



BOATING

WITH IAN GRANT

Making waves with top board

SURFING the beach break has been a tradition with Australians since World War II veteran John Charlton exercised his acrobatic skills riding the shore dump off Kirra Beach in the late 1940s.

The then sun-tanned surfing cult leader who rode his plywood-built ski with his faithful kelpie perched on the narrow bow became a legendary figure.

Sure, the old heavyweight timber surf-ski and long-boards of the past suffered extensive damage in big surf but they provided the launch pad for innovative craftsmen to continue developing faster, lighter and stronger long boards.

I'm well beyond reliving the experience of cracking a growler off Kirra Point on a plywood clunker but that thrill remains forever, along with the acceptance of the modern shapes and technology presented by specialist board builders for the new generation of wave riders.

Every wave rider has a personal preference which has contributed to the present high standard custom classics now available to both the casual and competition board surfer.

DoubleGlass Longboards, owned and managed by perfectionist team riders Dave and Sam Robertson, has evolved from years of collective experience to gain acceptance and

market share in a very competitive industry.

Sam, the younger member of the Robertson surfing team, designed the exciting 2.29m Dash for Cash model while Dave, who is a noted big wave surfer, believes he has designed the best "brute wave" runner with the 2.7m Big Red.

Both have the experience to confidently support their design technology and will spend this Tuesday at Main Beach, Southport, showcasing their range of surfboards in an open field day with the First Wave Surfing school.

Long-term surfer John Wilson, from the Burleigh Long Boarders Club, also will be at Main Beach to support the role his club plays within the fraternity.

Wilson speaks with experience and continues to tell all who are willing to listen that he is a DoubleGlass longboard fanatic.

"I'm out there at every opportunity as the activity makes me feel alive," he said.

DoubleGlass longboards are available in eight different shapes and lengths to suit beginners through to hot-shot surfers, with the Slap n Tickle model handcrafted with finely tapered rails, thinly sliced spine and rounded pin tail.

www.doubleglasslongboards.com



MODERN CLASSIC: The popular DoubleGlass longboards are board of choice for everyone from beginner to pro.