



Surtees 6.7 Gamefisher

Innovative design, practical features, roughwater application and a very sea-kindly hull; these are the hallmarks of the Kiwi-built Surtees range - and this 6.7m model is the second biggest they make. We looked at it initially a few years back; this time Di Ross (report) and John Batty (photography) had the opportunity to study two of them, side by side.

With family commitments having limited any extended periods away from home base for some time, at last we have had an opportunity and a purpose for packing our Mazda BT-50 and hitting the bitumen with our plate ally 6.4m diesel boat *Runaway* in tow.

We had planned an expose on the Surtees 6.7M Gamefisher on its arrival at Roughwater Marine Lonsdale SA but this boat was quickly snapped up and delivered before we had a chance

to do so. When we established the proud new owners, the Pym family, were located at Smoky Bay (oyster central) on Eyre Peninsula we made contact and could not resist their offer for us to check out their newly acquired Gamefisher at that locale.

This also gave us the opportunity to revisit many of our favourite spots along the west coast and touch base with some friends we have not seen for some time.

Preparing *Runaway* and loading the crew cab for departure was almost a

retraining exercise (sure has been a while since the logistics were given a work out) for this 2,500km round trip. Lynton Pym had arranged with Greg Wenzel at Roughwater Marine for a pot pulling winch and a burley muncher for their Gamefisher, both being conveniently completed in time for us to transport them to the Pym's.

We no longer drive more than about 400km a day when towing, mainly because we don't have to, and also after arriving at our digs and settling in, we like to have time available for



John Batty's great shot of the Surtees 6.7 transom area - surely one of the most intensely planned in the business. Attention to fine detail is phenomenal - but observe carefully the centrepiece: the opening and closing ballast chamber.