



SPRING IN THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Welcome to the Wingecarribee Shire, or as it is more affectionately known – ‘The Southern Highlands’ – a region of incredible beauty, diversity, heritage, history and breathtaking gardens.

Spring is the season of new life and nowhere is the ‘awakening’ more evident than here in the Highlands – in the many magnificent private gardens (some that are open to the general public), Council parks and gardens and through the tree lined streets that abound in rich colour and floral profusion.

Saying that there is a lot to do and see in the Southern Highlands during Spring would have to be one of the greatest understatements ever made. During this season, the Southern Highlands is overflowing with events of all sizes. There really is something for everyone! Check out ‘What’s On’ under Events at www.southern-highlands.com.au . The choice of events ranges from regular monthly markets, through local fairs and fetes to the Southern Highlands’ major floral festival Tulip Time.

The Highlands, rich in history and heritage, offers many interesting towns and villages to explore, many with interesting and unusual names derived from the Aboriginal language, others are named after famous explorers and early settlers.

The following are a sample of place names and their *Aboriginal* meanings or origins:

- Wingecarribee – *flight of birds and waters to rest beside*
- Wombeyan – *caves in the hills*
- Burradoo – *many brigalow trees*
- Yerrinbool – *wood duck*
- Bundanoon – *big, deep gullies*
- Burrawang – a native palm which grew abundantly in the area
- Bowral – *large or high*
- Berrima – *black swan to the south*
- Bong Bong – variously stated to mean *many watercourses* or *many frogs*
- Mittagong – *gong* is supposedly an Aboriginal suffix meaning *mountain*

Let us entice you to explore the region. From the rugged gullies and wilderness areas of our National Park areas to the gentle beauty of our gardens, the Southern Highlands is a place that will delight. We offer visitors a relaxing ‘world away’ from the hustle and bustle of the city, or for the more energetic, activities such as bushwalking and golf are just a couple from which to choose.

The Southern Highlands is here for you, the visitor, to enjoy this Spring.