



# Seafarer Vixen 5.25 Cuddy

Since the Seafarer brand was taken over by The Haines Group, the factory has worked hard to get all the moulds sorted, the models into production and the dealer network sorted - no easy job when they've got Signature, Traveller and Suzuki to look after at the same time, plus a host of peripheral brands and products. Now, as Editor Peter Webster discovered, it is all starting to come together . . . including the opening pics by Greg Haines. *(Love your work, Greg, keep it up!)*

I had several reasons to chuckle to myself as I walked down to the launchramp at Runaway Bay Marina last month, to prepare this month's preview of the very neat 5.25 Seafarer Vixen, one of the better packages in the big Haines Group model line-up.

Firstly, I was contemplating just how far we've come from the 1960's when a 5.25m craft of this calibre was considered the top of the mountain, and I remembered quite clearly the 17' Bellboy fibreglass half cab that one of our family friends

owned and was using to explore the waters around Batemans Bay. At the time, we had a 15'6" Hartley plywood half cab, and this "big" fibreglass rig was the envy of everybody in the southern regions.

Now, many years later, we consumers are able to choose from the plethora of fibreglass half cabs, and by today's Mustang and Riviera standards - craft unheard of in those days - this Seafarer Vixen is actually considered a "small" craft. How times have changed!

The other reason I had a 'smile on

my dial' was due to my thinking about the issues of photography for this report - and as the rain had pitter-pattered down on the car's roof as I drove to the marina a few minutes earlier, I knew we were going to take up Greg Haines' generous offer of patching into the photo-shoot he'd done at the Tangalooma Wrecks some weeks before for The Haines Group's brochures on several new boats and Suzuki outboards.

The alternative was to take a new set of photographs on this day in the

