



CELEBRATING **37** YEARS OF SERVICE

Honouring Mrs Sarah Takairangi

Senior Administration Officer & Chamber Clerk

By Papaterai William, Editor of Debates



This morning (24 April 2025), the staff of the Parliament of the Cook Islands gathered for a heartfelt morning tea to commemorate an extraordinary milestone that was awarded to Mrs Sarah Takairangi during the Parliament's 60th Legacy Exhibition, a 37th service award. The surprise event, organised in her honour, was filled with heartfelt sentiments and gratitude, highlighting Sarah's extraordinary journey within Parliament.



The morning was particularly emotional, as Sarah was drawn into the gathering unaware of its true purpose. When the celebration was revealed, the atmosphere was filled with joy and appreciation from her colleagues. Mr Tangata Vainerere, the Clerk of Parliament, delivered a heartfelt speech, reflecting on Sarah's remarkable contributions and unwavering dedication throughout her tenure. His words resonated with everyone present, reminding us of the profound impact she has had on both the Parliament and the team.

Sarah reflected, "When I began working here 37 years ago, it feels like just yesterday. The relationships I formed with all the people who walked through the main doors kept me here. From the staff and Members of Parliament to various Speakers, Clerks, and many others who visited Parliament, it was the people



who made my journey meaningful. Sometimes, I feel like a piece of furniture in this place, just watching as so many come and go without moving myself. I am grateful to God for everything in my life and for the strength He has given me to continue working here at Parliament."

We acknowledge and thank Sarah for her remarkable journey and all the hard work she has put into her role over the years. Her commitment has not only strengthened our Parliament but has also inspired those around her.



As we celebrate this significant achievement, we look forward to many more years of working alongside Sarah. Congratulations Sarah on reaching this remarkable milestone, and thank you for the wonderful work you continue to contribute to Parliament. Here's to many more successful years ahead. God bless.