

Western Wedding Cake down!

Di Pearson, Wednesday, 13 December 2006

Noticed something missing from Sydney Harbour this week? If you didn't, the 'Wedding Cake' reef-marker on the Western side of the Harbour is no longer – only the Eastern one remains. What is our State Government thinking to allow this historical marker to get to the stage it has?

The Wedding Cakes mark small reefs and have shown ships the way up the Harbour. The Western one was built in 1924, the Eastern one in 1908. They were used to effect during World War II to keep marauders at bay.

On Tuesday during the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia's Big Boat Challenge, the Wedding Cake was looking like a drunken sailor, leaning precariously to one side. By late Wednesday, it was no longer – and in its place a MSB boat or two and what looked like police tape cordoning off the area along with some light markers. However, it could still be dangerous for those boat owners who do not know Sydney Harbour.

Originally powered by gas, the markers were eventually converted to solar. The Sydney Ports Authority has said the Wedding Cake will be replaced immediately.