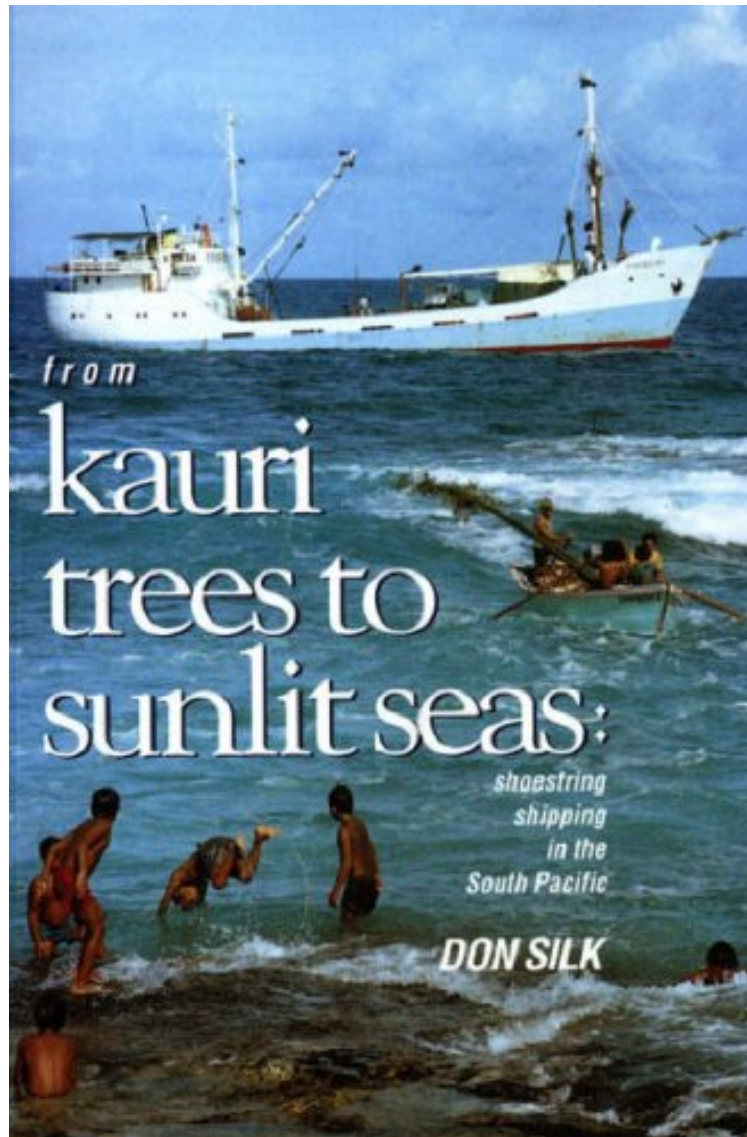


(Free download) From Kauri Trees to Sunlit Seas: Shoestring Shipping in the South Pacific

From Kauri Trees to Sunlit Seas: Shoestring Shipping in the South Pacific

Don Silk

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Don Silk : From Kauri Trees to Sunlit Seas: Shoestring Shipping in the South Pacific before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised From Kauri Trees to Sunlit Seas: Shoestring Shipping in the South Pacific:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I love it!By Christian HalleAnyone who is *really* fascinated by the South Pacific or Cook Islands, should read this book.If one travels to some of the outer-islands in the Cooks Island - where life is much as in old times, one will get a glimps of what is described in the book.I bought this book while I

was in Rarotonga - Cook Islands and read it when I was in Tokelau (travelling to Tokelau is only possible by boat from Apia, Samoa). After having been in Tokelau, one really is able to appreciate Don Silks story teller qualities. Buy it!

Don Silk built his first boat, the "Patsy Jean", with a book on boat building in one hand. Constructed from specially milled Northland kauri, it was launched at Opononi, on the Hokianga Harbour, and in 1959 he set off for Rarotonga with his wife and baby daughter. Scarcely more than a decade later he was the co-owner, with Bob Boyd, of the highly successful inter-island shipping company Silk Boyd, based in the Cook Islands. At their peak in the 1970s, they operated a fleet of three vessels and moved thousands of tonnes of cargo around the South Pacific, as well as to the various international destinations. This work recounts Silk's adventures in the Pacific over nearly four decades. During this time, vessels were bought and sold, rebuilt and wrecked; cargoes of coconuts and corned beef, pineapples and pearl shells were transported, along with crazy English beachcombers and Mormon missionaries complete with bicycles. The excitement of hurricanes and shipwrecks, stowaways and drunken sea captains was matched by the challenge of outwitting officialdom, as Silk endeavoured to explain, on one occasion, a shipment of arms and, on another, a cargo of liquor worth more than a million dollars.