

## Pranils Dream Comes True

*by Sarojani Michael, Manager Western*



***Pranil Chand in front of his bakery business in Natokowaqa, Lautoka.***

Now 25 years old and the youngest of the three brothers, Pranil Chand lost his father in 1997 when he was just eight months old. His mum became a single parent and sought assistance from the Bayly Trust in Lautoka. He was supported by Lautoka Welfare and in his education from year one to year thirteen. Later he was enrolled for tertiary studies to further his chosen career.

He completed the prescribed units in Culinary Arts from the Fiji National University in early 2018. He was the first recipient of the tertiary education assistance from the Trust through the Arthur Jennings Scholarship Fund. He then did his short course in hair-dressing and later was a tutor at the Pivot Point for one and a half years after which he opened his own hair salon.

In 2020 he closed the salon and opened his first bakery shop in Natokowaqa and later in 2021 he opened another Bakery in Natabua by the name of BREAD AND BUTTER KITCHEN

In sharing his thoughts behind his success was "The Bayly Trust and the Manager Western Mrs Sarojani Michael who has truly been my saving grace. I will never be able to express the joy they have brought me"

Being a businessman Pranil, remains a down to earth person and is always in touch with me. Somehow, I have a soft spot in my heart for him. I can still remember how strict I was with him, but he never gave up with his

smiley face which has really paid off. He always wanted to do something for Bayly in return and since he got his business running, every Christmas and Easter, I purchase Christmas cakes and hot cross buns from his bakery and whatever quantity I buy one third of it was a donation from him. To top it all off, I approached him a week ago and asked him if he would be willing to be one of my committee members. His response was an emphatic YES!! Well, I am proud to say my student Pranil Chand is now on the Lautoka Bayly Welfare Committee.

Thank you so much Pranil for your contribution towards Bayly we are all so proud of you and may the blessing of The Almighty be with you always.

Keep up your good work

We welcome your comments or suggestions on any of the articles published in the newsletter.. Please send these via email to : [gm@baylytrust.org](mailto:gm@baylytrust.org)

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## Staying motivated and focused

*-by Manorma Chandra, Manager Central.*



**Rupeni Ragia Mudunavuku Iii, [pictured above]** graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Politics and Geography on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021. Due to COVID-19 Rupeni faced a new experience having his graduation by Drive Thru. In spite of financial difficulties his proud grandmother took out a loan to hire a rental car for this special occasion.

Since 2010 Rupeni has been assisted in his Education through JP Bayly Trust. I know him as a very disciplined and hard-working student. His name was always on the Prize list of JP Bayly Education Prize Getters for their good academic performance on the Annual Fun day.

The credit also goes to his mum who is a single parent looking after other two younger siblings, has been working very hard to up bring her children, living in a Hart home and working as a housemaid is very challenging as she has to balance life running around to talk to teachers, heads of the school when required and do other chores of her life This is one thing which has kept Rupeni motivated as nobody accomplished anything without feeling motivated.

Today the families have achieved the prize of hard work, sincerity, sacrifice and dedication. There is no elevator to success, everyone has to climb stairs. Through the example set by Rupeni his younger brothers are working hard towards their goals and to be successful in life.

The most exciting news is that Rupeni is now employed at the Parliament Office at Table/Committees Unit. Life is promising for the youngster. Who knows, he might even become a Minister in Government someday.

## A Pandemic Experience...

*-by Josefa Masieveni, Education Assistance Recipient, Labasa*

Growing up, I heard people say it was tough to get through secondary school education and that it gets tougher as you proceed. So I was determined to achieve success not just at the end of secondary education but even beyond.

Coming from a single parent family with 3 siblings who had been through Secondary level of education, I have seen and gone through enough to know that I had to do my best. My mother, Akisi Kouvou has always been there for me. Despite all the hardship she faced, she remains confident in all of us. She has raised 4 children with a very supportive family behind her and the very supportive assistance provided by JP Bayly Trust here in Labasa. So here I am being thankful for all that I have and going into Year 9 at All Saints Secondary School where all my siblings have been to, determined to succeed.



As we entered into Term 1 2021, I was very excited. The year started well, I was placed into Year 9E. I met friends from my Primary school and made new friends as well. I got to learn so many new things. Term 1 ended gracefully however we were told of the pandemic that was in our country and that it would be better if we stayed at home after our 2 weeks break. People were getting sick, COVID 19 outbreak was upon us, people were told to wear mask at all times, schools were closed and people were reminded to stay home and follow all COVID 19 protocols.

However, this did not stop the educational process, so they came up with zoom classes, weekly activities created by hard working teachers who were working from home making sure we were getting our education. I was determined to succeed. I made up my goal that no matter what comes I will achieve passing this level. I helped out at home, went fishing, collect firewood, watched movies, spend time with friends but there would always be a time where I would sit down going through my weekly given activities and complete my assignments. If or whenever I would forget about it, my mother would constantly remind me.

After all these calmed down and we were finally allowed to go back to school this year. We had to be assessed in order to go to the next year group. I was so happy when the results were out and not only did I pass, I topped all my subjects. My mum was so proud.



I scored 551 out of 700. Just seeing the reaction on my family members faces, hearing my siblings reaction on the phone, I was determined that this was what I wanted and that slowly, I will achieve my goal of passing all my levels in Secondary school.

## So glad to be a teacher

*-by Nanise Leba, Scholarship receipt, Suva.*



***Nanise Leba [pictured above] with her proud mum and degree award.***

Ever since my dad passed away in 2015, we have been receiving help from the Bayly Welfare in Suva. It really meant a lot to me and my family since my mother was a sole breadwinner of the family.

I am the eldest of 4 siblings. We stayed in the Hart Home and, I'm forever grateful to Mrs. Chandra and the Committee members in helping us with Food and Education. It started right when I was a Form 5 student at Suva Grammar till today. I'm so grateful to receive love and care from the Bayly Trust organization.

Now that I have graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Primary Education and currently teaching at Bainivalu Primary School, I will never forget the Bayly Trust which I can say has contributed a lot to my Education career.

Once again, I salute you JP Bayly Trust Fund and thank you. Thank you very much for your help, and without your help, I believe I would not have been where I am today.

Thank you, Vinaka Vakalevu and Dhanyavaad.

## Sisa the Survivor

*-by Sarojani Michael, Manager West*



Talking about survivors, I must acknowledge one of my young survivors, a year 10 student at Natabua High School Sisa Bakewa [pictured left with his baked goods] who is seventeen years old.

Sisa has grown up into a responsible young man. He has watched his mum struggle to make ends meet .... Selling roti parcels, doing screen printing and baking beautiful pastries.

His will to make a better life comes from the fact that he has watched his mum suffer so much hardship and endured so much pain. She lost an arm in a horrific domestic assault, but she never gave up and I believe Sisa has learned the strong values from her. It is such a wonderful thing to see when a child overcomes a label that society puts on him and rises above it to claim a title all his own!

Sisa took it upon himself to start helping around the house financially. He started cutting sugarcane to help his mum when the schools were closed during the lockdown periods and restrictions. Whatever he earned he bought ingredients for baking and started to bake the goodies he has watched his mum make!

He started with bunnies, chocolate cakes and custard pies. He employed his sister to sell the pastries for him. His initiative is truly amazing. With the money he makes he helps his mum out with the basic items out at home and buys whatever he needs and wants.

We are one of his very good customers and are happy to buy because we know we are getting our monies worth! These little treats are full of flavor and bursting with passion..... our Sisa is so talented and I am so proud of him. HATS OFF

## Prefects Induction at Navai

*Excerpts of a speech by Satishwar Chand, Manager North*

The School Head, Management, Respective teachers, Support Staff, Invited Guest, Parents and Students! Bula Vinaka and a very good morning to you all.

Welcome to Prefect Induction Day 2022.

Today, I am here on behalf of JP Bayly Trust and feel honored to be part of this celebration which I believe is very important in any school calendar. I want you to know that I share your joy and excitement. At the same time, it is an im-



**Manager North Satishwar Chand with students of Navai Primary School.**

portant day for some students who will be inducted as prefects for the first time. For those of you who have been chosen as prefects, you have proven yourselves to your friends, teachers and to parents. You are now chosen leader of the school. A good leader will only be able to earn respect by his or her actions and deeds, and not by threats and commands. When anyone is doing wrong, guide them to the right path. If they are stuck, help them out. Remember, to lead is to serve. Leadership is about serving so as school prefects, you must have a positive attitude to serve.

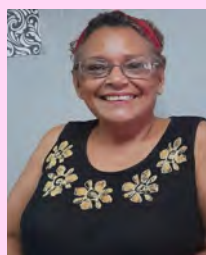
You are to assist your teachers, therefore, required to be responsible and reliable. You have an obligation and role to play in school and outside also. To all parents who are here this morning, please continue to play your role in child education. To all teachers, thank you all for carrying out your duties in professional manner. Continue to mold these young minds and help our children becoming upstanding moral citizens of our country.

With these words, I wish the Prefects, teachers and students of Navai Primary School all the best and a successful 2022.

God bless and have a wonderful day today. Thank you.

## New Appointments

*by the Trust Office*



**Albertina Lilo** has been endorsed as the new **Chairperson for the Lautoka Welfare Committee**. Albertina became a member of the Bayly Welfare Lautoka in 2016 as treasurer, a position she still holds.

She retired from the Bank of South Pacific after serving as branch Manager in several locations and wanted to do something to give back to the community. Albertina replaces Sitla Sharma (who has resigned) as Chairperson. She has a passion to help and support those who may need a helping hand and hopes that any input she may give will be a blessing.

**Anne Nacola** was appointed as Trustee for the JP Bayly Trust in January 2022. She replaces Viti Whippy who resigned in December 2021. Anne brings a wealth of experience from her professional and social background. She has worked in reputable organizations such as the University of the South Pacific, Reserve Bank of Fiji, United Nations in various capacities such as country co-ordinator and consultant and in change management.

Currently she is involved in organic farming, climate change and carbon footprint mitigation and planting noni trees in her family farms in Nadi and Ra. She is a member of the Rt. Jo Nacola Trust working with the Ministry of Forestry in planting indigenous trees in Soa, Ra.

The JP Bayly Trust warmly welcomes both Mrs. Albertina Lilo and Mrs. Anne Nacola and looks forward to working with them into the future,