

## SUMMER 2022

We've got a ton of exciting content for you in Issue 12! Inside, you'll find Austin Kalama's story, as he follows in his father's, and grandfather's footsteps. Simeon Ke-Paloma tells all about the infamous Voyager Foilers and we get the low down on the F-ONE Next Generation Camp 2022. We hear from Moona Whyte in our latest waterwomen feature,

Jack Galloway interviews rising foiling star, Tom Earl and Andrew Englisch tells the incredible story of his wingfoil crossing of the Bass Strait. You won't want to miss Wolfgang Siess' exceptional tale of how he jumped out of a hot air balloon...with a wing! We've also got tests, technique, and a bunch of other features to keep you entertained! Make sure you take a look and share it with your friends!

## ENJOY THE LATEST ISSUE!



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**'O KO'U MO'OMEHEU 'O WAI WAI - MY CULTURE IS WHO I AM - AUSTIN KALAMA**  
**F-ONE NEXT GENERATION | THE VOYAGER FOILERS - SIMEON KE-PELOMA**  
**WATERWOMEN - MOONA WHYTE | TESTS, TECHNIQUE AND MUCH MORE INSIDE!**

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COMPETITION



EDITORIAL



'O KO'U MO'OMEHEU  
'O WAI WAU



F-ONE NEXT  
GENERATION 2022



THE VOYAGER FOILERS  
WITH SIMEON  
KE-PELOMA



WATERWOMEN -  
MOONA WHYTE



THE INTERVIEW -  
TOM EARL



THE LONGEST  
WING FLIGHT



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PHOTO JAMES BOULDING  
RIDER JON MODICA





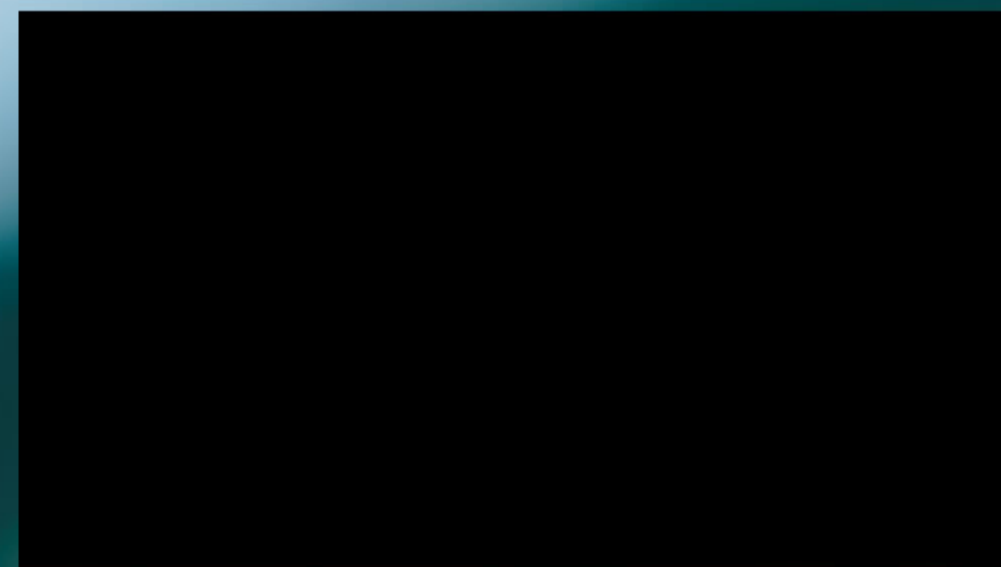
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## EDITORIAL

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## ISSUE 12

The speed at which foiling has progressed has been, let's face it, out of this world. I put a lot of that down to the internet and social media, something I think all of us have a bit of a love/hate relationship with. As a teacher, I see the huge negative effect social media has on the young people I work with. In fact, it is very difficult to find any positives when issues such as 24/7 bullying and the lack of protection from harmful influences are so prevalent.

However, my Instagram feed is packed with incredibly inspiring foiling videos, I'm obsessed! It has helped my own progression no end. So why has social media played such a huge part in the progression of our sport?

When you look back at sports like snowboarding in the 2000s, enthusiastic fans would have to wait until the start of the next season, when the movies were released, to see their heroes performing the latest tricks. That's at least 8 months after they first landed them!

Now it's instant. Kai Lenny's Instagram video from January 2018, now with a million views, was an edit of him linking waves on his hydrofoil for 6 minutes straight. Something nobody outside of Hawaii had seen before. Hydrofoil sports went from strength to strength and I believe that's also why winging has grown so quickly. Titouan Galea posted his video of a double backflip attempt last year, and just a week

later two more riders had tried one and we all knew about it. Progression on that sort of time scale just didn't happen in the past. It's exciting, to say the least! Who knows where we'll be in just a few years' time.

Is there a solution to the negative side of social media? The short answer is no. I'd recommend doing what you can to educate your children, follow people that inspire you, and get on the water as often as you can. But what do I know? I too am guilty of spending too much time scrolling. If you find the answer, please do let me know.

*Jack Galloway, Editor*



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# 'O KO'U MO'OMEHEU 'O WAI WAU

## MY CULTURE IS WHO I AM

WORDS AUSTIN KALAMA AND PERI ROBERTS  
PHOTOS NAISH

Kalama is a legendary name in the surfing industry. Rising star & all round waterman Austin Kalama discusses the pressures of following in both his fathers, and grandfathers, footsteps.



**" THAT SWITCH TO 'WORK' IS DIFFICULT, BUT I'M ACTUALLY MORE MOTIVATED THAN EVER TO MAKE IT HAPPEN FOR MYSELF. "**

My name is Austin Koaho'omaluhia Kalama. I am a Hawaiian waterman. You might not know who I am yet, but I'm eager to change that. All it takes is a shift in thought, a change of scenery and a door of opportunity... I've stumbled upon mine and I'm running with it.

Growing up, my dream was to be a professional waterman, to be the best in my field, to be the first out and the last in. All it takes is a bit of self discipline... something I'm still coming to grips with. It's a bit of a mental tug when you go from doing something, or in my case, all water sports, for the pure love of it with major internal drive... compared to trying to make a living out of it and doing it for a 'job'. That switch to 'work' is difficult, but I'm actually more motivated than ever to make it happen for myself.

Born and raised on one of the most significant islands in the world, more often than not called "the birth place" of watersports; Hawai'i and more specifically, Maui has been a huge credit to where I am today. There's a certain energy about Hawai'i, that makes you feel alive. On Maui, we come together and appreciate what the island has to offer and make the best use of it; powerful wind, huge waves. It's no wonder some of the greatest watermen in history are from my home island.

Turning up to the beach and surfing alongside these people such as Kai Lenny, Zane Schweitzer, Conner Baxter, Ian Walsh; they've not only been a source of great inspiration to me, but they've shown me what it's like to make a living or a wildly incredible career out of doing something you love.







**"STAND UP WAS SOMETHING I GOT GOOD AT PRETTY QUICK, RIGHT AROUND THE TIME THE SUP INDUSTRY WAS BOOMING."**

It's funny, because to most people, they're famous; idols, talented freaks of nature. To me, they're just friends and people I've been in the water with since I can remember. It's humbling, exciting and at the same time... its just like every other day.

My journey to the waterman I perceive myself as today; wasn't exactly just climbing

the ladder of confidence. In fact, as a grom I didn't spend much time on a shortboard. At the time, my Dad spent so much time traveling he didn't have much time to teach me the more technical skills of shortboarding. It was annoying, something my friends were doing since they could walk. I started off long boarding and standup paddling but didn't really find a strong passion for wave riding until I started body boarding and found a group of friends that wanted to go bodyboard every day... getting used to how the surf worked, learning how to read the

mechanics of the wave and getting comfortable in un-comfortable situations.

At 11 years old my Dad handed me a SUP and I took a liking to it- faster speeds, easier setting on a wave, opening up to the Outer Reefs. Stand Up was something I got good at pretty quick, right around the time the SUP industry was booming. I started gaining traction, landing my first sponsor and getting results at competitions. It felt like something I was supposed to be doing, but I couldn't help but feel shadowed by my Dad, compared to his amazing capabilities. I felt inferior... like I was never going to be able to branch out from his fame.





**" ARGUABLY MY DAD, DAVE KALAMA, WAS AND STILL IS, ONE OF THE BIGGEST LEGENDS IN SURFING HISTORY. IT MAKES ME PROUD TO SAY THAT. "**

Looking back now, that showed me the standard. That I wasn't too far off the level that the best guys were at. That made me motivated to keep pushing the boundaries, to raise the level, to get noticed.

I started surfing Pe'ahi (more commonly known as Jaws) in high school. A special place to all of us on Maui, especially my family. Pe'ahi gives a lot, and if you treat Her right, She'll pay it back. An arena for greatness, a challenge to your courage. I think you truly find the connection with Jaws within yourself, and coming from deep rooted ties with this awe-inspiring wave, I always felt like I belonged from the first time I paddled out.

I guess you could say I've had my fair share of introductory insight into the world of professional water sports from a young age and actually, I was kind of born into it. Queue in the Kalama Heritage, from my Great Grandfather, my Tutu Kane and then my Dad, I've somehow stumbled across this flaming baton to carry my family's legacy and respect on into the future, four generations later.

Arguably my Dad, Dave Kalama, was and still is, one of the biggest legends in surfing history. It makes me proud to say that. If you're unsure of his story, its one of extreme talent, modesty and innovation. Growing up seeing and knowing everything my Dad and his friends Laird Hamilton, Derek Doerner, Buzzy Kerbox and Brett Lickle have not only done for the surf industry, but the impact they have made in the way people view the Ocean,

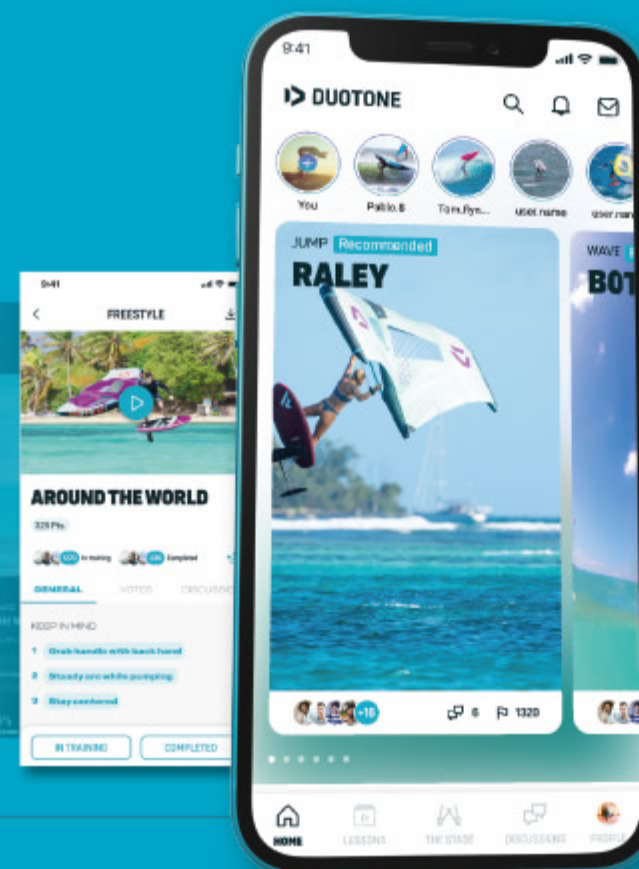




has filled me with motivation to keep the momentum flowing. Yet at the same time, it's been odd coming to the realisation that I'm going to be compared to my Dad throughout my career in the pursuit of becoming a waterman.

I received my first foil for my 19th birthday and I had an idea of what I was getting myself into after hearing stories and watching footage of my Dad and his friends back in the 90's. Foiling back then was hardcore, snowboard bindings to keep you locked in and they were tackling the biggest of big waves. By 2017, things had mellowed out a little with some different engineering & technology.

"SNOWBOARD  
BINDINGS TO KEEP  
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THEY WERE TACKLING  
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**" I STARTED LOVING IT MORE AND MORE AND COULD APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT THERE WERE SO MANY LIMITS TO BREAK DOWN. "**

Back in 2017, foiling was up and running but still in its infancy. I didn't take to it immediately, I mean, I thought it looked cool, but felt bored by it. At the time it wasn't progressive, everyone was surfing it just like a longboard and to me, it felt like an "old people" sport. I caught up to everyone pretty quickly, it wasn't long before I was riding and pushing my turns on waves. Somewhere along that journey I started loving it more and more and could appreciate the fact that there were so many limits to break down. I could see the potential for growth within the sport; to push the boundaries. It was kind of exciting to see no one else doing that.

With an opportunity to be at the forefront of a highly technical sport, was something that really drove me over the first few years of foiling. With all the inspiration I had from windsurfers, kitesurfers, shortboarders and all watermen I knew, I had the chance to take what I'd seen in their respective sports and apply it to my own. I was innovating tricks, combinations and becoming aggressive in my approach to how I was riding waves on the foil. I'm proud to say I was the first to land an ally oop, a backside air-reverse. I was the first to flat water start on the SUP. When winging came about, I was the first to land a 360. Winging was sort of a natural progression to foiling. Maui is one of the windiest places on Earth, so it just made sense to take up some kind of wind sport. I'm not going to lie, it was stupidly frustrating at the start, trying to figure out how the mechanics of the wind worked having no previous wind sports background... but I got it.







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I believe winging is the next frontier of foiling, with the ability it gives you to access different waves, new heights and insane speeds without any external help. I think winging is to foiling, what kitesurfing is to short boarding. We already have the foundation, but an extra element is now making us self-sufficient, more radical and a means to break down even more boundaries. I don't think many people could see that with kitesurfing... but I definitely feel the momentum foiling has throughout the industry; winging is catching on pretty quickly.

"I DEFINITELY FEEL THE  
MOMENTUM FOILING  
HAS THROUGHOUT  
THE INDUSTRY"



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4'10" 5'0" 5'2"

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**" I FEEL AT PEACE KNOWING IT'S A HUGE PART OF WHO I AM AND MY CULTURE "**

I think my partnership with Naish is really going to help me excel into the water sports world. For the first time, I'm able to say I'm doing this for life, it's not just some fantasy. For the last 5 years, water sports have just been a passion of mine. For Naish to come up and give me the opportunity to take that passion to the next level, means so much to me, and I'm so grateful such a pivotal brand

believes that I can make it.

To be honest, I'm still navigating this path of being a waterman. On one hand I feel grateful heading into the industry after my Dad has paved the way; handing down his knowledge, expertise and love for the Ocean and I'll be forever grateful he has helped me become the man and waterman I am today. On the other hand, I feel extreme pressure to succeed and meet the expectations of the world, or at least the expectations I put on myself, as the son of one of surfing's greatest attributes.

As the grandson of the world's first surfing champion. As the next Kalama to continue this legacy.

The Ocean will always be my home. I feel at peace knowing it's a huge part of who I am and my culture. At the end of the day, in the water on any kind of craft is where I feel most comfortable. If I can make a living out of it, sweet. But it's not like me to just sit back and watch it unfold. I want to be at the forefront. I want to inspire; I want to innovate. Just like my Dad and those before me. With this new momentum pushing me further into the water sports industry, I've realised, with all the pressure, comparison and history; I'm doing it for me, and for my love of the Ocean.





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**F-one**



# F-ONE GROMS THE NEXT GENERATION

WORDS CHRISTINA MARMET PHOTOS ANA CATARINA

Can you imagine being an 11 to 17-year-old studying at school and getting the opportunity to fly to Tarifa for an action-packed week of wingfoiling & coaching, all organised by F-ONE? We certainly can't! This became a reality for 10 youngsters that were invited to the F-ONE Next Generation camp 2022. Quite literally, living the dream! Find out all about it here...







**“ GREATLY ACCESSIBLE TO GROMS, IT OFFERS A HUGE POTENTIAL FOR PROGRESSION IN THAT AGE RANGE AND THRILLING SENSATIONS.”**

The Levante had been expecting them. The forecast for this last week of February was unequivocal: strong winds every day, warmish temperatures, and close to perfect riding conditions. After patiently waiting for months, 10 passionate and determined young wing foilers all aged between 11 and

17 were finally on their way to Tarifa, Spain, for F-ONE's 2022 Next Generation camp.

At the destination, an all-star team of F-ONE professional riders and coaches waited to guide and mentor each of them, whilst providing boardbags filled to the brim with STRIKE V.2 wings, foilboards, and hydrofoils. They all were eager to tackle the intensive and transformative upcoming week.

First launched in 2013, the Next Generation camp was initially all about kitesurfing and helped kick-start the careers of more than

30 young riders. For 2022, the family-owned French brand innovated and decided to centre the camp around the fast-growing sport of wing foiling. Greatly accessible to groms, it offers a huge potential for progression in that age range and thrilling sensations.

Moreover, F-ONE wanted to bring together young riders from all over the world to not only share their passion but also to give them the opportunity to meet and train with some of the best riders and coaches. This year's camp was led by Nicolas Delmas, a former competitor on the Kite World Tour and now coach of the French youth national team.



“ BOTH ULTIMATELY WERE PART OF THE NEXT GENERATION FOR THREE YEARS STRAIGHT AND WENT ON TO PHENOMENAL PROFESSIONAL CAREERS. ”

He was assisted by 2021 World freestyle champion Titouan Galea and Maxime Chabloz, third-place finisher at the latest leg of the GWA Wingfoil World Tour and three-time freestyle kiteboarding junior world champion.

Nicolas and Maxime epitomize everything the Next Generation stands for. The story started when F-ONE founder Raphaël Salles spotted a young Nicolas kitesurfing in Gruissan in Southern France. Raphaël asked Nicolas' father if his son could join the F-ONE team, even though the company didn't have any kids on its riders' team at the time. As it spotted more and more talent in the following months, it eventually decided to create a unique youth training camp focusing on kitesurfing.

In 2013, the first Next Generation camp saw the light of day in Dakhla, Morocco. F-ONE had previously asked its retailers from all over the world to recommend some of their local talents for it. Naturally, Nicolas was amongst the participants in this first edition. The following year, Maxime attended his first camp at only 13 years old and as the youngest participant. Both ultimately were part of the Next Generation for three years straight and went on to phenomenal professional careers. Returning to Tarifa nearly 10 years later for this new Next Generation initiative, although in a different role, felt like coming full circle. It was now their time to pass on their knowledge to this new generation.







## “ THIS CAMP REQUIRED A LOT OF ORGANISATION AND WORK BEHIND THE SCENES TO ENSURE SMOOTH TRAVELS AND ENTRY INTO EUROPE ”

It has always been incredibly important to F-ONE to give such opportunities to young and promising riders, without which water sports would undoubtedly stop growing in the long run. To have two Next Generation alumni return to their stomping grounds to now advise the future generation was beyond comparison.

For 2022, F-ONE contacted its retailers once more, this time asking for up-and-coming wing foilers ready to break boundaries. Ezio (12) and Noé (14) from France, Christopher (15), Luca (13) and Morgan (14) from the U.S.A, Jake (17) from South Africa, Petros (15) from Greece, Leewho (16) from Israel, and Samuel (16) from Spain were selected. For the last spot, the company organized a giveaway on social media in the hopes of discovering a hidden gem, not yet on anybody's radar. The contest was free and open to all children and teenagers under 18 from all over the world. All they had to do was follow F-ONE on social media, and post on their personal Instagram page a video with a short introduction and their best three wing foil tricks. After a few weeks, the contest closed, and Titouan announced on Instagram that 12-year-old Leon from Great Britain was invited to join the rest of the crew.

Everybody landed in Spain at various times on Friday, February 18. Jet-lag was particularly brutal for the Americans, especially those who spent more than a dozen hours in the air and came all the way from California. Besides, the Covid-19 pandemic was far from over. This camp required a lot of organisation and work behind the scenes to ensure smooth travels and entry into Europe,



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**“ BENEVOLENCE, KINDNESS, AND SHARING AMONGST ALL PARTICIPANTS WERE PROMINENT THROUGHOUT THE WEEK. ”**

as well as the safety and health of all participants. Ultimately, all made it safely. Most of them were exhausted on the first night and went to bed early, although still ecstatic for the week ahead. Tarifa is considered the best spot in Europe for wind and water sports. Located at the southernmost point of Spain right near the

Strait of Gibraltar, the wind is often constant and reliable. All Next Generation attendees and coaches lived together for one week in Wild House Tarifa, a house located slightly up a hill and with a perfect view of the water. Free-ranging chickens and donkeys roamed the property, to the delight of the groms who snuck out with some leftovers to feed them. The big backyard also offered plenty of room for countless team-bonding activities, slackline, or diabolo.

The first water session happened straight away on Saturday morning, following some

ice-breaking games and a morning warm-up that the boys ended up doing every day with Nicolas. Titouan jumped in the water that day and showed them what to expect from each training session. Benevolence, kindness, and sharing amongst all participants were prominent throughout the week. It all started on this very first day, as some of the kids' luggage had not arrived yet. Thankfully, the others were quick to offer their wetsuits, shirts, and gear so everyone could ride together. Even though English was not everybody's first language, communication was easy and flowing. After all, the riding and youth vocabularies are fairly universal.







“ NO MATTER WHAT, THEY ALL CHEERED FOR EACH OTHER AND PUSHED ONE ANOTHER TO SURPASS THEMSELVES. ”

As the days went on, the squad settled into a good rhythm: Early wake-up call, warm-up or light jog, first water session, lunch prepped by the cook Fernando, team-bonding activities, second water session, dinner, workshops, unwind, bedtime. Most days were spent out on the water, sometimes until sunset. Throughout the week, the team rotated between a few iconic spots in the area, like Playa Chica, Valdevaqueros, Bolonia, or Arte Vida. All 10 riders were incredibly hard-working and never complained about having to wake up early or endlessly repeat a move to get the technique right. They were also absolutely thrilled at spending one week with some of their idols, including Titouan who was quick to give them pointers on how to land their favourite tricks. When all their hard work paid off, the sheer joy and pride emanating from them was priceless to the coaches. The week indeed saw many “firsts” for the fearless and daring youngsters. For example, it only took a few hints and one try for Petros to land his first-ever front flip, to the genuine cheers of everyone else around him. No matter what, they all cheered for each other and pushed one another to surpass themselves.

On top of these rewarding in-water sessions, F-ONE also organised various workshops throughout the week on a variety of topics. The boys learned about how to present themselves on social media, how to become a pro rider, or how to ride around a photographer and videographer. They got to try that right away as photographer Ana Catarina was in the water with them and guided them as if they were on







**“ WITH THE WIND BLOWING CLOSE TO 40 KNOTS AND A SAFETY BOAT RIGHT BY THEM, THE GROMS WERE ABSOLUTELY THRILLED TO HAVE THIS EXPERIENCE.”**

a professional photo shoot. Finally, they also brainstormed and designed their ideal quivers. The middle of the week was highlighted by a 12-kilometre downwinder between Balneario and Punta Paloma. With the wind blowing close to 40 knots and a safety boat right by them, the groms were absolutely thrilled to have this experience.

They even got to preview and try out some of the new F-ONE products that would only come out a few weeks later.

The camp concluded with a friendly competition overseen by Mallory de la Villemarqué, head judge on the GWA Wingfoil World Tour. As he helped the riders get acquainted with competition rules and settings, Titouan, Maxime, and Nicolas each shared their competition strategies, like which tricks they usually decide to show-off first to score the maximum amount of points. The groms learned everything, from tricks’

groups and disqualification procedures to the general running of an event and the disciplinary code. They all played along and were really invested as their competitiveness shone. For over four hours, they focused on the heats, tried to remember all the rules, and structured each of their heats appropriately. Although it wasn’t a real competition per se, some let the pressure get to them and were a bit frazzled right before starting. Fortunately, all the coaches were nearby to reassure them and guide them through their first experience of a race setting. However, the wind died down and weather took a turn for the worse before the competition was over.



CHRISTOPHER



LUCA



EZIO



MORGAN



JAKE



NOÉ



LEEWHO



PETROS



LEON



SAMUEL



**“ THE TEAM FOUND A SHELTERED SPOT FOR THE REST OF THE COMPETITION AND FINISHED THE CAMP ON A HIGH NOTE. ”**

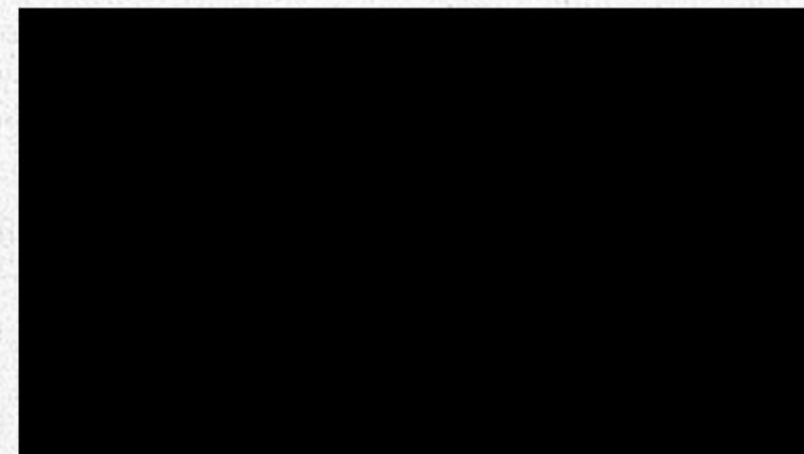
The coaches decided to postpone the final heats to the next day and to head back to the house for some hot chocolate and a warm shower.

The following day, the wind blew up to 50 knots, which was certainly too much for 10 groms, and even more so for a 12-year-old only weighing 28 kilograms. Thankfully, the team found a sheltered spot for the rest of the competition and finished the camp on a high note. In the end, Christopher was at the top of the podium, followed by Noé and Ezio. After one last meal on Friday evening, it was sadly time to say goodbye. The first departures were bright and early the following morning, and the enriching and instructive week was already over.

This Next Generation camp was ultimately all about friendships, passion, and exchanges. With stars in their eyes and incredible photos and videos on their phones, the groms headed back home with memories to last for a lifetime. F-ONE will continue to support each of them in their journeys for the next few years, guiding them along as they strive towards a professional wing foiling career. Nicolas will also accompany and coach them as they start competing in the GWA Junior World Tour. The Next Generation camp will be back again next year. The company is not only excited to continue sharing the stoke of watersports with the youth but also to see what the next crop of groms will deliver. If you're young and you're shredding, give F-ONE a shout and don't hesitate to contact them.



RIDER: KYLIE ZARMATI PHOTOGRAPHER: ERIC DURAN



## VINAKA WING FOIL HARNESS

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# THE VOYAGER FOILERS

WORDS JACK GALLOWAY &  
SIMEON KE-PALOMA (@SIMBOOGY)  
PHOTOS JESSE YONOVER & TILOI ALAPA

The Voyager Foilers are a group of prone downwinders in Hawai'i that share their epic sport via Instagram. They've inspired many foilers around the world, myself included, to take up the exciting new discipline of prone downwinding. The key thing to note, is that if you fall off you can't just pop up, you have to swim to the nearest breaking wave. Which in some cases is a 45 minute paddle in shark infested waters... We chat to Simeon, who started the Instagram page, about the infamous Voyagers.







**“ I WAS ABLE TO BE GROOMED AND MENTORED BY SOME OF HAWAII'S TOP PADDLE SPORTS ATHLETES. ”**

Hey Simeon,

It's great to have you in the mag! We're excited to find out more about you and the infamous Voyager Foilers. Could you start by telling our readers a little bit about yourself and your background in outrigger canoe downwinding?

Being born and raised in Hawaii, I was

fortunate to have grown up in and amongst the ocean immersing myself in ocean sports since I was young. My love for the ocean took a turn in middle school when I started surfing more frequently and consistently with friends. I also began canoe paddling around the same time which kept me on the hook till I was a young adult when we start competing in open ocean long-distance races. As a young adult, I was able to be groomed and mentored by some of Hawaii's top paddle sports athletes. This included my dad, I then dedicated most of my free time to learning

how to improve as a canoe paddler with strength, technique, and experience in the open ocean navigating the waters and bumps. Canoe paddling was one of the unique sports where you could compensate with proper technique and navigating skills and be successful, which lured me into learning about the open ocean. I became fixated on navigating and would go on long paddles in the open ocean, on all sides of the island, in all conditions and winds, in order to expand my skill set for reading the ocean with ease and efficiency. After several years of immersing myself, I was able to break into the highly competitive elite echelon of canoe paddlers in Hawaii.



“ ON A WINDY DAY THESE DAYS, WE CAN EXPECT TO SEE APPROXIMATELY 40 DIFFERENT PRONE FOILERS THROUGHOUT THE DAY ”

Wow, sounds like an incredible experience. Word on the street is that you were one of the first prone downwinders? Can you tell us about those early days? Where did the idea come from?

I wasn't the first prone downwinder, there was a downwind scene on Maui, North Shore Oahu, and South Shore Oahu early on. By the time I got into foiling, I had to catch up on my foiling skills before joining Jack Ho, Adam Ayers, and Scotty McNally (@foilwizard). I started about a month after those guys, as I saw them do their first Kaikos run, which is our local coastal run which is approximately 3 miles of unassisted prone downwinding. But being an avid navigator and paddler for the last 15 years or so paddling outrigger canoes, I saw the great potential for the new sport, because I was able to speak a language that some of the best foilers in the world at that time, were fascinated with learning. As i watched those guys compensate for their downwinding with their foiling skills and abilities, I knew that there would be huge growth as they would learn how to properly navigate and read bumps efficiently. In the meantime, I was able to get my skills up on foil, and soon enough I joined them and a small group of 4 of us has influenced a considerable and sizeable downwinding community here on Oahu. On a windy day these days, we can expect to see approximately 40 different prone foilers throughout the day voyaging down the coast, and that number is still growing.







## ESCALATOR



3.7 m 4.2 m 4.8 m 5.5 m  
6.2 m 7.0 m 8.0 m

## RESURECTOR V2



2.0 m 2.8 m 3.5 m 4.2 m  
5.0 m 6.0 m

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**“ YOU CAN HEAR YOUR BREATH, YOUR THOUGHTS, YOU CAN HEAR YOUR PULSE, YOU CAN HEAR THE OCEAN, IT'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WHITE NOISE ”**

**That's awesome. Is the risk of falling far away from the shore or a chip-in all part of the fun? Have you had any long swims?**

Yes, entirely. There's nothing that simulates that feeling. In my opinion, going unassisted prone downwind foiling enhances your adrenaline, focus, anxiety, flow state, and concentration like no other. It's one of the purest forms and feelings I've ever experienced. You can hear your breath, your thoughts, you can hear your pulse, you can hear the ocean, it's the most beautiful white noise. I think it's the consequence of falling that locks you into this critical mindset, because I've gone off the jetski with the jetski following, and it's fun but you almost get bored in a sense; you don't get that heightened sense of focus, concentration, flow state, and anxiety.

I have and we all have had shockers as we call it, or long swims. It's totally normal, it's a part of the process, and it's necessary to improve. The entire time you're paddling in you have nothing to think about but your mistake, and I'll tell you it's a good lesson learned, LOL.

**I can imagine! I've heard there is more to the term 'Voyager' than meets the eye, can you explain its origins?**

The word voyage or voyaging holds really strong significance here in Hawaii. Our Hawaiian ancestors are some of the best navigators in the world, being that they traversed the Pacific Ocean in wooden sailing canoes, using celestial navigation.





## “ I SAW THE RAW AND EXCITING POTENTIAL IN THIS NEW SPORT OF SURF HYDROFOILING ”

There's been a modern resurgence/ renaissance of Polynesian voyaging canoes and it's fascinating as they have been discovering to learn and sail in the old way, they have explored how the old ways and techniques exemplify some of the most logical, technical, knowledgeable and wise methodologies that would surpass anyone's expectations. When I came up with Voyager

Foiler, I had that in mind. Our ancestors and how they are navigators and true voyagers because they knew the open ocean as master navigators. I saw the raw and exciting potential in this new sport of surf hydrofoiling and the blend of the ancient practice of navigating. Almost like an ancient future.

**That's seriously inspiring stuff Sim. So, what does it take to make the 'A Team'?**

Haha, the A-team! One of the things that have developed with no intention. To me, anyone that tries or gets into downwinding, or makes connections down the coast,

or stomps the whole thing out in one shot is a voyager, which is an admirable accomplishment in itself. As we started becoming fascinated with downwind foiling early on, we started a group text message thread so we could coordinate the Kaikos run when we had wind and favorable conditions to go together. Over time and as the more frequent we would go, we would encounter, encourage or influence other voyagers out there so they were added to our group chat. And sure enough, we met our maximum capacity on a group chat, so at some point, as we were growing and getting close to that number, we had to make sure the individual met some qualifications.



**“ THAT'S WHY THE DOWNWIND FOIL COMMUNITY IS SO STRONG AND BONDED BECAUSE IT'S THE FOILERS WHO TOOK THE EXTRA STEP ”**

Here in the UK, foiling already feels like a super sociable & supportive sport, particularly when compared with surfing. What's the foiling community like on O'ahu?

Yes, it's amazing. Foiling is one of the most supportive sports I have ever been a part of. I think it's because we understand the struggles and failures of the harsh learning curve, so when we see someone learning, we can relate and have an instant connection and yearning to help them and encourage them. Even the learning stages are so exciting, being able to catch a wave, being able to learn how to pump and connect waves, being able to rip turns as if you're surfing, when you see someone encounter those stages you have nothing but stoke and excitement for them. So imagine that stoke process, but for downwinding. That's why the downwind foil community is so strong and bonded because it's the foilers who took the extra step, the extra humbling that we all can acknowledge and relate to and completely welcome and encourage.

**It's super cool what you guys are doing via Instagram, sharing all of your adventures. What inspired you to start doing it?**

I just remember when I first saw Jack, Adam and Scotty do it, how amazing it was and how much potential it had, I needed to document it and take video, There was nothing like it at the time, especially unassisted prone downwind foiling,







only using a wave to chipshot. It has been cool to see everyone's styles evolve and change over the years and it's cool because if you look at the old videos compared to the new ones we have, you definitely can see the growth and evolution in equipment and everyone's skills.

**How's your progression in downwind SUP foiling? Do you think that's the future, or will prone still have its place?**

Prone will always have a place. in my opinion sup foiling just unlocks new doors. It allows you to encounter longer and more adventurous runs without the obstacle of potentially falling and not having a way to get back up onto foil.

"IT ALLOWS YOU  
TO ENCOUNTER  
LONGER AND MORE  
ADVENTUROUS  
RUNS"



**FTW PRO**  
FOIL THE WORLD  
*Brian Mack*

**FREEDOM**  
FOIL THE WORLD





**“ IF YOU TRULY WANT TO BEACH START, YOU WILL.  
IT'S ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT SKILLS IN FOILING ”**

You also ride differently prone and SUP. The prone can be more enjoyable in the sense you apply surfing lines out there in the ocean, whereas the SUP being a larger board, you have different sensations, and it focuses your experience in a more voyaging sense; meaning you're just concentrating on efficiency and bump reading. Also with the SUP, there's a greater sense of accomplishment and satisfaction because the skill of paddling into a bump is an intense learning curve in itself. You also enjoy your voyaging with less anxiety compared to prone foiling. You still have that element of consequence as you don't want to fall because you respect the fact of how difficult paddling into a bump can be.

**The video of you beach starting at Waikiki is so sick! Got any tips for us on the beach start?**

If you truly want to beach start, you will. It's one of the most difficult skills in foiling. You just have to try and try and try again. When we learned, everyone fails and struggles and puts hours into it, but eventually, if you're committed enough you'll crack through and breakthrough. It's a mental thing for sure. Beach starting is difficult because you need the right area, you need to learn how to activate the wing while you run, figure out your technique, trust the jumping, nail your foot placement, and trust the glide and pump to continue once you get onto your board. There are so many variables that all need to come into play to get a successful beach start. That's why it's one of the toughest skills and most rewarding.

**Thanks so much for joining us!**



# WATERWOMEN

## MOONA WHYTE

WORDS JACK GALLOWAY & MOONA WHYTE  
PHOTOS DRONE SHOTS - KEAHI DE ABOITIZ, CLOSE UPS - CHRISTA FUNK

This issue's waterwoman is 3 times world kitesurfing champion Moona Whyte. This Hawaiian legend has recently added wing & prone foiling to her repertoire, and makes it look way too easy! Jack Galloway chats to Moona to find out about her foiling progression and life in Hawai'i.





**"I WAS INTRODUCED TO THE OCEAN VERY EARLY ON, AND WHEN I GOT INTO KITING, I WAS ABLE TO GO TO THE BEACH EVERYDAY AFTER SCHOOL"**

**We're excited to have you here Moona, a true waterwoman! When did you first start surfing & kitesurfing?**

Thank you for having me! I learned to surf when I was very young, probably caught my first wave at around 5 years old, but I didn't really get into it until after I learned how to kite, when I was 14. Once I learned to go out in the waves, it made me want to learn how to ride a shortboard, and that's when I got really into surfing and wave riding in general.

**We're fascinated with the Hawaiian lifestyle, what was it like growing up there? Does everyone get on the water as much as you do?**

I feel super lucky and privileged to have grown up in Hawaii. It's such a beautiful place with amazing conditions and weather all year. On the North Shore, where I grew up, all the kids learn to surf from a really young age, go to surf camp and do the Menehune surf competition. So I was introduced to the ocean very early on, and when I got into kiting, I was able to go to the beach everyday after school, which I continued all through college too! A lot of people here get out on the water everyday too, sometimes you wonder when everyone works!

**Could you tell our readers about where you live in Oahu? Are the conditions always as idyllic as they look in the videos?**

The North Shore is a dream location for waves in the winter time, and in the summer it turns into a foiling playground. The wind is on the lighter side,





"I THINK IT'S A PERFECT PLACE  
IF YOU ENJOY BOTH SURFING  
AND WIND SPORTS."

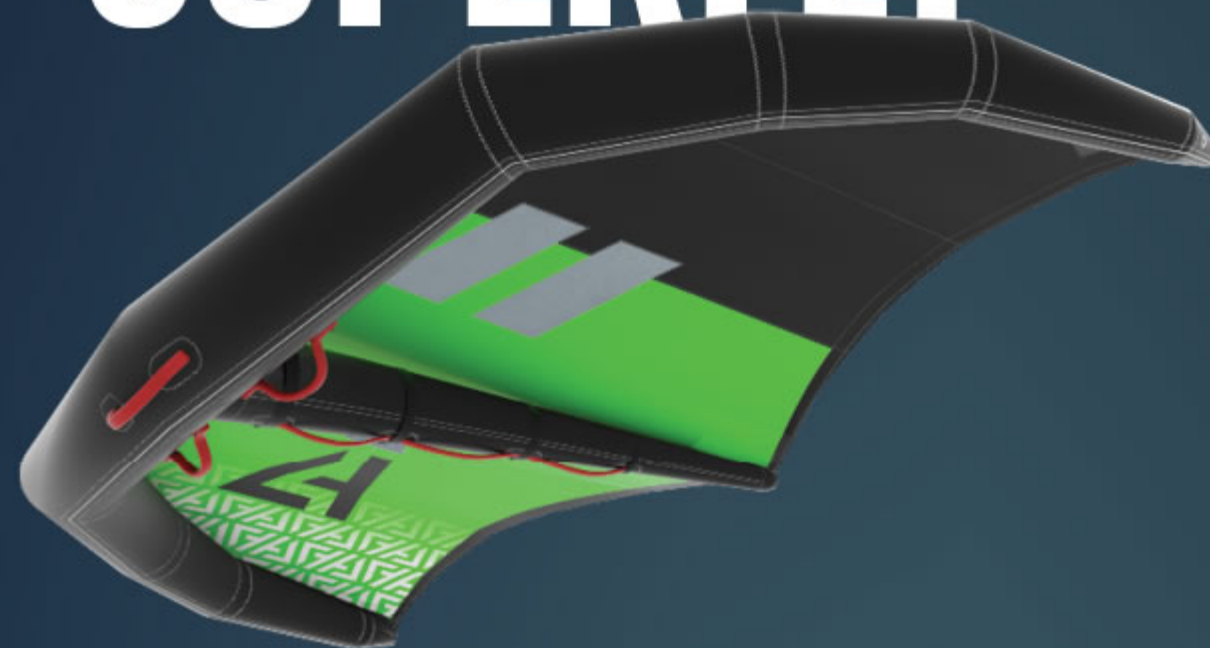


compared to Maui, which keeps the waves clean, but we definitely have less windy days in general. I think it's a perfect place if you enjoy both surfing and wind sports.

**You've been kite foiling for a long time now, when did you start wing & surf foiling? What was the transition like?**

I never spent too much time kite foiling since you can't really ride waves on it and that's what I always wanted to do. When wing foiling came around it really interested me since you have so much freedom of movement so it felt more like surf foiling, and also you can still go out in "junk" or light wind. I definitely had a huge learning curve with winging since it's so different from kiting, but it was fun to learn something completely new again.

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## FEATURES

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**"MY GOALS ARE TO GET MORE COMFORTABLE IN WAVES, TRY BIGGER WAVES, AND ALSO WORK ON SOME JUMPS."**

**Being 3-time world champion, I imagine surf kiting is still your favourite discipline? Or is that changing over time as these new sports arrive?**

I still choose kiting over foiling because it feels closer to surfing to me. But the great

thing is that it's usually only good for one or the other, so I can pick the sport that's right for that day and always have a good time!

**What are your goals within foiling right now? Any competitions or big trips coming up?**

I feel like I'm very much still learning the sport, so I have a lot to work on, but my goals are to get more comfortable in waves, try bigger waves, and also work on some jumps. I don't think I'll compete on a foil just

yet but I should be starting to travel again soon and hopefully can find some good conditions to practice in.

**We love your 'Sessions with Moona' VLOG. Is it a lot of work to get the footage together and edit it?**

Thanks! I pretty much just film when I know I'm gonna have a decent session, and I'm so used to filming with a GoPro that it doesn't really feel like work. Like I would be documenting the session either way. I don't really know any fancy editing techniques either so I just keep it simple!





"I'M ALSO LOVING THE NEW H SERIES FOILS.  
THE TEAM DID A GREAT JOB WITH THE DESIGN  
AND EXECUTION OF THOSE"

We've been testing the new Cabrinha gear, it's epic, particularly the H-Series foils. What setup are you using for wing & surf foiling right now?

I'm also loving the new H series foils. The team did a great job with the design and execution of those. I'm currently riding either the H800 or H1000, the H180 tail wing, and the 4'6 autopilot. It's been a great all around setup for prone and wing foiling. I also love the Mantis wings! They feel amazing in waves and are also very well designed.

# THE FOILING SPIRIT SINCE 2009



**RFS**  
THE FOILING SPIRIT SINCE 2009





**"A LOT OF MY TIME OUT OF THE WATER IS SPENT RECOVERING FROM THE LAST SESSION AND PLANNING THE NEXT ONE!"**

**You're without a doubt a brilliant role model for young women and girls getting into watersports. Who do you look to for inspiration?**

I've always looked up to Carissa Moore. She is at the top of the competitive surf world, is pushing female surfing, and has always been a kind, positive, and strong person who also helps the younger generation get into the sport!

**Finally, what do you get up to when you're not on the water?**

I do yoga everyday, I cook a lot of healthy, mostly vegetarian meals, and I also do some graphic design work. But a lot of my time out of the water is spent recovering from the last session and planning the next one!

**Bonus question: Have you got your dog flying on the foil yet? ;)**

Haha I haven't figured that one out yet but I'm sure he'd love it. I tried to motor him along on the e-foil but he was super confused what was moving him!






THE INTERVIEW

# TOM EARL

Hailing from Newquay, Cornwall, the capital of surfing in the UK. Tom is a talented surfer who turned to prone foiling just a year ago. He is currently blowing up the internet with his near daily foiling content and we just had to find out more!





A wide-angle photograph of a coastal scene. In the background, a dark, rocky cliff rises from the water's edge. The sea is a deep blue-green color with white foam from breaking waves. In the foreground, two surfers are visible. One surfer is in the center, riding a wave on a dark-colored surfboard, creating a splash of white water. Another surfer is further back on the left, also on a surfboard. The overall atmosphere is one of a sunny day at a surf spot.

**"I MENTALLY PREPARED MYSELF FOR CATASTROPHIC FAILURE KNOWING FULL WELL I'D GIVEN MYSELF A MISSION WITH THAT CHOICE."**

**Hey Tom, welcome to Tonic Mag! We get the impression you're even more foil-brained than we are! How long have you lived in Newquay? Could you tell us about your surfing career before you picked up a foil?**

Hi Jack, thanks for having me and guilty as charged. I have lived in Newquay all my life, as far as England goes down here in Cornwall is pretty dreamy. I shortboard surfed from a really young age. Some sponsors here and there. I had a nice setup working in a family restaurant for quite a while. Fitting in around it a couple surfs a day, every day, for as long as I can remember.

**Hard not to be jealous of that! What inspired you to first try the foil?**

2 words - Adam Bennetts.

**What was the learning process like?**

I went in at the deep end and bought a UniFoil Hyper 170 to learn on. I mentally prepared myself for catastrophic failure knowing full well I'd given myself a mission with that choice. I was also determined to learn in the surf and not behind a boat/ski. Looking back I think that was really beneficial to be in that headspace of setting the bar really low. For my first foil sessions, I was very lucky to be able to go with the UniFoil UK distributor called Zoltan who has since become a very good friend. I remember meeting him in the car park and seeing a foil assembled in person for the first time. I couldn't get my head around the scale of it! I asked him if he was sure that was the right length mast, I was terrified before we even got near the water!!!! I had listened to so many of Eric's Progression Project podcasts however that I felt like I had foiled in a past life!



"THE DEVIL REALLY IS IN THE DETAIL. I DON'T WANT TO HIT A CEILING. I WATCH FOOTAGE BACK AND PICK MYSELF APART CONSTANTLY."



On the first few waves, I just concentrated on keeping the foil low in the water. I felt like I had flying in a straight line pretty sussed by the end of the first session and was frothing like never before.

**What has your progression been like since then? What were the most challenging things to overcome?**

The first thing I set out to do was learn to pump. I had a thought that if I can learn to pump it will give me so much time on foil that

I can build up comfort fast. I didn't even ride waves much to start with. I was always trying to hop off the wave instantly once on foil and pump during the first few weeks. For me it felt like the most challenging part of foiling was the refinement of technique at the more advanced stages. The devil really is in the detail. I don't want to hit a ceiling. I watch footage back and pick myself apart constantly.

**You wouldn't be the first or last to do that. Congrats on signing with Unifoil & Amos!**

**What is your favourite setup right now?**

By far the Vortex 150 gives me the most exciting feel I've felt so far. I love its twitchiness in the roll. We get a lot of surf here as well and that Vortex makes it feel safer to put it up in more critical spots with speed. I am so excited for the new Vyper wings which I'm meant to get my hands on any day now. Pretty confident they are going to allow that little bit more glide and efficiency without sacrificing too much control and roll. Amos gear is also due with me imminently!



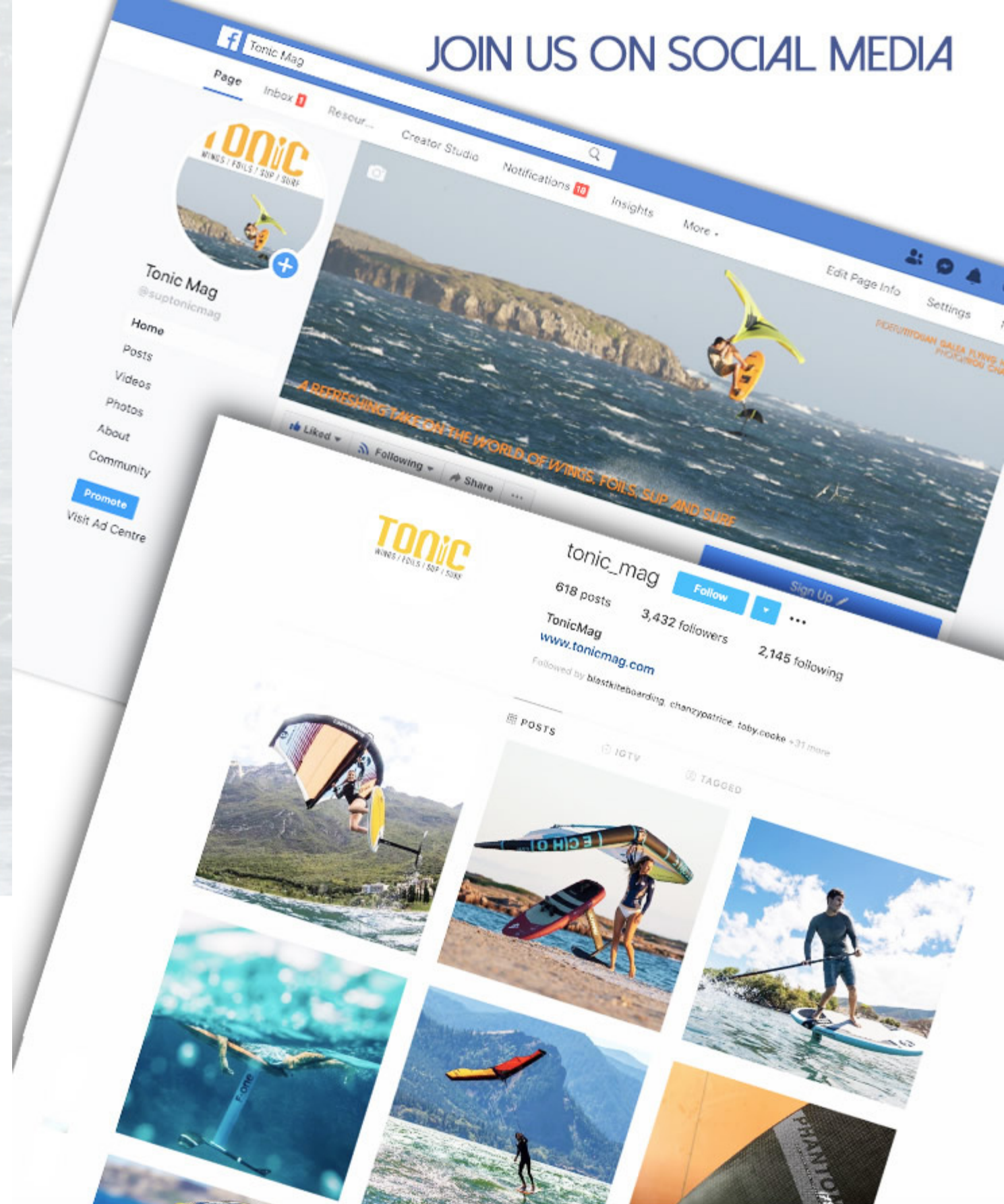
"I'M JUST TRYING TO GET A REALLY SOLID SURF  
STYLE FOUNDATION AND THEN SEE HOW IT  
MORPHS FROM THIS POINT NOW."



I've seen some awesome clips of you recently breaching the wing in your top turns. Is that the focus right now? What else are you working on?

Being a surfer I see a section and want to maximise it by doing a surf style manoeuvre. I'm just trying to get a really solid surf style foundation and then see how it morphs from this point now. Trying to get more dynamic angles whilst keeping technique composed with no wobbles even when your legs are screaming from being up riding for so long.

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### Who do you look to for inspiration?

I can't lie about this but the only reason I started foiling is because of Adam Bennetts. About 1000 lightbulbs went off and exploded in my head when I saw the first clip of him on YouTube. It was the one to the music Heat Waves by Glass Animals. I had been watching a lot of foiling previously but the style just did not appeal. Even now I believe the degree of difficulty in what Adam's doing is so far beyond everything else I am seeing. He also really makes foiling look cool and appeal to a surfer as much as it's possible to do.

**You're not wrong about that YouTube clip! Do you find the surf community welcoming of foiling in Cornwall? Are you starting to see more surfers taking it up?**

Foilers and surfers don't really mix much in Cornwall. Fistral beach acts like a great fly paper and attracts most people there. The next beach on the other side of the headland is foil heaven. I've not experienced anything negative so far. I think there's a tonne of foil-curious surfers.

**How often do you pick up a shortboard nowadays?**

I was still picking it up regularly, like a few times a week on the better days. However, the last month I've not picked it up. Just recently I feel like my foiling is completely replacing all the feels I was getting from surfing.

**Are you a part of the Kernow Foil Crew? It looks like a cool community of like-minded people?**

Yeah! Such a great bunch of respectful and helpful people. It's such a good thing to have people here with so much information and advice. Also, it can be quite lonely through the winter here so it's nice to keep the froth levels high foiling together.



"I'VE NOT EXPERIENCED ANYTHING NEGATIVE SO FAR. I THINK THERE'S A TONNE OF FOIL-CURIOUS SURFERS."



"I HAVE JUST BEEN LOANED SOME WINGS AND A WING BOARD SO I'LL GIVE IT A GO IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS."



**Any interest in taking up wingfoiling or downwind SUP foiling?**

Kind of yeah. If there weren't so many days of prone foilable waves I would have probably been doing it already. If there are flat days it's nice to rest the legs! I have just been loaned some wings and a wing board so I'll give it a go in the next few days. I heard it's frustrating to start!

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PHOTO MATTHEW BRUSH / BOGA BOARDS

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A man with dark hair, wearing a black wetsuit with orange accents and the brand name 'SNUGG' on the chest and leg, is walking on a sandy beach. He is carrying a black foil surfboard under his arm. The background shows a rocky coastline and the ocean. A quote is overlaid on the left side of the image.

"I'M PRETTY FREE TO SMASH OUT THE FOILING AND AM FOCUSED ON LIVING A FLEXIBLE LIFE FROM NOW ON."

Frustrating but worth it.. in our opinion anyway! Do you think there is any potential for prone competitions taking place here in the UK? Perhaps like the Foil Surf Racing League or a skill-based comp? We'd place our bets on you, Tom!

I'd love to do a Foil Surf Racing League! I think we could make that happen. I don't know how you would even begin to judge a wave riding skills-based foil comp at this stage. The subjectivity of that would probably give me a massive headache. There seem to be so many variables and options I don't even know where you would begin. The subjectivity is bad enough in WSL heats sometimes, foiling will certainly be many factors of difficulty harder to judge. I'm very open to the idea if someone manages to figure out practical criteria.

**Are you a family man Tom? What is the secret to getting the work/life/family balance right?**

I have a girlfriend called Christine. We help each other out a tonne. Christine loves foiling and is very supportive. She is also responsible for all my recent clips. We sold the family restaurant last year so Christine and I work on a few things together. I'm pretty free to smash out the foiling and am focused on living a flexible life from now on.

**Finally, tell us about your Cribber sessions...**

It was fun towing into some big lumps on the two days I have tried it. The speed was unreal. The smallest wing I owned, however, was the Vortex 150 and for going those kinds of speeds all I could do was hunch over my front foot like a goblin and hope for the best! Certainly not going out there again until I get a wing way smaller. 100% want to go again though.

**Thanks for taking the time Tom!**





WORDS DUOTONE & WOLFGANG SIESS  
PHOTOS HERNANDO RIVERA, ANDRÉS "CHAMÁN" EICHMANN & RODRIGO FLORES

# THE LONGEST WING FLIGHT

It's likely, you've already seen the video of Wolfgang Siess jumping out of a hot air balloon with his wing a few weeks back. Yes, you heard that right, out of a hot air balloon! Well, we were lucky enough to get this exclusive story from Duotone just days before we went to publish... Enjoy!







**"IT IS PERFECTLY NATURAL THAT AS SOON AS NEW SPORTS EQUIPMENT COMES ON THE MARKET, SOMEONE GETS THE IDEA "WHAT ELSE COULD BE DONE WITH IT"?"**

Sometimes you must think outside the box to create something new, something that no one has ever done before, or just to realise that not every wing is made for jumping from high altitudes.

It is perfectly natural that as soon as new sports equipment comes on the market, someone gets the idea "what else could be done with it"? We have seen many people using their wings in the mountains with snowboards and skis or on asphalt with skateboards or inline skates. So, it's not surprising that a passionate hang glide pilot and base jumper, seeing a wing that can fly a good wingfoiler up to 7-8 meters, thinks to himself: That's certainly fun to jump down somewhere. So did Wolfgang.

Duotone:

Hi Wolfgang, you just jumped from a hot air balloon with our Unit D/LAB. How do you come up with such an idea? Please tell us a little bit about you, who you are, your background, and what brought you to such a crazy idea.

Wolfgang:

Hello everyone! Yes, I still can't believe it actually happened! It's crazy! My name is Wolfgang but most call me Wolfi, I'm a professional hang glider pilot from a small town in Austria /Tirol, but now I'm living in Valle de Bravo, Mexico. The idea came up back in the early 2000's when I got a kite wing from a friend.







**" I TOOK MY BUDDIES 7M DUOTONE DICE OUT FOR A KITE SESSION AND HAD ONE OF MY BEST SESSIONS EVER. I JUST LOVED THE KITE FROM THE GET-GO. "**

**You could have chosen any other wing manufacturer for this project - why did it become Duotone?**

Duotone has great content on their Instagram accounts and initially got my attention there. But the main reason I actually sent Duotone a message on Instagram, was because on my last day it was super windy – so I took my buddies 7m Duotone DICE out for a kite session and had one of my best sessions ever. I just loved the kite from the get-go. After that I was sitting at the airport, waiting at the gate for my flight. I went straight on the Duotone Instagram to check with the guys what could be possible and here we are.

**What did your preparation for the jump look like and what kind of safety precautions did you take beforehand to minimize the risk?**

Since you don't really know what is going to happen until you do it, most of the preparation was in my head. Some of my previous "firsts" have taught me to always "hope for the best but prepare for the worst" so I apply that every time. But there was of course lots of running around with the wing. And of course, lots of fun jumps!

**What made you choose Colima as the place to do this endeavour?**

We needed a big open space with a great view. So, A buddy of mine told me about Colima and Sean's place. And after talking to Sean on the phone,







**"I'M REALLY IMPRESSED. THE UNIT D/LAB DID GREAT, ESPECIALLY BY HOLDING UP TO THOSE FORCES!"**

so I apply that every time. But there was of course lots of running around with the wing. And of course, lots of fun jumps!

**What made you choose Colima as the place to do this endeavour?**

We needed a big open space with a great view. So, A buddy of mine told me about Colima and Sean's place. And after talking to Sean on the phone, it was clear we needed to do it there! Sean is a great guy,

also a skydiver and ex-kite surf world champion, who lived in a house with Ken Winner, the designer of the Duotone Wings on Maui/Hawaii. Plus: did you see the volcano in the backdrop – just awesome!

**As you could see in the video, enormous forces are acting on the wing, and the pilot jumping from such a height. How did you like the Unit D/LAB and did the jump go as you imagined?**

Yes and no. The forces are enormous and those wings are not designed to jump from 1000 meters out of a balloon. But I'm really impressed. The Unit D/LAB did great, especially by holding up to those forces!

I did not expect to fly away and just glide! This wing is made to get pushed by the wind. To fly a Wing needs an aerodynamic profile to create lift, so the Wing flies but can't create lift to keep me up. And there is also the fact that I jump out of the balloon into 0 wind.

**How was your feeling during the jump?**

The exit felt great, like flying away. And for the first few seconds, I was thinking man this works really well till I started picking up more and more speed. Day 1 was super fun! I planned to just hold on as long as I can. And when it threw me off, I was just laughing.

On day 2 I was much more relaxed and just enjoyed the ride - till I did not. I didn't expect such a scary exit.





#### THE JUMP IN NUMBERS

**Duotone:** Did you track the flight by GPS?

**Wolfgang:** I did but the GPS got thrown out on day2 together with my goggles.

**Duotone:** From what height did you jump?

**Wolfgang:** 1000 meters above the ground.

**Duotone:** How long did the flight last on the wing?

**Wolfgang:** On day 1: 22 Seconds. A little less on day 2.

**Duotone:** How fast were you going

**Wolfgang:** Around 200kmh.

"THE GPS GOT  
THROWN OUT ON  
DAY2 TOGETHER  
WITH MY GOGGLES."

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**" I LEARNED A LOT FROM THIS SITUATION AND PROJECT AND THAT'S THE POSITIVE SIDE ABOUT IT. "**

**This was the highest recorded jump with a Wing, the longest airtime, and probably the most extreme thing that has been done with a Wing to date.**

**First: congratulations Wolfgang! You are used to jumping from high altitudes and sailing through the air. Now also as the first person with a Wing. But how do you deal mentally with such an extreme situation? Nobody could predict how the Wing will behave in the air with such forces.**

**Thank you! It's a great feeling to have this tick off my list!**

**It's been a few weeks now since the jumps and I do think about it quite a bit. It was for sure a very close call and honestly, I did not think things would go so bad so quick. I learned a lot from this situation and project and that's the positive side about it.**

**Do you already have new ideas for further projects in mind?**

**Yes of course. I got so many ideas and dreams, but mostly with the hang glider. And of course, I want to learn wing foiling and take the Unit D/LAB to where it belongs – on the water.**

**Thank you for this exciting project! We look forward to seeing the first videos with you on the water.**

**Thanks, Duotone, for this great opportunity this is for sure one I will never forget!**





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# UP & COMING - LEON SCHIEL

**WORDS** JACK GALLOWAY & LEON SCHIEL **PHOTOS** @EMOTION.CV & ANA CATARINA

The words 'Up & Coming' couldn't be more appropriate when it comes to Leon Schiel. This young shredder appears to have no fear whatsoever, he charges down huge waves when tow foiling, sends all sorts of tricks on his wing, and he's only 12 years old! Jack Galloway gets in touch with Leon to discover more.



**“ I WAS JUST GETTING SO FRUSTRATED AS I COULDN'T DO IT. BUT THE NEXT TIME I WENT OUT I CRACKED IT AND I HAVE LOVED IT EVER SINCE. ”**

**Hi Leon, it's great to have you join us here at Tonic Mag! Could you start by letting our readers know where you're from, how old you are, and how long you've been doing watersports?**

Hi Tonic Mag, I am from Bournemouth, a town on the South Coast of England, where there are some great places to foil. I am twelve years old and I have been doing water sports since I was two. I started with surfing in the warm waters of Cape Verde and also learnt to paddleboard and windsurf. Wing foiling, prone surf foiling, and tow-in are now my passion.

**When did you first try foiling? Did you know straight away that this was the sport for you?**

The first time that I tried foiling was about a year and a half ago when I went on an e-foil. I also windsurf foiled a few times after that. But the first time that I went wing foiling was just over a year ago now. When I first wing foiled I thought that it was the worst sport ever! It was a freezing cold northerly wind in Poole Harbour. The water was 7 degrees Celsius. I was just getting so frustrated as I couldn't do it. But the next time I went out I cracked it and I have loved it ever since.

**We're from the same town, not that we've met yet! I've been watching your progression since last summer through not only on your Instagram but also by word of mouth. It's impressive Leon! Do you focus on specific tricks each session or just enjoy it and see what happens?**

# UP & COMING







**"I WAS ABSOLUTELY ECSTATIC. TO KNOW THAT I WAS GOING TO RIDE WITH THE WORLD CHAMPION WAS JUST INSANE!"**

Normally, when I am trying to land a new trick, I will do it as often as possible. I normally concentrate on one trick at a time. If there are big waves or a lot of wind, I will just send it! But if I am not trying to land a new trick I will just go out there and do what feels right at the time. I am pretty consistent landing 360's, switch 360's, and switch 540's if it is

windy. Also, I can land back loops if the waves are big enough.

**It must be awesome to have a Dad that is into the same sports as you, can he still keep up? ;)**

It is super cool to have a dad that is into the same sports as me because I will always have a partner on the water (he is also an excellent caddy!). He can keep up in the wave sailing discipline of the sport as he comes from a big wave windsurfing background, but I am definitely better at free-styling!

**You were the lucky, (and well deserved!), rider to win the F-ONE Next Generation invitation spot for their trip to Tarifa. What was it like finding out you'd won and how was the trip?**

When I found out that I had won I was absolutely ecstatic. To know that I was going to ride with the world champion was just insane! To be riding on all the new F-ONE kit was so cool as I knew that nearly nobody else had been riding on it before. It was such a well organised event, from the training, the people, the food to the accommodation - all of it was perfect. A nice aspect was riding with people my age and to be able to bounce ideas off them.



“TO SEE HOW WELL THEY CAN RIDE, AND ALSO THEIR STYLE OF RIDING, INFLUENCES YOU AND MAKES YOU A BETTER RIDER”

Also, there was so much stoke when one of us landed a new trick!

**What was it like having the world's best riders coach you? You must've learnt loads?**

Having the world's best riders coach me was amazing. The coaches were Titouan Galea, Maxime Chabloz and Nicolas Delmas. To see how well they can ride, and also their style of riding, influences you and makes you a better rider without them even having to say anything to you! I learnt so much from the coaches, not just on the water but off the water as well - such as how to ride with a photographer, how to prepare to be a professional rider, how to stretch to get ready for a session, and also which foods to eat. Of course, we also focused on tricks and I learnt new tricks such as a switch 360 and a backflip.

**Sounds amazing. What's your go-to equipment at the moment?**

My go-to equipment at the moment is the Strike V2's, ranging from 2.5 to 4.5. For the mast 75 or 85 cm carbon. For the foil, either the 530 Escape or the 740 Phantom S, with a XXXS fuselage and stab C250 surf. For the board, I am using 28-litre 4'2 Rocket Surf at the moment, and I have ordered the 20-litre 3'6 Rocket Wing S for high winds and the 36-litre Rocket Wing S carbon for the lighter winds. All the F-one kit performs brilliantly, and I can't wait to get on the new kit ready for the comps.

UP & COMING





"THE WAVES WERE DOUBLE TO TRIPLE OVERHEAD ON THE OUTSIDE AND HEAD AND A HALF ON THE INSIDE, BUT REALLY CLEAN."



**Tell our readers about your best ever session?**

My best session ever was when I was in Cape Verde this March. The waves were double to triple overhead on the outside and head and a half on the inside, but really clean. The waves just rolled down the coast and were perfect for foiling. It was around 20 knots, and the waves were perfect for boosting off of for big airs. I landed three backflips, but I attempted many more! It was just such a fun sesh!

**Wow, that sounds massive! Who do you look to for inspiration?**

I look to Christopher McDonald for inspiration. When I met him at the F-ONE Next Generation event in Tarifa, he was just such a nice guy to me, making fun of my British accent many times! He has been pushing the sport to its limits, even though he is only sixteen! I hope to be riding with him again soon - also in some big waves.

**I hear you're competing on the Youth Wing Foil World Cup this year? What is your training like in preparation for this?**

As I will be competing in the youth world tour my training will be to get as much time on the water as possible and to try as many new tricks as I can. Hopefully, I will get a few days of coaching with the F-ONE pros before the comps.



**“ ANOTHER OF MY GOALS IS TO BE THE YOUTH WORLD CHAMPION, AND OF COURSE TO BE WORLD CHAMPION. ”**

An important aspect is to practice my freestyle run so I can get all my tricks done in time. And for slalom, I want to start racing against my Dad as often as I can for some practice. I will just be trying my best out there!

**Finally, what are your goals in foiling right now?**

For competing, my goals in foiling right now are to be able to land a flat-water backflip consistently, to be able to land a front flip, and a 720. Another of my goals is to be the youth world champion, and of course to be world champion. For free-riding, my aims are to ride and rip the biggest and cleanest waves possible - and land a backflip riding down the face of the wave. The most important thing for me is to enjoy riding each time.

**Thanks, Leon! Look forward to seeing you shredding down the beach, and good luck with the competitions!**

**You can find Leon here: @leon\_rockz**

# UP & COMING





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# TECHNIQUE

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## GYBING PREP #2 – STEERING ON THE FOIL

WING: CABRINHA CROSSWING X3 6M  
BOARD: CABRINHA CODE 5'2 WITH 1300 XSERIES FRONT WING  
WIND: 3-13 KNOTS (PLENTY OF WOFING)

We said it in our first Wing Foil technique, and it holds true through every stage, you've got to put in the preparation work. Everything needs care, love and attention and your future foiling gybe is no different. As such this issue is all about the second stage of your foiling gybe prep, nurturing it towards reality by steering on the foil.

Steering upwind, steering downwind and choosing your path is the absolute prerequisite. There's so much involved, but to get straight to the point, steering and riding upwind will enable you to make up lost ground between gybes, and you will lose some. Whilst steering downwind will let you get yourself and your kit into a position from where you can start a gybe, so you absolutely have to be able to do it! No short cuts, no magic wand, but once you've got steering nailed it's a very bright green light to start carving and gybe your heart out.

Just like when wofing, learning to steer on the foil whilst deliberately choosing and changing your direction of travel is a mission of discovery. Exploring points of sail, whilst learning about changes in speed, keeping the power on in the wing and the results in trim of the board and lift from your foil. You'll soon get a better understanding of your equipment and an awareness of the limitations of steering. This is essential as there are too many variables to give a black and white crib sheet, including wind strength, rider weight, wing size, foil area and shape, mast position. You'll learn what you can do, what you can't do and a recognise the cues that are trying to tell you that you've gone too far.

The better you steer and the more control you have, the safer you become to both yourself and others. What good is it knowing the rules of the road if you're unable to apply and follow them. As you master

steering your confidence will grow and new doors will start to creak open.

And finally, just to be clear of your objective - we're looking at the steering using your wing and the pressure that it subsequently drives through your feet.

### FIRST POSITION – DYNAMIC BALANCED POSITION

It's funny how the fundamentals of learning are all so related. Like learning scales in music, regardless of instrument, how you stand on a court, in a field or on a board is unsurprisingly important. Your first position means that you're ready and free to move, progress and adapt. In this case your first position is where you are once you're up on the foil. The beauty of course is that once you're up you can rejig the pieces to make sure that you're ready for steering. What we're looking for is balance, so that whether powered up or nursing your wing in light airs, you are able to move and be dynamic, rather than glued to the spot.

Let's have a quick look at Karine in [Pic A](#), where she's just come up on the foil. To come up on the foil she will have steered the board onto a broad reach, turning away from the wind. This means that once she's up, the board is still potentially accelerating and pointing slightly off the wind on a gentle broad reach. It's also exceedingly likely that once up, she will have moved the wing forwards to trim the nose of the board down and sheeted out to dump some power from her wing. All of the above are essential so that she ends up over her board, in control and ultimately in first position with the wing held away from her at arm's length. Although comfortable and balanced, if Karine does nothing she will lose ground, so her first port of call will be to check everything is in position and turn upwind.



**B****C****D**

As we have alluded to before when off the foil, it's important to check your feet so that you're able to trim the board both from nose to tail and rail to rail. Once up on the foil it's possible that your feet won't be perfectly placed, especially if the wind is strong or you've had to work hard to get up. However, if the name of the game is turning, your foot position will make a massive difference in your ability to turn and the effort required to turn. It's important that your back foot is not too far forwards. Without diving deep into mast placement theory, if you're riding with a narrow stance and both feet are forward, you can't get much leverage against the mast to turn and you'll need more power, effort and energy to make anything happen if at all. Make sure that your back foot is at least over the front of your mast. And if this is new

to you, it will affect how you place your front foot, position your weight and hold the wing. Yet more discovery:) Once up, check your feet, [Pic B](#). Now you're in your dynamic, balanced first position and ready to rock.

#### VISION – LOOKING

Whilst we're on the subject of looking, we should continue with the age old maritime necessity of keeping watch. You need a constant awareness of what is going on around you, which just so happens to be one of the most difficult things to do whilst concentrating on the plethora of tasks at hand and feet! You'll have blind spots regardless whether your Wing has windows or not, and even though you can generally see in a rather blinkered fashion in front and upwind the rest requires regular checking.

Remember to 1 check behind you by looking back, [Pic C](#), and 2 check downwind of you by lifting your wing to peer underneath [Pic D](#). This will give you a pretty good evaluation, and the sooner you get into the habit the more ingrained it'll become. Lift & Look!

#### TURNING UPWIND

Once up on the foil and balanced, generally the first thing you'll want to do is turn upwind. Without wanting to labour the point... Upwind is your reference point. We've discussed this in previous features and videos but once riding it's nigh on impossible to know exactly where the wind is coming from. By turning up into the wind we get a feeling for where the wind is coming from. You wouldn't be able to plot it on a map, but by changing direction, upwind and off the wind you'll get an idea. This is vital, not just because you won't see a windsock or flag on each and every run, but also because the wind is not always constant,





it shifts about and changes direction. If you can get a feel for this from your discovery, you'll become more efficient with each passing session.

So, let's start by looking how we turn upwind. The rather fantastic news is, that if you've done this off the foil, it's much the same whilst foiling, you'll move the wing gently back. If you cast your mind back to our Wing Foil #1, we went through how the very nature of moving your wing back, forces the pressure from your wing through your back foot. As the back foot pushes the front of the board is forced to turn up into the wind. This is why foot position is important. With your back foot somewhere over the mast the board

can practically pivot around the mast and point higher. You are effectively moving the centre of effort in the wing back, so it pushes further back. If your rear foot is too far forward, you won't have the same effect. To move the wing back look upwind and move your arms back, simultaneously open your shoulders and hips, facing them upwind. This twist directs the power of the wing through your rear foot. You can see how Karine is twisting her body to face upwind whilst moving the her Wing back in the sequence [Pic E](#).

The important point here is that you still need to transfer the power, which requires you to be stiff and

keep the wing sheeted in. If you're all floppy, you can't transfer the power from your wing through your back leg and against the board. The further you move your rear foot back the more radical the change in direction. Whilst doing this try and keep the wing away from you, which helps keep you balanced over the board.

Now you know from your wofing, that you can't just keep the wing back and continue to turn, as eventually you'll run into problems. You'll slow down as you get closer to wind, which in turns means you'll have less lift from your foil, and you'll start to sink lower towards the water.





This is your cue to do something, your trigger. The best solution is to put some downward pressure through your back foot to lift up and then power the wing up to bear away and stop the nose from rising too much and stalling your foil. In the sequence [Pic F](#), you can see how Karine lifts the board back up by pushing down with her back leg and then moves the wing forwards to turn the nose of her board off the

wind. As the board turns, more wind will fill her Wing, she'll speed up a tad and the forward wing will stop the foil and board from rising too steeply and stalling. As you play around, experiment and learn you'll get a feeling for more subtle changes. The most helpful is Wing position. Assuming that you're not overpowered and can't sheet in, you'll find that once you're riding

close to the wind, sheeted in, that your Wing will be flying lower to the water and closer to you. Have a look at [Pic G](#). You can see that Karine's wing is lower, and it's flying more vertically from tip to tip as she sheets in. Once you're in this position you know that you're riding upwind and then you can be more subtle with your movements so that you don't turn too far up.





Once you're happy turning upwind, keeping speed and staying up on the foil you'll be able to make ground upwind, which stands you in excellent health to start charitably giving away some of you hard earned yards upwind.

#### TURNING OFF THE WIND

Bearing away will feature heavily in your forthcoming gybe. Especially when learning to gybe, you'll have a much better chance if your gybe starts from a broad reach. However, bearing away is a quirky term, as we use it to describe both turning the board so that it physically points away from the wind, such as on a broach reach, and also to turn the board away from an upwind position so that it points less and less into the wind! It describes the directional change from an upwind position all the way through the various points of sail until you're pointing downwind. The easy bit is that it'll have the same effect, you'll accelerate. Which is exactly what you're after if you're slowing down, whether it be because you've turned to far upwind, the wind has shifted, or you just need a bit more zip to carry you through a gybe.

To bear away is once again very similar to what you will have done off the foil. Moving the wing forward towards the nose of your board, and therefore moving the centre of effort in your wing forwards. This will transfer the power through your front foot and make the nose of your board pivot away from the wind around the mast. Once again you can't just leave your wing forwards as you'll just keep turning and end up too far off the wind, so at some stage,





once you're pointing where you want to go you can even things up by moving your wing back to a neutral position where both feet are involved. If the wind is strong, you'll need to sheet out before you can move the wing back. Sequence [Pic H](#). clearly shows Karine extending her wing forward and steering the board away from the wind.

Now once you get out there and give steering a good go on your foil there's one "other" hurdle which can take some getting used to. At times you'll be leaning out against your wing. This is a result of turning up into the wind and sheeting in, particularly in slightly stronger breezes. As the wing starts to fly more vertically from tip to tip it'll be closer to the board

and as a result your bodyweight might be leaning out and not over the board. This can make it seem rather difficult to get back over the board and regain your balanced dynamic stance and is a problem that many wingers face when learning to gybe – how to turn off the wind when you're not over the board.





The answer is to use your wing to lift you back over your board as part of your bearing away. If you have a look at Sequence [Pic I](#). Karine has leant into her turn upwind, almost carving the board. This means that her bodyweight is outboard. To bear away she first needs to lift herself back over the board. The first thing she does is fly the wing up, pushing down on her back hand whilst extending her front arm. This steers the wing up and as it rises it generates lift (much like a kite for you kites out there). Karine uses this upward pull to lift herself back over the board. Once on the deck she can push her front hand down and swap the lift for drive which will encourage the board to turn away from the wind.

One final thought with bearing away which will impact your gybe, is keeping the power

on with wind in the wing. This is fairly straight forward until you get across the wind, you keep the Wing sheeted in and you have power. However, as the board bears away from the across wind zone, you will have to keep the Wing at the same angle to the wind as the board and your body turn under it. If you imagine that you always want the wind blowing onto your back regardless of how far off the wind the board points, you'll find it easier to present the wing to the wind. This will feel like you're sheeting out, whereas you are actually keeping your upper body and wing still whilst your hips and legs rotate under you. You can clearly see this in [Pic J](#). As Karine bears away from across the wind onto a broad reach, the wing's sheeting angle stays the same whilst the board and her lower body turn underneath her.







## TRIM

A big part of steering with the wing and the resultant change of pressure between feet is the effect it has on your trim. Trim is an important detail as you want to stay up on the foil without coming down, stalling or even breaching (when your foil gets too close to the surface, sucks in air and drops like a camel taking a rest). This is again part of your discovery time as so many factors determine what is and isn't possible. However, it's safe to assume that as you put more pressure on your back foot it may encourage the nose to rise, and when you put more pressure on your front foot the nose will drop. The reason that you hopefully won't be dolphining around is that the pressure you're using from the wind should be directed across the board horizontally, as opposed to down on the board vertically. Bear in mind that this is what encourages the board to pivot around the mast.

## NEXT STEP

Once you're comfortable and find your bearings without losing control you can add a little oomph, increasing the pressure as you turn upwind or bear away.

When turning upwind you can drop your weight onto your heels which will roll the board. Just beware that as you roll the board the wing will lose lift more quickly and your weight will drop further away from the balance point over the board. As such you'll require a bigger and more dynamic movement to stop turning if you go too far. [Pic K.](#)





When turning off the wind you can bear away with the wing, but add some dynamism by flexing your ankles and knees. Nothing too radical but you can get a feel for turning the board by rolling over it. Don't do this when the board is pointing hard upwind, rather try from a balanced position over the board. [Pic L.](#)

Becoming more dynamic will get you ready for your first gybe attempts.

There you have it, plenty to practice, and your motivating tasty carrot is that you'll find the gybe more intuitive and you'll be able to get back up wind in between your attempts too:)



The Bass Strait is a notoriously treacherous piece of water stretching 240km from Tasmania to Victoria, Australia.  
After just a year of wing foiling, Andrew English attempted to become the first person to wing across it.  
Read on to find out all about his epic adventure...

WORDS ANDREW ENGLISH PHOTO MICHAEL PETERS

# GONE WITH THE WING





I was shattered. Drifting in the middle of treacherous Bass Strait, my body was falling apart. My arms and legs were cramping, I was freezing cold and my heart was pounding. I had lost sight of my support boat in the three-meter swells and driving rain. Here I was only a few hours into my world first attempt to cross the Strait on wing foil, broken and defeated. The journey had barely begun and I felt like a complete failure.

When I decided to take up wing foiling less than twelve months earlier, I couldn't have imagined that I would be in this predicament.

My journey began during the COVID-19 pandemic. My hometown Melbourne had the dreary honour of being the world's most locked-down city totalling 262 days during which I was unable to work in my film-making business, depressed and without purpose. Lying on the couch searching for another show to binge, I stumbled across The Americas Cup racing in Auckland and watching the 75-foot foiling boats fly above the water at 100km per hour instantly captured my imagination. The next day, after researching the technology, I discovered wing foiling and decided to give it a try. I bought a new setup, watched a few instructional videos, and headed down the coast.

On my third attempt, I popped up on the foil, travelled approximately 4.2 feet, and crashed back into the sea. Definitely not the world's longest flight but I was hooked! The sensation of flying effortlessly above the waves was addictive and after that, I headed out every day and practised. I went out in strong wind, no wind, big swells, mushy waves, good and bad conditions, and quickly began to go further and further staying out for hours at a time.

"I BOUGHT A NEW SETUP, WATCHED  
A FEW INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS,  
AND HEADED DOWN THE COAST."





"MY SUPPORT CREW AND THE SKIPPER WATCHED ON HELPLESSLY AS I FLAYED AROUND IN THE THREE-METER WINDLESS SWELLS."



My mental state of mind improved and my life took on a new focus. Then one day on a chilly winter southerly after being out for 3 hours and clocking over 60kms, I gazed out at the horizon and thought "imagine if I could just keep going, imagine if I could get to Tasmania!". It was such a crazy thought because I had only been foiling for a few months, but I jumped in the car, raced home, burst in the door, and announced to my family "Guys, I'm going to be the world's first person the wing foil across Bass Strait from Tasmania to Victoria". They looked at me blankly for a few seconds, cracked up,

and said 'Whatever'... They thought I was being ridiculous.

Ridiculous? Possibly. But I was committed, and also thought a world-first adventure would be the perfect way to celebrate my 55th birthday and raise money for the mental health charity Waves of Wellness. The plan was to cross Bass Strait from Tasmania to Victoria, island hopping past Flinders Island, Deal Island and hopefully touching town in Wilsons Promontory 4 days and 240km later. Our support boat was the ocean research vessel 'The Abyss', an ominous name for the journey.

Six months later I was at the top of Tasmania drifting in the middle of Bass Strait, completely broken and struggling to see how I could finish the journey. My support crew and the skipper watched on helplessly as I flayed around in the three-meter windless swells. My whole body was aching and despite hours of attempts I couldn't get going in the 10-12 knot breeze. I felt like a complete failure and retreated to my support boat to massage my aching muscles and ego and try to regroup for the next day. Lying in my bunk I was riddled with doubt when my phone began to light up with messages of encouragement and support from my family and friends. It seemed my bleak first day had sparked huge interest and



"I PUT MY HEAD ON THE BOARD, TOOK A FEW DEEP BREATHS, STEADIED MY NERVES, AND LIFTED THE WING OUT OF THE WATER."

I was also getting bombarded by the media who were interested in covering my journey. My spirits lifted. Tomorrow would be a new day.

I awoke to the sound of wind whistling through the rigging and jumped up on the deck to see a white cap filled harbour and a steady 15-20 knot breeze. Things were looking up.. We backtracked to where we had finished yesterday, I suited up, attached all my safety gear, pumped up the wing, and jumped in the water. My heart was pounding and I was anxious. Could I get going? Would there be enough wind? Would my arms hold out? I put my head on the board, took a few deep breaths, steadied my nerves, and lifted the wing out of the water. Instantly the wind picked me up, I gathered speed and started to foil. Yes! The next few hours were incredible as I blasted past remote deserted islands, rode the 10-foot swells, and only touched down once before we reached our destination for the day, 60kms later at the top of Flinders Island. Redemption.

Buoyed by the success of the previous day, I excitedly prepared myself for the next leg between Flinders and Deal Island. This would take us deep into Bass Strait where a broken wing or lost support boat would potentially be fatal. I was also warned of 'extremely aggressive wildlife' which wasn't ideal when I could be floating in the ocean for hours at a time and had already seen a few fins.





Luckily the wind direction was ideal, and I flew across the waves following the gulls and flying fish, humbled by the beauty and ruggedness of this remote landscape. After three hours Deal Island emerged out of the mist looking like Jurassic Park and I glided past the towering sea cliffs and magnificent coves, landing in our last anchorage before the final push to Victoria.

Day four and Victoria was only 80 kms away and within reach. Just a five-hour blast and I would hopefully touch down in Wilsons Promontory. Unfortunately, the wind was light and my thoughts took me back to disastrous day one.

I was so close but if the wind didn't increase, I was going nowhere. Desperate to get going, I put up my biggest 7-metre wing, jumped in the water, and started pumping to catch the marginal breeze. I barely managed to get going and for the next few hours battled to stay up, using every muscle to fine-tune the foil, wing, and board. Every wave I would almost come to a stop, pump like crazy, and get going onto the next wave. This continued for hours until the wind completely dropped and I flopped back into the water.

"I WAS SO CLOSE BUT IF THE WIND DIDN'T INCREASE, I WAS GOING NOWHERE."





"I QUICKLY JUMPED BACK ON THE BOARD, CAUGHT THE GUST, AND CONTINUED THE FINAL LEG."



Head down, I waited. I was only a few KMs from Victorian territorial waters but with no wind, there was no way I could make it. As I lay in the water with my head on the board, my support crew saw a pack of fins circle me as I lay unawares. They were relieved when the suspect creatures jumped out of the water to reveal themselves as a pod of friendly dolphins rather than a great white.

After an hour of dangling in the strait and monitoring the weather radar, the skipper yelled out that a line of wind was coming in. I quickly jumped back on the board, caught the gust, and continued the final leg. The wind kept building, swells increased and I was in complete flow riding the waves all the way into Wilsons Prom to my welcoming family and mates. Despite a shaky start, I felt so proud to have completed the journey. Not bad for an 'old bugger'.

On March 3, 2022 Andrew became the first person to Wing Foil across Bass Strait, successfully raising almost \$10,000 for mental health charity Waves of Wellness.

Please visit [www.gonewiththewing.com.au](http://www.gonewiththewing.com.au) to find out more

Andrew Instagram - [www.instagram.com/englisch](https://www.instagram.com/englisch)





— The AFS team got together to spend a long weekend in Leucate. In Southern France, this spot is renowned  
— for its reliable wind and friendly atmosphere, the perfect destination for the team to share the stoke.

# AFS RENDEZVOUS: LEUCATE



**" IF THERE IS ONE THING THAT THE AFS BRAND KNOWS HOW TO DO, IT'S TO SHARE OUR LOVE OF WATERSPORTS. "**

Bringing together a team of addicts around a sport as unifying as foiling, from all corners of the Mediterranean Sea... this was the first challenge of 2022 for AFS, and they did it! On the weekend of April 23rd, AFS, a full-carbon foil brand made in France, invited its team of ambassadors to Leucate, a mythical city of the competition "Le Mondial du Vent". A great moment of riding and sharing. And if there is one thing that the AFS brand knows how to do, it's to share our love of watersports. During this trip, six AFS representatives and nine ambassadors lived together and went riding together, but above all, they created good friendships. Between long sessions of wingfoil or surf foil, meetings between riders and product designers of the brand, and chatting while the sun went down, all the elements were gathered to spend an action-packed three days together.

#### THE HUMAN FACTOR: THE PILLAR OF THE AFS PHILOSOPHY

The human factor is the main theme of all the actions and events organised by AFS in 2022. The brand of Wing Foil has understood that it's only through this constant exchange between riders and manufacturers that it is possible to achieve such a high-quality product and thus satisfy the expectations of all foil riders.







**" YOU ONLY HAVE TO MEET THEM TO SEE THAT THEY HAVE THE FAMOUS  
"FOILING SPIRIT" THAT RINGS A LITTLE IN EACH OF THEM. "**

By creating this kind of event, AFS also wants to facilitate the transmission of practice, passion, and technique. The goal of these weekends is to allow the team's riders to test equipment, to exchange with product designers to bring their practice to the next level, and above all to ride together. Like a family weekend!

#### BEING AN AFS AMBASSADOR

Being an AFS ambassador means being part of the big family of watersport addicts. Being an ambassador means sharing the brand's values. You only have to meet them to see that they have the famous "foiling spirit" that rings a little in each of them. Moreover, the choice of the spot of La Franqui in Leucate as a place to meet to transmit this spirit of the glide was not a chance. Arriving at the spot a few days before the start of "Le Mondial du Vent", it was an opportunity to let the young riders express their promising talents in the water, all in front of the recognised riders and competitors! This allowed those who wanted to prepare for their next competition to do so, surrounded by pros!

This is the AFS spirit.



WORDS JACK GALLOWAY & DOMINIK ZIMMERMANN  
PHOTOS OZONE

# TECH FOCUS

## OZONE WASP V3 WITH DOMINIK ZIMMERMANN

Ozone have just released the Wasp V3, now in its third version the wing has gone from strength to strength. We had the opportunity to catch up with their Head Designer Dominik Zimmermann to gain some perspective on both the R&D process & Dominik himself.



**DOM ZIMMERMANN**  
HEAD OF DESIGN

*people*





**"I'M VERY LUCKY AND GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM ONE OF THE BEST NOT JUST DESIGNERS BUT ALSO VALUABLE FRIEND."**

**Hi Dominik! Thanks for taking the time to chat. I've always been a massive fan of Ozone Kites, I raced with Chrono's & R1's for 3 or 4 years when I competed at Red Bull Ragnarok and absolutely loved them! How long have you been at Ozone for?**

Great to hear you have been racing and enjoying our kites at Ragnarok - such an iconic event. Always good fun to race with that many people!

**How long have you been Head Designer and taken on the foil testing role?**

I've been involved with Ozone since 2005. Started off as a sales manager in Germany while already being involved in developing, testing and racing buggy race kites. We are talking 4 -line handle kites with no depower but a lot of performance and compared to the foil kites nowadays with very poor stability. I spent more and more time with Rob - Ozone founder and head designer and we got on very well. Main focus back then was to get a high performance foil race kite to the market which we realised in 2014 with the first Chrono. I merged into the design team over the years but officially started 2013 as assistant designer. This year Rob decided to take a step back to take some pressure off his shoulders and pass the role onto me. I'm very lucky and grateful for the opportunity to learn from one of the best not just designers but also valuable friend.



“ DOING A WIDE VARIETY OF SPORTS DOES GIVE ME  
A LOT OF INSPIRATION FOR MY WORK AS WELL  
AS CLEARING MY HEAD AND RELAX MY MIND. ”

I get the impression you're a bit of an adrenaline junkie? Snowkiting volcanoes, riding superbikes, paragliding.. How important do you think it is as a designer to be fully involved in the sports themselves?

Yeah, I do like sports where you are fully engaged physically as well as mentally. A good rush of adrenaline can't be wrong but is very addictive I must admit. Doing a wide variety of sports does give me a lot of inspiration for my work as well as clearing my head and relax my mind. I'm spending a lot of time in nature hiking, biking, skiing, flying... you name it. It's a good source to energise, calm down as well as inspirational.

**We loved testing the Wasp V2, such a fun & progressive wing. What changes can we expect to see in the V3?**

The WASP V3 as taken the successful and proven design of the V2 to the next step with some fine refinements.

- We have stiffened up the handles inside without compromising in the comfort. This gives a more direct feeling to the wing. The surf handle on the leading edge benefits the most from it and gives you much more control over the wing when riding waves. It also features a new soft knuckle padding for extra comfort.

- the window size has slightly been increased for added comfort and safety







**"WE ARE DISCOVERING NEW FEATURES ALMOST ON A DAILY BASIS SO THIS ALLOWS FOR A ONE YEAR PRODUCT CYCLE."**

- the size range has been updated from 2.3, 3, 4, 5, 6sqm to 2.4, 3, 3.6, 4.3, 5, 5.7sqm

- the canopy now features a triple rip stop material with advanced coating to increase strength, rigidity and durability while improving feedback to the rider for a more direct feel of the wing

The V3 remains a solid do it all wing that's super easy to fly but can progress with you to where ever you want to take it.

**Could you talk us through the design and testing process at Ozone? How long would you say it takes from original concept to finished product?**

The design process from start to finish varies a lot depending on what project we are working on. For some models such as the R1 - our high performance race kite - we are talking years. But in general we are allowing ourselves at least a 2 years product cycle before updating. On the wings - because it's a young and fast developing sport - we are discovering new features almost on a daily basis so this allows for a one year product cycle. Having our own production facility in Vietnam we can be very fast in turning over prototypes. I.e. from a design in the computer to receiving the prototype it usually takes about 2-3 weeks only. We then go out and test it right away if conditions allow and might be firing through another prototype to the factory the very same evening...



“OUR DESIGN TEAM IS VERY VERSATILE AND SOLID BUT AS THE SPORTS ARE PROGRESSING IT’S IMPOSSIBLE TO BE A TOP NOTCH ATHLETE IN ALL DISCIPLINES.”

**Could you tell our readers a little more about the Triple Ripstop material?**

We have been working with Teijin on a super tough triple rip dacron that we are using on all wings and kite models now. It has superior strength and durability properties which enhance the life span of our products. The triple rip stop canopy - as mentioned above - goes very well alongside with the dacron and in combination makes for durable and long lasting flying objects.

I have to know, what’s the wind range of that 2.4m? Such a tiny storm wing!

It actually has quite a big wind range but surly is aiming for high wind areas and lighter riders and kids. For a „normal“ 80kg rider it becomes very fun above 23ish knots. But if you like to rider underpowered you get going on it sooner. I think we can agree that smaller the more fun a wing is....

**Do you ask professional riders to be a part of the design or testing process?**

Yes we are working very close with our team riders especially for products we can’t take to their limits such as race, freestyle, big air kites and wings. Our design team is very versatile and solid but as the sports are progressing it’s impossible to be a top notch athlete in all disciplines. So we do send protos to our riders or meet up with them for testing and feedback.







**"ON NO WIND DAYS THERE IS GREAT SURFING,  
PRONE FOILING, PARAGLIDING, HIKING,  
CYCLING ON THE MENU."**

Being in close contact to team riders is very helpful to better understand the design needs, direction the sports are going etc.

**Finally, are you in Mauritius full time? Spots like One Eye & Le Morne look like winging heaven! Must be ideal for testing the equipment to the limits?**

The design team is spending a solid amount of time in Mauritius. But we are also going to other places as well as spending time back home as we are all coming from different parts of the globe. Mauritius has proven to be one of the best testing grounds for us. From flat water lagoon, One-eye a world class kitesurfing wave to Manawa one of the best wing waves it offers everything in just one spot! It makes developing very fun but also efficient. We can be testing big kites in a light morning breeze in the lagoon. Then head out for a wing session at Manawa around midday and test wave kites in One - Eye after. On no wind days there is great surfing, prone foiling, paragliding, hiking, cycling on the menu. Always something to do in paradise ;)

**Thank you very much and keep up the great work with Tonic Mag.**

**Dom**



# TRIED & TESTED

The Tonic Mag test team has got some serious gear on test for you this issue. We put two of the most talked about foils to the test: the Cabrinha H-Series & F-ONE Eagle HM Carbon. See the full list of kit below!

## WING

Cabrinha Crosswing X3

## FOILS

Cabrinha H-Series 1000 & 800

F-ONE Eagle HM Carbon 990

## BOARDS

F-ONE Rocket Wing S 5'0

Cabrinha Code 5'0





BRAND CABRINHA

MODEL CROSSWING X3

YEAR 2022



"THE  
OVERRIDING  
QUALITY HERE  
IS STIFFNESS IN  
THE FRAME,  
LEADING TO  
POWER AT YOUR  
FINGERTIPS"

---

TO VISIT THEIR  
WEBSITE, CLICK HERE



## AT A GLANCE

The X3 is Cabrinha's 3rd version of the Crosswing and it has come with a ton of improvements. The most obvious is the eye-catching double strut, something that is unique in the wing industry.

The Crosswing X3 is designed to be a high-performance do-it-all wing. The R&D team has increased the leading edge diameter to produce a stiffer frame overall. Stiffness in wing design leads to two things: better light-wind pumping and more control in strong wind conditions, but I'll discuss that later on in this report.

The wing features new wider handles to allow small adjustments to hand placement, much like you would on a boom. The whole canopy has had a redesign to allow improved low end, balance, linear power delivery, and upwind performance. The Crosswing X3 retains its high-quality high tenacity dacron, nanotech ripstop, and kevlar wingtip reinforcement.

While unpacking this wing it was immediately clear that the product in front of me was built to last. Cabrinha has been making exceptionally high-quality kites since the inception of kitesurfing,

[CLICK OR TAP TO READ MORE](#)





BRAND CABRINHA

MODEL H-SERIES 1000 & 800

YEAR 2022



"IN A SPORT THAT CAN BE PRETTY EXPENSIVE, IT'S A HUGE BONUS TO HAVE DO-IT-ALL EQUIPMENT."

TO VISIT THEIR WEBSITE, CLICK HERE



#### AT A GLANCE

If you were asked a year ago which brand would be selling some of the best wings for prone foiling on the market, I'm willing to bet that none of you would have chosen Cabrinha. How things change. While Cabrinha has been at the forefront of kitesurfing & wingfoiling since their creation, they were yet to enter the prone market competitively. The H-Series wings do just that, and more.

As I'm sure you'll know by now, high-aspect means 'wide & thin', just like a glider. This allows the rider to glide & pump exponentially further than on low-aspect designs. These foils are designed for wing, kite, or foil-surfing, and in all of these sports, they allow maximum speed & glide. This in turn gives you more time to complete your manoeuvres.

They come in four sizes, the H650, H800, H1000, & the H1200. We had both the H800 & 1000 on test for this issue. The three larger sizes all have a 90cm wingspan, whereas the smaller 650 wing has a 72cm wingspan. The wings connect to the Fusion Mast, a very aesthetically pleasing full carbon mast that tapers towards the fuse and

CLICK OR TAP TO READ MORE





BRAND F-ONE MODEL EAGLE HM CARBON 990 YEAR 2022



"THE SPEED, GLIDE & EFFICIENCY ARE NEXT LEVEL AND WILL HAVE YOU FLYING LIKE YOU'VE NEVER FLOWN BEFORE."

TO VISIT THEIR WEBSITE, CLICK HERE



#### AT A GLANCE

The Eagle HM Carbon foils are F-ONE's fastest & most efficient in their lineup. They're designed for maximum downwind performance and effortless glide. The wing itself is incredibly thin, with a 9.5 aspect ratio, and it features upturned winglets, both significantly reducing drag. These wings aim to provide both wingers & SUP foilers with the ultimate downwind gear.

I for one, am super impressed that F-ONE has bought out a wing specifically designed for downwind foiling. I feel like downwinding is about to explode, participation wise that is. Whether it be downwind SUP over open oceans, winging along the coast with your mates, or prone 'shore runners', there is just so much potential in this wonderful sport of ours.

F-ONE has gone all-in on foiling, bringing out an incredible range of equipment. The Eagle foils are available in 790 cm<sup>2</sup>, 890 cm<sup>2</sup>, 990 cm<sup>2</sup>, & 1090cm<sup>2</sup>, providing a good amount of choice. F-ONE recommends the DW210 HM stab which we had here on test, along with the 990 wing. These foils fit both the carbon & aluminium masts, we had the 75cm aluminium on test.

[CLICK OR TAP TO READ MORE](#)





BRAND F-ONE    MODEL ROCKET WING S    YEAR 2022



"THE ROCKET WING S IS A WAVE CHARGING MACHINE."

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TO VISIT THEIR WEBSITE, CLICK HERE



#### AT A GLANCE

F-ONE is 100% committed to wing foiling and its future, you can't deny this when looking at how much new, specific, and outstanding equipment they've released this year. The ROCKET WING S is just that. An addition to their ROCKET WING boards, that has been inspired by their ROCKET SURF prone boards. Without meaning to point out the obvious, 'S' stands for surf, F-ONE has recognised a gap in the market and the enthusiasm amongst wingers to get into the waves. This board fills that gap. They're aimed to reach an intermediate to advanced foiler.

The ROCKET WING S' are narrower and have a little less volume than their ROCKET WING counterparts. The boards feature a concave deck, allowing a closer connection to the foil and ultimately, more control. The hull is a double concave shape with bevelled rails, extending to the tail. The nose of the board is slightly domed, this is designed to bring volume forwards to allow easier take-offs and get back up quickly if the board dives in. The full bamboo construction and double bamboo deck are, like all F-ONE gear, bombproof and highly resistant to knocks & dings.

[CLICK OR TAP TO READ MORE](#)





BRAND CABRINHA

MODEL CODE 5'0

YEAR 2022



"A QUALITY PIECE OF EQUIPMENT THAT WILL HAVE YOU GRINNING FROM EAR TO EAR."

TO VISIT THEIR WEBSITE, CLICK HERE



## AT A GLANCE

On test this issue was the 78L, 5'0 Code. Cabrinha has six sizes available, ranging from 58L to 118L, allowing a good range of choice for all sizes & styles of riders. This lightweight board has stayed at the top of the wingfoiling game & its super-fast progression.

Boasting a bamboo composite construction, carbon stringer, concave deck, lightweight EPS core, foot strap inserts & 12-inch dual track, there are plenty of features to catch your attention. The concave deck is designed to allow a closer connection to the foil itself, while a kicktail with release channels allows for early planing & flight.

Out of the box, the Code felt exceptionally light for its size. The aesthetics are subtle but cool, and it's clear that the build quality is very good. A full EVA deck pad provides cushioning for your feet, allowing strapless riders to move around the board with ease.

## ON THE WATER

I was excited to get the Code on the water as I'd not ridden a board this big for a long time. At 68kg, I'm not heavy, so this board would be a 'light-wind weapon' for me. It didn't disappoint.

CLICK OR TAP TO READ MORE





LIGHTROOM

LEO ETIENNE LIVING LIFE ON THE EDGE AS HE DROPS DOWN THE FACE OF A SIZEABLE WAVE  
PHOTO MATTEO NATIVELLE



*Lightroom*

Shots with no particular place to go this issue,  
feast your eyes!



LIGHTROOM

MATT MAXWELL WITH SOME SERIOUS STEEZ IN LANGEBAAN, SOUTH AFRICA  
PHOTO NICK SPILSBURY



*Lightroom*



LIGHTROOM

QUINN WILSON SHOWING HIS WINGTIP SOME AIR,  
RIDING THE FREEDOM FOIL BOARDS FTW PRO IN VENTURA, CALIFORNIA  
PHOTO SALTY BROS

*Lightroom*



LIGHTROOM



*Lightroom*

WHO NEEDS FOOT STRAPS ANYWAY?  
RIDER JJ SPLAWIK  
PHOTO PETE DAVIES

TONICMAG.COM



LIGHTROOM

GOING FOR A GRAB CARRIES MORE CONSEQUENCE THAN YOU'D THINK!  
RIDER RICKY ZORZI PHOTO ERIC DURAN



*Lightroom*



LIGHTROOM

JASON MILLER, IN THE ZONE  
LOCATION SAN ONOFRE, SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA  
PHOTO SALTY BROS

*Lightroom*



LIGHTROOM

TATIANA GRANT FULLY COMMITTING TO HER TURN AT GUARDRAILS, LAHAINA, MAUI  
PHOTO NATE VOLK



*Lightroom*



Each issue we'll be showcasing some of the most popular movies from our website, as chosen by you with your Facebook likes on the videos! Be sure to like our FB Page by [CLICKING HERE](#) so you can help shape what ends up on these hallowed pages!

# MOVIE NIGHT

## #1 KAI LENNY FOIL SURFING BIG WAVES AT NAZARÉ

99.99% of people wouldn't even imagine being able to surf this gigantic wave. So when Kai Lenny sticks a huge knife under his feet and charges down the line at Nazaré, it's bound to get attention. We'd love to know what speed he is reaching. No wonder it is this issue's no. 1 watch!



[CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO](#)

## #2 WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR NEW ZEALAND SURFING? I MADE IN NEW ZEALAND I EP3

At #2 this issue, the third and final instalment of Made in New Zealand as we ride shotgun with the current generation of Kiwi rippers and learn more about their future in surfing. At 15 minutes, it's a great watch for the big screen. Enjoy!



[CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO](#)

## #3 BIG WAVE SURFING COMPILATION 2022 \* FEAR IS JUST A STATE OF MIND \* PART - 2

What is not to like about an edit dedicated to some of the world's biggest waves ever surfed? Featuring Lucas Chumbo, Kai Lenny, Laird Hamilton, Sebastian Steudtner, Matahi Drollet and MORE, this one's not too miss!



[CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO](#)

## #4 SUNNY SPRING EVENING HYDROFOILING IN NEWQUAY, ENGLAND

At #4 is Newquay charger Tom Earl, you'll catch him in our article in this issue: The Interview. So have a read of that and be sure to watch this clip. The man has some serious skills and makes it look effortless! One more thing, he has only been foiling a year...



[CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO](#)



The dock start opens up so many incredible spots.  
Here's Chris Thorn (@dockstartuk) foiling in the shadow of Yr Wyddfa (Snowdon), Glyderau & Pen Y Pass on Llyn Padarn.  
We just love that reflection, so good!

# READERS GALLERY

Readers Gallery is back! This is your chance to be featured in Tonic Mag, have bragging rights to be famous, AND win a Tonic Mag T-shirt & Hoody of your choice!

Simply upload your photo on IG, using #tonicmag and tag @tonic\_mag. It's as simple as that!

Congrats to this issue's winner Chris Thorn!

[CLICK HERE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN NEXT ISSUE!](#)

## Winner!

Here's what Chris had to say:

It's a picture I've been after for a while. The view up the pass is a classic that has been photographed 1000's of times but I've never seen a foil in the foreground. I've seen the odd wing dabbler on the lake and even a couple of cheeky efoilers (no motors allowed on Padarn). With an excellent launching pontoon, it's a great venue for pump foiling. Another of my missions is to get a sunrise session on Llyn Llydaw with the north face of Snowdon in the background.

**PHOTO** Chris' GoPro on a stick!



A shirtless man with dark hair and a muscular build stands on a white surfboard with green and purple graphics. He is in a swimming pool, with water splashing around the board. The background features a modern building with large windows, lush tropical plants, and a large white patio umbrella. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

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PHOTO JAMES BOULDING  
RIDER THEO DEMANEZ