

## 2008 Australian Surfing Awards including the Hall of Fame Award Inductee

Male Surfer of the Year  
Mick Fanning



2007 has been Mick Fanning's year since his win at the Quiksilver Pro on the Gold Coast and he maintained that momentum to be crowned the 2007 World Champion.

Mick's career as pro surfer started with a win as a wildcard at the Bells Beach Pro in 2001 dedicating the win to his brother Sean who passed away two years earlier in a car crash.

Fanning is also recognized as "White Lightning" for his approach to his surfing, the Rip Curl sponsored surfer has had a strong career in the pro ranks since joining the world tour in 2002. He has never been out of the placed out of the top ten, even when he suffered a serious hamstring injury which forced him into rehabilitation and missed a major part of the tour in 2004.

[www.mickfanning.com](http://www.mickfanning.com)

Female Surfer of the Year  
Stephanie Gilmore



“Happy Gilmore” as known by her friends, laughed all the way making history in the books of surfing in 2007. Not only did she win the ASP Women’s World Tour but did that in her rookie year with that trademark smile which she has known for. Stephanie’s World Tour career started in 2005 with a win in the 2005 at the Roxy Pro at Snapper Rocks as a 17 years old wildcard. Stephanie Gilmore ended 2007 as the well deserved World Champion after winning five of the nine events on the tour.

Rising Star  
Sally Fitzgibbons



Sally with 1964 Women's World Champion, Phyllis O'Donnell

Sally Fitzgibbons has had a momentous 12 months, taking out the u18 girls division of the ISA World Junior Championships and the ASP Pro Junior Championships and currently number one in the rankings of the Women WQS Tour after taking out the first event 6 stars at Philip Island (Roxy Pro Women's Surf Festival).

Sally has shown she definitely has the talent to take it to the top and as such was a logical winner for the inaugural Rising Star Award.

Surf Photo of the Year  
Jon Frank



Jon Frank grew up on the reefs around Cronulla where he developed a love of surfing and for capturing the act on film. He shot and co-produced the seminal surf film Litmus in the mid 90s as part of the Val Dusty Experiment, and also recently shot and edited Mick Fanning's biopic, Mick, Myself & Eugene. But while he has a stellar CV with the moving image, it's with the still image that his heart lies. He's globally renowned as one of the best surf photographers both in the water and on terra firma. Jon Frank, in between his travels, lives in Tasmania.

Surf Movie of the Year  
Bra Boys



This is the story of the Abberton brothers and Maroubra community. The documentary is now recognized as the top grossing documentary produced in Australia and has achieved a number of awards prior to taking out the Surf Movie of the Year.

This movie has accumulated few critics for their rough and controversial story, but being voted as best documentary by the X-Dance Action Sports Festival, Surfer Magazine Surf Poll Film Festival and selected at the Mostra Do Surf International Surf and Beach Film Festival and the Hawaii International Film Festival.

[www.braboysfilm.com](http://www.braboysfilm.com)

Surfing Lifestyle Award  
Rusty Miller



Born in 1943 during the final years of the Second World War and grown up during the surfing boom in the USA, Rusty Miller made of surfing his way of life breathing and living the full force of the ocean and following the swells around the world up until he found paradise in what was then the little town of Byron Bay. One of the founders of the Windandsea Surf Club, top ranked surfer in the USA in 1965, competed in the World Championships in 1966 and was a Duke finalist in 1966 and 1967.

Rusty Miller love for surfing took him to Hawaii chasing the big waves and later in the early seventies in Australia.

He has been immortalized on video many times in movies such as Gun Ho, Goldenbreed, Angry Sea in the sixties, Full Circle in 1994 and Powerglide in 1995 but everyone remember him as well as the first person with Steve Cooney in Morning of the Earth to surf Uluwatu in Bali (Indonesia).

Rusty owns a surf school in Byron and produces Rusty's Byron Guide where to find everything happening in town.

Surf Culture Award  
High Surf by Tim Baker



Tim Baker is a surfer and a writer who moved from the chilling air of Melbourne as a kid playing Aussie Rules football to the cosmopolitan Sydney, first as an associate editor and then as the main editor for Tracks Magazine, to finally end up on the golden beaches of Currumbin on the Gold Coast working as editor for the Burleigh Heads based surf magazine ASL (Australian Surfing Life). This book explores the lives and experiences of surfers with the ocean and their almost spiritual connection with it, which has touched every surfer at a moment in their lives and entangles every one of us who shared the joy of riding a wave. Today as he likes to say, "*All I want to do is write, surf and play music*".

[www.bytimbaker.com](http://www.bytimbaker.com)

Pioneer Award  
ASB Magazine



Australasian Surf Business (ASB) magazine claimed the 'Pioneer Award' and in doing so acknowledged publisher Keith Curtain's dedication to surfing and hard work in founding the surf industry trade title. ASB magazine has established a strong and proudly independent niche within the surf publishing market in Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia.

[www.australiansurf.biz](http://www.australiansurf.biz)

## Surf Industry Award Billabong



Born from the minds of Gordon Merchant and his wife Rena, Billabong was founded in 1973 and started production and designing from their kitchen table, hand making boardshorts for surfers.

In 2007 Billabong completed their first global GHG inventory (carbon footprint audit). The footprint was for the 12 months ending 30 June 2007. Billabong looked at every brand and every office globally.

The footprint was a voluntary exercise as the business is not captured by any legislation to produce one. Billabong now plans to report on the footprint each year and have developed systems within the business to capture all the necessary data. Billabong is also working with third party suppliers to educate them about climate change and assist them with their own carbon footprint.

Billabong also collaborated with a supplier to develop the fabric (Eco-Supreme Suede) and it officially made its way into the market around the middle of 2007. Billabong calculates that about 10 plastic bottles are used in each pair of boardshorts. The plastic bottles are sourced from waste, thus easing pressure on landfill.

Simon Anderson Premiere Club Award  
LE BA Boardriders



LE BA Boardriders have shown that the long points of Lennox and the pristine beaches of Ballina are the perfect environment for the teaching of camaraderie and competition skills

The club won this year Queensland Jim Beam Surf Tag Series, came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the National Jim Beam Surf Tag Series, got 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Malibu Teams Challenge and won the Kirra Teams Challenge from the Snapper Rocks Surf Club.

Thanks to the club's efforts Lennox has become a surfing reserve as other places such as Bells Beach and Angourie and in other areas they created a junior development program to assist juniors in coaching and also an All Girls Surfriders space for women surfers.

Duke Kahanamoku Award  
Leon Norris



Founder of the Geraldton Board Riders Club in 1976 and first lifetime member, Leon Norris commitment to surfing in Western Australia is no short of achievements. From the first Sunshine Surfmasters in 1976 to the most recent roles of Team Manager GBR in the State Surfing League and manager for the WA State Open Team no one more than Leon would be more suitable for this prize.

His commitment to the growth and participation of surfing in WA is well established with current involvement in judging courses, being a level 3 judge himself, the coordination of the girls goes surfing days and school surfing programs and has played a vital role in the negotiations for a platform at Flat Rock and the consequent dune stabilization project.

Hall of Fame Inductee  
Mark Warren



What to say about a man who won the 1976 Smirnoff World Pro-Am at Sunset Beach, Hawaii, defeating four time world champion Mark Richards and the great Eddie Aikau, was Australian Open Champion same year, in 1979 won the Japanese Surfing Pro and in 1980 won the Duke Kahanamoku Classic at Waimea Bay defeating Mark Richards and Wayne Lynch in the final.

After retiring from competition Mark Warren worked in TV and radio shows in Australia and for the Olympics overseas.

Continuing his links with the surfing community, Mark was the Australian Coach at the World Grommet Junior Championships in 1994, 1995 and 1996, a member of the Australian Coaching Staff at the World Surfing Games the same year and the Contest Director of the 1996-1997 Coca Cola Junior Challenge.

He now works with Quiksilver full time bringing surfing into the homes of millions via tournament webcasts.