



Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

NEWSLETTER

(Newsletter # 3/2018)

President: Peter Beauchamp (0429 548 813); Secretary: Adam Day (0447 208 986);
Committee Member: Paul Cameron (0418 728 089)

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



Kirra SLSC – Ronald ‘Ron’ Marchant

On Sunday 25th March I was informed by KSLSC Life Member Keith Boucher that fellow past member and Kirra SLSC champion competitor Ron Marchant passed away peacefully on the 22nd March 2018 at the age of 90 years.

Ron joined the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club during the World War Two years and gained his Bronze Medallion on the 22nd January 1944 (Award Number: 19579). He was a member of the legendary Kirra R & R Team that were victorious in winning the Australian R & R Premier Event at the 1947 Australian Surf Life Saving Championship held at Coolangatta Beach.



Australian Premiers 1947 Australian Senior R&R Champions:
Bernie Creevey, Bob Bishop, Ernie Kimber, Ron Marchant, Barry Godwin, Earle Smith



Ron Marchant 1947 Belt winner
Victorious - 'One Man Standing' - Ron Marchant being lifted up by the jubilant Kirra Boys

Back Row L-R: Jeff Jones, Ian Barclay, Cliff De Vene, Ron Marchant, Ernie Kimber, Reg Miller, George Burnitt, Earle Smith (part obscured) Reg Miller, Barry Godwin (with hat)

Middle Row L-R: Doug Brockhurst (jumper/Instructor), Max Klingner, Dave Lan (curly hair)

Front Row: Henry McGregor, Peter Thompson, Ralph Ford-Johnson, Andrew Kelly



(Extract: Kirra SLSC 100 years by PD Kelly – 1916):
“Every R&R member, Senior and Junior, played his part well but none will complain if special mention is made of the surf craft and stamina displayed by Ron Marchant, our 19 year old Beltman in both the Point Danger Branch and Australian Championships, he being the only Beltman to reach the buoys within the time limit of 10 minutes on both occasions. Well done Ron!”
(Read further on Ron and his Kirra Surf Club team’s outstanding achievement in ‘Kirra SLSC 100 years by PD Kelly: Pages 91; 92; 93’)

This was a first for a Kirra SLSC ‘R & R Team’ to win this Australian Premier Event. It was also the first occasion that the event had been won by a team outside the Sydney NSW surf lifesaving clubs; and only the second occasion up to that time for a Kirra SLSC member/s to achieve a ‘Gold Medal’ at an Australian Surf Life Saving Championship (first was Jack Ajax – 1929 Australian Belt Champion).

I know that you join with me in acknowledging an outstanding surf lifesaving competitor and champion, club member and Kirra SLSC legend. We offer our deepest sympathies to Ron Marchant’s family for their loss.

‘LEST WE FORGET’

“STOP THE PRESS!! Tickets are still remaining!”

**Last chance to buy tickets in the Kirra Surf Club
Old Boys Association ‘CAR RAFFLE’ drawn at
4:00pm on 6th May at the Kirra Supporters Bar**

*Complementary refreshments and finger food provided for ticket
buyers from 3:00pm to 5:00pm on the day of the draw*

*“A big thank you to Paul Cameron who arranged the prize car through
Sci-Fleet Toyota and who is a major seller of the Art Union tickets”*

A special request to our ‘Old Boys Association’ members:

***Your assistance in buying a ticket or selling a few Car Raffle
tickets amongst your circle of friends and business
colleagues would be very much appreciated. If you can help,
please contact ‘Old Boys’ Secretary Adam Day on (Mobile)
0447 208 986 or Email: kirra@kirraoldboys.com for your
tickets..... “Thank you for your generous support”***



Its On Again
Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Assoc
Car Raffle

Win a Toyota Yaris
Valued at
\$15,990



\$120 tickets ~ only 199 to be sold

Drawn Sunday 6th May 2018 at 4pm
Kirra Surf Club Supporters Bar
Marine Parade, Kirra
Complementary drinks for all ticket holders
present for draw from 3pm to 5pm
Vehicle supplied by
Sci-Fleet Toyota

Tickets Available now
Phone: Paul Cameron 0418 728 089
Or Direct Deposit
BSB: 084 130
A/c: 448755954
& email your details to
kirra@kirraoldboys.com

Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association
ABN 45 419 080 056 email kirra@kirraoldboys.com

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Upcoming ‘Old Boys’ Association and Kirra SLSC events:

**The Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association ‘2018 Calendar of Events’ is finalised and now
available on the Kirra SLSC webpage: www.kirrasurfclub.com.au | Old Boys**



Blue and Gold Day – An evening of fellowship for all Kirra Club members!

-: Saturday, 21st April 2018 (5:00pm to late) at the Kirra Supporters Bar :-

*“Enjoy the fellowship; company of good mates; random draws for door prizes and raffles; excellent refreshment
and meals at a venue providing the greatest view of the Gold Coast – All Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association
members, their family and guests are most welcome to join in the fun”*

Kirra SLSC is hosting the last round of the ‘2018 IRB Ocean Roar Series’ at Kirra Beach on Saturday, 21st
April (an all-day event of thrills and great IRB racing). This is wonderful opportunity to observe and cheer
on our world champion Kirra IRB Team from the comfort of the Kirra Supporters Bar.



Kirra Surf Life Saving Club - Annual Dinner and Annual General Meeting

Annual Dinner – Saturday, 30th June from 6.00pm in the Kirra Supporters Bar: Enjoy an entertaining evening
celebrating the achievements for the Club’s 2017/2018 season and acknowledge those recognised for outstanding
performance. Should you be interested in joining this special annual event then contact the Kirra SLSC Office (ask for
Kathy) for further details: kirra@kirraslsc.com

Annual General Meeting – Sunday, 1st July from 10:00am in the Kirra Surf Club Training/Meeting Room:
“Club President Michael Hill extends a warm welcome for all Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Members, long serving and past members”



‘Old Boys’ Golf Day – Wynnum Golf Club: 29th July from 7:00am

Positions still available for the annual Brashie’s Golf Day (Tee off at 7:20am)..... Only 24 player spots available! **“You
will have a great day with Kirra mates whilst enjoying the entertainment during a game of golf.....Bewdy!”** Contact

KSLSC Life Member John Bell to book your place for the ‘Old Boys’ Golf Day on Mobile: 0401 172 521 or Email:

johnleebell46@gmail.com

Recruiting new members is a priority:

A committee priority is building membership and your assistance is invited to help encourage others to be included on our 'Old Boys' Membership Register..... ***"It costs nothing to join"***

Have you got an electronic Email address? Of the current Association membership, nearly eighty (80) members have not yet provided an electronic Email address. Over the next few months the Association committee will be contacting and inviting you to provide your electronic mailing address (should you have one). In the meantime, details on your electronic Email address may be forwarded to our Secretary Adam Day at kirra@kirraoldboys.com

"Should you not have or wish to not provide an electronic Email address, you will continue to receive all newsletters, news updates, and other 'Old Boys' broadcasts circulated from time to time to ALL MEMBERS"

KIRRA SLSC NEWSLETTER (Kirra Khronicle):

For those who enjoy catching up on what's happening for the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club..... Visit the webpage: www.kirrasurfclub.com.au *"So simple to access..... Go there and have a look on what's happening for your Kirra Surf Club and the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association"*

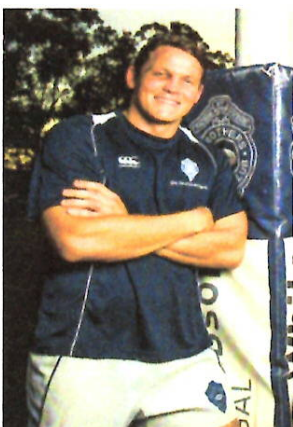
An 'Old Boys' feature item is now included in the Kirra Surf Club's monthly newsletter – **KIRRA KHRONICLE**. Should you have an item of interest and/or a photograph for this monthly Newsletter, than please forward to me care of kirra@kirraoldboys.com prior to the 1st day of the month..... ***"Go visit the Kirra webpage – it's a good read!"***

"Who is in the Know" by Scoop:

If you have any ***"item/s of interest"*** on our fellow Association members, special events, or general gossip for inclusion in Old Boys Newsletter, then please forward this to me care of the Old Boys Email address: kirra@kirraoldboys.com.

"Is that you?" Two of our long serving past members Bob (Polo) Wilson and Glen (Floss) Winstanley were like ships passing in the night when they recently came face to face with each other in the reception of a Logan City Medical Centre. Having not seen each other for many years, it was several sneaky glances and grins before they acknowledged: *"Is that you!"*..... Both probably claim that they haven't changed in appearance over the years.... *"Yea right!"* Glen and Polo's eldest son Kirk Wilson were active members together in Kirra and good mates.

Glen Winstanley was an outstanding surf lifesaving competitor in swim, board and ski, and ironman events: 1984 Australian Champion – Cadet R & R; 1985 Branch Champion – Junior R & R (6 person); 1987 Branch Champion – Malibu Board and Junior R & R (6 person); 1988 Branch Champion – Senior R & R (6 person); 1989 Branch Champion – Open Taplin Relay (first and only time Kirra has won this event); 1990 Queensland Champion – Dearlove Relay (another first and only for Kirra)..... *"To list a few of his numerous wins and placings in Branch, State, and Australian events"*. He was also Club Captain for the 1993 – 1994 season. In 1994 Glen relocated for work to Papua New Guinea where he successfully developed his business enterprise over the next two decades. He now lives back in south-east Queensland with his family.



"Milestone achieved in Rugby Union!" It was a great day at the famous Crosby Park (Brothers Rugby Union Club home ground) on Saturday, 24th March when 'Kirra Old Boys' member Alan Beauchamp and wife Pam's youngest son Luke play his 100th game in Premier Grade for the mighty Brethren. Only forty-eight players have achieved this milestone since World War Two....It was a tremendous effort given that Luke has not played for some 18 months whilst recovering from previous football injuries. Luke was again appointed Captain of the Brothers Premiers Team for the 2018 football season. GPS won the points for the match, however it was a determined leadership game displayed by the Brothers Captain..... *"We done Luke!"*

It was like a who's who at the game with 'Kirra Old Boys' Ian Sommer, Ron Gurnett, Greg Ward, and Peter Beauchamp enjoying the hospitality tent provided by hosts Alan and Pam Beauchamp for their family and friends"

Driving down memory lane!

Jet Rescue Boats (JRBs) were new to Queensland surf lifesaving with the first jet powered rescue boat owned and operated by the Southport Surf Club in the late 1960's. Kirra SLSC Management Committee saw the value in JRBs for surf rescue, in particular for performing rescues during the occasion of large and dangerous seas (no IRB's during this era). Further, given the little beach available at Kirra Beach in the early 1970's, JRBs provided another incentive to encourage member involvement in surf safety and patrol activities on weekends. Finance was secured through the generous sponsorship from KD Morris, owner of the Kirra Beach Hotel. The first Kirra SLSC owned Jet Rescue Boat (Smith design) was operational in the latter months of the 1972/1973 season.



"Above: JRB Smith boat off Kirra Beach with (R – L) Barry Cameron (driving), Peter Beauchamp, and Ron Halpin of Kirra SLSC; and Col Paterson of Palm Beach SLSC during practical activities of the State JRB Conference held at Kirra Beach – 1980"

For this first year (1973) of Kirra's JRB surf patrols, four club members were chosen as the inaugural JRB Drivers. It was a great learning opportunity for club members to be part of the JRB Crew and observe these new JRB Drivers going through their instruction in all types of surf conditions. The original four Kirra SLSC members obtaining their **JRB Power Boat Medallion** were Ron Halpin (KSLSC Life Member – 1965); Max Klingner (KSLSC Life Member – 1954); Rick Sellwood (KSLSC Life Member – 1981); and Les Sellwood (KSLSC Life Member – 1980).

In 1974 Club Vice-Captain Peter Beauchamp (KSLSC Life Member – 1986) and Club Captain Barrie Thorne (KSLSC Life Member – 1977) were next to gain their JRB Power Boat Medallion assessed by Alan Seoney of the Southport Club. Alan was the first to be appointed as a Queensland SLSA – JRB Examiner. Blair Carter (Club Vice-Captain 1974/1975) soon followed and obtained his JRB driver qualifications. Long serving club member Barry Cameron (KSLSC Life Member – 1976) gained his JRB Power Boat Medallion during the club's 1975/1976 season. From these early beginnings members of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club continued to remain actively involved as qualified operators of Jet Rescue Boats in Queensland for almost fifty years.



"Left: Jet Rescue Boat (Butimer) with Peter Beauchamp (Driver) and crew Glen Winstanley and Kirk Wilson; beside the Inshore Rescue Boat (Driver – Darren Gear with Darren Gilby) off Kirra Beach in 1987"

JRBs had proven to be an exceptional surf rescue community service. With an experienced crew, the JRB could negotiate the largest of surf conditions where no other surf lifesaving rescue appliance could affect the rescue. In June 2016, Surf Lifesaving Queensland terminated the provision of JRB Surf Patrols for the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast. **"Jet Rescue Boat surf safety and ocean rescue – 1968 to 2016"**

Extract: Kirra SLSC 100 years by PD Kelly: Page 180: *"Many were the fears expressed by the critics and the 'experts' that the boat would not be able to handle heavy seas, that a big dumper would wreck it, that mechanical contrivances were dangerous in the hands of the inexperienced, that given a few months the lack of care and attention by club members would result in it being unreliable and out of commission when required, and so on....."*

How wrong the 'experts' were was amply proved once the boat was commissioned (early 1973). It handled the biggest seas with ease, it effected rescues and had those in trouble back on the beach while swimmers and boards were still getting to the victim, it kept a watchful eye on unpatrolled beaches, its radio communications and high speed enabled it to be quickly at any point where it was needed, and it was invaluable for laying buoys and doing other back work necessary to conduct a Surf Carnival.....The power boats became an essential part of Life Saving equipment and another means of ensuring our beaches remained safe for the surfing public". (End of Extract)

More from Scoop!

'Old Boys Association' Secretary Adam Day is currently the Honorary Treasurer of the recently amalgamated Souths Juniors and Souths Rugby Union Clubs. Given his qualifications and business experience, Adam has been providing financial leadership to successfully achieve the amalgamation goals of these previously separate Rugby Clubs. He has focused on developing sound financial business operating systems for the single Souths Rugby Union Club, including the management and governance framework for the Souths Rugby Club's licensed facilities.

Adam Day is a Kirra SLSC Honorary Life Member (Awarded – 1998) and has held numerous Kirra Club Management Committee positions, including: President (1998 – 2000); Treasurer (2000 – 2002 and 2004 – 2009); and Vice-Captain (1985 – 1990).

Request for assistance from Club President Michael Hill:

I was recently talking to Michael and he advised that Kirra SLSC has received a small financial grant allocated for the sole purpose of refurbishing the club's downstairs showers and toilets. These facilities are in high demand particularly during the summer months used by the club's active patrol members and those attending on weekends, the many boys and girls of our Kirra Nippers, and the long serving and past members visiting the surf club. The facilities are in a desperate need of a total 'makeover'. Whilst this small financial grant will assist, it will not cover the full costs for the proposed reconstruction. Michael is seeking support through the possibility of a generous donation of "Five white toilet pedestals and cisterns".

'A special request of our 'Old Boys Association' members'

Your assistance with enquiring amongst your circle of friends and business colleagues on an opportunity to obtain a donation to the club of the 'toilets and cisterns' would be very much appreciated. Whilst it is acknowledged that this request may not be successful, any assistance would be greatly appreciated by Club President Michael Hill and the club membership.

If you can help, please contact 'Old Boys' Secretary Adam Day on (Mobile) 0447 208 986 or Email: kirra@kirraoldboys.com..... "Thank you for your continuing support of our Kirra SLSC"

Seeking a pair of the old R & R costumes:

The 'Old Boys' Committee is after a pair of the old R & R costumes previously worn by club members competing at Australian Surf Life Saving Championships. The R & R costume is the type displaying the Kirra SLSC (with surf reel) logo. Your 'Old Boys' Committee would like to professionally frame this costume with appropriate photographs and signatures as a part of the club's historical collection to be showcased in the Kirra Clubhouse. Should you know of or be willing to part with a costume please contact the 'Old Boys' President on (Mobile) 0412 548813 or Email: beechofamily4@tpg.com.au and/or mail to postal address: 1 Lucas Crescent, Ormeau Hills Qld 4208.

"Please keep this date reserved on your calendar!"

'Sports Luncheon at the Pineapple Hotel' – 31st August (11am to 3:30pm)

"Enjoy an outstanding day with Kirra mates and friends; seafood lunch and refreshments; excellent speakers relating their challenging experiences and successes; raffles and special fund raising activities; and just a fun day for all attending. Start today and organise your table of TEN..... Bring along nine mates with you for an enjoyable lunch, drinks, and good yarns!"

Tickets only \$120 each OR \$1080 for a table of TEN – Includes a seafood lunch and refreshments

Contact John Bell (Mobile) 0401 172 521 or Adam Day (Mobile) 0447 208 986 to reserve your tickets

Email: kirra@kirraoldboys.com

WATCH THIS SPACE..... For further details

I invite you to share this Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association – Newsletter 3/2018 with your "circle of friends" listed in your own electronic "Address Book"..... Many thanks ☺

Peter Beauchamp

President – Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

5th April 2018