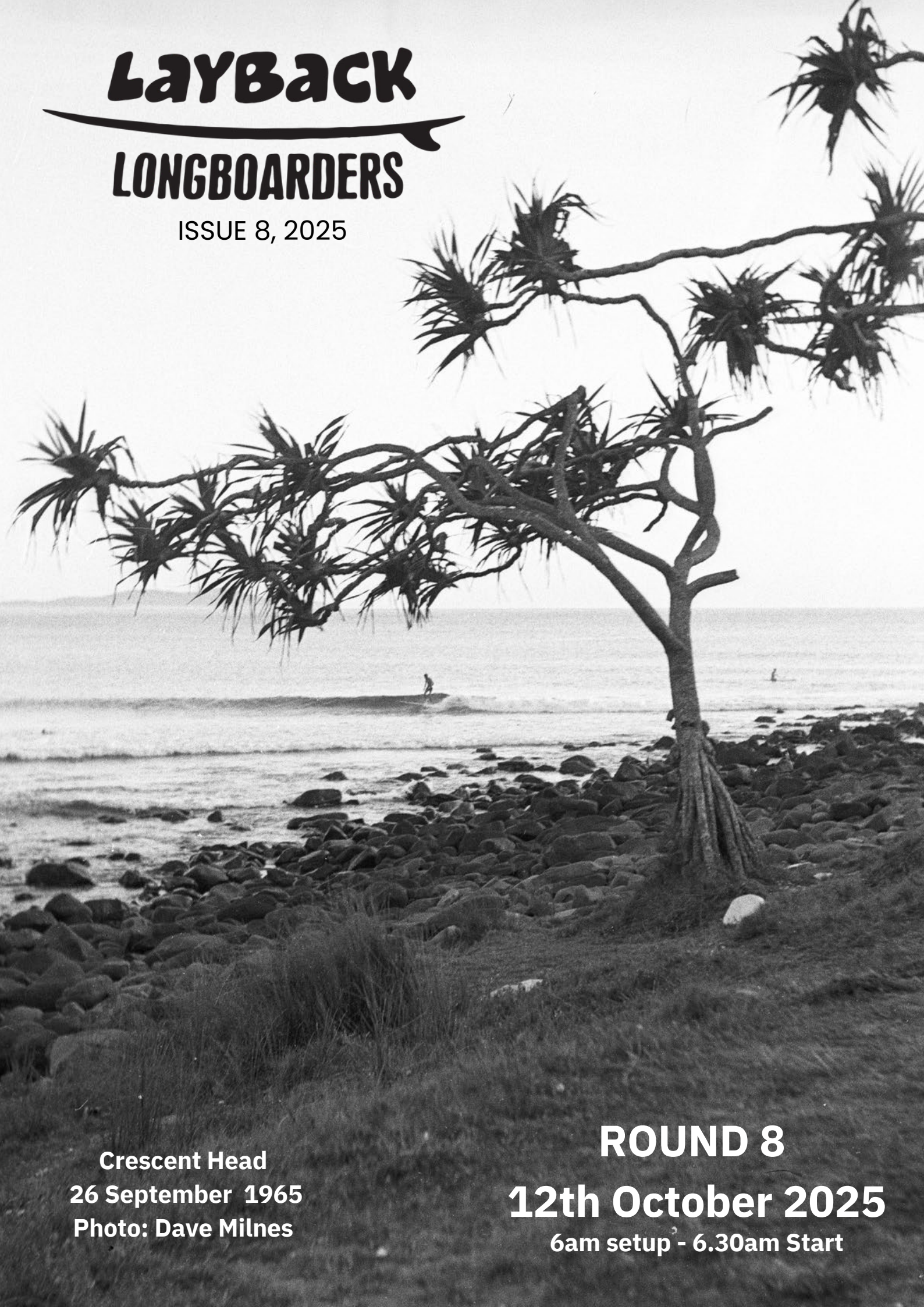


LAYBACK

LONGBOARDERS

ISSUE 8, 2025



Crescent Head

26 September 1965

Photo: Dave Milnes

ROUND 8

12th October 2025

6am setup - 6.30am Start

2025 COMMITTEE

President – Andy Goldie
Vice President – Kris Kumbier
Treasurer – Adam Morgan
Secretary – Rick Taylor
Social Committee – Andrew Martin & Janne Schwarck
Gear Steward – Peter Wilson
Catering – Mark Pavitt
Website / Socials – Peter Scrine
First Aid Officers – Cameron Warren & Rob Lumby
General Committee – Gary Hoban & Damian Castle
Heat Marshall – Andrew Wilson
Newsletter – Justin Bevan

FIND US HERE



[@laybacklongboarders](https://www.instagram.com/laybacklongboarders)



www.laybacks.com.au



facebook.com/laybacklongboarders

2025 SPONSORS



DAVE MILNES
classic surf photography



**SEVEN
MILES**
COFFEE ROASTERS



Seeing is believing

A message from our Dear Leader!

SEPTEMBER LAYBACK REPORT!

Greetings Laybackers,

“Spring has sprung, the sun is riz, I wonder where, the birdies iz!”

Yep, its getting warmer again, its that time of year where some surfers wear steamers, and some boardshorts, during the same surf! Rubbered up for a surf, I’ve had to ask some lightly clad surfers I’ve been surfing with who were showing a lot of skin as the south west wind whipped across us, to go in – they were making me feel cold!

Longer days, beautiful early morning and sunset surfs that aren’t so cold you end up shaking with the polar bite afterwards, are now back on the agenda... September is an unusual one for the club too, date wise – we don’t hold our Pointscore until the third Sunday in the month as the first Sunday is Father’s Day, and the second is the last day of the National Old Mal Comp at Crescent Head – always a big one for us Laybackers . Due to those events, we held our September Pointscore on Sunday the 21st this year....

The week leading up to our September Pointscore had pretty small surf, mostly offshore winds, but by the Saturday Bellza was literally flat, so Kris and I arranged to check Easties early on Sunday before we went around to Bellza. 6am we met to check it, along with Janne, and Andrew and Rob Wilson who just happened to be checking it from Rob’s digs next to the carpark. There were 3 to 4 footers coming in, wind prediction was good, and Kris and Janne had had good waves during the week.

We headed around to Bellza to find the early morning sun lighting up the glassy break... with only one or two very small waves turning up every 10 minutes or so – not much fun for 6 surfers in a 20 minute heat – so we moved to Easties for the first time in 2025!

Unfortunately we always lose some members when we move around to Easties, and this Pointscore was no different, but we still ended up with nearly 40 Laybackers competing on the day, and the surf was excellent! We trudged north up the beach carrying all our gear, (reminiscing about the easy park and surf of Bellza!) to a bank just past the creek mouth, and with the high tide at the start of the day, it was going off – long rights, some quick lefts, and all of a very carveable 3 to 4 foot, with some bigger sets blessing the heats (praise Huey!).

It was worth the walk, and the sandy set up, to feel the speed and juice of a good beach break, and I think everyone there really had a ball!

I have to thank all of you who helped carry and set up for the day, for your efforts – as, despite the move, and the later than usual set up, our first heat hit the water by 7.15am – fantastic work!

Feeding everyone and doing a huddle to start the day is always a challenge at Easties, as by the nature of its location and set up, we end up scattered... We had planned a minutes silence and a eulogy for our old Layback mate Macca who sadly passed away, but unfortunately we weren’t able to gather to do that (see Napper’s eulogy and pics later in this Newsletter).

We also weren't able to do brekky for everyone, but made up for it at the end of the day with a lunch from Pete Wilson and helpers – thank you! Chef Mark P has had a recent knee operation so wasn't able to attend to pitch in as he always has, but we hope to see him back in the water soon!

Laybacker of the Month for August had to be postponed as we were not able to gather a crew to applaud, but we will take care of that at our next PS.

NEXT POINTSCORE IS ON THE 12th OF OCTOBER – as usual, 6am setup, 6.30 registration and 7am first heat in the water!

**Don't miss the
CARABINE / MARS BREWING FILM NIGHT AND OCTOBERFEST**

Saturday 25th October from 4pm

At Carabine Surf - Unit 74/6 Bellambi Ln, Bellambi

See you there for beers, softies, pizzas, and stoke, and Napper's film night theme – Movies from the dawn of the new Millenium!

**See you all in the waves!
Andy**



August Pointscore

pic by Dave Milnes









CRESCENT HEAD OLD MAL TITLES 2025

WORDS BY ANDY

This is always a looked forward to competition by Laybackers, and, although I'd been in 3 of them before, this one really struck me as a special event as it was the first time I had taken part in the 'Show and Shine' section of the comp – let me come back to that below...

This year we had 13 competing Laybackers in the various divisions of the comp, and along with their support crews of family, we made, as usual, quite an impact on the gathering. Our sister club, the DV8 Malibu Club from Shellharbour were also well represented, and I'd guess that between us we likely made up the largest club contingent again this year.

A lot of us Laybackers get to Crescent early, some at the start of the week, many by Wednesday, and some lob late on the Thursday, before the comp commencement on the Friday. Most of us stayed in the caravan park – in vans and caravans, while some of us rent houses in the little village. It is a really pretty spot, and even with no waves, the sweeping views from the headlands and the sunsets over the creek are magical sights....and in the leadup to the competition this year, we all had plenty of time to admire this natural beauty....'cause the surf was flat!!

Not just flat, but with an at times howling westerly! Huey kept the waves away from Crescent all week, until the early afternoon on Thursday... I'd wandered out onto the headland with my old school buddy Mick (who lives at Scotts Head), for some afternoon refreshments, and to admire the arvo sunshine (and get out of the frickin wind behind a Pandanus tree!).

Typical for Groms, there were two out on the point, floating around in the wind, and very occasionally scoring a tiny low energy roller that would gasp into view and have just enough juice to transport them for 20 metres or so, but mostly they sat and wiped the spray from their eyes... it turned out to be our own Layback Grom Gwil Barnes (sensibly in a steamer), and his mate Max (as per my comment at the start of this article, in boardshorts!)

Mick and I settled down and started reminiscing about past glories and singing 60s TV theme songs (as you do), and slowly the frequency and size of the waves started to increase, until by about 3pm, there were regular 2 to 3 footers rising and peeling off down the point! Gwil and Max didn't stay lonely for long, and as the crowd built, so did the surf until by sunset it was firing down the line at a solid 4 foot, and, as the campground was stuffed with hungry surfers, not all of whom were drinking beer, it got crowded with 30+ surfers on the point. Huey was delivering just in time for the start of the comp the next day!

Friday dawned offshore, but not crazy strong, with the swell holding, just a bit smaller than sunset the day before, and at 6.40am the competition started!

When its happening, Crescent is a brilliant location for a competition, obviously to surf, but also to watch the surfers, with multitudes of viewing points stretched along the point, all with great views of waves, and, especially at high tide when it is small, the competitors carve their way past you only 30 metres away – so close you can cheer or jeer them on!

Daffy and Fergo and the Crescent Club Crew position their old caravan at the easterly end of the carpark, set up their shelters, and a giant division board with everyone's names listed for the heats, and lots of blanks that get gradually filled in, for the semis and finals. Just like for our competitions and Pointscores, every competitor is expected to judge two heats before they are on, and that judging happens in the caravan, looking out the big opening in the side of it to the point. They take it seriously, as we do, and have a moderator in the van the whole time, and the competition rolls on pretty flawlessly.

Friday's surf stayed really good, pretty classic Crescent with long rides from the point down past the judges caravan, easily 200 metres. It's such a blast to ride a long point break after our short sharp local waves – you've got time to go for a turn / noseride, and if you half blow it, you've got time to shift your feet, and give it another go!

Friday arvo the famed 'Show and Shine' was held on the open grass area next to the camp ground. Although I'd been to 3 Old Mal comps before, for various reasons I'd never attended the Show and Shine, but I did this time, and all of a sudden the significance of this Old Mal comp became much clearer to me – I got it! To see over 100 boards lined up, 'original' Old Mals, restored Old Mals, a big assortment of short boards older than about 1975, with near 100 total enthusiasts excitedly gesticulating to each other, picking the boards up, running their hands over the rails, admiring the rockers, and holding forth their knowledge and opinions about these old sculptures, was really awe inspiring for me.

Watching on, contributing to, and listening in to the conversations, I felt the continuity of the past decades of surf stoke more than any of the other competition I'd been to. The utter fascination we have with these sculptural craft we all ride, the subtle curves and mass of those sculptures, the way every arc and thickness of these old boards was the product of a shaper's hands – seeking the answers to the deep mystery of how they transport us on those beautiful energy pulses we travel with from breaking to beach, how they have evolved over the years, and how they are evolving still. It was an absolute highlight for me.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights there is a big gathering in the Crescent Head Country Club (major sponsor of the event), and us Laybacks filled a couple of long tables every night, sharing drinks, dinner, and lot of chat and laughs.

Saturday surf for heats, semis, and some finals, was smaller again than Friday, and mischievous Huey threw in an onshore wind by about 11am, that built during the arvo until the break was a mess – barely contestable, but, due to the talent of the riders, there were still some great moves. Kris Kumbier had ticked the 'Pool Boards' division on his form this year, which is a cruel arrangement where each competitor's colour corresponded to a D Fin dunger of a beast of a board that they had to ride, and in the arvo, ride in the onshore slop. Despite this difficulty, Kris did way better than he expected, and won the heat! Conditions got so bad later in the afternoon that the final two events – Womens and Mens Greenough finals – were shifted to early Sunday morning, and the flags came down for the day.

Sunday dawned clear and sunny again, waves were smaller again than Saturday, and with the 6.30 start, the morning's finals were completed by 10am, just as the onshore was starting up.

I've said this before, and I'll say it again – in my opinion our club members have more active Old Mals than any other club in the country, and this comp is the one to attend if its at all possible for you! The Old Mal stoke and the consistently friendly vibe of a bunch of enthusiasts makes this event THE one to attend in the year, if you are one of the many Laybackers who ride Old Mals. PLUS you get to stay and surf at Crescent Head, and maybe surf it going off with only 5 others – pretty awesome!

DIVISION FINALS RESULTS WITH LAYBACKERS
(which was most divisions 😊)

UNDER 40 LOGGER

- 6th – Tim Wright
- 5th – Jordan Morris
- 4th – Josh Dunn
- 3rd – Bowie Pollard
- 2nd – Jye Bonello
- 1st – Aidan Cashin

60 & OVER GREENOUGH

- 6th – Gordon Miller
- 5th – Brad Hurst
- 4th – Dave Maxwell
- 3rd – Matt Fleming
- 2nd – Danny Cameron
- 1st – Charlie O'Sullivan

WOMENS LOGGER

- 6th – Janne Schwarck
- 5th – Sonja Vahasaari
- 4th – Tia Wilder
- 3rd – Layla Deighton
- 2nd – Stevey Lee Ginger
- 1st – Lara Cashin

40 & OVER LOGGER

- 6th – Tim Browne
- 5th – Glenn Moore
- 4th – Paul Scholten
- 3rd – Tim Weatherlake
- 2nd – Jarret Napper
- 1st – Grant Ferguson

16 & UNDER LOGGER

- 5th – Bhakti Quinn
- 4th – Max McManus
- 3rd – **Gwil Barnes**
- 2nd – Kobi Chau
- 1st – Jimmy James Tualimu

40 & OVER D FIN

- 6th – Paul O'Donnell
- 5th – Tim Renouf
- 4th – Chris Brown
- 3rd – Wayne Offner
- 2nd – **Billy Morris**
- 1st – Paul Wood

TIMBER FIN

- 4th – Chris Brown
- 3rd – **Brad Hurst**
- 2nd – Danny Cameron
- 1st – Zac Chisholm

TRANSITIONAL

- 6th – Sam Cole
- 5th – **Rhys Maher**
- 4th – Michael Chaney
- 3rd – Rhys Williams
- 2nd – Reed Smith
- 1st – Andrew McHenry

WOMENS GREENOUGH

- 6th – **Janne Schwarck**
- 5th – Tamzen Bienefelt
- 4th – Minna Blackwell
- 3rd – Tia Wilder
- 2nd – Layla Deighton
- 1st – **Lara Cashin**

OPEN POOL BOARD

- 6th – Marcus Geary
- 5th – Tenzin Wilder
- 4th – **Kris Kumbier**
- 3rd – Sam Docker
- 2nd – Tom Fahey
- 1st – Matt Chojnacki

UNDER 40 GREENOUGH

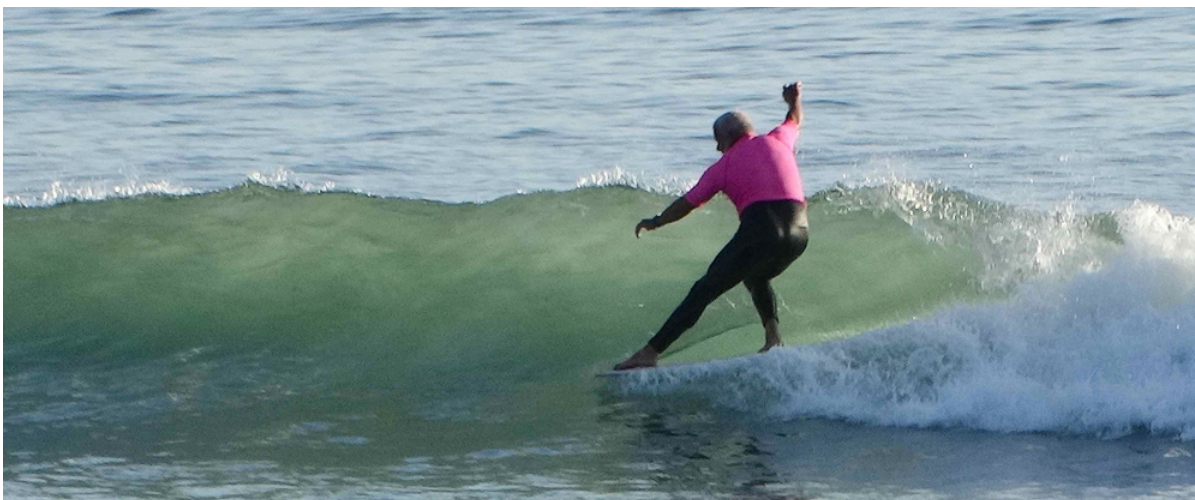
- 5th – Troy Bell
- 4th – Reed Smith
- 3rd – **Aidan Cashin**
- 2nd – Josh Dunn
- 1st – Bowie Pollard

16 & UNDER GREENOUGH

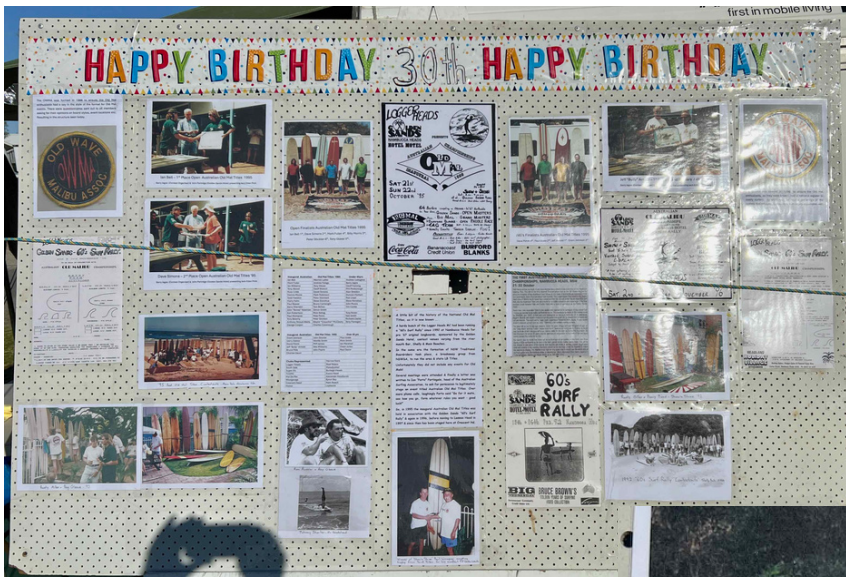
- 2nd – **Gwil Barnes**
- 1st – Kobi Chan

Creso Pics

drone shots by Steen





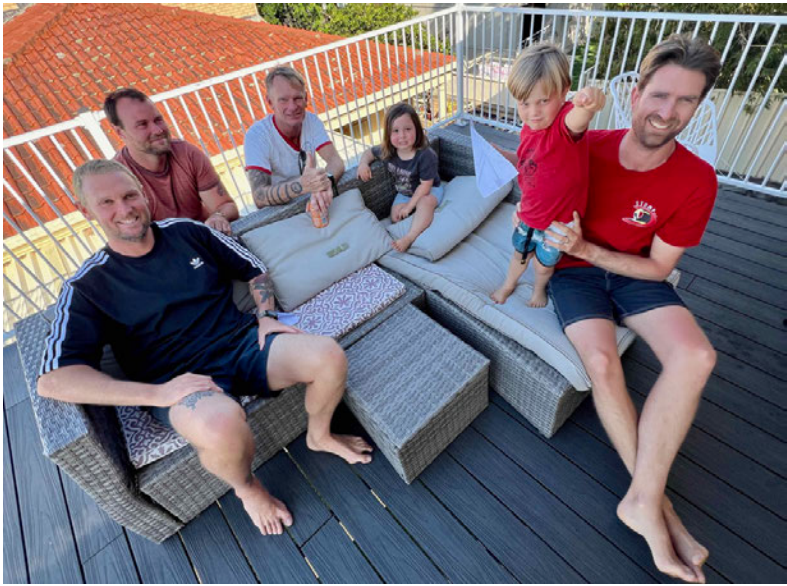


Open Finalists Australian Old Mal Titles 1995

Ian Bell 1st, Dave Simons 2nd, Mark Fuller 4th, Billy Morris 3rd,
Peter Sticklen 6th, Tony Glover 5th.







Vale.... Paul 'Macca' McDonald.

Words by Napper

Not sure if you've heard through the ocean telegraph, but Macca passed away early September after a long fight with cancer. He fought it 'til the end. Surrounded by his beautiful partner Kate, family and grandkids and lots of love. He loved his family and they loved him, I'm sure for all the same reasons we all did too.

'Macca' was a massive part of the Laybacks club in the 2000's. A club Treasurer, he always made sure everyone at Preso night was having the best time by handing out more beer tickets on the sly than the committee ever knew. When it came to the bar tab, Scotty would ask, "how we looking Mac"....Only to be met with the reply, "we're alright Scotty, throw a bit more on..."

"A legend, gentleman, a wonderful mate, champion guy, great bloke, cheeky, funny, a real gem, a beautiful man..." These were just some of the ways people have described Macca on Facebook upon hearing his passing.

He loved the surf, but he loved the family of the surf even more. He was a club guy through and through. Surf trips were always better for having Macca along for the ride. The contest came second to the good times shared with mates, having a yarn over a beer and telling a few stories and jokes. And Macca sure could tell a story!

Tyse: "To a truly wonderful mate, and a blessing to have in the fabric of the surfing society. RIP"

Peter Gosling: "RIP Macca. It was a pleasure to spend time in your company. The yarns (tall but true), the humour and good times. My deepest condolences to your family."

If you ever went on a surf trip with Macca it was like sleeping near a bear cuddling a chainsaw. His snoring was legendary and as hard as you would kick him, he'd wake up, have a chuckle then roll over and kick off at 100 decibels in a matter of minutes. If you were lucky enough to be around Macca, Greeny, Big Shane and Benny Pioli were near, you were in for a night of side-splitting laughs. Macca always had a story to tell and his antics at Bendy, Tabourie and trips to Crescent and Noosa were gold.

Chris Bate: "The Noosa Yearly festival trips were just so much fun with Mac on board.

He and his sidekicks Benny n Shane propping up 'that' table at Noosa Surf Club - folklore stuff. The jokes, the beers, the pizzas, and then do it all again the next day once Benny secured the table. RIP Macca"

Kev Napper: "You will be sadly missed mate. So many funny times together. A trip home from Crescent in the back seat between Mac and Benny was certainly one to remember !! Rest easy my friend."

On one trip to Bendy, I was lucky enough to score a little wave at the Boatramp with Macca and Corza. There is a cracking photo floating around somewhere we took in the water of Mac riding what only can be described as an invisible wave. He always laughed at how he was the only surfer to have a photo catching a wave that wasn't even there. That night he got his revenge when he polished off a whole packed of Tim-Tams I had stashed. What made it better was he replaced them with Rice Crackers and just chuckled when I snuck in for a midnight munchy snack, then rolled over and carried on snoring! Perhaps on that trip, or maybe one to Crescent, he nicknamed his old mal, The Widowmaker.... ya didn't want that board coming at you sideways through the line up if Mac fell off....

Macca was as loved in the mines as he was at the beach.

Batesy added: "Our time at Walter Mining and the Laybacks were wonderful years." A sentiment shared by Tommy Bate and Jayce Pioli, who also worked with Macca for many years.

You could never walk through Coledale or Thirroul without every second person you walked past saying "ahhh g'day Mac!" He was known and loved by all. Even the café in Coledale stopped to remember him upon hearing the news.

Leigh Stewart: "We paused trade today for a few minutes at SD Coledale and our singer sang Mr Bojangles to Kate .. it has been a privilege having Paul, Kate and family spend time at the Cafe over the past few years .. a Champion RIP Macca"

You really are one of the best Mac. Love you mate. Thanks for always being there.

A family man, a coal miner, a surfer and a mate. The line up will be forever better off for the time he was in it. And we are all better off for the time he spent as a part of our Layback family. We'll miss ya old mate.

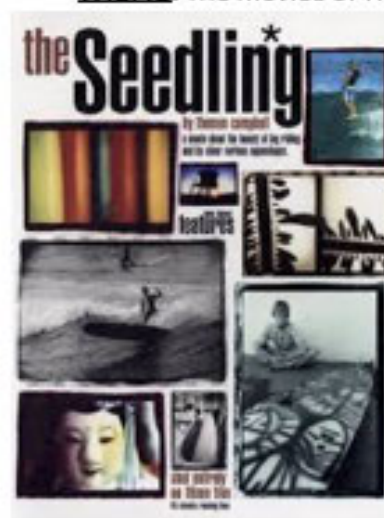


LAYBACK SURF MOVIE NIGHT AND BEERS & PIZZA

HOSTED BY: CARABINE SURF BOARDS

Date: Saturday 25th October **Time:** From 4pm

THEME: The movies of Thomas Campbell and others from the dawn of a new millennium.



As the sun set on the 90's and the new millennium was being born, a new wave of movies hit the scene, or should I say, a new scene hit the movies. It was a rebirth once more of longboarding and alternative surf craft with a tinge of modern flair. Long before the hipsters and hand ivers took selfies, posted fragrant self-promotion of themselves and sent texts to everyone from the points and beach breaks, Joel Tudor was holding his sermon from the mount and on the nose, hailing 'One Fin, One God, One Country!'. Astutely raised under the tutelage of Nat Young, Donald Takayama and Skip Frye, Tudor led the resurgence of long, heavy, single fin surfboards to the line-up. Rails went soft, classic templates and plan shapes were drawn and shaped for traditional lines. It was stripped back, stylish and a gigantic leap away from the competitive, thruster driven approach of the 90's. Old was new again and as the early 2000's progressed, old shapes were re-born with modern bottom contours, fins and rails. Eggs, bonzers, single fins and tinnies were back! Logging was hot and we all went along for the ride.

Positioned to capture this perfectly was Thomas Campbell. On 16mm film, his 3 movies from this early period perfectly presented the people, the boards, the mindset and the music from this era. The Seedling, Sprout and the The Present are his time-capsule from this happening! And where there is gold, others did follow. Movies like Shelter, Litmus, and new millennium's worth of films followed. When you look at the variety of what's being ridden in the line-up today, this period of time was the catalyst setting it all off.

Please join your fellow Laybackers for a beer, some pizzas and a dive into these 3 legendary movies at Carabine Surfboards. It's gonna be an awesome arvo/evening of talking boards, telling stories, watching movies and drinking a few beers with mates. Come get amongst it - Can't wait to see you all there!

With thanks to Carabine Longboards for the location & MARS Brewing for the beers.



2025 CALENDAR

Sunday 21st - Pointscore

October - Sunday 12th - Pointscore

November - Sunday 2nd - Pointscore

Saturday 22nd - Presentation Night

Sunday 30th - SANTA SCORE

Bellambi Bomby 1965

Photo: Dave Milnes



LAYBACK

LONGBOARDERS