



# CARNAGE ON THE WATER



No room for the fainthearted ... Yesterday's conditions tested the skill and courage of all competitors, not least the South Curl Curl (left) and Alexandra Headland (above) crews in the Interstate boats. Alex sweep Steve Davies said: "We were on our way, trailing a wave and backwash hit the boat and just jacked it, the entire wave just disappeared from under us, I've never ever ever had that happen."

**Competitors at the 2009 Whereis® Australian Surf Life Saving Championships were wondering exactly where they were when they arrived at Scarborough Beach yesterday and were confronted by large, pounding waves.**

Scarborough is meant to be flat and maybe a bit wind-chopped at this time of year, right?

Well that wasn't the case yesterday as the waves crashing onto the sandbank and powerful backwash combined to produce spectacular action all day long. One word was on the lips of many competitors and spectators – carnage!

Boats were tossed about wildly, oars smashed, craft sent flying and athletes at both the Masters and Interstate carnivals left bruised. It made for upsets all over the beach, as well as a busy time at the first aid tents, and left eastern states visitors surprised.

"There's been carnage. The locals say it's a once-a-year swell and we've got it," said Kellogg's Nutri-Grain series winner Naomi Flood, of Manly, who was competing for NSW yesterday.

"I didn't bring any spare gear. I've already started taping things up so hopefully the Dolphin ski and Bennett mal will be around come Sunday."

Ironman Zane Holmes, speaking at yesterday's media launch for Aussies 2009, said: "Whenever we compete I think people know I love to have waves, to come here expecting it to be flat and find the swell like this, it's fantastic. It's a great way to farewell Perth."

Locals were not so surprised and some of them made the most of their knowledge of the conditions.

"These are the type of waves we get a fair bit in winter," said Reese Baker after he powered to victory for WA in the open ski race. "We train in these type of conditions alot

but it's nice to have warmer water and not to be wearing layers of thermals."

There was plenty of mayhem in the boats area where both Masters and Interstate crews were shown little mercy by the waves.

The champion South Curl Curl women's crew, representing NSW, was smashed as it tried to get through the break and lucky to complete the course with a damaged boat.

"We were almost there and probably only had one or two strokes to go until we were through the break but then we were hit by a mountain," sweep Chris Flemming said.

"It was everyone for themselves and thankfully all the girls were OK so we jumped back in and started again."

In the Masters area, some of the veterans of the surf thrived in the conditions while others realised they weren't as young and as indestructible as they used to be.

Former Australian Ironman champion Steve Pullen, competing in the 30-34 years age group, was happy just to make it through yesterday's events unscathed.

"At least all my gear is in one piece," he said. "The conditions are horrific, we were lucky to get out without any injuries."

There were some serious mishaps, including one dislocated shoulder with ambulances being called for two competitors.

Conditions for today are expected to remain challenging with winds due to pick up slightly.

A Surf Life Saving Australia spokesman said: "Safety of our members is our priority at all surf lifesaving events. Inevitably a number of these events take place in rough conditions and we have risk management procedures in place to ensure that competitors are not exposed to undue risk."

**INSIDE: MASTERS NEWS; INTERSTATE RESULTS; ATHLETE PROFILES; MORE PHOTOS.  
ALL CHAMPIONSHIP PHOTOS AVAILABLE ON [WWW.HARVPIX.COM](http://WWW.HARVPIX.COM)**







## 60 SECONDS WITH TOM NOLAN

**Age:** 19

**Club:** North Cottesloe

**Winning an Australian title would be...** amazing.

**Person I would most like to meet:** Barack Obama

**Favourite cartoon character:** Peter Griffin (Family Guy).

**How did you get started in surf?** I grew up around it.

**Prime minister for a day?** I'd make the day a public holiday in celebration.

**My mum is great because...** She feeds, clothes and looks after me.

**My mum is a dork because...** She sings along to Coldplay.

**What song do you sing when you train?** Florence and the Machines – Dog Days Are Over.

**What's your favourite thing about surf life saving?** The lifestyle and the social aspect of being involved – the club, my training group, the parties.

**What's the funniest thing when you've been on patrol?** A four-wheel drive getting bogged. That was fun.



## 60 SECONDS WITH JUSTIN COLE

**Age:** 17

**Club:** Torquay, Victoria

**Winning an Australian title would be...** like the first wasn't a fluke!

**Person I would most like to meet:** Mitch Miller

**Favourite cartoon character:** Bender (Futurama) because he is hilarious!

**How did you get started in surf?** Mum and dad.

**Prime minister for a day?** Earn more money competing in surf life saving.

**My mum is great because...** She looks after me, she cooks, cleans, does everything.

**My mum is a dork because...** She smokes.

**What song do you sing when you train?** "Can't believe it" - Justin Timberlake & T-Pain

**What's your favourite thing about surf life saving?** Competition side of it.

**What's the funniest thing when you've been on patrol?** A tourist ran into the water full-clothed and had to be rescued!

# PULLEN TIPS UPSETS TO CONTINUE



*Pullen out all stops... Steve Pullen takes on the Scarborough surf.*

**Former Australian ironman champion Steve Pullen is predicting upsets galore with the Scarborough swell tipped to maintain its rage until Sunday's finals.**

"It's great for the also rans, if you're someone who is in the middle of the pack you suddenly have a chance to get a win," Pullen said

"It's so unpredictable and you'll see it happen all weekend, guys who are expected to win leading and then nine times out of ten someone comes from behind."

Pullen, from Sunshine Beach, got a taste of the unpredictable surf during Masters 30-34 years competition when what looked to be certain gold was snatched from his grasp.

The pre-race favourite was leading deep into the final board leg of the Ironman when the luck of the surf turned the race on its head.

Tuesday's strong off-shore winds were playing havoc with the swell and Nic Marshall (Burleigh Heads Mowbray Park) was in the right place at the right time to come through to win.

Marshall picked up a peaking wave which simply refused to form for Pullen, who was trapped in no-man's land and relegated to third. It capped a great day for Marshall who also took silver behind Pullen in the Surf Race.

Yesterday was an even bigger battle for Pullen and his masters team mates.

"At least all my gear is in one piece, the conditions are horrific we were lucky to get out without any injuries."

Former elite Ironman Barry Newman was one to master the conditions taking gold in the 45-49 Ironman and then spearheading Northcliffe to victory in the over 130 years surf teams and board relay.

His brother James was part of the Freshwater 130 years Taplin team that took gold and former Australian junior double ski and surf teams champion Peter Obern teamed with Alan Burns and Don Boland to give Freshie victory in the 150 years surf teams.

In a race that was not for the faint hearted, local pairing Robert Jenkinson and Greg Mickle teamed to give City of Perth victory in the 45-49 years double ski.

**On Whereis.com, you see so much more than just a beach.**

Fishing

Rip

Flags

Whereis.com has just about everything you need to know about beaches in Australia, including beach safety ratings, patrolled beaches, surfing and fishing conditions, and directions to get there. So before you head to the beach, have a squizz at Whereis.com.



Find. Buy. Sell.

© is a Registered trademark of the Telstra Corporation Limited (ABN 33 051 775 556).

Whereis®

## MASTERS POINTSCORE

Northcliffe 183 • City of Perth 131 • Scarboro 128 • Freshwater 95 • Alexandra Headland 93 • Maroochydore 91 • Queenscliff 83 • North Burleigh 79 • Trigg Island 79 • Mullaloo 78



# SHANNON AND NAOMI WIN

Australian Ironman champion Shannon Eckstein proved he is in top form but also received a timely reminder about the unpredictability of the surf as he heads into today's 2009 Whereis@ Australian Surf Life Saving Championships.

Eckstein comfortably won the Ironman title for Queensland at yesterday's Interstate Championships as competitors were pounded by unexpectedly big and powerful waves.

If big waves are rare at Scarborough in March, then a mistake by the normally faultless three-time national champion is even more uncommon.

As a result the big crowd were shocked to see Eckstein lose control of his board when comfortably leading in the final leg of the Ironman and have to swim back 50 metres to retrieve it.

That opened the door for his nearest rival, Hayden Allum of NSW, but Eckstein soon regained control to win comfortably. The rare slip-up proved that if conditions remain as difficult until Sunday's Australian Ironman championship final, not even the in-form Eckstein can take anything for granted.

"It's going to be about just making sure you get through each round," he said. "If you push it and snap a ski it could be all over before you even get to Sunday."

NSW's Naomi Flood also had her troubles with the conditions in yesterday Ironwoman, being hit by a big wave in the board leg as she led Queensland's Hayley Bateup.

Like Eckstein, Flood recovered and raced alongside Bateup until they headed back to the beach when it was the NSW competitor's turn to benefit from the conditions as Bateup lost her board in a big wave.



Sprint finish... Hannah Trypas (right) edges past Emma Dick in the under-14 Ironwoman.



Winners are grinners... NSW Captains Chris Allum and Naomi Flood.

## BABY BLUE LEADS WAY TO INTERSTATE TITLE

A clean sweep from youngster Alisha Miller and two crucial victories from captains Naomi Flood and Chris Allum steered NSW to victory in yesterday's Interstate Championships at the 2009 Whereis@ Australian Surf Life Saving Championships at Scarborough Beach.

Miller won every event she started in, including the under-19 board and Ironwoman races to add to her already growing reputation as an emerging force in the sport. "It was some performance, everything she did she nailed, Alisha is no doubt getting up there and is really starting to use all the skills and put it all together," said NSW manager Keith Caldwell.

With the points race tight, Allum mastered the heavy seas to take the open surf and belt race double while Flood's victory (see separate story) over Queensland's Hayley Bateup in the open Ironwoman along with her open ski win were testament to her skills.

Bateup took out the open board, as did Ironman winner Shannon Eckstein. Victory in the open women's flags provided some consolation for Cara Lagandam, who lost a shot at gold at last year's Aussies when she was disqualified for a break. NSW opened the day with a win in the lifesaver relay and victories in the Taplin and Cameron relays sealed a nail-biting three-point win over arch rivals Queensland, with WA third, followed by Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and Northern Territory.

Queensland got some revenge with their first win in several years in the junior event. "That was a little disappointing, we'd won the juniors for the past couple of years and we wanted to make it a three-year clean sweep in both," Caldwell said.

Due to the heavy conditions, the boats were limited to one round but in a sign of what may come on Sunday, reigning Australian champions North Cottesloe (WA) defeated Austimeer (NSW).

"They got the sweeps and officials together and decided to can the boats after the one round, we'd had a few injuries and it was felt it was just too dangerous to continue," Caldwell said.

# RESULTS

## Interstate Surf Life Saving Championships

### Men

**Open Ski** 1st Reese Baker WA 2nd Luke Morrison SA 3rd Sam Norton TAS  
**Beach Sprint** 1st Aaron Stubbs QLD 2nd Tom Nolan WA 3rd Michael Kember NSW  
**Flags** 1st Paul Cracroft-Wilson QLD 2nd Tom Nolan WA 3rd Laurent Stewart  
**NSW Surf Race** 1st Chris Allum NSW 2nd Nick Cuthbert QLD 3rd Ethan Whiteman  
**NT Board** 1st Shannon Eckstein QLD 2nd Tom Atkinson NSW 3rd Matthew Bowbridge WA  
**Belt** 1st Chris Allum NSW 2nd Andrew Mewing QLD 3rd Scott Prosser VIC  
**Boat Race** 1st Western Australia WA 2nd New South Wales NSW 3rd Victoria VIC  
**Ironman** 1st Shannon Eckstein QLD 2nd Hayden Allum NSW 3rd Mark Graham VIC

**U19 Ski** 1st Brendan Rice WA 2nd Alex Tibbits QLD 3rd Thomas Gray SA 4th Hayden White NSW 5th Omar Lewis VIC 6th Nathan Cross TAS 7th Nicholas Pleasance (NSW) NT  
**Beach Sprint** 1st Aaron Stubbs QLD 2nd Luke Anthony VIC 3rd Jake Lynch NSW  
**Surf Race** 1st Dev Lahey QLD 2nd Kendrick Louis NSW 3rd David Graham WA  
**U19 Board** 1st Billy Fogarty VIC 2nd David Graham WA 3rd Aaron Benson NSW  
**Boat Race** 1st Queensland 2nd Western Australia 3rd Northern Territory  
**U19 Belt** 1st Tim Schofield NSW 2nd Alex Tibbits QLD 3rd Leigh Ryan VIC  
**Flags** 1st Daniel Sheehy SA 2nd Steven Bravanagh WA 3rd Luke Kesishian VIC  
**Ironman** 1st David Graham WA 2nd Kendrick Louis NSW 3rd Sam Hunt QLD

**U17 Board** 1st Kyle O'Brien NSW 2nd Justin Cole VIC 3rd Bradyn Ham WA  
**Sprint** 1st Mitchell Swain QLD 2nd Ronan Collieran WA 3rd Jordan Caldwell SA  
**Surf Race** 1st Scott Smith NSW 2nd Sam Bell QLD 3rd Jackson Maynard NT  
**Flags** 1st Ben Mispelhorn QLD 2nd Jarrod Shepherd VIC 3rd Cameron Hext SA  
**Ski** 1st Nicklass Gale QLD 2nd Ben Griffiths NSW 3rd Tom Norton TAS  
**Ironman** 1st Mitch Miller QLD 2nd Jake Nicholson SA 3rd Edward Gourley NSW

**U15 Board** 1st James Porter VIC 2nd Isaac Morgan NSW 3rd Zach Orchard QLD  
**Sprint** 1st Robbie Jones NSW 2nd Tim Blakey VIC 2nd Ramey Othman QLD  
**Surf Race** 1st Ross Briggs WA 2nd Jake McKenzie SA 3rd Jackson Cosgrove QLD  
**Flags** 1st Tyler Harding NSW 2nd Mitchell Cavanagh WA 3rd Luke Kesishian VIC  
**Ironman** 1st Bill Bain QLD 2nd Isaac Morgan NSW 3rd Harry Pearce VIC

**U14 Board** 1st Mackenzie Hynard NSW 2nd Isak Costello NT 3rd James Lacy QLD  
**Sprint** 1st Max Belcher QLD 2nd Pat Humphries NSW 3rd Oliver Aikins WA  
**Surf Race** 1st Isak Costello NT 2nd Jack Wadell NSW 3rd Lachlan Feather QLD  
**Flags** 1st Jarrad Ross QLD 2nd William Patterson NSW 3rd Oliver Aikins WA  
**Ironman** 1st Jay Furniss NSW 2nd Isak Costello NT 3rd Nathaniel Lindsay QLD

### Women

**Open Ski** 1st Naomi Flood NSW 2nd Lisa Russ WA 3rd Terri Sullivan QLD NT  
**Beach Sprint** 1st Laura Shorter NSW 2nd Alysse Hogan WA 3rd Melissa Howard QLD  
**Flags** 1st Cara Lagandam NSW 2nd Melissa Howard QLD 3rd Alysse Hogan WA  
**Surf Race** 1st Elizabeth Plumiers QLD 2nd Chantelle Elles TAS 3rd Kaliah Elliot NSW  
**Board** 1st Hayley Bateup QLD 2nd Kayla Russell NSW 3rd Stacey Knowles WA  
**Boat Race** 1st Western Australia 2nd South Australia 3rd Victoria  
**Belt** 1st Kaliah Elliot NSW 2nd Miranda Bell QLD 3rd Sam Cain VIC  
**Ironwoman** 1st Naomi Flood NSW 2nd Hayley Bateup QLD 3rd Chantelle Elles TAS

**U19 Beach Sprint** 1st Hayley Wyper QLD 2nd Sarah Cook NSW 3rd Chloe Gocher (QLD) NT  
**Ski** 1st Lauren Smith NSW 2nd Kim Holding VIC 3rd  
**Surf Race** 1st Anika Wright QLD 2nd Jessica Wreford SA 3rd Harriet Brown VIC  
**Board** 1st Alisha Miller NSW 2nd Samantha Johnston QLD 3rd Karina Crocker TAS  
**Belt** 1st Zoe Whitfield VIC 2nd Lauren Hall NSW 3rd Kirsty Waugh NT  
**Flags** 1st Hayley Wyper QLD 2nd Emma Doyle VIC 3rd Stacey Knowles WA  
**Ironwoman** 1st Alisha Miller NSW 2nd Harriet Brown VIC 3rd Danielle Radford NT

**U17 Board** 1st Lauren Smith NSW 2nd Devon Halligan NT 3rd Ann Glen QLD  
**Sprint** 1st Georgia Devlin QLD 2nd Tayla Ackland WA 3rd Bernadette Cardillo NSW  
**Ski** 1st Bridgette Seymour QLD 2nd Allie Britton TAS 3rd Lisa West WA  
**Surf Race** 1st Miranda Bell QLD 2nd Devon Halligan NT 3rd Emily Chaffey NSW  
**Flags** 1st Kelly McDonald VIC 2nd Brooke Grono QLD 3rd Marnie Robertson NSW  
**Ironwoman** 1st Devon Halligan NT 2nd Stacey Smith QLD 3rd Jordan White NSW

**U15 Board** 1st Tayla Nicol NSW 2nd Jordan Mercer QLD 3rd Courtney Bateman VIC  
**Sprint** 1st Gabrielle Murphy WA 2nd Chloe Platt NSW 3rd India Kinsey VIC  
**Surf Race** 1st Jessica Collins NSW 2nd Kareena Lee QLD 3rd Kylie Millington VIC  
**Flags** 1st Rachel Crothers QLD 2nd Gabrielle Murphy WA 3rd Tatum Ansiewicz NSW  
**Ironwoman** 1st Jessica Collins NSW 2nd Miranda Davies QLD 3rd Kylie Millington VIC

**U14 Board Race** 1st Teisha Jenkins QLD 2nd Cody-Leigh CallaghanNSW 3rd Sasha Pursell VIC  
**Sprint** 1st Bree Masters NSW 2nd Kristy Knox QLD 3rd Chrissy James VIC 3rd Alexandra Fleming WA  
**Surf Race** 1st Sarah Kime QLD 2nd Madeleine Beaton WA 3rd Elyssia Gasparotto NSW  
**Flags** 1st Rohani Bakhack QLD 1st Tayce Fry SA 3rd Clancy Bradshaw WA  
**Ironwoman** 1st Hannah Trypas NSW 2nd Emma Dick QLD 3rd Caitlin Walker WA

**Mixed Taplin Open** 1st New South Wales 2nd Queensland 3rd South Australia  
**Mixed Taplin U17** 1st New South Wales 2nd Queensland 3rd South Australia  
**Cameron Relay** 1st New South Wales 2nd Queensland 3rd Tasmania  
**Lifesaver Relay** 1st New South Wales 2nd Queensland 3rd Victoria  
**All Age Beach Relay** 1st Queensland 2nd Western Australia 3rd New South Wales





Hometown win... David Graham surfs to his U-19 Ironman win.



No flagging ... Masters of the sand.



Stepping out ... Sorrento get into trouble in a Masters boat race.



Going down ... The result of this couldn't have been good.



On your marks ... The open board race.



Ecks factor ... Shannon in action.



Wild ride ... Flood and Bateup.

# WELCOME AND FAREWELL TO SCARBOROUGH

The third and final Australian Championships of the current stay at Scarborough Beach had its official launch in the amphitheatre yesterday.

In kicking off the 2009 Whereis® Australian Surf Life Saving Championships, Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) President, Ron Rankin AM said the move of the Aussies to Perth had been highly successful on a number of different fronts.

"We have been able to invest in the better management of the event, while creating enjoyable and fair competition for our members, and generating a remarkable economic return for the people of Western Australia," he said.

Hon Dr Liz Constable MLA, Western Australian Minister for Tourism pointed to the economic benefits the championship had brought to the state.

"The 2007 event attracted more than 14,500 visitors to WA who directly spent \$23.8 million on services such as accommodation, transport, tours, shopping

and entertainment," the Minister said. "This is new money into the WA economy specifically from visitors to the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships."

Councillor David Boothman, Mayor of the event's host, the City of Stirling, thanked major partners EventsCorp and Surf Life Saving Australia for their support over the past three years and commended everyone, including City of Stirling staff for their hard work, enthusiasm and dedication in the planning and running of this iconic event.

"Scarborough Beach and its amphitheatre have provided a wonderful home to the Aussies," he said.

Whereis Marketing Manager, Andrew Ford commented, "Whereis® is proud to be the naming rights sponsor of the Whereis® Surf Lifesaving Championships in 2009. Whereis® plays a vital role in helping Australians navigate their way and enjoy their time on the road and now on the beach!

# WHAT'S ON IN PERTH DURING THE AUSSIES

## WHERE TO EAT

### Fraser's Restaurant

For a sweeping view of the city skyline and Swan River, head to this award-winning establishment open for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Fraser Ave, Kings Park. T: 08 9481 7100 www.frasersrestaurant.com.au

### Jackson's

Easily one of Perth's best restaurants, Jackson's has been winning awards since it opened in the late 1990s. Expect a menu of modern Australian cuisine with a hint of French bistro.

483 Beaufort St, Highgate. T: 08 93281177 www.jacksonsrestaurant.com.au

### The Loose Box

Head for the hills for a taste of award-winning French cuisine in beautiful surroundings – eating here is an event in itself. Twice named Australia's best restaurant.

6825 Great Eastern Hwy, Mundaring T: 08 9295 1787 www.loosebox.com

## BACK OF BEACH ENTERTAINMENT

### Whereis®

Get to the Whereis® marquee near the amphitheatre to get a FREE beach chair and have a go at the Nintendo Wii sports games for your chance to win a Nintendo Wii. Visit the team to find out all the up-to-date products from whereis.com.au.

### Telstra

Look out for the Telstra Snap Squad, who are taking souvenir photos on their Telstra Next G™ phones. These photos will be sent to your phone and you can also print out a copy at the Telstra Sprinter for FREE!

If you've had your photo taken by the Telstra Snap Squad you can also jump onto one of the Telstra Next G™ laptops to see it online when you visit the Telstra Sprinter.

