

# THE TEA GARDENS – HAWKS NEST CYCLING EXPERIENCE

Explore some of the most breathtaking scenery and picturesque beauty Hawks Nest - Tea Gardens has to offer. With roads and tracks in the Hawks Nest/Tea Gardens area generally flat, it is ideal to cycle almost everywhere. Cycling is not permitted on walking tracks within the Myall Lakes National Park

Cycling principles for our area include:

- Ensure cycling equality by upholding the principle that every street is considered a bicycle street
- Build a cycle friendly community and culture that promotes cycling
- Promote the idea that short bicycle rides are beneficial for the community, the environment and the riders (healthier lifestyle)
- Raise community awareness of cycling as a viable transport alternative
- Develop a family cycling guide for tourists and the local community
- Increased cycling will enhance the well-being of all Australians



**Disclaimer:** Cyclists are responsible for their own personal safety and may use the information in this booklet entirely at their own risk. Bicycle routes are suggestions only and may not be appropriate for all skill and fitness levels. All road rules for cyclists are to be complied with. The information and maps contained in this booklet are for general information and planning purposes only and may contain inaccuracies or errors. The Myall Waterways Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Inc. and the Community Technology Centre @ Tea Gardens make no warranties or representations regarding the quality, accuracy, or fitness for purpose of the information and

maps contained in this booklet. The Chamber and the CTC do not make any representations or warranties as to the safety or suitability of any bicycle route shown in this booklet and will not in any circumstances be liable to you for any loss, or damage (including without limitation consequential loss or damage) however caused and whether arising directly from your use of the information and/or maps contained in this booklet....

**Ride 1:** *Distance about 6.5km.*

*Tourist Information Centre to Winda Woppa & Hawks Nest shops.*

**Commence and finish:** at the Tourist Information Centre, 245 Myall St. Tea Gardens and finish at Hawks Nest shops, Tuloa Avenue and Booner Street.

**Attractions include:** Tourist Information Centre for maps (including national park brochure) and things to do and see, Singing Bridge, Myall River, bush tracks, view of Jimmys Beach and Port Stephens, Winda Woppa Reserve and lagoon, shops and cafés..... Hawks Nest Beach is an additional 0.8 kilometres.



**Route:**

**Ride along Myall Street to Singing Bridge**, dismount on footpath, walk across the bridge and turn left immediately over bridge and proceed under the bridge to **Moira Parade**. Continue along Moira Parade to the end of the street, turn into the bush track beside the nursing home then turn right at **Tuloa Avenue**. Continue, along Tuloa Avenue then turn left into **The Boulevard, Winda Woppa**.

Near the end of The Boulevard (no through traffic sign) turn right into **Fishermans Walk** and then left into **Anchorage Road and Winda Woppa Reserve**. From **Winda Woppa Reserve** proceed along the track behind the amenities block for about 250 metres to a lagoon surrounded by mangroves.

**Return via The Anchorage Road into Tuloa Road**, until you arrive at the roundabout and **Hawks Nest shops and cafés**. Turn right at Booner Avenue for a further 0.8km to Hawks Nest Beach if you wish.

## Ride 2: Riverside Art Walk & Ride

### Commence and finish:

Tea Gardens Hotel/Motel, Marine Drive.

**Distance:** about 10km return. A shorter ride or walk to the bridge and back is about 2km.

**Attractions:** Works by local artists include:

**Windows in Wood** opposite no 71, Hook and Cook Café in Marine Drive;

**Silent Witness** opposite No. 75 Marine Drive;

**Mosaic Barbeques** opposite Nicoles, Tea Gardens Hotel and Fire Station;

**Voices of the Myall, Memory Box, Pelicans painting and Pioneer Poles** Marine Drive, Tea Gardens Library ramp, inside, and outside of foyer, and beside library;

**River Crossing** Marine Drive between Fish Co-op and boat ramp near bridge;

**Wildflower Totems and Pelican on the Pole** Moira Parade Park at Hawks Nest (unfortunately damaged);

**Pioneer Poles** Winda Woppa, Park end of the Anchorage Road;

**Mosaic BBQ** Jimmys Beach Reserve;

**Native Wildlife Totems** Booner Street Hawks Nest shops car park;

**Origin of the Name: Hawks Nest** Western wall of community hall in Booner Street Hawks Nest);

**Tea Gardens Yesteryear, Tea Gardens 2005 and The Drougher** Tea Gardens Hotel at Marine Drive, and **Myall Community Art and Craft Centre**.

**Route:** Begin opposite Hook n Cook Café, 71 Myall Street - Walk or ride along the waterfront towards the Singing Bridge, cross over the bridge by foot, turn left onto the footpath under the bridge and into Moira Parade Hawks Nest, travel along Moira Parade, turn left into Mirreen Street and right into Tuloa Ave, travel along Tuloa Ave and turn right to The Anchorage at Winda Woppa.

**Return** via Tuloa Ave, turn right into Coorilla Street for Jimmy's Beach Reserve then left into Booner Street Hawks Nest

To return to Tea Gardens travel along Tuloa Ave, left into Kingfisher Ave and back across the bridge to find the Myall Community Art and Craft Centre (next to Visitor Information Centre 245 Myall Street), and then on to Tea Gardens Hotel/Motel, for drinks and refreshments or wander up to Nicole,s Art Gallery and café for coffee, cake, delicious meals plus the Art Gallery



## Ride 3: Bridge to Myall Quays Shopping Village

**Distance** about 6km return

**Commence and Finish:** from the Singing Bridge, which joins Hawks Nest and Tea Gardens.

**Attractions:** The river foreshore, swimming pool, library, Art Walk highlights, shops, hotel, cafés, restaurants, police station, court house, and Myall Quay Shopping Centre.

**Route:** Commence at the bridge, proceed along the foreshore cycle-way in Marine Drive to the end, turn left at Coupland Ave, then first on the right which is Budgerie Street and continue right on the cycle way/footpath into Admiralty Avenue. Continue to join up with the cycle-way and proceed left to Myall Quays Shopping Village. Enjoy a coffee and cake, or a cool drink.

**Return** via the same way and enjoy a swim at the pool or a visit to the library on your return.

## Ride 4: Distance about 3.5km return

### Hawks Nest SLSC Club to Jimmys Beach and return via Golf Club.

**Commence and finish:** at the Surf Life Saving Club at Hawks Nest Beach Booner Street.

**Attractions:** Hawks Nest Beach, and its magnificent views and golden sands, dolphin spotting, and beautiful Hawks Nest Golf course.

**Route:** Ride south along Beach Road, turn first right into Mireen Street, and first left into Bennett Street which becomes Coorilla Street and leads to the entrance of Jimmy's Beach Reserve and Jimmy's Beach.

Enjoy a short break looking at the view or having a swim and then continue left along Coorilla Street, before turning right at Tuloa Avenue to Hawks Nest Shops (stop for refreshments and a browse of the shops) before proceeding to Hawks Nest Golf Club. Turn right into Sanderling Avenue (cycle way) and right again onto the cycle-way / footpath opposite the entrance to the golf club. This track continues past the football field on right and caravan park on left, before turning left at Booner Street back to the beach in time for a swim or just enjoy the view. Meals and accommodation are available at Ocean Side Motel at the corner of Booner and Bennett Streets....Hawks Nest Caravan Park is located opposite and Jimmys Beach Caravan Park also provides accommodation.

The Reserve near the beach offers a lovely picnic area.



**Ride 5: Mumm's on the Myall to Swan Bay - Distance: about 4.8km return.**

**Commence and finish:** at Mumm's on the Myall, at the foot of the Singing Bridge opposite the swimming pool in Marine Drive Tea Gardens.

**Attractions:** include the Singing Bridge, the Koala zone and the beautiful Swan Bay.

**Route:** Proceed across the bridge (dismount on the footpath over the bridge) looking for dolphins, pelicans, sting rays and fish, continue along the cycle way looking up for koala bears, turn left at Ibis Avenue, then left into Albatross Avenue, and turn right at "T" intersection into Koonwarra Drive, Swan Bay.....Return via the same route



**Ride 6: Hook n Cook to Limekilns - Distance: about 5.4km.**

**Commence and finish:** at Hook n Cook café/take away at 71 Marine Drive, Tea Gardens

**Attractions:** Memorial Park oval and Limekilns (previously called Holbert Town after a local family), where troublesome convicts were sent to assist in the burning of oyster shells for the manufacture of lime for cement making.

**Route:** Commence ride at Hook n Cook café heading away from the bridge and turn left at Hough Street which becomes Limekilns Road. Continue out to the end (see Limekilns Reserve at the end of Cooma Street) and return via the same route.

**Ride 7: Tea Gardens Country Club via cemetery to Industrial Estate - Distance: about 4 km return**

**Commence and finish:** at Tea Gardens Country Club, Yalinbah Street, Tea Gardens.

**Attractions:** include Tea Gardens Cemetery (check the oldest gravesite) and all the interesting businesses in the industrial estate.

**Route:** From Tea Gardens Country Club in Yalinbah Street, walk/ride along the trail beside the cemetery into Holbert Close, right into Penn Drive, left into Myall Street and left into Industrial Estate. Return via Myall Street.

On returning to the Tea Gardens Country Club enjoy all the usual club facilities plus more at this friendly country club. You may wish to stay at the Tea Gardens Club Inn Motel which is located at the rear of the club.

**Ride 8: Historical buildings Bike Tour - Distance: about 2.5km.**

Detailed historical information about places of interest can be obtained at the CTC which is open 7 days (9am to 5pm Mon to Fri and 10am to 4pm Weekends and Public Holidays), Shop 4 209 Myall Street, Tea Gardens)...Our local Family History Group operate from Shop 3 on Saturday, Sunday and Monday 10am to 2pm



**Commence and finish:** Tillermans Restaurant in Marine Drive Tea Gardens

**Attractions:**

**Tillermans Restaurant** (building first used around 1903 as Bob's Busy Bee General Store);

**Police Station and Courthouse 1912** (first Constable in the region was stationed at Hawks Nest in 1880;

**Tea Gardens Primary School** (Tea Gardens Racecourse was located on the moor behind the school);

**Anglican Church** (original church was built in 1910 and in 1998 moved to adjacent block in Ogden Street)

**Roman Catholic Church** (first church in Tea Gardens was erected on this site in 1889 and demolished in 1994);

**Hardware Store** (building was previously used as a barber shop, billiards saloon, wine bar, lending library and home);

**Tea Gardens Hotel-Motel** (in 1884 a wine bar was opened on this site...present hotel-motel was opened in 1960);

**Universal Store** the old building of G.A. Engel and Sons (built in 1922); Sadly replaced by a new development.

**Boat Shed Restaurant and Marina** Enjoy a coffee, a cool drink, a meal and a fabulous view over the water;

**Singing Bridge** (named because bridge railings resonate during strong south-westerly winds) and where you can view concrete ramps on either side of the bridge where the vehicular ferry used to operate since about 1928, until the bridge was opened in 1974.

**Route:** Begin at **Tillerman's Restaurant** in Marine Drive, heading in a North Westerly direction away from the bridge, past the old house which was previously Avoca Refreshments Rooms, and continue to the police station and old courthouse. Turn left into Hough Street, cross Myall St. before turning the next left at Witt St. Continue to **Tea Gardens Primary School**, check out the **old Anglican Church** around the corner of Ogden Street, and then continue along Witt Street, then turn left at Maxwell Street to the location of the **Roman Catholic Church**. Proceed to Myall St. intersection to the **Hardware Shop** on the left. Cross over the road at Maxwell St and return to Marine Drive and turn right towards the bridge. Pass the **Tea Gardens Hotel-Motel** on the right, closely followed by the location where the old building of **G.A. Engel and Sons Universal Store** was situated, go past the **Boat Shed Restaurant and Marina** on the left and continue to the Singing Bridge where you can view concrete ramps on either side of the bridge where the vehicular ferry used to operate.

## Ride 9: Over 55's ride

**Commence and finish:** at Myall Quays shops and finish at the Tea Gardens Grange

**Distance:** about 4.3km including a number of cycle ways along the route.

**Attractions:** include Myall Quays shops, new land development with man made lake and Tea Gardens Grange (the ultimate lifestyle resort).

**Route:** Commence ride at Myall Quay shops at Myall Quays Boulevard and continue to Shoreline Drive over a bridge, right into Windward Circuit, turn left again at Shoreline Drive, then right into Leeward Circuit which brings you back to Shoreline Drive where you turn right back past the shops where you turn left into Myall Street. Turn right into the first street which is Settlers Way, left into Spinifex Avenue and then follow the signs to Tea Gardens Grange, where you may wish to check out the retirement resorts at the Grange and the Hermitage.

**Ride 10: Distance:** about 14km return.

## Lions Lookout via Viney Creek Road to Highway

**Commence and finish:** at Lions Lookout at the top of Myall Street, the entrance to Tea Gardens.

**Attractions:** include scenic views from lookout and lush pastoral land with horses and cattle.

**Route:** From the Lookout, ride along Viney Creek Road past the water towers and turn left past the electrical station along the gravel road (Viney Creek Road) to the Highway. Return via the same route. **This a very hilly section of rough road suited for mountain bikes, and fit and experienced riders.**



## CYCLING IN THE MYALL LAKES NATIONAL PARK

the lakes region is renowned for its beauty and striking landscape.

**Obtain a NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service brochure titled "the Great Lakes National Park" from Tea Gardens Tourist Information Centre in Myall Street, which contains detailed information including a map.**

Cycling is permitted on trails and roads, not on walking tracks. For further information on Myall Lakes National Park, including: maps, best time to visit, climate, cycling in the park, tracks and trails, flora and fauna, adjoining and nearby parks, campsite and picnic locations, visit Myall Lakes National Park on the internet, Tourist Information Centres (including Tea Gardens at Myall Street) or contact NSW National Parks Wildlife Services.

**Ride 11: Distance:** about 52km return.

## Hawks Nest Golf Club to Bombah Point Ferry

**Commence and finish at Golf Club:** Sanderling Ave.

**Route:** Start along cycle/walk way and proceed along Mungo Brush Road which is a flat bitumen surface to Bombah Point Ferry and return.

**Attractions: Dark Point** (sand dunes),

**Hole in the Wall** views of the coastline and Broughton Island, along with numerous camping and picnic sites which provide picturesque scenery, tranquility and some providing facilities.

The **Bombah Point** ferry will take you to the other side of the lake where you can enjoy refreshments, accommodation and meals at **Myall Shores Resort**.

Continue to **Bulahdelah** and beyond to **Forster** or you may wish to return to the Golf Club and enjoy a drink, a coffee, a meal, or a game of golf.

Rather than cycling all the way, you may choose to transport your cycles by motor vehicle to various points along the way.

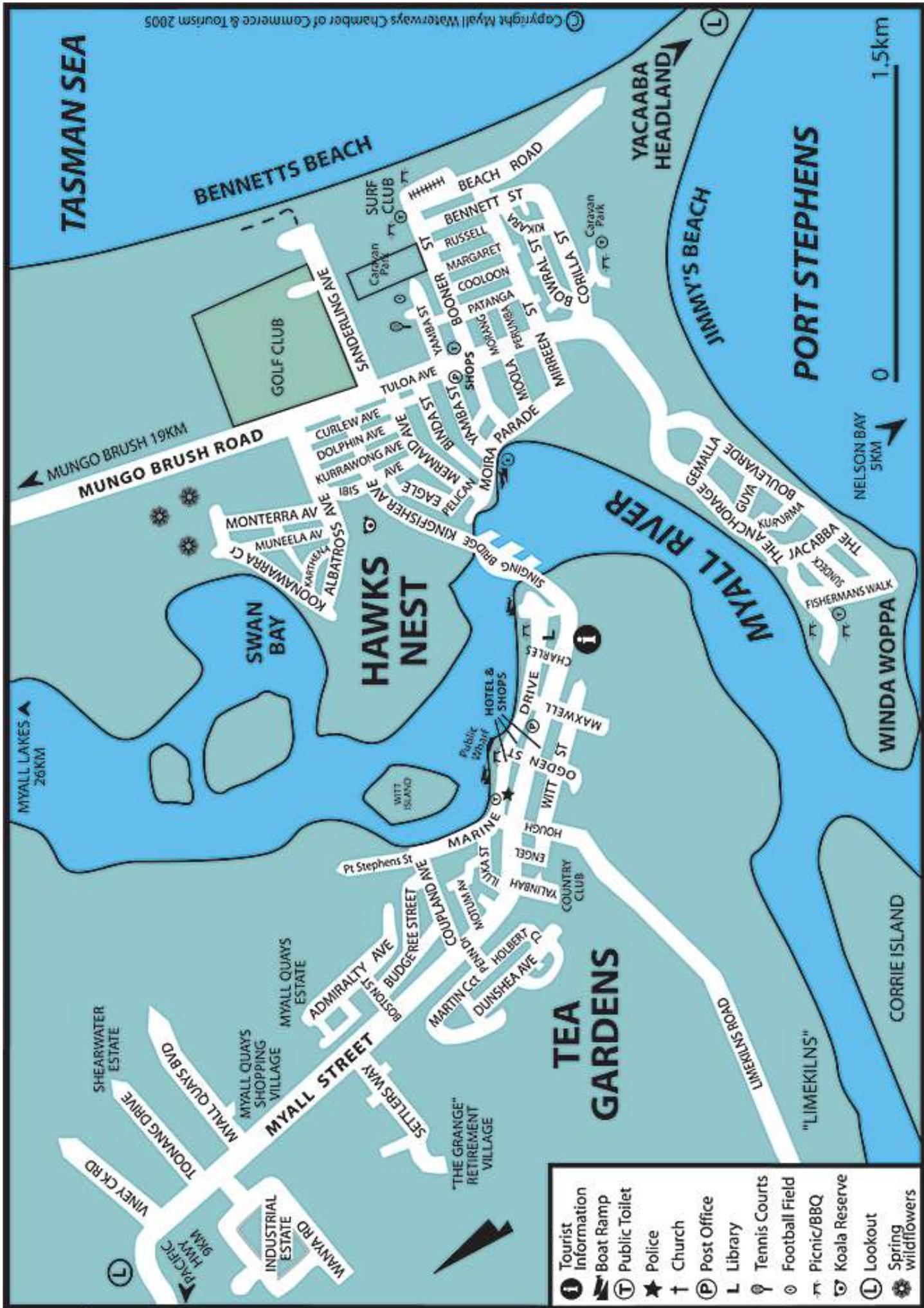
The lakeside camping areas along Mungo Brush Road offers places to stay.

**Additional cycle rides (suggest mountain bikes) or walks off Mungo Brush Road include;**

**Pipers Creek Fire Trail** (1km out and back) which is 5.7km from the Golf Club.

**Johnsons Beach track** (8km return) is located about 24.5 km from the Golf Club. Take the **Boomeri Camping Area** turnoff on the right. Refer to "a visitor's guide to Hawks Nest and Tea Gardens" by Christian Patterson for detailed information about route.





1.5km

NELSON BAY 5KM

- Tourist Information
- Boat Ramp
- Public Toilet
- Police
- Church
- Post Office
- Library
- Tennis Courts
- Football Field
- Picnic/BBQ
- Koala Reserve
- Lookout
- Spring wildflowers

TASMAN SEA

PORT STEPHENS

YACAABA HEADLAND

JIMMY'S BEACH

MYALL RIVER

HAWKS NEST

TEA GARDENS

WINDA WOPPA

CORRIE ISLAND

"LIMEKILNS"

SWAN BAY

BENNETTS BEACH

MUNGO BRUSH ROAD

TASMAN SEA

PACIFIC HURRY 9KM

SHEARWATER ESTATE

TOOYANG DRIVE

MYALL QUAYS BLD

MYALL QUAYS SHOPPING VILLAGE

MYALL QUAYS ESTATE

ADMIRALTY AVE

BUDGEREE STREET

CORPLAND AVE

MARTIN CCT

HOLBERT

DUNSCHEA AVE

SETTLERS WAY

MYALL STREET

WANA RD

INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

VINEY CR RD

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