



Barney Friend, well-known Victorian fishing identity at home on Port Phillip bay in the Sea Legend.

caravans. The Melbourne-based company dominates the cruise market, but it is well behind other boat builders when it comes to dedicated fishing boats. To that end, Whittley produced this boat to Barney Friend's (of JV Marine) specifications and gave it to him to use for a season. And, according to Barney, it's quite a boat. It's not so much about the ride and handling, Whittley hulls have never had a problem with that aspect. This boat is more about design changes and a fit out that has turned a neat family boat into a dedicated fishing outfit, albeit while retaining most of the creature comforts. The custom-built rod holder configuration on this Sea Legend holds 21 rods, one in the centre of the transom and 10 running back from the centre and along both the gunnels to the cabin. The rack has incorporated a rear door access, and self-draining bait board.

The boat features a Stress Free Anchor Winch, so Barney can haul the anchor with the push of a button. An important safety consideration for Barney was the height of the sides. He often fishes with his nine-year-old son Gary and the high sides make it a lot safer.

The boat is powered by a 225hp Yamaha four-stroke and under calm conditions the outboard will push the Sea Legend along at about 40 knots. Boats are always going to be slower when working through chop, but one advantage has been the use of hydraulic trim tabs. As for the creature comforts, apart from the shower, there are the usual Whittley items

like stove, bedding and toilet. It's a family fishing boat, after all.

Contact: Whittley on (03) 9358 9600

Durahub Wheel Bearing Protectors

DURAHUB is a unique, Australian patented bearing protection system – designed by Gold Coast local Karl de Paiva – that has been tested and proven to protect against the entry of water and dirt in to wheel bearing systems. Durahub operates via an equalisation of pressure within the hub – achieved via a rubber diaphragm – and the resultant sealed hub prevents the ingress of water and dirt that can enter a conventional hub. Durahub also differs greatly in the lubricating medium used. In place of high temperature bearing grease, an oil bath system employs high viscosity (80/90W) oil with heat dispersing additives to lubricate the bearings and hub internals.

As its name suggests, Durahub consists of an outer "extra" hub that is fitted in place of the standard bearing dust cap. The kit comes complete with everything needed for installation to any trailer running standard Holden or Ford wheel bearings. The instructions provided with the kit are easy to follow and are accompanied by clear photographic examples demonstrating each step. Basically you need to start with new

bearings and clean all traces of grease from your wheel hub and existing parts. Then it's simply a matter of reassembly with the new bearings and either a supplied Holden or Ford rear oil seal depending on the trailer's bearing type. The Durahub Bearing Protector has a flange to seal fit it in to the wheel hub and the kit is supplied with Loctite to ensure a water-tight seal. Once reassembled, bearing oil is poured in to the Durahub via a threaded metal filler plug and a sight lens in the front of the Durahub needs to be at the half full level for proper lubrication, then you're set.

Contact: Durahub on (07) 5570 3057



A shot of the completed installation. Note the sight lens which allows trailer owners the ability to check oil levels easily.

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