

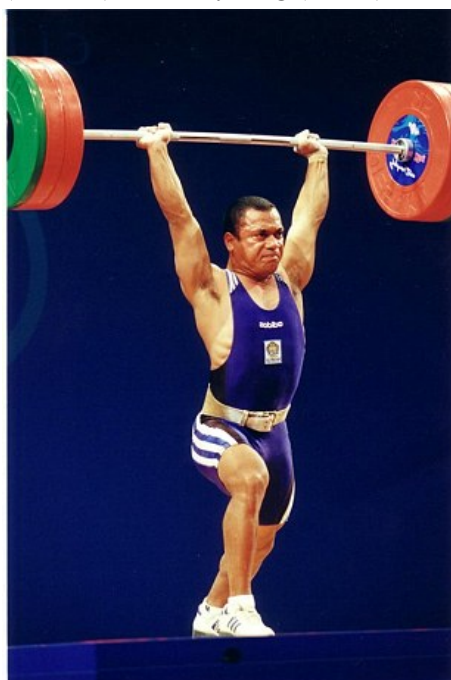
## Happy Birthday!! OWF President turns 50 years old.



The Hon. Marcus Stephen MP, President of the Oceania Weightlifting Federation, turn 50 on the 1<sup>st</sup> October. On behalf of the OWF we wish Marcus all the very best on this special day of his life. And we wish him a healthy and prosperous future in the many years ahead of him.

Everybody should be aware that if it wasn't for Marcus Stephen – the Pacific island countries of Oceania would not be where they are today. It was Marcus who started that ball rolling, when he walked in to the Hawthorn Recreation Centre at the age of 16, where the famous Hawthorn Weightlifting Club was housed. Marcus who was student at St. Bedes College, was identified as a talent through the school program – the clean & jerk - that Victoria Weightlifting was running at the time. During that period of time, over 27,000 students competed annually in the 'clean & jerk' program in Victoria alone.

I had the privilege of coaching Marcus from 1985 onwards. He became a truly world class athlete. Winning seven gold medals, and five silver medals at the Commonwealth Games. In addition a silver medal at the Athens World championships in 1999 where he clean & jerked a magic 172.5kg in the 62kg category. At that event he was amongst the greatest weightlifters in the world at the time, Lee Maosheng (China), Sabanis Leonidas (Greece), Sevdalin Minchev (Bulgaria), Nikolai Pashlov (Croatia), Shi Zhiyoung (China), Hafiz Suleymanoglu (Turkey), Yurik Sarkisian (Australia) and many other champion.



In 1994, after the Commonwealth Games in Victoria, Canada, I was asked by the Government of Nauru if I would consider moving to Nauru, as Marcus was about to graduate from University in Melbourne and would be returning to Nauru himself. So my family and I shifted in October 1994 and from then on the building of the Pacific started. Within a short period of time, Nauru became synonymous with weightlifting, not only in the Pacific but on the international scene.

Marcus was an icon during the many Pacific and Mini Games that he attended. And through his great performances he became the athlete to be emulated by the many Pacific lifters who followed. Marcus became the OWF President in 2008 and his passion for the sport of weightlifting remains. So much work was put in to development of weightlifting in the Pacific. **Today, many countries of the Pacific are involved in weightlifting due to his remarkable success.**

Marcus in 2008 to 2012 was the President of the Republic of Nauru. He is currently the Speaker of the Nauru Parliament. In addition he is the President of the Nauru Olympic Committee, President of the Nauru Weightlifting Federation, Executive Board Member of the International Weightlifting Federation, and Vice President of the Pacific Games Council. (by Paul Coffa)

### GREAT PERFORMANCE BY LAUREL HUBBARD IN THAILAND

Laurel Hubbard of New Zealand performed brilliantly at the World Championships held in Thailand from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> September. Laurel competing in the +87kg category snatched a Commonwealth record of 131kg and clean & jerked 154kg for a total of 285kg. She placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the snatch and 6<sup>th</sup> overall.

Another great performance was done by David Liti also from New Zealand in the +109kg category. David officially reached the 400kg total which placed him 13<sup>th</sup> overall. He successfully did six out of six lifts. He snatched 173Kg, and clean & jerk 227Kg

Another excellent performance was put up by Dika Toua from PNG in the 49kg category. She clean & jerked 102kg which placed her 6<sup>th</sup> in the clean & jerk and 11<sup>th</sup> overall.

Young Don Opeloge lifted very well also in his new category 96kg establishing new Commonwealth Junior records with 151kg snatch, 200kg clean & jerk and 351kg total. Oceania countries attending the World Championships were: Australia, New Zealand, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, PNG, Nauru, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Marshall Islands and Guam,



*David Liti – New Zealand*



*Laurel Hubbard -New Zealand*



*Don Opeloge -Samoa*

### **GREAT NEWS FOR AUSTRALIA WEIGHTLIFTING**

At a special ceremony held in Sydney, on the 11<sup>th</sup> September, at the Department of Immigration, Eileen Cikamatana became an Australian Citizen. Five days later, she was fully cleared by the IWF Executive Board held in Thailand to represent Australia internationally, effective immediately.

What a great triumph for this young prodigy in our sport. Obviously in the very near future, we will see this young super star lifting proudly in Green and Gold and establishing world records officially for Australia.

Her first tournament will be the Australian Senior Championships to be held in Canberra on October 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. With the possibility a week later to compete as a guest at the European Juniors in Romania. In the month of November, she has been invited to compete in Lima, Peru during the IWF Grand Prix. Also, in the month of December the IWF World Cup in China and then the IWF World Cup in Qatar.

Sam Coffa, AWF President, stated that it did not take long for many countries to invite this young lifter and see her in action at their events. He also said that Australia is very proud to have her compete internationally. The AWF President also said that she had been penalized for far too long. She has missed four world championships where she would have won quite easily. At this year's World Juniors she would have won by 40kg, and she also would have won last week at the World Senior championships in Thailand in the 81kg category. It is now time for her to shine internationally.



*Sam Coffa with Eileen Cikamatana*



*Eileen Clean & Jerk 155Kg*



*Eileen Snatches 122Kg*





### UNAKEA KAUVAI RECEIVES THE O.B.E.

The President of the Cook Islands Weightlifting Federation Mr. Unakea Kauvai, receives the **OFFICE THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE (OBE)** award for his long standing services to the community in the Cook Islands.

Born in Atiu, Mr Kauvai attended Atiu Primary School and Tereora College in Rarotonga completing several papers under the New Zealand correspondence school and a number of extension courses run through the University of the South Pacific.

He holds professional qualifications in Development Financing and Business Management. His first job was Clerical Assistant for the Department of Education and after 12 months, was promoted to Senior Clerk. He took on the role of Chief Administration Officer for the Department, before Government amalgamated Education under the Ministry of Social Services, and later separating into the Ministry of Health and Education.

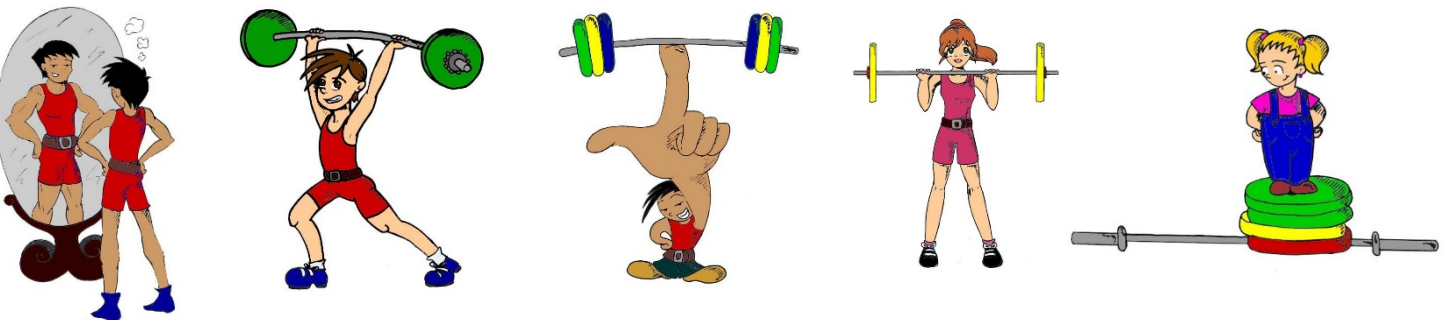
After 13 years in the public service, Mr. Kauvai took up the role of Loan Officer with the National Development Corporation, predecessor to the Cook Islands Development Bank (CIDB), and became the Managing Director of CIDB. He was a founding member of the bank, and remained till they became the Bank of the Cook Islands (BCI). He is currently the Managing Director of DHL in the Cook Islands.

He is a keen fisherman, and planter and an accomplished sportsman, who played senior rugby, cricket and darts for the village of Tupapa. His passion for sports and the village led him to executive roles of Secretary, Treasurer, and later President. Mr. Kauvai was also a part of the Weightlifting Movement since its establishment. Weightlifting qualified the Cook Islands for participation at the Olympic Games and as Team Manager, he took the team to the very first Olympic Games, held in Seoul, Korea in 1988, and the Olympic Games held in London and Rio de Janeiro.

He was also Team Manager for the Weightlifting team to the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and the Gold Coast; the Pacific Games held in New Caledonia and Papua New Guinea; and the Pacific Mini Games held in Wallis and Futuna, and Vanuatu.

### THE OTIP PROGRAM

The OTIP program is currently underway. The program started on the 1<sup>st</sup> September and will run through until the 31<sup>st</sup> October. The OTIP training camp to be held in Mont Dore, New Caledonia, will now be brought forward one week and will be held from the 1<sup>st</sup> December to the 8<sup>th</sup> December.



### 2019 PACIFIC CUP INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Please note that the Pacific Cup International Tournament in New Caledonia has been brought forward one week and will now be held on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December. A technical seminar will also be held on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December at CISE.



**2019 WORLD WEIGHTLIFTING CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS FOR OCEANIA LIFTERS**

<b>LIFTERS</b>	<b>NAT</b>	<b>CAT</b>	<b>PLACING</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>
			<b>SNATCH</b>	<b>C&amp;JERK</b>	
<b><u>MEN</u></b>					
Morea Baru	PNG	61kg	20	11	<b>16</b>
David Liti	NZL	+109kg	22	13	<b>17</b>
Don Opeloge	SAM	96kg	31	13	<b>21</b>
Elson Brechtefeld	NRU	61kg	26	26	<b>24</b>
Steven Kari	PNG	96kg	33	12	<b>26</b>
Nevo Ioane	SAM	67kg	32	24	<b>28</b>
Teretiita Tabaroua	KIR	73kg	31	32	<b>30</b>
Brandon Wakeling	AUS	73kg	34	29	<b>31</b>
Bob Kabuati	MHL	81kg	34	32	<b>31</b>
Lapua Lapua	TUV	81kg	36	33	<b>32</b>
Larko Doguape	NRU	73kg	32	34	<b>33</b>
Ike Aliklik	NRU	81kg	35	34	<b>33</b>
Pomalili Sio	TGA	109kg	28	0	<b>0</b>
Ruben Katoatau	KIR	67kg	30	0	<b>0</b>

<b>LIFTERS</b>	<b>NAT</b>	<b>CAT</b>	<b>PLACING</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>
			<b>SNATCH</b>	<b>C&amp;JERK</b>	
<b><u>WOMEN</u></b>					
Laurel Hubbard	NZL	+87kg	4	8	<b>6</b>
Dika Toua	PNG	49kg	17	6	<b>11</b>
Feagaiga Stowers	SAM	+ 87kg	10	16	<b>14</b>
Charisma Amoe-Tarrant	AUS	+ 87kg	16	14	<b>15</b>
Luniarra Sipaia	SAM	+ 87kg	18	13	<b>16</b>
Megan Signal	NZL	64kg	20	22	<b>19</b>
Manumua Kuinini	TGA	+ 87kg	18	19	<b>19</b>
Sarah Cochrane	AUS	64kg	17	25	<b>20</b>
Erika Yamasaki	AUS	59kg	29	29	<b>23</b>
Kiana Elliott	AUS	64kg	18	31	<b>25</b>
Jenly Wini	SOL	59kg	28	29	<b>28</b>
Calma Dayanara	GUM	59kg	34	33	<b>33</b>
Mary Lifu	SOL	55Kg	32	37	<b>36</b>

# ELEIKO

RAISE THE BAR