

# LIGHTS, CAMERA, NAILS



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

**NAJA RICKETTE** takes a holiday that brings far more to her life than simple rest and relaxation

**W**ow-wee. For this New Year's season I took a holiday to the beautiful island of Fiji. Take my advice, do not wait to die to go to heaven - after all you might not make it! Visit Fiji for IT IS HEAVEN ON EARTH. The friendliest people on earth reside in Fiji.

I, along with 10 friends, had the chance to be welcomed with super open arms into a native village in the middle of the island. The village's name is Matainasau and is abundant with kava, breadfruit, taro and unconditional love. However, I will leave the love story for another time and focus on our love for nails.

The women of the village cooked elaborate meals for 10 extra people a day, while the men of the village made bamboo rafts and carried us (me) less strong swimmers across their heavy current river. I joined the women in the kitchen and offered to do their nails. I'd brought my custom collection of Minx designs and used the fire from the store as my heat source. Once applied they were wowed and honoured to have their metallic nails. I even cut out the 'Naja' on the minx sheet and Minxed up some of the men in the village with my name. They were so joyous and all the women were intrigued. They told me, "This is Fiji,"



Fijian villagers get minxed with Naja's designs in London Days & LaLa Land

when I asked about polish remover. Yes, they were wearing polish! They showed me their polish removal system; it was simple, by using a butter knife or blade they scraped the polish off the nail plate.

I am forever grateful to the village of Matainasau, for the natives



True welcome! This was taken after only 15min of meeting everyone

"They showed me their polish removal system; it was simple, by using a butter knife or blade they scraped the polish off the nail plate."



The magnificent village of Matainasau



Naja's nails held up during a natural hot springs mud bath



Meal time then rest time

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showed me it truly does take a village for a community to function positively. What I learned from this trip I put into immediate effect on my return home; elements such as how I communicate in business and in my personal affairs. I also dropped the conditioned American idea that, 'I can do it by myself.' I simply cannot! And anyway, it's much more fun doing it with all of you crazy nail addicts!"

Once I experienced true village life I realised deep inside, I'm definitely an island girl and I love the village mentality frame of life. It helped me to have a stronger appreciation for one of my Facebook friends, John Mwangi Cutex. He does nails in Kenya, Africa. I've been his friend for sometime and we have exchanged emails in the past.

However, it wasn't until I actually lived village style that I truly appreciated what John was doing in a small village in Africa. I asked him to share his story with me and it was so beautiful that I shared it on air on *Nail Talk Radio* a few weeks ago.

It was the show when Doug Schoon was our guest discussing UV and LED light and the possibility of under or over curing. And

guess what? Doug Schoon, our industry's leading scientific expert, gave us a double pleasure following the show, he called us saying that he wanted to send John a copy of his book and that he was not only impressed, but very impressed, on *Nail Talk Radio's* progress. Woo-hoo! We send special thanks to Doug Schoon.

If you missed the show you can listen via

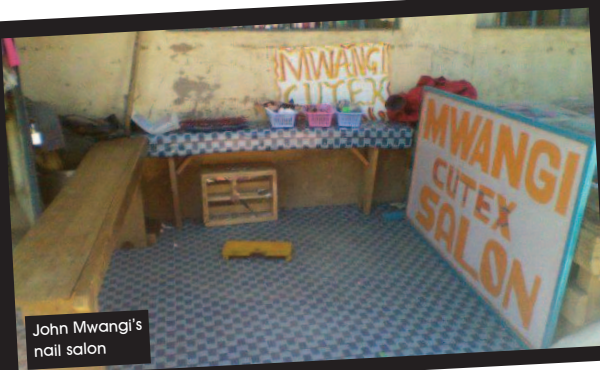
[www.blogtalkradio.com/nailtalkradio/2012/01/24/two-words-doug-schoon](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/nailtalkradio/2012/01/24/two-words-doug-schoon)

Don't miss it, Doug Schoon gives the scoop on the gel polish craze using UV and LED light and also what's in store for the future.

Plus, hear John Mwangi Cutex and his heart touching story of how he started his business with just \$1.



Doug Schoon  
with NTR crew



John Mwangi's  
nail salon



John Mwangi Cutex  
doing nails in Africa

"What I learned from this trip I put into immediate effect on my return home; elements such as how I communicate in business and in my personal affairs."

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Nail Talk Radio was created to give you THE INDUSTRY FIX while you wait on your monthly trade magazine. Being on air every week we have the opportunity to break news first! We did just that on Saturday 28 January. We had a special 30 minute Saturday night show launching the much anticipated new product from Famous Names, manufacturer of the much beloved Lumos bottom and top coat. We were all in suspense and BOOM they hit us with Dadi' Oil, a 95% organic nail treatment oil with 21 naturally derived essential oils. And it smells divine. Jim Nordstrom, formerly of CND, has been an industry icon for decades. So he knows nail oil! Be the first on your block to offer this luxurious treatment. **S**

[www.famousnamesproducts.com](http://www.famousnamesproducts.com)

## CONTACTS

We bring you THE Industry FIX every week. Please send guest ideas, topic discussions and any nail news to...

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