Inflatable or “Indeflatable” that is the question

How many times have you purchased a inflatable dinghy to find that within two or three years that it has either got a leak that you cannot fix or that the transom has fallen out. After delivering two inflatables to clients, within 3 months both had seams coming apart and the transom had fallen out in one I knew there was a better alternative. A previous client of ours from Western Australia to pick up their new Exodus sailing cat for the shake down trip back to the west coast and they spotted a dinghy built from alloy tubes some 22 years old lying outside our workshop. “If you could build one of those but in lightweight material they would buy one.” Also the thought of a soft blow up style inflatable in “Croc Country” also was not an option for them. The development of this tender has taken over 5 years and now the 2.7m and 3.3m models are available along with a 5.2 version which can be customised to suit. The “Indeflatable” handles like a speed boat but also has the stability of an inflatable without the problems that can come with them. With an anchor locker that drains into the well below the floor so that annoying water laying in the bottom is alleviated and is ideal for fishing with no worry of fish or hooks spiking the tubes. As the floats are made from Fibreglass material lockers or tackle boxes can be installed. Moulded into the design is a fuel tank holder as well. Designed to look like the standard inflatable this exciting new tender will never go down. It comes standard with lifting points, tow hook, grab handles and oars. Finished in white gel coat and a soft non skid finish. White rubber strip to protect your boat. If damage occurs to the tender it can be easily repaired with a fibreglass repair kit available from most chandlers. For pricing phone or email.

Rosslyn Bay

With the owner falling ill on the trip the boat motored into Rosslyn Bay just west of the famous Keppel Island group. Here the owners opted to get back to Townsville by road and left the crew to motor her back home. Still with strong headwinds that had been forecast to drop the New Telos 40 headed out to sea. While maintaining a cruising speed of 18-20kts into a dropping northernly swell it is rumoured that the crew were doing the famous Titanic pose at the front of the vessel. Being on board at the first sea trials I can understand why they did it; it is an incredible feeling when the boat slices through the waves in complete safety.

Safely Home

In the end The Real Deal made excellent time and got to her berth at nearly the same time as the owners did by road. Fuel consumption on the trip was recorded at around a total of 47 litres per hour and the owners believe under normal conditions will achieve closer to the lower 40’s.

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