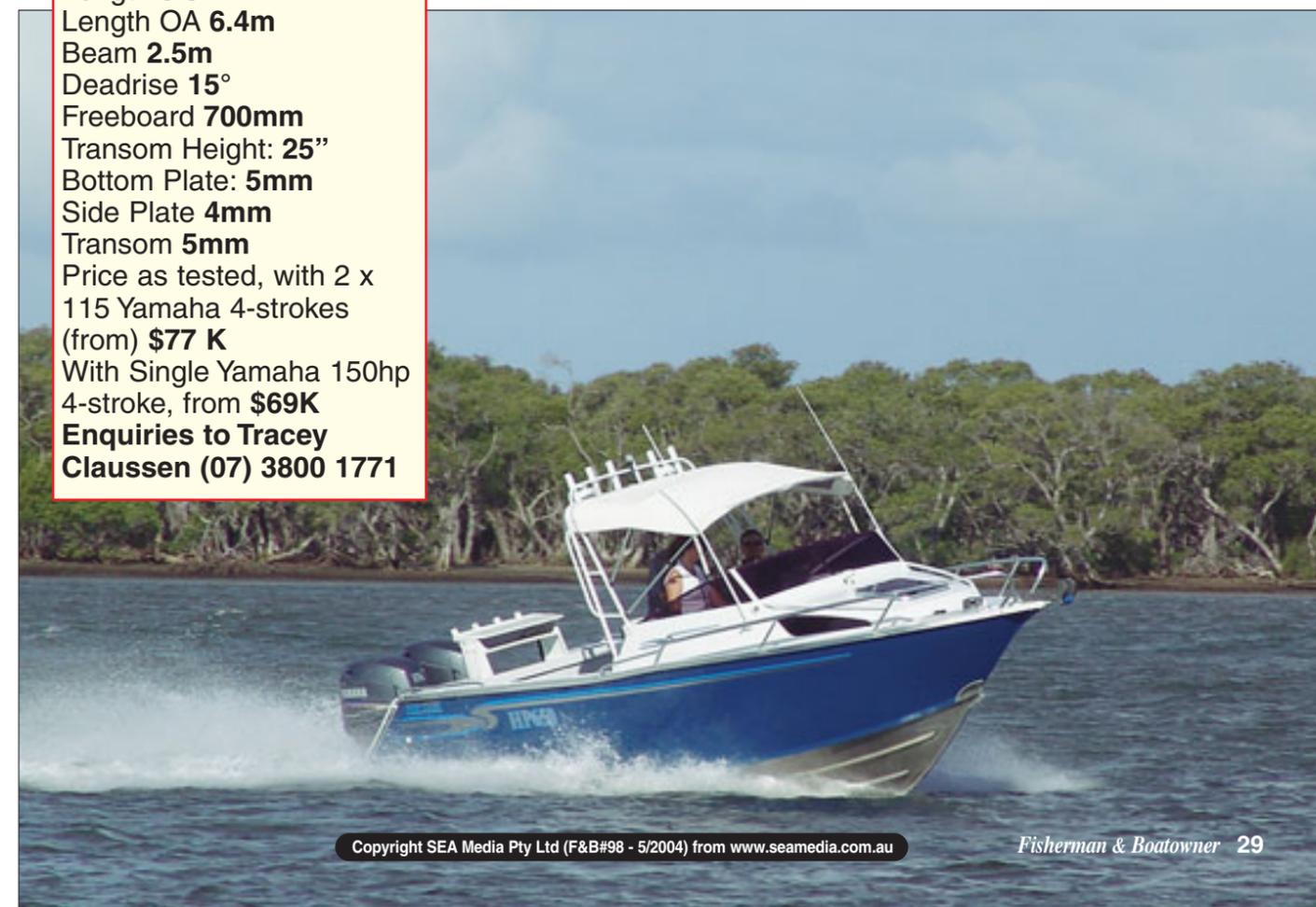




Specifications

Length **5.8m**
Length OA **6.4m**
Beam **2.5m**
Deadrise **15°**
Freeboard **700mm**
Transom Height: **25"**
Bottom Plate: **5mm**
Side Plate **4mm**
Transom **5mm**
Price as tested, with 2 x
115 Yamaha 4-strokes
(from) **\$77 K**
With Single Yamaha 150hp
4-stroke, from **\$69K**
**Enquiries to Tracey
Claussen (07) 3800 1771**



David & Tracey Claussen's Riptide 5.8 Cuddy

If further evidence was needed to confirm the growing quality of Australian plate alloy boats' design and engineering standards, this new Riptide is a fine example of the breed - so much so, it also begs the question raised in this month's editorial - where do we go from here ?

This is a real Clayton's boat test – the test you have when you're not actually having a boat test. This unusual circumstance came about last month when the opportunity arose to jump in a Victorian boatowners's brand new Riptide 5.8 cuddy before it was shipped south of the border.

As we have been patiently waiting for an opportunity to trial Riptide for some time, and one just happened to turn up underneath our office window with the keys in it, we didn't waste too much time clambering aboard.

Riptide's Dave and Tracey Claussen have been associated with F&B and

our sister (annual) publication "Plate Alloy Boatsof Australia" for quite some time. In fact, our relationship with David Claussen goes back to the early 1990's when he had just completed his boilermaker's 'ticket' at Mayfairs Marine business in Wacol, where he had been one of the principle welders on our very first project boat (of the modern, post AB/TBF era), the 5.0m Clark centre console.

We were very impressed with this young bloke's attitude at the time, and marked him down as one of the young trade's blokes to keep an eye on over the years.

A few years later, we were on the

spot when Sportfish were expanding and needed top tradesmen at a time when Mayfairs was laying them off, so it wasn't too hard to organise a move for David and his young family, to the northside of Brisbane with Sportfish. More time passed, only the next time we ran across him, David had stepped out on his own with a business based largely around the original Stingray jigs.

In another memory test for readers, many older hands will recall that Stingray were pace setters in the 1980's and built many fine plate aluminium boats that ultimately set the original benchmarks for the standards