

Making Waves

August 2012

A free community newsletter for Bar Beach, Merewether, Dixon Park, and The Junction

Enquiries, contributions, sponsorship, ECopy
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<http://makingwaves.yolasite.com/>



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- great new burger menu
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- best double cooked chips on the coast
- all meals prepared in-house with local produce
- healthy grilled options available
- fresh local seafood dishes
- from 7.00 am – breakfast through to dinner



Image by Katie



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MEREWETHER - AUSTRALIA'S FIRST PUB CRAWL?**David Barrow**

What must be regarded as "*Australia's First Pub Crawl*" actually commenced at the "Old Race Course", (that part of Merewether bounded today by Frederick, Ridge, Mitchell, and Berner Streets, and centred on the Race Course Inn), on 23rd August, 1862-"150 years ago".



To celebrate the fourth anniversary of the Royal Junction Odd Fellows Lodge it was decided to have a procession on Saturday, 23rd August 1862, to leave "Host Wilsons Race Course Inn" at 10 o'clock, to the music of the Lodge Band, down Race Course Road, along Patrick Street and thence Macquarie Road,

calling at Brother Walmsley's Miners Arms Inn, for among other things a Lodge Meeting and refreshments. After the meeting the marchers reformed and again to the "*Strains of their Most Effective Band*", they attracted the attention of the Public at large with not only their music, but also their "*Gay Coloured Banners*", and the "*Many, Varied and Pleasing Costumes of the Officers and Members of the Order*", and proceeded to the Ship Inn, Hunter Street, (across the road from the Old Post Office), for convivial refreshments.

Refreshed and reformed the Brethren then marched back to the Junction along Macquarie Road, where they were entertained at the Junction Inn, thence to Brother Dent's Burwood Inn (bottom end of Morgan Street), then, on to Mr Wood's Glebe Hotel (corner of William Street and today's City Road).

Arriving back at the Race course Inn, at 4 O'clock, "*one hundred and sixty*", including many guests not in the Order sat down to a repast of "*Every Delicacy of the Season in Rich and Varied Abundance*". (The banquet was so popular even at 3/6d per head; - it took two sittings to feed them).

There were then 22 toasts, commencing with the Queen and finishing with a toast to "Mine Host, Wilson", at mid-night. The Brethren actually marched 6 miles.

Race Course Road is now Frederick Street, Macquarie Road is now Darby Street, and Glebe Hotel fronted onto the Burwood Railway Line. All the roads were then just rough tracks, impassable in wet weather, people walked to Newcastle along the Railway line.

Back then, the Hotel/Inn was the central venue for all types of meetings, coronial enquiries, etc.

Head High Cafe

199 Union Street, The Junction
Ph: 0408 360 805



Appeared in The Herald - Saturday 23rd August 1862

Members of the Lodge "the Loyal Junction Lodge No. 4737 of New south Wales Board of I.O" of Oddfellows, Manchester Unity, Newcastle District, intend celebrating their Fourth Anniversary with a procession, dinner and evening entertainment. The programme is an excellent and attractive one and its execution is entrusted to the parties who will, we have no hesitation of prognosticating (foretelling) faithfully and most effectively discharge their trusts. Such an Institution of Oddfellowship should undoubtedly demand the sympathy and respect of all.

Tickets 3/6 each to be had of the following officers and stewards or of the Host:

P. G. M. Henry Parker
G. M. Arthur M. Frewin
P. V. G. Henry Bruniges
Br. Sommerville
Br. Henry Brien

N. G. William Chapman,
V. C. John Patrick
Sec. Thos. Clough
Br. Wm. Hunter
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DAVID MCKAY - WATCHMAKER & JEWELLER



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In 2010 South Newcastle Rugby League Football Club celebrated it's centenary. Last year "Making Waves" highlighted some of the characters who represented the "red and whites" with distinction, and this winter we continue the series.

Richard Jones

Richard Jones started his football career at Souths as a 6 year old in 1968. He was always a stand out player with great leadership qualities. This special trait has come in handy for him in later life in both his rugby league and business career.

Richard continued his football at Souths until 1981 when St George enticed him to Sydney to play in their Presidents Cup team. St George won the Presidents Cup that year with Richard playing a starring role in the victory. St George then called Richard into Grade where he played until 1985. One of the highlights of his career was scoring the winning try, in extra time in the 1983 semi final against Balmain.

He returned to Souths in 1986 where Ken Shine had moulded his side into a top contender and with Richard's leadership and outstanding play around the ruck, they made the grand final that year and also for the next 3 years. Unfortunately they lost in 1986 and 87 but won premierships in 1988 and 89 under Paul Merlo. Richard has maintained that Paul's approach to coaching was the main reason for their success and a great influence on his own game.



In 1987 Richard Jones was selected to play for NSW Country and Newcastle. He signed as Captain Coach of Singleton in 1990 where they won the minor and major premierships and were awarded the Clayton Cup as "Outstanding NSW Country side of 1990". Richard won the Player of the Year Award that year. He returned to Souths in 1991 as Captain Coach and led his team to the minor premiership.

He was selected as Captain of the Newcastle Rep team in 1991 which won the Country Divisional Championship. For his outstanding performances he was selected to Represent NSW Country and won Player of the Year as well. Richard was the first South Newcastle player to win this coveted award. He went on to coach NSW Country 1999-2002 and worked for a number of years as a commentator on NBN with Mike Rabbitt.

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What Surfing/Ocean swimming does for me...

Following on is the beginning of a series of thoughts and comments from local board riders and ocean swimmers regarding what they see are the benefits of getting into our ocean here at the Merewether to Bar Beach Stretch. Some of those approached preferred not to have their names mentioned or images featured which the writer feels is a great shame as most of it is insightful and very relevant to those of us who sip our coffees and wonder why they do it.

The writer's first subject is Ralph, Merewether Surf Life Saving Clubbie and board rider.



What Surfing Does for Me with regard to wellbeing and health.

'It's the salt water, you know. It feels good on your skin. There's this kind of osmosis thing that happens. We're 75-80% water and salt so it's just natural. It's good for you.'

Me: What about the benefits of board riding? How does that keep you fit?

Ralph: It's the paddling and the waves, dealing with the rips and tidal currents.

Me: And flexibility? How does board riding keep you flexible? And strong?

Ralph: Well you've got to be flexible to use your feet and body to control the board. The waves come over, they push you down and hold you down – you have to be able to deal with that and be confident that you can.

You've got to know your limits. I don't go out if it's too big and dangerous.

When in Doubt Don't Go Out...

Me: I like that. Is that a Ralph philosophy? Did you make that up?

Ralph: No, I probably heard it from someone over time – one of the lifeguards...



BANLAW

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Masters competition, Merewether legends, Tamba's glorious year and the meaning of life – by Terry Wall

Surf clubs need legends. The old guys tell tales during their coffee after their morning swim, the up-and-comers need bigger than life role models. The stories need some truth, but mostly they need people that we know.

In February 2006 Tamba had entered the O55 age group. He was the youngest

in that 55-59 year group, Drew Blatchford was training him, he had won the state board, and was in good physical and psychological shape. We (he and I) were heading to Victoria for the World Life Saving Championships.

We were staying in my mum's caravan in Torquay and surfing, and had two spiritual days at Bells on head-high solid surf and off-shore winds. In the water we experienced the beauty of surfing Bells, with its crumbling cliffs and the corduroy ground swell from the southern ocean which had rotated around Cape Otway. "G'day, Wallo, what have you come down for?" people asked.

But Bells is about competition, even between 2 travelling companions from Merewether and from the 1st day of our arrival, it was a competition –mate against mate. Tamba claimed to have won on the day - he did not!

The night before the championships I trained Tamba in the Torquay pub as he had one less beer than usual.

The Worlds were at Lorne, a protected cozy corner, with a slow deepening bottom, and dribbly waves - easy to get through, and to stay on, but good enough to create interest coming in, as we were to learn.

The final of the O55 board was a great race. Drew's plan had Tamba going out slower than usual with more effort coming in, and never, never giving in. Board races are known for their ups-and-downs, and this was to be the case. Going out, Tamba was hit and slowed by a Lorne dribble, and he rounded the buoys in the leading group of four. Coming in was to decide the placings, as shown on the images:

Image 1. Tamba is on the right, on the same wave as his mate as the two leaders in front are battling it out, thinking it was their race.



The result, Tamba is 2nd, and smiling!



Image 2: Tamba did not keep on the wave (not enough wave catching at Merewether?) - his mate has and the two leaders are struggling to keep on it.



Image 3: The two leaders are tangled up, Tamba is at least in the clear, but still behind, and coming fourth.



Image 4: Tamba's mate is first up, Tamba is running, the two leaders are in a real mess, with one board rolled over. The Lorne dribbles did this?



Image 5: It's a race for second. Go! Go!

Not quite a legendary performance, but good enough for conversations, recollections and lies at a dinner in the Torquay surf club. By the end of the night the two leaders were not even mentioned, it was a race in two, between Tamba and his mate - Terry Wall.

Tamba went on to win the Australians on the Gold Coast just a few weeks after, but that is another story.



NEWCASTLE – AUGUST 2012

LAT 32° 58' LONG 151° 47' TIME ZONE - 1000
TIMES AND HEIGHTS OF HIGH AND LOW WATERS

☐ Denotes Public Holidays

SUN		MON		TUES		WED		THURS		FRI		SAT	
TIME	M												
						1		2 ○		3		4	
						0135 0.24		0220 0.20		0302 0.21		0342 0.24	
						0735 1.44		0824 1.49		0909 1.52		0953 1.54	
						1309 0.42		1400 0.41		1449 0.41		1535 0.45	
						1945 1.98		2031 1.94		2115 1.88		2158 1.78	
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1034 1.54		1115 1.53		1154 1.51		1237 1.49		0644 0.58		0730 0.64		0829 0.68	
1621 0.51		1707 0.57		1754 0.64		1846 0.69		1324 1.48		1418 1.47		1519 1.48	
2235 1.66		2313 1.53		2351 1.40				1947 0.73		2059 0.73		2213 0.69	
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0356 1.13		0504 1.16		0608 0.54		0647 0.45		0723 0.37		0758 0.30		0232 0.25	
0833 0.69		1034 0.66		0558 1.22		0642 1.29		0723 1.36		0801 1.43		0840 1.50	
1620 1.52		1715 1.58		1129 0.61		1215 0.55		1259 0.49		1340 0.44		1423 0.39	
2315 0.62				1803 1.66		1845 1.73		1926 1.79		2004 1.82		2045 1.83	
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0920 1.56		1001 1.62		1045 1.65		1132 1.66		1225 1.65		0843 0.47		0745 0.54	
1508 0.37		1556 0.37		1647 0.40		1744 0.45		1847 0.50		1324 1.84		1431 1.83	
2125 1.79		2208 1.72		2254 1.62		2345 1.49				2001 0.53		2122 0.51	
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0855 0.58		1007 0.56		1113 0.51		0832 1.39		0719 1.47		0802 1.53			
1544 1.66		1650 1.71		1749 1.77		1210 0.46		1301 0.41		1349 0.38			
2237 0.46		2339 0.38				1841 1.81		1928 1.82		2011 1.79			



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Did you know?



On 17 October 1903 approximately 1000 people gathered on the balcony of The Beach Hotel and the surrounding area to watch the official opening of the steam train line to Merewether Beach. The journey between Parnell Place and Merewether Beach took about 40 mins and cost "2d through fare".



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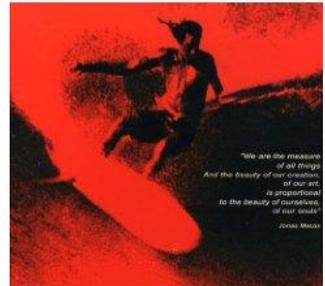
Great Surfing movies –these classics may tide you over till summer!

Alby Falzon once said surfing is suited to the film process with the flow of a surfer on the wave similar to the flow of a film reel through the projector.

Bob McTavish, loves one surf film above all others – *The Endless Summer* (1966). The 67yo who lives in Byron Bay and still surfs regularly says that when it came out in 1966, there was never another film like it made before. *The Endless Summer* broke like a long perfect wave. Written, directed and narrated by Bruce Brown, it focussed on 2 young surfers who travelled the world in search of swell. This was the first movie to really capture the fact that surfing was more than a sport, it was a lifestyle – one that was just as concerned with riding waves as the experience of searching for them.

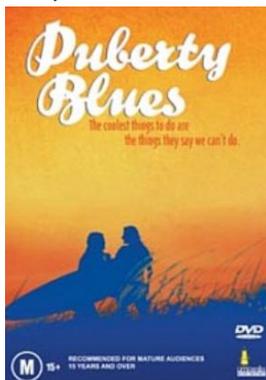
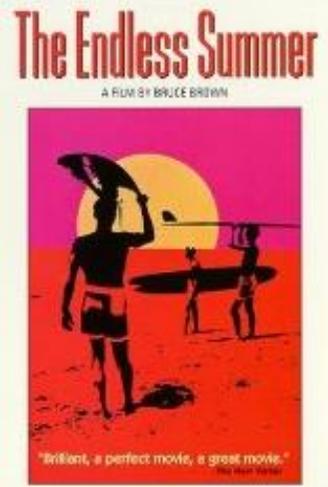
Morning of the Earth (1971)

How many surf movies these days can claim to have discovered a perfect wave – without the aid of a jetski, satellite imaging or swell forecasts? However the Uluwata (Bali) sequence was just one part of an extraordinary movie that documented the experimental hippie-inspired era that surfing went through in the late 1960's and early 70's.



Apart from documentaries, there was Bruce Beresford's *Puberty Blues* (1981) – an honest account of the difficulties of teen life which became a cult film.

Kathryn Bigelow's *Point Break* (1991) was the first Hollywood movie to come out that represented surfing and surfers – "but the surfing was terrible and it was a bit cheesy" said Glenn Ogiyas, who was attacked by a shark at Bondi in 2009.

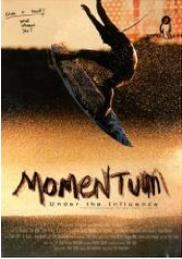




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To date, many of the best Australian surf films have been docos. Bob McTavish rates George Greenough 's *The Innermost Limits of Pure Fun*(1968) as his second favourite surf film.

Taylor Steele's breakthrough film *Momentum*(1992) was a low budget, grainy footage but still became a hit with it's choppy editing, raucous punk soundtrack and footage of new school surfers led by a 19yo Kelly Slater.

McTavish and Greenough teamed up in 2010 with *Going Vertical: the Shortboard Revolution* which boasts spectacular footage, stirring music and cheeky humour – the hallmarks of all great surf films!



Bob McTavish and Dick Brewer



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**Merewether Baths Cleaning Schedule
August 2012**

9 August	Thursday	4.30 AM	0.5
16 August	Thursday	9.00 AM	0.4
30 August	Thursday	9.00 AM	0.3

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