

# NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2023



## Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

*"The Association established on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 1978 supports Kirra SLSC past and long serving male and female members"*

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

### BUMPO/ELKE REMEMBRANCE DAY

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**from 3:00pm**

**Kirra Supporters Club**

*Come along and wear your Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association or Kirra SLSC polo shirt*

**'A special occasion for all past and current Surf Club members, their families, and supporters to come together in fellowship to celebrate the lives and contributions of ALL our Kirra SLSC members, family and mates who sadly are no longer here with us at Kirra Beach'**

**WE WILL NEVER FORGET THEIR FRIENDSHIP AND SERVICE**

*"Complimentary refreshments and fingerfood provided for all attending"*

*Coordinated by the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association*



Bumpo (Graham Freeman) and Elke (Ian Sommer) were both keen boaties and rugby league players during their long association with their Kirra Surf Life Saving Club.

*"Left: Kirra Junior Boat Crew (L-R): Greg Ward; Jack Hunter; Alan Beauchamp; and Graham (Bumpo) Freeman"*

*"Right: Kirra Senior Boat Crew (L-R): Keith Cook; Ian (Elke) Sommer; Barrie Thorne; Barry Robinson; and John Bowler"*



### Update – Kirra Boaties

*(by Scott Post – Coach and Sweep)*

Firstly, I would like to thank Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Governor Member Max Winders for the support that he continues to provide for the surfboats this year... *"The Kirra crews very much appreciated all your help and continuing support"*.



*"Kirra female crew (160 years) training hard at Kirra Beach.... what a view of the beach!!"*

All things are starting to come together for the Kirra Surf Club and its surfboat crews this year. Three crews in training and all looking forward to competing this season.

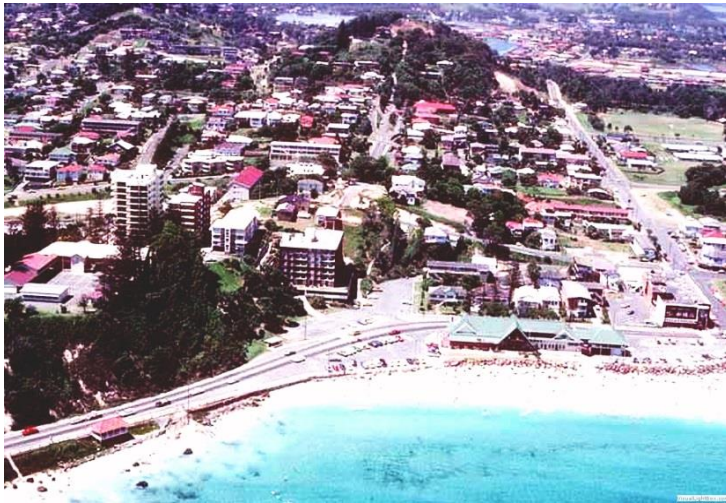
The 160 years female team whilst new to surf boats, will be competitive. Their focus is on building their craft skills.... they are doing very well and putting in a lot of hard work... *"Go the mighty Royal Blue and Gold of Kirra Surf Club!"*

The 220 years female crew are back together and are also training hard. They are looking forward to the season of competition and attaining some good results. The Masters men crew that went around last season are enthusiastic to go at it again this season.

Who would have thought that we would have three crews in training for the 2023/2024 season. Thank you for your continuing support ☺ ☺ (Postie)



# Kirra Beach – changing ever so quickly!!



**“Above: The world famous Kirra Beach – (Left) in the early 1980s and (Right) with high-rise development in progress throughout our small community (November 2023)... Tower one on Miles Street now completed for the new Kirra Beach Hotel redevelopment”**



**“Left: Kirra Point and (below) the communities of Kirra Beach and Coolangatta in the early 1960s”**



**“Left: The north bound train departing the Griffith Street, Coolangatta Railway Station for Brisbane in the late 1950s. Kirra Surf Club members living in Brisbane would regularly use the train for their travels to and from the surf club.... now that would have been an adventure!”**



**“Kirra Surf Life Saving Club established 7<sup>th</sup> January 1916 is the second oldest surf lifesaving club in Queensland”**





# ANNUAL CHRISTMAS REUNION

(Extract posted on the Kirra Surf Club FACEBOOK on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023)

## KIRRA SURF CLUB OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION

(The Association was established on the 29th November 1978 - Today with 330 members)

### Annual Christmas Reunion

The 45th Annual Christmas Reunion of past and long-serving Kirra SLSC members was held on Friday 24th November at the Pineapple Hotel, Brisbane. It was an enjoyable evening of yarns of those by-gone Kirra Surf Club memories and good fellowship 🤗🤗

The **Committee for the Year 2024** was unanimously supported and endorsed by those attending, and includes:

President - Peter Beauchamp (KSLSC Hon Life Member #49/1986)

Secretary - Adam Day (KSLSC Hon Life Member #58/1998)

Member - Paul Cameron (KSLSC Long-Serving Honorary Member)

Member - Mark Rogers (KSLSC Long-Serving Active Member)

Thank you for your continuing support of our Committee and the Association.

**President - Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association**



Annual 'Kirra Surf Club Old Boys/Girls' CHRISTMAS celebrations at the famous Pineapple Hotel has been a key event for the Association for many years and is a wonderful evening. Of those attending, it is a "who's who" of the Kirra Surf Club's past, present and long-serving members and supporters.

It would be fantastic to see a large turnout of the mighty 'Royal Blue and Gold' for this event in Year 2024. "It is a great social night of fun for all!"

### Kirra Surf Life Saving Club (Established: 7<sup>th</sup> January 1916)

'The Kirra Surf Life Saving Club is the second oldest surf lifesaving club in Queensland, and one of the longest continuously operating surf lifesaving clubs in Australia'

## Kirra Supporters Club - BAR, BISTRO, GAMING and SALTYS COFFEE

"Recently refurbished, the licensed club is the best place to enjoy icy cold refreshments, tasty meals, welcoming and professional staff, and the best ocean views of the Gold Coast!"





## ***“Electronic mail address...the way to go!”***

**Have you provided your electronic Email address? Of the current Association membership of now up to three hundred and thirty, almost fifty members are yet to provide their electronic Email address. The Association’s Committee invites you to provide your electronic mailing address (should you have one). Details of your Email may be forwarded to Association Secretary Adam Day at [kirra@kirraoldboys.com](mailto:kirra@kirraoldboys.com)**

***“Should you not have or do not wish to provide an Email address, you will continue to receive by mail (Aus Post) all newsletters, news updates, and ‘Old Boys’ broadcasts circulated from time to time”***

## **FROM THE PHOTO ALBUM ☺**



***“Left: (L-R) Jim Schofield, Steve Paul OAM, Ron Gurnett, and Barry Robinson are all foundation members of the Kirra Old Boys Association.... Collectively, they have been associated with their Kirra Surf Life Saving Club for more than 250 years. This is an outstanding record and thank you for your continuing generous support”***

***(Photograph from the 2022 Xmas Keg... and yes they were there again at the Pineapple Hotel for the 2023 Christmas event)***

***“Right: Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member (#31/1966) Ralph Ford-Johnson on patrol at Kirra Beach in December 1945. Ralph joined the surf club in the 1944/45 season and obtained his Bronze Medallion in Surf Lifesaving on the 10<sup>th</sup> November 1945 (#23160). He served as a long-term committee member including Club Secretary for four years (1966-69). Ralph is the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club’s longest surviving Honorary Life Member.***



***‘Once a Kirra member – Always a Kirra member’***

**Wishing you and yours an enjoyable Christmas, and a healthy, happy, and successful year 2024. Many thanks for your continuing support of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association and its Committee, and of our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club (Est: 7<sup>th</sup> January 1916).**

**Committee – Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association  
*(Peter Beauchamp, Adam Day, Paul Cameron and Mark Rogers)***

