



23 August 2006

New Ripples for Chowder Bay

Ripples Café, the award winning restaurant at Milsons Point, is set to become a popular new feature at Chowder Bay.

Geoff Bailey, Executive Director of the Harbour Trust, said that an agreement has been signed to convert the lower level of the historic Submarine Miners' Depot into a restaurant and lounge bar.

'Ripples will be a welcome addition to the rejuvenated Chowder Bay precinct,' Mr Bailey said.

'This new restaurant will complement the vibrant range of activities and businesses already at Chowder Bay. These include a marine research facility, wooden boat builder, executive training centre, scuba and diving operator, and the popular Italian-style kiosk,' he said.

Bill Drakopoulos, owner of Ripples Café and Aqua Dining, is excited about the prospect of this new restaurant.

'The new restaurant will provide a waterfront dining experience that captures the essence of our Milsons Point establishment,' Mr Drakopoulos said.

'We will be spending over \$1 million on the fit out and work will take around three months. There are strict heritage conservation guidelines that apply to the work, however we should be ready for a summer opening,' he said.

The Submarine Miners' Depot was constructed in 1891, and variously served as a mines storage facility, classroom and mess hall.

In 2003, the Harbour Trust was awarded the prestigious Greenway Conservation Award from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects Award for conservation and restoration of the building.

ENDS

For more information and to arrange photo opportunities, contact:

Craig Easdown
Ph: (02) 8969 2113
Mob: 0413 008 256
Em: craig.easdown@harbourtrust.gov.au