

Port Macquarie 



Neighbourhood Centre



PORT MACQUARIE
HASTINGS



MNC
Community Legal Centre Project

MID NORTH COAST LEGAL RESOURCES DIRECTORY

Second Edition

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Port Macquarie Neighbourhood Centre | 02 6583 8044 |
| Kempsey Neighbourhood Centre | 02 6562 8300 |
| Wauchope Neighbourhood Centre | 02 6586 4055 |
| Manning Valley Neighbourhood Centre | 02 6553 5121 |
| Forster Neighbourhood Centre | 02 6555 4351 |
| Nambucca Valley Neighbourhood Centre | 02 6568 2305 |

Compiled by Graeme Howarth and Catherine Peek

**All legal services in this directory are either
free or subsidised.**

| GENERAL FREE LEGAL ADVICE | |
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| Hunter Community Legal Centre Free legal advice & limited court representation. For residents of Great Lakes & Taree. Phone advice: Mon & Wed 9:30am-4pm | 02 4926 3329 NO ADVICE ON: personal injury, drafting property settlements, local council matters & workers comp. |
| Law Access Legal information and assistance services. Phone advice: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm | 1300 888 529 |
| Legal Aid Hotline for Under 18s Legal advice re juvenile justice. Phone advice: Mon-Thurs 9am-12am & Fri-Sun and public holidays 24 hours | 1800 101 810 |
| Immigration Advice and Rights Centre Phone advice Tues and Thurs 2pm-4pm | 02 9262 3833 |
| Refugee Advice and Casework Service For people seeking asylum in Australia. Phone advice: Tues & Thurs 10am- 12pm | 02 9114 1600 |
| Community Justice Centre (CJC) Free mediation service | 1800 990 777 |
| Law Society of NSW Pro Bono Scheme Coordinates free legal assistance and representation for eligible people. | 02 9926 0364 |
| Indigenous Women's Legal Contact Line Provides free legal advice and assistance to Aboriginal women (part of Women's Legal Services NSW) | 1800 639 784 |
| Legal Aid Outreach TAREE Every Thursday from 10:30am to 12:30pm at Manning Support Services. Must call to make appointment | 02 6551 5665 |
| Legal Aid Outreach TAREE Child Support & family law advice at Centrelink on the 4 th Wednesday of the month. Must call to make appointment | 02 4929 5482 or 1800 451 784 |
| Legal Aid Outreach KEMPSEY Family law at Kempsey Neighbourhood Centre – varied day once a month. Must call to make appointment | 1800 451 784 |

| GENERAL FREE LEGAL ADVICE cont. | |
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| Legal Aid Outreach KEMPSEY For people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Drop in 10am-12pm each Wed. | Drop in at Kempsey Neighbourhood Centre, 5 Kemp Street Kempsey |
| Legal Aid Civil Law Aboriginal Outreach KEMPSEY Aimed at Indigenous persons – Drop in 1 st and 3 rd Wed. of month between 1-3pm. | Drop in at West Kempsey Community Cottage |
| Legal Aid Civil Law Aboriginal Outreach KEMPSEY Aimed at Indigenous persons – Drop in 2 nd and 4 th Wed. of month between 1-3pm | Drop in at South Kempsey Community Cottage |
| Legal Aid Outreach FORSTER Family, child support, property settlement, divorce, child custody & parenting orders. Last Thurs of month. Must call to make appointment | 02 4929 5482 |
| Legal Advice at WAUCHOPE Neighbourhood Centre 30 min. appointment for general legal advice. 2nd Wed. and last Thurs of the month. Must call to make appointment | 02 6586 4055 |
| Legal Aid Outreach PORT MACQUARIE Neighbourhood Centre Family law, child support, de facto relationships, spouse maintenance, divorce, court orders about your children. Must call to make appointment | 1800 451 784 |
| Legal Advice at PORT MACQUARIE Neighbourhood Centre 30 min. appointment for general legal advice. Must call to make appointment | 02 6584 1914 |
| Legal Aid Outreach BOWRAVILLE Miimi (Mothers) Aboriginal Corp. 1 st Thurs of each month. Must call to make appointment. | 02 6562 1888 |
| Legal Aid Outreach at MACKSVILLE at Nambucca Valley Neighbourhood Centre. 1 st Thurs of month. Must call to make appointment. | 02 6562 1888 |

| DISCRIMINATION | |
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| Anti-Discrimination Board NSW Complaints of discrimination under state law. | 1800 670 812 |
| Australian Human Rights Commission Complaints of discrimination under federal law | 1300 656 419 02 9284 9888 |
| Disability Discrimination Legal Centre Phone advice on disability discrimination Tues, Wed, Fri 9:30am-12:30pm | 1800 800 708 |
| EMPLOYMENT | |
| Australian Fair Pay Commission - Workplace Authority - Workplace Ombudsman | 1300 363 264 1300 724 200 |
| Office of the Employment Advocate Phone advice about rights & obligations under <i>Workplace Relations Act</i> . | 1300 366 632 |
| Office of Industrial Relations (IR) Information about IR matters | 131 628 |
| Women's Employment Rights Project Phone advice re employment law issues for women. Wed between 10am and 1pm only. | 1800 244 481 02 9332 1966 |
| Workers Compensation Commission Help resolve workers comp. disputes | 131 050 |
| CRIMINAL LAW AND VICTIMS OF CRIME | |
| Aboriginal Legal Service Criminal law assistance for Indigenous clients | Taree 02 6551 3928 Kempsey 02 6562 5990 |
| Many Rivers Family Violence & Legal Service Free legal advice to indigenous people in relation to victims compensation (see also services provided under family and children) | Kempsey 02 6562 5856 <u>Outreach to:</u> Macksville, Bowraville, Taree, Forster & Port Mac. Call Kempsey for info |
| Victims Of Crime Bureau Support & referral for victims of crime | 02 6583 9351 |
| Mission Australia's Court Support Advice, info & support for victims at court. | 02 9356 0604/ 02 8218 9412 0419 695 328 |
| Victims Compensation Tribunal Helps victims of crime deal with cost of medical treatment, counselling & to compensate for any damage to property & personal injury. | 02 9374 3111 1800 069 054 |

| TENANCY & CENTRELINK | |
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| Centrelink Customer Relations line | 1800 050 004 |
| Welfare Rights Centre Advice about rights/entitlements & assist to appeal against Centrelink decisions. Telephone advice on Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri (9am- 1pm) & Tuesdays (1pm- 5pm). | 1800 226 028 |
| Social Security Appeals Tribunal Review of decisions made by Centrelink | 1800 011 140 1800 251 101 |
| Tenants Union Information for tenants | 02 9251 6590 |
| Mid Coast Tenants Advice Service Assistance for tenants from Forster to Woolgoolga. Phone advice. | 1800 777 722 02 6583 9866 |
| Northern NSW Aboriginal Tenancy Advice and Advocacy Service Information, advice and advocacy for Aboriginal tenants in the Bulahdelah, Forster, Muswellbrook and Taree areas. Phone advice: Everyday except Wed 9am-2:30pm | 1800 248 913 |
| NSW Fair Trading Complaints re business, home building, vehicles, real estate & renting. | 133 220 02 6584 1330 |
| LOCAL COURTS | |
| Forster (Chamber Registrar Mon-Fri) | 02 6554 6951 |
| Gloucester (Chamber Registrar Wed) | 02 6558 1125 |
| Port Macquarie (Chamber Registrar Mon-Fri) | 02 6586 2400 |
| Taree (Chamber Registrar Mon-Fri) | 02 6552 5599 |
| Wauchope (Chamber Registrar Tues, Wed, Friday) | 02 6585 3118 |
| Kempsey (Chamber Registrar Mon-Fri) | 02 6562 5095 |
| Macksville (Chamber Registrar Mon-Fri) | 02 6568 1519 |
| Bellingen (Chamber Registrar Mon-Fri) | 02 6655 1033 |
| Coffs Harbour (Chamber Registrar Mon-Fri) | 02 6651 9025 |

| CONSUMER | |
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| NSW Ombudsman Independent body assists with complaints about services provided by NSW government departments or agencies. | 1800 451 524 |
| Commonwealth Ombudsman Independent body assists with complaints about services provided by Australian government departments or agencies. | 1300 362 072 |
| Consumer, Trader & Tenancy Tribunal Disputes about tenancy, home building, residential parks, motor vehicles, strata, general consumer and commercial | 1300 135 399 |
| Energy and Water Ombudsman Independent body assisting in resolving electricity, gas & water complaints | 1800 246 545 |
| Health Care Complaints Commission Acts to protect public health and safety by resolving, investigating and prosecuting complaints about health care. | 02 4985 3143 |
| Private Health Insurance Ombudsman Deals with complaints concerning private health insurers. | 1800 640 695 |
| Financial Ombudsman's Service Independent body assists in resolving disputes between individuals and their financial service providers. | 1300 780 808 |
| Office of the Legal Services Commissioner Deals with complaints about solicitors and barristers in NSW. | 1800 242 958 |
| Office of Fair Trading Assists with complaints re business, home building, vehicles, real estate & renting. | 133 220 02 6584 1330 |
| Insurance Law Service Phone advice on insurance law matters or disputes involving insurers. NO ADVICE to insurers or businesses. | 1300 663 464 |
| Home Building Advocacy Service Client must have attempted to resolve their dispute through the Office of Fair Trading dispute process first. | 02 8833 0911 |

| FAMILY AND CHILDREN | |
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| Child Support Service (Legal Aid) Advice for carer/paying parents | 1800 451 784 |
| Community Police Liaison Officer Provides information about security and safety in the community and about the Police and how they can assist you. | Port Macquarie 02 6583 0199 Taree/Forster 02 6552 0399 |
| De Facto Relationships Law Society NSW Phone advice: Mon- Fri 9am-12pm & 1pm-4pm | 02 9926 0300 |
| Domestic Violence Advocacy Service Free legal advice & assistance for women who have experienced family violence | 1800 810 784 (part of Women's Legal Services NSW) |
| Family Relationship Advice Line For families experiencing difficulties Phone advice: Mon-Fri 8am-8pm | 1800 050 321 |
| Family Relationship Centre Info & referrals for families; advice on parenting after separation; registered family dispute resolution. | Taree 02 6551 1200 |
| Interrelate Family Centre Strengthening family relationships inc. relationship/family counselling, child contact centre & dispute resolution. | Port Macquarie 02 6584 9293 Coffs Harbour 02 6651 1010 |
| Mid North Coast Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service Provides information, support at court and referral to victims of domestic and personal violence (ADVOs and APVOs). | Port Macquarie 0419 938 227 Kempsey 02 6563 1479 |
| Women's Legal Resources Centre Phone advice on women's legal matters. Telephone Interpreter Service | Taree/Forster/ Gloucester 0419 938 241 1800 801 501 |
| Many Rivers Family Violence & Legal Service Free legal advice to indigenous people in relation to matters such as family law and DOCS/children matters. | Kempsey 02 6562 5856 <u>Outreach to:</u> Macksville, Bowraville, Taree, Forster & Port Mac. Call Kempsey for info |
| National Children's & Youth Law Centre Free legal advice for children, young people & their advocates. | 02 9385 9588 |

| FINANCIAL | | |
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| Salvation Army Moneycare Free financial counselling | Taree | 02 6552 6237 |
| Centacare Free financial counselling | Port Macquarie | 02 6581 6800 |
| Consumer Credit Legal Centre Debt hotline re financial counselling | | 1800 808 488 |
| Mission Australia's North Coast Gambling Counselling Service Wesley Community legal services help problem gamblers with legal issues. | PM & Kempsey | 02 6583 1321 0403 183 025 |
| | Taree & Forster | 02 6557 8864 0407 062 760 |
| Financial Counselling at Nambucca Valley Neighbourhood Centre Tues & Thurs each week Must call to make appointment | | 02 6568 2305 |
| Financial Counselling at Kempsey Neighbourhood Centre Mon and Tues each week Must call to make appointment | | 02 6562 8300 |
| Financial Counselling at Forster Neighbourhood Centre Wed, Thurs & Fri each week. Must call to make appointment | | 02 6555 4351 |
| Financial Counselors' Association Referral to financial counselors. | www.financialcounsellors.asn.au | |
| Insolvency and Trustees Service Australia Information about bankruptcy | | 1300 364 785 |
| LEGAL INFORMATION | | |
| Legal Information Access Centres provided through local libraries. Legal information, online resources and phone access to the Legal Information Service at the State Library of NSW. NO LEGAL ADVICE | PM Library | 02 6581 8755 |
| | Kempsey Library | 02 6566 3210 |
| | Forster Library | 02 6591 7256 |
| | Taree Library | 02 6592 5290 |
| | Coffs Harb Library | 02 6648 4908 |

| AGED RIGHTS | |
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| The Aged-Care Rights Service (TARS) Advice on residents' rights re government rules and regulations - for people living in nursing homes, retirement villages & at home with aged care packages. | 1800 424 079 |
| Older Person's Legal Service Provides legal advice, assistance and education for older people in NSW. | 1800 424 079 |
| Older Person's Legal and Education Program – Legal Aid NSW Legal resources on issues affecting older people. | 02 9219 5000 |
| Veterans Advocacy Service Free legal advice to veterans & dependants about rights & entitlements. | 02 9219 5148 |
| Public Trustee NSW Assists in making wills & administering estates. Office in Port Macquarie. | 1300 364 103 |
| DISABILITY | |
| Disability Advocacy NSW Assist people with a disability to get their voice heard and link with legal support. | 1300 365 085 |
| The Guardianship Tribunal Appoints guardians/ financial managers for people with impaired capacity. | 1800 463 928 |
| Guardian Ad Litem Program Children's Court can appoint a Guardian ad Litem to represent interests of a child, young person or parents with a disability. | 02 8688 1463 |
| Intellectual Disability Rights Service & Criminal Justice Support Network Support for people with intellectual disabilities at court in Taree and Forster. Phone advice on general legal issues for people with intellectual disabilities & their carers. | 1300 665 908 |
| | 1800 666 611 |
| Mental Health Advocacy Service Telephone advice re mental health law | 02 9219 5126 |

