

15 OCTOBER 2009

# TSUNAMI RELIEF NEWS UPDATE



## DONATIONS THANK YOU

The Samoa Tsunami 2009

Appeal says the overwhelming public response for tsunami relief has exceeded expectations, and the focus is now shifting to rebuilding. "We are sincerely thankful for the generosity of New Zealanders who have done so much for the thousands of people affected by the recent tsunami in Samoa and Tonga," said Samoa's Consul General in Auckland, Faolotoi Reupena Pogi, who chairs the appeal effort. The two collection centres at Mangere and Henderson are now closed after meeting their objectives ahead of schedule.

Twelve containers were loaded aboard the HMNZS Canterbury which sailed to Samoa, via Tonga, on Saturday 10 October. The remaining container loads are being shipped this weekend aboard the Southern Lily vessel. Reef Shipping, airlines, other shipping and supply companies have donated their services as part of their contribution to tsunami relief. A large number of volunteers have also helped at the collection centres and with logistics and administration. The Samoa Tsunami 2009 Appeal is continuing to receive supplies as well as financial donations. The focus for the appeal is now shifting to support for rebuilding.



## HMNZS CANTERBURY ARRIVES IN SAMOA

The Samoa Tsunami 2009 Appeal sent its first shipment of tsunami relief to Samoa, just days after opening collection centres in Auckland. "New Zealanders have again responded very generously to an appeal for help," said Michael Jones, a member of the Samoa Tsunami 2009 Appeal and employee of Reef Shipping. "The donations are very gratefully received. We will work with partners in Samoa to ensure the materials reach those who are most in need." Twelve container loads of materials were donated both by members of the public and by donors from the business community. The shipment that was blessed and farewelled by dignitaries, left Saturday morning and arrived in Apia on Tuesday 13 October. It has been a huge logistics exercise made easier by many community volunteers at both depots at south and west Auckland, plus free services from shipping and trucking companies across Auckland.



Volunteers sorting & boxing of donations at the Corban estate west depot, then the load of the containers ready for delivery to be shipped out



## TSUNAMI MEMORIAL SERVICE

New Zealand's Prime Minister John Key says last week's tsunami was a national tragedy for Samoa and Tonga. "But from the very worst of events, we often see the very best of the human spirit," he said at a special memorial service on Sunday at the Trusts Stadium in Auckland. "We saw that spirit in the stories of great bravery that have been told over the past weeks, where people risked everything to warn and help others, and save many lives. "We've seen that spirit in the outpouring of support from ordinary New Zealanders to their friends in the Pacific," he said. The Prime Minister said New Zealand would play its part in helping the recovery effort. He paid special tribute to the many thousands of Kiwis, businesses and organisations who have moved quickly to support relief efforts. Mr Key announced a further NZ\$5 million

donation towards relief efforts with Australia also providing \$5 million. This is on top of an earlier \$2 million from New Zealand to help the Samoan & Tongan governments, Red Cross, and other NGOs deliver aid. Samoa's High Commissioner to New Zealand, Asi Tuiataga Semisi Blakelock, said the tsunami had deeply affected the country. Samoa was very grateful for the generous support from the public, organisations and government. The inter-faith memorial service brought together different denominations to remember those who lost their lives in the tsunami, as well as the thousands who are now the focus for rebuilding and recovery. The solemn ceremony included the reading of the names of the victims in Samoa and Tonga which had been publicly released.



Michael & Delegation farewell the HMNZS Canterbury



Phillip McNicholl and Lui Tautolo amongst dignitaries observing a minutes silence during the Tsunami Memorial service. Phillip laid a wreath on behalf of Reef Shipping in memory of the lives tragically lost during the tsunami.

APPEAL LINE FOR DONATIONS TO SAMOA TSUNAMI 2009 APPEAL 0800 ST APPEAL OR 0900 ST APPEAL  
[www.samoatsunami2009appeal.org](http://www.samoatsunami2009appeal.org)

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## WELCOME CONTAINERS REACH VILLAGERS

### Villagers receive first containers

The first container loads of urgent tsunami relief, organized by the Samoa Tsunami 2009 Appeal Charitable Trust, have reached villagers in Samoa. Ten containers of supplies were filled in three days when two collection centres were opened in Auckland by the appeal organisers.

These were loaded aboard the HMNZS Canterbury which sailed a day later and has since arrived in Apia.

Four containers from this first consignment have already reached villages on the south-east coast which were the worst affected by the tsunami. The remaining eight containers will be distributed over the next few days.

A second shipment of 14 containers left Auckland this weekend and is due to arrive in Apia in a week. The work of the tsunami appeal has been made easier by extensive sponsorship from government and private businesses as well as support from a large pool of volunteers. The arrival and unloading of these containers drew very emotional scenes by affected villagers who were extremely grateful at the magnitude of the response.



Reef Containers being unloaded in Apia off the HMNZS Canterbury



### All Blacks to hold public training for Tsunami Relief Fund

All Blacks fans will be able to show their support

for the families and victims of the Pacific Tsunami, with the team to hold an open training and public autograph session at Waitakere's Douglas Track and Field on Wednesday, October 21. The All Blacks squad to tour Japan, the UK and Europe, was named on Sunday 18 October and the All Blacks will then assemble for a camp in Auckland this week. The open training and public autograph session is being held in conjunction with [The Trusts Stadium](#). Entry by gold coin donation. All Blacks fullback Mills Muliaina was visiting family in Samoa just before the tsunami hit. "Everyone, including players in the All Blacks, has been affected by the devastation which hit Samoa, Tonga and American Samoa so we are inviting fans to come along to our training, meet the players and make a donation to the Tsunami Appeal," Muliaina said. He said the open day was also a chance for the All Blacks to thank their fans for the support they have received this year, before the team heads on its end of year tour to Japan, Wales, Italy, France and England.

**What:** All Blacks public training and autograph session  
**Where:** Douglas Track and Field, Trusts Stadium, Waitakere

**Date:** Wednesday 21 October 2009

**Entry:** Gold coin donation

**Public training time:** 1:10:00am - 12:00pm

**Autograph session:** 12:00pm - 12:30pm

## TSUNAMI BENEFIT MATCH A SUCCESS

Auckland Rugby Union hosted a celebrity rugby game at Eden Park on Sunday Oct 18 to help raise funds for the earthquake and tsunami victims in Samoa. Former Auckland player Martin Stanley worked alongside former Auckland team-mate and current Blues coach Pat Lam to secure a host of household names to Eden Park for this rugby match like no other. Not just rugby players took the field, players from other codes including league, soccer and cricket put on the boots all for the cause. The celebrity match was curtain raiser to the Air New Zealand Cup match between Auckland and Counties-Manukau – a fitting curtain-raiser and tribute given the large Polynesian communities in both cities. Rugby fans young and old were treated to see favourite players from days gone by take the field once again (such as Craig Innes, Robin Brooke, Jeremy Stanley, Adrian Cashmore and Glenn Osborne to name a few), as well as league favourites (Monty Beetham, Awen Guttenbeil and Stacey Jones). Celebs off the field such as Robbie Magasiva, Neil Waka and Brendon Pongia also took their first rugby steps on the Garden of Eden. Auckland Rugby Union presented a cheque for \$12,500 in aid of the Tsunami Relief fund.

**I LOVE THE ISLANDS SAMOA RELIEF CONCERT**  
HOSTED BY OSCAR KIGHTLEY & FEATURING:

NEIL & TIM FINN • SCRIBE • DAVE DOBRYN • SAVAGE • SIC RUMGA  
NESHAN MYSTIK • HOLLIE SMITH • ELEMENO P • JORDAN LUCK BAND  
J. WILLIAMS • AARADHINA • OPENSOULS • SWEET & IRIE • CHE FU • ADEAZE  
KATCHAFIRE • KIRSTEN MORRELL • KING KAPSI • ARDJAH • CYDEL  
PNC • FEELSTYLE • DJ SIRVERE • DEVOLO • MAREKO • LAPI MARINER

**MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER - VECTOR ARENA**  
TICKETS \$25 - BOOK ONLINE NOW FROM [WWW.TICKETMASTER.CO.NZ](http://WWW.TICKETMASTER.CO.NZ)

Tickets for the **Auckland Vector Arena concert on Monday 19th October** have been selling rapidly with the lower bowl completely sold out, leaving only GA tickets and limited upper bowl seats available. This gig WILL sell out - book online now from [www.ticketmaster.co.nz](http://www.ticketmaster.co.nz) tickets only \$25.00. Doors open at 7pm.

Following the successful launch of the Auckland concert, the 'I Love the Islands' organising committee is proud to announce the following national concerts:

**Christchurch: Tuesday 20 October, Westpac Arena.**

Doors at 6pm, show at 7pm. Tickets \$25 through Ticketek and on the door.

Chch Media contact: Tanya Muagututi'a [pacific.underground@clear.net.nz](mailto:pacific.underground@clear.net.nz)  
ph: 021 1750697

**Dunedin: Wednesday 21 October, Glenroy Auditorium, Town Hall Centre.**

Doors at 6pm, show at 7pm. Tickets \$15 sold through Cosmic Ticketing and on the door.

Dnd Media Contact: Pip Laufiso, [pip.laufiso@gmail.com](mailto:pip.laufiso@gmail.com) ph: 027 425 9357

**New Plymouth: Sunday 25 October, TSB Stadium.**

Show at 5pm. Tickets are \$25 sold through Ticketek and on the door.

New Plymouth Media contact: Anand Rose, [anandrose@gmail.com](mailto:anandrose@gmail.com), phone: 021 363 468

**Wellington: Monday 26 October, Michael Fowler Centre.**

Doors 6pm, show at 7pm. Tickets \$20 through Ticketek and on the door.

Wtgn Media contact: Christine Robertson-Ammunson, [paora.chris@xtra.co.nz](mailto:paora.chris@xtra.co.nz),  
ph: 027 5063370

**Cash donations will be accepted at the 'I Love the Islands' concerts and direct donations can be also be sent to the following account: 'I Love the Islands Samoa', Westpac, Ponsonby branch: 03-0255-0317456-000**

