

Monzonite from the quarry was used for the Central Tilba war memorial.

REMNANT ROCK FACE, CENTRAL TILBA QUARRY (CATHIE MULLER)

The fertile soil resulting from igneous rock is evident in the rich green pastures of the Tilba district.

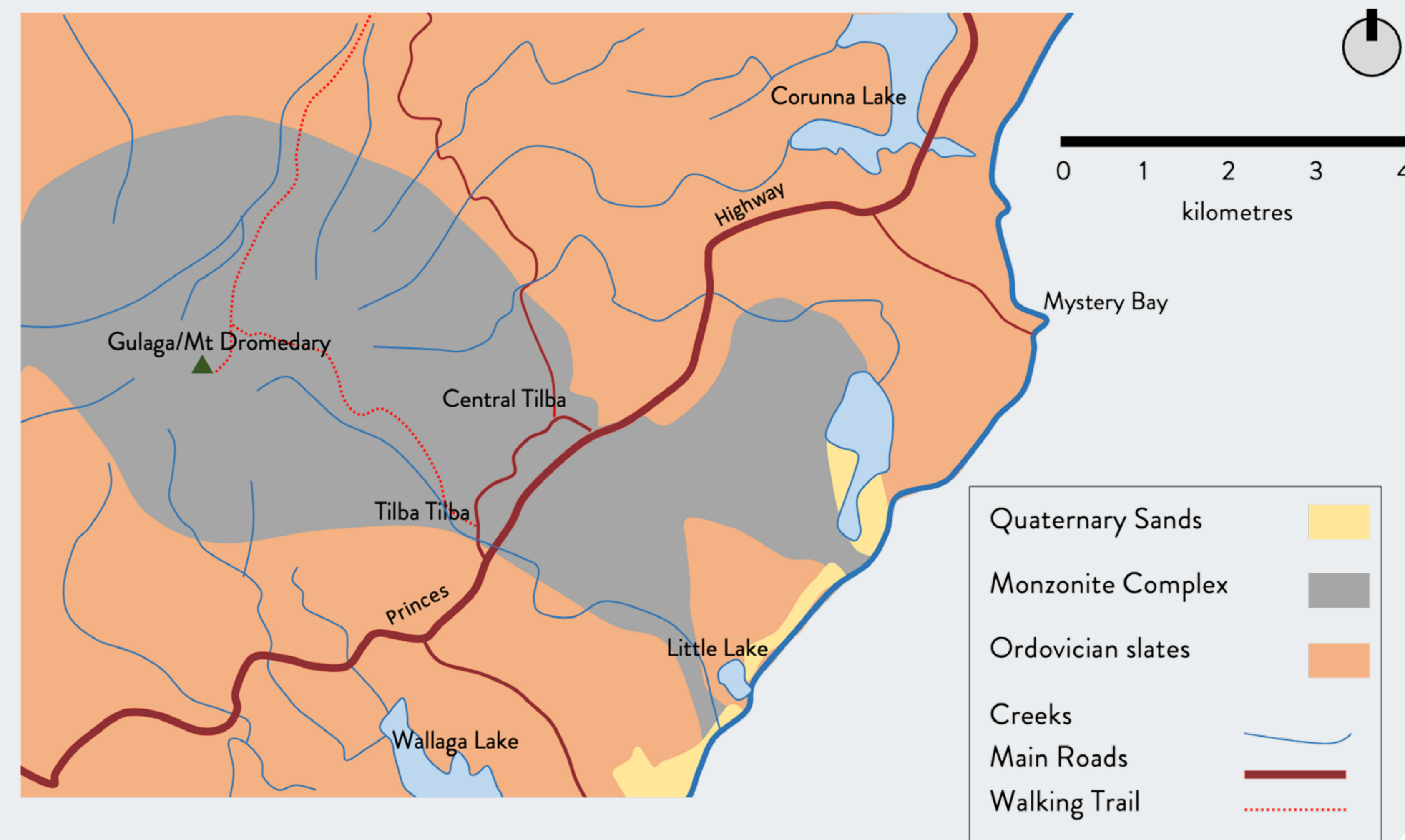
The Geology of Ancient Sites

Gulaga (Mount Dromedary), Najanuga (Little Dromedary) and Barunguba (Montague Island)

Well before the word 'geology' was coined over 400 years ago, Gulaga, Najanuga, and Barunguba, were connected in Yuin creation legend and are of great spiritual and cultural significance to the people of Yuin Country.

Geological evidence shows they were formed during volcanic eruptions. The first of these was about 95 million years ago, during the cretaceous period, when the coastline was 500 kilometres further east and New Zealand was still attached to Australia.

The eruption, fed by a five kilometre wide pipe of molten rock, was flanked by smaller cones, two of which created Najanuga and Barunguba. At its height, Gulaga reared two kilometres into the sky.



MAPPING SIMPLE GEOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION OF TILBA DISTRICT (DRAWN FROM EGGLETON REFERENCE MATERIAL BY CATHIE MULLER)



MYSTERY BAY KINK ZONE (EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL)

Mystery Bay kink zone

The dramatic chert, black mudstone and slate rocks, with their angular faults and folds, that rise from the sea at Mystery Bay date back nearly 500 million years to the Ordovician period, 200 million years before the dinosaurs.

Mystery Bay is a particularly good example of a kink zone, in which rocks have been subjected to great pressure during the movement of tectonic plates.

The mountain, now weathered to 806 metres, reveals an exposed core of syenite that cooled slowly under about a kilometre of rock.

The rocky outcrops seen in the Tilba district look like granite but are, in fact, monzonite. This rock was quarried at Central Tilba, early in the 20th century for monumental stone for Sydney's Rookwood Cemetery and the Central Tilba war memorial, and in the mid-century, for the Bermagui breakwater extension.

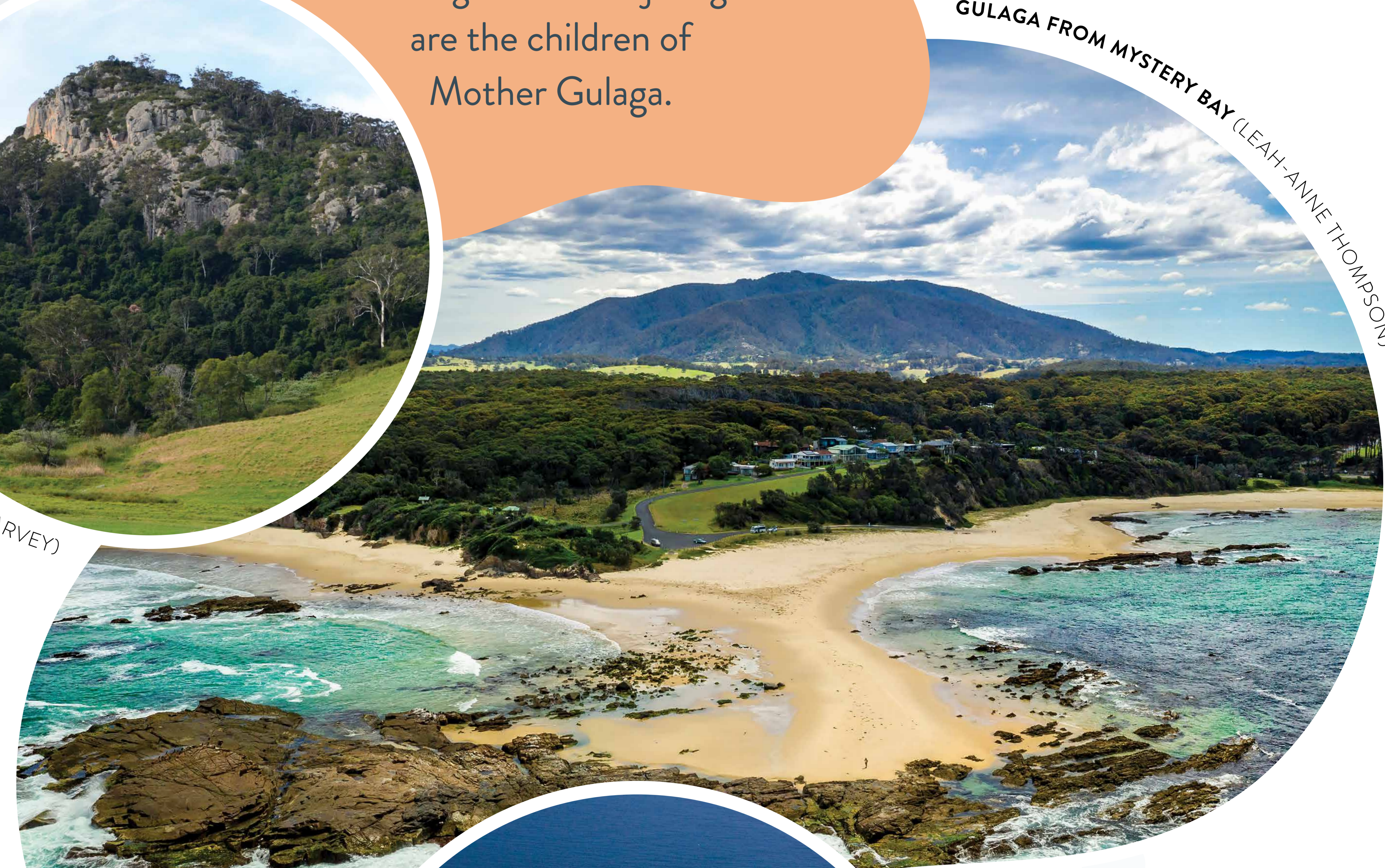
In Yuin lore, Barunguba and Najanuga are the children of Mother Gulaga.



NAJANUGA (BRONWEN HARVEY)



TORS OF TILBA (BRONWEN HARVEY)



GULAGA FROM MYSTERY BAY (LEAH-ANNE THOMPSON)



BARUNGUBA FROM THE AIR (EUROBODALLA COAST TOURISM)

