

**7 February 2001**

## **Want to rave about Sydney Harbour?**

If you're interested in the history and heritage of Sydney Harbour, enjoy interacting with people, and you are available up to two days each month, then the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust wants to hear from you.

Executive Director of the Harbour Trust, Mr Geoff Bailey, said a team of volunteers is currently being recruited to assist with public programs and events at its sites around Sydney Harbour.

"Initially we are looking for volunteers to assist with open day tours at sites such as Macquarie Lighthouse, Cockatoo Island and the former Marine Biological Station at Watsons Bay," Mr Bailey said.

"We are also compiling an Events Register of volunteers who can help out with our program of festivals, concerts and other public events across all the Harbour Trust sites."

People interested in becoming a volunteer with the Harbour Trust need to have a strong interest in Sydney Harbour and enjoy interacting with people.

Mr Bailey said that while the Harbour Trust is preparing a comprehensive plan for the future of the seven former Commonwealth lands around Sydney Harbour, a series of open days, tours and other public events was being organised.

Recent Harbour Trust public events have included a centenary breakfast and oyster and prawn market at Woolwich Dock, a sunset swing band concert at the North Head Artillery School and a kid's day at Macquarie Lighthouse.

"Many of the Harbour Trust's sites have been 'hidden away' for a long time. We want people to visit them, discover why they are so special, and think about their potential for the future," Mr Bailey said.

"Volunteers with the Harbour Trust will have a very special role in showcasing the lands to the public.

"Through the volunteer program, we hope to learn how to provide the best possible experience for visitors to the sites."

Mr Bailey emphasises that volunteers will not take the place of paid staff, but will complement them.

The Harbour Trust plans to interview potential volunteers in early March and run a training program later that month.

For an information package about becoming a volunteer with the Harbour Trust, ph 8969 2131 during office hours. Applications for the first round of recruitment close on 1 March 2002.

**ENDS**

For more information, contact Kate Langford ph 02 8969 2100 or 0418 625 887