

From: **Stu at Swellnet** info@swellnet.com   
Subject: News and views from the week that was  
Date: 5 December 2020 at 07:35  
To: tim@surfingvisions.com

SS

A blue banner with the Swellnet logo in the top left corner and the word 'FLYER' in large, bold, white capital letters across the center.

# swellnet FLYER

Popcorn is easier to eat when your mouth is agape in awe. Just shape your hand like a shovel, tip it into the skip, and none falls on your shirt.

That's one of the more astute observations I made while watching [Tim Bonython's latest film](#). Would you like to hear the rest?

It's often said that we surfers have become desensitised to big waves; that the XXL stuff has lost its impact due to over-exposure. Yet has anyone thought it possible that big waves lost their impact because we look at them on a twelve-inch monitor?

Yeah, another observation made while watching Tim's film on a screen that measured ten metres high by twenty metres wide. A screen so large it brought other subjects into focus.

Like the twenty alpha males at Teahupoo who all passed up a bomb wave, only for Matahi Drollet to spin and go, and from a rising height they each looked down at the reef and down the line, their excitement and wonderment becoming my excitement and wonderment when Matahi stuck an improbable drop and made the barrel.

You see the expressions and you're as good as there.

Similarly, when bodyboarder Shane Ackerman got caught inside at The Right. He's in the centre of screen but up above is a ski rider perched at the apex of the lip looking anxiously down upon Shane, and his concern is your concern. Seven

billion people on Earth and at that second none of them face a graver danger.

Hard to capture that on a laptop.

The footage dates back to 2017 and the film only got made 'cos COVID halted Tim's seasonal travels. He had to stop, so why not gather his best footage into a movie? Only one location is in Australia, the rest is shot elsewhere featuring a strong international cast, and with the accents and aesthetics, not to mention the exotic locales, it's a reminder of what awaits when we open up again.

COVID hasn't disappeared but with lockdown behind us and warmer weather ahead, there's now a lightness in the air. Call it a cautious optimism. And there are few better ways to revel in it than watching life-size waves in a cinema full of surfers while scarfing popcorn by the bucketload.

-Stu

PS: [Tim's adding new dates all the time. Click for details.](#)

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## Forecast: The Pipeline Masters

After a year-long hiatus, will the new tour start with a bang or a whimper?

...ahhh, hold the suspense. It's gonna start with a bang, but just how big will the waves get? [Read More >](#)





## Watch: Martin Tullemans interview

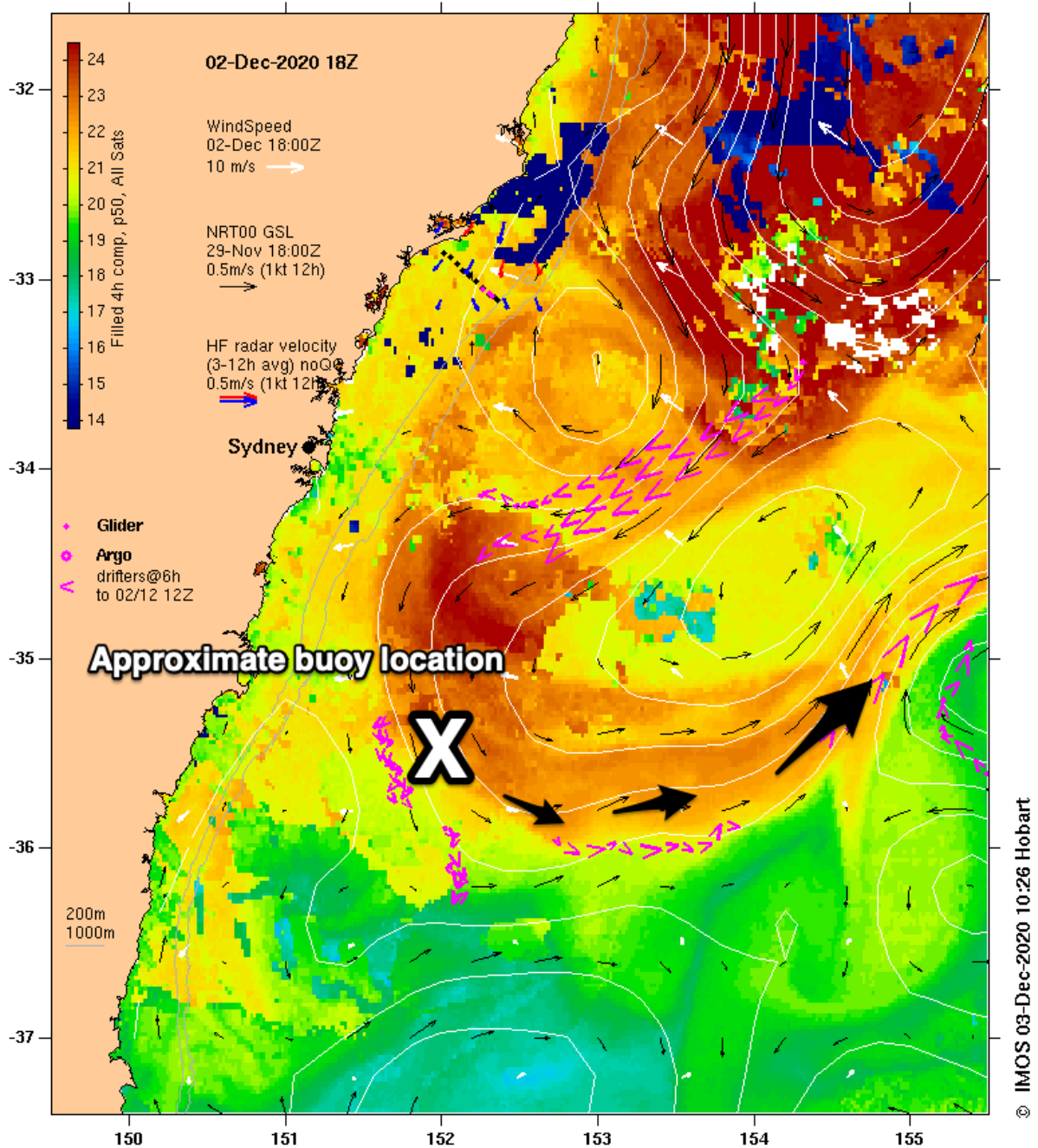
This week, Australian surfing lost a photographer as famous for his character as his craft. Upon hearing the news of Martin Tullemans death, fellow shooter Tim Bonython released an interview with Marty and it makes for a fine viewing. Vale the Cosmic Pygmy. [Read More >](#)





## Coffs Castaway

Last month, the Coffs Harbour waverider buoy broke its mooring and floated away, yet it's still communicating via GPS and it's following the path of one of the world's great ocean currents. [Read More >](#)



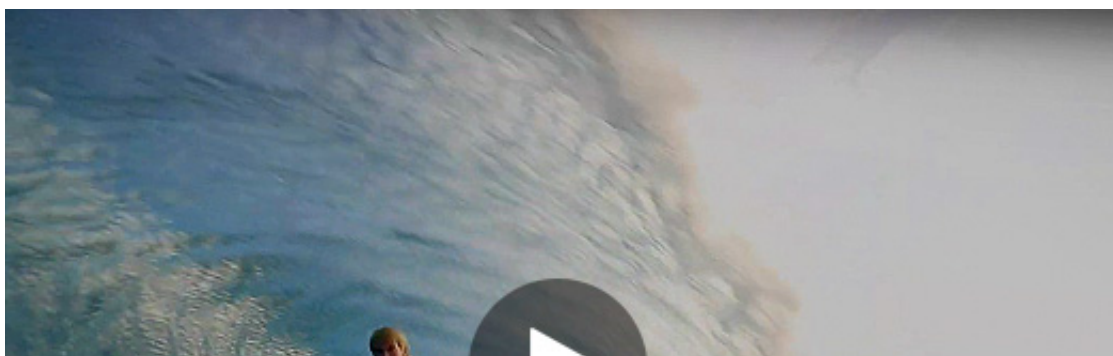
## 2021 Qualifying Series and Challenger Series details

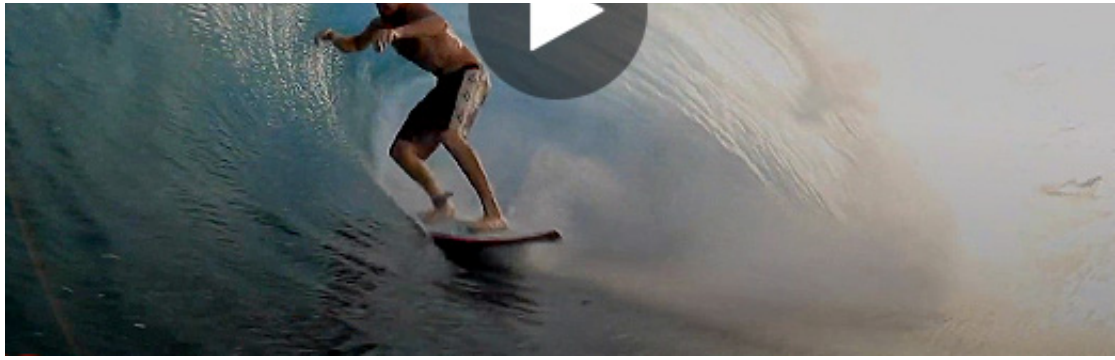
Following the tumult of COVID, the QS is now split into seven regions and runs for seven months, with leading surfers then going to the Challenger Series and onwards to the CT. Read about the biggest change to the tour since the QS was introduced in 1992. [Read More >](#)



## Watch: Nate Behl // Covid Caves

Once again Nate Behl has chosen eighties thrash as a backing track - this time Metallica's 'Master of Puppets' - but really, it could be Tiny Tim and you'd still be getting the chicken skin and heart palpitations 'cos every wave is either perfect or perfectly ridden. [Read More >](#)





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