

**26 November 2001**

## **What's so special about Middle Head-Georges Heights?**

The Sydney Harbour Federation Trust wants residents of the North Shore to get involved in planning the future of former Defence lands at Middle Head-Georges Heights.

Executive Director of the Harbour Trust, Mr Geoff Bailey said an open day and workshop is being held on 8 December to hear what people value and find special about the lands.

“The open day and workshop will give people a chance to explore the lands, hear about our planning and provide us with feedback,” Mr Bailey said.

“This is part of an ongoing program to involve the community in planning the future of all of the Harbour Trust's sites around Sydney Harbour.

“We want to know what people feel is significant about the Harbour Trust lands in Mosman. They are in a spectacular location, have a 200 year association with the military and contain areas of native bushland and numerous heritage buildings.”

The Harbour Trust is giving presentations on its planning at 10am, 12 and 2pm on the day in the former Australian School of Pacific Administration on Middle Head.

Mr Bailey said the open day and workshop will run from 10am to 4pm and people will be able to wander around the lands, including the former School of Pacific Administration and 10 Terminal on Middle Head, Cross Street Drill Hall and 30 Terminal on Georges Heights, and Chowder Bay.

“Tours and discussions at each of these places will ensure plenty of opportunities for people to ask questions, make comments and raise issues,” Mr Bailey said.

The Harbour Trust is running a regular mini bus connecting Chowder Bay, Middle Head and Georges Heights, and also stopping at the corner of Bradleys Head and Middle Head Roads.

The Harbour Trust is also developing plans for North Head Artillery School, Cockatoo and Snapper Islands, Woolwich Dock and Parklands, Macquarie Lightstation and the former Marine Biological Station at Watsons Bay.

Mr Bailey emphasised that there are no predetermined outcomes in mind for Middle Head-Georges Heights or any of the Harbour Trust's other sites.

“We want to work with the community to prepare a visionary plan for Middle Head-Georges Heights that conserves the site's heritage, protects the environment and provides maximum public access,” he said.

“It is important that these lands are managed in a way that reflects their significance to the community and their place on Sydney Harbour.

“To achieve this we need to have input from the community and key stakeholders. These workshops are just one way we can hear back from the community.”

Mr Bailey said he hoped a large number of people from the North Shore would participate in the workshop, taking up the opportunity to have their say on Middle Head-Georges Heights.

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