## STORIES OF THE HUNDRED FAMILY BRICKS

You can discover in the Gondwana ART bricks, stamped "Mont Dor". They hide under their red color, and some cracks, a fabulous story: that of a shipwreck, and a recovery occurred 76 years later. We briefly tell you this story.

## **January 27, 1935**

The story of these bricks, sometimes cracked, begins in 1935. Made by the brick factory of Mr. CREUGNET, Savina CREUGNET's great-grandfather, in Mont D'Or, these bricks were loaded onto a barge to be transported to Noumea. If all the convoys have been successful so far and the bricks arrived safely, this convoy of the end of January was going to sink on its way, and end up under 13 meters of water.

Considering the value of the goods, and the costs inherent to their recovery, the 25 000 bricks will not be recovered, and will remain submerged.... And little by little, the place of the shipwreck will be erased from the memory of the men, to become a real den for fish, and other marine species.

## 2011: when the subject resurfaces

From 1935 to 2011, many will forget this shipwreck and its bricks. However, in 2011, on the occasion of the collectors' fair organized by the Noumea town hall, Jean-Pierre Bressler revived the idea of finding the wreck, in order to take pictures of it.

From dream to reality, there is only one step... a few months later, research was launched and the wreck was found... or at least its cargo. It is indeed on a surface of 15 meters long and 4 meters wide that the bricks lie, still arranged meticulously, as if they had just been stored. They have become a real living space for corals, sponges, sea urchins, shells...

## 2016: Operation 100 bricks

It was not until 2016 that the "Operation 100 Bricks" project was born. In about 2 hours, no less than 250 kg of bricks, that is to say a hundred of these blocks will be brought to the surface, for the greatest pleasure of the descendants of Camille CREUGNET.

After a desalination, they have now regained their beautiful red colour, and they are there, in front of you, witnesses of a past, and bearers of a beautiful history.



