



VOL. II

NO. IV

NEWSLETTER

Captain's Log 9th May 2009

Melbourne's recent cold snap reminds us that winter is not far away. But let's not complain. At least we won't have to arrive at the lake hours before sailing time to chip a hole in the ice, as some model boat clubs in the northern hemisphere have to do.



The one that didn't get away

The fishing was good at Cairnlea recently. After a fierce tussle across half the area of the lake, Chris managed to land this extraordinary Grey-fin Mud Sucker which tipped the scales at 1.65 kg.

Cabinet ministers appointed

We now have a steel cabinet for our reference library - many thanks to Allen Black and runner-up Murray with his wardrobe. Allan Harkom, Richard, Stan and myself have keys. Please return any magazines to their correct location and perform a little general housekeeping when making use of the library.

My Seaplane Tender 206 is nearing completion and should be ready for initial sea trials soon.



Researching a new model

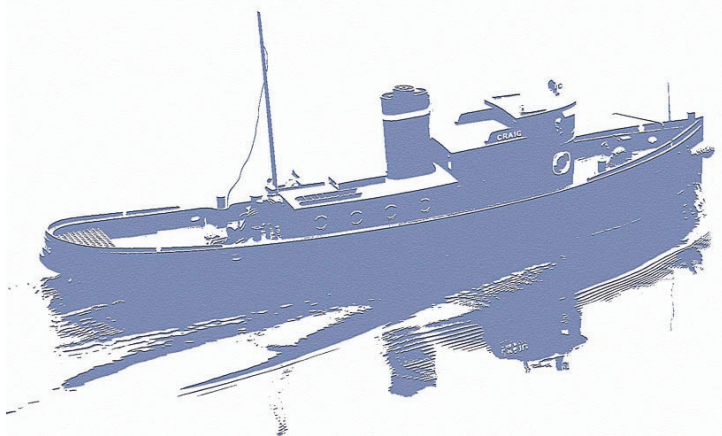
If you haven't been able to find the right plans to inspire your next model it may be time to do some research and produce your own. Going down this route will not only extend your skills in new areas but provide you with a unique model. Potential subjects should not be too hard to find. This example is from the Wooden Boatshop of Sorrento, and is reproduced with their permission. See: www.woodenboatshop.com.au



The craft is called the Nepean and is of traditional appearance with rakish lines - ideal for a model, though that pulpit rail might prove tricky to make. Here are its specifications:

Length overall 28'6" - Displacement 5 tons - Beam 11' 4" Engine Yanmar 4JH4 54hp - Draft 3'1" - Speed Max 8.5knots

To a scale of 1:10 and converting to metric this would result in a model about 870mm long by 345mm wide and 5kg weight (divide the full-size displacement by the cube of the scale factor to determine the weight of the model). It wouldn't be a fast craft, but could cruise around for hours on a large SLA battery with the warm glow of that varnished woodwork adding a touch of style.



Manufacturers, operators or owners of full-size craft are usually amenable to a polite approach by a modelmaker seeking information for a model. With their permission a folio of photographs should be taken from all angles, and perhaps some key dimensions jotted down in a notebook. Full-size plans can sometimes be tracked down, but failing that the photos and notes should provide sufficient information for a three-view drawing to be made, and model construction detail to be worked up based on experience with other models.