

update

March 2008

Another Successful Open Day

Sims held its annual Open Day on Sunday March 2nd to coincide with the beginning of Harbour Week and Clean Up Australia Day. It was an enormous success thanks to the assistance of over 20 scientists and staff from our four member universities and the support of our member volunteers.

Despite a rainy start to the day well over 1000 people took the opportunity to visit our facilities which was open to the public all day. Visitors were invited to listen to lectures focused on research in and around our harbour, and participate in science experiments and demonstrations.



A touch tank allowed both children and adults alike to get up close to some of the marine animals and plants found around the shores and in the waters of our harbour. Special thanks go to Manly Oceanworld for providing the touch tank and to our volunteers that were on hand to provide information and answer questions. Visitors were given the opportunity to view a number of the projects currently being undertaken in our research aquarium, with the cuttlefish being viewed via a remote camera due to their shy nature. A highlight for the majority of our guests was the access to microscopes to view tiny sea animals.

Sydney University provided their Autonomous Underwater Vehicle for inspection provoking many questions and a great deal of interest.

We were also visited by some students from Papua New Guinea (part of the Saile Dance Group) who were given the opportunity to use a microscope for the first time and were very excited to find "Nemo" in one of our aquarium tanks.

The Directors and management of SIMS wish to sincerely thank all of our volunteers, without whom the day would not have been possible.

We are already in the planning stages of the 2009 Open Day! Put it in your diary now for the beginning of March 2009 when Chowder Bay again has a free public Open Day as part of Harbour Week 2009.



Well Deserved Recognition

All those that have been involved with SIMS would be aware of the great work carried out by the Chairman of the Board, Prof Frank Talbot. For those of you that haven't had the pleasure of meeting Frank, he has been instrumental in the creation of the institute and continues to spend the majority of his time working to build SIMS into the world class institute we all know it can be.

Frank was recently honoured for his long commitment and contribution to Sydney Harbour when he was awarded the most prestigious Sydney Harbour Week Award for Lifetime Achievement. The awards, hosted and supported by NSW Maritime, recognise those who encourage the caring and sharing of Sydney Harbour by informing, educating or engaging the community.

While presenting the award NSW Maritime Chief Executive, Mr Oxenbould, had said "Professor Talbot worked tirelessly to establish the Sydney Institute of Marine Science at Chowder Bay. SIMS facilities are helping us retain some of our best qualified marine biologists in Sydney, enabling them to study and work at their front door rather than losing them to the likes of the Great Barrier Reef".

SIMS would not have been possible without the vision and hard work of Frank, he has been instrumental in bringing together the universities to develop the institute. Although now officially retired Frank still spends a large amount of time promoting the institute and raising funds to expand our research capabilities.

On behalf of everybody at SIMS we wish to congratulate Frank on his recent award, it could not have been given to a more deserving candidate.



New Harbour Vessel for SIMS

SIMS is happy to announce that following an application to the James N Kirby Foundation by Professor Frank Talbot, the institute has been granted funds to purchase a vessel which will be utilised in marine research activities on the Harbour and surrounding waterways.

The James N. Kirby Foundation's overall goal is to distribute grants to charitable, educational and technical bodies throughout Australia in the areas of health, education, technology and science, art and literature. The support of the Kirby Foundation is a major boost to the SIMS infrastructure. SIMS will purchase a rigid hulled inflatable boat capable of carrying up to nine people. This vessel will be a great asset for SIMS based marine research and education carried out within the partially smooth waters of the Sydney region.

The Board of Directors and management of SIMS wish to sincerely thank the Directors of the James N Kirby Foundation for their support of SIMS and marine research within Australia.

Contact Us

Phone: (02) 9969 2664

Email: paul.hallam@simms.org.au or tori.pollard@simms.org.au

Just drop by: Building 22 Chowder Bay Road, Mosman, NSW, 2088



We choose to use Adrite Digital Colour Printing for our printing and signage.

Ph: (02) 9957 2449
www.adrite.com.au

SIMS Showcased

If you live in the Mosman area, be sure to pick up a copy of the April Edition of the "Mosman 2088" magazine.

SIMS would like to thank the editor of the magazine for allowing us to submit an article on the institute, including underwater photography by Jayne Jenkins and A/Prof Rob Harcourt. Some of Jayne's wonderful photos are also currently on display within our foyer.

SIMS T-Shirts Now Available

After much anticipation we have now received our first delivery of the new SIMS t-shirts, as worn by all of our volunteers and staff on the recent Open Day.

Our new t-shirts are now available to all of you that would like to publicly display your support for our institute. They are available in a variety of sizes ranging from small through to 2XL and are priced very reasonably at \$20.00 each.

You can purchase our t-shirts by dropping by the institute or calling Tori Pollard between 10:30 - 1:00 Monday to Friday. We have recently installed EFTPOS facilities to make your purchase even simpler.

