

Nuku Rapana



Nuku Rapana is the President of the Pukapuka Island Community in New Zealand (Pukapuka is in the Northern Cook Islands) He is the founder and Managing Director of Entech Electronics and has a background of more than 25 years in the electronics industry specialising in the fabrication and Supply of printed circuit boards for the likes of Tait Electronics, Pulsedata, Wormald, and Invensys Energy Systems.

He has been instrumental in the establishment of the Pukapuka Training Academy, a private training establishment targeting Pacific Island communities with education in electro-technoogy and ICT.

He has also established Pukapuka Social Services which delivers a range of integrated programmes enhancing the wellbeing of families including literacy programmes, health and housing initiatives. He has also established eight community-owned enterprises including running a bakery and shop, and selling Polynesian delicacies at the weekly Mangere Markets.

Nuku led the purchase and establishment of the Pukapuka Community Centre in Mangere, which is a cultural village hosting a pre-school, after-school and hoiday programmes for children, mens and womens craft groups, and gatherings for the elderly and the wider community.

He has also been instrumental in the establishment of a Pukapuka Community Centre in Hastings, and a Pukapuka hostel in Rarotonga. Nuku is a recognised leader in the wider Cook Island and Pacific communities, where he is widely respected for his abilities to turn a vision into reality. In recent years he has chaired the annual Pasifika Festival and also the Pacific Leaders Group which is contributing to the Auckland Regional Economic Development Strategy.