

## Yamaha All-Terrain Outboard for Mapping Service

A new Yamaha F20B outboard has just been fitted to a Hydrographic Survey Amphibious vessel for a specialised mapping company- Redborough Mapping Service.



Supplied and installed by the team at Geelong Boating Centre, the new 20hp 4-stroke Yamaha has been custom mounted to handle the specific requirements of shallow water surveying.

A range of engine options had been trialled on the transom of the amphibious vessel 'Arnie' since its purchase back in 2005. Beginning with an older 4hp 2-stroke, Arnie's engine was upgraded to an 8hp 2-stroke which also struggled to power the vessel and proved strenuous to operate with a tiller steer and no power tilt operation.

"After all the on-water trialling in our first year, we became clear on all the features that we needed in an outboard," said Redborough Mapping Service Director Peter Bailey.



“It had to have more power, yet still light enough for Arnie to carry, needed forward hydraulic steering, electric start, power tilt, and ideally a 4-stroke because Arnie’s engine is a 16hp 4-stroke lawn mower engine and I only wanted to carry one type of fuel onboard.”

“The Yamaha F20 4-stroke met our needs.”

The Hydrographic mapping vessel is a Canadian-built Argo 6x6 Amphibious ATV that has been specifically fitted out with a dual frequency echo sounder and DGPS equipment. Side buoyancy tubes have been added for extra stability, hydraulic steering has been specially rigged for single handed steering and easy to reach forward controls have been mounted on a custom control box.

“Arnie is set up specifically to survey cross sections of rivers, estuaries and dams plus profile beaches,” said Peter Bailey.

“It’s very stable and capable of carrying 2 people plus all the equipment onboard. It’s also very light needing only 2psi of ground resistance to drive which is less pressure than a human foot, so it can be driven on areas that cannot be walked.”



“Our digital survey methods allow us to take 3D measurements in the same place every month, quarter or year so that an accurate picture can be developed to see how a beach or river bank is eroding or how a marina or dredge area is filling, providing quantitative data to design engineers.”

Based in Bacchus Marsh in North-West Victoria, Redborough Mapping Service is a complete survey and mapping business specialising in

Hydrographic surveys of marinas, rivers and dams plus additional services including GIS & GPS analysis, remote measuring, whole farm planning and computer drafting.

The lightweight F20B 4-stroke outboard is a recent release from the Yamaha stable and offers electric start, exceptional power to weight performance and outstanding fuel efficiency. Built on the new 362cc 2 cylinder engine, the F20 delivers whisper quiet operation, a sleek design and offers the convenience of power tilt operation.

“The guys at Geelong Boating Centre have been with me on this project from the beginning right through to fitting up my new Yamaha F20B outboard,” said Peter Bailey

“I’ve only tested the new Yamaha for a short time but it certainly has no problems powering a fully loaded Arnie. The extra power will give me confidence during my beach surveys when I need to drive into the surf to measure beach profiles.”

‘Arnie’ is now the third Yamaha powered vessel at Redborough Mapping Service. Also supplied and fitted by Geelong Boating Centre, a 40hp Yamaha 4-stroke powered Polycraft boat and an 8hp Yamaha 2-stroke powered rigid folding boat make up the Redborough Mapping Service fleet.

Yamaha outboards are available through an Australia-wide network of authorised Yamaha outboard dealers.

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