

## Couls and Patto Get Together – Jul 2020

Had a great lunch today with Patto and his missus Margaret, reminiscing about the old days. The story we both remembered well was when the first Aussie SLS championships were held in Tassie at Park Beach and we hosted North Narrabeen at our club house. Patto's dad had just made him a surfboard from Marine ply which we thought was the bees knees and we had only surfed it for a couple of weekends. A good surf was on and one of the Nth Narrabeen guys asked Patto if he could borrow his board because he had not seen a marine ply board for years. Patto said yes and the guy said to us. "where is the Wax" Patto and I looked at each other and thought why would you need wax. In fact we had the underlying feeling that to use wax on your board would be cheating.



The rest is history but those involved would remember that the next weekend we went to Burnie for the next 3 days of Aussie champ competition. Patto had a regular income and owned a Ford Anglia which we drove to Burnie with Selwyn Burrows. I was always broke and Patto and Selwyn were as tight as a flathead you know what, so to contribute my allocation of petrol I had to milk the other cars where we parked. The police turned up just as I hid the hose and could smell the petrol on my breath. Patto had a sherry flagon in the boot and I had just put a spare flagon of fuel in the other side of the boot and when they questioned me I told them that I had taken a swig out of the wrong bottle. They would not have believed me but evidence was everything. Then we went on to talking about yachting. Patto was famous in Sydney at the CYC for his fitting of propeller shafts on racing yachts and his expertise in maintaining racing yachts for maximum performance.

It was a great day. He work on some very famous Yachts.

Cheers Coulsa

18 July 2020







