



Rabbit starts website fight for Kirra Point

by Andrew MacDonald
Tweed bureau chief

ACTIVISTS fighting to bring back Kirra's once-famous surf break will use Saturday's World Surfing Day celebrations to take their cause to the world.

The Kirra Point Committee, which was formed by a group of community members and surfing identities last year in a bid to organise a push to restore Kirra to its former glory, will officially launch its website on June 21.

The Kirra break was destroyed when sand pumped from the mouth of the Tweed River began accumulating on the beach.

About 11 million cubic metres of sand are estimated to have built up on Kirra beach since 1995.

Former world surfing champion, Association of Surfing Professionals president and Kirra Point Committee member Wayne 'Rabbit' Bartholomew said the website, www.kirrapoint.org, was about helping the community organisation get its message out.

"For starters, it's a worldwide

web," he said. "Kirra Point is a very very famous wave. I think there are people out there who will seek this out because it (Kirra) is so legendary, and people would like to know what's going on with it.

"This website is probably the only avenue to find out any information at all."

Mr Bartholomew said he believed the website would help to galvanise the group's cause.

"There is a cross section of people from different interest groups all with the one common denominator, being Kirra Point," he said. "This gives us a higher profile for sure."

Mr Bartholomew said the Kirra Point Committee would continue to lobby the State Government in the push to restore the surf break.

To coincide with the launch of the website, a workshop aimed at educating local teachers about the Kirra Point issue will be conducted this Saturday.

For more information on the workshop contact the Surfrider Foundation on 5536 1021, or the Marine Teachers Association on 5667 7333.