



TRRA MEMBERS GET THEIR HANDS DIRTY

The Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association (TRRA) supported the Clean Up Australia Day with newly registered groups scattered along the Shores of Nelson Bay, Boat Harbour and One Mile Beach, and Soldiers Point. Some members worked with their regular Park Care Group, to help with the enormous clean-up around Tomaree last Sunday.

Armed with gloves, hats and recyclable bags, members joined other volunteers to scour parks, streets, and foreshores around the Bay and the western rock wall of Nelson Bay Marina to remove an amazing amount and variety of litter. In Boat Harbour, twenty-eight TRRA and Park Care Committee residents collected between fifty and sixty bags of rubbish plus debris too large for bags. They were followed by a Presbyterian Church group from Anna Bay who collected another 12 bags.

Among the more unusual finds across Tomaree were a large street mirror, a number of street signs complete with concrete base, a variety of bongs, and an array of clothing. The most difficult rubbish to access, and the largest quantity was among the rocks favoured by fishermen at the Marina, where enough fishing line was found to start a shop. Beer bottles and cans remained the single largest contributor to the mess. Some of those at Anna Bay had foreign labels.

Members ended the morning tired but very satisfied. In Nelson Bay participants toasted Clean Up Australia Day with a cup of tea and a piece of cake. At Anna Bay residents had a barbecue afterwards and new residents had a chance to meet their neighbours.

Convenor Sue Leach-Maxwell promised that TRRA would be in action again next March, and hoped to attract many more volunteers. Port Stephens Council coordinator Cathy Seberry congratulated the groups on a job well done.