

# **Wai Puku Pātea Carvings**

Te Kura Tuatahi o Whakaahurangi

**Stratford Primary School**

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**This carving is in acknowledgement of Peter Teddy Tokotoko Tonga Awhikau (Born 24-12-1956, Died 31 May 2015) for all his work with our tamariki, staff and community in starting our Te Reo Māori journey.**

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I was invited to be part of the project by Hemi Hadden. At the time, Hemi had progressed the project to the stage where carving had commenced and research of appropriate representation was in progress. Hemi was completing his B.A in Māori design and art and Masters in Te Reo Māori and needed to focus on his studies and offered the project to me.

I had limited understanding of the concept that Hemi had been researching and taking on the project I created this taonga as a teaching aid to a Māori view of Education.

**Phil Nuku**