

The Unfurling Fern Frond

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Some years ago, my amazing aunt Sister M Walburga of Our Lady's Order of Compassion came to visit Sydney to attend a live-in week long seminar, entitled 'New Life'. So what? Aunt Rose, as we call her, was 84 years old at the time. I boldly teased her about the apparent incongruence of new beginnings at her level of maturity. More fool me!

She is a particularly strong-minded, feisty, intelligent woman who has inspired me all of my life, and who has been formally recognised by the Vatican for her missionary work with the Maori in New Zealand.

'Koru!' she said. Yes? I answered. I know the Koru is a beautiful Maori symbol for new beginnings; an example is the logo of Air New Zealand. 'Koru' she repeated. 'The unfurling fern frond. The punga (tree fern) puts out new shoots, no matter how old. Every few weeks, another new beginning. Age has nothing to do with it.'

Bless you, Aunt Rose. I'll keep growing too.

Catherine Palin-Brinkworth is an extraordinary leadership speaker and change strategist. She can show you how to build your business, build your people, build your profits and build the life you want. Call her on 0419 221 916 or visit www.catherinpalinbrinkworth.com to sign up for her subscriber-only ezines - Enlighten and Power Points. While you're there, click Contact, and type 'free e-book' in the message section to receive 'Aligning Purpose Power and Possibilities' which tells you how to use what you've already got to reach your goals.