

Northbank 600 Cuddy really sparkles with

It was just after 7.00 am as we motored away from Copper Cove Marina out into Wallaroo Bay, four adults aboard a Suzuki powered, very strikingly liveried Northbank 600C for a test run.

This was our first experience of any Northbank fitted with a Suzuki outboard, in this case a DF175 (hp) 4-stroke EFI model and it proved to be a revelation.

Heading slowly out to sea made time to inspect the rig, having previously been taken

by the effectiveness of how the black topsides contrasted with the hull's typically gleaming, faultless white finish.

Supplied by Yorke Peninsula Marine, at the bow of this 600C was a 6kg grapple anchor, resting on a hinged bow roller. The chain ran over a "teflon" inset, through a split bollard and into the draining, lidded anchor locker where, on delivery to its eventual owner, a Stressfree electric winch will be installed. Very strong bow rails ran back to level with the helm station.

At the helm was the customary



Spray chines send the wash out wide, giving all aboard a smooth, dry ride while 175hp Suzuki delivered power perfectly – a great pairing...

stylishly raked, tinted 5-panel screen, featuring an inner stainless steel (s.s.) grab rail. Just the four Suzuki multi-facet engine gauges were set into the fascia, leaving plenty of room for a sounder/plotter unit. Above a s.s. sports wheel was a GME VHF marine radio, under which were a Suzuki ignition/alarm panel plus a switch board, while a compass was set centrally.

Both large, comfortable helm seats swivelled, adjusted and featured armrests. They sat on 'glass pedestals which doubled as storage lockers, while

footrests were also mounted on the bulkhead. Two side pockets were provided for the passenger, along with a glove box and a single pocket at the helm.

More than a metre overhead was a drum-tight bimini, from Days Road Motor Trimmers with a very solid ss. frame which featured a 6-rod 'launcher. Forward was the welcoming cuddy, with its twin upholstered bench seats with storage under, double length padded, lined shelves and a large, tinted safety hatch set above in the foredeck.



Clever drive shaft placement lets Suzuki sit well forward on the transom – dual axle Dunbier trailer ensures excellent road-holding...

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The eye never tires of a Northbank's seductive styling – viewed from any angle, spacious 600 Cuddy impresses, both inside and out...

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a smooth, powerful 175hp Suzuki 4-stroke

The cockpit provided high freeboard, flat carlins and foot space under each long shelf. At the transom was a live bait tank to starboard, a transom door, boarding platform and fold down s.s. ladder to port while in each stern quarter was a very smart cleat, each engraved with the builder's name. Also to starboard was a practical fold down stern quarter seat. Twin capped rod holders were set into each side deck, at either end of recessed hand rails.

On a slightly disturbed surface we opened the throttle, sending the 600C flying out of the hole and up to 5,800rpm in around ten seconds. We were now travelling at nearly 40 knots (73 kph). The s.s. Suzuki

3x15x21R propeller bit hard and so helped to produce some thrilling G-forces during a series of tight, high speed turns. Fitted with Sea Star hydraulic steering, along with the 175hp Suzuki's continuous, smooth power, this 600C really was a delight to drive.

We explored the performance parameters of this crisp-handling rig, finding a very comfortable cruising speed of 26 knots (32 kph) @ 4000 rpm, while at a genteel 3000 rpm we slid along at a very economical 17 knots (32 kph). For its sheer sophistication, effortless quiet efficiency and seamless power band, the 175hp. Suzuki 4-stroke was an impressive, effective power partner, for



Balanced, precise efficiency – Northbank 600 Cuddy in typical clean running mode, off Wallaroo, demonstrating its magnificent hull...

both the weight of the very solid Northbank 600C's hull and its performance potential.

The warranties for this beautifully matched pairing were hull, four years and five years for the Suzuki EFI 4-stroke.



600 Cuddy's cuddy is practical, spacious, airy, well-upholstered...



Attention to detail is a prevailing feature of Northbank craft...



Northbank 600 Cuddy helm – convenience, comfort, big dash...

NORTHBANK
600 Cuddy
SPECIFICATIONS:
Length overall: 6.00m (19'6")
Beam: 2.42m (7'10")
Height on trailer: 2.24m (7'4")
Weight on trailer: 1620kg (dry ship)
Max. power: 300hp (225kW)
Fuel capacity: 150 litres
Accommodation: 6 adults

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