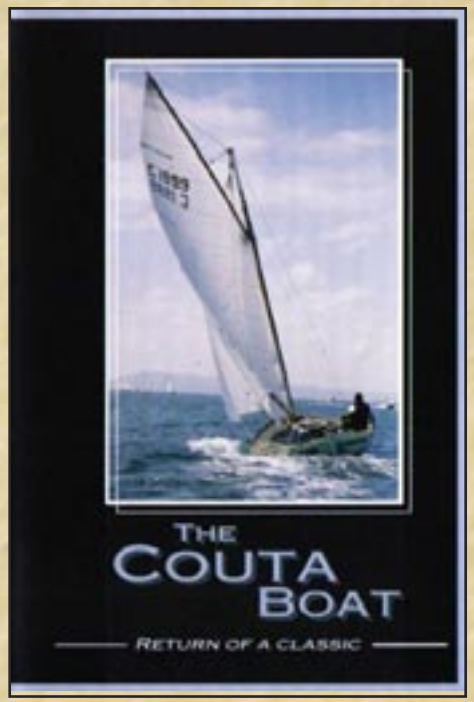
FLOAT a BOAT
Fine Models Since 1962
ESPECIALLY FOR SHIPLOVERS

MODEL MARITIME NEWS

March 2008

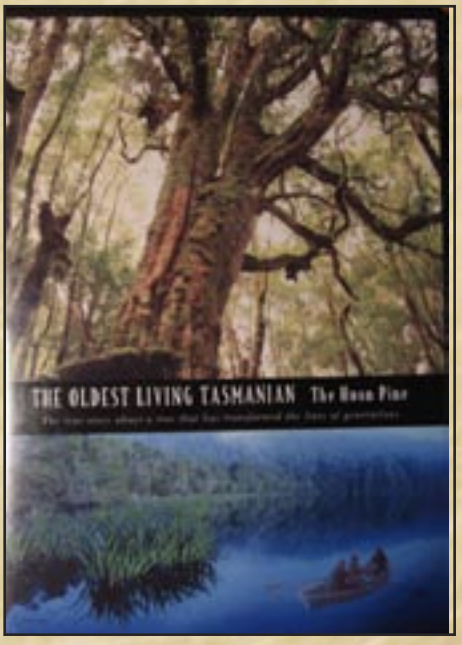
2008 IS ON THE MOVE

We have been well and truly piped aboard for 2008 and it will be interesting to see what the new year will bring.
We had an extremely busy Christmas and this has continued into the new year. This is often a quiet time with many on holidays but for some reason many people from all over Australia have decided to embark on exciting new projects. Our workshop orders are already up to October this year!!



MARITIME HISTORY DVD'S

Australian Maritime Historian Garry Kerr has produced several DVD's which will be of interest to many of you.
We have four titles in stock:
"The 'Couta Boat - Return of a Classic"
"Trading out of Hobart"
"The Trading Ketches of South Australia"
"The Last Cape Horners"
The 'Couta Boat DVD is excellent viewing and will appeal to the many 'Couta Boat enthusiasts which these days can be found all over Australia. One of our most popular plans sold to modellers is our two sheet 'Couta Boat set and anyone who is building a model of one of these boats will benefit greatly from viewing this DVD. The coverage of the subject is most thorough and is very enjoyable viewing.
Price: $29.95 plus P & P.



Another DVD which will be of interest to many of you is entitled "The Oldest Living Tasmanian -The Huon Pine". This is the story of the most amazing boat building timber found only in a few small areas of Western Tasmania. Very well produced and filmed in some of the most beautiful areas on earth. This covers the story of the "Piners" that ventured into the Tasmanian wilderness and covers a little known but important part of Australia's history. Written by Paul Scott & Garry Kerr. Price $29.95 plus P & P.

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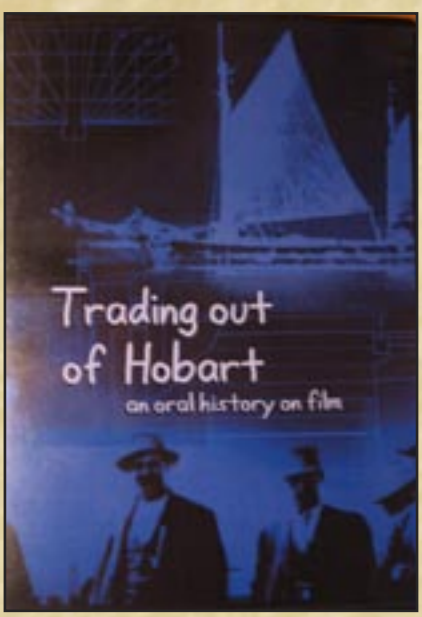
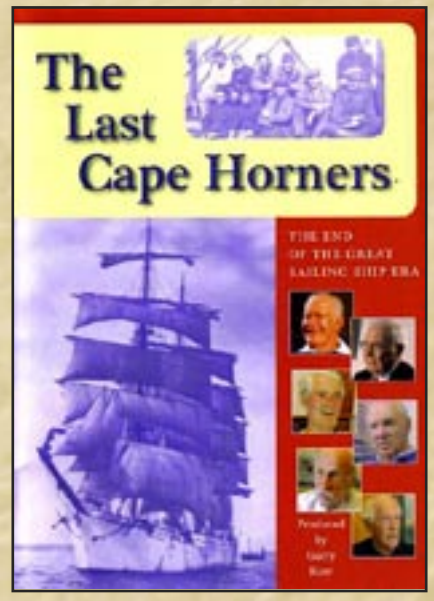
MARITIME HISTORY DVD'S - Continued

We also sell quite a number of the plans for Tasmanian Trading Ketches and the modellers who have purchased these will enjoy watching "Trading out of Hobart" which covers the history and technical details of these fine vessels.



A companion volume is "Trading Ketches Of South Australia" also records the era of the Ketches and the last of the men and women who sailed these craft as they share their stories. Anyone who has an interest in Maritime History will get much pleasure from viewing these interesting DVD titles.
Price $29.95 each plus P & P.



"The Last Cape Horners" covers the story of Gustaf Erikson of Finland who owned the last great fleet of square-rigged sailing ships the world would ever see. In the 1920;s, 30's & 40's they ran between South Australia and Europe via the treacherous Cape Horn carrying grain. With each captain eager to make the fastest voyage, these annual events became known as "The Grain Races"
Now old men, the Cape Horners of Australia and Finland, happily share their stories. Some speak of the romance of the sea and others shudder at the terrible conditions, but all agree it was an experience that shaped their lives and one they would not have missed for the world. Archival film footage is awsome. I'm so glad that our experience with Windjammers today is only in model form. Highly recommended.
Price $29.95 plus P & P.

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MOTOR / GEARBOXES

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the majority of our stock is not catalogued or listed on our internet site. From time to time we will include a product of interest to give some idea of the range of items we stock.

We carry a wide range of Motor / Gearbox combinations as well as gearboxes on their own. These suit a variety of motor sizes and we are always hunting the world to widen the range. Some of these have their own built-in mounts, but for those which don't we also have a choice of mounts covering a broad range of motor sizes.

We also have a variety of complete drive trains consisting of motor, gearbox, coupling, shaft and propeller. Great for quickly fitting out a model.

HAYNES P.E. FRETS.

John Haynes is one of the world's most notible professional ship modellers and for a number of years we have carried much of his excellent fittings range.

We have recently received new stock of all his range of Photo Etched Frets of stanchions and railings. A range of scales are catered for including the popular scales of 1:200, 1:96 & 1:72. British and U.S. Naval and Merchant railing is well covered, the etching is superb and to true scale with approx. 200 stanchions per fret. This makes their price of $45.00 very economical when compared with turned stanchions.

CANBERRA MODEL SHIPWRIGHTS SOCIETY 20TH ANNIVERSARY

We have had word from the Canberra Model Shipwrights Society that they will be celebrating their 20th Anniversary of the founding of their Society. To celebrate this special occasion there will be an exhibition of models produced by the Society's members to be held from the 1st March to 25th May 2008. This will be held in the Open Collection Gallery at the Canberra Museum and Gallery. It is expected that there will be about 40 models on view for that extended period. So if you are planning a trip in that direction it would be well worth adding this to your itinery.

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