

NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2021

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



BUMPO/ELKE REMEMBRANCE DAY

MONDAY 27TH DECEMBER 2021 from 3:30pm

Venue: Licensed Kirra Beach Surf Club

“This is an annual event for all who are associated with the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club and not to be missed!”

Come along and wear your Kirra 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 and mates who sadly are no longer with us”

WE WILL NEVER FORGET THEIR FRIENDSHIP AND SERVICE

“Complimentary refreshments and fingerfood provided for all attending”

This event is coordinated by the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association



“Right: Kirra SLSC Senior Boat Crew with (L-R) – Keith Cook; Ian (Elke) Sommer; Barrie Thorne; Barry Robinson; and John Bowler – Year 1972”

“Left: Kirra SLSC Junior Boat Crew with (L-R) – Greg Ward; Jack Hunter; Alan Beauchamp; and Graham (Bumpo) Freeman – Year 1972”



EVENT – CHRISTENING OF TWO SURF BOATS

Monday 27th December 2021 on Kirra Beach from 2:30pm

Kirra Surf Boat Captain – Steve Coady: “An open invitation is extended to all current and past Kirra members to join in the fun and celebrations for the christening of the Club’s two Surf Boats – a giant leap forward in surf boat competition for Kirra SLSC”

'Once a Kirra member – Always a Kirra member'

“Who are we?” Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

FOUNDATION: A meeting of over forty past and long serving Kirra SLSC members arranged by Honorary Life Member Ron Gurnett (*KSLSC Hon. Life Membership – #38/1973*) was held on the **29th November 1978** at the International Hotel, Spring Hill in Brisbane (Hotel Licensee was Bill Wright – long serving Kirra SLSC member and past Club Vice-Captain). At this meeting those present supported and celebrated the foundation of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association. Ron Gurnett was unanimously endorsed as the inaugural President of the Association.

Today in December 2021, the Association with up to three hundred members continues to remain very active and positively supporting the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club. The Association is one of the largest of its type amongst surf lifesaving clubs in Queensland. From its origins over forty-three years ago, the aspirations of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association have remained consistent, and include:

OUR GOALS:

- # Provide the opportunities for past Kirra SLSC active members, supporters and families to remain connected with their surf lifesaving club;
- # Build fellowship amongst past, long serving and current Kirra SLSC members through supporting social and surf lifesaving events and activities; and
- # Promote and co-ordinate revenue generating opportunities for the benefit of the Association membership and supporting the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club.

KIRRA HISTORICAL PROJECT: As a result of this major project initiated by the Association to showcase the Kirra Surf Club's amazing 106 year history (approved by Kirra SLSC management – 2018), a significant portion of the revenue currently raised by the Association is used for achieving the objectives of this very special Kirra Historical Project.

COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT: The small Association Committee was endorsed at the annual Christmas fellowship event (26th November 2021 – Pineapple Hotel). Committee members are committed to ensuring the continuing success and growth of the Association. These long serving Kirra Surf Club members bring a collective surf lifesaving/business knowledge and experience to the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association.



The Committee endorsed for **Year 2022** include:

- President: Peter Beauchamp (*Kirra SLSC Hon. Life Member #49/1986*);
- Secretary: Adam Day (*Kirra SLSC Hon. Life Member #58/1998*);
- Member: Paul Cameron (*Kirra SLSC long serving Honorary Member*);
- Member: Mark Rogers (*Kirra SLSC long serving Active Member*).

A big thank you to our colleagues and friends for generously contributing to the success of the Association events throughout 2021; and who have again indicated their continuing support for a very successful Year 2022..... **“THANK YOU – VERY MUCH APPRECIATED”**



“On behalf of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association, we wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy and successful Year 2022”

Annual 'Kirra Old Boys' CHRISTMAS celebration

An enjoyable evening of fellowship by all who joined in the annual Christmas 'celebration' held on Friday 26th November at Kirra SLSC Life Governor Bob Singleton's Pineapple Hotel in Brisbane.

There was a good turnout of Association members with almost fifty (50) attending... Wonderful to have one of our oldest attend (Tom Franklin - 92 years: Joined his Kirra SLSC in 1947).

The annual 'Christmas Keg' is the longest continuing fellowship event for the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association that celebrates the founding of the Association... first held on the 29th November 1978.

'An open invitation is extended for all to be involved' – Note your calendar (Friday 25th November 2022) and come along for a fun evening of fellowship and good yarns with top Kirra mates as we celebrate the year that was....



"Left: Graham Billingham and Tom Franklin"



"Right: Barry Robinson; Brian Hunt; Steve Wilson; and John Bowler"



"Above Left: Michael Hill and Tony Wadeson; Above Centre: Keith Boucher talking with Leah Gallagher (Kin Architects) with Jim Schofield and Steve Paul; Above Right: Lance English with Michael Hill"

"Electronic mailing address is the way to go!"

Have you provided or updated your electronic Email address with the Association Secretary? Communicating via your Email address assists to make it easier and faster for the Committee to regularly 'KEEP IN TOUCH' and to inform you about 'WHAT'S ON!' for the Association and your Kirra Surf Club. Details of your Email may be forwarded to Association Secretary Adam Day care of our Email address: kirra@kirraoldboys.com

RAFFLE – SUPPORTING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association - 2 x Raffles to be conducted through the summer months
Each raffle - 'Beer/Wine/Spirits Package valued at \$500' - Only 200 tickets/raffle at \$5.00 each

Prizes most generously donated by the Waterloo Bay Hotel.

The raffles are an initiative organised and supported by the Committee, Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association. All proceeds raised to be allocated for
“YOUTH DEVELOPMENT IN SURF SPORT – Kirra Nippers and Kirra SLSC Junior Members”

RAFFLE DRAW (1): Bumpo/Elke Remembrance Day – Monday 27th December 2021

RAFFLE DRAW (2): Kirra Beach Surf Club – Sunday, 24th January 2022

Tickets to be available for purchase at Kirra Beach through the patrol season”

BECOME A MEMBER – KIRRA SURF CLUB OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION

To all our Kirra Surf Club current senior, long serving and past members; Kirra Nipper Association coordinators and past members; and to the many Kirra families and supporters; an **invitation** is extended for you to register and receive your monthly Newsletter detailing the many activities, items on the history of our Kirra Surf Club, and announcements on special fund raising events planned throughout the year by the Association.

It costs nothing to join the Association!

Supporting your Club – our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club

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

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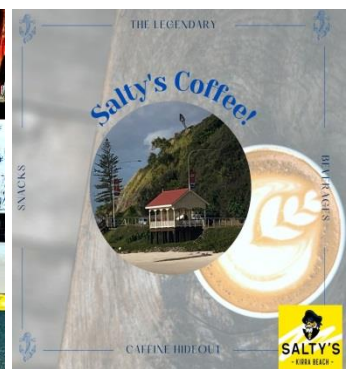
KIRRA BEACH SURF CLUB BAR, BISTRO AND GAMING and SALTYS



Sure is the place to be for icy cold refreshments, tasty meals, welcoming and professional staff, and the best views of the Gold Coast..... Takeaways now provided for members..... Come along and try the breakfast menu available every Saturday and Sunday mornings from 8:00am...

STOP THE PRESS: The Kirra Supporters Association now operates Kirra Coffee and has renamed the venue 'Saltys'. Enjoy a great coffee by the beach from Saltys!

STOP THE PRESS...AGAIN!!! Congratulations to JUSTIN FLETCHER on his appointment as the new Manager, Kirra Beach Surf Club. Justin brings a wealth of knowledge and experience developed over many years within the hospitality industry..... "Welcome to the Kirra Beach Surf Club team"



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”

DOWN MEMORY LANE: ‘Arakoon’

Details sourced from the publication – Kirra SLSC 100 Years by Peter D Kelly (2016)



The 1962-1963 season (the 47th season of Kirra SLSC) was ushered in with the sudden death on the 2nd October 1962 of one of the Club’s ‘*Founding Fathers*’. Kirra SLSC President, Mr S.W. ‘Bill’ Winders MBE OStJ was universally acclaimed as the most important and useful officer the Surf Club has ever had: “A *marvellous era for the Kirra Surf Club had come to a conclusion*”. His death in 1962 followed a heart attack he suffered while watching the destructive fire that destroyed his beloved flats named ‘Arakoon’ that was located behind the Kirra SLSC clubhouse (Kirra Beach Pavilion). Mr Winders was unable to get over the shock of the destruction of his ‘Arakoon’.

“Left: Arakoon flats on fire – 1962”

During the Kirra Surf Club’s history it is hard to go past the dedication and tireless efforts demonstrated by S.W. (Bill) Winders. Bill or ‘SW’ as he was often called, lived at the back of Rutledge Street on Kirra Hill. His home was called ‘Arakoon’ – an Aboriginal name meaning ‘Roar of the Surf’ – a name that was to achieve prominence in a variety of ways within the Surf Club.... Publications and Newsletters; Clothing; Naming of Surf Boats; and much more.....

The Winders family had moved from Toowoomba to Kirra to provide a better environment for their young daughter Dorothy. Dorothy would be the mother of Keith Hamilton, who also became a prominent member of the Kirra Surf Club who was bestowed Honorary Life Membership (#35/1970). Following Bill’s arrival at Coolangatta, apart from being involved in local politics and business, his primary interest was in advancing the cause of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club (Est: 7th January 1916).

Apart from 18 months during World War 1 when he was overseas for his country, he would serve as the Club’s Honorary Secretary for sixteen years. Then from 1938 until his death in 1962, Bill Winders was the Club President – a period of twenty-four (24) consecutive seasons. This was a truly outstanding effort particularly given those difficult times of two World Wars; the global depression of the 1930s; and being instrumental as the Club Secretary and then as Club President of building and establishing two large Kirra clubhouses. The second clubhouse being the Kirra Beach Pavilion for which he was instrumental in leading the planning, funding and construction of this new Kirra SLSC clubhouse both as the Club Secretary and the Mayor for the Town of Coolangatta.

It was often said Bill ‘*breathed Club Spirit*’ – Rewards came his way but he never sought them. His reward was the satisfaction in seeing the organisation (Kirra SLSC) being accepted in all walks of life ... an organisation built to last because its ideals were similar to his own. He was possibly the most significant driving force in the history of the Kirra Surf Life Saving Club and whenever lifesavers meet, the name of Bill Winders MBE OStJ was remembered with respect and gratitude.



The Winders Family has been continuously associated with their Kirra Surf Life Saving Club (Est: 07/01/1916) for the one hundred and six (106) years of the Surf Club’s history. Kirra SLSC’s current ‘Club Patron’ Max Winders continues this magnificent tradition of family service to their Surf Club proudly provided by his grandfather (Bill Winders MBE OStJ), his grandmother (Annie Winders MBE), his father (Jack Winders OBE OStJ) and many others from his extended family.... **“We salute and thank you for your service”**

“Left: Kirra SLSC Club Patron Max Winders with sisters and long-term past active members Lisa Harmer (Left) and Tina Thorne (Right) at the Kirra Old Boys Association – Year 2021 Kirra Sports Lunch held at the Pineapple Hotel, Brisbane. All are proud members of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association”

Kirra Historical Project – ‘An update’

Yes it does exist! This very special Kirra Historical Project initiative is nearing completion.....

Kirra SLSC WW1/WW2 Veterans Commemorative Memorial – Remembering their Service

After nearly three years and following extensive communications and consultation on numerous occasions with the KSLSC committee members, current and past active Surf Club members and Life Members; various branches of the Australian Commonwealth Military Forces; the Office of the Australian War Graves; City of Gold Coast (ongoing); and multiple requests to KSLSC members for feedback on the accuracy of the past Kirra member names to be listed.... The Association committee received this image (25th Nov 21) from Legacy Monuments – **“The basalt stone is now engraved”**. The two sandstone pillars that support the basalt stone are also in the process of being engraved with the logos of the Kirra SLSC and Australian Commonwealth Military Forces.



Special thanks to the committee members of the Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association for their continuing support of this unique initiative for our Kirra Surf Life Saving Club; and KSLSC Honorary Life Member Peter Kelly for his research and publication of *Kirra SLSC 100 Years* (2016) from which the names of our WW1/WW2 veterans were originally sourced. Peter has also provided regular feedback on the seventy-four (74) Kirra SLSC veterans listed for this project.....

Consultation is still ongoing on the preferred site in front (ocean side of the clubhouse) for the memorial.... Planning for the official dedication ceremony of the Memorial is also progressing.

A grant was received from the Federal Government's Department of Veterans Affairs – 'Remembering their Service' to support this project. Thanks are offered to our local Member for Currumbin, Karen Andrews MP whose office advised on the funding opportunities available for a project of this type to 'Remember the Service' of our Kirra SLSC WW1/WW2 veterans.

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Hope you enjoyed reading the items in this December 2021 Newsletter. Please share our Newsletter with your friends and work colleagues. If you have any items or photographs of interest for our next Newsletter then please contact the Association's committee on email: kirra@kirraoldboys.com and arrangements can be made to collect and copy your photographs. Your photographs will be returned to you once a copy has been made by the Association committee.

Many thanks for your continuing support of the Association and its Committee

Committee

Kirra Surf Club Old Boys Association

President: Peter Beauchamp

Secretary: Adam Day

Committee Member: Paul Cameron

Committee Member: Mark Rogers

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