

If you are a really keen F&B reader, and/or something of a centre console fanatic, you will probably pick that this is the very same model AMM that was featured on the cover of F&B #32.

So what's it doing back in these pages again you might well ask? Well, Barton Thomas, the young builder responsible for Australian Master Marine, was concerned that the promotion we ran in #32 dealt with the concept of building a very base boat that was so effective, everybody immediately thought that was all Barton wanted to do, in pretty much the same way as Cliff Joshua (from JBS Marine) much prefers his customers to take away the unfinished boat, and finish it off themselves.

Barton in fact, is almost the opposite. He prefers the type of work where the

all said and done, that's what a fishing boat is all about.

The downside is all about the question of exposure, and you've got to take a personal view of that - because it varies from one person to another.

Centre consoles, by definition, do not offer a hell of a lot of protection from the elements. If you live and play in the tropical north of Australia, you can live with the exposure - and in summer, even prefer it. However, I'm not too sure that snapper fishermen on Port Phillip Bay are all that enamoured with centre consoles, and running out of Kianinny Inlet at Tathra (on the South Coast of NSW) after yellowfin on a nice crisp June morning, is enough to give a bloke goose bumps just thinking about it. But for many fishos, a centre console is the only way

with simply beautiful manners from its half pod mounted Evinrude 115 - a combination that is just about spot-on.

This boat had a fuel tank of 150 L which the guys reckon translated to a working range of about 200 miles, a very useful figure that can be further extended if you need long range tanks for use in the north or west coastal regions.

The console itself is superbly designed, and takes the new LCD sounder and/or GPS systems flush mounted and out of the way. AMM had a very effective, clear spray cover that slid into a bolt rope across the top of the windscreen and down over the dash just behind the wheel, to provide wet weather protection for the electronics and instrumentation should you score heavy rain and seas at the same time.

AMM'S Trick 5.2m Centre Console

customer says "Barton, build me a boat; I'll be back for it in three months!" And leaving a reasonable pile of dollars on his desk, the customer leaves the job for Barton and his team to finish. As a result, they've built some exquisite aluminium boats, with costs that vary according to the degree of fit-out and the state of completion the owner requires.

After our promotion in #32, the guys went ahead and built this boat for themselves, and they've subsequently run the delicately painted boat in tournaments and fishing comps from Gladstone Qld, to Iluka, NSW.

Demonstrations have been carried out just about everywhere they've gone, and the boat has generated considerable interest and many sales.

It's not hard to see why either, if you're into centre consoles (and it's not something you get to by accident) this is a beauty.

As the proud owners of another centre console (our new Cairns Custom Craft 5.7 cat) we are once again very mindful of the good news and bad news about centre consoles.

Firstly, centre consoles are absolutely fantastic fishing boats. There is simply no better configuration for the fisho, is there? You can fish right around the boat, from every possie, and when it's

SPECIFICATIONS

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|---|-----------------------|
| Manufacturer |AMM |
| Model/Designation | .. 5.2 Custom Console |
| Type |Centre Console |
| Construction |Aluminium |
| Topsides Thickness |4 mm |
| Bottom Thickness |4 mm |
| Length, on trailer, in garage |7.0 m |
| Length, Sprit to duckboard |5.8 m |
| Length, stem head to transom |5.2 m |
| Maximum Beam |2.24 m |
| Deadrise |18 degrees |
| Hull Draught |200 mm |
| Hull (only) dry weight |400 kg |
| BMT Weight for highway | .. 1.2 -1.4 tonne |
| Minimum horsepower |70 hp |
| Maximum Horsepower |115 hp |
| Sterndrive Option |No |
| Fuel Capacity |150 L |
| Water Capacity |(Opt) L |
| People Capacity |4 |
| BMT Packages from |\$24,000 |
| BMT Package (as shown incl electronics) |\$31,500 |

to travel, and the AMM 5.2 is quite simply, one of the best you'll ever find.

The hull is 5.2 m from stem to transom and it's got 2.24 m of beam. This particular boat had an 18 degree deadrise on the transom so it was very, very soft at the expense of a little bit of stability in the corners, but really, the serious blokes wouldn't give a rat's

They'd prefer the softer ride anyway, and this boat has that in spades. It's soft, it's dry, it's a delight to handle,

This is really a nice touch, and very typical of the expertise and good thinking that is reflected all through this boat.

As seen here, it packages up for about \$24,000 with a 'hull only' price of around \$12,599.

Obviously, being a custom plate shop they would like nothing more than to build in all the bits and pieces that you require.

They're also keen to remind readers this is just one of a series of models that they have now produced in various lengths from 4.75 m through to 8.5 m, in configurations that include centre cab, cuddy, centre console and wheelhouse models.

Best bet is to ring the team at AMM to have a chat with them about your requirements. Then organise a sea trial. It's only when you've got your bum into one of the AMM 5.2's on the water, that

you'll appreciate how sweet it is!

For further information please call:
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