

## SURVEY

### *FIBREGLASS, above waterline,*

*Remember your notebook and pen*

*Before finally committing yourself to a SEA-TRIAL*, it is necessary to look carefully at that which holds everything together, **and to which you are going to entrust your very LIFE and the lives of your family**. That part is **the HULL... your ISLAND**. While still afloat, you can only inspect externally above the waterline, below water will be surveyed when and if the boat is hauled.

**This is the last inspection that can be done in the water**. You will have to view each side separately, maybe using a dinghy for the side away from the dock, **DON'T IGNORE IT**, sometimes a boat is deliberately placed so that damage is not obvious. You've no doubt had a quick look around, but **now is the time to for that extra scrutiny**.

Having come this far is a good sign, that you feel the boat is worth pursuing. If you've negotiated some reductions against defects found to date, **get it in writing before continuing**. You may yet find other problems now or during the sea-trial. Following this will come your first expenditure... the **Haulout**. However, don't get complacent, you must be vigilant to the end.

**It is beneficial to be open minded about the build material of your dreamboat**. By doing so you won't be blinkered by **what the "experts"...** **"think" is best for you** but you will expand threefold the market in which to seek the bargain everyone else has missed!

**There's always a choice, and each have their advantages and disadvantages**. By familiarising yourself with each, you'll gain the opportunity to profit from the lack of knowledge of other folk.

The three materials dealt with here are;

- 1/ **FIBREGLASS** (aka Glass reinforced plastic... aka GRP)
- 2/ **STEEL**.
- 3/ **WOOD**. (Construction types:- Plywood, Hardwood, Cold moulded Hardwood)

I'm dealing with each in turn, the **GOOD**, the **BAD**, and **WHAT TO LOOK FOR**.  
**The underwater inspection of each follows later.**

You need your **NOTEBOOK, PEN and FLASHLIGHT**.

#### 1/ **FIBREGLASS**.

As the most commonly used material for mass production, fibreglass has made boating affordable to everyone. **BUT...** and here is the crunch the salesman will **NOT** mention... **it is definitely NOT infallible**.