Dick was an inaugural starter and “survivor” of the 1985 race which had claimed so many athletes in the swim leg with the cold water. Dick was 39 years of age and hailed from the Cronulla area in Sydney which is steeped in the sport. Dick had competed at ultra distance triathlon and brought experience to the first Forster-Tuncurry race. He finished in 12:46:07 which was also a commendable effort. Dick went on to finish every race at Forster-Tuncurry up to year 2000.

Dick holds the Legend number 2 in the Legends Club. He posted some good finish times with a PB in 1994 of 11:29:41. At his last race in 2001 he started with a broken foot which ultimately led to his withdrawal on the run leg. He declared that his Ironman racing was over. He was 55 years of age.

Such was the attraction of Forster-Tuncurry that Dick with wife Helen moved to the area permanently. The GLITA Board saw great value in Dick’s experience and he was invited onto the Board as Run Director at Forster-Tuncurry. He was also recruited to organise the inaugural Athlete parade in 2002. Upon moving to the Forster-Tuncurry area Dick studied to be a teacher and followed that career path for many years before retirement. Dick and Helen still live in the Great Lakes area.

Written by Ken Baggs