

Beach - Bush - Birds



Photo - 1990's Long Reef Shipwreck

History

Maritime accidents on Long Reef have been frequent since the early 1880's when the paddle steamer Collaroy, to avoid going aground on the reef grounded on the nearby beach since named - Collaroy Beach. The steamer remained there four years before being successfully refloated.

Many ships were **deliberately scuttled off Long Reef** in the 1970's and 1980's to help form a reef/marine habitat for fish. Private yachts and pleasure craft have been wrecked on Long Reef in past years - their anchor chains and a rudders can still be found at low tide on the rock platform. Most local and Manly dive shops run diving excursions out to the various shipwrecks.

Scuttled Ships and Shipwrecks

Some of the shipwrecks are:

MESSENGER, schooner founded 1860

ELLEN, schooner founded 1865

SUSANNAH CUTHBERT, schooner founded 1875

SYLPHI DE, barque sunk off Long Reef 1877

DUCKENFIELD, steamer sank in 1889

SS EUROKA, paddle steamer founded Long Reef 1913

SS MYOLA. Steamer founded off Dee Why 1919

DEE WHY, Manly ferry scuttled off Narrabeen May 1976

MEGGOL, oil barge scuttled off Narrabeen December 1976

HIMMA, tug scuttled August 1977

DOOMA/HMS WEXFORD, scuttled off Long Reef near Dee Why.

NUMBERED CRAFT No. 656, barge scuttled off Long Reef opp. Narrabeen

PYRMONT II, barge scuttled July 1977

BELLUBERE, Sydney/Manly ferry scuttled August 1 1980

VERDIER, barge scuttled off Long Reef opposite Narrabeen 1983

Information supplied by Maritime History Website:

www.environment.gov.au/epg/pubs/boats_ns.htm

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