

Welcome to Tomerong!

We want you to know how proud we are of our village. We want to keep the "village" quality that residents value. We hope you will share this appreciation and find our community a special place to live.

2004/2005 saw applications for an extra 100 lots within the village area,, meaning Tomerong will double in population over the next few years,

The *Jervis Bay Settlement Strategy* adopted by the Shoalhaven City Council in 2003 declared that Tomerong will remain a 'village' and will not have a lot of infrastructure as found in urban areas.

The essence of village and community strength is self-reliance and community co-operation. The support for organisations in the village reflects our community's strength. We hope the information provided here helps you make the most of this special place where you have chosen to live.

Our environment

Tomerong is thought to mean 'place of tall timber.'

The village sits on a ridge between two creeks which run into St Georges Basin. In October 2005, we hope to launch Landcare activities which will, among other things, help keep these running clear and free of weed.

With doubled population in the village, we need to be careful that residential runoff and weeds do not impact on the creeks or St George's Basin.

Tomerong Community Forum is recognised by the Shoalhaven City Council as a 'Principal Consultative Body' — a vehicle for conveying community perspectives to local government. The Community Forum meets monthly and is open to all residents. In addition, as a Community Forum, we try to assist community groups to make our village a great place to live.

Our history

Archaeological records show that the first inhabitants, the Yuin or Murring people, have been here for at least 20,000 years. They frequently moved from the coast to the inland for trade or ceremonies. The routes they took have become some of our main roads and fire trails.

European settlement began with the first Tomerong land sale in 1855. Two years later, John Parnell, one of the original land purchasers, opened the 'Travellers Rest Hotel' on the north-eastern corner of Pine Forest road and the old Princes Highway (now Hawken road). He held the license for almost thirty years. The hotel meant Tomerong became a focal point for travellers south of Nowra. By 1862 the village was evolving and boasted a school, post office and general store, which serviced Wandandian and the scattered communities around Jervis Bay. Fifteen years later a Church Hall was erected, the use of which was shared amongst the denominations and community groups. Family names such as Bryce, Parnell, Suffolk, Barham, McGuire, Ganderton, Watt and others featured among these and later organisations.

The establishment of the timber industry in the 1870's meant sawmills and timber getting would feature prominently in the areas history for the next 100 years.

In 1907 Tomerong became the centre of local government when the new Clyde Shire Council built its chambers in the village. Despite local discontent, the Shire was amalgamated with the Shoalhaven Shire thirty years later.

The long awaited School of Arts was built in 1926 and, 80 years later, is one of the few remaining halls still owned and operated by the community and not by council.

Recent decades have seen the end of the local timber industry as sawmills have consolidated and closed. Since the highway bypass in 1995, Tomerong has become a nicer place to live. You can read more about our history in *From Bullocks to Bypass* by Margaret Blair. Copies are available at the Tomerong shop.

Tomerong—The CBD!

There is no mail or newspaper delivery. For such things as these you need to go to the Tomerong CBD! There you will find the combined shop/newsagency/post office (and all the hot goss!) ...next door to the school, which is next door to the Union Church, which is across the road from the School of Arts Hall, next to the fire brigade. We hope walkways from new subdivisions will add to village life.

At the School of Arts Hall

... our community, our community hall

Monday

6-7pm **Pilates** Maggie Simpson 4443 4737

Tuesday

6-7.30pm **Tae Kwon Do** Peter 4443 4779 [AH]

7.30-9.30pm **A Capella** Chris Rigg 4443 7665

Wednesday

10am-noon **Playgroup** Kelly Upton 4443 6537

4-6pm **Bodylink Dance** Kerry 4441 0687

evening Meetings of organisations

see 'community contacts' - also one off bookings

Thursday

6-7.30pm **Tae Kwon Do** Peter 4443 4779

Friday

7.30-9.30pm **Xtreme Youth**

for year 7 and up, *One Way Christian Fellowship**

Saturday

8am-1pm (third Saturday only) **Market Day**

Evening shows check the notice board!

Sunday

4-5pm **One Way Kids*** ages 6-12

6.30pm **One Way Christian Fellowship***

* Jill and Rod Rose 4447 8918

Hall bookings Michele Smith 4443 5354

Tomerong Market "The Friendly Market"

Third Saturday of the month, 8am-1pm
A great opportunity to pick up local produce, craft, plants, organic food, more.
Good coffee, brunch

at the School of Arts Hall

Stall holder bookings

- Michael Davis 0415 487 509 ... 4443 5139 AH