

WAVELENGTH 780

Newsletter - No. 3

February 2009

An occasional newsletter for interested followers of the Wavelength 780

(Re-edited in PDF – Jan 2012)

Wavelength Client,

I hope that you have had an enjoyable break over Xmas - New Year. Now that the summer holiday season is behind us for another year, I am writing to keep you up to date with developments with the Wavelength 780.

Wavelength No.4 is set to commence in Bowen Queensland, although heavy rains and the threat of a cyclone in the area will be of major concern to Albert & Paula K.

I am sure you will be interested in attached photos of progress on Wavelength No. 3 being built by Neil H. in Brisbane. He is making excellent progress on his project and is nearly ready to remove the port side of the main hull from the mould. Details are shown of the mould, the lightweight keelson under construction, which makes the boat extremely stiff & strong, as well as the general layout on the port side of the boat.



Port Hull looking aft

I have been waiting for Neil to finish this stage to access the mould frames to do an accurate transfer of the mould batten notches to the main hull frame drawings. This will then finalize the set of full size mould frames for the main hull, and other patterns needed by builders outside of Brisbane.



Port Hull looking forward



Keelson & Centreboard Case detail



Main Hull Mould set up – rear view

Besides the floats, full building manuals have now been completed and are available for the beams and the complete folding system, including the Beam Box Frames and all metal components for the folding system.

Now that you have had a chance to get a better idea of the method and scope of the project from the study package, I am interested in feedback on the boat from potentially interested builders.

Some of the points that you might like to address, to the extent that they affect you, are:

- I am interested in the boat, but after looking at the study package, it is too small / large for my requirements (or has other limitations for my intended use).
- I am concerned that the boat might cost too much. (An estimate for a basic sail-away boat plus trailer & motor for weekending without frills or expensive electronic 'add-ons' is likely to be around \$50,000). Fully fitted boats, with extra sails and cruising gear will add commensurately to the cost.
- The boat appears to be too complex to build for my current set of skills.
- I am confident I can build the boat, however suitable building space may be an issue.
- I am having difficulty finding suitable plywood, or other material, for the project.

(I have recently inspected a supply of 3.6mm Exterior Grade, A Bond, B/C face, Indonesian Malapi, weight around 5.5 to 6kg per sheet, available from a Brisbane supplier at a good price which meets the flexibility, weight and structural requirements for the boat. Some imported ply, nominally a Chinese sourced 'Gaboon', normally an accepted boat building ply, has been found to have suspect cores, with grass being found in the cores in a recent consignment.) (Further to this, Kiri or Paulownia is another lightweight option for stringers and general framing in the boat).

- I am still interested in the boat, however current economic circumstances are deterring me from making a

- commitment to building at this stage.
- I may consider starting later in the year.
 - I would prefer to wait until I know a completed set of plans and building manual is available for 'Out-of-Brisbane' builders before committing further to the project.
 - My main interest is in racing and I am interested in any future options to the boat for this purpose.
 - Any other general comments on the boat, particularly those which might encourage you to take on the project, likewise comment on those factors that deter you, would be welcome!

The details of the current 'plans' offer are added as an attachment.

I look forward to your reply,

Kind Regards,

Bob Forster

I am happy to receive further occasional email news on the Wavelength 780. _____

I don't wish to receive further email on the Wavelength 780. _____