

Hi guys,

Well we're OK, I know that you haven't heard from us lately, but we've been pretty busy. We're on the atoll of Surwarrow, it's a very small atoll on the way between Bora Bora and Samoa. It's roughly half way between the 2 places. The position is 13-14'S X 136-06'W. This is the atoll that a guy lived on for 25+/- years by himself, a guy named Tom Neal, there was a movie done about him. The only people on the atoll are a couple of "park" rangers. The atoll is a park within the Cook Islands.

All of the information in the book we have, "Charles' Charts", is somewhat helpful in it's information, getting here and getting into the pass, but other than that it is a lot of misinformation.

The 2 guys are James & Apii, both very nice guys and very helpful to the cruisers. The guys are here for 6 months a year and check-in the boats and then invite you to a pot-luck dinner, in which they supply the fish and the location for the meal (on land). They also will take you all over the atoll, for snorkling, fishing, coconut crab hunting (tomorrow and then the feast after) and on just take you sight-seeing around the atoll. When they are dropped off here, they have only the supplies that they came with. This year they have needed an additional fuel drop, abut haven't received it yet. They come here around the 1st of June.

The cruisers have been very helpful in giving them any extra fuel they have and other things (coke, canned fruit and anything else they don't have or miss). We did have to work today for them, we helped them take down a coconut tree and then worked on the "wharf", a pile of rocks and concrete that needs repair.

Anyway, we will probably be leaving here on Saturday for Samoa, if the weather cooperates. We will have about a 4-5 day sail. Our sail here was 5 days and fairly rough, good wind, but lumpy seas.

We are very glad to be out of French Polynesia, very expensive and the "French" are very stuffy people and it has effected the native people.

Kelly, if you get this send it on and Alan, would you please call Kelly and make sure that she got it (new e-mail and not sure it's right). Her # is 909-941-0103, if you don't have it.

Love to all and we will be in contact when we get to Samoa, hopefully with internet.

Dad & Mom

Don & Judy