

# AMATEUR BOAT BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION

**AUG/SEPT 1999**

## **ABBA COMMITTEE**

<b>Geoff Leggatt,</b>	<b>President,</b>	ph 9410 1422 (Wk)	9367 3595 (Hm)
<b>John McKillop.</b>	<b>Secretary,</b>	ph 9410 1422 (Wk)	9313 7442 (Hm)
<b>Chris Davis,</b>	<b>Treasurer,</b>	ph 9222 5664 (Wk)	9387 5042 (Hm)
<b>Mike Beilby,</b>	<b>Newsletter,</b>	ph 9397 6209 (Hm)	

Contact any of these four people for clarification of association activities.



## **EDITORIAL**

**Mike Beilby.**

The Amateur Boat Builders' Association appears to be rising, Phoenix-like, yet again, which is why this is the first news-letter issue you have received for some time. Never mind, we're back now and aiming to keep you acquainted with what's going on in the local amateur boat building scene. Having said that I should warn readers that this will be a minimalist publication, dedicated to the belief that there is no substitute for attending meetings, which are still only every second month.

To add to the calendar, however, we are going to include a bi-monthly visit to a member's boat-building project, and this will probably be about two weeks after the bi-monthly evening meeting. First, and hence bravest, cab off the rank is our new treasurer, Chris Davis, who will show us the 30' gaff cutter (circa 1946) which he has been trying to pluck up the courage to restore for a couple of years now. It's at his place at 5 Johnson St, Wembley and members will be welcome there from about 2pm on Saturday, 11th of

Sept. Thanks in advance, Chris, it should be a fascinating visit, especially for those of us who've never had the courage to rebuild an old boat.

An additional club activity of less interest to the rank and file is a bi-monthly committee meeting, which will take place around a month after the full association meeting. At the moment we have an absolutely massive committee of four members, as detailed above.

### **ABBA Calendar**

Association Meeting,  
Tues 31 Aug, M.B.S.C.

Project Visit,  
Saturday 11th Sept. from 2pm.  
Home of Chris Davis,  
5 Johnson St, Wembley.

Committee meeting, and copy closing,  
Monday, 20 th September.

## LAST MEETING

Our last meeting was on the 29th of June and we were addressed by David Lugg with a brief history of 14' skiffs (I thought they were called 14' dinghies, but skiffs will do) and the building of modern ones using composite techniques.

The historical side of the subject covered mostly between the wars and was well illustrated with projected photographs of the boats and sailing conditions, however information on the post-war plywood era was

somewhat sparse. David then described the building of current skiffs using carbon-foam sandwich techniques. Building the hull in this medium seemed complicated enough to the traditionalists amongst us, but I suspect the minds of many of us were thoroughly boggled when David went on to describe making the spars and smaller parts as well! It seems this bloke could build a boat from just a roll of carbon, a tin of resin and some sheets of Klegecell foam. It was a fascinating insight into how the other half lives in the boat-building world.

## ASSOCIATION LIBRARY

The Association boasts an extensive library covering a wide range of boating subjects, including:

Construction, Cruising, Design, Electrics, General, Marine Life, Mechanics, Navigation, Racing, Sails and Rigging and Video.

At the moment Cruising and Construction are very extensive while Racing and Video are pretty slim. Pres. Geoff recently completed a complete list of all accessions, in categories, showing author and publication date. You should get a copy of the list, if you've not already done so, at the next meeting because the books occupy four large bin boxes and require several trips to lugg them upstairs to the meeting site. Geoff would like to reduce

this effort a little in future and only bring up boxes from which people want books. The idea is that prospective borrowers select a book(s) from the list and ring Geoff on 9410 1422 to tell him which book you want and he'll bring the appropriate box up to the meeting. (Thinks --- If four of us get together and plan this in advance, we can still get Geoff to bring all four boxes up to the meeting!)

Members are invited to keep an eye out for additional purchases which could be made for the library. Keep an eye on the shelves and if you see something of general enough interest, note the title, publisher and author and advise a committee member of the details.

## FINANCIAL MEMBERSHIP

It was decided at the last committee meeting to set the association's financial year to coincide with the major financial year, that is from 1st July to 30th June. This means that most of you owe fees from the 30th June. Membership was set at \$25 and fees should be paid to Treasurer, Chris Davis, at the earliest opportunity. Memberships can go into arrears to the extent of two issues of the newsletter and will then lapse, although the separate flyer advising of next meeting will continue for a couple of months longer. IF YOU ARE NOT CURRENTLY FINANCIAL you will receive this issue of the newsletter, and the next, and then no more.

## NEXT MEETING

Next meeting, Tues, 31 Aug, will see a talk by Curtin Uni lecturer in naval architecture, Kim Klaka. Kim recently cruised his 10.4m (34ft) van der Stadt, "Panache II" on both the East and West coasts of Oz, covering a thousand miles on this side and two thousand on the other. The talk will be entitled "What Worked and What Didn't" and will look at the success or otherwise of the boat and its various systems. While this is interesting stuff to most of us, it will be essential material for anyone building a cruising yacht and the closer one is to completion, the more vital some of the information will be. Don't miss it.

## Sth Aust Wooden Boat Festival.

Your editor was fortunate enough to be able to attend the Wooden Boat Festival held bi-annually at Goolwa at the mouth of the Murray River in South Australia. This year's event was held in glorious March weather with boats attending from as far afield as Queensland and Western Australia. If one picture is worth a thousand words, then here's a few thousand for you to be getting along with.



A grand old lady. 100 yr-old PS "Marion".



An interesting original putt-putt, one of several, this one Chapman Pup powered.



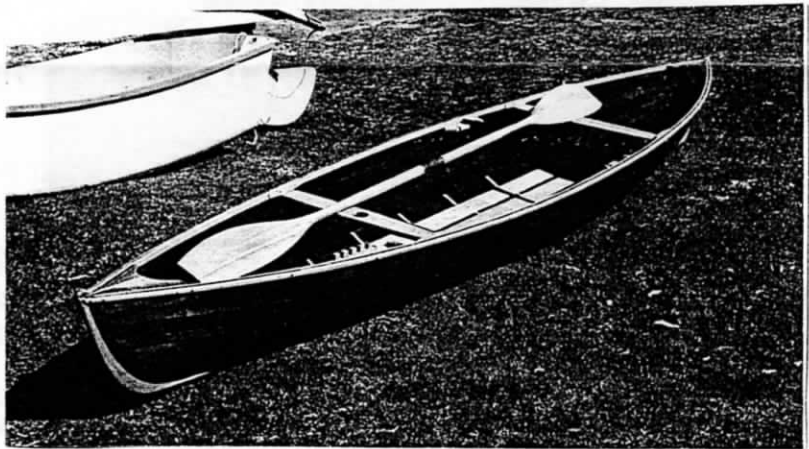
An interesting Phil Bolger one-off. The King William Sound yawl.



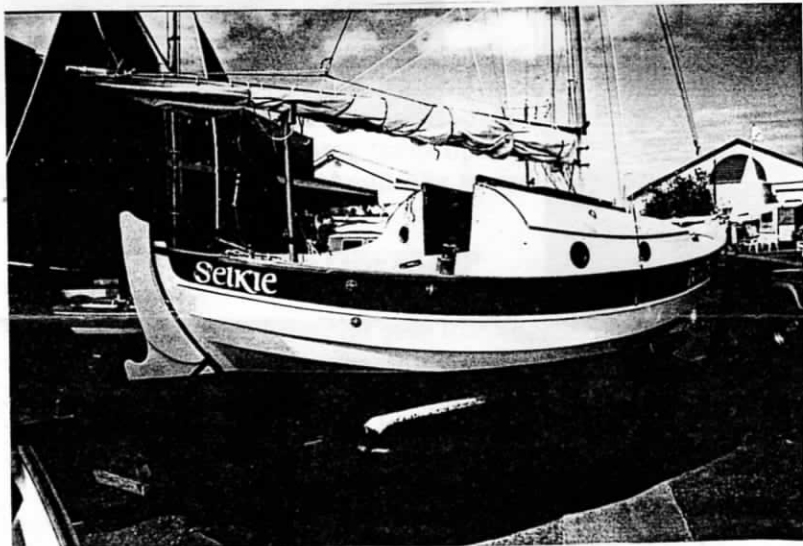
A beautiful Joel White-designed "Catspaw", this one powered by a 3.5hp Pup, from Alan Graham of Queensland.



A Joel White "Catspaw" (L) and an Oughtred "Acorn 12" between activities.



A small "Wee Rob" canoe, another Oughtred design.



An immaculate "Grey Seal" sloop, also by Ian Oughtred.

Wally Cook, from WA, does his best to have "Karina" run down by PS "Mundoo".

