First get a plan of the submarine. Not easy in 2006. Model to be 120 cm long = 1:44 scale.

Get a balsa tree and cut it up, if lazy, find a supplier!
Glue two pieces together

Square off and glue on profile shapes for roughing out.

Using a hand lathe (outboard motor stand, with two bits of wood nailed on and nails in center line of submarine), turn by hand and make the middle round with rough sandpaper.

Roughly shape bow and stern with rasp in two dimensions.
Smooth to approximate shape in 3 dimensions.

Hardest part of whole model was design of saddle tanks, needed to be this shape took some head scratching to get right.

Made by formers glued to side of hull.
Line with abutting strips of balsa.

Lots of pins and strips then sand without making holes.

Apply decking and coning tower (balsa and card).
Add hull detail shapes, deck and keel.

Patch holes, joins and dents. Start adding details, lolly and kabab sticks. Steering wheel is rubber ‘O’ ring with inserted pins.
Paint, add details and place in museum (with ‘Do Not Touch’ sign!). Young Jasmin and Stanley Saunders for scale.

Inspected by Commander John Foster (RAN), and thumbed up.

Cost about five pounds in total.

Steve Saunders (2006...)