

Te Mana O te Vaka

Project Update - Phase 1



Te Mana o te Vaka

Kia ora uatu rai te peu tupuna

Sennit Preparation - part 2

Burying the puru

Preparing the puru by removing the strands of fibre can be done in different methods. Traditionally, the puru is buried in the pai taro (taro patch where it is swampy) or sometimes in the sand close to the water line around the high tide mark. Papa Mike Tavioni wanted the puru for this project buried in the sand.



On Tuesday July 19, 2022 members of Gallery Tavioni & Vananga, the Cook Islands Voyaging Society (CIVS), the Cook Islands Traditional Arts Trust (CITAT) and friends and family, met with Papa Mike at Gallery Tavioni in Atupa. The beaten puru that was under the tarpaulin was gathered and put onto a truck and taken to Nikao. Papa Mike had arranged with the landowner to use his section of the beach to dig and bury the puru.



Everyone worked as a village to dig a long hole under Papa Mikes direction. Once there was water in the hole, the puru was added. The kids had a lot of fun standing on the puru to weigh it down. The puru was then covered over with sand. It will stay here for at least a month. This all took a total 2.5 hours with 12 helpers and four spades.



Project contacts

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