Digital Pasifik

Casting the net to capture Pacific stories

Taputukura Raea – Pacific Virtual Museum Programme Manager
Ulu Afaese – Pacific Virtual Museum Content Analyst
Where are Pacific Heritage collections/items located?

Can you name some countries or Museums that might hold them?
What is digitalpasifik?

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- NLNZ & NLA
- Visible and accessible Pacific Culture
- One stop shop for all things Pacific
- Establishing relationships with cultural institutions
- 687 content partners
- Over 470,00 items!
Digitalpasifik team

- **Taputukura Raea**: Programme Manager
- **Ulu Afaese**: Content Analyst
- **????**: Engagement Manager
My role – Content Analyst

• Day to day management of digitalpasifik.org content partner relationships
• Supporting the smooth running of digitalpasifik.org.
• Day to day technical responsibilities
Meeting Content Partner
How do we harvest?

https://www.boost.co.nz/development/digital-collection-aggregation
# frozen_string_literal: true

class FijianHistory < SupplejackCommon::Xml::Base
  base_url "https://fijianhistory.com/sitemap.xml"
  sitemap_entry_selector '//sitemap:loc'
  record_selector '/html'
  record_format :html
  include_snippet "Global validations"
  throttle :host => "fijianhistory.com", :delay => 1
  namespaces sitemap: "http://www.sitemaps.org/schemas/sitemap/0.9"

attributes :content_partner, :display_content_partner, default: "Fijian History"
attributes :display_collection, :primary_collection, :collection_title, default: "Fijian History"
attribute :category, default: "Text"
attribute :usage,
attribute :rights, default: ["Share","Modify","Comment"]

attributes :title do
  fetch("//title")
end

attribute :description do
  fetch("//meta[@name='description']/@content")
end

A start for staging
02 May 2023 11:35 by Tim

Cleaning up
01 May 2023 16:56 by Tim

Continuing work on it
Examples of Platforms We Harvest From and the Content Partners Who Use Them

- NGO Pasifika Renaissance
- Dr. Tarisi Vunidilo
- Solomon Islands Museum

- Cook Islands Research Centre - USP

- Micronesian Seminar
- Coconet TV

- Memoirs Pasifika
At the start of the process…

Great Council of Chiefs

The *Bose Levu Vakaturaga* was a formal gathering of Fiji’s indigenous (iTaukei) chiefs. It was established by the British Colonial Government in 1875 as an advisory body and named the Council of Chiefs (the term “Great” was added sometime later in the twentieth century). The complex at Draiba was completed in 2009 for Council meetings but was destroyed by fire ten years later. The North and South wings of the complex house the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, Ministry of Lands and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
...to now being on the website
What happens once in production?

• Content partner page/promotion
• Co-Design Stand Up
• Webinars
• Ongoing engagement and collaboration
‘Empowering our archives to be resilient’ – A perspective

However, there are some positives and some challenges from a content analyst perspective. . .
‘Empowering our archives to be resilient’ – A perspective

Fostering engagement and collaboration...
...but also dealing with limitations in our scope.
Creating access for Pasifik people to their history and stories...

...but also dealing with the “Paradox of Accessibility”.

‘Empowering our archives to be resilient’ – A perspective
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‘Not online’ in staging
Cocoa Pods, 1890-1910, Sāmoa, by Thomas Andrew. Te Papa (O.001172)
How is digitalpasifik capturing Pacific stories?
Engaging with Pacific Based institutions
Events

• Online and in–person events
• Celebrating Language weeks
• Collaborating with partners and community
Hosting Groups

- Students
- Community groups (Porirua Mamas Tivaevae group)
- Pacific Politicians
- Library staff
- Pacific Staff – Govt agencies
- High Commissioners
Benefits of Sharing

• Connecting community with curators
• Enrich meta-data
• Stories, and knowledge is passed on
• Digitalpasifik blog
User contributions – Who can contribute?

Anyone!
- researchers
- School children
- Pacific community
User contributions – what can be contributed?

• Anything!
• Personal stories, corrections and identifying people and places

Mauke Holiday
Mou Raea and family | Raumati Beach | 16 Jun 2021
The Mama in the pink is my Aunty Tungane. I think the photo is taken just outside her house. Me and my family stayed at her home in Mauke in 1989, just after Christmas.
We spent over a week on Mauke. I was brought up in Mauke and left when I was 10. It was a trip of a lifetime to show my youn...

Correction to captions.
Margaret Munoka Ioane | Te Fuinga o Niva | 5 Aug 2022
The photo of a Rakahanga Mama, Mrs Mehuari Vata Tupou, in the process of stripping rito from young coconut fronds. (Please note, there are no pandanus anywhere in this photo)

Home
Guest | | 9 Dec 2021
Moa Kainga (Home Chicken). Cooked the right way yum.

Na Cakacaka ni Bula tu i na koro
Guest | Mau, Velvatuloa, Namosi, Fiji | 3 Jul 2021
Niu vakarica toka nai yaloyalo ni nodratou cakacaka na veitamanini qa, e kauta na noqo vakanananu kina noqo koro. Au vakanananu lesu tale i na koro, na marau kei na nodia dau cakacaka vata ni kena butubuturaki e dua nai teitei. Na ka qa e vinakata o koya nai tauikei ni teitei me caka, kelmani na bu...
Activity
Summary

• Benefits of making the collections accessible
• Opportunities for communities to share
• Working to Pacific needs