

# BOOK NOTES

*A H Angelo\**

## *Niue Rising*

Toke Talagi (Xlibris, Auckland, 2019) pp i-xi, 1-64 plus 13 pages of photographs.

This is a short book strikingly presented. It represents a series of personal reflections on the life of Sir Toke Talagi. It is not a complete autobiographical account of the life and doings of Sir Toke but it is an interesting statement by a key figure in Niue's post-self-determination journey.

The book has 16 chapters, moving from Sir Toke's beginning as a Niue scholarship holder to his being Niue's Premier. There is comment on selected life experiences which present a story of doggedness and hard work. In that sense it is an inspirational document.

Sir Toke expresses respect for several New Zealanders with whom he worked amongst others Ross Arden, Murray McCully and Winston Peters. In respect of Murray McCully there are several statements: One is that "Overall, McCully has been the best minister we have ever had, for supporting our aspirations and dreams" (p 25) and later (at p 44) it is stated "When we would meet, they would be given a big file with lots of pages. I used to turn up with just one page. I think Murray asked me one day what was in the one page. I said to him, pretending to read, 'Get Murray to agree. Otherwise, beat him up.' He laughed and thought it was really funny. Then he said, 'I had better agree then'. 'Yes, you'd better' I replied" (p 44).

At p 57 speaking again of "Minister McCully", "He is a remarkable minister for New Zealand generally".

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## *Niue Law Reports 1994-2021*

(Wellington, 2022) 3 vols pp i-liv, 1-518; i-vi, 519-1034; i-vi, 1035-1604.

This is a collection of the available decisions of the Niue superior courts. Principally there are the judgments of the High Court and Court of Appeal from

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1994-2021. The collection brings together the judgments available from the Niue Courts' records held in the Maori Land Court files in New Zealand, a few from Paclii records (where Paclii has judgments not otherwise available), and from the limited number of judgments reported in the *Niue Legislation Supplements* over recent years. There are few judgments before 2008, and none for the years before 1994. The policy for this first collection was to include all available judgments.

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### *Tokelau Judgments 2012-2021*

(Wellington, 2022) Pp i-x, 1-166.

This volume presents, in the form of law reports, all the known judgments of the superior courts of Tokelau. There are nine judgments: Eight in the High Court and one in the Court of Appeal. They involved two separate cases which both related to claims by Tokelau public servants against their employer.

The law of Tokelau relevant to the cases considered here is found in the Tokelau Act 1948; the Constitution; the Crimes, Procedure and Evidence Rules 2003; the Public Service Rules; and New Zealand procedural law by virtue of s 3 of the Tokelau Amendment Act 1986.

The cases reported here record the endeavours of judges and counsel in coming to terms with and applying the laws of Tokelau. The areas of Tokelau law elucidated are primarily of a procedural nature as a consequence of the fact that most of the decisions were on interlocutory matters.