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# Home premiere for big wave flick

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Sam Worthington didn't make it for the Australian premiere of the keenly anticipated surf flick *Drift*, but there was still plenty of glamour last night on the red carpet at Yallingup's Caves House.

The movie's leading men Myles Pollard, Xavier Samuel and Aaron Glenane headed the filmmaking ranks, while surfing legends Taj Burrow, Mark Occhilupo, John Shimooka and Mark Richards added big-wave credibility.

A 1300-strong crowd packed the lush gardens of the art deco hotel, making it WA's biggest movie premiere.

The unveiling of *Drift* in the area in which it was shot in 2011 came with both exhilaration and relief for co-producer Pollard, who spent years struggling to finance the \$11 million movie only to encounter some of the worst weather in memory.

"It was always a huge risk to shoot in winter in Margaret River and put our lead actors in the water," Pollard said ahead of last night's premiere.

"It would have been a million dollars cheaper to shoot in Sydney but we had a lot of political and community goodwill that enabled us to bring the project here.

"So it was always my priority from day one to premiere the movie in WA."

*Drift* tells of the early days of the global surf industry in the late 1960s and 70s, with Margaret River standing in for a

number of locations in Australia.

Pollard and Samuel play brothers who parlay their passion for surfing into a business combining sport, fashion and lifestyle. Worthington plays a filmmaker documenting the phenomenon.

*Drift* opens in Australia on May 2.

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