

Useful

Finalists:

1. Elizabeth Omeri, eco-print fabric, POM
2. Regina Varaosi, watermelon soaps, Alotau
3. Julie Rereve, chocolate face cream, Bougainville
4. Delilah Kamila, fibreglass toilet seat,
5. Geno Geno, buai skin mulch for topsoil, POM

Eco-printed fabric with natural dyes

1. Elizabeth Taurega

Omeri denanidesigns@gmail.com

Phone: 7663 0683

Garden Hills, POM

Age 35yrs; Date of birth

06/17/1989

Denani Designs: Fashion Designer/
Creative Director

A familiar name on local

runways with her fashion label Denani Designs, Elizabeth in recent years has begun creating her own fabric prints as well, using plants and natural dyes to 'eco' print unique designs on to secondhand or recycled cloth.

Using plain white cotton, linen, silk, stretchy fabric, calico, raw tapa cloth and leather, the method involves placing flowers, leaves, fruit and natural dyes like turmeric, and onion or avocado skin on to fabric, and wrapping it up to steam for over an hour. The plant colours and patterns transfer onto the fabric creating extraordinary one-of-a-kind designs. "The use of upcycling also promotes sustainable fashion," Elizabeth says.





Handmade Fruit & Herb Soaps (watermelon, avocado, papaw, turmeric etc)

2. Regina Varaosi

zinnahfoxx@gmail.com

28 Essence and Organic Supplies

7118 5627 / 8308 7605

Age: 29 (D.O.B: 03/06/1995)

Address: KB Primary School. P.O.Box 267, **Alotau**, Milne Bay Province, PNG.

(sent her IPA Cert, IRC Tin Cert, NID card, brochure, flyer, business card and numerous photos)

Regina is a quarantine officer cadet with NAQIA but started making coconut soap infused with local herbs such as turmeric, neem and moringa to give away to those who needed it eight years ago when the 'I Don't Care' skin disease was prevalent. Already proficient at making her own virgin coconut oil (supporting local coconut farmers from Mailu, Misima and Sanaroa islands in Milne Bay), she learned more soapmaking skills watching YouTube and TikTok tutorials to develop layering and swirling techniques, and experimenting with marbling and drop techniques.

As well as her popular herbal soaps, Regina makes fruit soaps from watermelon, pawpaw, cucumber, pineapple and avocado, and lately started adding raw Bougainville cocoa butter as well as shea butter from Africa. She sells at Alotau's main market on the weekends, and also engages her relatives on commission to



help during cruise ship visits. As an only child supporting get serious about creating formally registered it with the



many family members, Regina decided to more income from her side-business and IPA last December.



Chocolate Hair Cream (All-Natural Hair Dye to colour grey/white, neem oil infused with coffee, cocoa, tea)

3. Julie Rereve

Age: 33 (DOB 15/09/1991)

Bougainville

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Julie makes and sells chemical-free skincare products using neem, cocoa butter and galip oil for hair and body to customers in Bougainville, and as far afield as Rabaul, Kokopo and Port Moresby. She developed her Chocolate Hair Cream and Body Oil as an organic daily-application hair dye for restoring grey and white hair to brown after some women experienced allergic reactions to imported chemical hair dyes. The product also helps prevent dandruff, and nourishes and conditions hair. The cream is made from pressed neem oil (antibacterial and antifungal properties, supporting scalp health and reducing dandruff); fermented Bougainville coffee, cocoa and tea (these not only impart rich, warm tones to the hair but are loaded with antioxidants that strengthen hair strands and Jboost shine); cornstarch and beeswax (improves texture and allows for easy application).

“One can also tweak the proportions to achieve different shades, that is, more coffee or tea for deeper, darker tones and increased cocoa for a softer chocolate-brownish finish,” Julie said.



Pic 5: Fibre-glass Toilet Seat installed in one of our client's project

Fibreglass Toilet Seats for Pit Toilets

4. Delilah Kamila

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Pic 4: Concrete base/slab

Delilah is a project engineer at ATprojects (Appropriate Technology Projects), a small technical NGO based in Goroka, and has designed a pit toilet seat, the first



Pic 6: Fibre-glass Toilet Seat Designer Ms.Delilah Kamila

produced by a PNG NGO that can compete with other companies. The seat enables a healthier, more hygienic and disease-free environment in the rural settings. The seat is a pit toilet pedestal made from moulded fibreglass materials using resin, hardener, neutral flow coat, coloured pigments, fibre-mats, wax and mould release. They are made so that the bottom part of the seat can be bolted, screwed or plastered with concrete on a concrete or timber floor together so that once the pit is full, the seat can be removed easily and moved to a new site. The lid with cover is screwed on to make your sitting more comfortable.

The seat is different from others on the market in that it is locally produced by hand to improve rural toilet facilities in PNG; is suitable for all age groups; does not need water to flush waste; can be easily transferred to a new pit when the toilet gets filled up; comes with a round concrete slab as a base for a proper & easy instalment; and is light and easy to carry or transport to other provinces or remote areas.

Buai Skin Mulch for Topsoil Cover

5. Geno Geno

SME: The Seed Supplier

Age: 41 years

Gender: Female

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The winner of the first Homemade Product Competition in 2022 with her betelnut fibre plates, bowls and spoons has devised another product that repurposes betelnut (areca nut) waste, this one a gardening mulch that can reduce water stress on city trees and shrubs by acting as a barrier to evaporation. The mulch also enriches the soil as nutrients are released as the husks break down, as well as reduces weeds and soil erosion.

Geno's team has trialled a collection operation where filled boxes of areca husk rubbish were bought from buai vendors in the Gereka area, with youths getting involved to earn extra income. The husks were heated at a high temperature and washed down to kill off unwanted pathogens. In order to prevent fungal development during the decomposition process, the husks were crushed and ground into finer fibres extracting the liquid content. Our process ensures that all bacteria and unwanted pathogens are thoroughly removed. The fibres are placed over the topsoil at the base of plants as soil mulch.



Geno is seeking support from NCDG to reach out to other suburbs and advocate on the collection of waste husks to help keep the city clean. The goal is to cover the base of every garden bed and tree in Port Moresby that is currently water-stressed.

Benefits include waste management and environmental improvement, as well as income generation for youths and other marginalised people.

