



NATIONAL TRUST

WATSON ROAD
OBSERVATORY HILL

GPO Box 518
SYDNEY NSW 2001

www.nationaltrust.com.au

MEDIA RELEASE

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National Trust list Double Bay Sailing Club

The National Trust has recognised the historic and ongoing significance of Double Bay Sailing Club to the community, the sport of sailing and to the landscape of Sydney Harbour by including Double Bay Sailing Club (DBSC) on its heritage register. **Mr. Scott Woodcock Core Programmes Director from the National Trust** visited Double Bay Sailing Club on 31 October to recognise DBSC as an important and living part of this city's heritage.

Mr. Woodcock said: "Heritage is more than old buildings. Of the 11,000 items on the National Trust register many are imbued with the authority derived from their occupancy and their use. The Double Bay Sailing Club recently commemorated its 50th anniversary. The National Trust sought to recognise the enthusiasm and commitment of the sailing club's membership and their continued contribution to the community life. A sailing club is heritage at its most active."

The National Trust recognised the maritime and sporting heritage embodied in Double Bay Sailing Club. Double Bay has been the nursery ground for those that have gone on to achieve considerable success in Lasers and other classes.

Mr. Woodcock said: "The sailing club was formed by *old salts* to inspire the next generation of sailors. The tradition of handing down of knowledge is common to the National Trust and the Double Bay Sailing Club. Heritage like sailing is all about learning the ropes."

Double Bay Sailing Club has been around for over 50 years supporting sailing on Sydney Harbour. The Sailing Club was started in a local fishing shed in Double Bay in 1956 with construction of the club house commencing in mid 1958. The sailing club remains very active, and the club house is essentially unchanged from the 1950s.

David Shannon, Commodore of the Double Bay Sailing Club said that: "The Double Bay Sailing Club welcomes the National Trust Listing. The club is proud of its origins. The construction of the boatshed funded from successive £25.00 loans taken out by individual members, repaid in 5/- per week instalments over two years is emblematic of the club's spirit that continues to this day."

Double Bay Sailing Club is a wholly amateur district sailing club built over the foreshore at Double Bay. In appearance and function the clubhouse remains an authentic Sydney Harbour boathouse, filled with boat racks, simple amenities and a welcoming group of volunteers to teach sailing and run dinghy races on the harbour every weekend. The club has always been run by volunteers as a not-for-profit organisation and caters for sailors of all skills and all ages.

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Media enquiries – National Trust:

Hansni Bhagani
02 9258 0131 or 0416 446 276

Double Bay Sailing Club
Commodore, David Shannon
0418110607