Issue #005 OCTOBER 2026

# NOA NEWS

## Warm Pacific Greetings!

Welcome to Issue #5 of NOA News!
In this edition, we share the latest updates from across the NOA Village of Learning.
Thank you for being part of our journey as we continue to create meaningful learning opportunities for RSE workers across New Zealand.




*Kiribati & Papua New Guinea RSE, Mr Apple, Hawkes Bay*

**DATA UPDATE (JUNE 2025 - AUGUST 2026)**

♟️ 3,000+ RSE workers trained

📚 180 courses delivered

📍 **6 Regions Reached**
Auckland Northland
Bay of Plenty
Hawke's Bay
Marlborough Blenheim
Nelson Tasman
Central Otago

🎓**Courses delivered to RSE workers from:**
Solomon Islands
Papua New Guinea
Vanuatu
Samoa
Tonga
Tuvalu
Kiribati
Fiji



*Samoan RSE, Trevelyan, Bay of Plenty*







## Hort NZ Conference 2026

The NOA Village of Learning team had a great few days at the Horticulture New Zealand Conference, connecting with employers, industry stakeholders, and Pacific partners.

Our stall provided an opportunity for attendees to stop by, ask questions, and learn more about the NOA programme, particularly the training opportunities available for RSE workers.

It was great to strengthen relationships, share what NOA has to offer, and connect with the pacific partners and employers interested in supporting their workers' learning and development.
Fa'afetai lava to everyone who took the time to connect with us!

Our Operations Manager Meriama Taufale presented 'RSE in Action' sharing the journey and impact of the NOA Village of learning programme thus far. Reflecting on the progress made, data insights and the difference being created together.

**Presentation link - https://youtu.be/rmo8Na6KHXE?si=ulbT_JXDhA0dfine**

## Central Otago Visit

Our Operations Manager Meriama Taufale and Programme Delivery Manager Shelley Oliver recently travelled to Central Otago, where they met with local employers and caught up with our NOA facilitators in the region. The visit was a great opportunity to connect, strengthen relationships, and share more about the NOA Village of Learning programme. The NOA team also had the opportunity to visit Vinewise and Seasonal solutions in Cromwell.



*Central Otago employers with Meriama & Shelley from NOA*

A special thank you to Olivia Johnson for bringing employers together and helping make the visit a success. We also acknowledge Kris Robb at Clyde Orchards for hosting the meeting with employers. We are looking forward to delivering more courses in the region over the coming months.

## Welcome to the NOA Kainga



We are pleased to welcome Shane Vooght as our new Mānava programme developer and advisor. Shane brings a wealth of experience in leadership development, adult education, programme design, and the construction industry. He served in senior leadership roles with the New Zealand Defence Force, where he represented New Zealand at regional leadership forums and contributed to leadership development initiatives across the Pacific.

Following his military career, Shane worked in Vanuatu as a leadership mentor, leading the development and delivery of the Vanuatu police force leadership framework.

Combined with his qualifications in adult education and extensive construction industry experience, Shane brings a practical, people-focused approach to learning and development. We are excited to have him join the NOA team and look forward to the skills & experience he will bring to the continued growth of the Mānava Programme.











# NOA TESTIMONIAL WALL

A village is built on shared vision and mutual support. This wall captures the reflections of employers, pacific patners & RSE workers, documenting the collective progress that drives NOA Village of Learning forward.

"A huge thank you to the people behind the scenes and the amazing tutors who facilitated the NOA classes for our Samoan and Solomon Island groups. We had the most amazing graduations and I'm positive that everyone present will remember it for some time to come"
***Employer, Hawkes Bay***

"I really enjoyed the NIU Learning course. I learned things about managing money, looking after my health and the Maori culture. I want to share what I have learned with my family when i go back home.
***Samoan RSE worker, Bay of Plenty***

"The best part of learning with NOA is that the facilitators understand our culture and speak our language. This helps us feel safe, respected, and comfortable. The learning is not just sitting and listening; we get to share our experiences, work together, ask questions, and learn from one another."
***Fiji RSE worker, Bay of Plenty***

NIU Learning has helped me think differently about my money, health, and everyday decisions, while the Mānava courses give us practical skills we can use back home."
***Vanuatu RSE worker, Hawkes Bay***

"The NOA Facilitators were amazing and really connected with our RSE teams. We have signed up for more courses."
***Employer, Marlborough Blenheim***

"NOA Village of Learning is making a positive contribution to our RSE workers' development. It is great to see them gaining confidence, knowledge, and skills they can use both in New Zealand and back home."
***Employer, Northland***

"I see how NOA Village of Learning is making a real difference in the development and well-being of the RSE workers. I finally understand the importance of having facilitators who speak and understand the pacific languages and have pacific lived experience."
***Country liaison officer***

# LOOK OUT FOR UPCOMING COURSES!

🔨 ***Basic Carpentry & Use of Small Hand Tools***
*Learn practical carpentry skills and how to safely use common hand tools. This course builds confidence in measuring, cutting, repairing, and completing basic projects that can be used at home and in the community.*

🚰 ***Safe Water Collection & Basic Plumbing***
*Gain essential skills in safe water collection, storage, and basic plumbing. Participants learn simple techniques to improve water access, hygiene, and maintenance of household water systems.*

🧱 ***Basic Brick and Blocklaying + Tiling***
*Develop foundation skills in bricklaying, blocklaying, and tiling. This hands-on course teaches participants how to plan, prepare, and complete basic construction projects with confidence.*

🌱 ***Leadership (Lead Self)***
*Build confidence and strengthen self-leadership skills. Participants learn effective communication, personal responsibility, goal setting, and the values that help them become positive role models in their workplace, family, and community.*



*Fiji & Vanuatu RSE, Punchbowl, Auckland*

# ENROL YOUR RSE WORKERS ONTO A COURSE TODAY!

NOA Village of Learning

https://www.eit.ac.nz/subject-areas/rse-training/

rsepasifika@eit.ac.nz

**Scan the QR code below to complete the expressions of interest form**


*Tuvalu RSE, Teamworks, Hawkes Bay*


*Vanuatu RSE, Vinewise, Central Otago*