



The idea of the shelter console has been around for some time now, but it's unusual to find it in a craft only 4.9 m long. But JBS Marine's Cliff Joshua is not afraid of building unusual boats, and this is another one that has all the hallmarks of a "classic Cliffy!"

**Facing Page:** Very bumpy, painful sort of day with nary a boat in sight - but just about perfect for boat testing. The 4.9 is another extremely dry JBS design. Simple, uncluttered layout will ensure this model will be popular with fisherman.



Cliff with son Wayne, a young bloke quickly moving up to step into his Dad's shoes. Currently, the plan is for Wayne to slowly and surely take over the hard yakka in the 'hot metal work' side of this popular business, leaving Dad to the design, the demos, and the customer co-ordination, while Mum, Lilian, manages the team and pays the bills.

## Cliff (and Wayne's) JBS 4.9 Shelter Console

**I**'m not sure if this is a big little boat, or a little big boat, because it falls into either category depending on your viewpoint. And whilst the cliché "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" applies just as much to boats as it does to women, art, photography and other visual images, Cliff Joshua's new 4.9 m shelter console will once again, produce a divided reaction.

A couple of years ago, F&B developed the very popular and much talked about "Red Ink" Project with this famously unretired couple, Cliff and Lilian Joshua. It's probably true to say that JBS Marine first came to national attention as a result of F&B's promotion of this charismatic 4.3 m, side console plate aluminium boat.

Powered by a 40 hp 2-stroke Yamaha, the boat was truly an astonishing craft with a level of seaworthiness and seakindliness way

beyond what we'd normally expect from a 4.3 m *anything!*

Now as it happens, the steel jig Cliff used to build the 4.3 m *Red Ink* is exactly the same as the one used here. The only difference is the transom arrangement.

Cliff Joshua has now re-developed his own version of the Quintrex "Maxi-transom," which, as he's quick to point out, he's been doing for about 30 years longer than Quintrex. But as he explained to F&B, the notion of the wide, "open" transom went out of favour for quite a few years, as people were worried it would encourage boating activities 'outside' the safety of the cockpit. He's tickled pink that the idea of the maxi-transom is now back in fashion, and has created a 2001 JBS version that is now fitted to all the boats in the JBS range.

At the ripe old age of 76, Cliff doesn't care whether he's seen as

trendy or fashionable. He just gets on with the job, building his unique aluminium boats the way he's been building them for the last 20 years, and before that, for another 30 years or so in wood, and later, plywood.

Once again, Cliff has reverted to his favourite KISS principle – KISS in this case meaning, "keeping it simple, see!" This 4.9 m shelter console is just that – a very simple, uncluttered craft that will only suit one particular type of buyer.

Cliff is looking for fishermen who can't see the point in spending one cent more than is absolutely necessary to get to their favourite fishing ground. Fishermen who see the boat primarily as a means of keeping their feet dry. And fishermen who put more value on uncluttered deck space than they do on creature comforts such as a cabin, seats, a toilet etc.

For them, this is the definitive 4.9 m