



## NATIONAL PARKS ON THE TOMAREE PENINSULAR

National Parks are on the Agenda at the Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association September monthly meeting. The Association is very pleased to have as its guest speaker Robert Quirk, Regional Manager for the Hunter Region of the National Park and Wildlife Service.

Robert, a local Tomaree resident, will speak on the role and responsibilities of the Parks Service generally, with special emphasis on the Tomaree region. He will speak on some of the current challenges as well as recent and planned initiatives. He will also explore the interaction of the Parks Service with other responsible authorities such as the Council, Maritime Services, Fisheries and commercial stakeholders such as those involved in tourism.

A look at a map of land use on the Tomaree Peninsula and the surrounding areas indicates the large proportion of the area dedicated to National Parks and their importance in the region generally. In a recent submission to Port Stephens Council for its Tourist Strategy TRRA praised some of the recent initiatives of the Service in improving access to its Parks. It will be of great interest to learn of future planned initiatives.

Robert Quirk's address will focus on land-based park management. In the future the National Parks and Wildlife Service officer in charge of marine parks will be invited to speak on marine-based park management.

Following the main address other issues to be raised for discussion at the meeting will include the Department of Lands Draft Plans of Management for the Halifax, Shoal Bay and Fingal Bay Holiday (Caravan) Parks, Council's Foreshore Plans and the Futures Project.

The meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 14 September at the Nelson Bay Bowling Club.

*For further information contact :*

*Judy Washington*

*Publicity Officer*

*Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association*

*4981 3916*