cook Islands that was introduced and has inter-woven into the very fabric of our people as Polynesians, as Pacific people, both culturally and spiritually. Every person, man, women and child, citizens of this country is invited to celebrate this remarkable life-changing historical event.



## Christianity to our Shores...

The following are the arrival dates of Christianity to each of the islands in the Cook Islands:

ISLAND	ARRIVAL DATE
AITUTAKI	26 October 1821
ATIU	19 July 1823
MITIARO	21 July 1823
MAUKE	23 July 1823
RAROTONGA	25 July 1823
MANGAIA	15 June 1824
MANIHIKI	8 August 1849
RAKAHANGA	15 August 1849
PENRHYN	13 March 1857
PUKAPUKA/NASSAU	6 December 1857
PALMERSTON	25 May 1863

Christianity introduced many changes and flexibility to the way of life on each of the islands. The ways of the west changed a lot of the thinking capabilities within each individual and this is visual today as the Cook Islands move ahead into the future with a lot of uncertainties. But one thing is for sure, there is a living God that they believe in who has pulled them out of their old ways to a life of eternal blessings that we are thankful for. May the fruits of the Gospel continue to grow and enlighten more people to our Saviour Jesus Christ.



## Calendar of Events

The BPC has organised a skeleton programme below leading up to the bicentennial year 2021, details will be included over time:

2010	2011	2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Committee established</li> <li>◆ Prepare annual programme of events for the 10-year period 2011—21</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Continue work programme commenced in 2010</li> <li>◆ Launch programme at the 29th General Assembly of the CICC in Aitutaki</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>
2013	2014	2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>◆ Presentation on programme update to the CICC General Assembly—Melbourne, Australia</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>◆ Presentation on programme update to the CICC General Assembly</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>
2016	2017	2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>◆ Presentation on programme update to the CICC General Assembly</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>
2019	2020	2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>◆ Presentation on programme update to the CICC General Assembly</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>◆ Gospel Days—individual island celebrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 200 years Bicentennial Celebrations on Aitutaki first, then moving on to other islands according to their arrival dates.</li> </ul>