

# NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2021



## Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

-: Established 29<sup>th</sup> November 1978 :-

Email: [kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com) Web: [www.kirrasurfclub.com.au](http://www.kirrasurfclub.com.au) | Old Boys

ABN: 66 429 080 066

### Kirra SLSC WW1/WW2 Veterans' Commemorative Memorial

*'An initiative of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association'*



Please refer to our recent Association Newsletters and Updates: Your feedback to the Committee, Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association on the names/titles to be etched into the memorial stone (black basalt stone) would be much appreciated. Once the Committee provides the final approval to the Stone Mason to proceed then these names will

be "ETCHED IN STONE".... See the list of WW1/WW2 Surf Club member names in this Newsletter.

Please send your feedback to [kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com)

### STOP THE PRESS!!!!

Long term Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association member Rick Meehan OAM has recently advised (Peter Beauchamp) that in his capacity as Chairman, Keith Payne VC Veterans' Benefit Group and the Group's Vice-Chairman Fred Campbell OAM would welcome the opportunity to attend the official Dedication Ceremony for the Kirra SLSC WW1/WW2 Veterans' Commemorative Memorial (date to be determined). Rick further advised that he would communicate with Keith Payne VC on the possibility of his attendance.... Keith Payne VC is Australia's oldest surviving 'Victoria Cross' recipient and a highly decorated war veteran. Keith founded the Veterans' Benefit Group to advocate and support all Australian Service Veterans.

Also, a big thank you to Lisa Wilson who has organised for BORAL to donate all the concrete required for the on-site slab/footings for the Commemorative Memorial.... "Lisa... so very much appreciated". Lisa is the wife of our long-term Kirra past member Kirk Wilson, and is the daughter-in-law of Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member Bob (Polo) Wilson and his wife Gwen.

### Club trophies and memorabilia

Seeking your assistance.... Should you have any Kirra SLSC trophies and lifesaving memorabilia from yesteryear (in your care for safe-keeping) that could be placed in the lockable/secured display cabinet now located in the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club, please consider providing these items to the Surf Club. You could either pass these on to Gabrielle (Club's Office Manager) or Patrik (Licensed Club Manager) for safe keeping and displaying in the cabinet.... **OR** contact your Association Committee on Email: [kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com) and arrangements can be made to collect these items from your home or business.

*'The History Project is an initiative of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association.... proudly supporting our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club (Est: 7<sup>th</sup> January 1916)'*

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# 2021 KIRRA SPORTS LUNCHEON



*Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association*

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**11:30am to 3:30pm**

**Pineapple Hotel - Woolloongabba**

*(Walking distance from the famous Gabba Cricket Ground)*

**'STATE OF ORIGIN THEME'**

Enjoy an outstanding day with Kirra mates and friends; the Pineapple Hotel's famous seafood lunch and cold refreshment; excellent speakers and sporting champions relating their challenging experiences and success; raffles and special fund raising activities; and just a fun day for all.

**"All included in the price of your ticket!!"**

*Tickets are only \$125*

**- Best value Sports Lunch in Brisbane -**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!**

**The booking site for the sports luncheon is now live!!!**

Just go to the live booking site to purchase and pay for your tickets.....

**[www.kirra2021.eventbrite.com.au](http://www.kirra2021.eventbrite.com.au)**

**When you have purchased your ticket/s please email the Committee on [kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com) of your details so that tickets and table seating can be allocated for you and your guests**

*Start planning your table for a great day with good mates whilst enjoying the Pineapple Hotel's famous seafood buffet, wonderful guest speakers and icy cold refreshment*

Bus transport for Gold Coast residents to depart from the Kirra Surf Club at 9:45am and to return back to the Surf Club following the Luncheon..... Go 'on-line' to view the availability of reasonably priced accommodation located within walking distance of the Pineapple Hotel.

**For further information: Email – [kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com)**

**"Revenue raised by the Association supports the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club"**

## Down memory lane – celebrating our history!



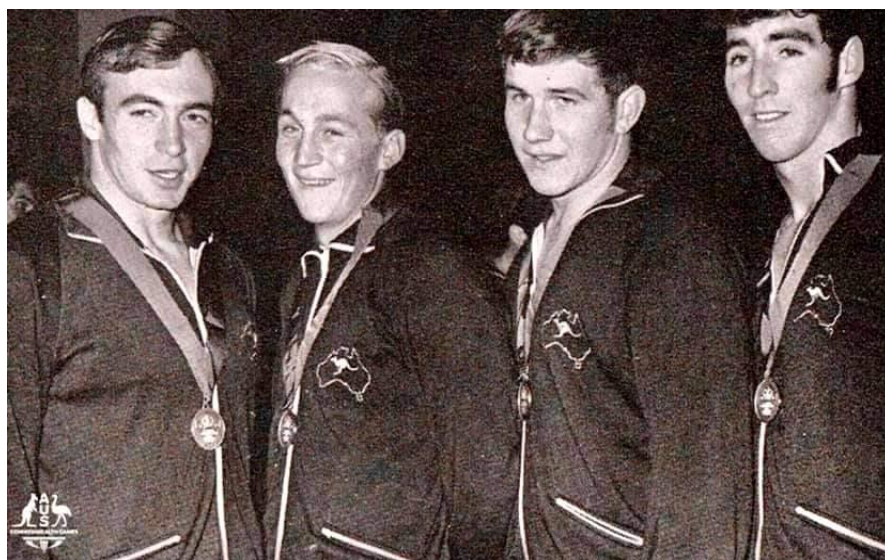
**To the Secretary:** “Adam, I have received the January 2021 Old Boys Newsletter. Thank you for the copy....a great read. However, I was very saddened to read of the passing of old boys of my time in the Club.... (1953-1963). Ian (Noisy) Murrowood, he was so quiet in the Club; Joyce Meehan...very sad; I remember Ken (The Ox) and Tony Dunn from our Kirra Surf Team and R&R. From that photo in the Newsletter of Graham, Ken and now Tony, I realised I am now the only one left.....

I attached a photo I found when spending time cleaning up last month.....getting desperate for things to do.... I think it was taken at Kirra Beach in 1963? Looks like Bob (Polo) Wilson on reel; Jeff Callaghan with the belt; Cam Leigh-Murray;

and I do not recognise the other member with glasses however a name springs to mind...Horrie? I am in the hat and T-shirt.... Hope you do not mind me sending the photo to you....Wish you well”. **Robert Burns** (6/01/2021)

**TO: Robert Burns** (11<sup>th</sup> January 2021): “Thank you for your note and the photograph. The Kirra Surf Club has such a long history and many past members & friends who still all keep in touch. We (Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association – Committee) are trying to keep the legacies of members who sadly are not with us and retell those in our newsletters in honouring their passing. Through the Old Boys Committee we are working to preserve any memorabilia of members’ time with the Club including old photographs, team uniforms, trophies, medallions, etc. This is a part of our preserving the history (Kirra Surf Club) through the Kirra Historical Project.

Keeping yourself busy cleaning up..... If you come across any more photos or the like, I would be happy to collect them. I can take copies of the photos and return the originals. We want to attribute anything donated by a past member and capture any history that maybe is attached to it..... Keep well, regards Adam”. (Adam Day – Secretary, Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association)



Men’s 4x200m World Record Team: (L-R) Michael Wenden, Graham White, Bill Devenish, Greg Rogers. (CGA Archive)

**Reference:** Wikipedia: “This champion Australian freestyle relay team set the 4x200M World Record at the British Commonwealth Games held in Edinburgh, Scotland on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 1970. Kirra SLSC member Graham White OAM was an Australian middle/long distance freestyle swimmer of the 1960s/1970s. Graham also won a Silver Medal in the 4x200 Freestyle Relay event at the 1968 Summer Olympics held in Mexico.

An SLSA Australian Hall of Fame recipient, Graham’s name is forever proudly displayed on the Kirra SLSC Honour Board – Roll of Honour; and the Kirra SLSC Australian Champions Honour Board”....

**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”

# Calendar of Events – Year 2021

“Lock the dates into your calendar as these are now confirmed for Year 2021. Plan your attendance and enjoy the ‘Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association’ fund raising and fellowship events”

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021:** The very popular KIRRA SPORTS LUNCHEON is back on at the Pineapple Hotel commencing from 11:30am to 3:30pm.... This year it is a ‘State of Origin’ theme with wonderful Guest Speakers. Enjoy the famous Pineapple Hotel’s seafood lunch and cold refreshment that is all included in the price of your ticket. Guaranteed to be a fun afternoon with good friends and Kirra mates.... **TICKETS NOW ON SALE!!!**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021:** Yes it’s back!!! The KIRRA GOLF GAME will be held at the Wynnum Golf Club. The date booked early in 2020 by Greg Dunn has now been confirmed. More details to be forthcoming from our 2021 Kirra Golf Game coordinator and Kirra SLSC Hon. Life Member John (Brashie) Bell.... “Yes, watch this space!”

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2021:** The KIRRA SLSC ANNUAL DINNER will be held in the Kirra Beach Surf Club... This will be a fun night celebrating the success and achievements of the Surf Club’s 105<sup>th</sup> Year of Surf Lifesaving. The Association will book a table or two for the Annual Dinner for those wishing to join in the celebrations.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021:** The KIRRA SLSC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING with the presentation of the Surf Club’s Annual Report followed by Election of Officers for the 2021/2022 Year of Surf Lifesaving. A date to be reserved in all our calendars: ‘Once a Kirra Member – Always a Kirra Member’

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021:** The very successful KIRRA CAR RAFFLE is back for Year 2021!!! The Car Raffle Draw will be held at the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club between 3:00pm and 5:00pm with complimentary cold refreshments for ticket holders. Additional prizes to be available throughout the afternoon..... **TICKETS ON SALE SOON!!!** “It is a fun afternoon with mates and a chance to WIN A NEW CAR!!

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021:** Be at the ‘Kirra Old Boys’ CHRISTMAS FUNCTION/AGM at Bob Singleton’s famous Pineapple Hotel commencing from 5:30pm for a fun evening of fellowship with olde and new Kirra mates.

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2021:** Come together for the annual BUMPO/ELKE REMEMBRANCE DAY at the Kirra Beach Surf Club commencing from 3:30pm..... A special day for all associated with the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club.... Let’s have a sea of Royal Blue and Gold: ‘Wear your Kirra Old Boys Association or Kirra SLSC polo shirt’.

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## KIRRA SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

(Established 1916)

Life Members (Inaugural) Reunion Dinner held Sunday, 1st May 1994 in the Club Old Boys Lounge



### LIFE MEMBERS

STANDING (left to right): Bob Little, Trevor Klingner, Peter Beauchamp, Scott Byrnes, Ron Gurnett, Trevor Wardrobe, Ralph Ford-Johnson, Keith Hamilton, Clive Jones, Ken Meehan, Ken Wiles, Arch Nicholson, Barry Mullins, Steve Barry, John Pidgeon, Bob Gear, Stan Hilton, Ron Halpin, Barry Cameron.  
SITTING (left to right): Barrie Thorne, Max Klingner, Rick Sellwood, Dot Kopitke, Doug Brockhurst, Peter Wippell.  
ABSENT: Ged Moore, Lil Ryan, Les Sellwood, Joe Doniger, Earle Smith.

The Kirra Surf Life Saving Club’s ‘Life Members Reunion Dinner’ held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 1994 in the former Old Boys Lounge was an innovative idea organised by Arch Nicholson (KSLSC Honorary Life Member #27/1961). Records of that time could not determine if a similar event had been previously held to acknowledge those who were bestowed the Kirra Surf Club’s highest honour of Honorary Life Membership.

It was a wonderful reunion with all but five Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Members present. There were many yarns of past adventures shared over an enjoyable meal and cold refreshment. Sadly half of those who attended this inaugural

Kirra SLSC – Life Members Reunion are no longer with us in Year 2021. Their dedicated service to their Kirra Surf Life Saving Club and our community must never be forgotten .... “Lest we forget

# KIRRA BEACH SURF CLUB – BAR, BISTRO AND GAMING

*“Sure is the place to be for icy cold refreshments, tasty meals, welcoming and professional staff, and the best views of the Gold Coast..... Takeaways now provided for members..... Come along and try the breakfast menu available every Saturday and Sunday morning from 8:00am”*

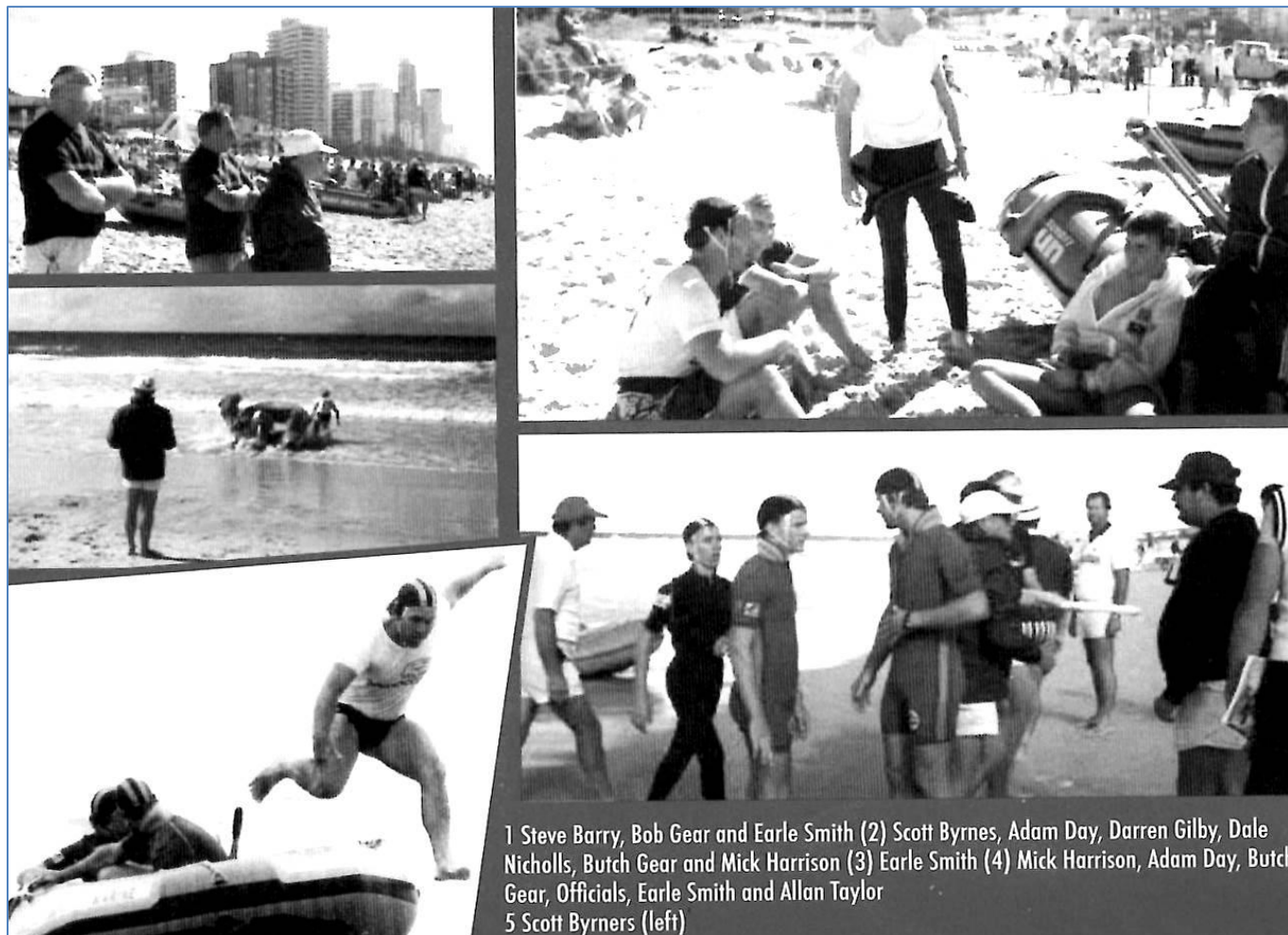


*“Members, families, and visitors are most welcome.... Visit the licensed venue and view the wonderful Kirra Surf Club history that is now showcased throughout the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club”*



# They were IRB competitors and young!

Extract: Kirra SLSC 100 Years by Peter Kelly – Page 210: “Another first (for Kirra SLSC) this season when the Club competed in its very **first** State (Queensland) Inshore Rescue Boat (IRB) Championship held at Surfers Paradise (winter of 1985). Our team of Scott Byrnes, Darren Gear, Adam Day, Sean Bailey, Mick Harrison, Darren Gilby, and Tony Towne finished second in the Mass Rescue and Teams Rescue. Our IRB Teams were young and inexperienced but they were eager to learn, and as we would see in future years, the IRB competition would play an important role in competition for our Club”. (End of Extract)



1 Steve Barry, Bob Gear and Earle Smith (2) Scott Byrnes, Adam Day, Darren Gilby, Dale Nicholls, Butch Gear and Mick Harrison (3) Earle Smith (4) Mick Harrison, Adam Day, Butch Gear, Officials, Earle Smith and Allan Taylor  
5 Scott Byrners (left)

Extract: Kirra SLSC 100 Years by Peter Kelly – Page 198: “Barry Cameron attended the inaugural NSW Advanced Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) Training School conducted at the North Cronulla Surf Club in Sydney. In a prophetic statement Barry afterwards remarked in this year’s Kirra SLSC Annual Report (1977/1978) that it is ‘**an unquestionable conclusion that IRBs are here to stay and the interest of surf clubs in them only must increase**’.....” (End of Extract)

## **BECOME A MEMBER – KIRRA SURF CLUB OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION**

To all our Kirra Surf Club current senior, long serving and past members; Kirra Nipper Association coordinators and past members; and to the many Kirra families and supporters; an **invitation** is extended for you to join and receive your monthly Newsletter detailing the many activities, items on the history of our Kirra Surf Club, and special fund raising events planned throughout the year by the Association.

**“It costs nothing to join the Association!”**

**“Supporting your Club – our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club”**

It is so simple to join! Just Email your name and contact details (postal address; telephone/mobile; and **Email** address) to the Association Secretary, Adam Day:

**[kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com)**

# **Kirra Surf Life Saving Club**

Established 7<sup>th</sup> January 1916

“We proudly acknowledge our Kirra SLSC members who courageously served with distinction in the Australian Defence Forces during World War One and World War Two, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country”

## **World War One**

28/07/1914 – 11/11/1918

### **Australian Imperial Force**

E De Sterke; J Gordon; E Thornley; SW Winders

## **World War Two**

01/09/1939 – 02/09/1945

### **Second Australian Imperial Force**

C Adair; C Barbeler; R Blow; NV Brockhurst; R Clay; C Conaghan (†); H Cummings;  
W Fitzgerald; W Fleming; JR Glenwright; B Harding; K Horn; AJ Miller;  
J Pidgeon; L Powell (†); H Smith; G Watt; BJ Wells

### **Royal Australian Navy**

V Blow; M Emerson; B Gordon; N Groom; GF Higgins; L Kilburn; A Lansbury; I Munro;  
T Neylan; P Roubin; M Richards; C Smith; L Smith; F Spellacy; K Stanford; P Thompson

### **Royal Australian Air Force**

W Barnes; R Bowden; A Broomhall; WJ Chaplain; V Dickson (†); G Doniger; E Else;  
H Henderson; R Hinds; T James; A Johns; MH Keehn (†); AW Kilburn; L Kilburn;  
LN Kroll; J Leeman; EM Maher; RA Miller; MG Moore; L O’Conner; L Powell (†);  
W Poulsen; G Shambrook; EJ Smith; D Thompson; HG Winders

### **Australian Military Forces**

A Greber; E May; D Morrison; O Reynolds; W Webster

### **Merchant Navy**

N Gandy; R Jenkinson

### **Allied Transport Service**

C Crowe

(†) Denotes ‘Killed in Action’

# **LEST WE FORGET**

## ***There were two – the old and the new!!***



*There were two Kirra SLSC clubhouse buildings in 1936 with the construction of the new Kirra Beach Pavilion.*

*The Kirra SLSC committee played a lead role in its partnership with the Coolangatta Town Council for the ongoing planning, coordination, funding and construction of the new Kirra Beach Pavilion. At that time, the Kirra SLSC President SW (Bill) Winders was the Mayor, Town of Coolangatta and several fellow Kirra SLSC members were also Councillors on the Coolangatta Town Council.*

### **Association's progress with the Kirra Historical Project**

The latest news.... At the Kirra SLSC Management Committee meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2019, those present supported the strategies (Business Case) as submitted by the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association on its proposed Club Historical Project. This included the design concept, manufacture and location of several new Kirra SLSC Honour Boards, trophy cabinet and photos.

Current project initiatives nearing completion include: Kirra SLSC Australian and World Champions Photo Gallery; Kirra SLSC Queensland Champions Honour Board; and Kirra SLSC WW1/WW2 Veteran's Commemorative Memorial.....

*"Watch this space for further updates on the progress of the Kirra Historical Project!"*

#### **NOMINATIONS NOW CALLED: HONORARY LIFE MEMBER AND HONORARY LIFE GOVERNOR**

**Nominations are hereby call for Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Membership and Honorary Life Governor Membership. Nominations for those Kirra SLSC members who have given long and diligent service for either category close on Sunday 21 March 2021 (12:00 Midday). Nominations in accordance with the Club Constitution and duly signed by a Mover/Seconder, must be received by the Club Office by the closing date and addressed for attention:**

**Kirra SLSC – Meritorious Awards Committee.**

**For further information contact the Kirra Surf Club office: (T) 07 5599 3524 or (E) [kirra@kirraslsc.com](mailto:kirra@kirraslsc.com)**



*"Left: Kirra Clubhouse and cyclone damage caused in January 1974"*

Hope you enjoyed this February 2021 Newsletter..... Please share the Newsletter with your circle of friends and work colleagues. Should you have any items or photographs of interest for our next Newsletter then please forward these to the Association's email address: [kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com)

Many thanks for your continuing support of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association.  
**Committee – Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association**

*President: Peter Beauchamp; Secretary: Adam Day; Committee Members: Paul Cameron and Mark Rogers*

***"Once a Kirra member – Always a Kirra member"***