

# July 2023 Members Newsletter



## Message from the Grand Bilobaru

Dear Bilobaru Members,

I would like to extend a big BULA to all our Bilobaru members. Thank you for always choosing Shangri-La Yanuca Island, Fiji your home away from home.

The resort has welcomed many esteemed Bilobaru members this year and at the same time inducted new members. We have been overwhelmed with the support and bookings that have come out of our traditional markets of Australia, New Zealand, USA and the rest of the world and since the re-opening of the borders last year.

I would also like to take this time to introduce to you our new Resident Manager, Ms. Helen Regan. Ms. Regan's passion for hospitality has spanned over two and half decades in hospitality.

Prior to joining Shangri-La Yanuca Island Fiji, Ms. Regan worked for international hotel chains such as Inter-Continental Hotels and Resorts and Outrigger not forgetting award winning luxury boutique resorts such as Longitude 131, Jean Michel Cousteau Resort and Samphire Rottneest.

I would also like to invite you all to welcome our new Director of Rooms – Mr. Hadi Mattar, Director of Engineering – Mr. Krizan Rathnayake, and not forgetting a familiar face to the club, your Bilobaru Coordinator Avelina Namoumou.

The resort has plans to conduct renovations from August to November in Golden Cowrie Restaurant and one block of the Ocean Wing.

We are excited to be reuniting with all our Bilobaru friends and family and having a “talanoa session” at this year's reunion around the tanoa, sharing stories and reuniting for a week of Fijian fun in the sun.

We look forward to sharing our Fijian service from the heart, with our big “BULA” smiles.

Loloma levu and yours sincerely,  
Francis Lee  
Grand Bilobaru, Bilobaru Club  
Shangri-La Yanuca Island, Fiji



**Grand Bilobaru  
Mr. Francis Lee**





## Message from the Imperial Bilo

Over the past two weeks we have chased up the long overdue repairs to the 5 Kindergartens, Avelina arranged with the builder to take us to each site and go over all maintenance items and equipment replacements. These project should be finished within 2-weeks with one kindergarten being completed already.

The Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park fence was also signed off by all concerned after alternate designs were required due to supply issues with intended materials, the builder even had blocks and materials delivered on site a few days ago and took at least 6-weeks to have everything completed.

We met with the local bank branch accountant to chase up missing term deposit receipts and bank statements, all in order now. We also met with the hotel's accountant to go over reports, adjustments, missing reports and information needed.

We identified the urgent need for at least 3 AED's and 4 stretchers, this will be funded by us after signoff by hotel management and should be in place for October. An AED will be placed near the golf shop, one near the water sports bure and one in a central location near the shops.

We welcomed Avelina back as the Bilo Bar coordinator, Avelina saved us many hours thanks to her local knowledge on matters with the kindergartens and the banks.

Surprisingly, the Registrar of Companies office requires further paperwork for our registration, and we spent one afternoon just on this. Their administrative requirements are hard to follow when there are no written regulations, and they take two months just to process a form.

Many meetings were held with heads of various hotel departments, the issue of local papers for members was raised.

The various room rates given to members were also looked into and in the end, we were given a set of rates for the reunion period/s this year, but these need to be booked direct via reservations and requesting re-union rates, Andrew should have this up on the web and Facebook sites before you read this. The discount code previously given for the online bookings is a discounted rate, but it will vary due to demand.

We spent our last day inspecting the one finished kindergarten project and then sourcing stationery & school materials for all the kindergartens and delivering them, Andrew will place a list of items in the newsletter, all items need to go to Avelina who can distribute them in line with attendee numbers to each kindergarten.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Oct/Nov reunion, our condolences to those that have left us.

Vinaka valevu.



**Imperial Bilo  
Mr. Graeme  
Harvey**



# General Updates

## Sigatoka Sand Dunes



The Sigatoka Sand Dunes is one of our pre-historic sites. Evidence of the past is clearly visible throughout the dune's system as pottery scatters, stone tools, human remains, and other archaeological relics continue to be uncovered by natural processes. However, the deteriorating state of the fencing at the Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park was brought to the trustees' attention late last year. The trustees, after inspecting the area, saw the need to have it replaced to prevent animals, unauthorized visitors and drunkards from accessing the site.

## Kindergarten



### Rukurukulevu Kindergarten.

There were some renovations work done by the building contractor. Works include changes of window frames and shutters for the whole building. The club assisted in replacing all missing louver blades. The wooden posts that were falling off were all replaced as well. We spoke to the school committee with regards to the safe keeping of the building and as well the compound. A total of 14 children attend this Kindy.

Priorities for the students include stationaries like paints, glue, A4 paper, crayon, colored pencils, pen and plasticine to name a few.





### Ron Jones Kindergarten

This was one of the well-kept kindergartens. We have replaced the toilet breather, gutter fitting, window screen and louvres for the Kindergarten. The outdoor light as well was replaced. Upon visiting the school, we also noted that the fence needed repair and as well as the see-saw. A request has been made to the contractor to fix the fence and replace the damaged see-saw. The new teacher is Ms. Payal Rao who travels from Sigatoka Town on a daily basis to attend her classes. The school has a class roll of 10 students. Paints, glue, A4 paper, crayon, colored pencils, pen and plasticines is what they need at the moment.



### Naevuevu Kindergarten

Located at the center of Naevuevu Village is the Kindergarten with a total of 13 students enrolled in it. Upon visiting the Kindergarten, we saw a need for a thorough clean-up around the compound. Our building contractor has agreed to work on the falling fence. The new teacher, Ms. Jokapeci Daulako is very friendly. She looks after her students well and understands the need to maintain the school.

### Yadua Kindergarten

Guess what, we have managed to fix the roof that was leaking so bad and repaired the fence at Yadua Kindergarten. Thanks to all our members, because of your tireless efforts and support we thought we give this priority as it needed urgent attention before school resumed this year.

The classroom is now a safe learning environment for the students who are enjoying their day-to-day classes. We also met Ms. Aviamé Vibose and according to her a total of 18 students are enrolled for this year. They have requested us to assist them with their crayons, colouring pencils, paints, A4 paper, glue, plasticine and some sporting equipment.





# Updates



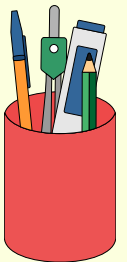
## Sigatoka Kindergarten

This is the kindergarten with the highest class roll, running two streams of classes on a daily basis. Each classroom has about 15 students. The school is well maintained so there wasn't much work needed. However, upon visiting them, we noticed that there was a drainage problem which needed to be addressed. During heavy downpour and because of the locality of the school, flood waters can easily enter the classroom. The gutters also need attention. The contractor that was with us on the day will be providing a quote for the work that needs to be carried out. The school is lucky to have retained Ms. Ana who looks after the building and the facility well. A new teacher is currently looking after the second stream. They have opted for more stationaries to assist the students.

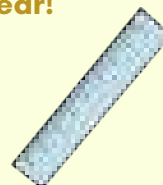
## 'Kindy Stationery Fundraiser'



Scan Here



It's fundraising time! Our precious kindergartens, and the kids who attend, are in need of stationery supplies! Donate now, via this link [bit.ly/3pp0iq9](https://bit.ly/3pp0iq9) or scan the QR code provided so that The Bilo Bar Club can purchase these goods to last them a whole year!



# New Staff Members



Resident Manager  
Ms. Helen Regan



Director of Rooms  
Mr. Hadi Mattar



Director of Engineering  
Mr. Krizan Rathnayake

## Scholarship Presentation



A total of 23 students were awarded our Bilo Bar Scholarship this year. The 23 included first year, second year, and those students who were on their last lap of studies. On May 19, 2023, we organized a scholarship presentation at the Resort, and we were grateful to have our auditor Mr. David Neaves present to officiate at the event. The students were on cloud nine and were emotional during the handing over of their certificates and cheque.

The students were grateful to the Bilo Bar for their on-going support.

Naceva Settlement  
Valley Road  
Sigatoka  
26<sup>TH</sup> June, 2023

The Organizer  
Fiji Bilo Bar Scholarship  
Fiji


Dear sir/ madam

Re: Letter of Appreciation

I Sitiveni Nakurua an awardee of Fiji Bilo Bar Scholarship, would like to express my sincere appreciation to the organizers of the above mentioned scholarship for approving and awarding me with the Fiji Bilo Bar Scholarship.

I could not resist my happiness when I got an email from the organizers stating that I am one of the student who will be receiving this scholarship. The cheque given to me really helped me since I was in need of a laptop which I can use to compile my assignment in school and also at the comfort of my home. I am also proud to be informed that I was the only I- taukei that was awarded with the scholarship. One of my character is that I always give everything a try as I stand with a saying goes their is no harm in trying. I hope that I will be a source of inspiration to other I- taukei students out there.

There are plenty of scholarships that I have applied for locally and abroad but this is the first scholarship that has asked me to share my experience with, hence, I am truly honored to be awarded with this scholarship. It is my prayers that our god almighty will continue to shower his endless blessing upon you.

Yours faithfully  
  
Sitiveni Nakurua

# MEMBERSHIP FEE!



**As a fully paid member you can take advantage of the great Bilo Bar Club members-only Room Rates and Inclusions;**

- Exclusive Bilo Bar Club member accommodation rates
- Daily breakfast for 2 adults and 2 kids under 12 years of age
- Weekly cocktail party invitation
- Bottle of wine upon arrival & fruit basket
- 3.00 pm late check-out on the day of departure (subject to availability)
- Free golf green fees (prior booking essential)
- 10% F&B discount (excluding concessionaire charges)
- 10% discount on Chi Spa treatments

Membership is only available to those who meet the following criteria:

- a) persons aged over 18 years of age, &
- b) have holidayed at the resort on more than three occasions (or such other number as the Management Committee shall decide), &
- c) has been duly invited by the Grand Bilo or Imperial Bilo to become a member

**To be entitled for the Hotel benefits offered to our members, your fee is due on the 31st of July every year.**



**Phone +679 6520155 and speak to the Bilo Bar Club coordinator**



**Westpac Bank (Sigatoka Branch)  
Account Name: Bilo Bar Trust Fund  
Account number: 0519183600  
BSB Number: 039005  
SWIFT Code: WPACFJFX**



# ***2023 REUNION***

Rooms are selling out fast! Contact the Resort to confirm your booking today

Mark the Date!

October 28, 2023 till November 11, 2023



**Activities include; Calcutta, Melbourne Cup, Yanuca Cup, Kids Olympics, Master Classes, Lagoon Beach Dinner, Mongolian BBQ, Bocce Brunch, Golf Competition, Kindergarten & Hospital Visit and more!!**



# MEET THE TEAM COCKTAIL





# COCKTAIL OF THE MONTH



## KAVA MARGARITA

Get a taste of a rendition classic margarita drink, enthused with our house-made kava cordial. Available only at our Black Marlin Tropical Bar.



## Brand New Biló Bar Member!



Long time Biló Bar Club members will be all too familiar with member, Allana Hancock; daughter to Barry Hancock. We are pleased to share the news that Allana and her husband, Dave, welcomed the arrival of their first child, Mackenzie Marie Lorraine Hollis, born June 20, 2023 @ 9.23 am. We wish baby Mackenzie and the family all the very best of health and happiness!



# Coming soon



- Reunion Program • Trustee Spotlight
- September Newsletter • Featured Outlet

