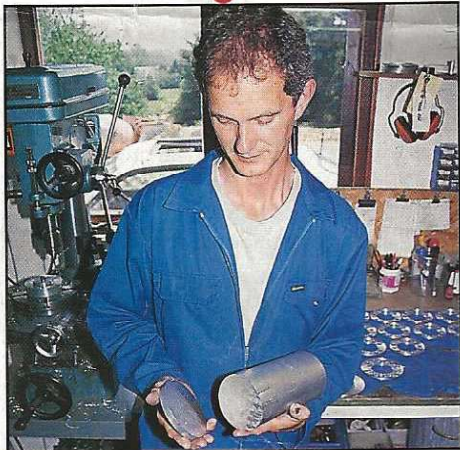
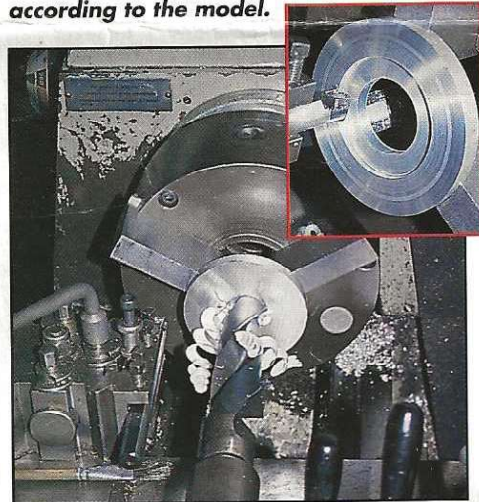


RICHARD MODELS REEL HISTORY

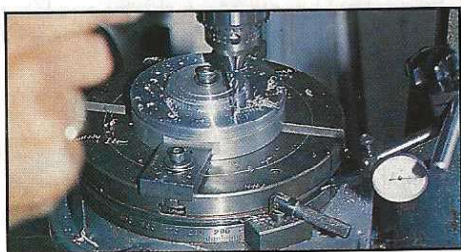
The making of a classic



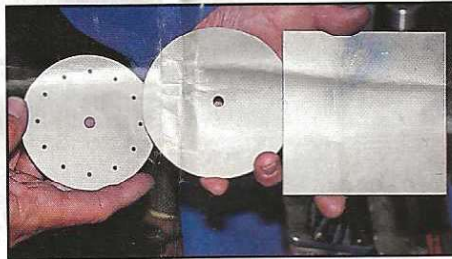
1. Half inch thick billets are cut from solid aluminium bar which can be four or four and a half inch in diameter according to the model.



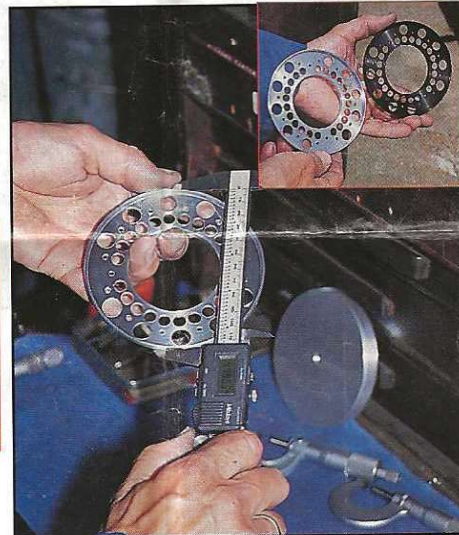
2. The billets are transferred to the lathe and drills used to produce a centre bore of two and a quarter inches which is then smoothed with a boring bar. After drilling they are then turned still in position and finally emerge as the spool front plate and main reel back plate.



3. The plates are taken to the milling machine where drilling of the smaller spool holes takes place. This is done to lighten the weight of the spool and doubles as ventilation holes to dry the line.



4. The thinner spool back plate starts life as 2mm aluminium sheet. It is cut into squares then machined into circular discs and drilled out.



5. When all the plates are ready, they are sent to be black anodised, which can take up to a week.



6. Whilst anodising is in progress, the 45 component and precision parts such as the centre bush, spokes and reel seat are manufactured and made ready for assembly on the return of the plates.

RICHARD CARTER has been a keen angler since he was a boy and took up precision engineering when he left school.

He served a five year apprenticeship with an electrical and engineering company in Brighton and started making centrepins in his spare time three years ago.

Being an angling traditionalist, admiring cane rods, old reels and antique fishing tackle, he reproduced a Match Ariel.

Richard was stunned by how many anglers wanted one, so he set up a small machine shop in his garage.

Over the next 12 months, Richard used his own knowledge and skill to develop his own Avon Classic centrepin which has become sought-after by modern day anglers and traditionalists.

With orders mounting Richard, with a big push from his wife Sue and close friends, gave up his job and got a small purpose built unit in East Hoathly, Sussex, to concentrate on making brilliant centrepins.

His work has been commended by the likes of Chris Yates who now owns the four inch Aerial Gem.



7. The starback feature for the Avon Classic four and a half inch model is cut from brass plate, then turned on the lathe and finished by hand.



8. The removable line guard is shaped in a vice.

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