

**This project update covers the period  
of March 2025**

### **A summary of the work carried out in the Month of March**

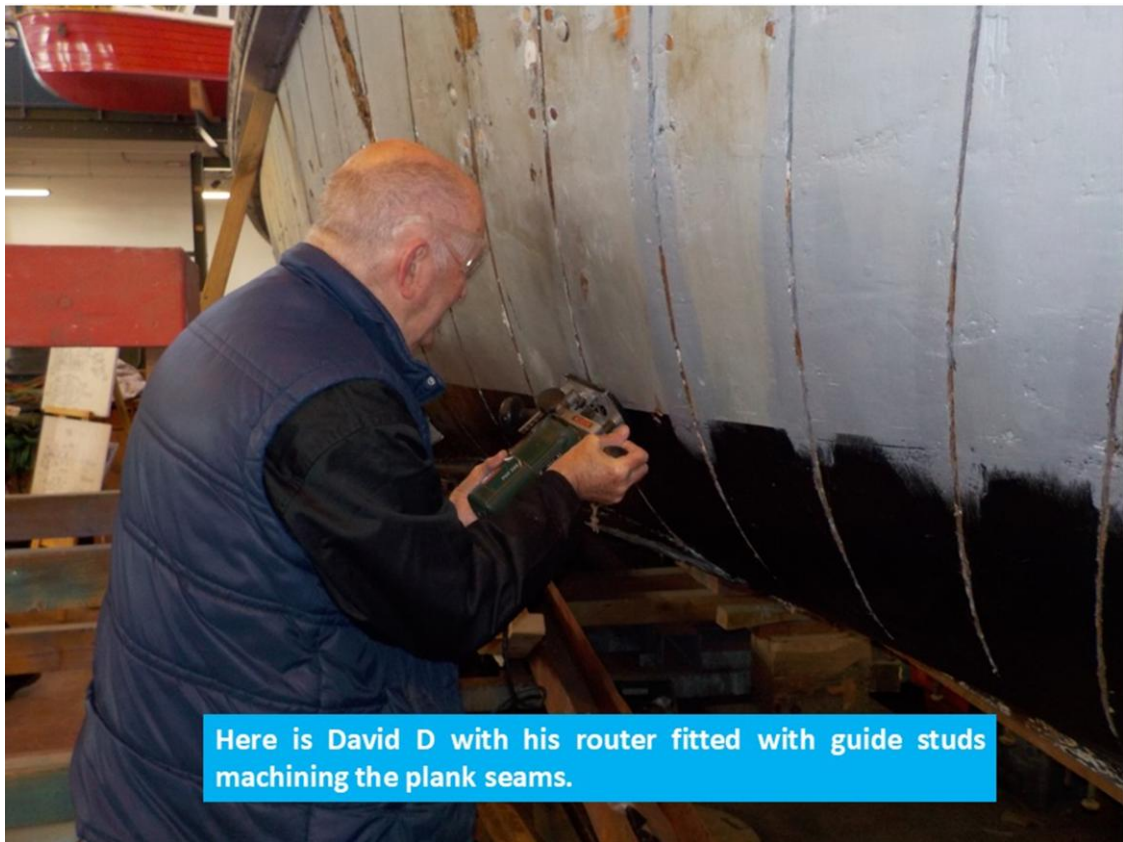
We carried on with the keel, Igor started to remove the forward lifting eye reinforcing plate so that we could clear the timber back ready to take the new timber sections. All the lifting eye plates will be taken out as the eyes will never be used for lifting the boat. Trish G carried on, finalising the capping section. David D routed out the plank seams on the starboard side so that we could glue in some hardwood splines. Micky M and Trish G glued in some splines between the planks. John B and Cliff W joined forces to make a start on the bottom boards / margin boards and closing boards so we could get a process developed and a design optimised. This work is based on interim fitting as the keel bolts need to be kept clear until the keel repair is completed. Ivan has moved the mini knees forward with only two left to make and fit. Cliff W fitted half the sole board locating cleats and Hannah made a further sixteen to finish the job. The hull splining continues with David D, Micky M and Trish G. Igor has put some bilge rail supports in place so that we can move the keel blocks ready for the next stage of the keel repair.

We have identified a suitable baulk of oak and have cut the first of three keel laminations. John Bazely and Fred machined some elm planks to re-lay the margin board shaping strake. Igor carried on dry fitting the first stage keel laminate, Micky M and Trish G pushed on with fairing off the splining and Roz worked on the rudder to fit a graving piece. John Bazely and Fred made a start to machine cut the stepped scarfs on the margin board but hit problems. Igor trial fitted the keel laminations and Ivan W fitted the last of the mini knees.

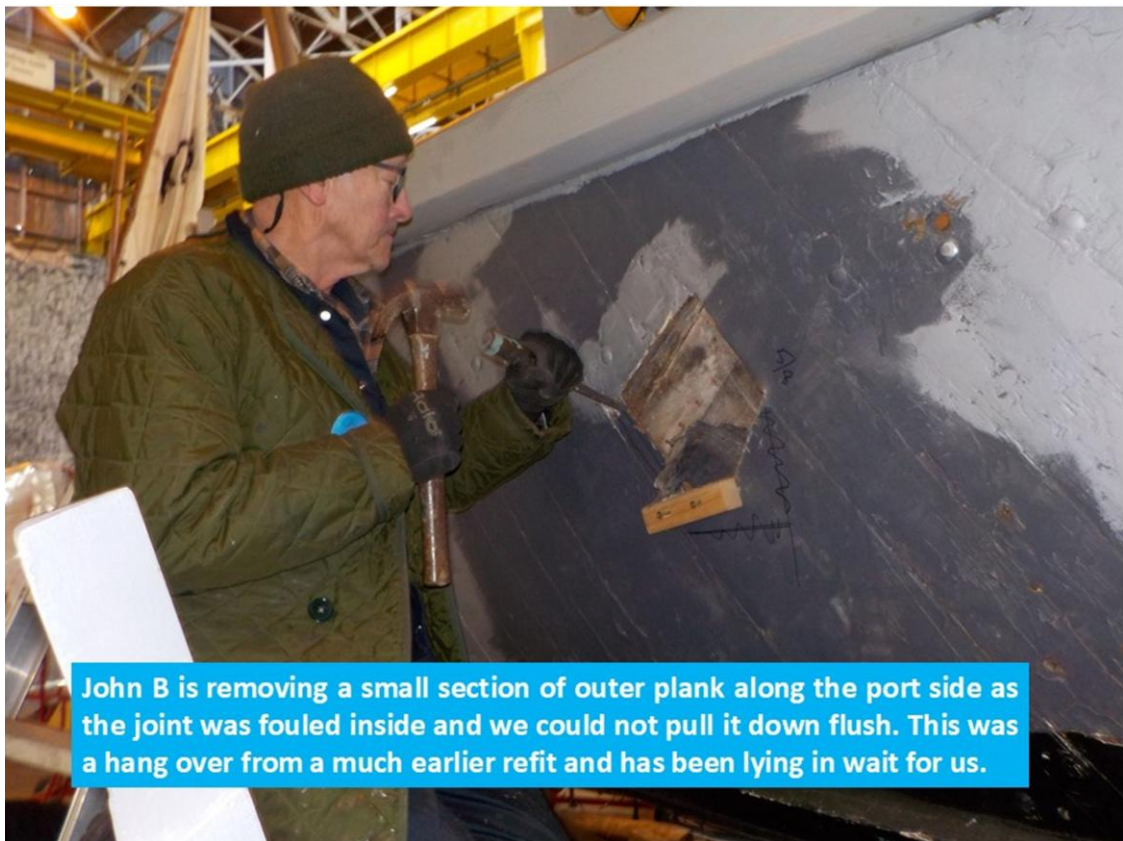


Igor is moving the keel blocks to make way for removing the lifting eye reinforcing plate.





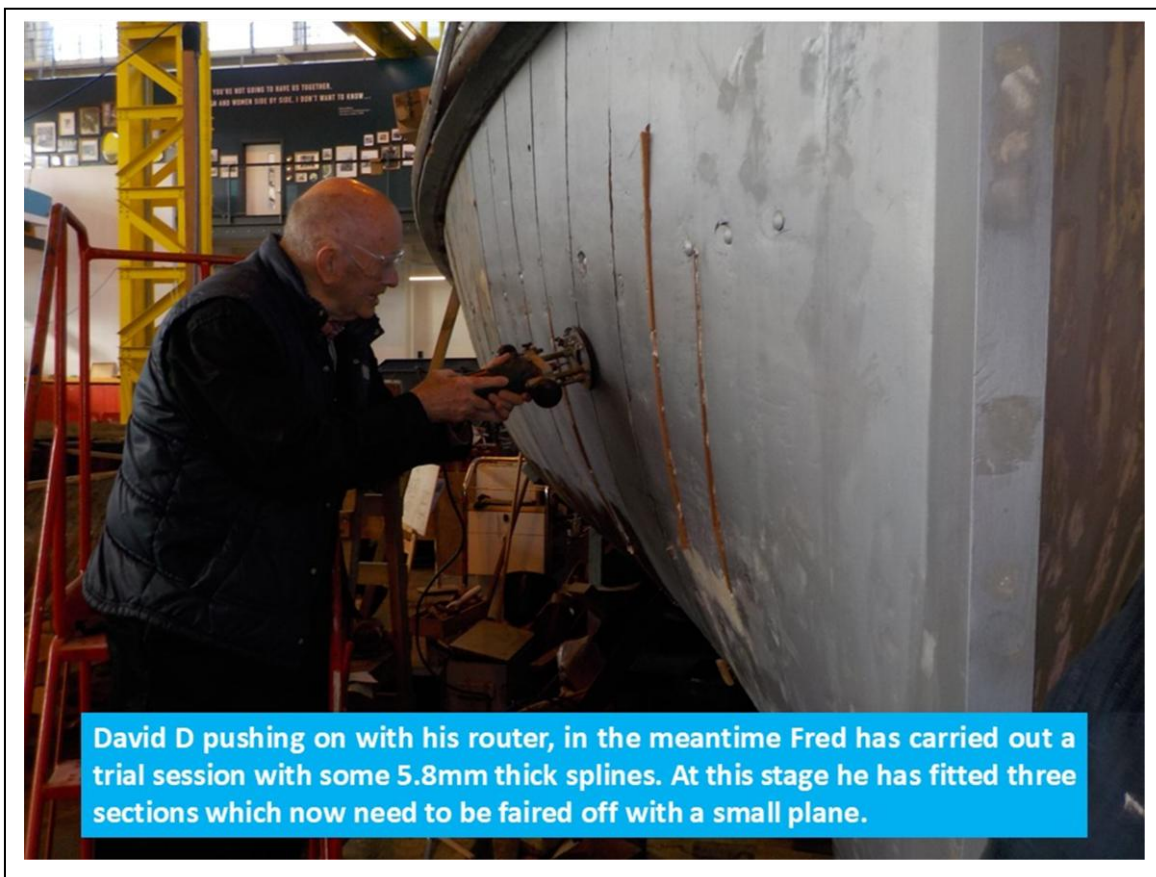
Here is David D with his router fitted with guide studs machining the plank seams.

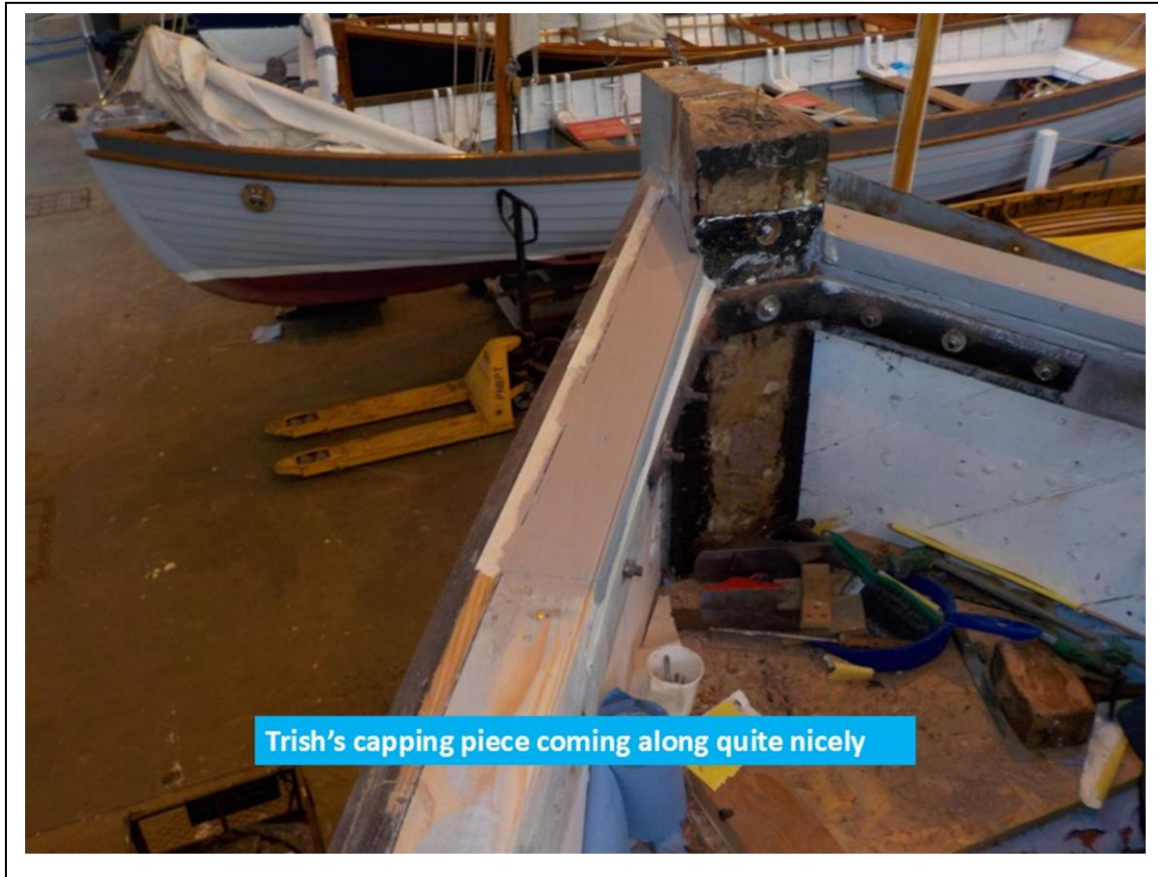


John B is removing a small section of outer plank along the port side as the joint was fouled inside and we could not pull it down flush. This was a hang over from a much earlier refit and has been lying in wait for us.

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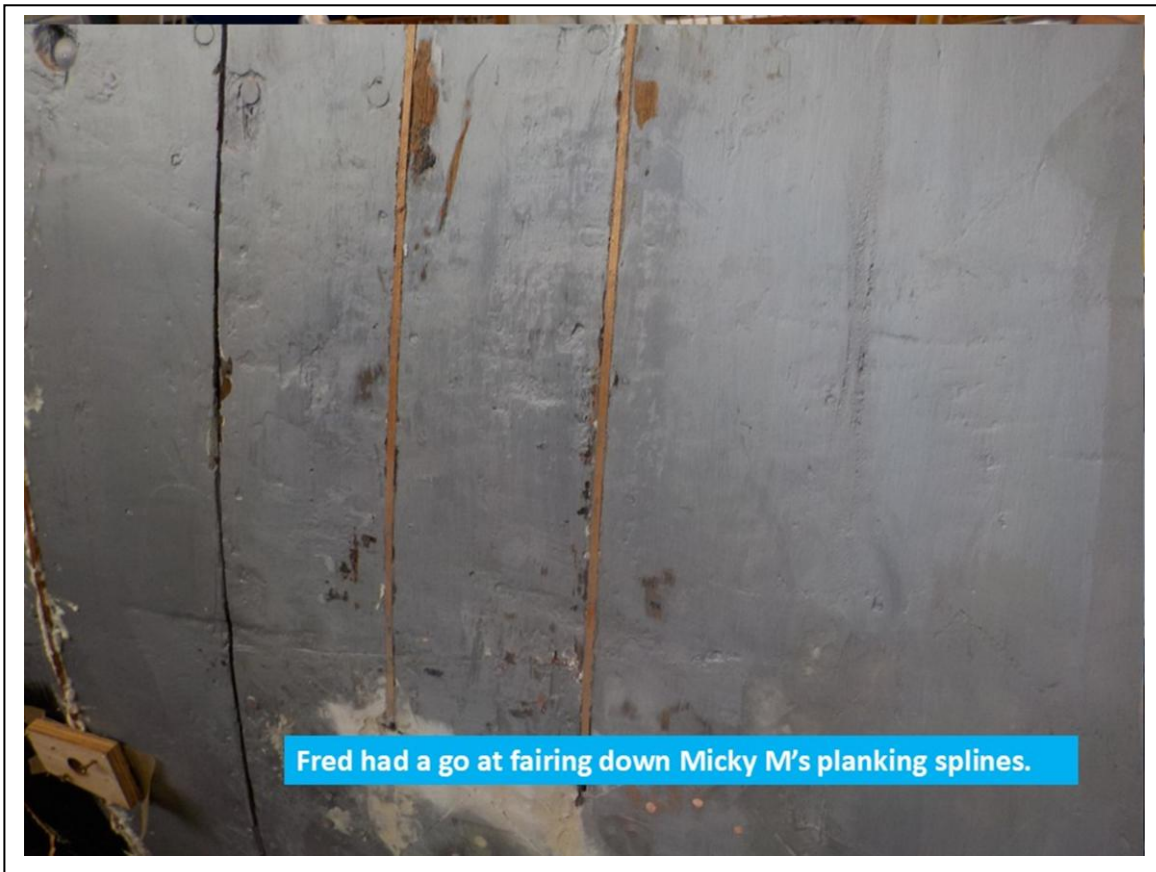
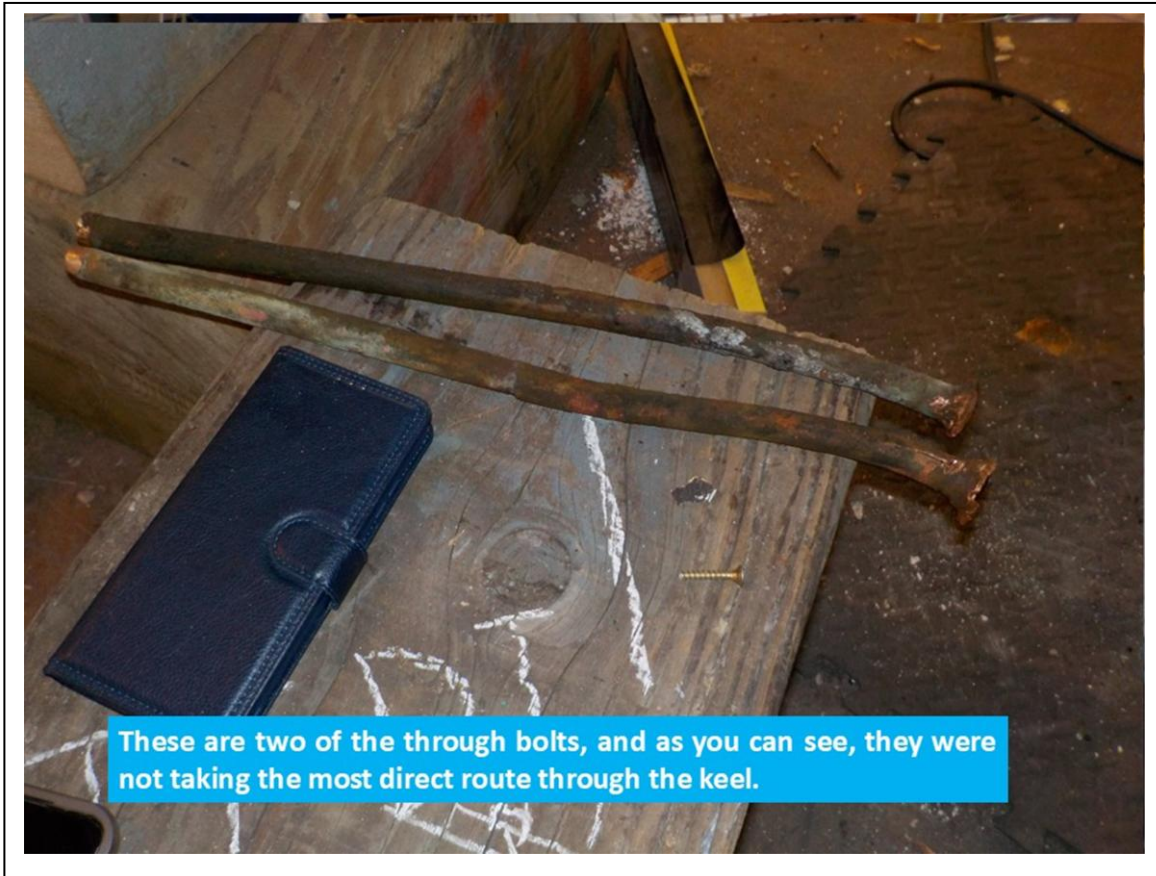




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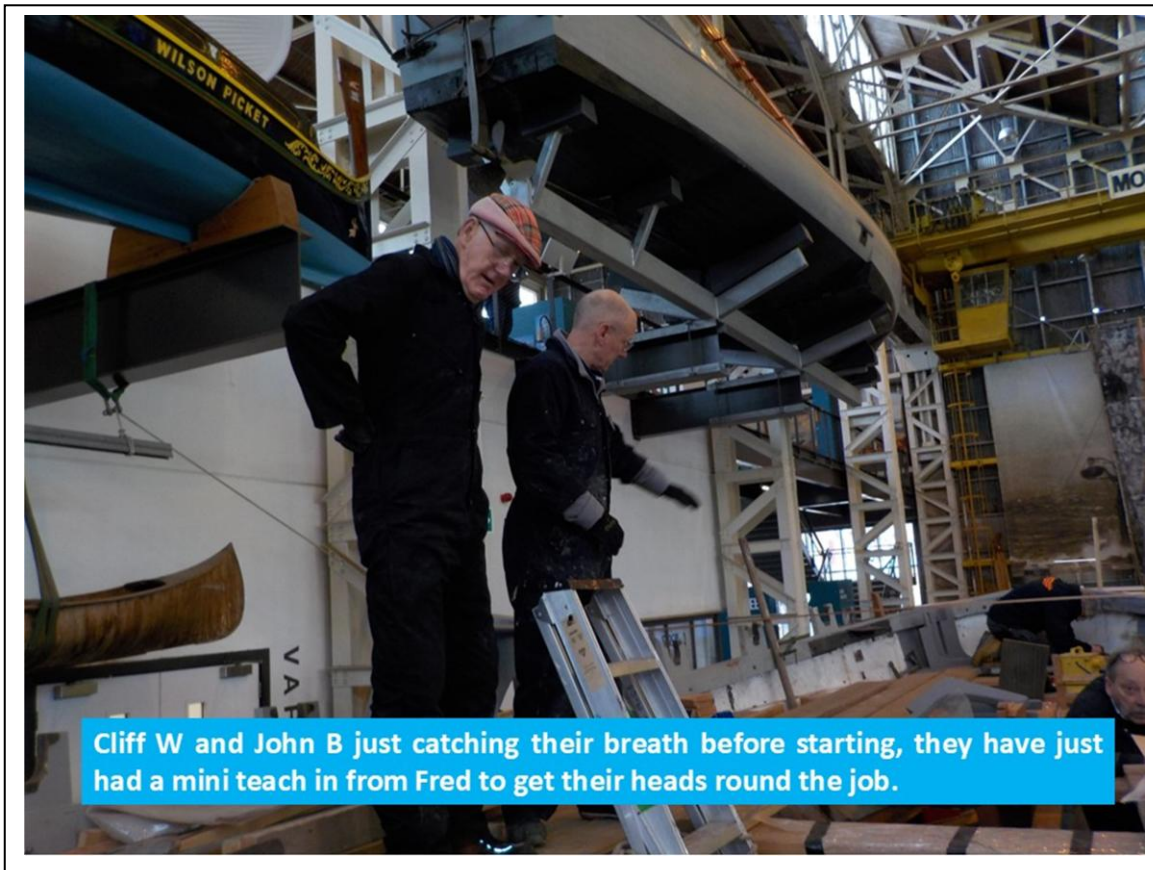
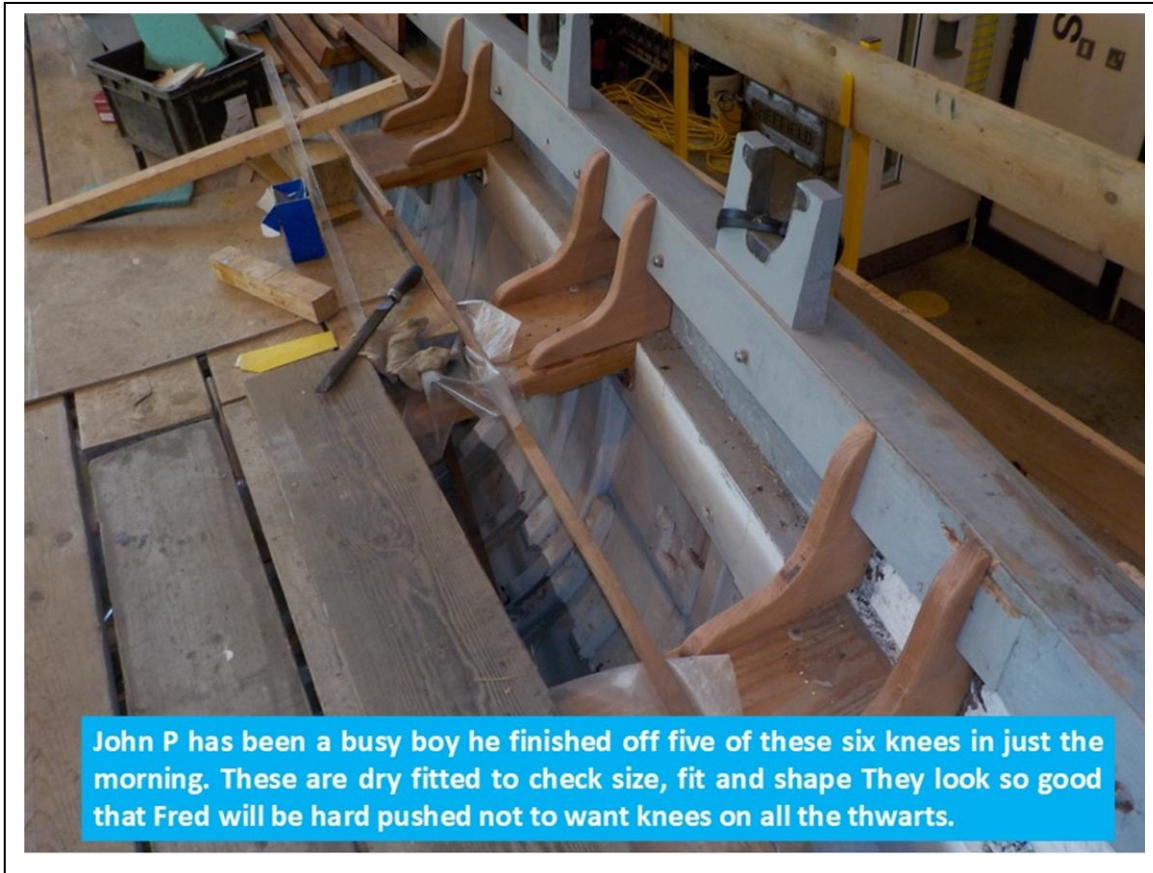






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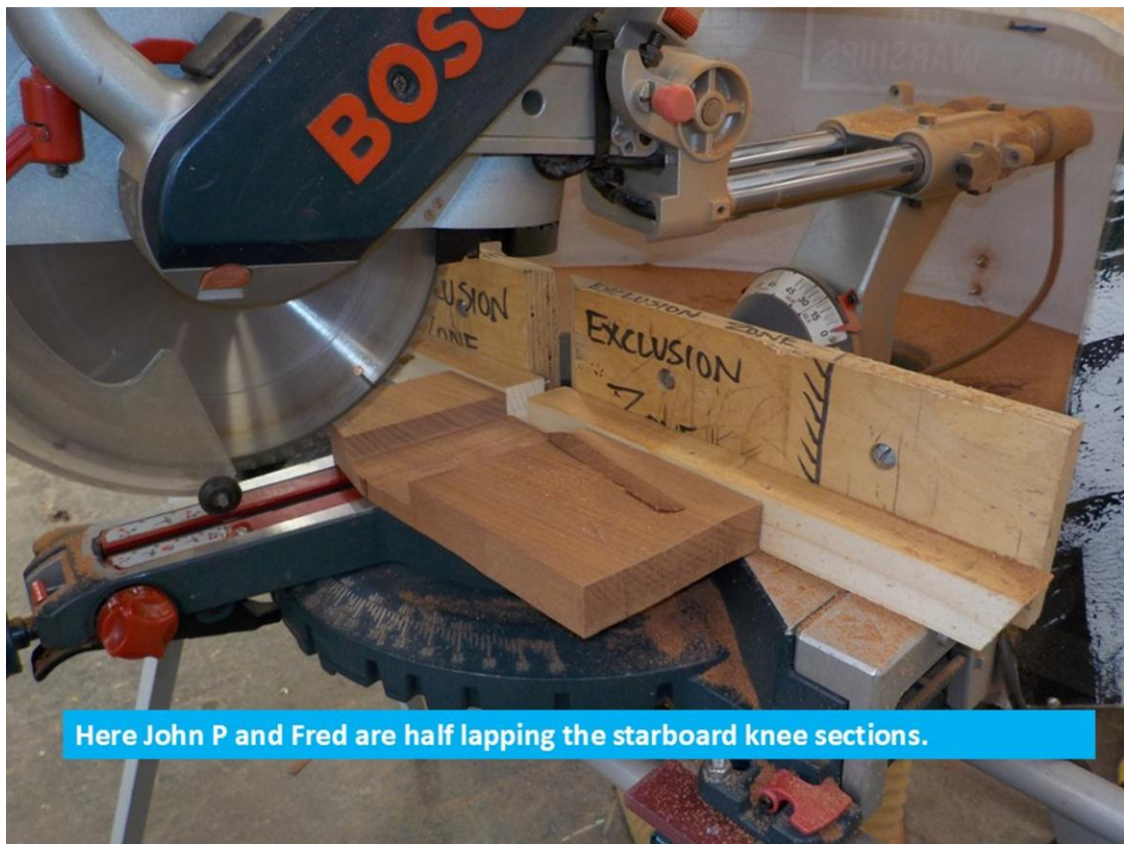




Another side of John P's current job as he dry fits some lower knee sections against the side of the boat and thwarts.



Igor has been busy again cutting a bit more of the gribbled keel away up to the midship's lifting gear reinforcing plate.



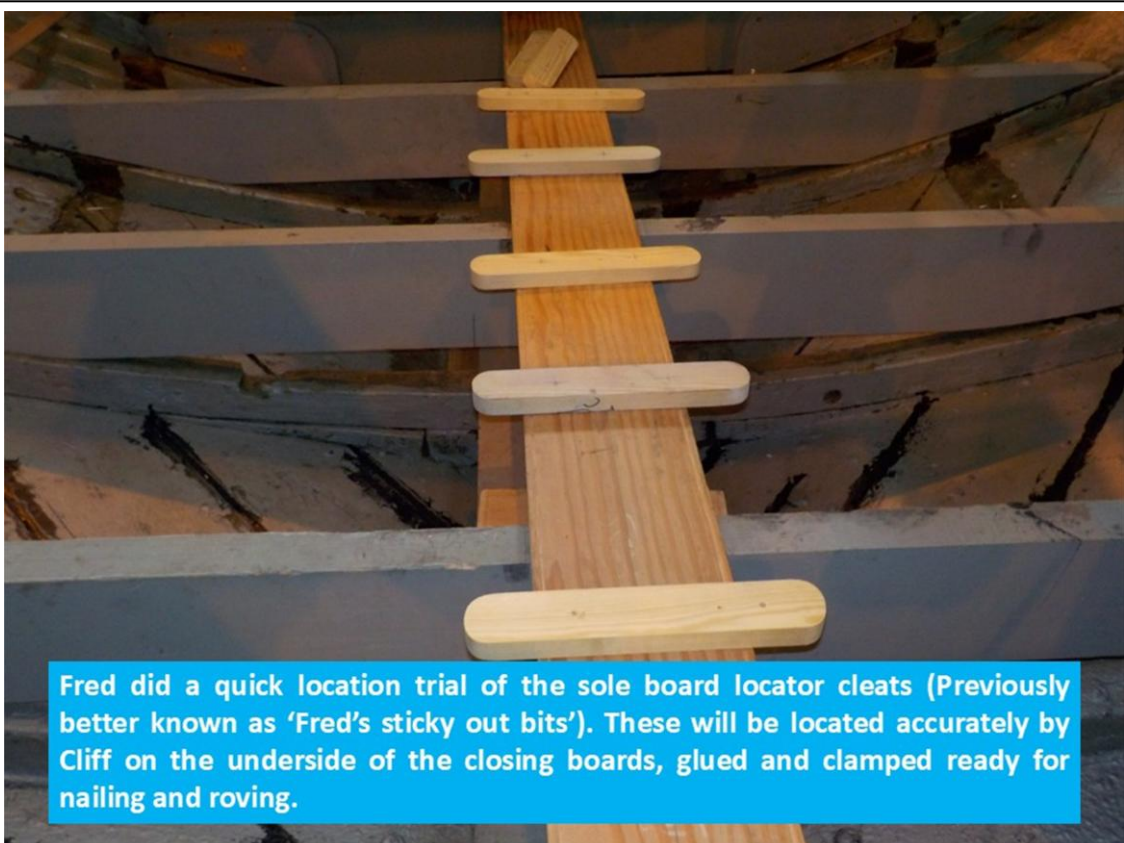
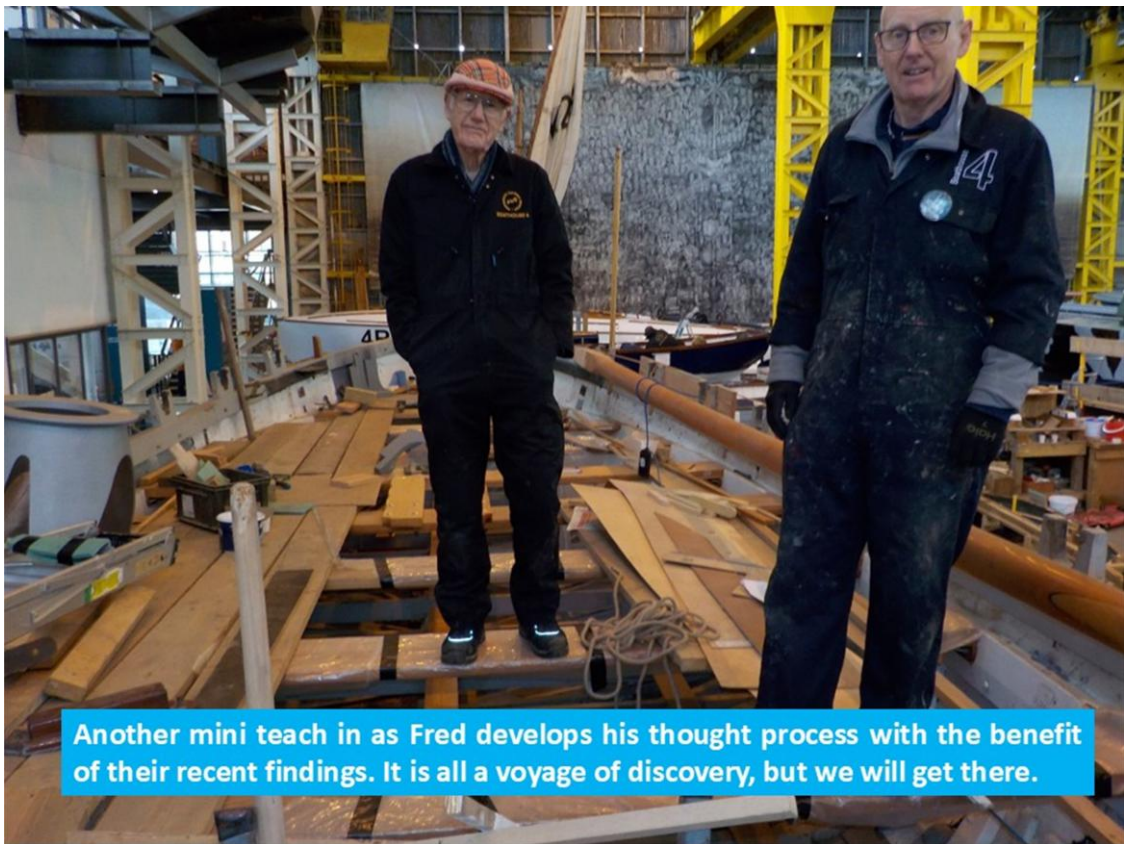
Here John P and Fred are half lapping the starboard knee sections.



Meanwhile John B and Cliff W have cleared away the keelson and dry fitted the closing boards. This allows them to position the soleboard locating cleats.

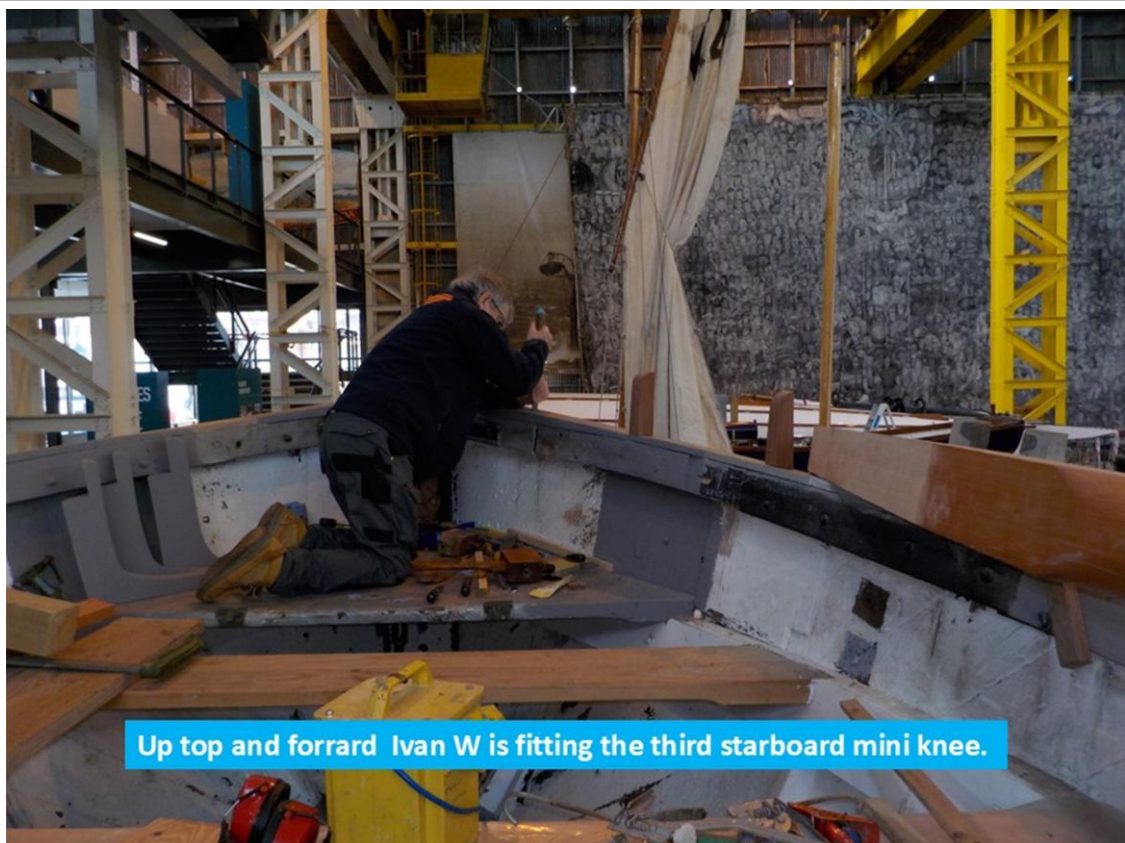
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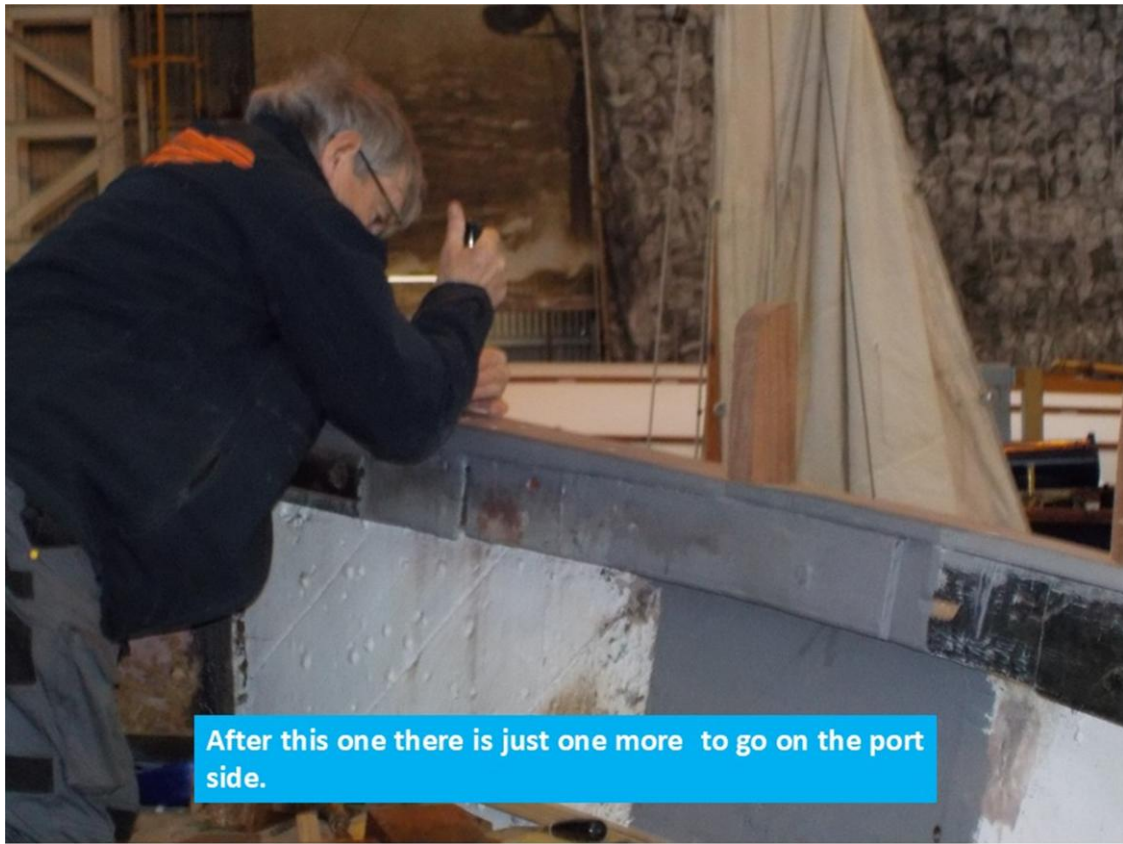




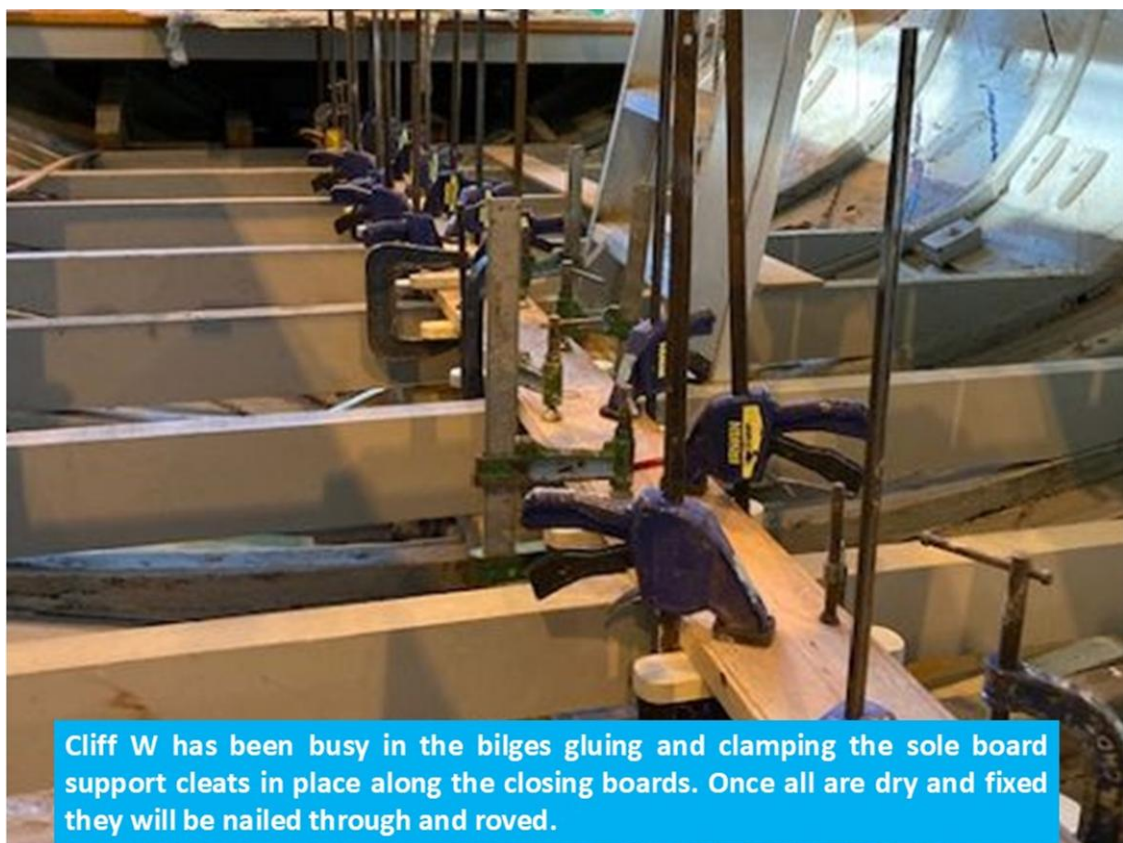
Fred and John B are in the process of laying out a fairing batten to plot out the shape of the margin board inner perimeter ready for steaming and gluing the laid planks. The far end was moved later to give a fair line



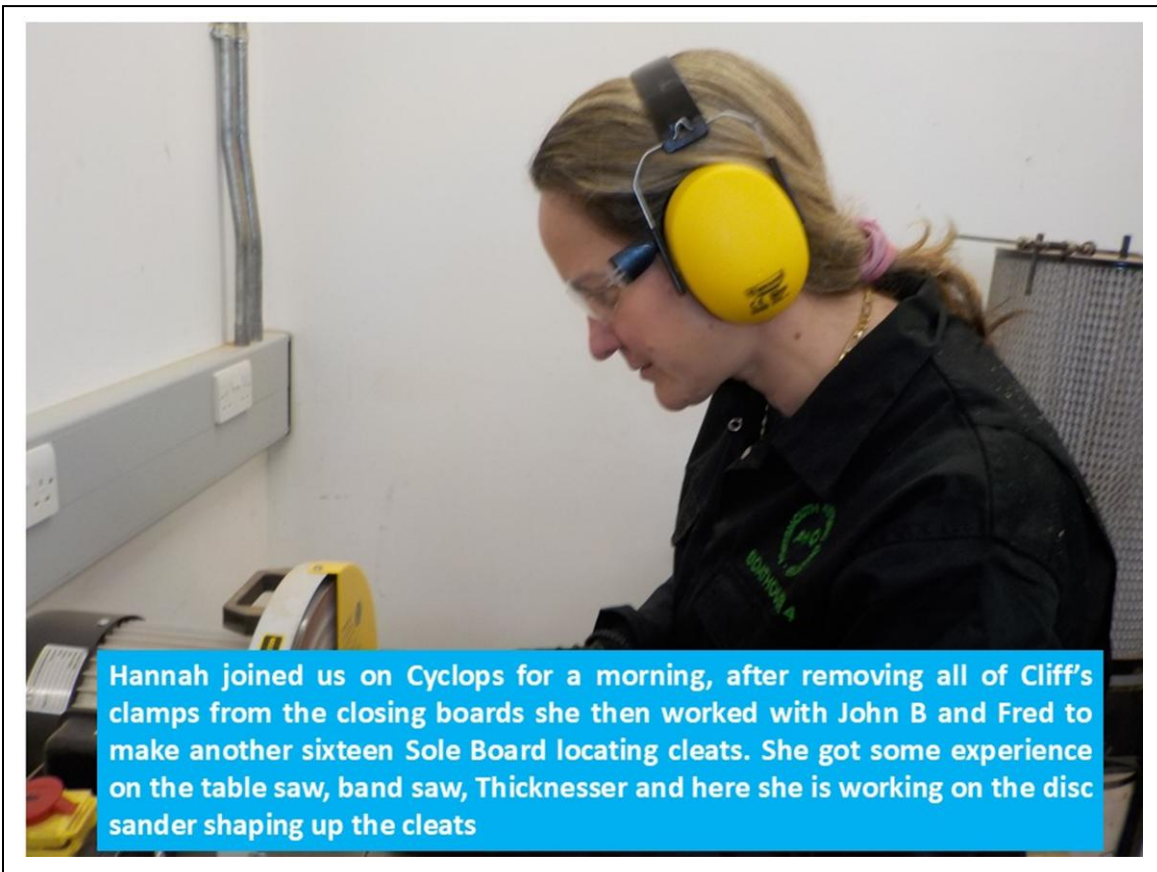
Up top and forrard Ivan W is fitting the third starboard mini knee.



After this one there is just one more to go on the port side.



Cliff W has been busy in the bilges gluing and clamping the sole board support cleats in place along the closing boards. Once all are dry and fixed they will be nailed through and roved.



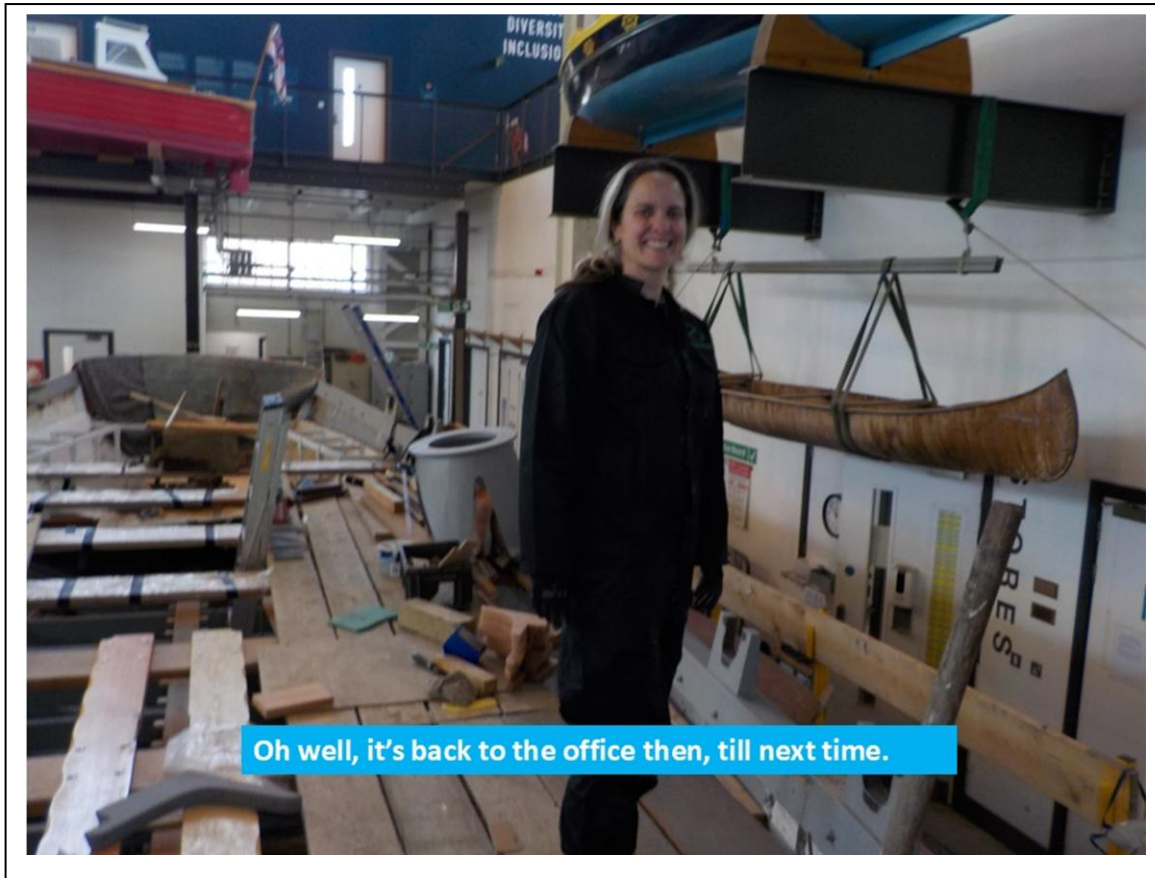






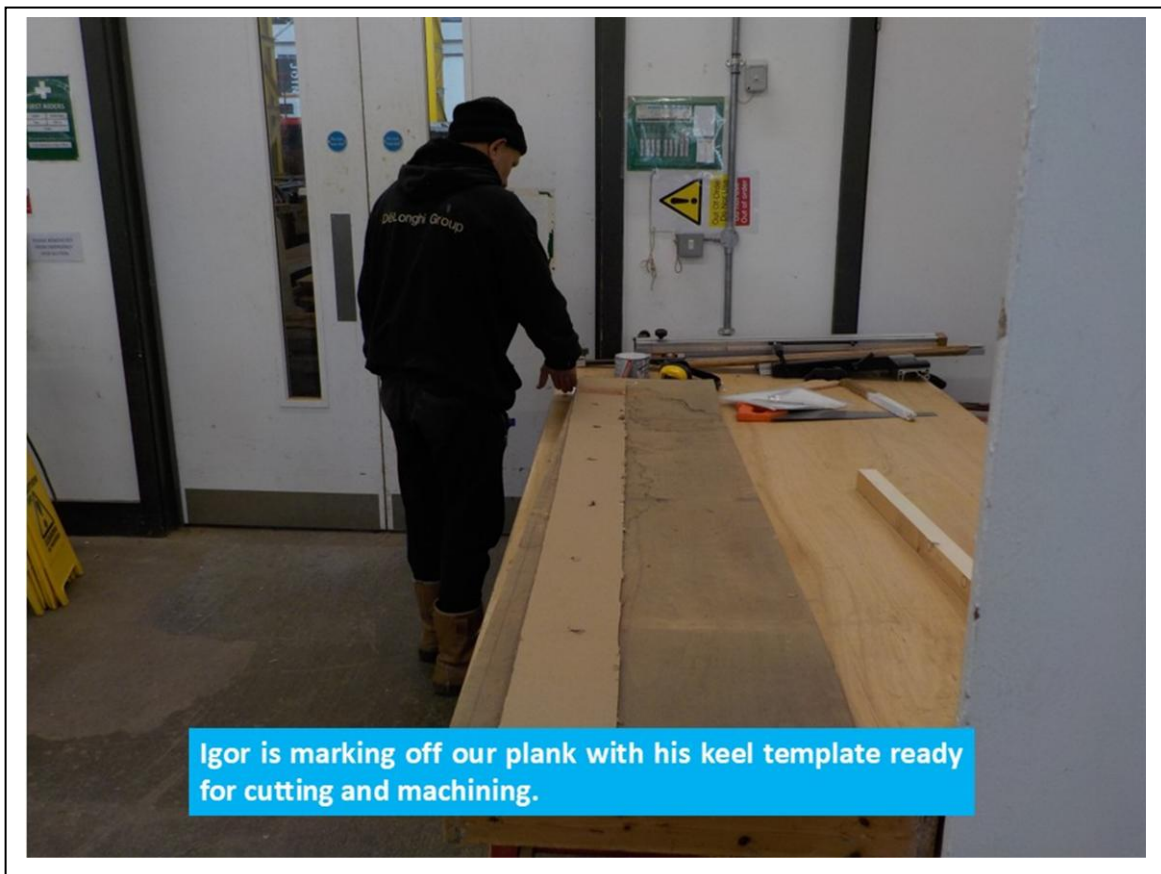
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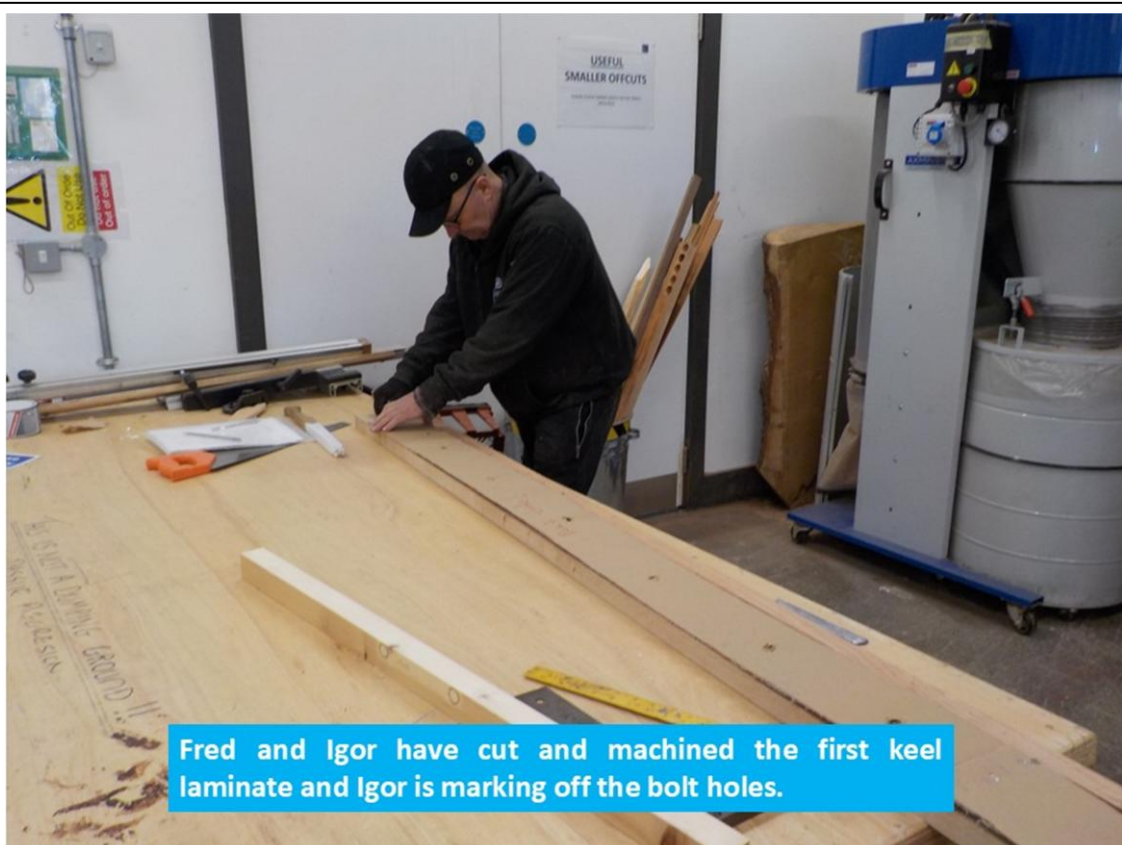
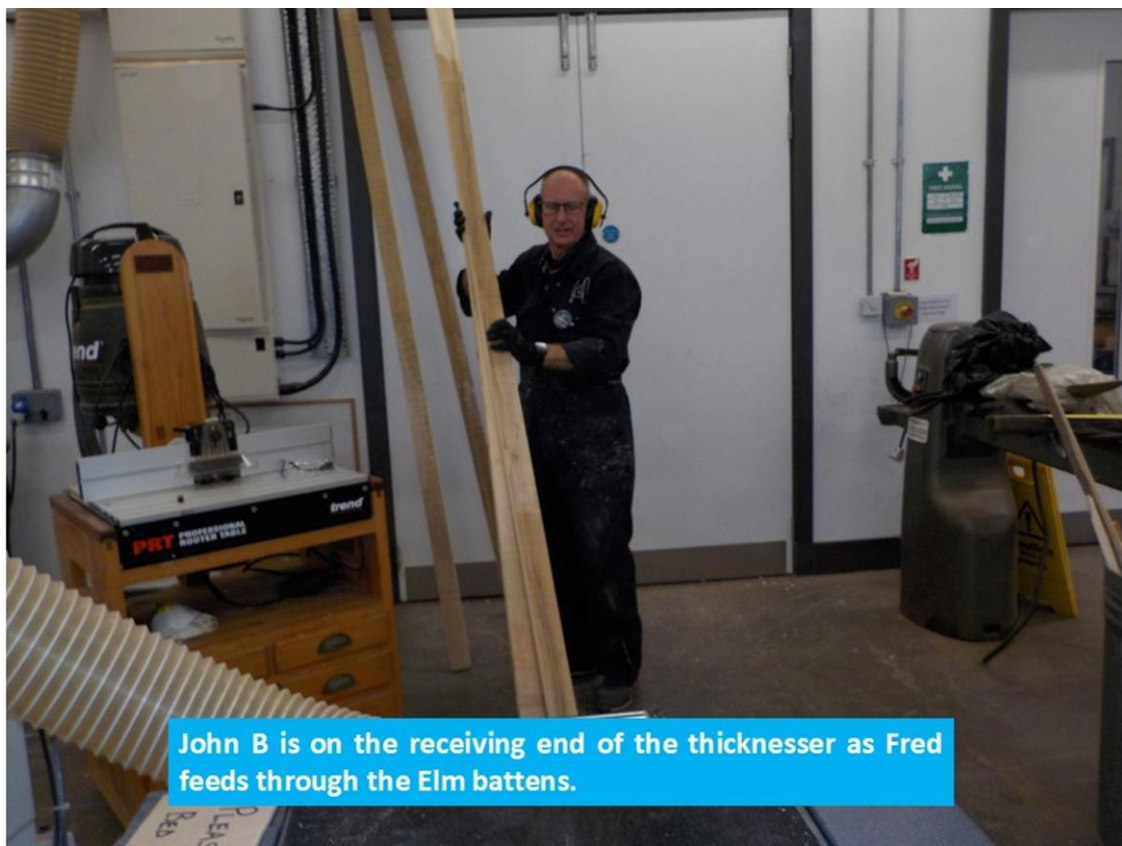
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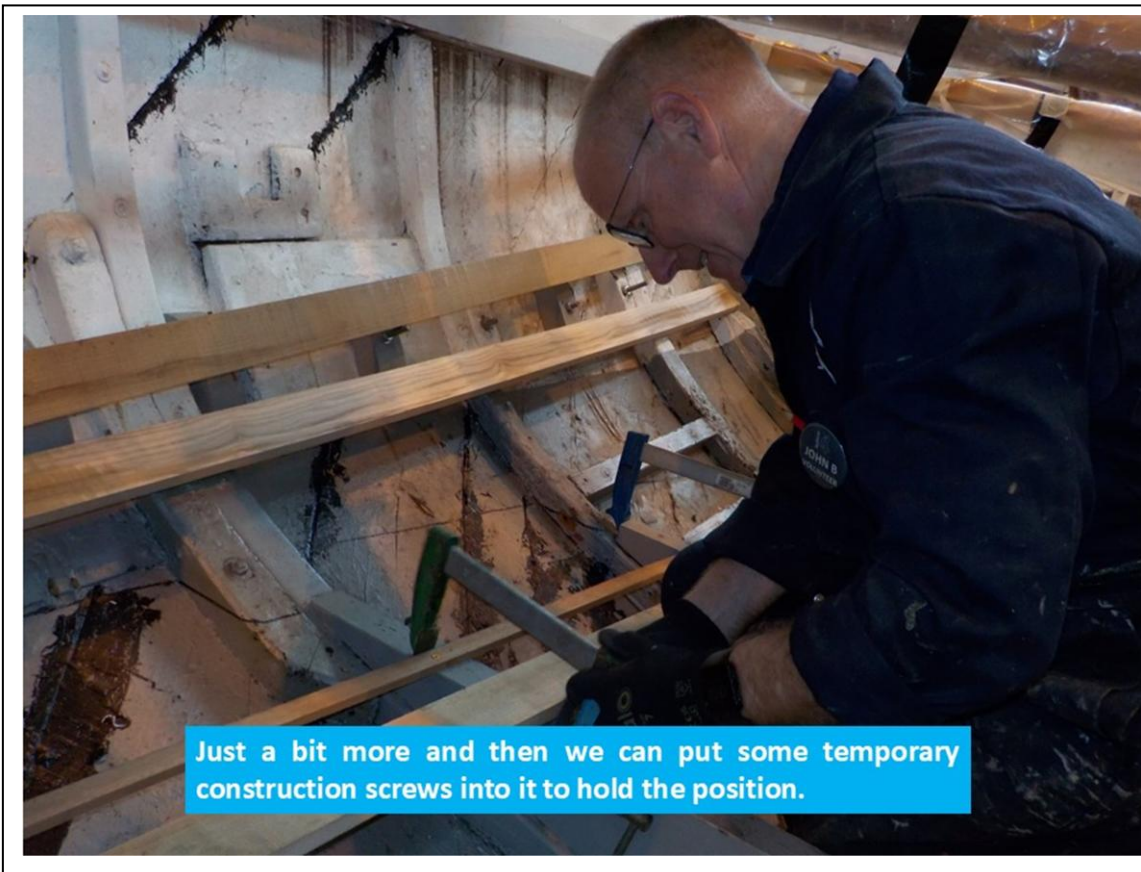
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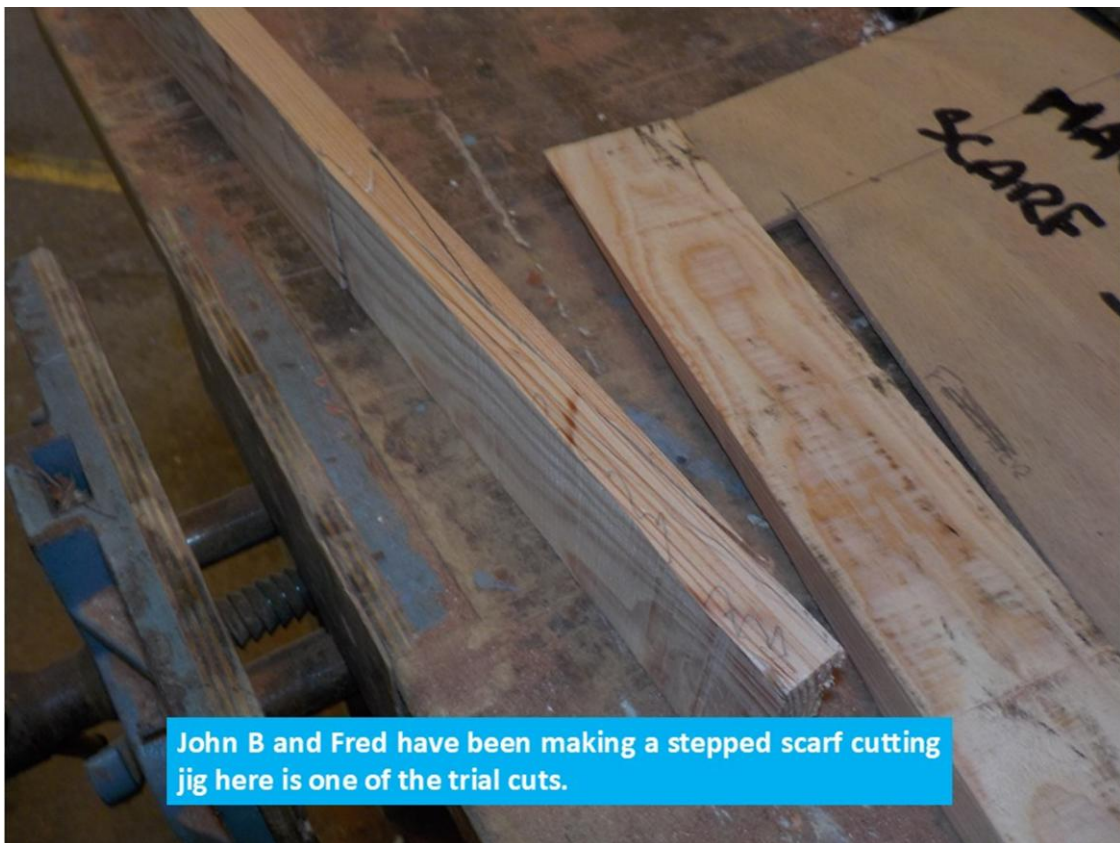
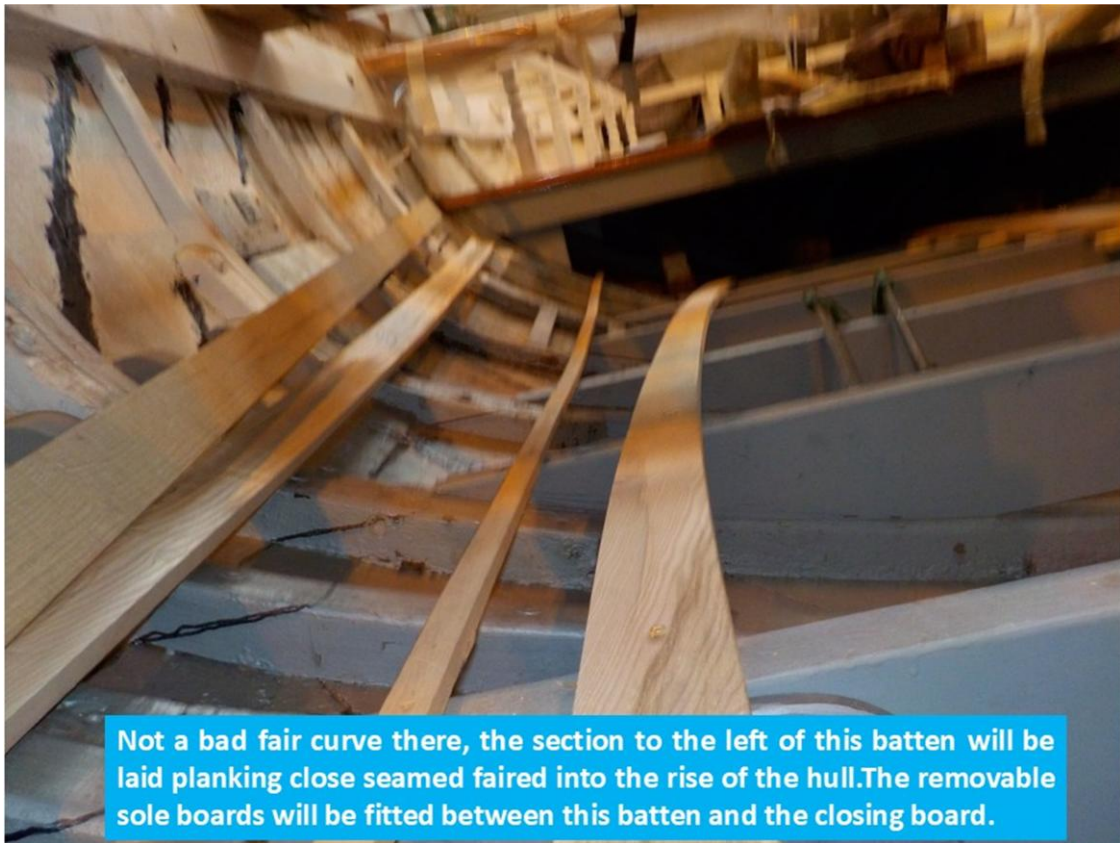


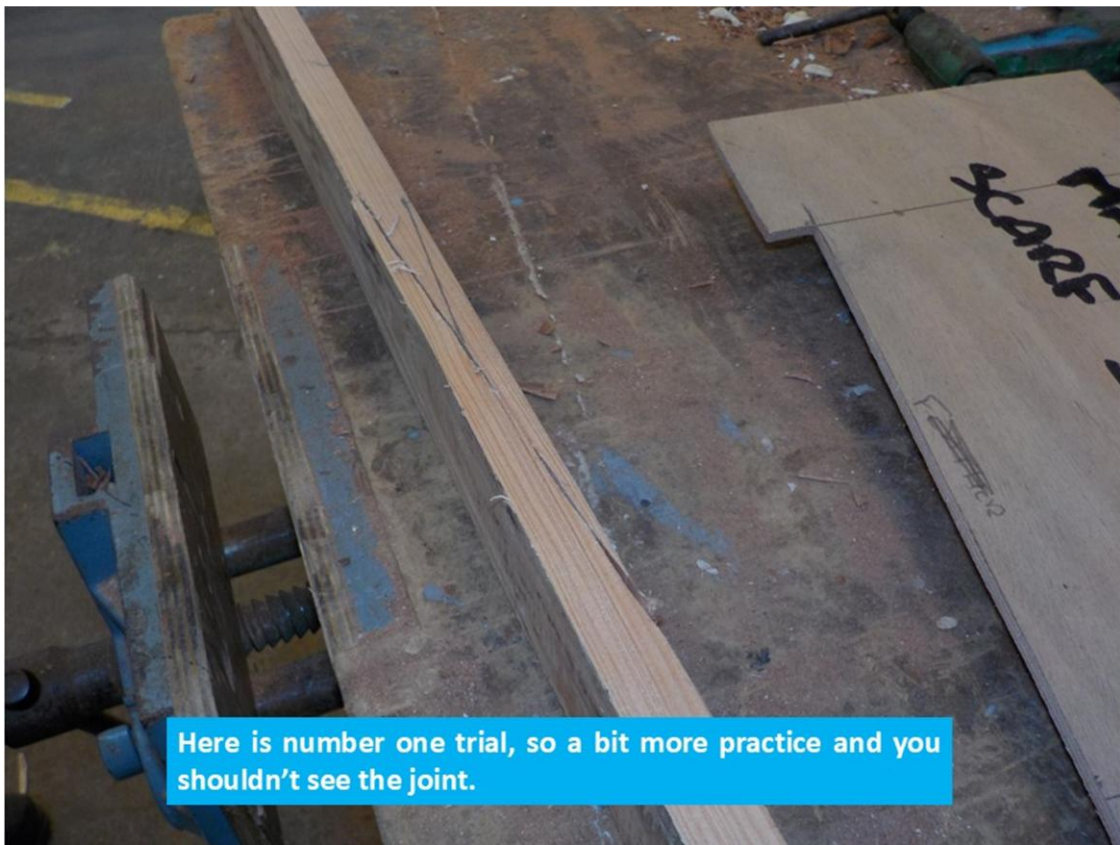
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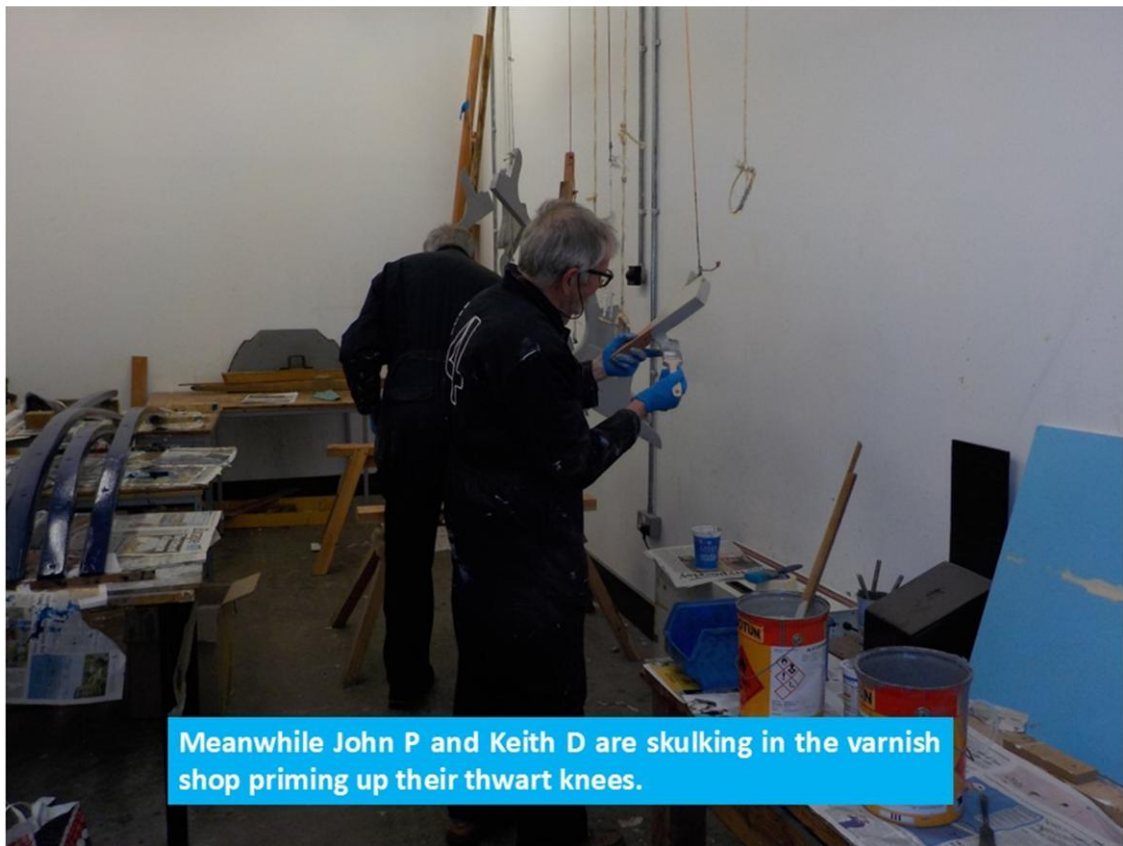
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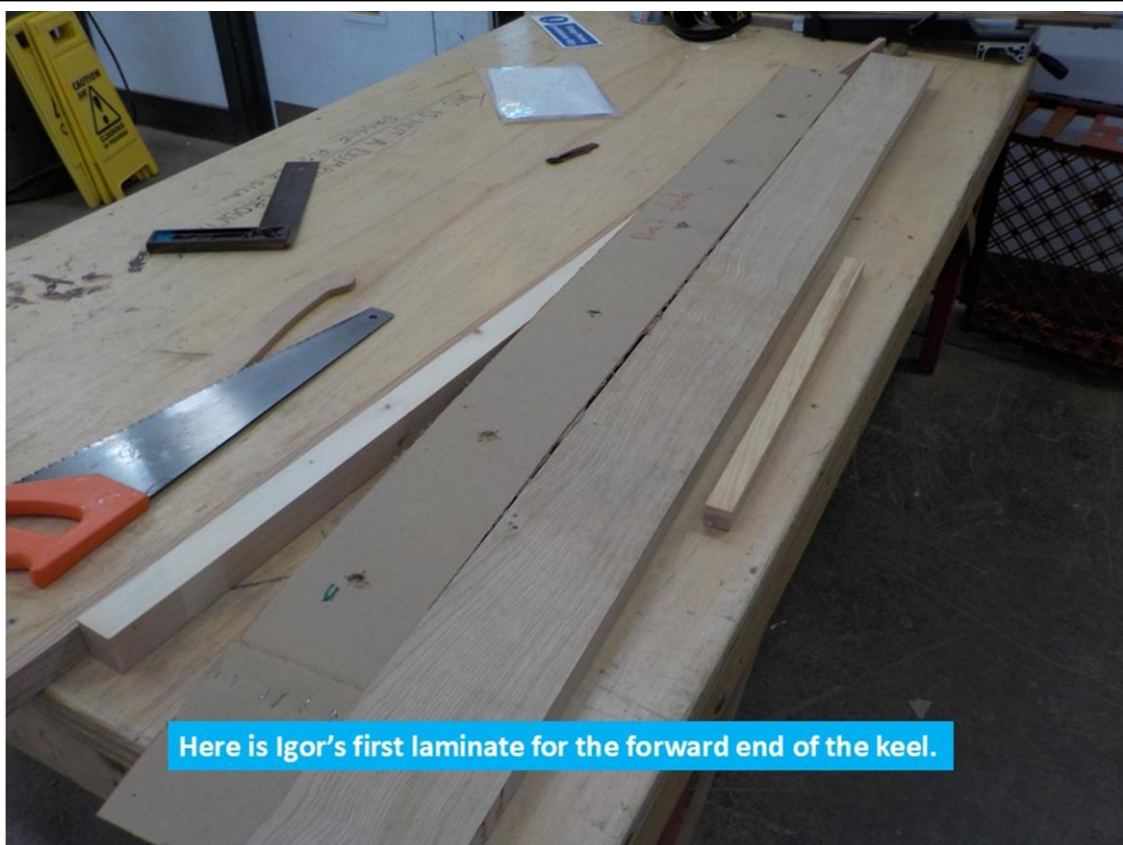






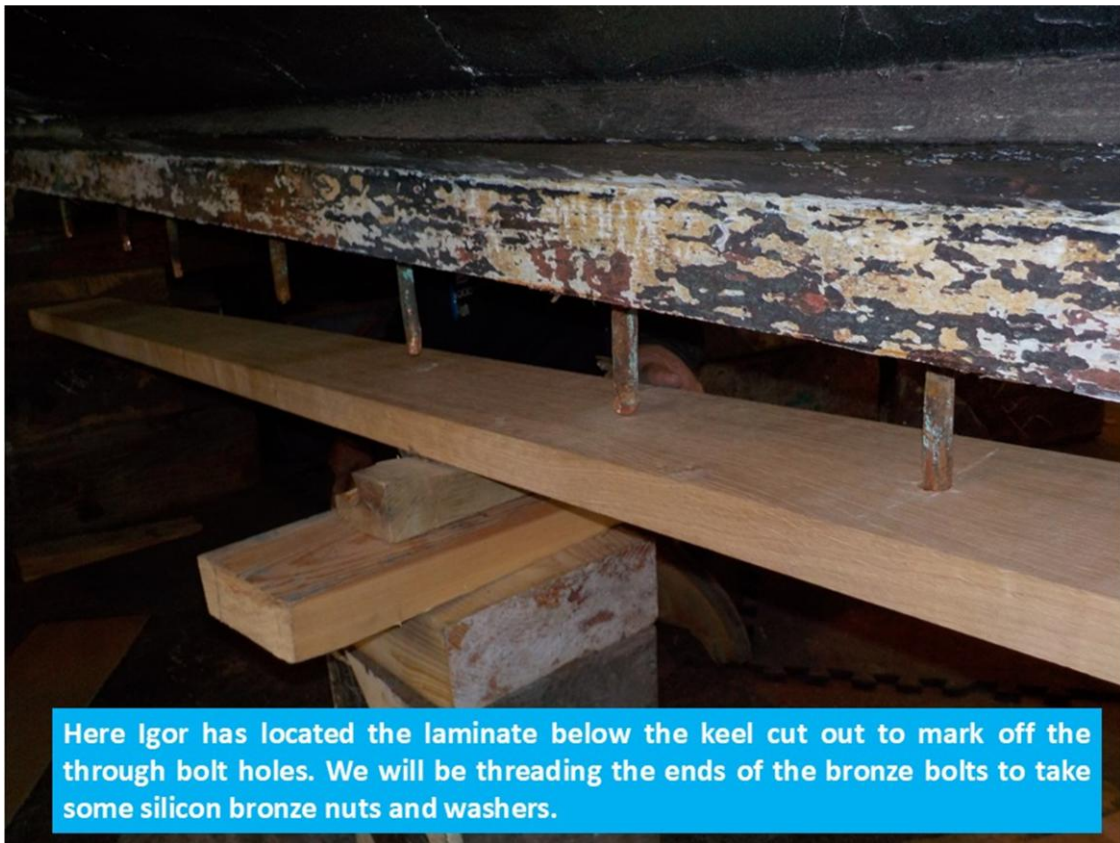


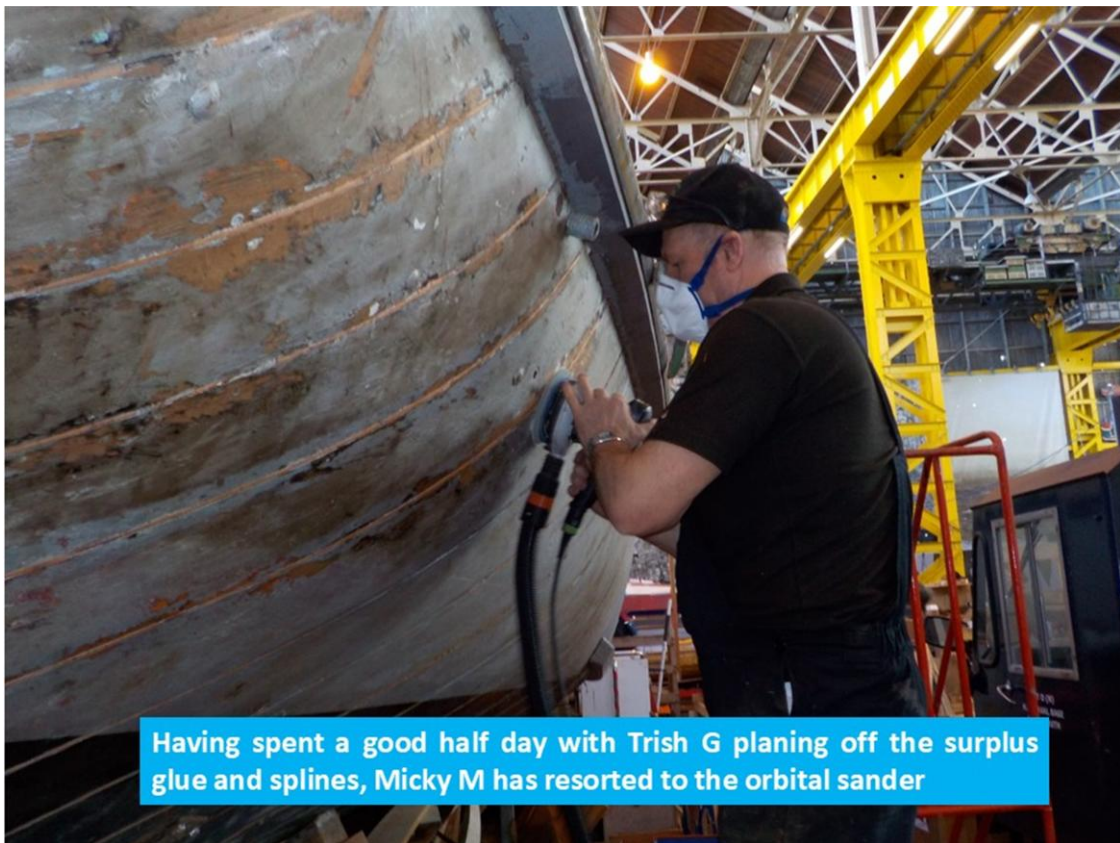
Meanwhile John P and Keith D are skulking in the varnish shop priming up their thwart knees.



Here is Igor's first laminate for the forward end of the keel.

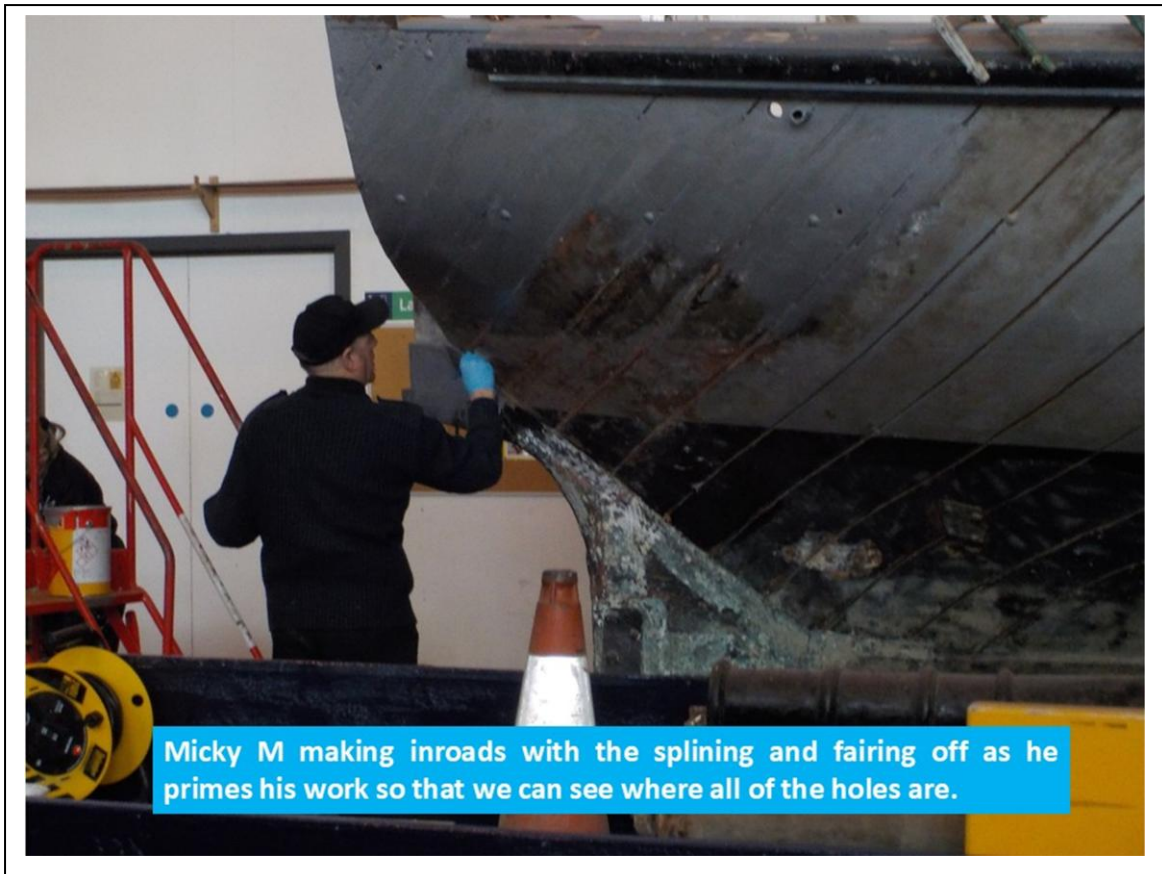
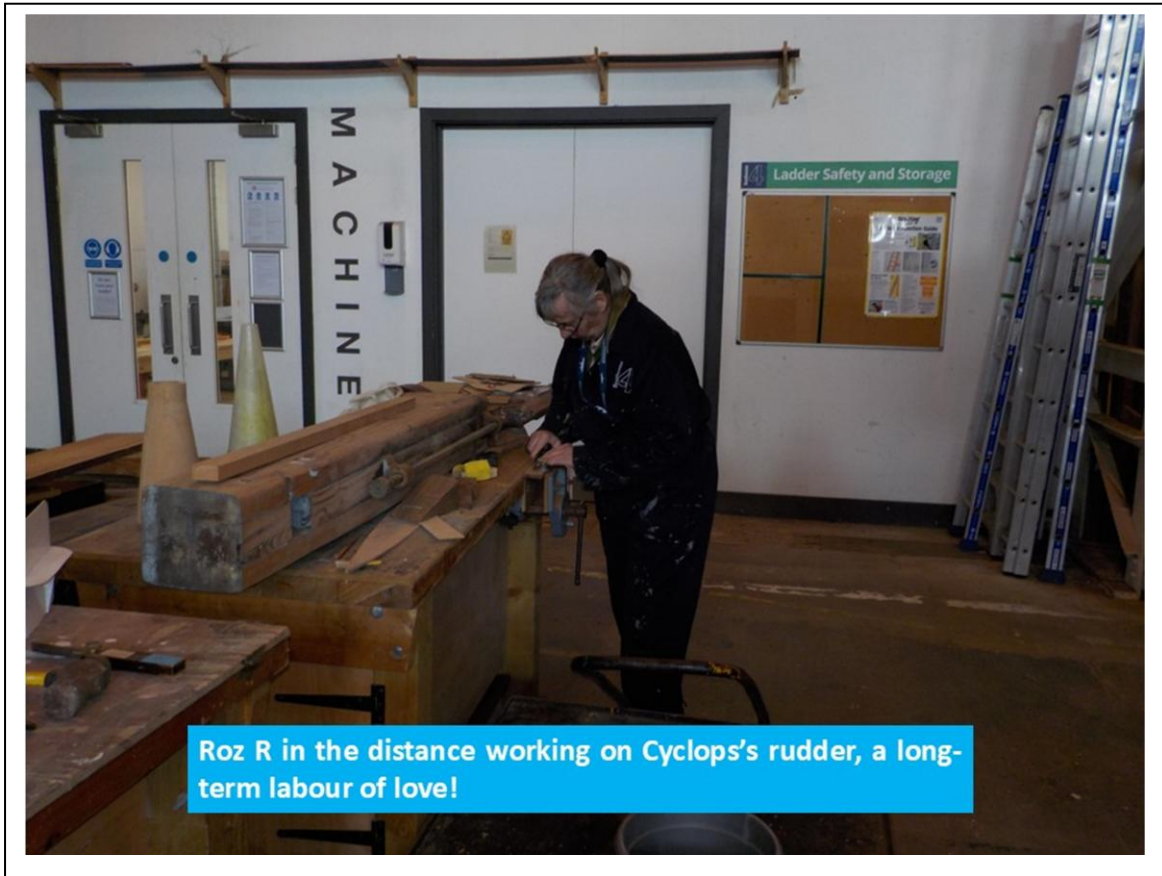


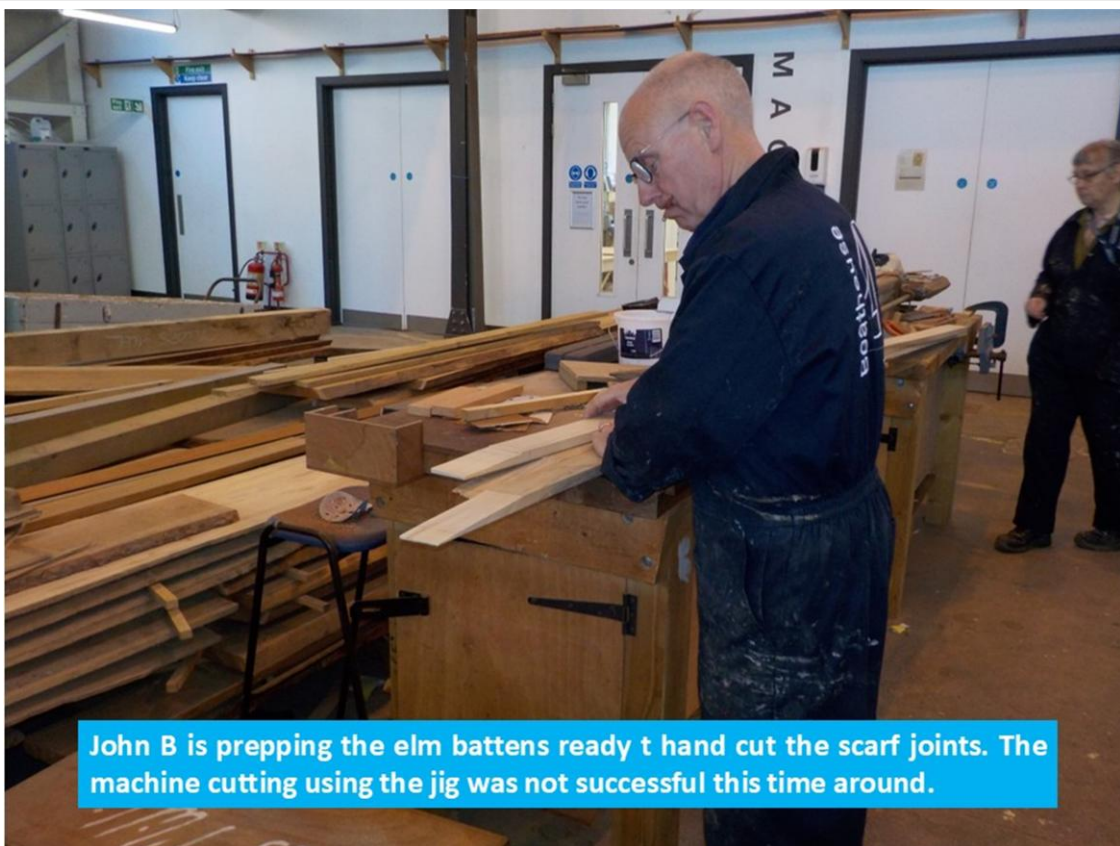
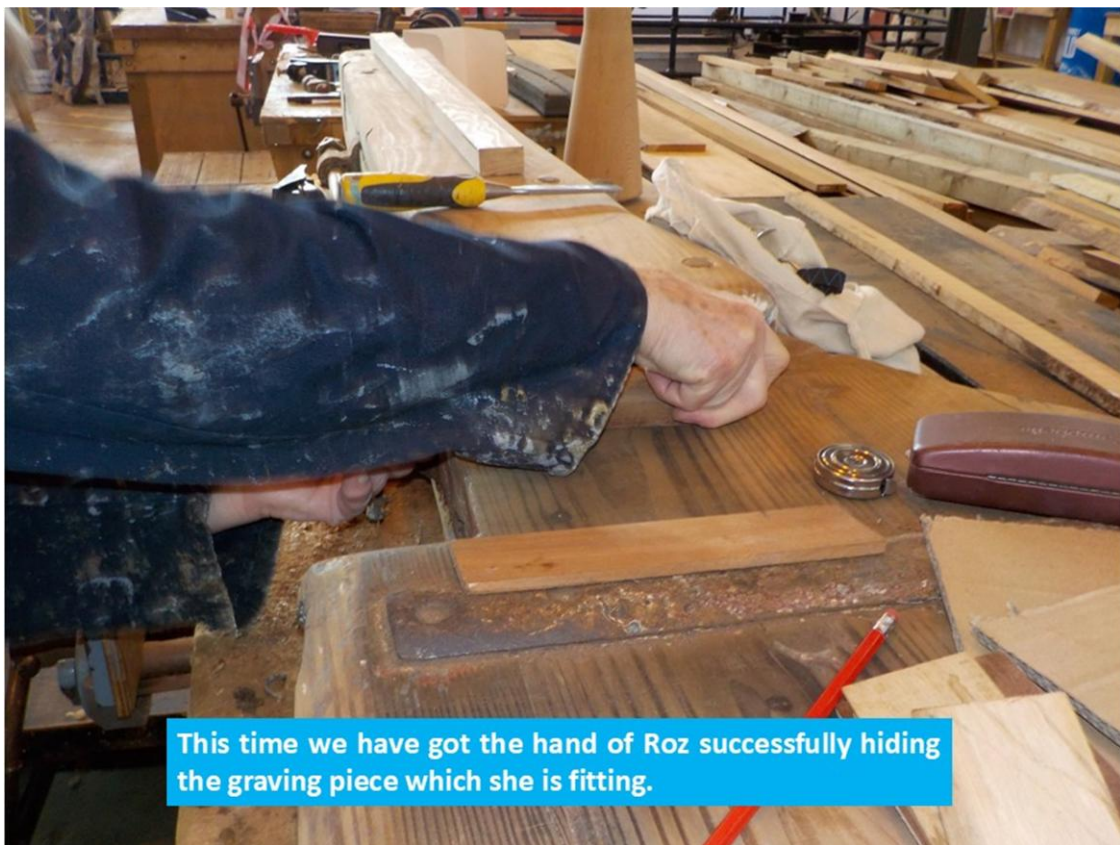




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