



FINGAL FLYER WINTER 2018

Celebrating Life on the Fingal Peninsula

"Keeping Fingal Special"

IN THIS EDITION

Keep up to date with Community News, Fingal Coastcare News and the latest in the Aircraft Noise Campaign

Find out what's happening at YOUR local school - Fingal Head PS

What's cooking with Jo?

COVER IMAGE CREDITS

Top image courtesy of D.Munn Photography

Historical lighthouse images courtesy of Tweed Regional Museum

THE FINGAL FLYER IS PROUDLY PRODUCED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF FINGAL HEAD BY







Love Pets Love Wildlife



Help celebrate the animals in our lives

Cool Cat workshop - Free Saturday 28 July 2018, 2pm - 4.30pm Kingscliff Community Hall Tips for keeping cats cool, calm and contented presented by Dr Jo Righetti, animal behaviourist expert

- · Have your pet problems solved
- · Understand your cats behaviour
- Ways to keep your cat happy, safe and healthy
- . Bookings appreciated on (02) 6670 2400 but not required
- Pet free event please leave your fur babies at home

Family Fun Day

Sunday 29 July 2018, 10am - 1pm Rowan Robinson Park, Kingscliff (or Kingscliff Community Hall in the case of heavy rain)

Prizes

- Tweed River cruise for two with lunch
- Cat hide and scratch posts
- · Rea Hot
- Pet gift packs
- Books, leads, toys and much more

What's on

- · Catmantoo Cat show with Didga and Boomer
- Live native wildlife show by Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary
- . Sam, the koala detection dog
- Dr Jo Righetti Animal Behaviourist expert
- . 'Tweed Wildlife After Dark' slideshow (in hall)
- · Live music by Bill Jacobi
- Kids activities
- . Koose Koala, pet trade stalls, wildlife stalls
- Lions Sausage Sizzle

Q&A on pets and wildlife: Open forum with Council staff and experts on animal welfare and wildlife

This is a Waste Wise event. ByO Bag, ByO Coffee Cup and / or ByO water bottle. For more information please contact (02) 6670 2400. If you bring a pet please make sure it is on a leash.

Sponsors: • Tweed Coast Holiday Parks • Tweed Eco Cruises

- . Woofer Wares . Best Friends . Pet Barn . Murwillumbah Pet Shop
- King St Vet BirdLife Australia Friends of the Pound.







BIRD NOTES WITH KATE

Two **Black Swans** were observed on Wommin Lake in April. A pair also frequents Lake Kimberley on the northern side of Sextons Hill, Banora Point. Hopefully the pair will find a suitable spot for their floating nest of reeds and water plants. Black swans have white flight feathers which can be observed in flight.

BirdLife Northern Rivers has been successful in obtaining funds to flag shorebirds at Fingal Head. **Bush Stone-curlews** twill be flagged to monitor their movements and survival. The flag is placed above the knee and is uniquely identified with a letter followed by a number. Seven Bush Stone-curlews from Fingal Head have been flagged. We now know that two young birds flew 20 kilometres to Pottsville and one of these was also observed in Cabarita. Its great to have funds to continue such tagging to help us better understand the Bush Stone-curlew's movements and survival.



Bush Stone Curlew D1 from Fingal Holiday Park

During May and June when the Swamp Mahogany and Banksia trees flower, bush birds take advantage of the nectar. Delightful birds such as **Scarlet Honeyeaters**, **Friarbirds**, **Little Wattlebirds**, **Silvereyes**, **Rainbow Bee-eaters and Double-barred Finches** may be observed.

Glossy Black-Cockatoos are one of the more threatened species of cockatoo, listed as vulnerable in NSW. Unfortunately they are fussy eaters with a restricted diet, which reduces their survival chances. They feed only on the seeds of some Casuarina and only on selected individual trees. Favoured food trees are the black sheoak *Allocasuarina* and forest she-oak, *Allocasuarina torulosa*. In northern NSW they occasionally feed on the Horse-tailed Oak, *Casuarina equisetifolia* on the front dunes.

They are one of the friendliest birds and are not easily disturbed when feeding. They will sit quietly and the only noise you will hear is the soft sound of cracking cones, people often do not even realise they are there.

Glossy Black-Cockatoo Birding Day Sunday 14 October

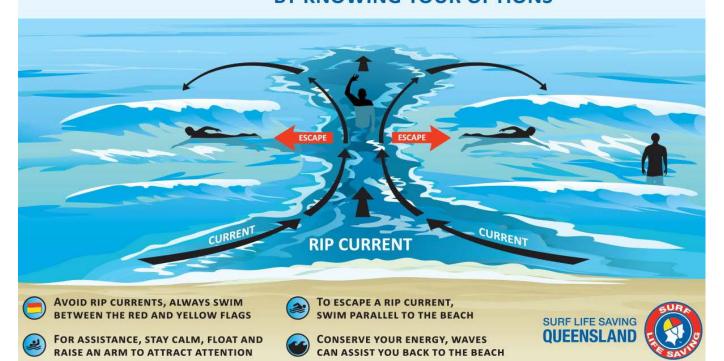
The Birding Day is a long-term citizen science project that has been running since 2009. Results from the day provide a snapshot of the population of Glossies in the Tweed and south-east Queensland. Volunteers can participate in the annual Birding Day by either surveying on their own property, or searching a local area of habitat, either as an individual or as a group. The Glossy Black Conservancy involves government, community and business in increasing awareness, protection and conservation of the threatened Glossy Black-Cockatoo.

Please check Birdlife Northern Rivers events page closer to the day for an exact meeting place along the Tweed Coast:

http://www.birdlife.org.au/locations/birdlife-northern-nsw/birdlife-northern-rivers

www.glossyblack.org.au

RIP CUTENT BY KNOWING YOUR OPTIONS





- Aircraft Noise
- River Usage
- Environmental Protection
- Community Get Togethers
- Fund Raising

neds you!

Our small community is facing its fair share of large issues.

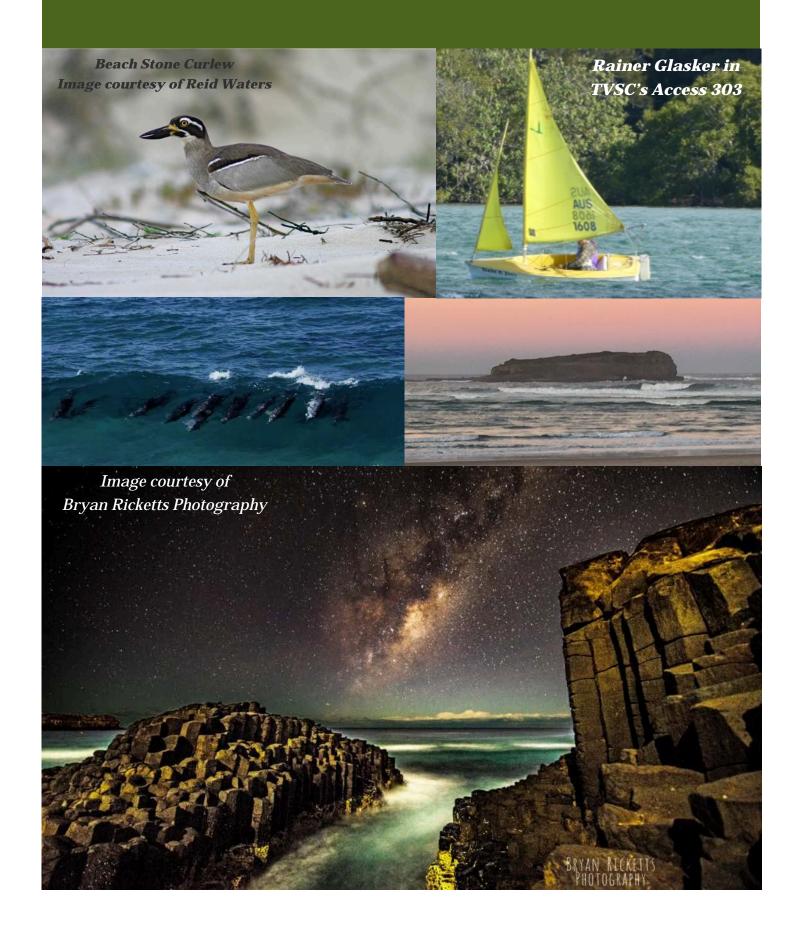
If you are passionate about this area and wish to preserve the special environment that drew you to Fingal we need your help.

Please become a member or better still become an active member and help

KEEP FINGAL SPECIAL

Contact Heidi info@heidiledwell.com for membership forms

IMAGES OF FINGAL



AIRCRAFT NOISE CAMPAIGN

Two members of our community have spent more than 3.5 hours attending the Aircraft Noise Advisory Consultative Committee (ANACC) meeting held on 21 June 2018. While frustrating at times it is one of the few vehicles we have to improve the aircraft noise outcomes for residents of Fingal Head and more generally the Tweed. Planned continued expansion of the airport will only increase the pressure upon our community.

Airservices Australia (AA) reported back on the questions raised about the six month noise monitoring project (September 2013 – March 2014) conducted at Fingal Head. There was no detailed analysis of the data collected during the six month monitoring period. Nor was there any finding of one of the issues initially identified as important to establish through the project – whether the noise of departing aircraft over the two water bodies – the Tweed River and the Ocean amplified the noise experienced by Fingal Head residents. I have requested that this matter be further reported at the next meeting.

You have to question why do noise monitoring if there is no reduction in noise experienced by residents. We have been seeking improvements in the aircraft noise experienced for many years.

Other information provided at the ANACC meeting included:

- The Instrument Landing System (ILS) was planned to be operational by November 2018 however its commissioning has now been delayed;
- Despite strong lobbying and a CACG decision to reinstate a noise monitor at Tweed Heads, AA advised that a decision in this matter will occur once the ILS is in place and operating;
- AA is working on the implementation of OneSKY a fully integrated civil and military air traffic control system; Implementation could lead to greater flexibility in the use of airspace; Implementation is planned for 2023;
- The need to provide the community with noise modelling data particularly given the significant planned expansion of the airport.

The lack of outcomes achieved at this meeting and through the continuing consultative processes run by the Gold Coast Airports remain frustrating.

Please ensure that GCA and Airservices Australia know that we want improvements by utilising the complaints process by lodging a complaint, or make an enquiry by:

- using the <u>online NCIS form on the AA website or by</u> using <u>WebTrak</u>
- telephoning 1800 802 584 (freecall) staffed Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays, from 9 am-5 pm.
- post to: Noise Complaints and Information Service, PO Box 211, Mascot NSW 1460

Working together to keep Fingal Head special

Helen Twohill - President, Fingal Head Community Association Inc.



Winter Season - TUMBULGUM PASSAGE RACE 26 Aug

Two races down in the Sunday afternoon Winter Race Series, 4 to go. A bit of wild weather for the second one kept some of the boats on shore so only the brave & tenacious got the points, the rest of us enjoyed spectating for a change. Commodore Bill Fenelon took first place in the Corsairs with crew Scott Jones, Kynan Luescher & Miles Browne on 199 "Minnow". Next Fingal Races are 24 June, 8 & 22 July & 5 Aug.

What's On

Our annual **Tumbulgum Passage Marathon Race** from Condong to Fingal is on again this year — Sunday 26 Aug. Well worth planning a trip out to watch the fleet go past at Tumbulgum, Chinderah and Fingal. Starting from Condong about 10am.

Access Sailing: for those with reduced levels of agility or physical capability the Access 303 dinghy is ideal as it is impossible to capsize. For the last 6 months Rainer Glasker from Sphinx Rock has enjoyed swapping his wheel chair for a sailing boat to race with us. He would like some more Access skippers to race against and Sailability on Tweed can provide the boats so **please spread the word about this opportunity.**

Regular Juniors, Teens & Adult Try Sailing are running until the end of July. \$5 per person sailing + membership after 3 try out sails. **Booking required** tvscmail@gmail.com or call Dave Chester 0431 316 574.

www.tvsc.com.au or Find us on Facebook



Left: 3 June winning corsair Minnow

Above: 3 June Tara Beth & Marg Walgers enjoying a break on Tony's Island

AIRCRAFT DEVELOPMENTS-PFOS CONTAMINATION

I have frequently included information about our concerns that the PFOS contamination from Fire Fighting Foam at Gold Coast Airport has been disturbed by major developments including the Instrument Landing System (ILS) and Project Lift. This disturbance has extended the impact of toxic PFAS outside the airport site to residential homes (bore water), the ocean at Kirra and Coolangatta Creek. Once in the waterways PFOS can be identified within a 20 Km radius.

Major reports about the toxic impact of PFOS appeared in the Fairfax media on 16, 17 & 18 June . http://www.smh.com.au/world/toxic-secrets-the-town-that-3m-built-where-kids-are-dying-of-cancer-20180613-p4zl83.html?btis

Substantial concerns have been raised about the lack of disclosure of the contamination at Gold Coast Airport. This is an extract of a letter to Minister McCormack, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure which clearly details the lack of disclosure. I thank Lindy Smith, from the Tweed Heads community for use of this letter and her continuing commitment on behalf of our local community.

"Despite a number of AA PFAS investigations at Gold Coast Airport (GCA) 2008 to 2015 confirming PFAS contamination of surface and groundwater and soil, including extremely high levels of **PFOS**, **AA never disclosed** any of this known information to the **Senate Inquiry** in its submission **February 2016** (pg.27).

Nor did AA disclose the known PFAS contamination at GCA in its information to the NSW government, despite the site being adjacent to the NSW lower Tweed River estuary (Contaminated Sites Review Stage Two Interim Report, 28th April 2016, (pg.52).

Further, under two approved Major Development Plans (MDP) significant clearing and earthworks with massive disturbance of surface and groundwater and soils has occurred on the GCA site and adjacent NSW wetlands from mid-2016.

The ILS MDP (AA as proponent) never disclosed through the entire approval process the groundwater was contaminated with PFAS chemicals despite works being adjacent to the fire training grounds (the primary contamination source), and realignment of drainage channels.

The Project Lift MDP never disclosed the surface water of Coolangatta Creek within the GCA was contaminated with PFAS chemicals despite the 1500m realignment of the creek.

The GCA Hotel MDP (pg.27) falsely claimed, "<u>no known</u> contaminated sites are located within the <u>vicinity</u> of the Hotel" when in fact the surface and groundwater are contaminated with PFAS chemicals above criteria levels just upstream of the Hotel site.

The significant clearing and earthworks and massive disturbance of surface and groundwater and soil and altering of the hydrology on this S/E area requires careful consideration of the stability of this area

when building a multi storey building. A previous development undertaken under a MDP in this part of the airport has seen major subsidence of the new car park which has resulted in significant costs to rectify.

The inadequacy and lack of proper and transparent information in GCA's recent MDPs following the *Airports Amendment Bill 2010* which was to strengthen the requirements is of very serious concern, and indeed has gone backwards.

The protection of private companies in developing airport sites under Commonwealth boundaries (and beyond) when those lands are situated on Local and State jurisdictions and those airport developments that significantly impact on the local human communities, environment and natural resources are ignored and Local and State regulations bypassed under Commonwealth control is seriously flawed and needs comprehensive review."

We all need to be concerned about the lack of disclosure by Airservices Australia of the contamination and its impact on our communities, environment, water and food.

Meanwhile, in NSW Parliament following the recent Fairfax media PFOS revelations the NSW Environment Protection Authority has been called on to "urgently review" the conclusions of the US EPA that "PFAS chemicals are a human health hazard that can cause immune dysfunction, hormonal interference and certain types of cancer". Both the NSW Government and the federal government have been called on to "revisit their approach to communities affected by PFAS contamination by focussing on people and the environment instead of limiting liability".





COMMUNITY ACTION

Winter is here with records being broken for the coolest morning ever. This is offset by spectacular sunny days. I hope you find time to enjoy the sunshine.

The Fingal Head Community Association Annual General Meeting was held in April and all committee positions were filled. This is welcome as it will strengthen our community. I encourage you to join the FHCA and support our work.

You will recall that the Association issued a community survey in April to all households in Fingal Head. We sought your input regarding two issues - the Fingal Flyer and mobile phone coverage.

We asked if you read the Fingal Flyer and whether you would be prepared to access an electronic version rather than a printed copy. The Fingal Flyer is overwhelming supported by our community. This is very reassuring for the many volunteer hours provided in producing and delivering the Flyer.

This is an example of the responses: .."We love the Fingal Flyer and we love receiving the booklet. It assists greatly in retaining the community spirit that slips away unnoticed sometimes in this crazy busy world. The kids love retrieving it from the mailbox amidst this world of technology and the far too few written letters and cards received."

Most indicated a preference for a printed version. We will continue printing the Fingal Flyer but will look for innovative ways of offsetting the production costs.

We also issued the Community survey to gauge how widespread the issue of inadequate mobile phone signal was for residents of Fingal Head in order to develop a base of information to seek change. This followed a discussion of the Federal Minister's response to a resident seeking improvements to his mobile phone reception based on health issues and the need for the community to collectively address the appalling response to the serious issue raised – "to buy a new handset."

Of the residents who responded to the community survey 85% are experiencing problems with mobile phone signal. This is not acceptable.

Despite the fact that the survey did not canvass the need for a mobile phone tower some commented about their opposition. This is not an option we have advanced. Please be clear that this community is seeking an improvement to the mobile phone signal. We want the providers to explore how this can be achieved.

For this reason when discussed at the June FHCA meeting we agreed to ask you if any of you have telecommunications experience or worked in the industry and whether you are prepared to join our

working group which will advance this matter of behalf of the community. Please contact me if you are willing to assist.

For your information residents who have had 'booster antennas' installed reported a still less than satisfactory signal despite the significant additional costs."

The providers identified by the respondents were as follows:

Telstra 65%Optus 21%Vodaphone 6%

Aldi, TPG & Virgin each with just under 3% each

The Community survey was a simple survey to gauge responses to two issues. It has provided a base of information from which we can seek improvements.

Thank you to all who participated in the survey and the new owners at the shop who assisted the collection of survey responses. I encourage all residents to work together collectively to improve the overall situation for our small community.

Helen Twohill

President

Fingal Head Community Association Inc.



Pied Oyster Catcher Image courtesy of Reid Waters



FINGAL HEAD COASTCARE

Great news – the protection of our Littoral Rainforest and Coastal Wetlands has been expanded and increased with the acceptance in April of the new State Environment Planning Policy (SEPP) - Coastal Management and associated mapping. This new policy carries forward pre-existing controls and protection from the old SEPP 26 (Littoral Rainforests) and SEPP 14 (Coastal Wetlands).

Even better news is that the area classified as SEPP Littoral Rainforest and SEPP Coastal Wetlands has been expanded on the Fingal Peninsula and the Tweed Coast in general. The map extract for the local area shows the increases in these mapped SEPP areas.

The area classified as Littoral Rainforests SEPP in the Fingal Head Coastcare work area has increased to 16 hectares. So that means that approx. 15 hectares of our regenerated forest is now classified as Littoral Rainforest SEPP. We consider this a huge achievement especially considering the Advice to the Federal Minister for the Environment, Water, Heritage and The Arts from the Threatened Species Scientific Committee in 2003 that concluded that Littoral Rainforests would not survive in Australia even with positive human intervention. By regenerating Littoral Rainforest we have happily proved that advice to the Minister wrong - even if it is only 15 hectares it shows it can be done. Mind you it is very immature Littoral Rainforest and will be mature in about 100 or 200 years.

The increase in Coastal Wetland SEPP is equally important as this is significant habitat and breeding grounds for flora, fauna and marine life including commercial fish stock.

This new legislation gives the mapped SEPP areas enormous protection but also the Proximity Zones or buffer zones have significant protection. <u>Any</u> activities in these SEPP areas require prior approval based on approved plans of management.

Littoral rainforests and coastal wetlands in areas other than mapped NSW SEPPS, including private property, are protected by other State and Federal Legislation, Tweed Shire Council Policies and Local Environment Plans.

Mapping and more information on this legislation is available on the NSW Planning Website under NSW Planning http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Coastal-management

This revised SEPP mapping certainly recognises that the Fingal Peninsula is very, very special and this legislation helps ensure that it stays very special.

Kay Bolton
Fingal Head Coastcare inc.
Helping to Keep Fingal Special.

State Environment Planning Policy - Coastal Management - April 2018



What's happening at Fingal School?



Asia looks amazing! Face art work by Erinn

<u>Fingal Head PS students 'steal the show' at the Far North</u> Coast Dance Festival

Recently our students performed with distinction at the HOTA – Home of the Arts (formerly Gold Coast Arts Centre).

Our performance was highly praised, being described by one audience member as "...the highlight of the evening! What an amazing performance the children put on. The piece was most creative and innovative! I enjoyed it enormously." This feedback was received from the grandparent of a child from another school!

Thanks must go to our wonderful staff and parents who supported the children during rehearsals and at the performance: Miss Kirk, Miss Brewer, Fran, Tanya, John, Zoe, Crystal, Danielle and Erinn. It was a long and challenging

day and everyone worked incredibly hard to give our students this opportunity, an amazing experience and one the children will long remember.

Les Peterkin Portrait Prize for Children

Once again this year, our students will enter artworks in this prestigious competition. This year's theme is "Going to a Fancy Dress Party", and our students have been hard at work designing the 'perfect' costume for their own fancy dress party.

We congratulate all of our students for their effort and creativity and wish them the very best of luck. Winners will be announced on Friday 28th September, with winning artworks forming a display to be featured in the Tweed Regional Art Gallery until 2nd December, 2018.

Right: Sneak peek of Bronte's almost complete work of art – The Onesie Disco Party





Miss Belbin is demonstrating correct discus technique to Lily

Small Schools Athletics

Our students have been working hard over the past few weeks preparing for our participation in the Tweed Valley Small Schools Athletics Carnival. We are incredibly lucky have the expertise of Miss Belbin, who generously gives her time to ensure we learn the correct technique for each of the events.

The carnival will be held at the start of next term, on Wednesday 25th & Thursday 26th July at Walter Peate Oval. It promises to be a fun-filled event, with all students having the opportunity to participate.

STEM LEARNING GOING STRONG AT FINGAL

STEM – Science Technology Engineering Mathematics is a strong learning focus at Fingal School. This term our students have been working on projects linked to this year's Science Week theme: Game Changers and Change Makers.

Student projects are focused on changing our school environment in positive ways, and include investigating ways to address our ibis problem, the issues caused by scrub turkeys on our school grounds, and reducing our waste footprint using composting.

Miss Kirk and our junior students have been working in partnership with Kay and Peter from Coastcare to learn all about greenhouses. They have visited the Coastcare nursery and have begun planting in our school's greenhouse. We thank Kay & Peter for their ongoing commitment to the learning of our students about the local environment and how they can protect the environment for the future.

THANK YOU...

To the generous donors for assisting our students in setting up our composting program:

- Fran & Chris Smith for donating our worm farm
- Bunnings \$200, which has enabled the purchase of a live worm starter kit and rotating twin composter
- Tweed Shire Council for donating composting caddies

HOW YOU CAN HELP...

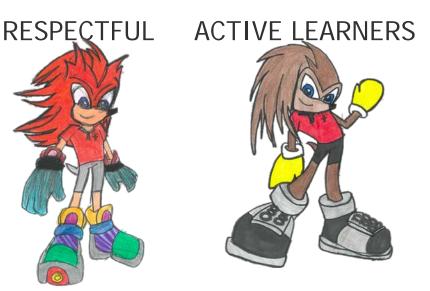
We need timber to complete the set up for composting. If you can help with donations of timber, please contact Tanya or Fran in the school office on 07 5524 2315.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING AT FHPS

FINGAL KIDS ARE









COOKING WITH JO

Cauliflower, pea, mint and lemon frittata

INGREDIENTS

½ small cauliflower cut into flowerets

1 tspn oil

34 cup frozen peas

2 tspns finely grated lemon rind

1 tbspn finely shredded fresh mint

6 free range eggs

1/4 cup cold water

METHOD

Preheat oven to 200*

Steam cauliflower over a medium saucepan of simmering water, about 8-10 mins till just tender, drain

Heat oil in about a 20cm frypan over medium heat, add cauliflower to pan with peas, toss gently.

Sprinkle with rind and mint. Whisk eggs and water until frothy. Add salt and pepper to taste. Pour the egg mixture into pan, cook over a low heat, about 10 mins or until halfway set.

Place pan in oven, cook for about 10-15 mins till lightly brown and set. Remove from oven let frittata sit for 5 mins then serve in wedges.

Nice served with lemon wedges and a garden salad and crunchy bread.

Also nice eaten cold for next day lunches.

HELP KEEP FINGAL SPECIAL

Emergencies	000
Tweed Shire Council	02 6670 2400
TSC Rangers	02 6670 2444
	AH 1800 818 326
Tweed Wild Life Carers	02 6672 4789
Wild Life Carer Fingal	0416 050 946
Australian Seabird Rescue	02 6686 2852
	0428 862 852
NSW National Parks and Wildlife	02 6670 8600
Kingscliff Police	02 6674 9399
Tweed Heads Police	07 5536 0999
Kingscliff Fire Brigade	02 6674 1271
Rural Fire Brigade	02 6672 7888
NSW Maritime Authority	07 5587 5222
	AH 0417 248 415
Maritime Services	131 256
Illegal Dumping	02 6670 2400
	or www.illegaldumping.com.au
Gold Coast Wildlife Hotline	1300 130 372

THANK YOU

The Fingal Flyer has been produced by Christine Marshall since the Autumn 2016 edition. As Principal of our local School, Christine has a very busy job so this additional commitment is greatly appreciated. On behalf of the Fingal Head Community Association Christine thank you so much for ensuring that the Flyer is produced and printed to ensure our community is kept informed.

Thanks are also due to all our contributors and volunteers who assist with distribution.

An electronic version of the Spring & Summer 2017 editions of the Fingal Flyer are also available on the Fingal Head School website. All future editions will be published on this website. Simply go to the Fingal Head School home page, choose News, and choose Fingal Flyer.

We sought the views of the community about accessing an electronic version as an alternative to the printed version. The community enjoy reading the printed version of the Fingal Flyer. We will maintain the printed version and look for innovative ways to fund the production costs. Please support those who support our work through advertising.

If you would like to contribute to the Fingal Flyer or if you have time and skills and are interested in assisting with the production of the Fingal Flyer please contact Helen Twohill at helen.twohill@bigpond.com

OR

Please email, text or call Christine Marshall with feedback, ideas and suggestions.

Email christine.n.marshall@det.nsw.edu.au | Mobile 0432 112 362 | Work 07 5524 2315

We hope you enjoy reading the Winter issue of the Fingal Flyer.



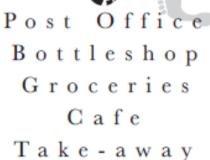


FINGAL GENERAL

STORE & CELLARS

Under NEW Management

Come in and say Hi!



Bait & Ice Newspapers





fingalgeneralstoreandcellars

Winter Trading Hours

Monday - Thursday 7am - 5.30pm Friday - Saturday 7am - 5.30pm Sunday 7am - 5pm

07 5524 2313

50 Main Road Fingal Head

bandk@fingalgeneralstoreandcellars.com