

NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2022



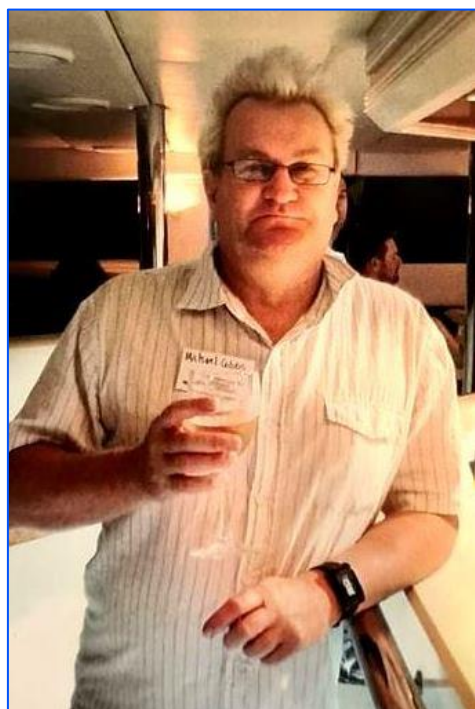
Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

-: 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

VALE: Michael Gibbs



It is always a sad duty to inform members of the passing of another past active member of our great Kirra Surf Life Saving Club. Former Kirra SLSC Club President (2000 – 2004) Michael Gibbs passed away on Monday 21st March 2022 following a long illness.

It is recorded in the publication: Kirra SLSC 100 Years (2016) by Peter Kelly – page 264: *“Michael Gibbs made a tremendous contribution to the Club this season (1999/2000). He was involved in many aspects of Club activities holding the positions of Clubhouse Director, Team Manager, Bus Driver, Brisbane trainer and publicist, all the while displaying a welcome enthusiasm and encouraging Club spirit that was an example for all. He was a breath of fresh air from what had potentially been a difficult year”*. Michael was awarded the Club’s premier trophy at the annual dinner for his outstanding efforts in 1999/2000 – *‘Most Willing and Consistent Member’*. Michael also competed in surf rescue events focusing of First Aid Competition.

Whilst relatively new to surf lifesaving, Michael Gibbs was elected as the Kirra SLSC Club President for the 2000/2001 season and held this senior position of the Surf Club for **four years**. For his leadership and friendly mentoring of all members particularly the Club’s junior membership, and for being there for the many Club supporters through his first season as

Club President, Michael was again awarded the Club’s – *‘Most Willing and Consistent Member’*. During the 2001/2002 season Michael continued to lead by example and this was further recognised at the annual dinner where he received the award – *‘Most Willing Worker’*. As President, he was proud to announce at the season’s final function that the Surf Club had achieved \$20,000 in sponsorship for a new surf boat.

Under his leadership, the Surf Club continued to improve in all aspects of surf lifesaving during the 2002/2003 season. At the 2003/2004 season annual general meeting, Michael announced that this would be his fourth and final season as Club President. Extract: Kirra SLSC 100 Years – page 274: *“He had done a brilliant job during a period of change, and had introduced to the Surf Club sound managerial practices”*.

Michael’s funeral service was held on Thursday 31st March 2022 at the Tweed Heads Memorial Gardens followed with a celebration of his life attended by family, friends and several past Kirra SLSC members at the Kirra Supporters Club. He was remembered for his dedication and passion to improving the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club, and for sharing his enthusiasm and friendship with all Surf Club members and supporters.

Kirra SLSC members tributes to Michael Gibbs (11/01/1964 – 21/03/2022)

KSLSC Hon Life Member (#73/2019) Nev Gray: *“Michael as the Club President would bring the members down from Brisbane, and on weekends he would take the younger ones to bowling or movies or anything that they could do to have fun during the early evening... I visited him just a few weeks before he passed away... A top member of Kirra”*.

Kirra SLSC past member Ray Fien: *“Very sad – Michael was an outstanding surf life saver”*.

KSLSC Hon Life Member (#66/2011) Tony Wadson: *“Michael took over as President during difficult times and when no one else was willing to take on the job. He was certainly a hard worker and kept the Club above water during his tenure”*.

KSLSC Hon Life Member (#58/1998) Adam Day: *“He did much towards rebuilding the capability and membership of our Surf Club. His support for the junior members in particular was just outstanding. Michael would eventually leave Kirra and join Salt SLSC where he was influential in building this successful surf club at Cabarita”*.

Redevelopment of the former Kirra Beach Hotel site:

Southern GC giant speeds up to 2026

As with all building developments, there are always changes made to the original 'high level' concept designs as were submitted to

Council to achieve a development application approval to commence a project. This is no different for the redevelopment of the former Kirra Beach Hotel large land site.

The project developer recently submitted its redesign proposals for the site in a bid to capitalise on the huge demand for unit and apartment accommodation on the Gold Coast, particularly at Kirra Beach. Council has now approved the amendments to the original design concept for the site.

"The article left is from the Gold Coast Bulletin published 21st March 2022"

"In go the cranes 05/04/22!"



Artist impression and site shot of the Kirra Beach Hotel site and the Kirra Point project.

ANDREW POTTS

ONE of the biggest developments in the southern Gold Coast's history will be completed three years ahead of schedule.

Developer KTQ Group as fast-tracked Kirra Point, the next stage of its \$380m redevelopment of the Kirra Beach Hotel in a bid to capitalise on the market.

The Brisbane-based company filed new plans with the Gold Coast City Council last week.

KTQ development director Jeremy Holmes said the design of one of the towers, at

13 storeys, had been revamped to include more commercial space and extra basement parking.

"We plan to be a long-term owner of this precinct and we're committed to curating a mix of retail and commercial tenants who share our vision for this thriving neighbourhood retail precinct that locals love," he said.

"Extra parking and some more commercial space provides for a better concentration and mix of tenants which will further support the destination."

Construction of the 16-storey, 118-unit Miles Residen-

ces, the project's first stage, began more than a year ago.

Kirra Point, now three storeys taller than initially planned, will incorporate the new Kirra Beach Hotel. A third, seven-storey tower will have a 92-room hotel resort.

Mr Holmes said the improved design allowed a more efficient construction schedule, with the removal of the fourth building and the opportunity now to complete the whole project in two stages, rather than four.

"We now expect to finish the whole project by 2026, three years earlier than originally forecast. That's good

"WE NOW EXPECT TO FINISH THE PROJECT BY 2026, THREE YEARS EARLIER THAN FORECAST - AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR EVERYBODY"

KTQ GROUP'S JEREMY HOLMES

news for everybody, with less construction impact on the local community and earlier completion of this thriving new retail and hospitality precinct," he said.

The Kirra Beach Hotel was closed in February 2021 after 65

years. Figures lodged with council in early 2021 showed more than 1200 direct and indirect jobs will be created full-time, and more than 840 construction jobs by the project.

Once complete, it is expected to put \$61.4m annually into the Coast economy.

Architect Mark Damant, of Little Boat Projects, has worked on the project masterplan with KTQ since 2018 and said the new improved plan would deliver "an even more vibrant and locally-focused precinct for Kirra, designed with a 'people-first approach' - a place for everyone to enjoy living and visiting".



Dare to believe? Could this one day become a reality?



Got your calendar out? Association events/dates for Year 2022

Date	Event	Location
Monday 25 th April	Anzac Day Services	In your local community
Monday 2 nd May	Last day of voluntary beach patrols	Kirra Beach
Saturday 25 th June	Kirra SLSC – Annual Dinner	Clubhouse – Kirra Beach
Sunday 26 th June	Kirra SLSC – Annual General Meeting	Clubhouse – Kirra Beach
Sunday 10 th July	Kirra Old Boys – Annual ‘Elke’ Golf Day 6:32 am tee off / 32 positions reserved Green Fees - \$38pp / Motorised Cart - \$40	Wynnum Golf Club Brisbane T: (07) 3396 9000
Friday – August (Date to be advised)	Kirra Old Boys – Sports Lunch 11:30 am to 3:00 pm	Pineapple Hotel Brisbane
Saturday 8 th October	Kirra SLSC Hon Life Governor Errol Jones Memorial Day – commencing 2:00 pm	Kirra Beach and Kirra Supporters Club
Friday 2 nd December	Kirra Old Boys – Annual Christmas Social Commencing 5:30 pm to late	Pineapple Hotel Brisbane
Tuesday 27 th December	Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day Commencing 3:00 pm	Kirra Supporters Club

Out and about – What’s happening?



Left: Past Kirra SLSC and long-time member of the Kirra Old Boys Association, Rick Meehan OAM continues his commitment to supporting Australian veterans. Rick is chairman of the Keith Payne VC Veterans Support Group.... *“Rick, well done to you and Keith for your dedication in supporting your fellow Australians and those who have served”*

Latest on the Kirra SLSC WW1/WW2 Veterans Memorial

Just in case there were thoughts that this Kirra Old Boys Association ‘Special Project’ was not progressing.... The ‘Naming Stone’ is completed (see below) and the two sandstone pillars are with a Stone Mason. It is hopeful that an image/photograph of the completed memorial ready to be installed at Kirra Beach will be provided shortly by Legacy Monuments.

There has been consultation with various offices of the Department of Defence including Army, Navy, and Air Force on naming conventions, etc. It will be a great day for our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club when we can finally schedule the official dedication ceremony of our very own **Kirra SLSC WW1/WW2 Veterans Memorial**.



KIRRA BEACH SURF CLUB – Bar, Bistro, Gaming and Saltys Coffee

“The licensed Club is open daily from 11:00am until late! It is the place to be for icy cold refreshments, tasty meals, friendly and professional staff, and the best views of the Gold Coast. Takeaways provided for members. Breakfast menu is available Saturday and Sunday mornings from 8:00am... Saltys Coffee is open daily from 6am!”



INVITATION TO BECOME A MEMBER



ATTENTION: A message to all of our Kirra Surf Club's senior, long serving and past active members; Kirra Nipper Association coordinators and past members; and to those many families and supporters who continue to enjoy their association with their Kirra SLSC:

It costs nothing to join the Association!

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

By April 2022 there are more than three hundred (300) male and female past/current members and supporters of our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club registered on the Association's mailing list as members. Given this membership number, the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association is one of the largest of its type amongst surf lifesaving clubs throughout Queensland.

Kirra Surf Life Saving Club (Est: 7th January 1916)

"Established for the many, never for the few - Be proud of your membership and life time association with your surf lifesaving club"

Well this is a memory!

Jet Boat and IRB are in the surf off Kirra Beach during the 1980's... Kirra members crewing the two rescue craft include Darren (Butch) Gear driving and Darren Gilby in the IRB; with Glen Winstanley, Kirk Wilson and Peter Beauchamp (Driver/Skipper) in the JRB (Butimer design).



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”

Kirra Beach – The year was 1953 and it seems a very busy time for Kirra SLSC lifesavers!

What can you see? Plenty of people on Kirra Beach; An R & R Team on the beach under instruction; Surf Boat crew getting ready to launch their boat; Paddle boards lined up against the clubhouse veranda; Members gathered on the ocean side of the clubhouse; The carpark is full but isn’t it always full!! The Kirra Camping Grounds is also full with families on holidays; It must be Christmas? There is the small café at the eastern end of the Kirra Beach Pavilion; Not a high-rise building in sight! It sure seems to be a very busy time at Kirra Beach and that is how we like it 😊 😊



Hope you enjoyed the articles and photographs in this April 2022 Newsletter. If you have any items of interest or photographs for our future Newsletters, please contact the Association’s Secretary: kirra@kirraoldboys.com and arrangements can be made to collect these, copy and return to you. Many thanks for your continuing support of the Association and its Committee

‘Once a Kirra member – always a Kirra member’