THE BIG RACE
FOREWORD

It can not be stated enough that this is a composition, not a scientific treatise. References have not been provided, but are available and the contents are factual.

This composition attempts to focus on the Spirit of the Durrigan. The oral history and strong cultural beliefs of the Poonaingbah Aboriginal people, have a strong association with, and are derivative from the traditional Dreamtime.

There is an alarming array of important cultural and historical aspects of the Poonaingbah Aboriginal and Islander community that are beyond the scope of this composition.

Oral histories and current beliefs have been drawn from only a few random "oddments" to a local resident.

The oral histories must always remain the most valid database for research in this field.

The Big Race – Year 7

Darcy Foster
Ben Howe
Nathan Hull
Nelson O’Connell
Cheniki Paulson
Lincoln Togo
The Durrigan was the smallest of the Spirits. He was only 1m tall and very hairy. He was fast, very strong and he could jump from tree to tree, faster than anyone could run. He lives at Fingal Head in a rock cave on Dreamtime Beach.
Tooki was thought to be the fastest runner in the tribe. One fine day, Tooki saw Durrigan sitting in a tree and challenged him to a race. Durrigan laughed, “You silly man. You don’t know who I am. I will Race you”.
They had to race from where the cemetery is now, all the way to where the river meets the ocean. They had to grab a handful of river pebbles and run all the way back again.
The Durrigan jumped up and pulled down the tallest branch of a River Casuarina tree and bent it all the way to the ground.

The tree stayed bent over, even when the Durrigan let it go.
Tooki was stunned. He was so shocked that he didn’t even see that the Durrigan was gone. The Durrigan had already started the race.
The Durrigan ran all the way to where the river meets the ocean.

He scooped up some pebbles and ran all the way back to where Tooki was.
Tooki was still looking at the tree, still bent over. Durrigan dropped the pebbles at his feet and laughed at Tooki.
The moral of the story is, “Don’t take your eyes off the prize”. Keep striving for your goals and don’t get distracted.