

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2021

Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

-: The Association was established on the 29th November 1978 :-

Email: kirra@kirraoldboys.com Web: www.kirrasurfclub.com.au | Old Boys

ABN: 66 429 080 066



2021 KIRRA CAR RAFFLE CHAMPION NEWS – ALL TICKETS SOLD!

Association Secretary Adam Day advised one week to go until the draw for the Car Raffle being held at the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club (Bar/Bistro/Gaming) on the 3rd October, that **ALL TICKETS WERE SOLD!** During these difficult times of COVID restrictions this was just wonderful news 😊 😊

Our small Association Committee did a great job in achieving this outstanding result..... **Paul Cameron** is the undisputed Car Raffle 'World Champion' with many friends and business associates buying a ticket or several; **Mark Rogers** encouraged mates and past Kirra Surf Club members to buy a ticket; and **Adam Day** kept us all on track with regular sales updates, coordinating the master sales spread sheet and allocation of tickets purchased; and planning for a successful Car Raffle draw..... "Well done and thank you"

Its On Again
Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Assoc
Car Raffle

Win a
MG3
Auto Core
Valued at
\$17,490

\$125 tickets ~ only 199 to be sold

Tickets available now
Phone: Paul Cameron 0418 728 089
Mark Rogers 0411 511 511
Kirra Surf Club Supporters Bar
Marine Parade, Kirra Or Direct Deposit
Complementary drinks for all ticket holders
present for draw from 3pm to 5pm BSB: 084 130
A/c: 448755954
& email your details to
kirra@kirraoldboys.com

Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association ABN: 66 429 080 066 email: kirra@kirraoldboys.com

"A big thank you to all who so generously supported this annual event of the Association and purchased tickets in the 2021 Kirra Car Raffle"

"Revenue raised by the Association through the car raffle and other fund raising events goes towards the Kirra Historical Project that includes the latest initiatives such as the Queensland Champions Honour Board and the World/Australian Champions Photo Gallery.... both are ready to go to production. The Kirra WW1/WW2 Veterans Commemorative Memorial is also in the final stages of construction"

CAR RAFFLE DRAW – SUNDAY 3RD OCTOBER – KIRRA BEACH SURF CLUB

With the recent COVID exposures reported at Kirra Beach, attendance at the Kirra Car Raffle draw was not to the numbers of previous years with social distancing requirements applied. Complementary drinks were provided for TICKET HOLDERS during the draw between 3pm and 5pm. Given the NRL Grand Final (South Sydney vs. Penrith) was on that evening and Monday a public holiday, a number of raffle attendees remained to enjoy the hospitality of the Kirra Beach Surf Club. Club Manager (Patrik) and staff of the licensed club are always wonderful supporters of events held by the Kirra Old Boys Association at the Kirra Beach Surf Club.... ***'They are a friendly and professional Team'***

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNER: Ticket #132 – Janelle McCosker "It's a new car! MG3 Auto Core"

Our goals – Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

- # Provide opportunities for past Kirra SLSC members, supporters and families to remain connected with their surf lifesaving club;
- # Build fellowship amongst past, long serving and current Kirra SLSC members through supporting social and surf lifesaving activities; and
- # Promote and co-ordinate revenue generating events for the benefit of the Association membership and Kirra SLSC.

'Once a Kirra member – Always a Kirra member'

RAFFLE – SUPPORTING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association - 2 x Raffles to be conducted through the early summer months
Each raffle - 'Beer/Wine/Spirits Package valued at \$500' - Only 200 tickets/raffle at \$5.00 each

Prizes most generously donated by the Waterloo Bay Hotel.

The raffles are an initiative organised and supported by the Committee, Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association. All proceeds raised to be allocated for
“YOUTH DEVELOPMENT IN SURF SPORT – Kirra Nippers and Kirra SLSC Junior Members”

RAFFLE DRAW (1): Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day – Monday 27th December 2021

RAFFLE DRAW (2): Kirra Beach Surf Club – Sunday, 24th January 2022

Tickets to be available for purchase at Kirra Beach through the patrol season”

For a good read on the history of your Kirra Surf Life Saving Club established 106 years ago on the 7th January 1916, have a read of the publication produced for the Surf Club's first 100 years -

Kirra SLSC 100 Years by Peter D Kelly (2016)

Copies are still available for purchase through contacting the Kirra SLSC Club Office: kirra@kirrasurfclub.com

Association ‘Calendar of Events – Year 2021’

Lock these remaining dates and events into your Year 2021 Calendar. Plan your attendance and enjoy the ‘Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association’ fellowship events..... It would be wonderful to have a good turnout of members at both of these remaining special events of the Association’s 2021 Calendar Year:

Friday 26th November 2021: Come along to the annual ‘Kirra Old Boys’ **CHRISTMAS FUNCTION** at Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Governor Bob Singleton’s famous Pineapple Hotel (located near the Gabba – Brisbane) commencing from 5:30pm for a fun evening of fellowship and good yarns with olde and new Kirra mates.... neat casual dress with your Old Boys polo shirt.

“Celebrate the 2021 year that was with good Kirra mates!”

Monday 27th December 2021: **BUMPO/ELKE REMEMBRANCE DAY** to be held at the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club commencing from 3:30pm..... This annual event is a special day for all associated with the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club when we all come together to remember and celebrate the lives of those Kirra mates and family members who are no longer with us.

Let’s have a sea of **Royal Blue and Gold** at the Bumpo/Elke Day.....
‘Wear your Kirra Old Boys Association or Kirra SLSC polo shirt’.

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 register and receive your monthly Newsletter detailing the many activities, items on the history of our Kirra Surf Club, and announcements on 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

-----0000000000000000-----

A BIT OF TRIVIA – ‘In the know... what you know?’

For those who enjoy information from data and statistics, then see below the final result for the Medal Tally of the recent 2021 Olympic Games held in Tokyo, Japan.... Population V’s Medal Tally..... *“Some may say that it is not the size of the beast but the fight in the beast that matters..... some may say!”*

Placing	Country	Population	Gold/Silver/Bronze
1	United States of America (USA)	328M (Year 2019)	39 x Gold / 41 x Silver / 33 x Bronze = 113 Medals
2	China	1,444M (Year 2021)	38 x Gold / 32 x Silver / 18 x Bronze = 88 Medals
3	Japan	126M (Year 2021)	27 x Gold / 14 x Silver / 17 x Bronze = 58 Medals
4	Great Britain	67.8M (Year 2020)	22 x Gold / 21 x Silver / 22 x Bronze = 65 Medals
5	Russia	145M (Year 2021)	20 x Gold / 28 x Silver / 23 x Bronze = 71 Medals
6	Australia	25.3M (Year 2019)	17 x Gold / 7 x Silver / 22 x Bronze = 46 Medals
7	Netherlands	17.1M (Year 2021)	10 x Gold / 12 x Silver / 14 x Bronze = 36 Medals
8	France	65M (Year 2020)	10 x Gold / 12 x Silver / 11 x Bronze = 33 Medals
9	Germany	83.7M (Year 2019)	10 x Gold / 11 x Silver / 16 x Bronze = 37 Medals
10	Italy	60.4M (Year 2020)	10 x Gold / 10 x Silver / 20 x Bronze = 40 Medals
13	New Zealand	4.8M (Year 2021)	7 x Gold / 6 x Silver / 7 x Bronze = 20 Medals
48	India	1,400M (Year 2021)	1 x Gold / 2 x Silver / 4 x Bronze = 7 Medals
50	Philippines	111M (Year 2021)	1 x Gold / 2 x Silver / 1 x Bronze = 4 Medals
55	Indonesia	270M (Year 2019)	1 x Gold / 1 x Silver / 3 x Bronze = 5 Medals



**KIRRA BEACH SURF CLUB
 BAR, BISTRO AND GAMING and SALTYS**
*“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 mornings from 8:00am...
STOP THE PRESS: The Kirra Supporters Association now operates Kirra Coffee and has renamed the venue **Saltys**. Enjoy a great coffee by the beach from Saltys!”*

Jet Rescue Boats – An incredible life experience of big surf and ocean rescues for Kirra Surf Club members (1973 to 2016)

'In the beginning' – In the late 1960s Jet Rescue Boats (JRBs) were new to Queensland surf lifesaving. The first jet powered rescue boat was operated by the Southport Surf Club. The Kirra SLSC Management Committee (1972/1973 season) saw the value in JRBs for surf rescue, in particular for performing rescues during the occasion of large and dangerous seas. Furthermore, given the little sand available at Kirra Beach during the 1970's, JRBs were considered as an additional incentive to encourage senior Surf Club members to be involved in surf safety training and patrol activities on weekends throughout the summer months.

Finance was secured to purchase the Surf Club's first JRB with the generous sponsorship from KD Morris, owner and publican of the famous Kirra Beach Hotel. Future Kirra SLSC 'Honorary Life Members' Les and Rick Sellwood and Peter Beauchamp drove to Ballina in the Club's Holden One Tonner to collect the new rescue boat. This first Kirra Surf Club owned Jet Rescue Boat of a Smith design was delivered and operational in the second half of the 1972/1973 patrol season.

It should be noted that the concept and use of the Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) was still some years from being confirmed as a purpose designed craft for surf rescues and introduced for beach patrols throughout Australia.

Extract: Kirra SLSC 100 years by PD Kelly: Page 180: "Several older club members were self-proclaimed surf experts and knew better!" Many were the fears expressed by the critics and the 'experts' that the boat would not be able to handle heavy seas; that a big dumper would wreck it; that mechanical contrivances were dangerous in the hands of the inexperienced; and that given a few months, the lack of care and attention by club members would result in it being unreliable and out of commission when required, and so on.....

How wrong the experts were was amply proved once the boat was commissioned (early 1973). It handled the biggest seas with ease; it effected rescues and had those in trouble back on the beach while swimmers and boards were still getting to the victim; it kept a watchful eye on unpatrolled beaches; its radio communications and high speed enabled it to be quickly at any point where it was needed; and it was invaluable for laying buoys and doing other back work necessary to conduct a surf carnival.....The power boats became an essential part of surf lifesaving and another means of ensuring our beaches remained safe for the surfing public. *(End of Extract)*

Four senior Kirra Surf Club members were chosen as the inaugural JRB Drivers to be rostered and perform the first JRB surf patrols. These initial Kirra Surf Club members to obtain their JRB Power Boat Medallion were Max Klingner (KSLSC Life Member #24/1954); Ron Halpin (KSLSC Life Member #30/1965); Les Sellwood (KSLSC Life Member #44/1980); and Rick Sellwood (KSLSC Life Member #45/1981)..... *"All were long serving, dedicated and experienced surf lifesavers of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club!"*



"(Photographs: Left and Above) Kirra SLSC's first and second Jet Rescue Boats (both of the Smith design) on Kirra Beach in the 1970s..... Q/. Can you identify the people in the photographs? Some may include: Barry Cameron; Bob Gear; Bella Klingner; Mick Davis; Graham (Bumpo) Freeman; Mick Salm; Helen Arnall; Helen Davis; Brad Miles; Ken Smart; and others – Members and supporters of Kirra SLSC"

Out and about with Association members



Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member (#48/1985) Barry Mullins certainly had a wonderful day on the golf course recently. He achieved his second 'Hole in One' this time on the 6th at the Townsville Golf Club. It was two years and two months in the making after his first ever 'Hole in One'..... *"Well done Bazza!"*

"Left: Barry celebrating after dropping his second Hole in One!"



(Photograph – above right) Kirra SLSC long serving past member and Association member Rachel Morrison (nee Littler) has ticked another goal off the bucket list. After several months of hard work to successfully complete her study at TAFE, Rachel commenced employment on the 2nd September at her dream job in outback Queensland working with Undara Experience Qld. "Congratulations and well done Rachel....."

UNDARA EXPERIENCE – AUSTRALIA'S OUTBACK! Three and a half hours drive west from Cairns in tropical North Queensland, Undara is accessed via the Savannah Way and sits right on the edge of the Undara Volcanic National Park. The Undara Lava Tubes are the oldest on earth and are a world class natural geological phenomenon. Undara's highly trained Savannah Guides conduct small group tours from the resort into the lava tubes where visitors marvel at this incredible geological wonder. Winner of "Unique Accommodation" at the Australian Tourism Awards, Undara Experience offers a variety of accommodation options from restored turn-of-the-century railway carriages to beautifully appointed Pioneers Huts. Budget options are also included with the Swags Tent Village; shady camping and powered sites....Bookings essential.

A big 'well done' to Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member (#38/1973) Ron Gurnett who has been out and about for the Men of League Foundation supporting those doing it tough in the rugby league community. No challenge appears too difficult for our very own long-term Kirra SLSC member. Ron was the foundation President of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association (Est 29th November 1978) and is always available to provide guidance and support for the Committee. He continues to assist in promoting the Goals of the Association... "Well done and thank you Ron"



(Photograph – left) After several months of being shrouded in scaffolding to support Tradies replacing the Kirra Beach Pavilion roof and gutters; installing a fire wall between the surf club and the eastern tenancy; replacing the upstairs windows; new/upgraded electricals; and much more.... members now have access to their clubhouse. The works were a part of the City of Gold Coast upgrade and maintenance program for the entire Pavilion building.

Thank you to CoGC Council for the works program and to those Kirra SLSC members (Old Boys) who were representing the Surf Club on consultative committees with Council over the past couple of years for this project.

‘The decision – To build the Kirra Beach Pavilion’

Construction of the Kirra Beach Pavilion jointly funded by the Coolangatta Town Council and Queensland Government (with Kirra SLSC financial and in-kind contributions) was for the purpose of providing a new clubhouse for the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club. The building was designated for Kirra Surf Club use and clubhouse at the official ceremony officiated by Mayor SW (Bill) Winders, Coolangatta Town Council in April 1936.

(SW ‘Bill’ Winders OBE, OStJ: Kirra SLSC Foundation Member; Club President; Honorary Life Member; Inductee into the Australian Surf Lifesaving Hall of Fame; and grandfather of the current Kirra SLSC Club Patron Max Winders)

Kirra Beach Pavilion – built for the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club

Extract/s: Kirra SLSC 100 Years by Peter D Kelly (2016): On the 19th August 1935, Kirra SLSC President SW (Bill) Bill Winders OBE, OStJ (Mayor, Coolangatta Town Council) advised the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club committee that the Coolangatta Town Council had been successful in securing a loan of £2500, and a subsidy of the same amount from the State Government for the construction of new accommodation for the Kirra Surf Club. This was to be a ‘Depression Era Project’ designed to stimulate the local economy. Mr. John Beebe, Architect, acting on instructions from the Council had prepared a sketch plan of a two-story building. Beebe had also designed Brisbane’s Hamilton Lawn Bowling Pavilion.

At this Surf Club committee meeting (19th August 1935), the Kirra SLSC President further advised that in his view the building would cost more than £5000 and the proposed plan was unsuitable. The President thought a more suitable plan would be a single story building, which would be slightly longer. It would also contain a brigade room, committee room, casualty rooms, showers and amenities, and a surfboat shed. In return the Kirra SLSC would be required to hand over its present building to the Coolangatta Town Council. A proposal was moved and carried that a special Kirra SLSC committee be established to consider and oversee the proposal.

The Kirra Beach Pavilion was officially opened by the Queensland Minister for Public Instruction and Assistant Treasurer, the Hon. F. A. Cooper on the 13th April 1936. It was built in a Tudor Revival Style. This style was commonly used for a more affluent building. The Mayor of Coolangatta Town Council and current President of Kirra SLSC, Mr. S.W. (Bill) Winders OBE, OStJ presided over the official ceremony.

The Kirra SLSC Committee laid out the sum of £54/15/9 to purchase new fittings to comfortably furnish the committee and social room, including a ‘President’s Chair’ and committee table. Club accommodation in the new building also consisted of a bunk room with three tier bunks, a small kitchen, and first aid room on the road side. Branching off the bunkroom was a cold shower and a toilet. On the beach side was a surf club committee room containing the beach broadcasting studio and a brigade (members) room where Surf Club member’s lockers were located. A Surf Club office was provided that led to a ladder and the lookout tower 30 feet above ground level. From the lookout tower, surf lifesavers obtained an excellent view of the beach and surf, and from which warnings including shark alarms could be issued to bathers as required. The rest of the building comprised male and female dressing rooms with conveniences, showers, lockers and toilets all maintained by the Kirra Surf Club, and rooms for a Kirra Surf Club caretaker. A remaining small section of the eastern end of the building was provided for café purposes.

In return for occupancy of the new building, the Kirra SLSC handed over to the Coolangatta Town Council its existing Surf Club building of three levels occupied since 1922. This existing clubhouse was located on the Kirra headland and beside the present observation pavilion. This older clubhouse was built by the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club at a cost of just over £900 with revenue that was raised by the Surf Club members. The building appreciated in value over thirteen years to over £1,200. Once removed from the Kirra headland, elements of this building were later used in the construction of surf lifesaving facilities at Bilinga and Rainbow Bay.



‘Kirra Surf Life Saving Club has occupied, upgraded and maintained the Kirra Beach Pavilion as its members clubhouse following construction and continuously for more than eighty-five years: 1936 - 2021’

“Electronic mail address is the way to go!”

Have you provided your electronic Email address to the Association Secretary? Communicating via your Email address assists the Committee to regularly ‘KEEP IN TOUCH’ and to inform you about ‘WHAT’S ON!’ for the Association and your Kirra Surf Club.



Details of your Email may be forwarded to Association Secretary Adam Day care of our Email address: kirra@kirraoldboys.com

“Should you not have or do not wish to provide an Email address, you will continue to receive by mail all Newsletters, News Updates, and ‘Old Boys’ Broadcasts circulated from time to time”

Back to the future! It was the 1970s at Kirra Beach.... Do you remember?

Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member (#45/1981) Rick Sellwood recently provided these photographs of those times and events occurring at Kirra Beach during the late 1970s.... *“Do you remember? Were you there? Can you identify those members in the photographs? Wonderful memories.... sure are!”*



“Left: Members coming together and celebrating at Kirra Beach.... Note the Club had a 4x4 vehicle!”



“Right: Christening of a surf boat at Kirra Beach.... Possibly this event is held on the beach in front of the caretakers unit for the Kirra Camping Grounds.... There was little beach in front of the surf club throughout the 70s decade.... Rick is wearing the maroon T-shirt”



“Left: Following the christening of Kirra’s new surf boat is off for a row by the Kirra ‘Junior Boat Crew’ – L to R: Ron Halpin (Sweep); Greg Ward; Alan Beauchamp; Graham (Bumpo) Freeman; and Jack Hunter”



“Kirra SLSC established on the 7th January 1916”

NEW LEASEHOLDER – KIRRA BEACH PAVILION

See the following article that was recently posted in Facebook providing some details on the new leaseholder to occupy the ex Pizza Hut space of the Kirra Beach Pavilion. It is reported that this new Seafood Restaurant may be fully fitted out and ready to open over Christmas or early into the New Year.

EXTRACT: Pavement Whisper (Weekend Edition: Gold Coast): Kirra's iconic Pizza Hut to be transformed into Siblings Kirra – Facebook 28th Sept 21: “After leasing the prime beach-fronting site from the City of Gold Coast for four decades, the iconic Pizza Hut at Kirra closed its doors for the last time in 2019. Now, we've got our first glimpse of its successor – it's called **Siblings Kirra** and will be the latest hospitality venture from the seasoned operators behind Isle of Capri's Edgewater and Fish Emporium. There's no self-serve ice-cream, but there are plenty of other reasons to be excited. Here's what we know so far ...

We may be a tiny bit biased, but we think that Gold Coast life is pretty hard to beat. And when it comes to filling these glorious sunny days, we've got to admit that long lunches spent watching the waves roll in followed by cocktails at dusk would be up there among the best. If you enjoy a sumptuous spread overlooking the ocean, go ahead and get excited for Siblings Kirra. The venue has been almost three years in the making from lengthy tender process to fit-out (currently being undertaken by Zero 9 Constructions), which will look to restore the site to some of its original 1920s glory. We're told to expect some 1950s-inspired Miami Beach vibes with a palette of pale green, peach and white, plus iconic Kirra imagery adorning the walls.

The sizable 220-seat restaurant will offer a modern Mediterranean menu with a focus on tapas-style plates – think beautifully fresh seafood and specially curated cocktails. There are also whispers of an all-day brunch offering rumoured to star some pretty sensational breakfast cocktails. Siblings Kirra is the handiwork of Peter and Tracey Cianci, and their children TJ and Hannah Cianci, Jarrod Kyle and daughter-in-law Bonnie Kyle. The eagerly anticipated restaurant is set to open in December, so that's our summer plans sorted”.

An update: Peter Cianci recently contacted Peter Beauchamp.... Peter Cianci introduced himself as the new leaseholder for the seafood restaurant area of the Kirra Beach Pavilion. He was seeking any information on the history of the Kirra Beach Pavilion and of our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club. He mentioned that he is arranging the production of 6 by 3 minute videos to promote his new restaurant at Kirra Beach. He wanted to include some details on the history of the Kirra SLSC and the Kirra Beach Pavilion. He welcomed having a Surf Club member to be a face for that part of the video/s.... I informed our Club President (Joel Kinneally) and passed on Joel's contact details. I also provided Peter with the Kirra SLSC Office contact details and suggested the purchase of the publication 'Kirra SLSC 100 Years by Peter Kelly (2016)'.

During our telephone conversation, Peter Cianci stated that he does not believe the restaurant would be open by Xmas.... but possibly early in Year 2022. He further commented that he does not want to operate his new seafood restaurant in competition to the business of our licensed Kirra Supporters Club nor the small Coffee Shop. Peter mentioned further that he expects that the restaurant would open after 9am on any day for trading (as is usual for such businesses)... and added that it was his intention to set up this new business to provide a future for his children in the hospitality industry.

Peter Cianci added that he welcomed an opportunity to catch up with Kirra Club President Joel Kinneally and Supporters President Michael Hill in the near future as time permits (COVID, border closures, etc) to discuss how his family and their new enterprise can support the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club..... 'An opportunity and partnership into the future'

Hope you enjoyed this October 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 contact the Association's committee on email: kirra@kirraoldboys.com and arrangements can be made to collect and copy your photographs. Your photographs will be returned to you once a copy has been made by the Association committee.



Many thanks for your continuing support of the Association and the Committee

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’**