

Location: Maupihā'a, a remote atoll in French Polynesia

Problems: Navigating the narrow reef pass with strong currents, toilet blockage on the boat

Fixes: Unclogging the toilet with muriatic acid and drain unblockers

Sailing Condition: Challenging conditions with strong currents and shallow coral reefs at the pass

Anchorage: Anchored at Mala, a small atoll with a rich history

Marinas: No marinas available, anchoring in the open water

Safety Measures: Navigating the reef pass cautiously, securing scaffolding while building the roof

Routes: Sailed 150 miles from Bora Bora to Mala, planned to sail 800 miles to Beveridge Reef

Sea Bottom: Shallow coral reefs at the pass, sandy bottom at anchorage in Mala

Weather: Rain upon arrival at Mala, subsequent sunny weather for roof-building

Tide: Strong currents at the pass, outgoing tide affecting navigation

Currents: High currents at the reef pass, affecting boat control

Cultural Interaction: Helping local residents build a tiki hut, sharing resources and expertise

Unique Experience: Building a thatch roof with palm leaves for the local family

Community Involvement: Collaborating with other cruisers to assist in roof construction

Unexpected Plans: Changing course to the Cook Islands due to deteriorating weather conditions

Drama: Running aground incident and decision to head to Aitutaki in the Cook Islands.