



LONGCAST

- 20 January 23 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Titirangi RSA
- 30 January 23 – Auckland Anniversary Day
- 6 February 23 – Waitangi Day
- 10 February 23 - Navy Club
- 17 February 23 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Swanson RSA
- 17 March 23 - Ngapona Assn Lunch at Waiheke RSA

Hi Folks

Happy New Year

from HMNZS Ngapona Assn Inc

I hope the holiday period is going well for you. At least we can't complain about the weather in NZ.

Sorry this newsletter is a bit short, but the Editor is on leave!

A BLEAK OUTLOOK FOR 2023

2022 was supposed to be the year of post-pandemic and post-lockdown re-openings, but – as ING’s global head of macro, Carsten Brzeski, says – it became the year of war, inflation, energy and commodity price crises, drought and floods. “The list of unprecedented crises gets longer by the year,” he said in an end-of-year economic research note. As a result, ING expects to see “several different shades of recession in 2023”. Those shades include a “rather textbook-style recession in the US” with the central bank hiking rates until the real estate and labour markets start to weaken, and inflation comes down. Then in Asia, the warning reads “expect a recession that feels but doesn’t read like a recession in China with Covid restrictions, a deflating real estate market and weakening global demand, bringing down economic activity to almost unprecedented low levels”. The eurozone, meanwhile, can “look forward” to an end to the typical cycle in the eurozone, where a mild recession is followed by only very subdued growth. Instead, there is a risk of a ‘double dip’, as the region copes with many structural challenges and transitions. In general, Brzeski sees inflation as “one of the key themes of 2023”, expecting it to come down quickly in America, but be “stickier” in the eurozone. “We

are entering a year with the widest range of possible outcomes and forecasts in years,” Brzeski concluded. “And this is not even taking into account potential blind spots such as the start of a pandemic or a war in Europe that markets simply did not have on their radar screens at the end of 2019 or 2021. It is both interesting and challenging, for the economy, for financial markets, for companies, for households but also for economists.”

"UNTIMELY" AND TRAGIC

The head of a major Russian shipyard that has worked on vessels in the country's naval fleet died suddenly, sparking speculation online based on other similar deaths of prominent Russians this year. Alexander Buzakov, the 66-year-old Director General of the Admiralty Shipyards for the United Shipbuilding Company, died on Saturday. No cause of death has yet been reported for the wealthy businessman, with a report from the Russian state-run news agency TASS saying that his passing was "untimely" and tragic. Just a day prior to his death, Buzakov attended a float-out ceremony for his company's latest vessel, a new submarine dubbed Velikie Luki. He had been a veteran of the business, with over 40 years of experience and 11 years at the helm of Admiralty Shipyards. The sudden nature of Buzakov's passing and his prominent status in the country's business realm has led to some speculation online due to the recent trend of sudden and mysterious deaths among Russian elites within the last year. Since January, 11 so-called Russian "oligarchs" have died under suspicious circumstances, often officially explained as apparent suicides or accidents.

Source: Newsweek

ROYAL NAVY SHIPS IN NEW ZEALAND

HMS TORTOISE

Built in Bombay India as a merchantman (East Indiaman) for the East India Company and launched in the 1700s as the *Sir Edward Hughes*. Taken up by the RN in Oct 1804.

957 tons.

Armament: 1794 - 26 9 and 4 pounder guns; 1803 40 9, 12, 18 pounder guns. As a frigate 38 guns. As a storeship 22 9 pounder guns. As a convict ship 2 18 pounder carronades.

Propulsion: Sail

Complement: 1794 – 99; 1803 – 205; as a storeship - 90

Length: 146 feet 8 inches

Beam: 39 feet 3 inches.

Propulsion: Sail

The Royal Navy purchased the *Sir Edward Hughes* in May 1804 and she was commissioned as the HMS *Sir Edward Hughes*. After several years' service she was renamed HMS *Tortoise* on the 28th Nov 1807 and was fitted out as a storeship. In 1824 she was acting as a coal depot ship again reverting to a storeship in 1841. James Wood (ex master of the *Buffalo*) was to take command of *Tortoise* 22 May 1841. On the 12 August 1841, Wood received orders to take convicts to Hobart, and then to visit New Zealand to pick up spars.

The *Tortoise* picked up a load of spars at a place known as Timber Station near the Tairoa River. Unfortunately, the ship's jolly boat capsized in big surf at Te Karo Bay with the loss of one sailor, Able Seaman William Samson. Apparently, the RNZN still maintains his

grave. Wood sailed *Tortoise* to Port Abercrombie Great Barrier Island. The ship's cutter being sailed between bays was hit by a squall, sank and another sailor was drowned.

Tortoise lent support to Major Tunbury of the 80th Regiment of Foot during his expedition against the Te Arawa at Tauranga. Her contribution included 2 18 pounder carronades, 100 round shot, 50 canister as well as a small force of sailors and marines. Fortunately, the Acting Governor wisely withdrew the force when he realised it could not prevail against the Maori force aligned against it.

Eventually, after taking on more spars at Slipper Island, *Tortoise* left New Zealand on the 19th June 1843. She arrived at Spithead that October. *Tortoise* was also carrying Mrs. Hobson and her children who had been widowed on the death of her husband the Governor in September 1842. This was to be the final voyage for spars mounted by the Royal Navy to New Zealand.

HMS *Tortoise* was sailed to Ascension Island in 1844 under Commander Arthur Morrell. She was to remain there under various masters until at least 1859. It is not known exactly what happened to *Tortoise* however she was probably broken up at Ascension Island between 1859 and 1863.

Note: Ascension Island is an isolated volcanic island south of the equator in the South Atlantic Ocean about 1000 miles from the coast of Africa and 1400 miles from the coast of South America. Garrisoned by the British in 1815 and used as a victualling station for Royal Navy ships. RAF Ascension Island is located there. The island was used as a staging point during the Falklands War. NASA operates a telescope for monitoring orbital debris on Ascension.



H.M.S.Tortoise Loading Spar Timber off Tairua, New Zealand.

Regards
Jerry Payne
Editor

HMNZS Ngapona Assn

021 486 013

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