

Joe Tripodi MP

Minister for Finance
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister for Ports and Waterways
Minister for Regulatory Reform



M E D I A R E L E A S E

Heritage on display at Community Day

October 9, 2009

In preparation for the October 24 Maritime Community Day, a new monument to remember seafarers has been erected at the new Port Kembla Maritime Centre.

Wollongong MP Noreen Hay said the monument was a fitting tribute for the area.

“The monument is to recognise merchant seafarers who have sailed from these shores and those that have lost their lives at sea and in service of Australia,” she said.

“Many merchant seafarers have served Australia during the wars and are normally the forgotten people. The monument is to honour and remember those seafarers.”

Ms Hay and Port Kembla Port Corporation CEO Dom Figliomeni said the Maritime Community Day on October 24 will be an excellent opportunity for local residents to attend and see the monument and take in other historical aspects of Port Kembla’s outer harbour.

Visitors are encouraged to check out the Port Kembla Heritage Park and adjacent to the Eastern breakwater of Port Kembla harbour.

“There are extensive views over the Five Islands to the east and the harbour, industry and the escarpment to the west,” Mr Figliomeni said.

“People can come for the Maritime Community Day and stay to explore the Heritage Park and museum.”

The Heritage Park site contains Aboriginal middens, World War II gun emplacements and artefacts, the Breakwater Battery Museum, the 1890's steam crane used in the construction of the breakwater and the former Pilots Station. The site is listed as part of the Hill 60 heritage area covered by a Wollongong City Council Conservation Management Plan.

The Breakwater Battery Museum will be open to the public for the Maritime Community Day. Established as a Bicentennial Project, the Museum is a key part of Port Kembla Heritage Park. Its building and gun emplacements represent military heritage of the region and are key structures of the command centre for Fortress Kembla used during World War II.

For more information about the Port Kembla Maritime Community Day visit:
www.portkembla.com.au

Media Contact: Kate Sullivan (02) 9228 5451 or 0438 719 440