



**FLOAT a BOAT**

*Fine Models Since 1962*

ESPECIALLY FOR SHIPLOVERS

# MODEL MARITIME NEWS

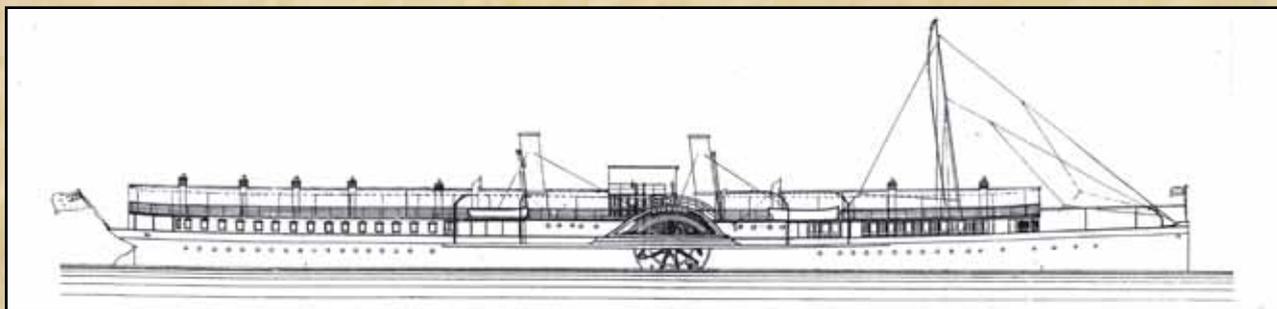
Sept 2009  
Page 1 of 3

## NEW PADDLE STEAMER PLAN P.S. "HYGEIA"

I have always been fascinated by the three large excursion paddle steamers which used to ply Port Phillip Bay in the late 1800's and up to the second world war. During the 1960's I would be a regular visitor to the 'old' Melbourne Museum in Swanston Street, when museums used to be wonderful places to visit. At the top of the



main staircase were cased builder's models of P.S. "Hygeia" and P.S. "Weeroona", both at 1:48 scale. I wanted to build a model of one or more of these vessels but was unable to find drawings or primary source information required to do accurate models. Like knights of old, I embarked on a crusade to track down



as much information as possible on these vessels. Twenty five years later, the first of these drawings has now been completed. This is "Hygeia", the second of the three to be built. Although no builder's drawings survive, I was able to track down two different G.A. drawings by the Naval Architects, Morton and Williamson, as well as a full table of offsets for the hull which allowed me to draw a very accurate set of lines. She is drawn at the traditional scale of 1:48 which makes her about 1.8 metres long. We have



needed three sheets to do justice to the detail required and are very pleased the way the drawings have turned out. Several sets have been sold already and we are looking forward to seeing completed models.

The highly detailed three sheet set (SP-310A, SP-310B, SP -310C), sells for \$65.00. As an aside, I have tracked down the builder's drawings of the P.S. "Weeroona" and will be drawing both her and the P.S. "Ozone" over the next few months.



# FLOAT a BOAT

*Fine Models Since 1962*

ESPECIALLY FOR SHIPLOVERS

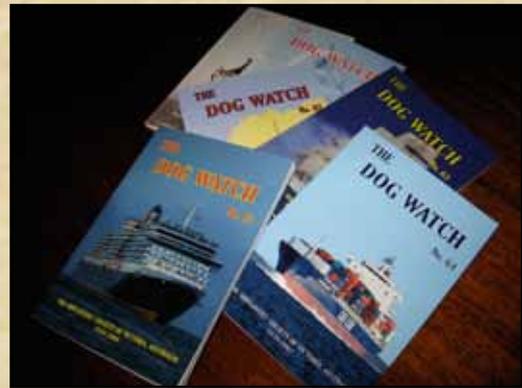
## MODEL MARITIME NEWS

Sept 2009

Page 2 of 3

### “THE DOG WATCH”

In 1930 the Shiplovers’ Society of Victoria was formed. The Society’s magazine “The Dog Watch” has been published annually since 1943 and through the years has been a most interesting publication, containing fascinating articles on ships and the sea. Although produced mainly for the members of the Society, extra copies are printed for circulation to the wider community. Float-a-Boat has recently been approached to be a retail outlet for this fine annual publication. Not only can we offer the latest edition, No. 65, but we also have a number of back copies available. We are aware of a number of customers who have large collections of this publication, and you too, may wish to start your own collection. They are a great read and well worth the price. The current edition sells for \$15.00 and back issues for \$12.00 each.



### PADDLING ON SOME MORE!

The latest paddle wheel kit has just been released and will suit those modellers building stern wheelers. There were several Australian stern wheelers on the Murray River, the most famous being the “Captain Sturt” which unfortunately was dismantled at Goolwa, South Australia only a few years ago. Other states also had a number of stern wheelers. When most people think of stern wheel paddle steamers, their thoughts immediately go to the U.S. and the Mississippi River where the large passenger vessels created a history all their own. The Canadian Lakes also produced a fine fleet of stern wheeled passenger steamers. This particular wheel measures 143mm Dia x 165mm wide and the very comprehensive kit sells for \$150.00. This is a real bargain when compared with having to build one of these complex wheels from scratch. I know which one I would choose!





**FLOAT a BOAT**

*Fine Models Since 1962*

ESPECIALLY FOR SHIPLOVERS

# MODEL MARITIME NEWS

Sept 2009  
Page 3 of 3

## PADDLERS ON DISPLAY

Over the last year or so we have become aware of an increased interest in paddle steamer modelling. The Surrey Park Club in Melbourne recently held a "Paddle Day" which brought together a fine gathering of Paddle Steamer models of many various types and sizes. A few snaps which we took on the day are included for your enjoyment and maybe they will provide some inspiration to start modelling one of these vessels yourselves.



## CANBERRA MODEL SHIPWRIGHTS SOCIETY EXPO 2009

Saturday 10th October 9.30am - 5.00pm

Sunday 11th October 9.30am - 4.00pm

Mt. Rogers Primary School, Alfred Hill Drive, Melba, ACT 2615

This popular annual event is a showcase for fine maritime modelling, both static and working and displaying the craftsmanship of both local and interstate modellers.

If you are in the area, you will be very welcome to call in for an inspirational time.

If you require further information log in to the following website.

[expo@canberramodelshipwrights.org.au](mailto:expo@canberramodelshipwrights.org.au)