

Cargo Proa Prototype

Building Blog

JULY 2021#1

Not much to show for the last couple of weeks which was spent finishing the bottom mast sections and lifting one of them into place. The bottom sections weigh 78 kgs each, which is not bad, assuming they are strong enough. The lift was pretty simple including raising the gin pole which is the middle section of the telescoping mast. It will be replaced with a much lighter deck mounted A frame for future use.

We also built the athwartships struts for the beams and some fittings for the rudder mounts, which raised more conundrums, followed by brainstorming and solutions, a couple of which are quite elegant. Next jobs are to raise both masts, fit the beams and struts, then install the sockets, bulkheads and some local stiffening in the windward hull and close up the foredeck. It's uni holidays, so we have a couple of volunteers to start work on the wing coverings for the mast, the winch table for the toybox and some cfd analysis of the boat. We also had Chris who swapped 3 days of labour for the chance to discuss some innovative ideas he has for boats and the best way to build them. Lots of fun.



JULY 2021#2

Messy couple of weeks, but the bottom sections of the masts are now in and the beams on. The photos do not show the support struts under the beams or the fore and aft struts. The second mast was raised with a sheer legs which is strapped around the hull so it can be used to step/unstep the masts while floating, although as the masts also support the beams, there will need to be a temporary stabiliser strapped to the hull as well.

