

CURRICULUM VITAE OF GLEN THOMPSON

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Glen Thompson
D.O.B.: 5 July 1969
Location: Cape Town, South Africa
Physical Address: 24 Chestnut Ridge, Parade Ring Road, Royal Ascot, Milnerton, Cape Town, 7441
Postal Address: PO Box 32216, Camps Bay, 8040
Highest Qualifications: PhD, Stellenbosch University, 2015
Sporting interests: Surfing, Stand-Up Paddle Boarding, Bodysurfing
Other Interests: Sports Development, Ocean Activism.
Blog: <http://writingsurfinghistory.org.za>
Email: beachstudies@gmail.com

RECENT ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Since completing my doctoral studies in October 2014, and graduating in March 2015, I have maintained links with the History Department at Stellenbosch University and scholars in my field of study. As a public intellectual I have continued working on my research area focused on race, gender, culture and consumption in the history of South Africa surfing, presented papers at conferences, and worked on journal articles or book chapters.

I am currently working on a book manuscript based on my PhD research. UCT Press has offered me a contract, the details of which are in negotiation, and I am due to submit the book manuscript in late 2016 for publication in late 2017.

Recent academic publications and engagement, work in progress, and current research projects (2014 – present):

PhD Thesis

“Surfing, gender and politics: identity and society in the history of South African surfing culture in the twentieth-century,” unpublished PhD thesis, History, Stellenbosch University, 2015.

Book Projects

Imagining the Waves: A History of Surfing in South Africa, 1948—2014, book manuscript in preparation for UCT Press.

Changing Beach Cultures in Southern Africa: Texts and Contexts, a book project in collaboration with Meg Samuelson and Paul Weinberg.

Art Installation

Art installation: “Fragments of Surfing Pasts,” *Beyond the Beach Exhibition*, curated by Paul Weinberg, Casa Labia Gallery, 21 September - 21 October 2014.

Journal Articles

“Review Essay: Disturbed Waters: New Currents in the History of Water Sport,” *Radical History Review*, 125 (Spring 2016, forthcoming).

“Out of sight’: Hawaiians, honorary whites and professional surfing in South Africa, 1972—1989”, *The International Journal of the History of Sport* (forthcoming).

Chapters in Books

“Pushing under the whitewash: Revisiting the making of South Africa’s surfing Sixties” in Dexter Hough-Snee and Alexander Eastman (eds), *The Critical Surf Studies Reader*, (forthcoming in Duke University Press).

“Changing Surfer Girls in post-apartheid South Africa” in lisahunter (ed), *Surfing, Sex, Genders, and Sexualities*, (forthcoming in Routledge).

“Writing surfing history” in John Nauright (ed), *The Routledge Handbook of Global Sports*, (forthcoming in Routledge).

Conference/Symposium/Colloquium

“Consuming the endless summer: Changing surfing lifestyles, whiteness and pursuit of youthful leisure at the South African beach, 1965 – 1979,” Paper for the HUMA Symposium on ‘Conspicuous Consumption in Africa’ at the University of Cape Town, 3-6 December 2014.

“Reconfiguring the historiography of ‘kool’”: Change, consumption and the cultural politics of surfing at the South African beach, 1987 – 1996,” Paper for the Panel on *Littoral Histories: Configurations, Contestations and Consumption at the Beach* at the 25th Biennial Conference of the Southern African Historical Society, Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, 3 July 2015.

"Historicising Liquid Girls: Changing surfing femininities in postapartheid South Africa," paper presented at the "Surfing Social Hui: Re-imagining the Surfer Identity" conference hosted by the University of Waikato held in Solscape, Raglan, New Zealand, 10-12 February 2016.

Paper accepted: “Surfies, Freaks and Lefties: (Alter)nation, Displacement and the ‘Great Refusal’ during ‘Apartheid’s Golden Age’” for the Colloquium *‘Rethinking “Apartheid’s Golden Age”: South Africa, c1966-1979’*, University of Pretoria, 20 June 2016.

Public Lectures

Public talk: “What surf magazines can tell us about False Bay’s surfing past,” #ilovefalsebay Speaker Evening hosted by Save Our Seas Foundation, Muizenberg, Cape Town, 7 September 2015.

Lecture series: “Making Waves: A Socio-Cultural History of South African Surfing,” UCT Summer School, 20-22 January 2016.

Media interest in my academic work (2013 – 2015)

Post-Phd surf media interview: “Tube Doctor,” Wavescape.co.za, 18 May 2015.

Post-Phd television interview: “Surfer with a PhD,” *Expresso TV Show*, SABC3, 21 April 2015.

Post-Phd newspaper profile: “Dr Dude rides waves of SA’s surfing history,” *Sunday Times*, 5 April 2015.

Profiled as a historian: Leon-Ben Lamprecht, “See, ‘surf’ end die impak van segregasie“, *By*, 17 August 2013. (This was an insert in the Saturday edition of *Die Burger* newspaper).

WORK EXPERIENCE

I have worked in the academic, government and commercial sectors. My main areas of work have been as a researcher or consulting with an applied research related service.

- 2014 – present Compliance Manager, BulkSMS.com
Roles: regulatory and commercial compliance and research.
- 2006 – 2014. Reflexivity Research
Service: consulting services (research, marketing, compliance) to a mobile messaging provider.
- 2007 – 2009. Guest Lecturer, History Department, Stellenbosch University
Role: Teaching twentieth century global history course to third year undergraduates.
- 2005 – 2006. Managing Director, SMS Research Services
Service: provider of technology-aided research services.
- 2004 – 2006. Managing Partner, Thompson Research Services
Service: socio-economic research consultancy.
2004. Managing Director and co-founder, Event Research International
Service: setting up an event tourism research consultancy.
- 2002 – 2003. Director and co-founder, Infonomics South Africa
Service: socio-economic research consultancy focusing on ICT and tourism sectors.
- 2001 – 2002. Business Development Manager, Moneta Clearing Corporation
Role: start-up IT firm.
- 2001 – 2002. Consultant
Service: consulting (marketing and research) to Ideosphere, a web development agency.
2000. Director (Research), T-Minus One
Service: e-commerce strategy consulting firm.
- 1999 – 2000. Researcher, USKO E-Commerce
Service: strategy and IT development firm.
- 1998 – 1999. Cato Manor Researcher, Commission on Restitution of Land Rights: KwaZulu Natal
Role: socio-legal and historical land claims research.
1997. Part-Time Lecturer, Economic History Department, University of KwaZulu Natal, Durban Campus (then known as the University of Natal, Durban)
Role: taught a second and third year undergraduate lecture course on southern African economic history in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
- 1996 – 1997. Junior Lecturer, History Department, University of KwaZulu Natal, Westville Campus (then known as the University of Durban-Westville)
Role: taught first, second and third year undergraduate lecture courses on southern African history in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and, jointly with the Anthropology Department, a post-graduate (honours year) module on museum and heritage studies.

MEMBERSHIPS AND VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS

Academic

- 2006 – present Southern African Historical Society.
- 2002 – present Historians Against the War, a coalition of academic historians.

Civil Society/Non-Profits

- 2015 – present Non-Executive Direction: Better Tourism Africa
- 2013 – present Trustee: Waves for Change
- 2008 – present Non-Executive Director and founding member: Surfing Heritage South Africa (SHSA).
- 2003 – present Internet Society of South Africa (ISOC-ZA). In 2007 held portfolios of Treasurer and part of the Policy and Mobile Internet Working Group. A voluntary civil society association advocating for Internet users.

Sporting Associations

- 2015 – present Environmental Officer: Stand-Up Paddling South Africa (SUPSA). National body governing Stand-Up Paddleboarding. In 2010 was co-founder of association, held the portfolio of Vice-President (2010 – 2011), held the position of Treasurer (2012 – 2013).
- 2013 – present Co-founder and Secretary: Earthwave Tandem Surfing Club.
- 2009 – present Southern Cape Longboard Association (SCLBA). Represented the region in the national longboard championships in the Grandmasters and Senior Men's divisions.

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2015 South African Stand up Paddle Board (SUP) Surfing Legends Champion

ACADEMIC RESEARCH OUTPUT (to 2014)

Published Journal Articles/Book Chapters

“*Otelo Burning* and Zulu Surfing Histories,” *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, Vol. 26, No. 3, 2014.

With Meg Samuelson, “Contemporary Conversations: *Otelo Burning*: Introduction,” *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, Vol. 26, No. 3, 2014.

With Meg Samuelson, “Interview with Sara Blecher and Sihle Xaba: the making and meanings of *Otelo Burning*,” *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, Vol. 26, No. 3, 2014.

“Reimagining Surf City: surfing and the making of the post-apartheid beach in South Africa,” *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, Vol. 28, No. 15, 2011.

“‘Certain political considerations’: South African competitive surfing during the international sports boycott” in Scarlett Cornelissen and Albert Grundlingh (eds), *Sport Past and Present in South Africa: (Trans)forming the Nation*. London and New York: Routledge, 2011.

“‘Certain political considerations’: South African competitive surfing during the international sports boycott,” *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, Vol. 28, No. 1, 2011.

"Judging Surf Culture: The Making of a White Exemplar Masculinity during the 1966 Natal and South African Surfing Championships", *Journal of Natal and Zulu History*, Vol. 26. 2008.

"Religions in Southern Africa" in P. Prodder and D. Johnson (eds), *A Historical Companion to Postcolonial Literature in English*, (Edinburgh University Press, 2005).

"Transported Away": The spirituality and piety of charismatic Christianity in South Africa (1976 – 1994)," *Journal of Theology in Southern Africa*, Vol. 118, March 2004.

"Making Waves, Making Men: The Emergence of a Professional Surfing Masculinity in South Africa during the late 1970s," in R. Morrell (ed.) *Changing Men in Southern Africa* (Zed Books and University of Natal Press), 2001.

"Tripping on Jesus": the social dynamics and psychedelic religiosity of the Invisible Church in Durban, 1973 – 1983. *Kleio*, Vol. XXX, 1998.

"Charismatic Christianity and Development? The case of the failure of the Kwananda Community Trust in Durban." *Studia Historiae Ecclesiasticae*, Vol. XXIV, No.1, June 1998.

"Ministering to the Oppressed? Change and the spiritual economy of the faith movement in Durban during the late twentieth-century." *Journal of Natal and Zululand History*, Vol. 17, 1997.

"Charismatic Christianity and the Political, or the Spiritual Economy of "Signs" in South Africa." *M2M*, a Christian Worldview Network magazine, vol.21, December 1997.

"In my name they shall cast out devils': Identity, power and faith within some Independent Charismatic Churches in South Africa during the 1980s and early 1990s." *Nomina Africana*, Vol. 9, No. 2, October 1995.

Conferences Papers

"Transforming Surfer Boys: A Cultural History of Zulu Surfers in South Africa, 1965 to 2013," Paper in the panel on *Conflict and Leisure* at the Historical Association of South Africa (HASA) Biennial Conference in Durban on Friday, 27 June 2014.

"From Femlins to Saltwater Girls: Sport, Lifestyle and Femininities in South African Surfing Culture, c.1965 to the present", Paper for the 24th Biennial Conference of the Southern African Historical Society, University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana, 27-29 June 2013.

Transforming Surfer Boys: Competing Masculinities and Race Trouble in the Making of a South African Surfing Imaginary at the Post-apartheid Beach", Paper for the *Work/Force: South African Masculinities in the Media* Conference held at Stellenbosch University, 13-14 September 2012.

"California Dreaming: Surfing Culture, the Sixties and the Displacement of Identity in South Africa", Paper for the 23rd Biennial Conference of the Southern African Historical Society, University of KwaZulu Natal, Howard College Campus, Durban, South Africa, 26-29 June 2011.

"A surf riding contest is basically a matter of opinion': Beach Apartheid, Gender and the Emergence of Competitive Surfing in South Africa in the 1960s and 1970s. Paper for the *Sport History and Sport Studies in Southern Africa International Conference*, University of Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch, South Africa, 30 June – 1 July 2008.

"Tripping on Jesus: the social dynamics and psychedelic religiosity of the Invisible Church in Durban, c.1973 to c.1983." Paper for the 16th Biennial Conference of the South African Historical Society on *Land, Violence and Social Problems in the History of Southern Africa*, University of Pretoria, 6th - 9th July 1997.

"Making Waves, Making Men: The Emergence of Competitive Surfing and the Construction of Masculine Identities in South African Surfing, c.1950 to 1970s." Paper for the Colloquium on Masculinities in Southern Africa, University of Natal, Durban, 2nd – 4th July 1997.

“Hawaiian Winters” and “Bay Boys”: Representations of Hawaii, Men and Politics in a South African Surfing Magazine, *Zigzag*, 1977 – 1980.’ Paper for the Second CSSALL Interdisciplinary Conference on *Body, identity, Sub-Cultures and Repression in Texts from Africa*, University of Durban-Westville, 25th – 27th September 1997.

“Hawaiian Winters” and “Bay Boys”: Representations of Hawaii, Men and Politics in a South African Surfing Magazine, *Zigzag*, 1977 – 1980.’ Paper for the session *Surfin’ Safaris: Race, Gender and Narratives of Imperialism in Surf Culture* at the First International and Eleventh MELUS Conference on *Multi-Ethnic Literatures Across the Americas and the Pacific: Exchanges, Contestations, and Alliances*, Honolulu, Hawaii, 18th – 20th April 1997.

“The Implicit Meaning of Names of Charismatic Churches.” Paper for the 9th Congress of the Names Society of Southern Africa, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, 25th – 27th September 1996.

“How did you then come to pastor a charismatic church?” Elite Oral Discourse, Positionality, and the Writing of a History of the Independent Charismatic Churches in Durban, South Africa.” Paper for the conference on *The Future of the past: The Production of Knowledge in a Changing South Africa*, University of the Western cape, 10th – 12th July 1996.

“Ministering to the Oppressed: The Independent Charismatic Churches in Durban during the early 1980s.” Paper for the Second Biennial International Conference of the African Studies Association of South Africa on *Postmodernism in Africa*, University of Port Elizabeth, 5th – 8th July 1995.

Seminar/Workshop/Panel Presentations

“From Femlins to Saltwater Girls: Surfer Girls and Lifestyle Sport Consumption in South African surfing magazines, 1965 – present,” Paper for the seminar at the Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA) at the University of Cape on Thursday, 28 August 2014.

“Framing the Beach” panel discussion with Paul Weinberg, Glen Thompson and Meg Samuelson hosted by the Africa, Reading, Humanities (English Department) and Huma, University of Cape Town, 30 September 2014.

“From Femlins to Saltwater Girls: Sport, Lifestyle and Femininities in South African Surfing Culture, c.1965 to the present”, Paper for the Stellenbosch History Department Seminar Series on Wednesday, 24 April 2013.

“South African Competitive Surfing during the International Sports Boycott against Apartheid”. Lunchtime Soapbox Talk Series at Idasa’s Cape Town Democracy Centre, June 10, 2010.

“South African Surfing during the International Sports Boycott”. History Seminar Series, Department of History, Stellenbosch University, April 13, 2010.

“The Responsibilities of Restitution Research: The case of Ridgeview Quarry (Cato Manor).” Paper for the History and African Studies Seminar Series, University of Natal, Durban, 27th October 1999.

“A Local Cultural Museum: Timewarp Surfing Museum.” Paper for the South African Museums Association Humanities Workshop on *Local Museums, Ethnicity and Cultural Awareness*. Kwa Muhle Museum, Durban. 22nd and 23rd September 1997.

“Charismatic Churches in Durban: Beginnings, Creeds, Practice.” Paper for the Kwa Muhle Lecture Series on *Encounters at the Round Table* (Religion in KwaZulu Natal), Kwa Muhle Museum, Durban, 7th and 8th April 1995.

“Why is history re-written from time to time?” Paper for the University of Natal, Durban Historical Society, 16th September 1994.

Unpublished Articles:

“From the water to the web’: Surfing, Identity, and the New Media in South Africa,” 2003.

Theses:

"Ministering to the Oppressed: Change, Power and Faith in some of the Independent Charismatic Churches in Durban during the 1980s." MA Thesis (History), University of Natal, Durban (1995).

The Charismatic Movement in Durban, c.1979 to 1992, with special reference to the Highway Christian Community." BA (Hons) Thesis (History), University of Natal, Durban (1993).

Published Book Reviews

Review of *Foucault and the Writing of History* (1994) in *Journal of Natal and Zululand History*, vol. XV, 1994/1995.

"Reflecting on the 'Toronto Blessing'." Review of *The Toronto Blessing – Or Is It?* (1995) in *M2M*, the Christian Worldview Network magazine, vol.16, July 1996.

Other Published Writings related to area of study (Magazines/Newspapers)

"Riding the waves of change", *Cape Times*, 30 August 2013.

"Ways of Seeing the Surfboard-As-Art", Wavescape Art Board Catalogue 2012, December 2012. (An essay on the cultural significations of the surfboard as an object of art).

"Coenaesthetic Impressions (Review of the 2009 Wavescapes Surf Art Exhibition)", *Centre for Comic, Illustrative and Book Arts* (CCIBA) website, Stellenbosch University, 28 January 2010.

"Will the Real Surfer Girl Please Stand Up?" *Gust Magazine*, Issue 30, March/April 2010.

Letter to Editor: "Babes (and Men) and the Gospel of Boarding." *Blunt*, Vol. 3, No. 3, 1999.

"Timewarp Surfing Museum," *Zigzag*, Vol. 21, No.4, July/August 1997.

"History helps to get the record straight," *Natal Mercury*, 5th June 1996.

Television Series/Film

On history of surfing in South Africa in "Episode 8: Noetzie to Jeffreys Bay" of *Shoreline*. Dir. Sanet Olivier, Homebrew Films/SABC2, 2009. (TV documentary/DVD Box set).

Juror for the Wavescape Surf Film Festival, 2012 - 2015.

Public Talks

"Paddle Action", Slide Night Talk for the Wavescape Surf Film Festival, Two Oceans Aquarium, 11 December 2013.

Conversation with Andy Mason, Launch of his graphic novel *The Legends of Blue Mamba* during the Comic Fest at the Open Book Festival, 8 September 2013.

CREATIVE AND JOURNALISTIC WRITING OUTPUT

Creative Writings/Projects

Txt Me: A Reading Filmed with a Cellphone. Dir. Abigail Florence. Written and Produced by Glen Thompson and Naren Sewpaul, 2008.

With Naren Sewpaul. *Txt Me – A Cell Phone Affair*. A stage production that opened at the Fringe Theatre at the National Arts Festival (Grahamstown, South Africa) in June 2006.

Various oceanic poems published on my [blog](#).

Selected Surf Journalistic Writings

"Fun in the Sun at the Off The Hoek SUP Classic", SUPHQ.com, 29 April 2011.

"SUPs stand out at the 2010 WP Champs", SUPHQ.com, 30 August 2010.

"Curios Reflections on the Kakgat Classic", Wavescape, June 28, 2010.

"In the Ghost Ship's Shadow", Wavescape, 1 September 2010.

"Tears Flow as Ballies Reunite", Wavescape, March 21, 2010.

"Dining Out Mentawai Style", Wavescape, August 31, 2009.

"Confessions of a Dangler", Wavescape, September 2008.

Interviews

By Jeremy Maggs, SAfm on using new technology (PDA's) for consumer research during festivals and events, March 2005.

By Ross Frylinck, Wavescape.co.za on surfing and skin cancer, August 2007.

REFERENCES

Professor Albert Grundlingh, History, Stellenbosch University
Tel: +27-21-808 2178
Email: amgrund@sun.ac.za

Professor David Johnson, English, Open University
Tel: +44 1908 652092
Email: d.w.johnson@open.ac.uk