

## SOME USEFUL ROTUMAN EXPRESSIONS

I've listed below some useful expressions that you can practice using every day. Start with using 2 or 3, and gradually add more of them. The nice thing about expressions is that you don't have to worry about grammar. Just memorize them, and you'll be speaking Rotuman!

Faiák se'ea. 'Thank you.'

It can also mean 'congratulations or hello.'

Noa'ia. 'Good morning, good day; thank you.'

You can combine this with other words:

Noa'ia 'e mauri 'Hello.' (Literally, 'thank you for living.')

Noa'ia 'e hanisit 'Thank you for your kindness.'

Se fek. 'I'm sorry.' (Lit. 'Don't be angry.')

Hanis/Hanisi. 'What a shame, poor thing, etc.'

Hanisi of. 'Love' (the closing of a personal letter or e-mail)

The *-of* ending here means the love is 'directed toward you'

Se fua. 'God bless you.' (said to a person who sneezes)

Notice the *se* negative word again; this expression literally means 'Don't burst open.'

Figalelei. 'Please.'

La' ma ne'ne' 'äe 'Go and (you) be well.'