

WOWees making WAVES newsletter

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We splash, we crash, we lunge we plunge

We have new boards, borrowed boards and "I wonder if this will float" boards. We lose our breath, we lose our flippers, we lose the feeling in our toes and some lose their minds. We find fun, we find friendship, we find a place to escape and we find sand on our pillows at night. We feel the spray, we feel the salt, we feel the power of the waves and we feel joy. We see the rain drops on the water, we see birds in Vs and we see the car park filling up. We fear the deep, we fear the cold and we fear the seaweed around our legs. Some of us fear each other. We chase the green, we get chased by the white and we forever wonder what it is like inside. We love the freedom, we love riding waves and we love our coffees hot. We hear the cry of the gulls, the crash of the waves and we hear our own breath. We are the splashers, the bobbers, the body board riders, the sup'ers, the hand gunners, the surfers, the drifters - we are the Women On Waves. We are the WOWees.



Aerial View of Big Bay on a Monday morning - by Google Earth



Wine that barrels - WOWees have their own label!

Rustenberg Red Blend 2008 has a Platters 4 star rating and is selling for R50 per bottle. [Place you order](#) now, to have some before Christmas.

Want to know how it looks on the inside? Check out [this link](#) to body boarder, Luke Morgan's barrels.

Also be sure to catch "WOWees in Action 2010" it's in a class of it's own

a WOOHOO welcome to :

Amina, Theresa, Barbara, Carolin, Carla, Michelle & Leila

Squalls, Beaufort Force & Knots

We are talking wind. Wind is the flow of gases on a large scale. (And although I could be talking about my 7 year old son here, I am not.). The Cape Doctor has arrived and it will be around for the next 3 months. Doors slam, trees fall over and WOWees hold on to tightly to their boards before they fly up and hit us in our faces (again). But lets not curse and cuss, because if there was no wind, we would have no waves * (and no naughty giggles). Basically, wind blows out at sea, causing ripples and waves. The size of the waves depends on the speed of the wind, (stronger winds = bigger waves), the duration of wind (the longer it blows, the larger the waves will be), and the fetch (the greater the wind area, the larger the wave will be). Once the wind ceases, these wind waves are then called swell. Direction of winds along our shoreline mean different things to different surf spots. So while a South Easter usually mashes the waves here in Big Bay, it can work quite nicely for a break at Melkbos (@ the blue toilets apparently). One thing that remains standard around the globe is that light offshore winds are regarded as good. The offshore wind ensures that the waves rolling in are well formed and break cleanly. On-shore or cross shore winds are generally no good, as the wind blows in from the sea making the waves crumble. *Blown out* refers to conditions when the onshore winds turns the surf into unrideable mush.

Now we know why the swell @ Big Bay is bigger in Winter. Storm winds at sea on Saturday + Strong North Wester on Sunday = Big Wave Monday.

The Beaufort wind force scale is a measure for classifying the force of the wind, ranging from 0 (calm) to 12 (hurricane). Most often the surf reports will give the wind in knots - so if you are not sure if you should bring your ear muffs, your hoodie or your shower cap, maybe the chart will bring you up to scale/speed. No matter if it is gale force or breezy, you will find the WOWees riding the chop, lapping up the glass or howling down the face of Big Bay's best.

And what are *Squalls* I hear you ask. Winds that blow strongly for a brief period. A little bit like a few gusts put together. Fascinating.

*There are other factors that influence waves, like gravity and earthquakes, but those will be covered in the appropriate season / country.

BEAUFORT SCALE	Description	Wind speed KNOTS	Wind Speed KILOMETERS
0	Calm	< 1	<2
1	Light	1 - 3	2 -6
2	Light	4 - 6	7 - 12
3	Moderate	7 - 10	13 -19
4	Moderate	11 - 16	20 - 30
5	Fresh	17 -21	31 -40
6	Fresh	22 - 27	41- 51
7	Strong	28 - 33	52 - 62
8	Gale	34 - 40	63 - 75
9	Gale	41 - 47	76 - 87
10	Storm	48 - 55	88 - 103
11	Storm	56 - 63	104 - 117
12	Hurricane	64 - 73	118 - 135



Wind Lingo :
Pumping, blasting, hammering, raging, howling, soul-sucking, harrowing, blustery, squalling, gusting, breezy, gentle, draughty (perhaps not a term to be used at the beach),
whispering