

Fisherman & Boatowner FIELD TEST

An imposing sight as it cruises down the bay at around 24 knots, perfectly trimmed by skipper Ruth Cunningham using a combination of the 18" wide Bennett trim tabs and the powerful MerCruiser Bravo Two sterndrive leg's trim mechanism. Fully laden, with nearly 1,000 litres of liquids (750/250 litres diesel/water) the 3.4 Stessl dory, fishing gear and camera equipment, *Dusty Rover* will peak at around 27-28 knots, and cruise at 22-23 knots continuously.



Ruth Cunningham works hard (!!) with her big toe on the powerful Simpson Lawrence anchor winch switch, as she lowers the CQR anchor and chain warp.

Cairns Custom Craft 8.0 m M.P.V.

Presenting the first in a series of reports we'll publish over the next 12-18 months dealing with F&B's exceptional 8.00 m plate alloy Cairns Custom Craft sportfisherman. Specifically designed to use as a multi-purpose vessel, its principal function is to act as a long-range mothership for sportfishing conducted from a dory or the boat itself. This month, Editor Peter Webster looks at the results of the first sea trials of the finished craft, and explores the difference a single propeller can make to the outcome of any powerboat project.

The Story So Far Two years ago, we approached Cairns Custom Craft's chief designer, architect and one time Frenchman, Marcel Maujean, to pick up where we had left off from F&B's popular *Genesis* Project.

Genesis, a 7.2 m JBS hardtop cruiser powered by twin Honda 90 outboards, was the second boat to explore the principle of mother-shiping with a trailerboat ie *Genesis* became the "mothership" from which we launched a 3.0 m Horizon fishing dory.

This project opened up the floodgates of interest from readers

Dusty Rover is a very special craft that has been developed through the pages of F&B magazine over the last two years. For the sake of readers who have been with us through that period we won't reiterate too much on what has gone before. Instead, we suggest readers who have only just discovered F&B in recent months might like to check through F&B's web site for the back issues covering this boat's development. Issues we'd recommend include F&B #55 and #62. You'll find F&B's web site at www.seamedia.com.au

across Australia, as it touched on most readers' innate desire to fish in northern or remote waters where the fishing and lifestyle is still in the "Boys Own" adventure category.

But *Genesis* had some limitations, not least of which was the refrigeration system that would not keep food long enough for more than three or four days in the field, without having to come back to base for more fresh food.

Romantic notions of living off the land aside, the realities of day to day life are such that we do need our Kellogs, coffee, bread, meat, veggies

