

Local News

Ambrym tourist information board unveiled

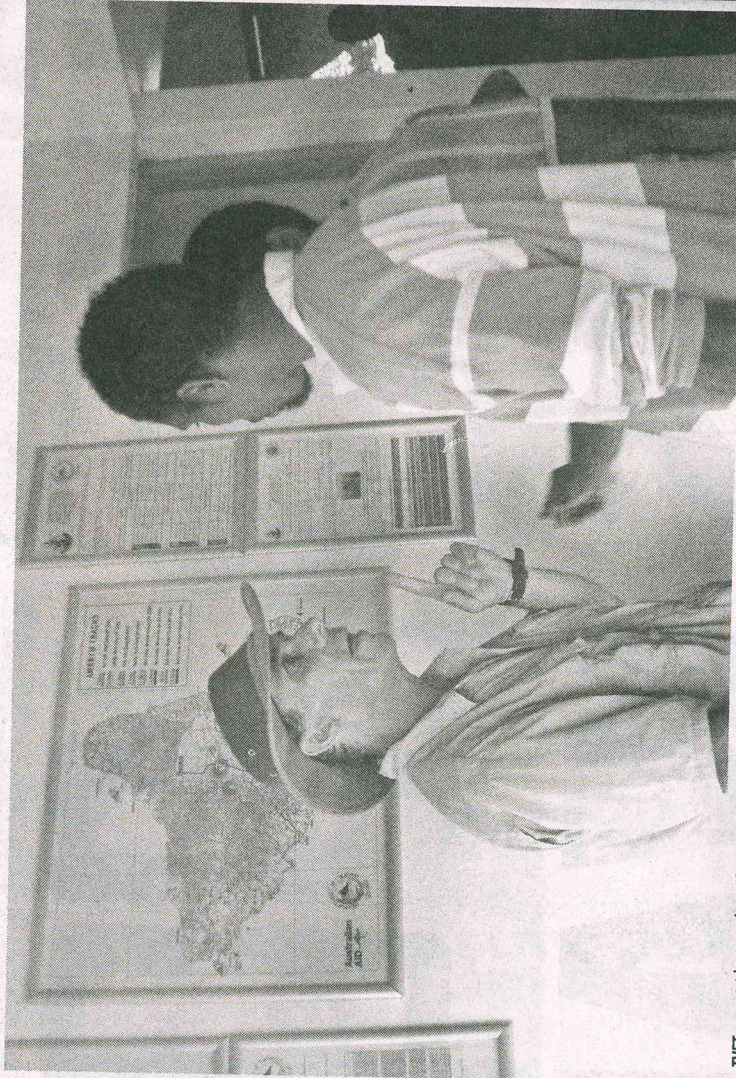
By Anita Roberts

UNLIKE BEFORE, TOURISTS WHO wish to holiday or make a stop-over on the island of Ambrym can now get all the information they want about the different tourist activities available on the island, including travel costs and safety, immediately on arrival at Craig Cove airport.

Men, women and children from communities around West Ambrym gathered at the airport on Friday afternoon to witness the unveiling of their island's tourist information board, made possible thanks to the Australian government funded TVET (Vanuatu Technical and Vocational Education and Training) program and the department of Tourism.

Published on the board is a map with roads and tracks on the island, the different charter transport prices for both boat and truck from various locations, and safety information that sees names of the certified tour guides for volcano-trekking.

The Malampa Tourism Development officer, Edna Paolo, explained to the villagers how a fixed price, following that found on the information board, is a good system and a symbol of



TVET tour guide consultant, Pascal Guilet, with two Ambrym tour guide leaders, having their say about the new Ambrym tourist information board at Craig Cove airport. (More photos of Ambrym's new tourism products on page 6)

transparency between the tourism operators and tourists and that keeping to the prices would maintain the island's tourists' guides' and transport operators' reputations.

The department of Tourism, in partnership with the AusAID fund-

ed TVET Sector Strengthening Program, have been working in Malampa province for the last two years to improve the standard and quality of products to meet the required standards set by the tourism sector.

The board was launched fol-

lowing training and business development session supported by TVET and consultations with the chiefs from North, West and South East Ambrym.

Director of the Department of Tourism, George Borugu, unveiled the information board.