

# kitesurf

THE NUMBER 1 KITESURF MAG



## MICRONESIA:

AUSSIE FERALS OWN THE SPEWING BEAST

## CAPE VERDE:

THE BOYS OF PONTA PRETA

2007 FREERIDE GROUP TEST

18 PAGES OF KITES AND BOARDS REVIEWED

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HOW TO THROW BUCKETS- BRITS TOUR SA- THE SIX MOST CRITICAL FEMALE RIDERS TODAY





# The Girlie Show

This is not going to be one of those over the top girlie articles. It is not all about women and what an important role we play in the kiteboarding industry.

This is about a selection of extremely talented riders who are competing in their own country and on the world tour circuit, who are pushing themselves harder than ever to achieve their goals.

And they just so happen to be women!

Each and every year the level of women's riding has really improved, but this year is going to see a big change for the women, and especially in the competitions. Back mokes, 3-1-2's and kiteloop handle passes are familiar tricks among the world tour, and at beaches all over the globe, regularly being pulled off by the guys. But since Cindy Messer, who 3 years ago pushed the women's level up to the top bar, by being the first woman to pull an aerial handle pass in competition, the 3-1-2's and S-Mokes are now being performed by the world's top female riders.

And it is not just the Back Moke and Pull-up handle pass variations that we are seeing, these girls are out to prove that they are good enough to be out there and to be given the respect and the recognition that deserve. Julie of Men Inverted Slim Cheese, Kite Loop, Handle controlled Double S-Bends to Blind.

Check us out at a closer look at four years from the PWNA and two from the UK who are forging aspirations for themselves and we should watch out for the year.

Ends is sponsored by: Saloon, Ravelette, West, USH, Reef and CO.



Photo: [unreadable]

Photo: [unreadable]

## THE GIRLIE SHOW

# BRUNA KAJIYA

This Brazilian sensation is one of the most focused riders to come onto the PWFA competition circuit, and it has been said that she was the most improved female rider on the 2008 world tour. With a pure determination to push herself harder and to go beyond what is expected of her as a rider, Bruna has trained hard and has now got some amazing and show stopping tricks up her sleeves for the season. Expect to see her on top of the podiums this year as she has set herself the ultimate goal of becoming world champion!

**NAME:** Bruna Kajiya, [www.brunakajiya.com](http://www.brunakajiya.com)

**AGE:** 20 years old

**BORN:** Sao Paulo, Brazil

**LIVING:** Itabeta, Brazil

**SPONSORS:** Beer Kiteboarding and Maui Magic

**YEARS KITING:** Four and a half

**YEARS COMPETITION:** Three years

**BEST RESULTS:** 1st on the following PWFA World Tour events: Vanzueto 07, Germany 06, Tarta 06 and Brazil 06



### LOCAL

### RIDING

### SPOT:

Pôrta das  
Casas,  
Itabeta,  
Brazil

**FAVOURITE RIDING SPOT:** Caura, Brazil

**FAVOURITE KIT:** All my 'forges' from 5 to 1 1/2. Best bar handles with 23m lines. Maui Magic harness and Lost Cause Boards.

### WHO TAUGHT YOU TO KITEBOARD? (HOW MANY LESSONS DID YOU HAVE?)

I learned with my friends and I wouldn't call my first experience kiting as a lesson/aha. They pretty much threw me on the water with a super old kite. 10 minutes before a massive squall came saying "if you pull the red side you go left and the blue one right... have fun!" (his tagged for 2 hrs till I manage to get close to the beach and my friend was there to get my kite. But I loved it! I wanted to go back on the water right away but they wouldn't let me. I had no idea how dangerous that was...

### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST BIT OF EQUIPMENT?

It was a Nash ARII or something like that and Nash Flash board. We had so much fun together!

### WHY DID YOU WANT TO START KITEBOARDING?

I use to surf with my friends so they all started to kite and tell me I should try. Since the kiting spot was right across the road from my school it was pretty easy to get hooked on it. I use to see the colourful kites from my classroom window and sneak out on the breaks to go to the beach and watch people riding.

### WHAT MADE YOU HAVE A GO AT COMPETITION?

My mum is the main reason I'm competing. I lived in Maui after high school and there I was studying and kiting, without really knowing I got good at it and when I came back to Brazil I was pretty bummed and was about to go to University, so my mo said no! She said I had my whole life to study and that I should go and do

what I love. So she told me to go and try out one competition. It worked out good and I finished 4th on my first event. From there on I never stopped...

### HAVE YOU ENTERED ANY OTHER COMPETITIONS FOR SPORTS?

I use to swim lots when I was small and competed many years on that. I started competing when I was 5 years old and stopped when I was 14. Swimming played a big roll in my life.

### WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT COMPETING?

I like to test myself at the time and competing is all about that, having to handle the pressure, being nervous and being able to do your best under any conditions.

### ARE YOU VERY COMPETITIVE? IS WINNING IMPORTANT TO YOU?

I'm a competitive person but not very. I like the competition to be something healthy and fun. I hate when people start to go crazy about it and have negative attitude towards other competitors or just think about the money they will get. I mean, I like to win, who doesn't? But I'm aware that I learn lots more when I lose.

### SECOND OVERALL LAST YEAR, ARE YOU GOING FOR THAT HARBOR ONE SPOT?

For sure, I would like to be chilling at home with my family with the World Champion Cup in my hands!

### WHO ARE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

I get inspired by those around me, special people I meet through life.

### WHO DO YOU LIKE TO GO KITING WITH?

My friends, nothing better than to have a perfect spot to go to with only your friends, and to have a good laugh. Those are the moments when I enjoy kiting the most.





## GISELA PULIDO

At the tender age of 13, it is quiet hard to believe that this young Spanish girl is the three times KPWT women's world champion. Not only that, she is now trying her hand at the PRKA world tour and will settle for no less than the number one title. Gisela, or to her friends Gigi, rides hard and puts in endless hours on the water, but it is all paying off as she is hot on the heels of that top podium spot.

**NAME:** Gisela Pulido Bonell [www.giselapulido.com](http://www.giselapulido.com)

**AGE:** 13

**BORN:** Spain

**CLING:** Reef, south of Spain

**SPONSORS:** Movistar, Red Bull, Adesco, and VIK, Autopay, Dakine, Rip Curl and Shapers.

**YEARS KITING:** Four and a half

**YEARS COMPETING:** Three

**BEST RESULTS:** KPWT world champion 2004, 2005, and 2006; Kiteboarding 2006 PRKA 1st, Vinowest 2007 PRKA 2nd.

**LOCAL RIDING SPOT:** Rio de Janeiro in Cabo, Spain

**FAVORITE KIT:** Dakine 4.4, Rip Curl 4.0 and Shapers 3.6

**HOW DID YOU GET INTO KITEBOARDING?**

My father taught me how to surf.

**YOUR FIRST BIT OF KIT?**

Wings, control bar connected to lines, and my father's wetsuit.

### WHAT IS IT THAT YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT KITEBOARDING?

I like to surf with the kite but what I like the most is to do freestyle with the boys from Tarrifa (Awaro, Cesar and Malton) and to show that the girls can do good handle passes with power.

### HOW DID IT FEEL TO WIN THE KPWT FOR THE THIRD TIME?

I was very very happy! Julie Simsar is a very good competitor, and all year was very exciting.

### WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THIS YEAR?

I first to get good grades at school and then to compete in all the PRKA events that I can. I am going to be really busy this year so I'll just do the PRKA.

### IS IT HARD FOR YOU TO COMBINE SCHOOL WITH COMPETING ON THE PRKA WORLD TOUR?

It is very difficult but I still have a lot of time. I'm doing very happy traveling to compete.

### WHO IS YOUR INSPIRATION?

Ruben Tubert, Andre Guedes, Cesar, Parisa and the guys in general.

### HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE AMONGST RIDERS WHO ARE MUCH OLDER THAN YOU?

I feel good about it. I can go to the after parties and dance and I can play around when there is no race. Julie and Kirsten are older but Carolina is only 16 and that is not far from my own age.

### WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON AN AGE LIMIT FOR THE COMPETITIONS?

I feel very confident and free because my coach, my friends give me a lot of help and motivation. But I agree



there should be categories. A youth that comes to compete is not going to get in or qualify. If a youth is classified he does so because there is a level set out for them. If that rider has a juggy good line they should be allowed to compete. Many people think that it is not good to compare so young, because of problems of growth and such like. I make the best jumps. I studied in Colorado from the PG Skaters, and the center of kiteboarding with training of Red Bull and I wanted to be free and healthy to compete.

The youth are all compete according to their level in all sports. In sports that are not very physical there are a number of a very young age. Never before to 13 years old and it is world champion, he is a very young when he started to compete.

## HELEN THOMPSON

A feisty young thing with heaps of gel up and go, Helen is keen to take out on the water, and since finding her new passion, the events she is most keen to get out there. Helen tells Tree and you of when she comes from: absolutely when it comes to night!

The amateur ladies BKSA 2006 Champion, Helen is now currently in the BKSA Pro Ladies feet, and aimed to have a go at the International circuit hoping to enter some of the world tour wave events.

**NAME:** Helen Thompson

**AGE:** 21

**BORN:** Scotland

**LIVING:** Isle of Tiree

**SPONSORS:** Kite4u website, North Kiteboarding, Wild Diamond, Myaast

**YEARS KITING:** Three

**YEARS COMPETING:** Eight months

**RESULTS:** 1st place BKSA Amateur Women Troon August 2006, 1st place BKSA Amateur Women Ireland 2006, Overall BKSA 2006 Ladies Amateur Champion, 4th place women Longboard down wind Irish, Jan 2007, 1st place women's Strava Base SA 2007, 3rd place pro ladies BKSA march 2007

**LOCAL RIDING SPOT:** anywhere on Tiree

**FAVOURITE KITE:** North-race 7m in waves is a demon, and my new Kite out.

**DID YOU HAVE LESSONS AND HOW DID YOU GET INTO KITEBOARDING?**

I was windsurfing since I was eight years old, and grew up watching some of the guys dragging themselves up

the beach in Tiree with the first kites that came out. I was really interested in giving it a go. My fella got me Dugging lessons for my birthday one year, but it really wasn't as addictive as the kitesurfing I had seen. I was desperate for a lesson, but I was still too young. So I got it mounted (2005) and messaged about for a while. Then the friend people gave me a board and a kite and some pointers and that was me hooked.

**WHO TAUGHT YOU?**

Ricnie and basically every kitesurfer on Tiree helped me to learn.

**WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST BIT OF KIT?**

I bought a 10m Anish Flow and 140 compact as a beginner pack with my Post Office savings account.

**HAVE YOU DONE ANY OTHER SPORTS COMPETITIVELY?**

Not really, just stuff through school. I was doing every sport possible.

**AFTER WINNING THE AMATEUR LADIES LAST YEAR, HOW DID YOU FEEL GOING INTO THE PRO FLEET AT WATERGATE THIS SPRING?**

Apart from being absolutely freezing I was really nervous I'm still learning how the comps work what the flags actually mean and all the tactics involved in competing. My first heat was with Jo and Orlays. I didn't really know what was going on. The conditions were shit and my kite was either falling out of the sky or fully powered. Great fun though.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THIS YEAR? WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?**

This year should be great I'm really enjoying the comps. I want to get to as many events as possible. My plans are very much based on how much financial support I get but I would love to do the wave event in Portugal for the KSWT and hopefully one in France. As for tips, I quite fancy The Gorge, windy steady.

**YOU HAVE SPENT SOME TIME IN SOUTH AFRICA, HOW DOES THE KITEBOARDING SCENE THERE COMPARE WITH THE UK?**

Yes I have spent some two winters in South Africa and I absolutely love it.

For being it is incredible, waves or flat. Two aspects that are both really different but offer some of the best kitesurfing conditions in the world. The scene is great, too. Everyone is friendly and the kite community has a great vibe.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE RIDING SPOT?**

At the moment it has to be the lagoon end of Gull Bay on Tiree for practising on flat water.

**WHAT TRICKS ARE YOU WORKING ON AT THE MOMENT?**

Kite loop handle pass, very painful, not quite getting it yet.

**WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE YOURSELF IN SIX MONTHS TIME?**

Not in hospital. I want to be 1st in the BKSA and I want to be able to go to more competitions in the world.





Spoke Van Der Linden

## JALOU LANGEREE

Someone with a real passion for this sport, Jalo is always so keen to go kitesurfing no matter what the weather or the conditions, and is usually the first one out there. I have never met someone quite so committed. Jalo will go to school, cycle home to pick up her kitesurfing gear and then cycle a good few miles to the beach so she can get in a couple of hours on the water. For three years running she has claimed the Dutch Championship title and shows no sign of letting up anytime soon.

**NAME:** Jalo Langeree [www.ploutingerie.com](http://www.ploutingerie.com)

**AGE:** 17

**BORN:** Netherlands

**LIVING:** Noordwijk, Holland

**SPONSORS:** Nash, O'Neil, USA Eyewear, Malibonita, Like Aole

**YEARS KITING:** Five

**YEARS COMPETING:** This year will be the 3rd

**RESULTS:** Dutch champion 2005, 2006 and 2007, plus Belgium 2nd

**LOCAL RIDING SPOT:** Noordwijk

**FAVOURITE KIT:** Nash/Neil's both 2007

**YOU GOT INTO KITESURFING VERY YOUNG.**

**WHEN DID YOU HAVE YOUR FIRST LESSON?**

After flying kites on the wind for quite a long time, my brother Kevin gave me my first kitesurfing lesson using his equipment when I was 12.

**YOU STARTED OFF LAST YEAR WITH AN AWESOME SECOND PLACE IN BELGIUM. HOW DID THAT FEEL?**

That was the nicest feeling I ever had. I spent seven weeks in South Africa with the whole family. The conditions in SA are hardcore, the wind is strong and the waves are big. I really liked that a lot. I think the training sessions in SA really helped me out in Belgium. I couldn't believe it. I made it all the way to the final and had to battle against Kristin Bovee. She kicked my ass but it didn't bother me. I was so happy with my second place!

**YOU HAVE BEEN PRETTY BUSY THE LAST FEW MONTHS: SOUTH AFRICA, EGYPT, MAUI. HOW DO YOU MANAGE THIS AND STILL FIND TIME FOR SCHOOL?**

It's pretty hard. I'm really busy at school with exams and an finishing end of May. School didn't even give me permission for the Nash photo shoot in Maui. I can't understand it. My marks are pretty good and this is all for my future. Why don't they support me?

**YOU ARE A STRONG RIDER AND VERY DETERMINED TO BE DOING THE WORLD TOUR, BUT I KNOW IT'S IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO FINISH SCHOOL. WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE YEAR?**

I would like to do the whole PROA, but I will miss Venezuela and Italy because of exams. I will try to become Dutch Champion again in 2008. At the end of the season I would like to go to South Africa again. I am thinking of staying there for a couple of months. I love South Africa. There is so much to do and the riding is awesome.

**YOUR BROTHER (KEVIN) IS OFF AT THE EVENTS WITH YOUR. HOW DOES IT HELP HAVING A VERY SUPPORTIVE FAMILY?**



For sure my parents and brother are really supporting me. My parents are always very stressing when the PROA starts and Kevin and I are somewhere around the world for the tour. My mum will turn on the computer and will look away five minutes for a new results and updates. Kevin always tries to give me a pep talk before my heats starts, he will say "come on Lou, you can do it". He ha-ha that always makes me laugh.

**WHAT TRICKS ARE YOU WORKING ON AT THE MOMENT?**

I just came back from the photo shoot in Maui. I was working on blind judges, the second time I tried I grabbed the bar but didn't land it yet. I will keep working on that trick.

**WHERE IS YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE TO RIDE?**

Home spot in Holland and Big Bay in South Africa.

**WHO INSPIRES YOU TO DO BETT?**

The girls, I look to Kristin, she is so young and she has one of the best. I'm sure she is going to do really well on the PROA this year. Kristin and Burns are pushing the girls to a higher level that is what. If I just see a movie of girls tapping on how good that is feeling to start learning new tricks.



## KAROLINA WINKOWSKA

On the beach she can be quiet and fairly shy, keeping herself to herself, but out on the water she excels herself and really opens up with an explosive style, and shows that she is out there riding along with the best of them. Getting snapped up by Nash International this year is a sure sign that this girl is definitely one to be watched!

**NAME:** Karolina Winkowska

**AGE:** 16

**BORN:** Poland

**LIVING:** Poland

**SPONSORS:** Nash, Rony

**YEARS KITING:** Three

**YEARS COMPETING:** One

**BEST RESULTS:** Three 3rd places on the PWRA with an overall ranking of 6th in 2006

**FAVOURITE RIDING SPOT:** Bristol

**FAVOURITE KIT:** 6m Nash Torch 3

### HOW DID IT ALL BEGIN?

I was sitting on the beach a lot watching and not doing very much. So then my brother taught me how to kiteboard as he had been doing it for a while. I don't remember how many lessons I've had but not too many.

### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST BIT OF KIT?

Nash V4 6m

### HAVE YOU ENTERED ANY COMPETITIONS FOR OTHER SPORTS?

I was competing in snowboarding and ski and sailing regattas in an Optimist before.

### WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT COMPETING?

Actually I really don't like it so much. But I like to visit new places meet different people and cultures.

### IT WILL BE YOUR SECOND YEAR ON THE WORLD TOUR. WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THIS YEAR?

I would like to see myself on the highest step of the podium on the PWRA.

### WHO ARE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

My brother and all good kiting girls.

### WHO DO YOU LIKE TO GO KITING WITH?

My best friends!





## VICTORIA HEATHER

Having not been kitesurfing for very long, Vicki is showing real potential. Her wakeboarding background seems to be rubbing off on her riding, as she likes to keep things powered with her favourite move being the downloop take. In her first year competing Vicki placed an excellent 3rd place overall in the Pro Ladies BRSA. Next year and now that she is back home from South Africa and recovering from a foot injury she is sure to be back in her game and out for that championship title.

**NAME:** Victoria Heather [www.victoriaheather.com](http://www.victoriaheather.com)

**AGE:** 25

**BORN:** West Sussex

**LIVING:** Norfolk

**SPONSORS:** Aquatica, Aquatic Kitesurfing, Shimano

**YEARS RIDING:** Two and a half

**YEARS COMPETING:** One

**BEST RESULTS:** 3rd and 2nd in Aquatica BRSA 2008, BRSA pro ladies overall 3rd

**LOCAL RIDING SPOT:** Hunstanton and Breckwater

**FAVOURITE RIDING SPOT:** Home beach

**FAVOURITE KITE:** 2007 SingShot kites and 600 Noble Kiteboard

**WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST BIT OF KITE?** Anush To

**WHY DID YOU START KITESURFING?**

I'd seen people kitesurfing down at the beach and already loved wakeboarding so I thought I'd give it a go. So I got my boyfriend to teach me and from then on I was hooked.

**WHAT MADE YOU HAVE A GO AT COMPETITION?**

After reading about the women's competition circuit I decided the only way to really find out what the scene was like and what kind of gear was needed would be to take part. I started out in the Spain competition at the Aquatica pro ladies event.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT COMPETITION?**

I like the challenge and thrill of trying to land the best and most powerful tricks I can in a timed heat.

**WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE SEE YOURSELF IN SIX MONTHS TIME?**

I had to change my plans for this year because of an injury but I'd really like to be back to full fitness and riding some more 'technical' kitesurfing to see.

**WHO ARE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?**

The international riders who are really pushing the sport to another level.

