



Trevor Stow's Signature 630F Report

Widely travelled fishing enthusiast from Bairnsdale in Eastern Victoria, Trevor Stow has fished just about everywhere along the east coast, but his heart is grounded in the big waters off the Sou'east corner of NSW and Victoria . . In this special report, he shares his experience and his findings after eight years with one of Signature's best - the HS 630.

As regular readers of F&B may remember, I purchased a Signature 630F in the year 2000. I previously owned a 580 Haines Hunter with a 175hp Evinrude on the blunt end.

The 580 was actually a pretty good boat and seriously quick; with the 175 on the back, it would max out at 100kph. However, the boat was starting to show its age. I bought it second hand and it was about 12 years old when I sold it. In addition, I was doing quite a bit of game fishing at Bermagui at that time and found the 580 adequate but a larger boat was an attraction and definitely on the wish list. In addition, I wanted a new boat for the first time.

I looked at a number of different hulls and sought the advice of Peter Webster. At that stage the Signature 630F had not been released onto the market but Peter had seen the first hull being produced at a trip to the Signature factory and had been impressed with what he saw. To cut a long story short, I ordered the boat, sight unseen, based upon Peter's report. The hull was fitted with a Yamaha 150 hp 2-stroke motor. I recently replaced this with a 150 HP 4-stroke motor. The Signature 630F has been a very good selling model for the Signature factory and they have now upgraded it into the Signature 632F.

Now, 8 years on, it is interesting to look back at the boat and weigh up the

Left: Terrific pic of a VERY well set-up cockpit, and one that can easily cope with different types of fishing. While Trevor and mates love their billfish, they are also keen bottom fishos, too



What I like About The Boat . . .

This is a hard core fishing boat that just loves a trip out to the Continental Shelf, or heading out the Lakes Entrance Bar to do some bottom bashing at Stockyards and then being capable of safely heading home for 40 km into a stiff easterly wind. Whilst it tolerates a day of recreational boating with the family, this hull just screams out to be driven offshore.

Finish

I believe in looking after my boat. If I outlay something in the order of



strengths and weaknesses of the purchase. During the past 8 years the boat has seen a lot of the Pacific Ocean.

It has been a regular offshore snapper boat at Lakes Entrance, it has game fished Port Stephens, Bermagui, Eden, Ulladulla and bottom bashed Port Philip Bay as well as provided a platform for family recreational fun in the Gippsland Lakes.

\$70,000 for a boat then it is worth looking after. As a result, I store my boat in its own boat port beside the house. It is out of the weather and away from the sun's harsh rays. I wash the boat with a mild boat wash, rinsed off with fresh water every time that I use it. The only exception being when I am away for a fishing holiday and using the boat on a daily basis. In a case like this I usually hose off any