



Let's keep the pressure on governments

A BIG thank you to all who took part in the Australia Day Paddle Out at Kirra.

It was fantastic to see the pro surfers and the many surfing families, numbering over 1500 paddlers, heading off Kirra Beach and creating history with a map of Australia, a surfing feat never achieved before!

There is no doubt the unprecedented show of surfing strength and the community concern about the loss of Kirra Point has highlighted a distinct message to the powers that be.

There has been a quick response with discussions set in place between Queensland and NSW government ministers.

In the past six years, 10 million cubic metres of sand has been pumped off the major sand bypass outlet at Lovers Rock, Point Danger, yet only one eighth of that has shifted north.

The remainder is packed down hard at Kirra and Coolangatta.

The Queensland government is facing the polls this year and the political heat is on.

The surfing community representing a decent slice of the electoral pie will be able to push their vote in no uncertain terms.

There is a sticker that says, "I



MICK Fanning supports the campaign with Marty Tulleman's Kirra line-up photo on a Dick Brewer board.

Picture: 'SWILLY' WILLIAMS



surf and I vote!"

Make sure you register to vote and help convince state governments that we want Kirra back.

Pumping sand can be a wonderful thing (re South Straddie and Snapper) but too much sand has deadly consequences.

The sand pumping created the Superbank but took out Kirra Point.

What we want is to have both

these iconic breaks (Snapper and Kirra) for the future, and that comes back to fine tuning the sand bypass operation which, apart from destroying Kirra, has also badly eroded Fingal.

A proper review and assessment of the sand problem is long overdue and the 25-year sand pumping contract needs to be re-negotiated.

We can have it all if the engineering is right and the sand spread proportionately rather than backlogging it at Coolangatta and Kirra.

There are so many people to thank for participating and volunteering on the Australia Day Paddle Out at Kirra.

Thanks to everyone who gave their support so generously.

The KirraPoint.org group which is now a sub committee of the GC/Tweed Surfrider Foundation is armed to the teeth and will take this campaign forward with recommendations and solutions.