



you little Ripper!

by CRAIG SCHIONNING

The Ripple tender range from Spirited Designs is growing with a new addition, the 3.6m tender design. The range now includes a 2m, 2.3m, 2.8m and the new 3.6m. They are of a catamaran design offering excellent stability due to the twin hulls. They are all planing hulls for high speeds but are predominantly

designed as tenders so are set up for rowing as well. All of these tenders can be supplied in kit-form or plans only. They can be built from Gaboon plywood, foam sandwich or DuFLEX® composite panel. The cost of material choice climbs in that order with the DuFLEX® option being the most expensive however saves work hours and delivers a stronger result. The kit consists of all the parts computer-cut and in the case of the DuFLEX® kit the panels are pre-scarfed ready for joining. It also includes the epoxy resin, additives and fibreglass to enable assembly.

All designs include built-in seats, two in the back and two forward. These areas also provide flotation in case of capsize or flooding. The tunnel acts as a full length seat which is handy to alter your seating position to trim the boat evenly. The larger designs have two rowing positions depending on how many passengers are being carried or to

balance out a load. All designs are decked in on the foredeck and down the sides which provides storage below the foredeck with a bulkhead with a door for access. This is something often neglected on dinghies and means that nothing can remain on board when the boat is left. For those who may store the boat it means that their personal gear is always stored on board in readiness, things like life jackets, safety equipment, fishing gear etc. Behind the foredeck is a splash trim to deflect any green water coming over the bows. The small full-

above left: Kit building materials.

below left: Kit parts laid out. Gaboon plywood kit shown.

below: Structurally glassed externally, turned over ready for internal parts.



above from left: Ply sheets lined up; Build frame trial; Hull panels fitted and glued together; Hull panels fitted and edge-glued; Hull sanded and being prepared for glassing; Hull being glassed externally.

right: Fitting deck and internal parts. Note the storage compartment forward.

length side deck helps to add stiffness to the gunnel when bumping alongside etc.

Any one of these designs would make an excellent entry-level boatbuilding project whether for the purpose of a tender for your boat or for a little family explorer.

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