



Media Release

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WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT WOOLWICH DOCK?

The Sydney Harbour Federation Trust wants the Hunter's Hill community to get involved in planning the future of Woolwich Dock and Parklands.

On Saturday 23 June there will be an open day and workshop so that the Harbour Trust can hear what people value about the site and why it is significant.

Executive Director of the Harbour Trust, Mr Geoff Bailey said the workshop would assist the process of planning suitable uses for the site in the future.

"We want to know what people feel is special about this site. Is it the adjoining bushland, the opportunity for public space, the maritime heritage or something else?" Mr Bailey said.

"At the workshop, people will hear where we are up to with our planning and the range and types of use that are currently being considered for the site. There will also be plenty of opportunities for people to ask questions, make comments and raise issues."

Mr Bailey said the site would be open from 11am until 1pm with a presentation from the Harbour Trust planning team starting at 1pm. The workshop to consider the value and significance of the site will run from 2.30pm until 4pm. Entry to the site is via Clarke Road.

To register for the workshop, call the Harbour Trust on (02) 8969 2100.

The Harbour Trust is also developing plans for the future of the North Head Artillery School, former defence lands at Middle Head-Georges Heights, Cockatoo and Snapper Islands and Macquarie Lightstation.

Mr Bailey emphasised that there are no predetermined outcomes in mind for Woolwich Dock and Parklands or any of the Harbour Trust's other sites.

"This workshop is part of an ongoing program to involve the community in planning the future of the site," Mr Bailey said.

"We have already been working closely with a community consultative committee.

"The plan we develop for Woolwich Dock and Parklands will conserve the site's heritage, protect the environment and provide maximum public access.

"It is important that Woolwich Dock is managed in a way that reflects its significance to the community and its place on Sydney Harbour.

"To achieve this we need to have input from the local community and key stakeholders. This workshop is just one way we can hear back from the community."

Mr Bailey said he hoped a large number of local residents would come to the open day and workshop, taking up the opportunity to have their say on Woolwich Dock and Parklands.

He also encouraged people to visit the *Sites Unseen* exhibition on until 5 August at City Exhibition Space, level 4 of Customs House, Circular Quay. This exhibition explores the past, present and possible future for all six of the Trust's lands.

Woolwich Dock, the Goat Paddock and Horse Paddock make up a remarkable site on Sydney Harbour with a history of maritime industry. Woolwich Dock first opened in 1901 and operated as the largest graving dock in Australia until 1945. It lay idle from 1958 until purchased by the Army in 1963 for use in their water based transport operations.

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For more information, contact:

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