

Polynesia and the Pacific 2022

Slides from four PowerPoint presentations on the island for U3A Southern Highlands Inc (Bowral, NSW), 2022

By way of introduction to the slides in the four PowerPoint presentations which accompany this note, I have been researching the Pacific intensively since 2016 after visiting the Marquesas in French Polynesia on the *Aranui III* when my interest in this vast part of the world was reignited by lectures given by geographer Terry Hunt and colleagues on board the ship and by a number of land excursions in those islands.

Having determined that I would develop presentations for a course on Polynesia for the University of the Third Age (U3A) Southern Highlands Inc I embarked on intensive online research in 2016 for several iterations of the course, and the slides for the 2022 iteration reflect my discovery of many documents and images in unexpected places, which I used as background for my four lectures to U3A.

As a collection the slides themselves merely hint at the kind of detail that can be discovered about the Pacific, both past and present, and they cover far more than I could in four two-hour lectures. I have not attempted to document my commentaries, but users of the collection will get an idea of what I talked about from the outline of my four presentations which I set out below.

I had not intended to put my collection of slides into the public domain but, having found them on a USB that I was proposing to offer to the Norfolk Island Knowledge and Learning Centre with a similar collection of slides for four Presentations on *Norfolk* which I had just presented to the Southern Highlands U3A I decided to keep this collection as it may be of more general interest.

I will not publish any of the material from my presentations but as my offer to the NIK&L centre will put it into the public domain. I hope that as a courtesy, users will reference online sources which I have noted on some slides and acknowledge me as the compiler of the collection (and the unnamed source of many slides).

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Bowral NSW, November 2024

Slides for a U3A course on *Polynesia and the Pacific* 2022

Part One

- 1 The island Pacific
- 2 Geology and landforms
- 3 Climates and biodiversity

Part Two

- 4 Human occupation and settlement
- 5 European explorations
- 6 Metropolitan occupation and control

Part Three

- 7 1930s and 1940s
- 8 Political evolution
- 9 Socio-economic development

Part Four

- 10 'environmental' issues
- 11 Social and Economic issues
- 12 geopolitical issues