

Media Release

14th April 2016

New Aboriginal signage for Shoalhaven unveiled

Shoalhaven Tourism, on behalf of Shoalhaven City Council will be installing 35 newly designed Aboriginal town signs, acknowledging the long and rich history of Aboriginal people and their continued spiritual and diverse cultural connections, throughout the Shoalhaven region.

Shoalhaven City Council Aboriginal Advisory Committee representative, Mr Troy Lenihan, says it's wonderful to see the Aboriginal community and Council working together to promote the local Aboriginal culture.

"We were pleased to see that appropriate protocol was taken by Shoalhaven City Council in consultation with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee and it was a privilege to be asked to be involved in the design and creation of the signage," said Mr Lenihan.

"This is what our committee is for – establishing open lines of communication between the Aboriginal community and Shoalhaven City Council."

Mayor Joanna Gash said a number of signs throughout the Shoalhaven will now have the addition of the traditional Aboriginal name for the place, for example the Aboriginal name Cullunghutti will be added to the existing Coolangatta sign. "

"This is an important initiative, which has resulted in Council and the Aboriginal community working closely together." Said Cllr Gash

"Council's Aboriginal Advisory Committee has endorsed the new signage design and has been very supportive of the project "said Cllr Gash

"The benefits, especially from a tourism perspective, are significant, fostering a greater awareness of the strong Aboriginal ties we have in the Shoalhaven" said Cllr Gash

"The signs are also an acknowledgment of the traditional owners and of their connection to places throughout the Shoalhaven." said Cllr Gash

Mayor Gash said some examples of the new Aboriginal Signage Names & Meanings that will be installed include:

Town Name:	Meaning:
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Bellawongarah	Place of Wonga Pigeons
Bangalee	Sandy Beach
Bawley Point	Brown Snake
Berrara	Snapper
Burrier	Crossing Place
Cambewarra	Mountain Fire
Coolangatta	Cullunghutti
Cudmirrah	Home of the swans
Culburra Beach	Sand
Meroo Meadow	Lightning
Myola	Place of crabs
Nowra	Black Cockatoo
Numbaa	Broad leaf tree
Pyree	Place of box trees
Wattamolla	Clear water
Woollamia	Good snapper fishing
Worrigee	Peppermint tree
Yatte Yattah	Water tumble down

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