

ADVANTAGES OF DUNGOG SHIRE

Incorporating the towns and villages of Dungog, Clarence Town, East Gresford and Gresford, Martins Creek, Paterson and Vacy

- ✓ A rural environment characterised by small towns and villages and strong communities, surrounded by magnificent scenery including the Barrington Tops, and its foothills
- ✓ Dungog Shire remains a traditional farming area with beef cattle production the major activity, combined with a number of new enterprises including vineyards, olives and organic vegetables.
- ✓ Job opportunities from the nearby resource related developments in the Upper Hunter and Gloucester, and in the population growth areas of the Lower Hunter, including Raymond Terrace and Maitland, one of the fastest growing inland Local Government Area in Australia
- ✓ Most areas of the Shire are less than 1 hour from Williamtown Airport with direct flights to Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Canberra
- ✓ There are regular Cityrail services to and from Maitland and Newcastle from a number of stations in the Shire, and there are daily Countrylink services from Dungog to Sydney and the North Coast (with connections to Brisbane)
- ✓ Easy access to nearby major population centres with most areas of the Shire less than 3 hours from Sydney, under 2 hours from the Central Coast and approximately 1 hour from Newcastle
- ✓ A wide range of community services including Dungog and District Neighbourcare (including palliative care and meals on wheels), Lara Aged Care, and Dungog Shire Community Centre. These are supported by Senior Citizens, CWA, Mens Shed, a number of churches and support groups.
- ✓ The Shire has a strong network of active community groups including sports, arts and culture and history and heritage.
- ✓ Large areas of State Forests and the World Heritage listed Barrington Tops National Park, yet with easy access to beaches and lakes, which are approximately 1 hour away
- ✓ Education facilities include pre-schools, seven public and one Catholic primary school, Dungog High School and Dungog Community College. Tocal College is on the Shire boundary, TAFE courses are offered in Maitland and Singleton, and the University of Newcastle is close enough for students to commute daily or to catch a train
- ✓ A varied calendar of events for both locals and visitors to the area including Vacy Village Country Carnival, Planet Dungog Music Festival, Gresford Billy Cart Derby, Paterson New Years Eve Celebrations, Dungog and Gresford Shows and Rodeos, and monthly markets are held at several locations throughout the Shire.
- ✓ Dungog is the home of the historic James Theatre, the oldest still running purpose-built cinema in Australia and regular film and live events are held at the theatre.
- ✓ Dungog Hospital provides inpatient, medical and emergency care, as well as post-surgical and postnatal care, and a range of outpatient and community health services. There is a medical practice and an ambulance station in Dungog and regular clinics are held in Clarence Town.
- ✓ There are four police stations in the Shire and the Shire has a relatively low crime rate.