



North Head Sanctuary Foundation

Guardians of North Head

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Getting to know North Head's bushland

Spring is the time when North Head's bushland is at its best. **Join a 2-3 hour guided walk with Geoff Lambert.**

Walks will be held on Sunday 2 Sept (10am start), Saturday 15 Sept (2pm start), Sunday 30 Sept (2pm start) and Monday 1 Oct (10am start).

All walks will begin with an overview of the area using the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust's big map. Meet at the Gatehouse Visitor's Centre off North Head Scenic Drive (parking in Bluefish Car Park) 10 minutes before scheduled start time.

Bookings essential.

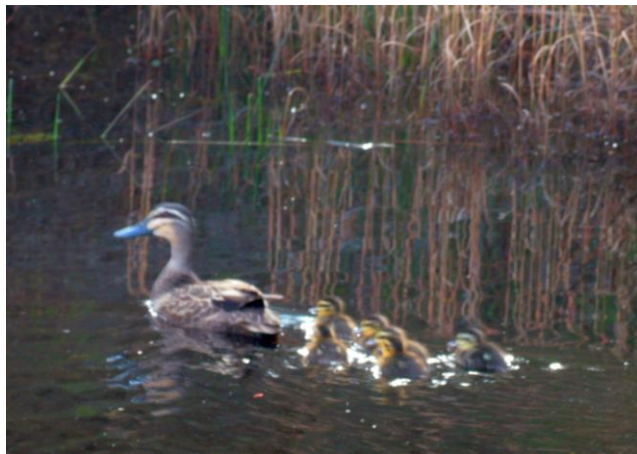
Email: twsombat@optusnet.com.au
or call 9949 3521(ah).

Education Centre – Bandicoot Heaven

Our Education room is open every weekend, from 10am to 4pm in Building 20. Call in and see us for a chat or information. Have a look at our short video, *Creatures of the Night*, which includes footage of Bandicoots.

Australian Plant Society visit North Head Sanctuary

Sunday 12 August saw more than 100 Australian Plant Society (APS) members visit North Head. As part of their statewide gathering, these native plant enthusiasts enjoyed an orientation talk by Geoff Lambert, a sumptuous morning tea provided by their hosts from the Northern Beaches and Hornsby Branches of APS, and a visit to Bandicoot Heaven and our Nursery. They then headed off with one of 4 walk leaders to enjoy scenery, the plant life and the history and heritage of either the 'hanging swamp' walk or the Gunners loop. We all enjoyed a good exchange of information about our native plants and those in other parts of NSW.



New family in the Hanging Swamp

The Bad Old Days

Geoff Lambert

"Remember the bad old days when we used to hate each other? We don't do that any more do we?"

It was ever so slightly a rhetorical question and it came out during a recent tête-à-tête between the many Stakeholders of North Head. This was at the "flow on from the flow on affair"- that is to say a meeting with many maps and a walk-around to rectify all of the difficulties which had been created by my discovery of a sewage leak on North Head (August Newsletter).

The outcome of the pow-wow and walk-around in the sewage by 10 people was an agreement on who was responsible for this particular leak, who was responsible for each bit of sewerage infrastructure and the adoption of formal documents on easements, maintenance and cost-sharing.

None of this would have happened were it not for NHSF. No leak would have been discovered; no repairs made; no settlement of old differences reached.

This is what we do. Sue Halmagyi has described NHSF as the "Guardians of North Head". It is a good description.

And to cap it off- the walk-around produced sightings of a rare bird and a threatened plant species *Darwinia diminuta*.

Q Station Community Open Day

Sunday 16 Sept, 10am to 4pm

Fun events for the whole family and we will be having a stall there.

Q Station Lecture Series 2-4pm

The first National Parks: whose idea? Yellowstone, Sydney, Banff, Tongariro, Garphyttan:

by Richard White

A canvas seachange: camping on the beach in mid-twentieth century Sydney:

by Caroline Ford

Free entry but bookings are essential. For more info and to book, please see www.qstation.com.au.

Your Team since our AGM

President

Matthew Taylor

Vice President

Geoff Lambert

Secretary

Kathy Ridge

Treasurer

Jenny Wilson

Committee Members

Dennis Foley, Sue Halmagyi, Judy Lambert, Paul Lancaster and Judy Reizes

Leucopogon ericoides



Or Beard Heath is a slender prickly shrub with tiny white flowers which have dense hairs inside the flower. In flower now till October.

Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson



John O'Neill was another victim of Bubonic Plague. He died on 18 April 1900, at his mother's residence at Summer Hill, before he could be removed to Quarantine. He was the eldest son of Kate and the late Patrick O'Neill. He was 32 years old. The inscription "Late of H.M. Customs" was probably something to do with his job in a tobacco factory.

Native Plant Nursery

Would you like to help with our Native Plant Nursery or need more information? Please contact Sue Halmagyi at shalmagyi@gmail.com or just turn up any Tuesday or Friday morning 8.30am to noon. We usually have morning tea about 10.30am, so please join us.

The areas to plant out keep increasing so more hands on deck would be great. There is always something that needs to get done. We aim to double the plantings this year.

Back in Time

The Sydney Morning Herald 29 August 1898

"MANLY SEWERAGE.

The Mayor of Manly (Alderman F. C. Passau), with Aldermen Stevens, Towns, Carroll, and Quirk, recently inspected that portion of the Manly sewerage system which comprises the tunnelling through Fairy Bower Point and Blue Fish Point. The Fairy Bower tunnel is 13 chains in length, cut through solid rock for the whole distance, lined with cement concrete 5in. thick, and joined into an egg shaped sewer 3ft. 6in. high by 2ft. 9in. wide in the clear. The Blue Fish tunnel is of similar dimensions and construction, with a length of six chains, and has its outlet in a cove on the ocean, where the waters are always churning and breaking, so that all sewerage matter not carried southward by the current must be speedily dissipated. Between the two tunnels the sewer has been built with 9in. linings and protected in the sea-faces with stone retaining walls 2ft. thick, based on the solid rock, which follow the contour of the adjacent cliffs, and between walls and cliffs the spaces have been solidly packed and filled, and the tops are to be blinded and asphalted, so as to form a promenade or causeway 28 chains long. It is anticipated that the scheme will be completed by December next."

Spring is here



Taken on track to North Head from Shelly Beach on 29 August, there are so many flowers out now for us to enjoy. There were not many flannel flowers.

Sanctuary Foundation aims:

'The Sanctuary for biodiversity will honour the natural and cultural significance of North Head. It will be a safe place for flora, fauna and people, a living laboratory promoting the spiritual and biological value of Sydney Harbour.'

It will:

- * Respect and honour the Indigenous significance of North Head;
- * Build understanding of the natural and cultural values of North Head; and
- * Promote integrated planning and management for the whole area, to ensure the highest level of protection for the natural and cultural attributes of North Head.