design : lan Oughtred



Skerrie Skiff 15. (above) Skerrie Skiff 17. (inset)

Skerrie Skiff 15' (4650 x 1400 x 65kg sail 5.57sqm) Skerrie Skiff 17' (5280 x 1430 x 75kg Sail 6.2sqm)

by ROBERT AYLIFFE

The Skerrie Skiffs are the simplest of all of lain's boats to build.

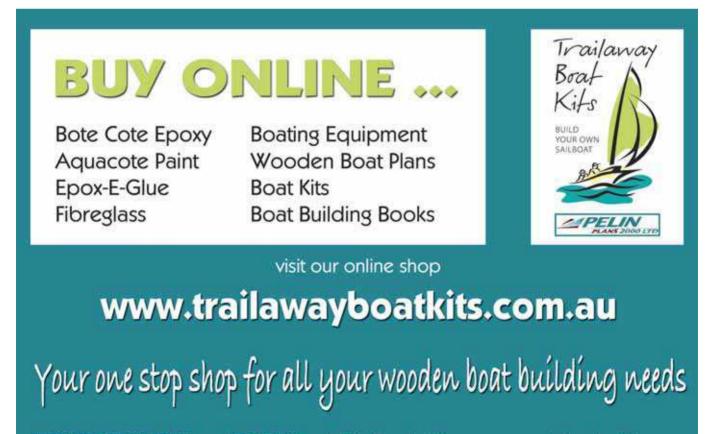
HAT'S BECAUSE THEY WERE commissioned by school teacher, Adam Way, in Scotland for building in limited time and space by his high school students.

Criteria: Simple fast construction. To instil an enthusiasm for rowing and sailing in a proper boat

of their own making, and for the school, a durable, good looking resource for expeditioning.

The first boats were built in the school in 14 days, from scratch to rowing four up two a seat and tandem wise, with up to a half dozen very happy kids and their gear aboard.

Iain reports that the resulting boats did look a little



BUILD YOUR OWN SAILBOAT! PHONE 1300 130 699 EMAIL info@trailawayboatkits.com.au web www.trailawayboatkits.com.au

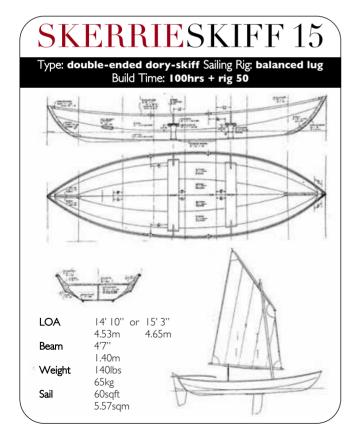
rough, close up. However these prototype boats have a really nice Nordic look to them, and best of all, they really work. The pictures show a simple, quickly built boat of unusual beauty, a nice marriage of form and the competing functions of relatively simple, speedy construction and modest cost.

The flat bottom and the dagger centreboard reduces some of the usual carpentry. The flat bottom also aids dragging over the beach and wet grass, and may assist in trailer or roof top stacking for which the Skerries are well suited.

Being double ended, the Skerries will handle a wide range of crew and cargo loads, especially if the weight is concentrated down low and away from the ends.

The precut ply wood panel, solid timber and epoxy kits will make this an even more practical home or school community project.

The Skerrie 15 and 17 are both designed with simple balanced lugsail; easily stored in the bottom of the boat, and quickly set up when the wind is favourable.



Plans, plywood scratch pack kits, laser cut plywood and solid timber kits are available from NIS Boats and BoatCraft Pacific agents in Australia and New Zealand.

The attraction of the 15'er is that it has only one scarf per plank, being under 2400 for each plank. the 17'er requires two scarfs, since it is over five metres long, and being longer may take greater loads and faster, whether under sail or oar.

While both boats have appeal to those who are looking for an entry level building project, their elegant form and rowing and sailing credentials will also reward more experienced builders and sailors.

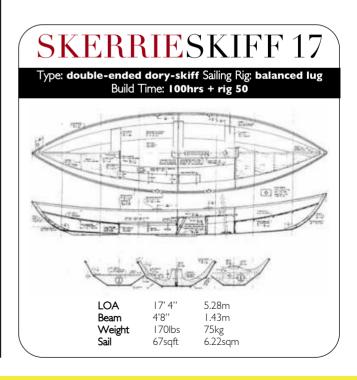
Plans

- Skerrie Skiff 15 \$180 inc p&p;
- Skerrie Skiff 17 \$198 inc p&p.

Precut plywood planking kit and including precut MDF building jig

- Skerrie Skiff 15 \$2654
- Skerrie Skiff 17 \$2854 plus freight.

If Plans and Iain's *Clinker Plywood Boat Building Manual* bought together, post and pack is free. Skerrie Skiff Kits bought from NIS Boats before December 1, 2009 include free freight to your address in any Australian capital city.



www.boatcraft.com.au/shop

Buy on line and your purchase can be delivered to anywhere in Australia.

Your #1 source for Bote-Cote epoxy, Aquacote paint & Cop-R-Bote antifoul, Purbond & Epox-E-Glue, Fibreglass, and stuff for wooden boats. Also Plywood, Nidaplast, Hoop Pine, Silicon Bronze Fasteners, Davey Bronze Fittings, Books and Plans.