

NEWSLETTER – MAY 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

Kirra SLSC President and Secretary: “Kicking goals for the surf club and members”

Following the Kirra SLSC’s ‘Council’ Special General Meeting held 9th April 2022, our endorsed Surf Club President, Cheryll Fenton and Secretary, Yvonne Papadimos have been pro-actively engaged with the many Surf Club members, committee and our community in building relationships and support.



Left: (L-R) Yvonne, Laura and Cheryll catching up and enjoying a coffee at Saltys – The best coffee and views on the Gold Coast!”

Extract: Facebook: Friday 29th April 2022 (Post by State Member for Currumbin, Laura Gerber MP):

“Caught up with Cheryll Fenton, the new President of

the Kirra SLSC, and Yvonne Mullins, the Club Secretary, this week. Both of these local women are incredibly inspiring, with Cheryll being the first female President in the club’s one hundred and six (106) year history, and Yvonne currently working as the Executive Director at Oceania Athletics (Yvonne is also President of Queensland Athletics).

Cheryll and Yvonne are passionate about maintaining their positive club culture and they have some great ideas for the future of the surf club. The Kirra SLSC is in fantastic hands”.

KIRRA SLSC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUNDAY, 12TH JUNE 2022 FROM 8:30AM



“Above: Club President Cheryll Fenton (standing right in photo) congratulates the Bronze Squad from Loganlea State High School on successfully achieving the Bronze Medallion in Surf Lifesaving, and welcomes them as new members to the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club. Long serving Kirra member Anthony Cassone (standing at the rear) assisted with the Bronze Squad assessment for their surf lifesaving qualifications.... just a great effort by all and thank you”

Dates for your 2022 calendar

- **Kirra SLSC Annual Dinner:** Saturday 11th June 2022 at Currumbin RSL – details in this Newsletter
- **Kirra SLSC Annual General Meeting:** Sunday 12th June 2022 from 8:30am – “Enjoy breakfast at the Supporters from 8:00am then attend the AGM”
- **Kirra Golf Game:** Sunday 10th July 2022 at the Wynnum Golf Club – Tee Off from 6:30am (32 player positions booked). Contact KSLSC Life Member John (Brashie) Bell to confirm – Mobile: 0401 172521 / Email: johnleebell46@gmail.com
- **Kirra Sports Lunch:** Friday 2nd September 2022 (11:30am to 3:00pm) – Pineapple Hotel
- **Errol Jones Memorial Event:** Saturday 8th October 2022 commencing from 2:00pm on Kirra Beach then in the Kirra Supporters Club
- **Members Xmas Social Gathering:** Friday 2nd December 2022 from 5:30pm – Pineapple Hotel
- **Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day:** Tuesday 27th December 2022 commencing from 3:00pm in the Kirra Supporters Club

Some amazing photographs from Kirra Beach!



“Above: The Kirra SLSC clubhouse built in 1935 through the partnership of and funded by the Kirra Surf Club and the Coolangatta Town Council (including a State Government Grant).... It will always be Kirra SLSC’s clubhouse”

“Left: The backdrop for the Kirra SLSC clubhouse is set to change forever with the development of the Kirra Beach Resort that includes a new hotel, high-rise holiday and residential accommodation, shops and building carparks”

“Right: The Surf Club’s Training Officer Laurie Cavill provided an excellent photo of the setup of equipment by his rostered members beach patrol at Kirra Beach – 17th April 2022. Beach patrols finished for the season on Monday, 2nd May”.

Note: Kirra’s very successful IRB competition team training on the beach near the little groyne.... GO TEAM KIRRA!



VALE: Ross (Frenchie) French



Please note the following message circulated by the Association on the 15th April 2022.

"It is our sad duty to advise of the passing last night at the Singleton Hospital NSW of our friend and long-time Kirra SLSC and Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association member – Ross French. The family will hold the funeral service for Ross in Singleton. However, Ross requested that his ashes be cast into the ocean off Kirra Beach, followed by a celebration of his life by his family together with his mates from his Kirra Surf Club and rugby league (Wests and BLOB's) at the licensed Kirra Supporters Club.... future date to be advised. We express our deepest sympathies to Ross's family and friends".

"Once a Kirra member – always a Kirra member"

Ross French joined the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club in the spring months of year 1970. He completed his examination for the Bronze Medallion in Surf Lifesaving (Q7310) on Saturday, 15th November 1970 along with brothers Alan and Peter Beauchamp, John Bowler, Gary Douglas, Michael Dellit, Graham (Bumpo) Freeman, Keith Mullen, and Greg Ward. These Bronze Squad members all lived close to each other in the southern Brisbane suburbs of Morningside, Carina, and Camp Hill, with Ross in the western suburbs. From this early beginning these new members became good Kirra mates. For the Bronze Medallion examination, Kirra Life Member Barry Thorne swept a senior surf boat crew and positioned it out behind the swim cans for safety as the assessment included a Reel, Line and Belt mandatory patient and surf belt swims. Life Member Ron Gurnett was a passenger in the surf boat observing the swims by these new Kirra Surf Club members.



"Left: Photograph from the early 1970s at the Kirra Surf Club: (L-R) Barry Robinson; Gary Douglas; Steve Paul; Ross French; and Tom Laffin:

Ross remained an active member of his surf club through the seventies performing his rostered beach patrols, raffles at the Kirra Beach Hotel and mid-week in Brisbane, and house to house collections. He also enjoyed the opportunity to row surf boats. He was a long time past member of his Kirra Surf Club and remained connected with his many mates through his regular attendance at Kirra Old Boys social events on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane.



Ross also played then coached rugby league for his Western Suburbs Rugby League Football Club. In his later years, he enjoyed catching up with past Brisbane Rugby League players at the monthly social gatherings organised by the 'Brisbane League Old Boys' that are regularly held at southern Gold Coast surf clubs, including Kirra.

"Left: Ross French (right) joins with past Brisbane Rugby League players for their monthly social get-together on this occasion at the Palm Beach SLSC Supporters Club – 4th December 2021. Kirra Old Boys in the photo also include Bob Arnold (left) and Dennis Ride (centre – white polo)"

---oooo0000oooo---

Now Playing

SALTY'S TREASURE CHEST

Daily 11am-Late

13 Fun Machines
Complementary
Coffee & Soft-Drinks
while playing machines

Gambling@help
PHONE | 1800-10-1022 | ONLINE
www.gamblinghelpline.org.au
1800 858 858

Kirra Beach
www.kirrasurfclub.com
Terms & Conditions Apply

KIRRA SUPPORTERS 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!"

YOU'RE INVITED!



KIRRA SLSC ANNUAL DINNER

Come and celebrate the end of the 2021/2022
season.



**JUNE 11 2022 /1800- LATE
CURRUMBIN RSLFUNCTION ROOM
165 DURINGAN ST, CURRUMBIN,4223**

TICKET PRICE = \$90

U18= \$45

DRESS CODE: SEMI FORMAL

**TICKET PRICE INCLUDES 2 COURSE MEAL AND
3HR DRINKS PACKAGE.**

**PLEASE RSVP BY 30TH OF MAY 2022 TO
KIRRA@KIRRASLSC.COM**

**PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO
EVENT. PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE TO**

ACC NAME: KIRRA SLSC

BSB: 124063

ACC: 21657960

REF: YOUR NAME

KIRRA HISTORY PROJECT – AN UPDATE!

'The key project of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association'



The Kirra History Project proposal submitted by the Kirra Old Boys Association to the Kirra SLSC Management Committee for consideration and approval in early 2018, focuses on show-casing the exceptional history of performance by members of our Kirra Surf Club since its foundation in 1916.

"The Kirra Surf Life Saving Club established on the 7th January 1916 is the second oldest surf lifesaving club in Queensland and one of the longest continually operating surf lifesaving clubs in Australia"

This year (2022) our Surf Club celebrates one hundred and six (106) years of providing voluntary surf life saving operational community services at Kirra Beach, and for the boader communities of the City of the Gold Coast and Queensland. **"Proud of the mighty Royal Blue and Gold!"**

Project achievements to date, include:

- **Life Members Honour Board:** Includes Life Members of the Surf Club, SLSQ Point Danger Branch, Surf Life Saving Queensland, and Surf Life saving Australia; and the Australian Surf Life Saving – Hall of Fame recipients: Completed and installed;
- **Club Patron Honour Board:** Completed and installed;
- **Australian Champions Honour Board:** Completed and installed;
- **Club Trophy and Memorabilia Display (Glass) Cabinet:** Installed;
- **Life Members Cap:** Presented and distributed to Life Members;
- **Queensland Champions Honour Board:** Research and design concept format (similar to Australian Champions Honour Board) now completed and with the Signwriter (Signage Redcliffe). Under production prior to installation;
- **World and Australian Champions Photo Gallery:** Research completed and consultation progressing with framer on design format and production. Initial phase for production prior to installation;
- **WW1/WW2 Veretans Memorial:** Federal Government funding received with support from our Federal Member for MacPherson Karen Andrews MP. Stone mason (Legacy Monuments, Yatala) is progressig with the final phase of constrution prior to the installation at Kirra Beach (in front of the clubhouse – ocean side); and
- **Historical photographs/displays:** Showcased in the licensed Kirra Supporters Club: Ongoing.



Project initiatives currently being reserched, include:

- **Committee Honour Board:** Research progressing on 106 years of Committee positions for President, Secretary, Treasurer and Captain (under review for approval to progress);
- **Life Governor Members Honour Board:** Research progressing (under review for approval to progress);
- **World Champions Honour Board:** Research completed (under review for approval to progress);

Full details of the Kirra Historical Project 'Business Case' is available on the Kirra SLSC web page:

www.kirrasurfclub.com.au



INVITATION TO BECOME A MEMBER



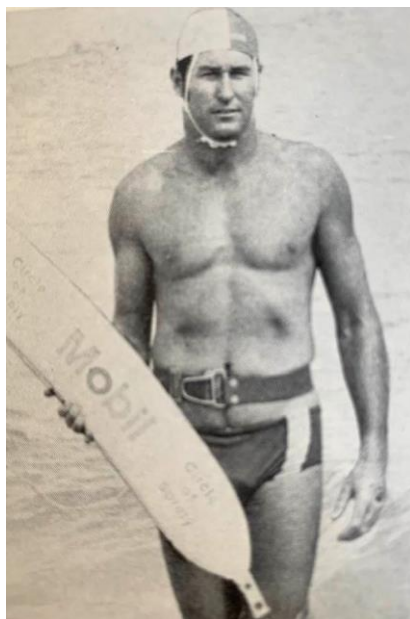
ATTENTION: *'A message to all of our Kirra Surf Club senior, long serving and past active members; Kirra Nipper Association coordinators and past members; and to those many families and supporters who continue to enjoy their association with the Kirra SLSC'*

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 the 1st May 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. 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.

---ooooOOOOoooo---



Vale – John Cunningham:

Extract: Facebook post by Kirra SLSC Life Member Peter Kelly (30/04/22): *"Vale John Cunningham, local legend and great surf lifesaver who contributed so much to the surfing folklore on the Gold Coast. 'Cunny' saved many lives and until recent times was a regular swimmer at Jack Evans Boat Harbour. Together with Kirra Lifesavers Jeff Callaghan, Vic Arnall and Surfers Paradise's Wren Bligh, they won bravery medals for their efforts during one of the most epic rescues in Gold Coast history. RIP John Cunningham"*.

John was a TH&C member and the long-time and highly respected Council Lifeguard at Greenmount Beach.... *"A friend of many at Kirra SLSC from his era in surf lifesaving"*



Please enjoy the articles and photographs in this May 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'

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"*