



# Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

(Established 29<sup>th</sup> November 1978)



# NEWSLETTER

(Newsletter # October 2020)

President: Peter Beauchamp; Secretary: Adam Day; Committee Members: Paul Cameron and Mark Rogers  
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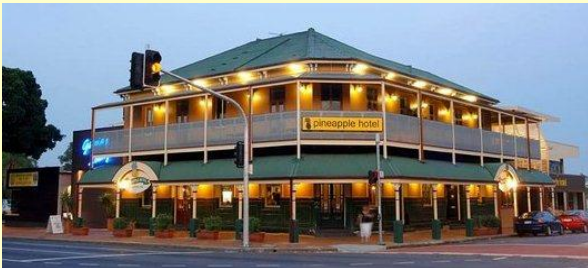
## “A great occasion not to be missed!”

### ‘Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association’ Christmas Function

*A wonderful opportunity to catch up with past and long serving Kirra SLSC members to enjoy Christmas fellowship with mates at Bob Singleton’s famous Pineapple Hotel.*

*“Complimentary refreshments and fingerfood provided”*

The Pineapple Hotel is situated on Main Street, Kangaroo Point and just walking distance to the famous Gabba Cricket Ground. Bob Singleton is a Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Governor and long-time supporter of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association.



**FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER  
FROM 5:30 PM TO LATE**

*Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association’s committee positions of President, Secretary and 2 x Committee Members for the Year 2021 will be endorsed at the Christmas function. Adam, Paul, Mark and Peter have advised that they are willing to continue for another year on the Old Boys committee....*

**Given that the Committee has been required to postpone both its annual Kirra Golf Game and Kirra Sports Luncheon this year owing to government COVID sanctions, it would be wonderful to have a good roll up of Association members at this annual Christmas event. Come along and enjoy the evening.... If you have one, wear your Kirra Old Boys or Kirra Surf Club polo shirt.... “Once a Kirra member – Always a Kirra member”**

‘For your safety and comfort, COVID planning and social distancing practices applied by Pineapple Hotel management for all patrons’

## ‘Back to the Future’ and into the Red and Yellow!

Wonderful to see long term past Kirra members successfully completing their Bronze Medallion (re-accreditation) and now back rostered for Beach Patrols at the world famous Kirra Beach.

Kirra Old Boys Association members Mark Rogers (Mark is also on the Committee) and Darren ‘Butch’ Gear have made a successful return to surf lifesaving frontline operations.

Mark and Darren were joined by their daughters Jorjia Rogers and Abby Gear, who along with Modiuale Lawson successfully completed their Bronze Medallion under the guidance and instruction of a very supportive Kirra SLSC Training Officer, Laurie Cavill.

**‘Congratulations... great effort and well done’**



**“Above: (L-R) Laurie Cavill; Abby Gear; Darren Gear; Modiuale Lawson; Mark Rogers; and Jorjia Rogers”**

**Volunteerism:** *“The principle of donating one’s personal time and energy through providing support for the benefit of other people and/or an organisation within the community as a social responsibility rather than for any individual gain, reward or financial opportunity”*



*(Left): Our Local State Member for Currumbin, Laura Gerber MP joined the celebrations at the Kirra SLSC Annual Dinner held in the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club. Laura expressed her support for the Kirra Surf Club and acknowledged the Club's outstanding performance throughout its 104<sup>th</sup> Year of Surf Lifesaving.*

## CALENDAR DATES AND EVENTS - 2020

Plan your personal calendar to enable your attendance at the remaining Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association events still organised and scheduled for Year 2020:

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November:** Association 'Members Christmas Social' at the famous Pineapple Hotel (5:30pm to late).... Catch up with mates for good yarns and to celebrate the year that was! 😊 😊

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December:** Bumpo Freeman Remembrance Day at the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club from 3:30pm..... *"A very special day for all Surf Club members to come together to remember our Kirra mates and family who sadly are no longer with us.... LEST WE FORGET"*



## Still on Sale!

The Committee can order your Association 'Polo Shirt' at the price of **only \$30.00/shirt** that includes the embroidered Logo (see photo.... *Foundation date: 29<sup>th</sup> November 1978*)..... FABRIC 50% Cotton inner, 50% Biz Cool Polyester pique outer, loose fit and a comfortable polo shirt to wear.... Sizes M to 3XL (Male and Female) are

available from our supplier.

**How to order your Association 'Polo Shirt':** Email your details including the number of shirts required, sizes (Male or Female) and your preferred postal delivery address for your shirt/s to: [kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com)

**Direct Deposit:** Transfer \$30/shirt into the Association's NAB banking account: BSB: 084130; A/C: 448755954; Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association.

## Congratulations from the Association!

Congratulations to long term and dedicated Kirra Surf Club members Loretta Cassone and Rose Gear who received a standing ovation at the Annual Dinner on accepting their Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Governor Membership plaques.

Whilst still a strong advocate for her Surf Club, Rose provided outstanding leadership for many years in supporting the Kirra Juniors (Nipper) Association. Rose was always available to contribute in many ways for the benefit and advancement of the Club..... *"Well done Rose!"*

Loretta is the current Kirra SLSC Treasurer and Kirra Supporters Association Financial Controller..... Loretta is a 'Jill of All Trades' and a major contributor to advancing the surf lifesaving operations and business enterprise of the Surf Club. She also received the 'Most Willing and Consistent Member' trophy at the Annual Dinner. There are some champion names engraved on that premier trophy of the Kirra Club. *"Loretta, thank you for your outstanding support and ongoing commitment to your Surf Club!"*



## Showcasing Kirra's history

The first three of seven panels have been installed on the front of the main bar in the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club. A wonderful initiative by Club Manager Patrik Holmkvist to showcase the early history of Kirra SLSC, established almost 105 years ago on the 7<sup>th</sup> January 1916. Definitely is an eye catcher for members and local patrons who enjoy reading about the extensive history of the famous Kirra Surf Life Saving Club.... *"Well done Patrik!"*

## Old Boys Association is well represented at the Kirra SLSC Annual Dinner – 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 2020

The year that was and time to celebrate by members, families and supporters of the renowned Kirra Surf Life Saving Club. The Kirra SLSC Annual Dinner was held on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020 in the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club..... and what a fabulous evening it was for all attending. The Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association was well represented. The Association was acknowledged by Club President Joel Kinneally for its continued outstanding support provided for the members of the Kirra Surf Club.... *"Thanks Joel"*.

It could be argued that our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club has possibly had one of its best years since its foundation back in January 1916. The 2019/2020 Year of Surf Lifesaving has been one of outstanding performance by Surf Club members and supporters across all categories. The relationships built and sustained between all sections of the Surf Club including: Surf Club Operations, Junior (Nipper) Activities, Supporters Association, Old Boys Association, and the assistance from the amazing group of local community supporters, has all contributed to this success. Added to this has been the members' commitment to providing quality frontline surf lifesaving and community safety operations, and their successful participation in Surf Sports competition. A summary of achievements over the year includes:

- Point Danger Branch, Queensland, and an Australian Finalist – **SURF LIFE SAVING 'CLUB OF THE YEAR'**
- Point Danger Branch, Queensland, and an Australian Finalist – **SURF SPORTS 'TEAM OF THE YEAR'** (Open Female IRB Team: Bailie Nash; Sophie Clemson; and Shayna Cassone)
- Point Danger Branch, Queensland, and an Australian Finalist – **SURF SPORTS 'VOLUNTEER COACH OF THE YEAR'** (Andrew McAuliffe)
- Point Danger Branch, and a Queensland finalist – **PATROL CLUB OF THE YEAR**
- Point Danger Branch, and a Queensland finalist – **U18 LIFESAVER OF THE YEAR** (Ella Kinneally)
- Point Danger Branch, and a Queensland finalist – **LIFESAVING EXCELLENCE AWARD**
- **AUSTRALIAN OPEN IRB CHAMPION CLUB**
- **AUSTRALIAN U23 IRB CHAMPION CLUB**
- **AUSTRALIAN IRB CHAMPION CLUB (OVERALL POINTS SCORE)**
- **NINE GOLD MEDALS** at the 2019 Australian IRB Championship
- **TWO GOLD MEDALS** at the 2019 Australian Pool Rescue Championship
- **ONE GOLD MEDAL** at the 2019 Australian Masters Surfboard Riding Championship

The Kirra Surf Life Saving Club has been well established as one of the leading voluntary surf lifesaving clubs in Australia. It is at the forefront of surf safety innovation; a provider of voluntary aquatic surf lifesaving and community safety services at Kirra Beach and for the broader City of Gold Coast, Queensland; and a successful participant in achieving Queensland, Australian and World Championship success in Surf Sports spanning more than one hundred years. This success as one of the country's recognisable surf lifesaving clubs assists management in drawing people, their families, supporters and volunteers from all walks of life who are passionate to be members of the famous Kirra Surf Life Saving Club.....

*"Kirra Surf Life Saving Club – A true icon of the City of Gold Coast, Queensland, and Australia"*

## KIRRA SLSC – 74<sup>TH</sup> HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Andrew McAuliffe who was endorsed as the Kirra SLSC – 74<sup>th</sup> Honorary Life Member at the recent Annual General Meeting receives his Life Membership Badge and plaque at the Annual Dinner. Joining Andrew are Liane Stanton (KSLSC Hon. Life Member #72/2018) and Peter Beauchamp (KSLSC Hon. Life Member #49/1986). A long term member of the surf club, Andrew is also a member of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association.

*In the one hundred and five (105) year history of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club only seventy-four (74) members have been bestowed Honorary Life Membership. Honorary Life Membership is the highest honour that can be awarded to a Club member for dedicated and meritorious service to the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club (Established 7<sup>th</sup> January 1916).*



# SURF BOATS BACK AT KIRRA BEACH!

Kirra SLSC has a proud history of its involvement with surf boats from being the first surf club in Queensland to have a surf boat on the beach in 1927, to long time member Brian Hurley (and Kirra Old Boy) sweeping the Kirra crew of Jonathon Tyson, Nick Williams, Patrick Dooley and Tom Dooley to winning the Australian Reserve Grade title at the 2009 Australian SLSC Championship at the City of Perth Beach WA. Kirra SLSC surf boats christened after prominent Club members (e.g. Winders family) or ARAKOON as three of Kirra's surf boats were named have been a regular sight at many surf carnivals and the Point Danger Branch, Queensland and Australian Championships.

*"Right: Surf boat race held at Kirra Beach in 1929 – Go Team Kirra!"*



Australian Junior Boat Crew Silver Medallists being presented with Medals by SLSA President Mr (later Sir) Adrian Curlewis - L-R: R Halpin, B Hatchett, E Kempnich, H Mills, C Neylan

*"Above: Australian Championship, Southport 1954"*

Bill Winders  
Ron Halpin (Sweep), Errol Jones (Bow), Blair Carter,  
Stuart Carseldine and Roger Hawkes (Stroke)



*"Left: Australian Reserve Grade Surf Boat Champions – 2009 Australian SLS Championship held at the City of Perth Beach WA"*



Arakoon III launch by Mrs Lil Ryan with Mrs Noola Ward and Barrie Thorne. In the background are Graham White, Greg Dunn and Denis Boucher.

*"Left: The year was 1979.... Mrs Lil Ryan (Kirra SLSC Hon. Life Member # 46/1982)"*

## Kirra SLSC Surf Boat Captain, Steve Coady states: ***"Surf Boats are coming back to Kirra!!"***

Hi...my name is Stephen Coady..... most people call me 'Coady' ☺ ☺ I have joined Kirra and am excited about helping to re-establish surf boats for this legendary Surf Club. I first joined surf lifesaving in 1984 as a Nipper with Avoca Beach NSW. I competed regularly as a Nipper and then for a period on single skies as an active clubbie. After successfully passing the 'Brick Test' I joined the Boaties Fraternity in 1994 and have loved this sport ever since. I continued to enjoy rowing for several years with Avoca Surf Club at local, Sydney and National surf carnival events and championships.

Following a few years away from this great sport, I was fortunate to meet Arnie Eussen from Palm Beach SLSC (a former Queensland firefighter who previously worked with Kirra's Peter Beauchamp) who smooth talked me into standing at the back of the surf boat and sweeping with the long oar. Over the past few years and between injuries (not surf boat related), I have been honing my skills to master the art of surf boat sweeping and crew training. I have found my true passion and enjoy introducing the younger generation to the **Sport of Surf Boat Rowing...** *"Yes a true passion for me!"*

After contacting the Kirra Surf Club and speaking with Club President Joel Kinneally, I became aware of the Youth Development Programs that the Surf Club organises for teenagers from schools in Logan

City. This is a tremendous initiative of the Kirra Surf Club and an opportunity I could not pass up to be involved in..... *"I joined the Kirra Surf Club within a week of talking to Joel!"*

I have now taken on the Surf Club position of Boat Captain and appreciate the enthusiasm and support I am receiving from the Club's management team and long-time members such as champion sweep Brian Hurley, Peter Flannery, Peter Clarke and Peter Beauchamp..... The support so generously offered is a wonderful sign for me of the opportunities to achieve success in surf boat rowing for the famous **'Royal Blue and Gold'** of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club.

Over the next several weeks I will be endeavouring to talk to as many past and current members as possible so as to put together my **Five Year Plan** to target building surf boat participation and a strong competitive team again for the Kirra Surf Club. Currently with assistance from the Club stalwarts and management, I will be encouraging our Junior Members and those teenage participants from the Youth Development Programs to get on the water for a row. I am also investigating and seeking some potential sponsorship to assist in having our surf boat and equipment up to a standard for competition.

This is a long journey but I am keen to be a part of rebuilding the Club's interest and capacity to successfully participate in surf boat competition. I welcome all offers of advice and assistance as we commence to take positive steps into the future. I am available most weekends around the Surf Club and would love to catch up to discuss the opportunities available to have surf boat rowers at Kirra Beach and the ways that we can sponsor success in competition.

**A 'Row on the Water' is planned – Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> October at 8:00am: Currumbin Creek – Meeting point is at the boat ramp on the southern side of Currumbin Creek..... "See you there!"**

**"Coady"** (Kirra SLSC Boat Captain – Stephen Coady) Mobile: 0422 505 047

## **GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP!**

**Kirra SLSC urgently needs to upgrade its base equipment to support with re-establishing surf boat rowing at Kirra Beach. Sponsorship of up to \$20,000 will greatly contribute to positively kick-starting this competitive team sporting initiative for the Kirra Surf Club – Boat Rowers.**

**Your business, company or brand name to be showcased as a major sponsor of the Kirra Boaties!**

**For further information on this wonderful opportunity to sponsor the Kirra Boaties contact Peter Beauchamp: Mobile – 0429 548813 or Email - [kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com)**

***"Sponsorship will be used to purchase a near new surf boat and associated equipment (similar to the one in the picture), plus other necessary competition surf boat resources urgently required to help re-establish the Kirra Boaties at Kirra Beach"***



***For sale: Modern competition surf boat (October 2016) with registered trailer, boat cover, pumps and battery – Purchase price: \$15,000 (ono)... a new boat, equipment and trailer can cost up to \$50,000... For further details, contact Stephen Coady: Mobile – 0422 505 047***

## Down memory lane!



“Far Left: Kirra SLSC Boat Crew in the 1972/73 season: (L-R) Keith Cook, Ian Sommer, Barrie Thorne (Sweep), Barry Robinson, John Bowler; and “Left: Kirra SLSC Masters Boat Crew in the early 1990s (L-R) Graham Flude, Ian Sommer, Alan Beauchamp, Laurie Johnson, Jim Abbott (Sweep)”



### Some special memories here!

Recently posted pictures by long term Kirra SLSC past member and Kirra Old Boy ‘Rick Meehan’. Rick won the Australian Junior (Nipper) Beach Flags ‘Gold Medal’ at the 1975 SLSA Junior Championship held at Moana SA.

“Far Left: Rick with his brother Mike and dad Ken.... Ken (KSLSC Life Member #33/1968) was a long-time member of Kirra SLSC and the Kirra Old Boys Association. Mike was a keen Kirra Nipper and outstanding sportsman”.

“Above Right: Rick Meehan OAM with his dear friend Keith Payne VC AM... Keith is acknowledged as an Australian Living Legend with whom Rick assists in promoting Keith’s incredible program that focuses on the needs, welfare and support for veterans from the Australian Defence Forces”

## “Once a Kirra member – Always a Kirra member!”



Hope you enjoyed this read..... October 2020 Newsletter. Please share this Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association – Newsletter with your circle of friends and work colleagues connected with and supporting our Kirra SLSC.....

Many thanks for your continuing support of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association and Committee, and our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club.

Committee – Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association  
(Peter, Adam, Paul and Mark)

*‘Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association – established 29<sup>th</sup> November 1978’*

## Kirra Beach Surf Club – Bar / Bistro / Gaming

(All revenue raised by the Kirra SLS Supporters Association supports the members of Kirra SLSC and the provision of safe Beach Patrols for the community at the famous Kirra Beach)

