



SURF'S PRIZE UP: Hamish Pressland (board member), Reef Heazlewood (best up and coming junior) and Terry Landsberg (Windansea Surf Club President). PHOTO: PATRICK WOODS

Nostalgia rules the waves as Moffateers return to headland

SOME of Caloundra's earliest surfers are expected to take to the waves again during next weekend's Pa and Ma Bendall Memorial Surfing Contest at Moffat Headland.

Members of the Moffateers have been invited to participate in a paddle-out on the final day of competition.

The Moffateers was an invitation-only club formed by Pa Bendall in 1966 to promote integrity and good character among surfers. About 45 of the original 50 are still thought to be alive.

Terry Landsberg, president of the Windansea Surf Club, which hosts the annual

contest, said it was the Moffateers who would hit the surf in the lead-up to the finals on the Sunday.

"We've going to have a few of them do a paddle-out and an exhibition as well," Mr Landsberg said. "We really are trying to promote the history and culture of Caloundra and surfing."

The contest, first staged in 1974, is believed to be the second oldest surfing competition in Australia after the Bells Beach Pro and the third in the world after an event on the United States east coast.

About 140 competitors are expected for this year's 40th anniversary event.

Competitors include Mitch

Parkinson, cousin of 2012 world champion Joel Parkinson, surfing's "mad scientist" Wade Goodall, last year's winner Dale Lovelock, and Caloundra's David Scard, who tamed a massive barrel at Fiji's Cloudbreak to be runner-up in the 2011 Bilibong Ride of the Year.

Laura Poncini, who is competing in the world titles junior titles in Ecuador, will fly back the day before to compete.

Mr Landsberg said the contest had retained a strong community atmosphere because it had remained a community event. "I think it's just testament to the spirit in Caloundra."