

The Hunters Hill Trust
 Inc.
 Established 1968
 Preserving Australia's
 Oldest Garden Suburb

The Hunters Hill

Trust Journal

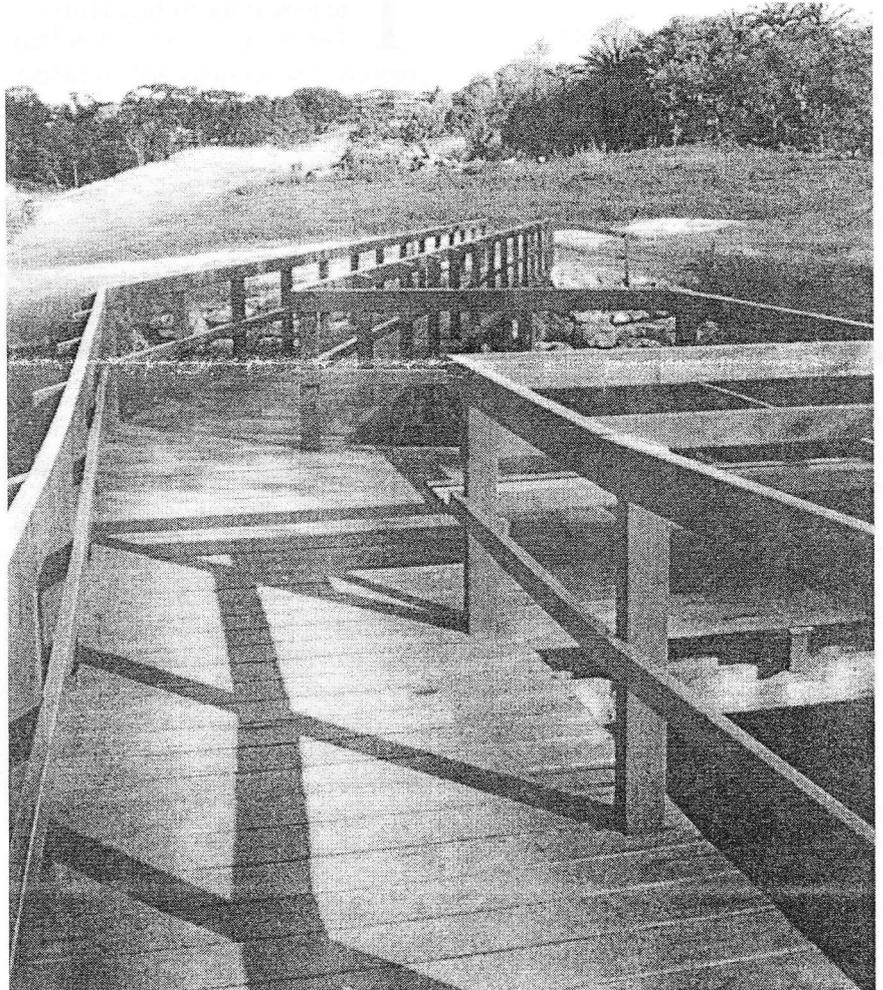
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Membership of the
 Trust is \$25 a year
 for a family,
 \$15 single and
 \$5 for pensioners
 and students.
 Life member \$200



Tarban Creek Reserve gets a new look with a boardwalk and viewing platform

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Completion of several works at Tarban Creek have enabled control of waste materials which formerly found their way into Sydney Harbour by way of the creek and the catchment. A large planting of bushland natives has rescued a large area adjoining Manning Road which a year ago

was a nightmare of weeds and rubbish. A graceful hardwood walkway (pictured above) now traverses a low-lying area of the site. In a year or two this will be part of a delightful walk. Interpretive signage will aid the appreciation of the site. An observation deck overlooks the old dam on Tar-

ban Creek. Half a century ago this was a source of water for the farm which once occupied the slopes below the historic Priory building. The dam has been cleared of trees and rubbish and Pacific Black Ducks and Teal have been seen there. The renewed dam has been useful in trapping solids

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from sewerage overflows up the creek beyond Gladesville road.

On two occasions Sydney Water has sent teams to shovel the mess away, preventing its movement into the harbor.

The whole project is a tribute to the resourcefulness of local citizens and council in their combining of funds from several sources to achieve a result in which the community can take pride.

The work began several years ago when the Tarban Creek Community Action Group, a team of bushland regenerators, began to remove weeds. In a report, the Hunters Hill Council acknowledges that the initial work and lobbying of this group is responsible for getting the project going.

Council formed the Tarban Creek Environmental Management Committee, a section 355 committee, when nearby urban developers Keppelland and Australand provided seed funding. Representatives from the company and from the community sit on the committee.

Storm Consulting in association with Hunters Hill Council and the community wrote the Riverglade Reserve Plan of management.

They have supervised works at the site. The observation deck was funded by the Stormwater Trust and the boardwalk by a DUAP Greenspace Grant. A retention space built below Richmond Crescent has trapped rubbish and controlled erosion of regenerated sites.

Students at Riverside Girl High School have started to test water at the creek.

Elaine Baglin remembered

Trust members extend their sympathy to Douglass Baglin on the death of his wife Elaine on April 12. All Saints Anglican Church, Hunters Hill was packed for a memorial service on April 17. It was Elaine's wish to be buried on the family property Merendee Station, Mudgee. Doug asked that trees be planted in memory of Elaine.

Senate committee proposes changes to Sydney Harbour Foreshores Bill

The Senate committee appointed to look at the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Bill 1999 has produced a set of suggested amendments which answer most of the concerns expressed when the draft bill appeared last year.

Twenty three witnesses appeared before a hearing in Sydney on March 29. Alysoun Ryves and Richard White made a submission. Philip Jenkyn appeared on behalf of the Defenders of Sydney Harbour Foreshores and the Headlands Preservation Group. The mayor, Cr. Sue Hoopman and general manager, Berry Smith, appeared on behalf of Hunters Hill Council.

Recommendations include:

- That the Bill be amended to specify that the sites to be managed by the Trust are at North Head, Middle Head and Georges Heights, Woolwich and Cockatoo Island and any other sites which may come under the Trust.
- That within ten years all land on the harbour foreshores vacated by the Department of Defence should be transferred to the Sydney Harbour National Park.
- The Commonwealth should make a diminishing appropriation to the Trust for a number of years at the end of which the Trust would become self-funding.
- That the Department of Defence should make a financial contribution towards the cost of decontamination and rehabilitation of the lands that it is currently vacating.
- That while the Trust would retain the power to lease real and personal properties, limits would be placed on its power to sell any real and personal property of heritage value and national significance.
- That an invitation to the public to comment on the management plans should be published in a newspaper

in the Sydney metropolitan area as well as the Government Gazette and a local newspaper.

- That the Federal Ministers should consult with any State Minister before any decision is taken on the draft management plan developed by the Trust.
- That there be greater transparency of the Trust's activities including public notification of dates and times of the meetings of the Trust.
- That the Community Advisory Committees should include representatives of the local area including local government representatives with local knowledge and or qualifications appropriate to membership of the Advisory Committee.
- That the term of each member appointed to a Community Advisory Committee should not exceed three years.
- That the Trust and Trust property should be subject to State planning and environmental laws.

These will go before the Senate where they will be subject to the usual political maneuvering.

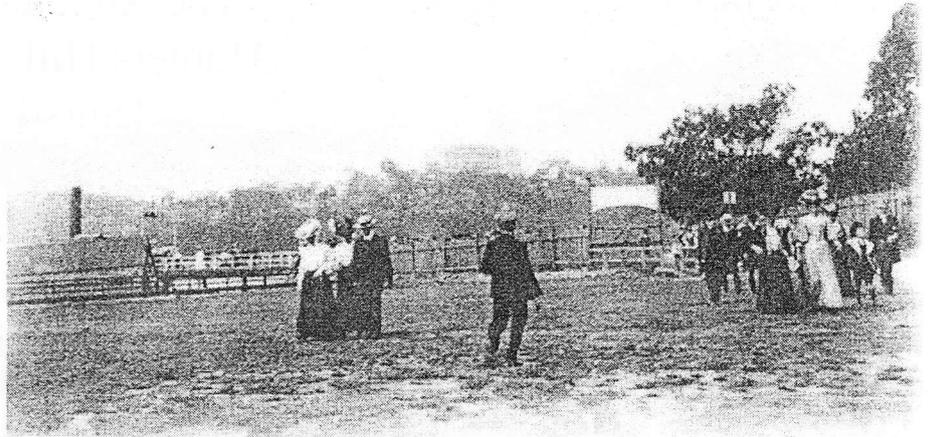
Interim Trust Members visit Woolwich

Members of the Interim Sydney Harbour Federation Trust visited Woolwich on Sunday April 9. They spoke with the Mayor of Hunters Hill, Cr. Sue Hoopman and councilors, members of the Community Reference Group, Foreshore 2000 Woolwich and the Hunters Hill Trust. A slide presentation on the history of Woolwich was made by the Hunters Hill Trust. A staff member of the Interim Trust will be guest speaker at our AGM.

Federation Commemoration Walk plans on display at AGM

Plans of the Three Patriots Heritage Walk to be established with funds from the Federation Community Projects Program will be on display at a general meeting to follow the annual general meeting on Thursday, May 18, at the RSL Hall, Alexandra Street, at 8 p.m. The proposal will occupy three metres along the waterfrontage of Hunters Hill High School. The Hunters Hill Council will administer it under licence. It will become part of the Great North Walk, linking the northern end of Mount Street with Reiby road at the existing north-west gate to the high school grounds.

The existing chainwire fence is to be removed and a lower fence of similar construction is to be erected dividing the walk from the school grounds. A planting of native shrubs and trees along the fence will also divide the walk from the school. Funding from the Commonwealth will enable construction of the new fence and walk. It will not cover the cost of interpretive signage and plantings. There is an endangered saltmarsh community of native beach plants along the water's edge. An application for funding to assist with their preser-



Site of the Federation Walk when it was a Pleasure Grounds

vation has so far been unsuccessful. Construction work on the walk will be carried out by contractors under the direction of Hunters Hill Council. The walk will commemorate three Hunters Hill residents who participated in the nationhood campaign which led to the Federation of the Australian States.

There are the Italian-born patriot Angelo Tornaghi (a former mayor), Charles Jeannerett, also a mayor and former member of Parliament and Sir

George Dibbs, a former premier of N.S.W. The biographer of Dibbs, Tom Campbell of Canberra, has kindly offered to assist with the provision of information for an educational sign about Dibbs. The walk has to be ready for opening in 2001. To manage the funds for the walk the Trust has been required to apply for an ABN number and a GST number.

The book *The Industrial Village of Woolwich*, by Connie Ewald has been reprinted. Copies are available over the counter at the Hunters Hill Post Office, Alexandra street for \$12, or posted from the Treasurer, The Hunters Hill Trust Inc., P. O. Box 85, Hunters Hill, 2110 for \$14.

The book has been published by The Hunters Hill Trust assisted by a grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society from funds allocated by the Ministry for the Arts, New South Wales.

**THE HUNTERS HILL
TRUST INCORPORATED**

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Officers for 1999-2000.

President – Gil Wahlquist phone 9816 2627
Vice-president – Tony Coote;
Secretary – Len Condon, 9816 2796.
Treasurer – Chris Rumble,
Journal editor – Gil Wahlquist.
Committee – Sally Gaunt, Robyn Christie,
Celia Roberts, Glenys Murray
Committee meetings are held at 8 p.m. on
the second Thursday of each month at
Vienna Cottage, Alexandra Street, Hunters
Hill.

**Planning for new edition
of Heritage book**

Trust member Robyn Christie has been appointed editor-in-chief of the reprint of the book "The Heritage of Hunters Hill".

Following the notice in the last edition of the Trust journal, several people offered their services and they have been invited to come on the editorial committee. The first task of the committee will be to decide the approach the new edition will take to conserving built and natural heritage. Meanwhile, a number of copies of the 1982 edition have come to light and these are on sale over the counter at the Hunters Hill Post office, Alexandra Street, at \$18 per copy.

*We're on the web
interweb.com.au/hhti/*

More than 1500 people have visited the Trust website. The site has a number of valuable features, including the Hunters Hill Council's new thinking on heritage policy. www.interweb.com.au/hhti

**Harbour Trust guest speaker
at Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Hunters Hill Trust Inc. will be held on Thursday, May 18, 2000 at the RSL Hall, Alexandra Street, Hunters Hill at 8 p.m.

**Guest Speaker: Geoff Bailey,
executive director of the
Interim Sydney Harbour
Federation Trust**

Business

1. President's Report
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Election of nine committee members
4. Any other business of which due notice has been given

Note: Any two members of the Trust may nominate another member for election. Such nominations shall be signed by the two proposers and shall bear the written consent of the member as nominated and shall reach the secretary at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. If insufficient nominations are received in advance, nominations will be taken at the AGM.

*Len Condon, Secretary,
Phone 9816 2796*