

NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2021



Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

-: Established 29th November 1978 :-

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

ABN: 66 429 080 066

“Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day”

Hosted by the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

“A special annual event for all associated with the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club when we come together in fellowship to remember and celebrate the lives and contributions of those Surf Club members, family and supporters who sadly are no longer with us”

LEST WE FORGET

A wonderful day was shared by those many past and current Kirra Surf Club members and families who attended the Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day held at the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club on Sunday 27th December 2020.

It was the best ever attended with Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Members, long serving and past members, families and supporters joining in the celebrations of this significant day of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club calendar. It was a scene full of the mighty **‘Royal Blue and Gold’** with many wearing their Surf Club or Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association polo shirts.

Many past members attended who in their time have given so much to advancing the ideals of their Kirra Surf Life Saving Club through contributions in administration and management; beach patrols and surf safety; surf sports; revenue generation; and general surf lifesaving duties.



Our foundation Association President **Ron Gurnett** (Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member #38/1973) and Secretary **Bob Littler** (Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member #39/1974) joined in this special day of remembrance and fellowship. Ron and Bob were there from the start of the Kirra Old Boys Association (Est: 29/11/1978) over forty-two years ago and continue to provide their passionate support for their Association.

A big thank you to the Manager and all bar and bistro staff of the Kirra Beach Surf Club for their professional and friendly service provided on this special and very busy afternoon held at the licensed club..... *“Thank you and so very much appreciated!”*

What a special day shared with Kirra mates

Laurie Cavill: *“Great afternoon with great people at the Kirra Old Boys Association – Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day... remembering those that aren’t with us anymore and the massive contributions they have given Kirra SLSC”*

Dave Strumer: *“Respect and thank you”*

Cheryll Fenton: *“Was a great afternoon. Thank you to the Kirra Old Boys for putting it on and to the wonderful staff (licensed Club) for keeping us hydrated”*

Rachel Morrison (nee Littler): *“Thank you to Peter Beauchamp and all the organisers for a great afternoon.... So lovely to see everyone. ‘Once a Kirra member – always a Kirra member’ is just so true!!!”*

Patrik Holmkvist: *“What a Vibe we had today!! Very proud of our mighty heritage and our Royal Blue and Gold!”*

George Doniger: *“The Old Boys Committee are doing a fantastic job in remembering and celebrating all those who came before us and who helped in making Kirra such a great surf lifesaving club.... thank you!”*

Gary Douglas: *“It was just great to catch up with my olde Kirra mates and to remember our dear club friends who are no longer with us! Thank you....”*

Michael Hill: *“Gosh... there had to be more than a dozen Kirra Life Members there.... How special this day is for our Surf Club!”*

Ron Gurnett: *“This has grown to be such a special day for our Surf Club!”*

Mark Rogers: *“I just love being involved!”*

“Once a Kirra member – always a Kirra member”

Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day – 27th December 2020



“Above: Association members Lisa, Cheryl and Rachel catching up and enjoying good times at the Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day; Left/Below: Acknowledging those who are no longer with us....”



“Coordinated and sponsored by the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association”



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 club and view the wonderful Kirra Surf Club history that is now showcased throughout the venue... Kirra Beach Surf Club”

Out and about



“Above: Australian Open R & R (Six Person) Champions: (L-R) Peter Kelly; Barry Mullins; Trevor Klingner; Bob Littler; Graham White; Brian Brymer; Arch Nicholson (Coach) – 1977 Australian SLSA Championship: Bancoora Beach VIC”

“Below: Two Kirra SLSC greats catching up at the Surf Club remembering good times together – Kirra SLSC Hon. Life Member Peter Kelly (#57/1997); and Australian Olympian and swimming legend Graham White OAM (SLSA Australian Hall of Fame)”



“Left: Kirra Old Boys and good mates catching up and enjoying fun times together prior to Christmas... 11th December 2020 – (L-R): Darrin Gear; Adam Day; Mark Rogers; and Nick Hume... Gosh, that restaurant is not a past venue for a 1970s illegal casino in Fortitude Valley?”



“Above: (L-R) Cheryll Fenton and Tina Thorne attending the 2020 Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day at the Kirra Beach Surf Club”



“Left: It is a beautiful morning at Kirra Beach – Monday 28th December 2020.... Where else would you rather be?”

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 at the ‘Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association’ fund raising and fellowship events”

Friday 7th May 2021: **Kirra Sports Luncheon** 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 Pineapple Hotel’s famous 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 ON SALE SOON!!!**

Sunday 11th 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.

Sunday 3rd 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 26th November 2021: Be at the ‘Kirra Old Boys’ **Christmas Function/Annual General Meeting** at Bob Singleton’s famous Pineapple Hotel commencing from 5:30pm for a fun evening with Kirra mates.

Monday 27th 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’.



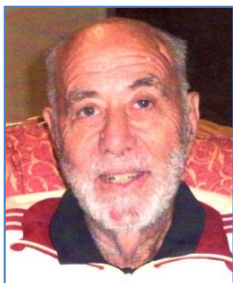
Special memorabilia.... Keeping the Kirra Surf Club history alive for our future members!!

Thank you to the Jones Family who generously donated this framed record of Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member Clive ‘Mick’ Jones (LM #17/1938).

Clive joined his Kirra Surf Club only fourteen years after it was established on the 7th January 1916. He was an active Club member and R&R competitor. He was elected Club Captain in 1935 and held the position for six years until 1941.



“Above Right: 1935 Kirra R & R Team with John Brinkley (holding legs), Clive Jones (second left), and Norm Girvan (Belt). Sadly Kirra SLSC members Jack Brinkley and Norm Girvan were victims of the first recorded shark attack tragedy to occur in the history of the Town of Coolangatta and at Kirra Beach on the 27th October 1937. Clive Jones was Club Captain at the time”.
Reference: Kirra SLSC 100 Years by Peter D Kelly: Pages 66-70 (Published 2016)



VALE - James 'Tony' Dunn (13/10/1934 – 7/12/2020)

Sadly another Kirra legend passed away on the 7th December 2020. Tony was a long term member of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club joining in the early 1950s. He was a popular Kirra member, well known and a good mate to many. Known as 'Tony' to his mates, he obtained his Bronze Medallion in Surf Lifesaving (#41948) on 16th November 1952. He served with distinction as a club member and was Patrol Captain for four seasons between 1955 and 1958.

Tony was a very accomplished swimmer competing for his Kirra Surf Club in R & R, Surf Race and Surf Team events. He was a member of some of the great Kirra SLSC teams of the fifties that just missed on several occasions to bring home an Australian 'Gold Medal'. However, Tony won multiple Point Danger Branch and Surf Lifesaving Queensland Championships, including the following Queensland successes:

- 1953: Queensland Junior Surf Teams Championship;
- 1953: Queensland Junior R & R (Six Person) Championship;
- 1957: Queensland Open Surf Teams Championship;
- 1959: Queensland Open Surf Teams Championship; and
- 2002: 65 Years (Plus) Male Tube Rescue Championship.



During the early 1960's Kirra had a Beach Football Team comprising a number of members who were top Rugby League and Rugby Union players. Some members had the distinction of playing for Australia and Queensland. Tony Dunn was one of the team. During this era 'beach football' competitions were eagerly fought out between surf clubs and the various beach guest houses of Coolangatta. The Kirra team won many competitions except one..... They lost a 'no rules contest' when playing the St Leonards Guest House team that without Kirra's knowledge comprised the 1960 St George Rugby League Premiership Team that was holidaying at Coolangatta after a successful year.

"Left: 1960 Kirra Surf Team (L-R): Graham Byrnes; Ken Wiles; Rob Burns; and Tony Dunn.... A champion surf team of good Kirra mates"

Given his outstanding swimming prowess, Tony enjoyed playing Water Polo and was a member of the Kirra Water Polo Team that won the Brisbane A Grade Water Polo Competition undefeated. Tony's other team members were Rob Burns; Dennis Ferguson; Arch Nicholson; Nick Potts; Bob Treffene; Roger Wickham; Ken Wiles (Captain); and Bob (Polo) Wilson. In the late 1990's Tony made a return to surf sports and competed in the Queensland Surf Lifesaving Masters Championships with success, and he was a regular in his age division for the annual Kirra Ocean Swim held off the southern Gold Coast. James 'Tony' Dunn is the brother of Bob 'Polo' Wilson (Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member #54/1994)..... **"Lest we forget"**

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On beach patrol over Christmas at Kirra Beach



Well done to Kirra Club President Joel Kinneally, club members and families who were assisted by our Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association members and their daughters in maintaining high performance patrols on Kirra Beach over the Festive Season.... Just a wonderful effort and a big thank you to all who put their hand up over this busy holiday period 😊😊😊



2021 KIRRA SPORTS LUNCHEON



Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

Friday 7th May 2021

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 refreshments; 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 Luncheon in Brisbane"

TICKETS ON SALE SOON!!

Start planning your table for a great day with good mates whilst enjoying the Pineapple Hotel's famous seafood buffet and icy cold refreshments.

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

KIRRA BEACH – MONDAY 28TH DECEMBER 2020



VALE – Mrs Beresford (Beryl) Papadimos

Mrs Beryl Papadimos sadly recently passed away with her funeral service held in Brisbane on the 30th December 2020 attended by many family and friends. Mrs Papadimos is the mother of our long-term Kirra Surf Life Saving Club member Yvonne Mullins.

Yvonne has been associated with her Kirra Surf Club for many years, serving as the Club Secretary for four years from 1981 to 1985. She supported the revenue generation activities of the former Kirra Ladies Committee and more recently served as a member on the Kirra SLS Supporters Association that is responsible for the licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club. Yvonne contributed to the success of the Surf Club's one hundredth year as a key member of the Planning and Coordinating Committee for the Kirra SLSC '100 Year Gala Celebrations'. Yvonne is a member of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association...

To Yvonne and her family we offer our deepest sympathies with the sad passing of her mother Mrs Beresford (Beryl) Papadimos.



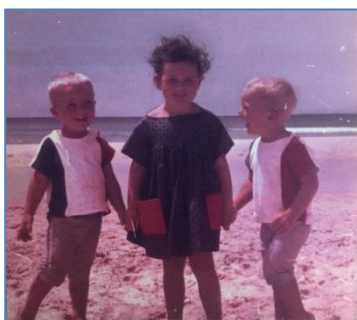
VALE – Mrs Joyce Meehan

Extract: Facebook: Rick Meehan OAM (1st Jan 2021): *“To all my friends over many years who have had the pleasure to meet my mum Joyce, today it is with deep sorrow that I announce my mum has just sadly passed away at my home in Nowra. It was her wish to pass away there and for the last 15 days Maryann and I have sat and nursed her. Whilst at times it was hard, it is a memory I will cherish. She was not in pain as we and various palliative care nurses 24/7 kept her comfortable and allowed us to honour her wish to pass at home, her home with me for the last 15 years.*

It was under four weeks ago, just after her 87th birthday, I took her back to her beloved Kirra Beach on the Gold Coast to see some of her closest friends and her daughter Sandra and granddaughter Rebecca. These are the things she requested. For that I am also grateful. I will miss you dearly mum, will always love you. ❤️❤️. You can now be with my Dad Ken and my brother Mike”. **(End of Extract)**



The Meehan Family have been associated with their beloved Kirra Beach and the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club for over sixty-five years. Ken Meehan gained his Bronze Medallion on the 4th November 1956 (Q833); served as Club Captain for three years (1962 to 1964); and was an excellent surf competitor. In September 1968 he founded the Kirra Nippers and was the first President. In 1968 Ken was awarded Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Membership (LM #33/1968). He served for many years as the President and Secretary of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association (Est: 29/11/1978).



Ken and Joyce Meehan loved Kirra Beach and introduced their children to the joys of the ocean and surf lifesaving. Rick and his brother Mike were original members of the 'Kirra Kids'... the newly established Kirra Nippers. Both were excellent competitors with Rick achieving success in surf sports winning the Junior (Nipper) Beach Flags event at the 1975 Australian SLSC Junior Championship held at Moana SA. Rick continues his association with his Surf Club as a long-term member of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association. **(Photo left: Meehan children Sandra, Rick and Mike at Kirra Beach)**

Our deepest sympathies are offered to Rick, Sandra and their families.

‘LEST WE FORGET’

Year 2020 has been a challenging year for many and especially for those who sadly lost family members and dear Kirra friends. The following Kirra members, family and supporters who left us over the past twelve months were acknowledged at the Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day:

Richard Wortley (January); Ian ‘Elke’ Sommer (February); Mrs Joan Beare (May); John Agnew (June); Ian Murrowood (June); Mrs Veronica ‘Vonnie’ Dunn (October); Mrs Barbara Mullins (October); James ‘Jim’ Devlin (November); Stephen ‘Mick’ Schooth (December); James ‘Tony’ Dunn (December); and Mrs Beresford ‘Beryl’ Papadimos (December).

STOP THE PRESS..... 'LAST DRINKS AT THE KB!'

As advised in our 'Old Boys' December 2020 NEWSLETTER, the Kirra Beach Hotel opened on the 30th November 1956 and will be closing its doors with its last trading day being Sunday, 28th February 2021.

George Doniger, a wonderful supporter of our Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association, has proposed '**LAST DRINKS at the Kirra Beach Hotel**' when long serving and past members of both the Kirra and North Kirra Surf Clubs can come together in fellowship to celebrate fun times and mateship.

WATCH THIS SPACE..... Further discussion will be had with George on a day and date to be confirmed for **LAST DRINKS.....** *"One of those special occasions to be enjoyed by many!"*

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 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

Hope you enjoyed this first Newsletter for 2021..... Please share the Newsletter with your circle of friends and work colleagues. Should you have any items or photographs for the next Newsletter then please forward these to the Association's email address: 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



"Above: The old and the new!! Kirra SLSC clubhouses in 1936 with the construction of the new Kirra Beach Pavilion"

Once a Kirra member – Always a Kirra member"