Preface

When we glance at a map of the world, Fiji is but a few dots in the vast Pacific Ocean. In world terms, it is very insignificant. Yet, it is considered by many to be uniquely different from other places.

My family has lived here for six generations, so I call it home.

But throughout my eight decades of life I have constantly asked myself, what makes it so special? Over the years I have regularly put pen to paper, or in modern terms, fingers to the keyboard, and tried to explain this uniqueness.

This book contains many of my observations of the profound changes that have taken place in our islands over the past 80 years and profiles some of the diverse people who give this nation its unique character.

When I use the term Fijian I am referring to the indigenous people of Fiji.

Daryl Tarte