



Betsy Young
Co-ordinator of pingao planting

Jane Allan Marama Piripi Kate Harbutt

Roopu
Sec.

Awhina
Tautoko

Roopu Chair Regional Liaison



**Te Hiku o te Ika Roopu Raranga members with their
Northland Conservation Award
Betsy Young, Kate Harbutt and Jane Allan
Picture – Mike Barrington – Northland Advocate News**



□ Te Hiku o te Ika Roopu Raranga (the Fish Tail Weaving Group) members with their Northland Conservation Award are, from left, Betsy Young, Kate Harbutt and Jane Allan. — PICTURE / Mike Barrington

He kete pingao - Woven by Kate Harbutt





Stages of propagating pingao

These children are from Ngataki School Tyron Hansen, Micheal Rata, Manuel Rata and Monique Satelle who collected pingao seeds from Rarawa beach in year 2003 and all the pingao have now disappeared

**Pingao Plague made by whaea Riria Smith and Putiputi by Betsy Young
for James Te Tuhi taken at home in Dargaville
James helps us in the area of the Whakapapa of the Toheroa**













The Far North's Betsy Young, above, is passionate about pingao. When she's not planting the precious grass she is educating the community of its qualities. The *Northern Advocate's* Bay of Islands reporter **JOCK O'CONNOR** speaks to Betsy about her hopes to see it return in abundance.



2003



2003



**Planting Pingao at Waikeri the birthplace of Niki Lawrence
Ko Ngati Parewhero te Hapu
Ko Te Rarawa te Iwi**











...spaces together. Our signs at Tapotupotu (Taputaputa), Kapo
and Rarawa Beach will help visitors to our places be aware
there and not drive their vehicles over the nests. We have had
of seabirds over the last 5 years. These birds are now being
their original home, their habitat the loss in Sanctuary and safe
have contributed to this. Rarawa Beach is still accessible to
again we ask that you do not drive around the bird Sanctua
everyone!!!! Thanks to WWF, Taiatea, and DoC for support
conservation messages for summer. Nga mihi

Written by Friends of Rarawa

Ko te moana e hore i te roa kōi
Nō Tangarua kōi tēnā Marae
He mahe tea hua e ora ai ngā manu o te rangi
Mā te hua kōi tō whenua.



The sea is not *any* water
It is the *Maere* of Tangarua.
It yields life for *wahy* things: the birds in the sky,
and the inhabitants upon the earth.

MARAE MOANA KAITIAKI SURVEY

TAIATEA

The Marae Moana Kaitiaki Survey will
gather information on how people interact
with our marine and coastal areas. This will
support our future goals for rejuvenation of
our taiao, whenua and moana, based on
cultural values and principles of ecosystem-
based management. This project is borne
from Taiatea.

Taiatea, founded by Ngāi Kuri, is a
collective based on the foundation of
elevating cultural leadership and traditional
management practices to heal our land and
seas.

The Marae Moana Kaitiaki Survey is
supported by WWF-New Zealand.







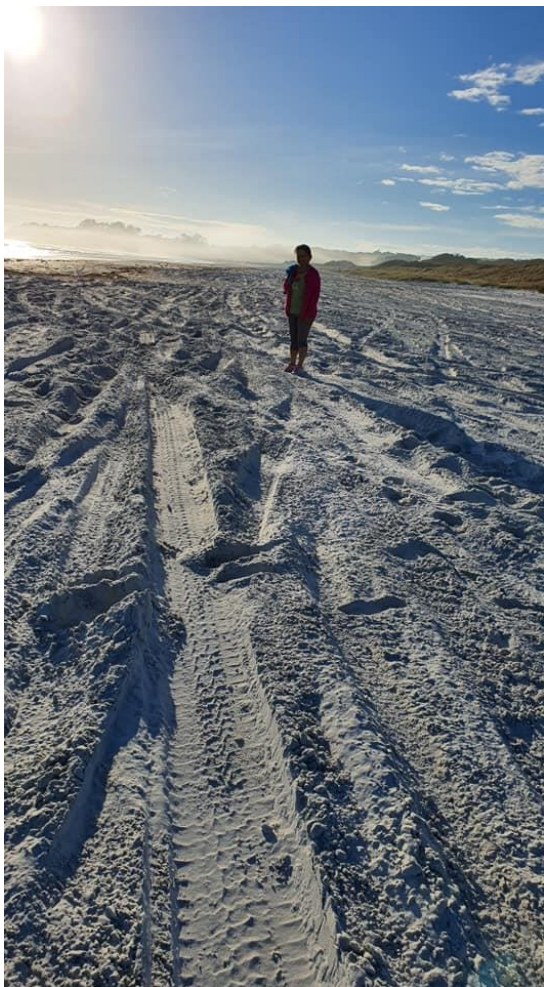






















Otane

taipari

Tūtūtarakihi











Pingao And Toetoe Kakaho

In the beginning of time when the Atua and their creations were living beings, they formulated life long partnerships. This legend of Pingao (sand flax) and Toetoe Kakaho (pampas) has become one of the oldest love stories that will continue mo ake nui tonu (eternally)

Tangaroa the God of the sea was always jealous of his brother Tane, God of the forest, for his success in separating Ranginui and Papatuanuku. They battle even today trying to claim each others territory, these battles have always been fanned by the fury of another brother, Tauwhirimatea, God of the winds.

Tane the God of the forest sought to make peace between them at one time by plucking out his eye brows (the pingao) and giving them to his brother Tangaroa as a peace offering. Tangaroa could not find peace within himself to accept the gift and in time gave the pingao back to Tane.

Pingao being a land creature pined for her lover Toetoe kakaho as she tried to settle in her new domain the sea, Tangaroa saw his adopted daughters head drop in misery. Her tears flowed as she told her father Tangaroa that she would surely die if she couldn't go to Toetoe Kakaho. Tangaroa held his daughter in silence and sadness and said " There is only one way left for you, but if you go you cannot return"

As she farewelled her father she found herself on the sand dunes, it was very hot so she dug her feet deep into the cooler sands. During the night she slept, exhausted from being burnt by Ra the Sun God, and pecked at by the birds.

She woke early and set off to find Toetoe Kakaho. She saw his tall golden head in the morning sun, he was the sentinel of the sand dunes, Kaitiaki of where Tane's domain ended and Tangaroa's began.

When they finally met and spoke, Toetoe Kakaho admired her courage, she had left home to be with him forever. He was honoured to have her by his side, he shaded her from the scorching sun with his long slender leaves, Ranginui, our sky father looked down and blessed their union by giving Pingao her golden colour which she would never loose.

Today we the descendants of the Atua still keep this legend alive as we create ornate Tukutuku panels that decorate our whare tupuna on our Marae.



