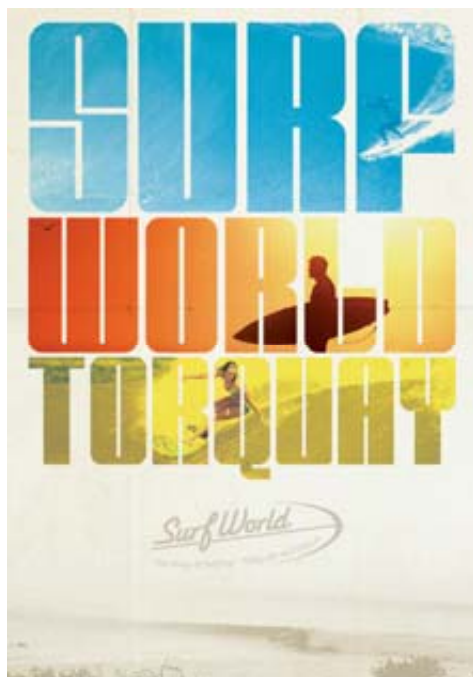


WEBSITE UPDATE

One thing that we are getting seriously excited about is the redesign and re-launch of the SurfWorld website. The new site will feature a fresh look incorporating our new promotional artwork, as well as a number of dynamic elements that we hope people will find more visually engaging. We have worked on the content trying to make the text more concise and integrate some great images that will give a really good feel for the SurfWorld experience. Online soon, the new site is a great collaboration between PJD Creative and the Surfcoast Shire's IT crew.



SURFWORLD SURFFEST

Surf Fest 09 will be held this year on Saturday 31st of October at Jan Juc Beach. This annual teams event will follow the familiar format of teams made up of 1 shortboard, 1 long board and 1 retro surfboard competing against teams made up of the same elements. Oberon High School Students are once again coordinating the contest as part of their surfing based studies in conjunction with the Torquay Boardriders and Surfcoast Long boards, a fun feature worth watching out for will be the Halloween Expression Session. It'll be the Spookiest surf session ever!



BECK BOYS REUNITED WITH TIMBER SKI

We only have 2 surf skis on display at SurfWorld but both of them are pretty special. We have Snowy McAllister's ski hanging in the roof of the board room and a ski hand built by Brian Beck now on show in the theatre. Brian is one of Victoria's most respected timber surf craft builders and built this ski for his son Peter in 1973. The ski is witness to Brian's talent for creating functional and beautiful timber forms and carries his familiar thunderbird logo painted on the deck. For many years the board was on display in the Rip Curl showroom before being stored at SurfWorld. The ski is now on display with Peter's original paddle and a panel showing a photograph of Peter and the ski out the front of the Torquay Surf Life Saving Club in 1973. Brian and Peter were recently reunited with the ski while visiting SurfWorld, when this photo was taken, and reminisced about their experiences with this unique piece of surfing equipment.

SURFING PIONEER

We are fortunate at SurfWorld to have some great material relating to Victorian surfing pioneer Louis Whyte. Louis bought four surfboards back from Hawaii in 1919 and spent many summers riding the boards with friends at Lorne and Anglesea. We are developing a new display to house two of Louis's surfboards (bought from Duke Kahanamoku) and all the related memorabilia and photographs associated with his early surfing efforts. We have arranged a loan of his swimming costume from "The Heights" Louis's family home in Geelong, which is now a National Trust listed building. The new display will serve dual purposes of protecting and preserving heritage surf items as well as providing a particular focus for surfing's early days in Australia.

