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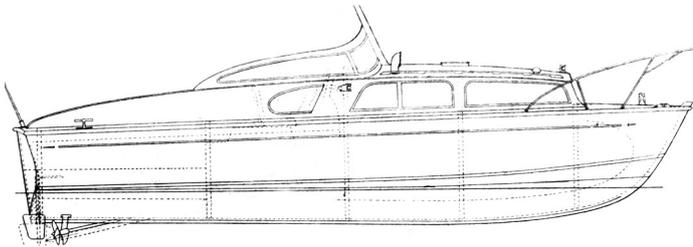
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~bmbg/>

Ensign's report 1st July 2011

Chris and I were able to represent the BMBG at the inaugural SSS Model Submarine Regatta at Gosford, NSW, on June 11-12th, and our thanks go out to the SSS MBC event organisers.

Fairey's Huntsman

The James Bond film *From Russia with Love* features a boat chase in which several examples of the classic Fairey speedboat feature. For the record, there are two Huntsman 28s, one long-cabin Huntress and two standard Huntresses. The chase boat was driven by none other than Peter Twiss, once Fairey Aviation's chief test pilot, who raised the world speed record by a huge margin in 1956 with the FD.2 aircraft.



The Huntsman appeared in the February and March 1962 issues of *Model Maker* (later *Model Boats*) and has remained a popular plan ever since. My doctored 'action' photo (below) shows one that Tom built that is now in the sympathetic care of a new owner, whilst Allan has his under construction.



Life in the Royal Navy by W.D. and H.O. Wills

These pictures are from a series of 50 cigarette cards issued by Wills's Cigarettes in 1939, showing some of the many facets of life aboard His Majesty's warships.



In the first of these we learn that during Naval Week each August, it is possible for the cost of one shilling

(children half price) to gain entry to the dockyards of Portsmouth, Chatham and Devonport and visit many of the ships on display to the public in the UK.

Despite the introduction of wireless telegraphy, visual signalling remained an important skill within the RN and could be done with flags (as shown here) semaphores, searchlights or flashing lamps. A signalman needed to be included in any party leaving the ship.



"Starting as an ordinary signalman, promotion leads through the grades of signalman, leading signalman, yeoman of signals and chief yeoman of signals to Signal Boswain, a warrant rank."



This picture shows an electrical artificer (a chief petty officer) and a seaman-torpedoman at work in the electrical workshop of HMS Ark Royal, overhauling one of the many electric motors to be found on a ship.

"Each warship carries ordinance artificers, engineroom artificers and electrical artificers, who are not only the most highly skilled but also the most highly paid ratings in the Royal Navy."

A whaler is a double-ended boat, about 25-27 foot long, and on destroyers it served as a sea-boat. "Disengaging gear permits the boat to be slipped from the falls while the ship is still making way through the water."

From this picture it is clear that Royal Navy boat crews did not include any O, H and S representatives!

