

LINEUP

2025 MASTERS SPECIAL

REMEMBER 2024???

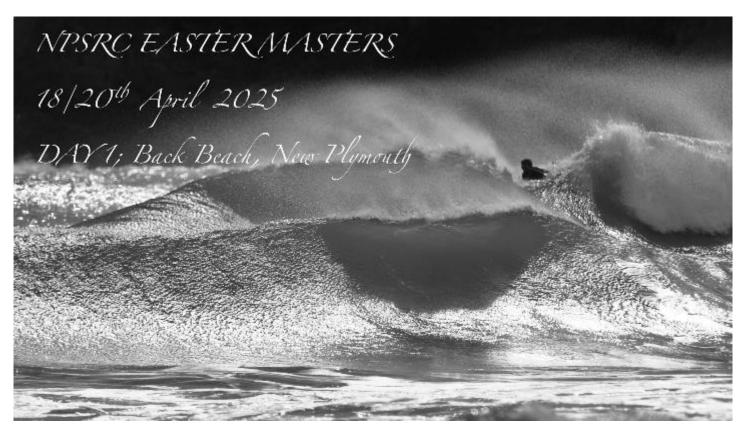
Quote from LINEUP 2024 Master's Special – Oh NO! Five days out and the weather forecast was full of severe warnings with winds gusting up to 150 kph and four to six metre swells over Easter.

2024 not only threw us the weather to contend with but also more difficulties were ahead. In early November, Chris Church, Regional Rep from Fisher and Paykel informed us that "Sorry Allen it's the silly season again and we will not be able to take up the Easter Masters' naming rights sponsorship!" Deep concern as even with a \$100.00 entry fee we needed a minimum of eighty entries just to cover minimum costs. The prospect of a band at prize-giving was gone, and we started cutting costs as much as we could whilst retaining the traditions of the Masters. February, the "Mighty Mark Dwyer" casually rang me and asked if I would like a generous naming rights sponsor? The local branch of The Advisors for Insurance? Blood pressure and waking up at night pondering how to manage a great Masters disappeared, and Mark sealed the deal. The Advisors for Insurance have our our most grateful appreciation for allowing us to continue the Masters traditions and we look forward to many years of collaborating with them. Should you need insurance - contact THE ADVISORS FOR INSURANCE and mention the Easter Masters!

Easter 2025 – Cyclone Tam is approaching. Forming in the Coral Sea, Tam proved to be a difficult storm to predict its track as it moved slowly and erratically. On Monday, the UK Met Service Model predicted Tam to move down the Tasman Sea before curving to the East of North Cape and down the East Coast. The European model showed Tam taking a more easterly course. Auckland based forecaster Phillip Duncan on Weatherwatch said it all depended on the anticyclone currently sitting over New Zealand. If it stayed put Tam would move East. If it moved even slightly to the East or weakened Tam would push down the Tasman and impact most of the North Island with heavy rain and northerly gales. The forecast did not deter our Easter Masters Surfers with 103 entering, although a few from up north and the Bay couldn't travel due to the foul weather. It's worth noting that 31 of the entries were either newbies to the Masters or returning after a long absence.

Phillip got it right. So did our contest Manager Neal Pullen, who called each day correctly and ensured two full days of reasonable surf. Firstly, at Bacs and on Saturday at Arawhata. The northerly swell pushed down from Tam did make for some unusual peaks and swell directions causing even the locals problems in deciding where the best take-off zone was. As Phillp Duncan predicted, Easter weekend lived up to its normal Taranaki weather - two good days and one crap (Sunday).





Our intrepid venue set-up crew arose about 5.30 to ensure we could secure parking for the event centre caravan at the front to the bottom car park; as with a Nor-Easter blowing the locals surely knew that Bacs was the only place in town that would not be blown out. Reports from Opunake told of gale Sou-Easterlies there, so Neal's Thursday night call was magic. Thanks to the many Locals who surfed at Bacs that day and respected our competitors as they generally surfed north of the competition area.

There was a strong North to South drift right down the beach and some unwary competitors soon found that sitting waiting for a peak was not a good option, as they drifted out of sight of the judges and faced a three hundred metre sprint back up the beach and then faced the, at times difficult, paddle out through the overhead surf. SUPs and longboarders dominated the day with some of the smaller shortboard divisions also being held. This was the first time the Masters have catered for a strictly longboard divisions -Tane Open, Tane 50 plus. Wahine Open, Wahine 45 plus. All Tane longboards divisions over subscribed so there will be some serious discussion with Pid, Neal and Mark of how we structure Masters 2026. There was also a record number of Wahine entries. Keep on building the hype girls.



Occasionally Bacs relented and provided longboard friendly waves



Reido rips as usual

FISHER & PAYKEL





A rare opportunity for a hang 5.



Michael holding on.



SUP or Kneelo Shaun?



Gutsy Linda doesn't shy away from the gnarly Bacs surf.





Amaia Sasia and hubby Craig Williamson both back competing



Oldest entry Chris Jury at 79.

Chris devoted long days as Beach Marshall organising those who couldn't remember when their heat was on and making sure they had donned the correct colour T Rashie. Thanks Chris.

In 2026 Chris will hopefully become a member of the 80 plus Improbables.



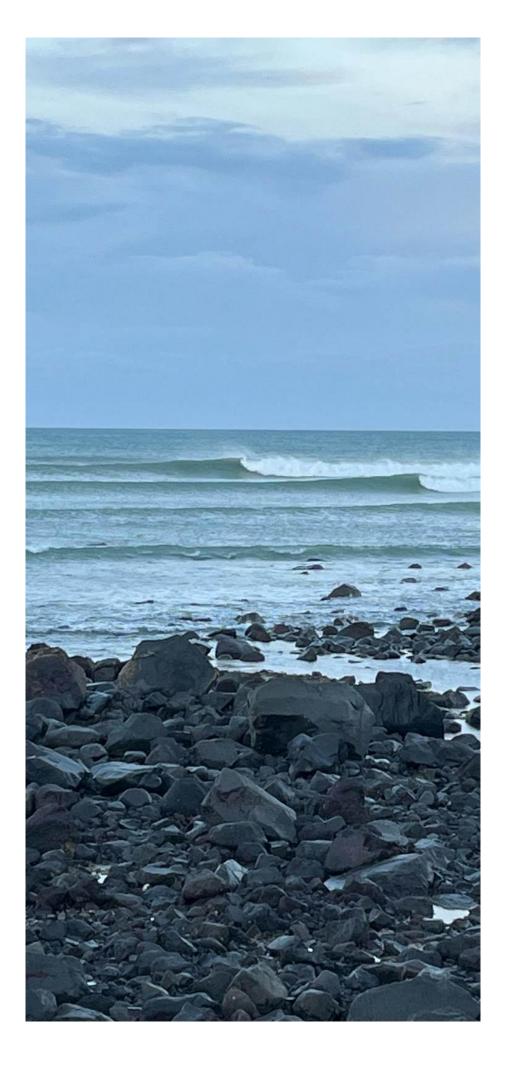
Predict Wind (The app the yachties use) showed South Taranaki being sheltered by our magnificent Maunga with strong gale force northerly winds either side of the calm area. Opunake Bay was calm but the northerly aspect to the swell caused every wave to close out across the bay. Faithful Arawhata again came to our rescue albeit with the northerly aspect to the swell creating uncommon swell angles at the take off zone to be contended with. Except for a couple of brief showers and the wind changing to a bit more Nor-Westerly about noon the conditions stayed competitive. Now the aggressive shortboarders could strut their stuff.



Happy Master Surfers. Why wouldn't they be when the next photo shows what greeted us early Saturday morning?









Afternoon and the conditions deteriorated











Speed bump ahead!



Speed Bump Merv (Blue) earns his nickname.



Competition Coordinator Neal found time to compete.











































NEAL'S THOUGHTS.

Another successful Masters completed by our hard-working committee and all the the extra helpers over a long weekend. Many thanks to you all! We aim to keep the Masters fun and compeditive in the sometimes challenging weather coditions. Hope to see you all next year for more waves and fun times.

Neal.





John Quilter -Your dedication in braving the weather for two full days recording the action is deeply appreciated.

Should you like a copy of your photo contact John

LUCSNJQ@hotmail.com

THE WORLEY WAHINE FILM FESTIVAL

On Saturday evening from 6.30pm, Worley with President Donna and "The Mother of Women's Surfing in New Zealand" Jonnie Mead, hosted a selection of old and new Kiwi surfing films, plus the newly released "Over the Undertow", a gnarly Kiwi doco following four kiwi Wāhine as they explore New Zealand breaks.

Plus, The iconic Children of the Sun, a video from Paige Hareb relating her time on the WSL, and a zoom call from New Zealand's first Wāhine surfer to reach the QSL, Lisa Hurunui. And more.

Sorry we don't have any photos, but it was a most enjoyable evening with not only the competitors attending but also groms and other members.

Thanks to Jonnie for again organising a Saturday function and for Donna's sponsorship.



SUNDAY. DUNGA DERBY AND TARANAKI v THE REST.



Michael Grendon joins the few to have won the Dunga twice.



Belinda Goodwin. A true Dunga champion earned an extra two points per wave with her stunning outfit. With Prize -giving host Jonnie Mead.



Finalists – Bloody hell the two South Africans Michael and Etienne (right) took out first and second.

surfimages
by Surfcards
Daisy Day,
Opyright Karen Day





Variations on skulling







Taranaki v Mt Maunganui. Victory for the Mounties after coming second in 2024.

Sunday. Prize Giving.



SUPER GROMS. Merv, Robbie, Brian, Mike.



TANE LB 50 plus. Mike, Robbie, Che, Etienne



LEGENDS. Karl, Dave, Pip, Brendon.



LITTLE CHURCH BAY. Shaun and Cassie again sponsor a wonderful chill out weekend.



WAHINE LB 45 PLUS Amaia, Nicky, Mons, Belinda.



CADETS Carlos, Trent, Sheldon.



TARANAKI V THE REST. Team Taranaki, Team, The Mount.



TANE LB OPEN. Michael, Brian Y, Brian.



TOP JUDGE. Simon Jones.



Daisy's photos are always appreciated. Daisy couldn't attend this year.



JASON PRIMROSE describes his donated board.



IMMORTALS Ross, Chris.



FEMLINS Lenadeen, Jo, Rosalind, Brooke.



LEGENDS Karl, Dave, Pip, Brendon.



TRENT, proud winner of Jason's board.



WAHINE LB OPEN Jo, Brooke, Mons, Angie.



WAHINE PLATE. Rosalind, Ayeesha (ab)



GROVELLORS. OPEN & WAHINE. Donna



SURF GODS. Phil, Tony (1) John



JOHN BOLTON MEMORIAL ICONS. Richard, Jack, Robbie, Brian.



TANE SUP OPEN Shaun, Chip, Chris.



MASTERS. Owen Dawson, Hemi, Mike.



100 kg club. Dawson, Michael, Hemi



Robbie wins the F & P Fridge Freezer.



TANE PLATE. Age, Carlos, Simon. Sheldon.



FIRST GRANDFATHER
GRANDAUGHTER COMBO Phil & Ayeesha
Geros. Ayeesha had to leave prior to prize
giving.



WAHINE SUP OPEN. Lenadeen Cassie Linda.



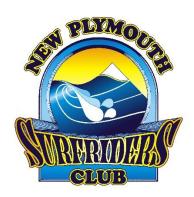
DUNGA Michael, Robbie, Simon Etienne.

President Donna and our Committee thank all Master surfers and their supporters who braved the weather for the second year running and so made the 2025 Masters such a success.

To our magnificent sponsors who continue to make the Easter Masters the magnificent event it is, we love you.

To the many first timers, thank you for joining us, and we look forward to having a fun time with you in 2026 when with an early Easter we will hopefully get some calmer and warmer weather. Whatever Huey serves up to us in 2026 remember –

ONLY A MASTER KNOWS THE FEELING.









SUPFERENCE SUPFERENCE

