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Cockatoo Island memorabilia wanted

If you're one of the thousands of people who has worked on Cockatoo Island, then chances are, the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust would like to see what you've got stashed away in the cupboard.

Executive Director, Mr Geoff Bailey, said the Harbour Trust was interested in seeing photos and memorabilia that tell the 'human side' of the Cockatoo Island story.

"We are hoping that people who have a direct association with Cockatoo Island will have photographic albums, copies of invitations to boat launches, posters and other memorabilia that they are prepared to show us," Mr Bailey said.

"We are putting together a pictorial book on the history of the island and hope to include some of the more personal information – the type of thing that isn't be found in history books or archives."

It is now more than 10 years since Cockatoo Island was used. When the dockyard closed in 1992 the majority of the machinery, equipment and records were either sold or dispersed to a range of locations.

Cockatoo Island had been a thriving shipbuilding and dockyard facility for more than 100 years, but it was also a convict prison, a quarry and a reformatory school of girls.

The Harbour Trust, which is responsible for the restoration of the island, is looking for material that relates to any of these stages in the island's remarkable history.

"The stories told by former workers on the island and those closely associated with the place are important to the immense task we have of returning life to this amazing place," Mr Bailey said.

People with material relating to the island are encouraged to contact the Harbour Trust on telephone (02) 8969 2100 during business hours.

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For more information, contact:
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