

TOMAREE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC.
MINUTES OF INTERAGENCY MEETING HELD ON 3rd February 2026 at 9.30am

1.	<u>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION:</u> Clare welcomed all to this meeting and gave a acknowledgement to country. <u>Please Note</u> these minutes are based on the forms that each attendee has filled out.	ACTION
2.	<u>IN ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES:</u> Present: Clare Saunders (TNC Manager), Mark Freeman (TNC/Salamander Mens Shed), Pam Christy (Service NSW), Jacqui Orwell (Gan Gan Family Centre), Jessica Mitchell (Hume Housing), Jason Wells (LAB Learning Clinic), Lesley Forth (Joblink Plus), Emma Butler (Wesley Care Finder), Teri Priestly (Castle Personnel), Kath Lewis (Novacare Community), Heather Joveski (Community Corrections), Beth King (Hope Unlimited Church), Greg Hodge (Hope Unlimited Church), Garry Steel (JP Federation), Charlie Elias (Tomaree High School), Darren Forbes (Carers NSW), Maureen Sansom (Global Compassion Coalition), Sue Hughes (Vinnies), Jackie Coker (Vinnies) and Jason Rich (Samaritans). Apoloiges: Antoinette Hogan (Wesley Mission), Simone Dearing and Dianne Henley (NSW Reconstruction Authority), Kate Loughman (Hunter Community Legal Service), Cassandra Ralph (TAFE NSW), Julie Smith and Keiko Clements(Carers NSW), Mike Austin and Sally Stollznnow (Services Australia), Rachael Smoothy (Kate Washington’s Office), Scott Matthew-Wall (acon) and Breanna Avery (Hume Housing).	
3.	Clare started with an outline of programs available at TNC: Mums Circle – Yoga & Mindfulness (Term 1 Program) Free 6-week wellbeing program for mums Gentle movement, mindfulness, connection and self-care Currently running this term, with limited spots still available Due to the program’s success, TNC is exploring the possibility of introducing an after-school youth wellbeing program Bringing Up Great Kids (BUGK) – Parenting Program (Term 1) Free evidence-based parenting program delivered by The Benevolent Society Supports parents and carers to build calm, respectful family relationships Thursdays, 12pm–2pm at TNC Volunteer Information Sessions – Next Session Tues Feb 27th 1pm Monthly sessions for community members interested in volunteering Overview of current volunteer roles and pathways at TNC Adult Indigenous Art & Cultural Workshop – Tanilba Bay Two-day free adult workshop: 21 & 22 February Cultural and creative program for adults Fully booked Financial Counselling (Outreach Service)	

	Free, confidential financial counselling Outreach delivered in partnership with Hunter Valley Project Inc Fortnightly outreach service at TNC (Tuesdays) Bookings required Emergency Relief Appointments available Mondays and Wednesdays Food hampers available throughout the week Assistance with energy bills, council rates and water rates Referrals to other support services	
4.	Sue Hughes gave an update on Vinnies. They have a new Hotline phone number, effective from March 1st – 0402 852 924. This is the number to be used from that date onwards.	
5.	Teri Priestly gave the update from Castle Personnel. Their employment program is designed to help people with disability, injury or long-term health conditions to prepare for, find, keep and grow in meaningful, sustainable employment. Note – if anyone knows any employers seeking employees, please send them my way – Teri-Anne Priestly 0481 994 781, teri-annepriestly@castle.org.au	
6.	Emma Butler gave the update from Wesley Care Finder. This is a free service supporting older people in the community navigate and access aged care services and support.	
7.	Kath Lewis gave the update from Novacare Community. They have a Day Centre at Taylors Beach, where they conduct a Day Centre Program and outings.	
8.	Garry Steel gave the update from JP Federation. They have been closed for the Christmas break and things have been quiet but are starting to pick up now.	
9.	Jacqui Orwell gave the update from Gan Gan Family Centre. Playgroups and activities have resumed for 2026. They are running Circle of Security this term. My time – for families with a child living with disability.	
10.	Jess Mitchell gave the update from Hume Housing. Madi is no longer with the H&T Team, they are currently in the recruitment process but because of this we have no event updates.	
11.	Pam Christy gave the update from Service NSW. They have Savings Finder appointments and a Quiet Hour.	
12	Jason Wells gave the update for LAB Learning Clinic. Supporting young people and adults with dyslexia and other learning difficulties to improve functional communication and executive functioning skills. Working more with adult NDIS participants with communication skills.	

13	Lesley Forth gave the update from Joblink Plus . Working with clients who are job ready, moving into meaningful, sustainable employment. Work with clients who need assistance with training and other barriers to employment.	
14	Greg Hodge and Beth King gave the update from Hope Unlimited Church. EAPA is pending. Meals of Hope – frozen food available. Emergency accommodation, Christmas Hamper and gifts for families in need.	
15	Heather Joveski gave the update from Community Corrections. Any new services we can refer clients to: Family Support, Alcohol and other drugs, Domestic family violence, Mental Health.	
16	Jason Rich gave the update from Samaritans. Child and Parenting Support – Case Management, supported playgroups, Community engagement events, Child wellbeing programs.	
17	Maureen Sansom gave the update from Global Compassion Coalition (GCC). Spreading more compassion in the world. Cultivating Compassionate communities. Maureen is the GCC's National Co-ordinator for Compassionate Community Connectors.	
18	Mark Freeman gave an outline of what the Shed provides, who it accepts and what type of activities are available.	
19	MINUTES TAKEN BY: Mark Freeman	
20	NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 7th April 2026 at 9.30am	