

dahl set out in 1947. The original crew included five Norwegians and a Swede. So far, the new crew are just five, including a Swede. They are one crewman short: they still need a good navigator.

Reuters, September 6, 2004

WHAT'S NEW 'IN HANGA ROA

CONSTRUCTION ON THE NEW HANGA ROA CATHOLIC SCHOOL (Hermano Eugenio Eyraud SS.CC) is scheduled to begin at the end of September, now that construction materials have arrived to the island on the ocean tugboat *Galvarino*. The ship also carried cargo to repair the search-and-rescue launch, *Tokerau*, and also for the Gobernacion Maritima de Hanga Roa.

Repairs to the gym should be completed in August. Village rumors say that some APEC folks will be coming to the island in October for a meeting.

The new public school is supposed to be completed in October. By next March, grades kindergarten through the 6th grade will remain at the old school in town and the upper grades will be going to the new school. The old school in town will be given a "face lift". So far, the road is not paved to the new school, which is located outside the village where the old leper *sanitorio* used to be.

There also is talk of building a new hospital and a new airport terminal, including reorienting the airport parking area, which should be farther from the landing strip than it is now.

BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, a site for a new village cemetery must be found. Expanding the size of the old cemetery is opposed by those who live close to it, and yet most island residents want the cemetery to be near the village. The Mayor's plan is to place a new cemetery near the west end of the runway, north of the Hotel Iorana. That area cannot have any construction because it is in the path of incoming airplanes, so it is rather a dead zone anyway (no pun intended).

A NEW WEBSITE has pictures of the island's Mercado, and island carvings: <http://www.mercadonui.com/index.htm>

THE TOUR GUIDES OF RAPA NUI, together with Camara de Turismo and other entities, are in the process of finding a way to certify island guides. There are four workshops scheduled and hopefully, by the end of 2004, guides will be given a certification to be an "official guide". The importance of this cannot be underestimated. The way things are now, anyone – from a taxi driver newly-arrived from Valparaíso on – can call themselves a "guide" regardless of whether they know anything whatsoever about the island and its history.

A MARATHON RUN was held on the island in June. It seems to have been a great success, and plans are to continue this event next June. There were several races including a 10k and a 20k run (starting at 'Anakena beach). Over 100 people came for the event, including runners from Chile, Europe, USA, Finland, Australia, Japan, and China. Some Rapanui also competed in the races. The finish line was in Hanga Roa, near the old Hanga Roa hotel. This seems a good way to bring in some tourism during the slow winter season.



A shot of the finish of the marathon, in Hanga Roa. The run began at 'Anakena. Photo: Pat Gahan, Laguna Woods, California.

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- MaxiaPacific.com <http://www.travelmaxia.com/> is an interactive website for the whole of the South Pacific region. It provides accurate information on hotels, resorts, dive shops, cruises, and charters, plus planning tips, slideshows, maps, and airline information. The extended listing information on TravelMaxia.com about specials, packages, and resorts is posted and maintained by the operators themselves. The unique "Email Direct" function allows consumers to make immediate contact with such businesses. MaxiaPacific.com partners with travel writer David Stanley to provide clients with paper-and-ink guidebooks as well. Every page on the TravelMaxia.com "niche" sites carries Amazon.com links to the latest editions of Stanley's Moon Handbooks on Fiji, Tahiti, the Cook Islands, Tonga-Samoa, and the South Pacific. Stanley's personal website <http://www.southpacific.org/> has additional information on these titles. By bringing together all the elements of a successful trip, MaxiaPacific.com's integrated family of sites serves the needs of Pacific travelers and suppliers alike. The TravelMaxia.com "niche" sites to the Fiji, Tahiti, the Cook Islands, Tonga, Samoa, and Vanuatu are now an obligatory first stop on the road to a successful trip.
- Tiki Road Trip* by James Teitelbaum was released in April 2003. It features a preface by *Book of Tiki* author Sven Kirsten. James' follow-up book, "Big Stone Head: Easter Island and Pop Culture" is in production right now. See the Tiki Bar Review Pages for information on getting a copy of Tiki Road Trip. <http://www.tydirium.net>

EIF NEWS

The Prez Sez

The VIth International Conference on Rapa Nui and the Pacific will be a great success. We are delighted that so many are able to make it to Chile for the meeting, which also marks the beginning of a new collaboration between the University of Valparaíso, Institute for Rapa Nui Studies, and The Easter Island Foundation.

The new Institute for Rapa Nui Studies, in the capable hands of Jose Miguel Ramirez, still is in the developmental stage, and the VIth International Conference is a major undertaking. We expect that additional programs and collaborative research will emerge in the near future through the Institute, and will benefit all of those involved in Rapa Nui studies.

The selection of Viña del Mar as a venue enables many from South America to attend, including the Chilean archaeological community, along with international researchers and Rapanui islanders. In years past, a few contributors from amongst the island residents made the trek at great expense to the far reaches of Wyoming, New Mexico or Hawai'i but, having the conference in Chile, makes attendance more feasible. We hope the VIth International Conference will result in additional perspectives on the state of Pacific archaeological and anthropological research and, in particular, on Rapa Nui studies.

Christopher M. Stevenson

THE CHAIRMAN OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP program, Marla Wold, is pleased to announce that we continue to offer scholarships to Rapanui youth, under 30 years of age, with college or university acceptance. We encourage all students to apply and to