

## Lower the Cockpit Sole

By Brian Jones, Shrimper 107 (*Dipper*) (Winter 2000)

During the winter months I have redesigned the cockpit floor so that it is now almost 4" lower than the original design. The new floor was constructed out of 1 "x 3.5" Iroko planking, laid lengthways, with three cross supports shaped to spread the load evenly across the inside of the hull (the heavy construction of the Shrimper means this isn't a problem). The new floor is located down inside the original "shelving" and is a superb improvement for 6 foot tall people like myself. The cockpit ergonomics are better for me, the cockpit feels deeper and safer and I can stand and use the tiller if I want. As the cockpit is not self-draining I do not think it compromises safety in any way - in fact I reckon that the "frightened man with a bucket" can get the cockpit drained quicker before using the pump for the last drop!