

NEWSLETTER

July 2026

Kirra Past & Long Serving Members Association

[Established 29th November 1978]

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ONCE A KIRRA MEMBER – ALWAYS A KIRRA MEMBER

YOU BEWDY!! THEY ARE ALL CHAMPIONS

WINNERS – 2026 QUEENSLAND IRB CHAMPION CLUB

WINNERS – 2026 AUSTRALIAN IRB UNDER 23S CHAMPION CLUB

WINNERS – 2026 AUSTRALIAN IRB OPEN CHAMPION CLUB

Winners of multiple events at the Year 2026 Queensland and Australian IRB Championships

'WoW!!! This is the third consecutive year that our renowned Kirra IRB Team has been successful and achieved the Australian IRB Open Champion Club title'

'Multiple Kirra IRB Team members selected in the Queensland State IRB Team that contested the National Inter-State Competition at the 2026 Australian IRB Championship'



"Above: Yes, they are all outstanding champions of our Kirra Surf Club!!! The incredible Kirra IRB Team displaying both the Under 23 Years and Open Champion Club trophies at the 2026 Australian IRB Championship held at South West Rocks NSW in July 2026 – Congratulations on your incredible success and proud of you all competing in the Royal Blue and Gold"



Keith receives his Kirra SLSC Life Member Blazer

Owing to health reasons, Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member (#71/2017) Keith Boucher was unable to attend the *'Life Member Blazer Presentation Event'* held on Sunday, 14th June 2026 at the Kirra Supporters Club. Keith's brother Dennis along with good Kirra mates Ron, Lance and Max joined Keith at his home residence and presented him with his Kirra SLSC Life Member Blazer on Wednesday 24th June 2026. Congratulations Keith and thank you for all you do for your Kirra Surf Life Saving Club and the Kirra Past and Long-Serving Members Association. Ron's words ring true… *'Keith is a great Kirra man!!'*

"Left: Kirra Life Member (#38/1973) Ron Gurnett presents on behalf of the Surf Club, the Life Member Blazer to Kirra Life Member (#71/2017) Keith Boucher – 24th June 2026"



"Left: Kirra Surf Club legends they are all with collectively over three hundred and twenty years of association and service with their Kirra Surf Life Saving Club – L-R: Kirra SLSC Life Governor Member (#11/2022) Dennis Boucher; Kirra SLSC Life Member (#38/1973) Ron Gurnett; Kirra SLSC Life Member (#71/2017) Keith Boucher; Kirra SLSC Long Term Member and Old Boy Max Greatorix; Kirra SLSC Life Member (#67/2012) Lance English"

It is truly appropriate on this occasion when we say and yell from the roof tops!

ONCE A KIRRA MEMBER – ALWAYS A KIRRA MEMBER



"What an amazing photograph of Kirra SLSC Life Members at the Blazer Presentation held 14th June 2026 – Collectively there is more than one thousand four hundred (1,400) years of service so generously given by these twenty-eight outstanding Kirra members – Vigilance and Service"

Association's ANNUAL CHRISTMAS REUNION

Come along – we need you there! This is the forty-eighth occasion that the Association's ANNUAL CHRISTMAS REUNION has been held since the Association was established on the 29th November 1978....

Your attendance will ensure that this special annual event continues into the future.

It is an occasion to catch up with olde Kirra mates, meet active Kirra members, and strengthen the connection between the olde and the new of our Surf Club.

This is an annual event for past and current Kirra members, families and supporters to celebrate Kirra's amazing one hundred and eleven years of surf lifesaving.

Friday 20th November 2026 from 5:30pm

At the 'famous' Pineapple Hotel

(just walking distance from the Gabba)



ALL WELCOME WEAR YOUR ROYAL BLUE AND GOLD – BE GREAT TO SEE YOU THERE WITH US!

"Complementary refreshment and finger food!"

'BRING A FRIEND!'

Let us fill the place with the 'Royal Blue and Gold' of Kirra SLSC



"A wonderful evening of fellowship and good yarns whilst catching up with Kirra Surf Club past and long serving members and just good mates"

Reasonably priced accommodation within walking distance to the Pineapple Hotel

'Special acknowledgement and thanks to Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Governor (#4/2012) Bob Singleton, his family, and the Pineapple Hotel staff for their continuing support over many years of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club and our Association....THANK YOU'



"Left: It was a good attendance last year at the 2025 Christmas Reunion at the Pineapple Hotel…. The challenge is out there to double the attendance for this Year 2026 Christmas Reunion"

YEAR 2026 – YOUR CALENDAR

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – YEAR 2026	PUBLIC HOLIDAYS – YEAR 2026
Queensland Back to school – 27th January 4th April to 20th April 27th June to 12th July 19th September to 4th October End of school year – 18th December 2026 New South Wales Back to school – 27th January 7th April to 17th April 6th July to 17th July 28th September to 9th October End of school year – 18th December 2026	Queensland Australia Day – Monday 26th January Easter – 3rd/4th/5th/6th April Anzac Day – Saturday 25th April Labour Day – Monday 4th May Royal (Qld) Show – Wednesday 12th August Kings Birthday – Monday 5th October Christmas Day – Friday 25th December Boxing Day – Saturday 26th December Boxing Day (Public Holiday) – Monday 28th December

NOTE THESE DATES – REMAINING ASSOCIATION EVENTS YEAR 2026

48th Annual Christmas Reunion of the Association	**Friday, 20th November 2026** **Pineapple Hotel, Brisbane from 5:30pm** ***'All welcome – bring a friend'*** ***"Wear your Royal Blue and Gold"***
17th Annual Kirra (Bumpo/Elke) Remembrance Day ***(Established: Festive Season Year 2010)***	**Sunday, 27th December 2026** **Kirra Supporters Club from 2:30pm** ***'All welcome – bring a current or past Kirra Surf Club and family member'*** ***"Wear your Royal Blue and Gold"***



"You are invited to come along on Saturday 12th September to join the celebrations of outstanding success for our very own Kirra IRB Team at this year's Queensland and Australian IRB Championships – Show your support and be proud of their achievements in this most demanding of Australian SLS Surf Sports competition"





"On the beach at Coolangatta participating in the 2026 Queensland IRB Championship – The Kirra IRB Team achieved Queensland IRB Champion Club (Overall Points Score)"

VALE – ELAINE BROCKHURST



It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Elaine Brockhurst, who died peacefully on Sunday, 12 July 2026.

Elaine was a much-loved member of our extended Kirra family and a familiar and cherished presence within our community for many decades. Her passing marks the end of a remarkable life that was closely intertwined with the history of Kirra and the people who have made this community such a special place. Many will remember Elaine alongside her beloved husband, Doug Brockhurst, a Kirra SLSC Life Member, and as the mother of Brad and Glen, both active members of Kirra Surf Life Saving Club.

Elaine and Doug's association with Kirra Surf Life Saving Club spanned generations. Their partnership began when Elaine Chapman of Coolangatta married Doug, a Kirra lifesaver, in December 1950. Together, they built a life founded on family, friendship, service, and an enduring commitment to their community. Doug passed away in February 2005.

While Doug's involvement in surf lifesaving often placed him in the public eye, those who knew the couple understood that Elaine was a steadfast source of support throughout the many years of service, friendships, and memories that were created through the club. Like so many partners who work quietly behind the scenes, Elaine played an important role in the strength and spirit of the community around her.

Doug was a champion surf competitor who coached the first Kirra R&R team to win an Australian Championship. He also served as Club Captain for ten years and later as Club President for many years. Throughout all those achievements and commitments, Elaine was at his side. She was a familiar face on the beach and even more so when Glen was competing in the R&R teams during the 1970s and 1980s. Elaine was an enthusiastic and tireless fundraiser, supporting the many teams travelling to competitions around Australia.

Doug and Elaine owned a unit in Miles Street, Kirra, and spent all their holidays and most weekends there when they were not running their successful hairdressing salon, where Elaine was a highly respected hairdresser. Together with close friends Carl and Carmel Bartells, Grace and Graham Byrnes, Bob and Joan Gear, Bob and Joan Beare, and Barrie and Lenore Day, to name just a few, they shared a deep love for Kirra. They were always happy to share a drink, a laugh, and stories of the *"good old days"* with friends and fellow club members.

Over the years, Elaine earned the respect and affection of countless members and friends. She was known for her kindness, warmth, generosity, and genuine interest in others. Whether through family gatherings, club functions, community events, or simply sharing friendship and conversation, Elaine touched many lives.

For those fortunate enough to know her, Elaine represented a generation whose values of loyalty, resilience, friendship, and community service helped shape both the club and the broader Kirra community. Her life spanned extraordinary changes, yet she remained devoted to the people and relationships that mattered most.

On behalf of everyone associated with Kirra Surf Life Saving Club, we extend our deepest sympathy to Brad, Glen, and their families. Our thoughts are with them during this difficult time as they mourn the loss of a much-loved mother, grandmother, friend, and member of our Kirra family.

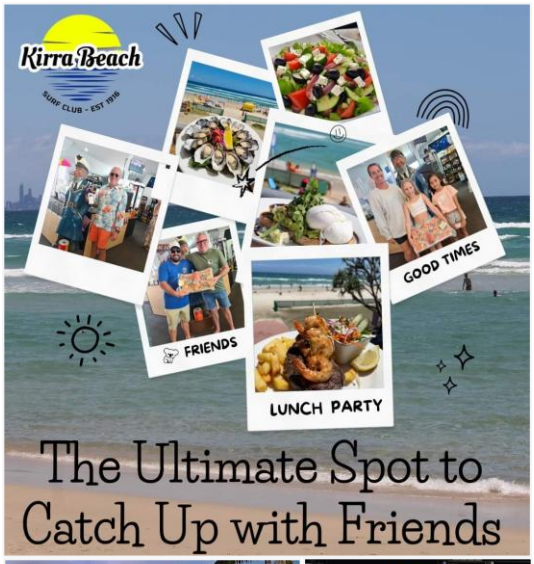
Elaine will be greatly missed, fondly remembered, and forever a valued part of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club family.

(Prepared and shared by Yvonne Papadimos AM – Secretary, Kirra SLSC)

LEST WE FORGET

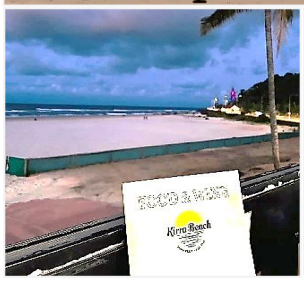
KIRRA SUPPORTERS CLUB 'The place to be with mates!'





















Kirra Supporters Club - BAR, BISTRO, GAMING and SALTYS COFFEE *"The popular Kirra Supporters Club is the place to enjoy icy cold refreshments, tasty family meals, welcoming staff, hot coffees, and the best ocean views of the Gold Coast!"*

'Thank you for your generous support of our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club and the Kirra Past & Long Serving Members Association'

President – Peter Beauchamp AFSM; Secretary – Adam Day; Committee Member – Paul Cameron

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