

## **North Head Sanctuary Foundation**

## **Custodians of North Head**

ABN 97093480659 P.O. Box 896, Balgowlah, NSW 2093 northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au email northhead@fastmail.com.au

Newsletter No 8 August 2018

# Spring is fast approaching: Join a wildflower walk

We are once again offering you an opportunity to come and enjoy an easy guided walk to see spring's wildflowers at North Head.

Each walk, led by NHSF founding member Geoff Lambert, will be of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  - 3 hours duration.

This year the walks will be on:

Sunday 16 September, 2.00-4.30pm

Saturday 22 September, 2.00-4.30pm

Wednesday 26 September, 10am-12.30pm

Monday 1 October, 10am-12.30pm

Sunday 7 October, 10am-12.30pm

Spaces are limited so please call Geoff & Judy Lambert on 9949 3521, or email twswombat@optusnet.com.au to book your place.

#### Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

Our community education room is open 10am to 4pm Saturdays and Sundays in Building 20.

Maybe you would like to learn about volunteering in our education room. Ask one of volunteers or contact Judy Lambert at <a href="mailto:twswombat@optusnet.com.au">twswombat@optusnet.com.au</a>

### **Native Plant Nursery**



Photo Ian Evans

One of the areas where we have been doing maintenance is the frog pond near North Head Scenic Drive. Weeds love this area and we have heard the frogs there. But it would be great to have some rain as the pond needs it.

We are always happy to have help with the planting and maintenance including weeding. We have the old oval and other areas that need our care. There is no need to come every week, just when you can. Please join us on Tuesday or Friday morning between 8am and 12 noon. For more details email <a href="mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au">northhead@fastmail.com.au</a> Or just turn up and ask for Jenny.

#### After the Burn



Photos by Ian Evans taken 16 July 2018





As you can see the *Xanthorrhoeas* (Grass Trees) are recovering from the burn. For the best views walk along the Gunners Track.

#### Back in Time

**Sydney Morning Herald (NSW:1842-1954), 7 Feb 1910** "GRASS TREE RESIN.

Mr J S. Bray, Manly, writes:-It Is always pleasant to note that the information imparted in the columns of the "Herald" has been the means of aiding those seeking for a new channel of bush work, be it in a small way or to a large extent. Since the last contribution on the above

subject, quite a number of men new to the work of grasstree resin gathering have found profitable employment. The work first started to tide them over for a time, but the fact is most of them still remain so employed, which speaks volumes in respect thereto. Starting from the eastern boundary of Manly, washed by the waters of Middle Harbour, right away to French's Forest, and thence onwards to the Hawkesbury River, there has been a number of men working to win grass tree resin from the wilds of nature, and along the South Coast line. Most of the men work alone, but in one or two instances they have mates. The huge piles of grass-tree debris scattered here and there over miles of country tell the tale that they have been working hard. From six shillings to £1 per day has been the money made by the men. No better objectlesson can I give than the fact that one of a party, who resides over here in Manly, is now building for his wife and family a handsome home of his own from grasstree resin winnings. The price per ton given by contract during the last 14 months has been £16 10s to £18 10s, and the demand active."



Resin

Photo Jenny Wilson

## North Head: A special cultural place

Judy Lambert

This year's Northern Sydney Indigenous cultural festival has seen several activities at North Head, each of which we've provided support to. On 27 May Aboriginal Heritage Officer Karen Smith hosted interested visitors from North Sydney Council's festival program. Then on 3 June NHSF hosted an annual talk by Indigenous knowledge-holder Aunty Fran Bodkin. As always, the 25-30 visitors to Bandicoot Heaven soaked up lots of traditional knowledge - this time about alliances between plants and their environment - Thank you Aunty Fran. June 25 and 27 saw swarms of young people from Manly Village public school learning about North Head. Almost 120 Year 3 and 4 students spent Monday 25th at North Head taking part in activities about the Aboriginal heritage (led by Karen Smith), plants & animals (Geoff & Judy Lambert), sandstone & geology and how they shape North Head and its uses (Nick Hollo) and doing their own sketches of the area. With almost 240 children in Years 3 and 4, the whole exercise was repeated for different groups on Wednesday 27th June. It has been pleasing for NHSF to learn that since these excursions, several of the children have brought their families to visit Bandicoot Heaven and do a walk at North Head. Well done to Karen Smith and the Manly Village teachers who organised this rather large logistical exercise and to Milestone Events, who provided a wet-weather venue.

## Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

On 19 November 1912, Phyllis Hughes a five year old girl died of measles and was buried in the Third Cemetery. No further information is given but she was probably on the ship, Irishman.

#### Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1883-1930), 15 November 1912

"COMING IN THOUSANDS. — — — NEW COLONISTS - 639 BY THE IRISHMAN. 1277 EXPECTED TO-DAY.

The population continues to be steadily increased by the arrival of Immigrants from the old land. Yesterday the Irishman, which had landed immigrants in other States before reaching Sydney, brought 639 persons, comprising 4 adult farm laborers, 4 domestic servants, and 631 nominated immigrants. Owing to an epidemic of measles on board, the vessel was not allowed to come up the harbor until fumigation had been carried out at the Quarantine station. The children affected— about seven or eight — together with their parents were isolated on the vessel, but arrangements were made to permit the rest of the passengers to land. A child, eight months old, died during the voyage to Sydney. About noon to-day the Zealandic is expected to arrive with a total of 1211 immigrants. Amongst this number are three farm laborers, 22 domestic servants, 12 Dreadnought Farm lads, 79 adult nominees, and 425 nominated children. The Zealandic will berth at Dalgety's Wharf, Miller's Point. The Wilcannia is also due to-day with a number of immigrants comprising 39 farm laborers, six domestic servants, and 19 nominees. The N.D.L. German steamer is expected about the same time with some intending settlers. The Commonwealth is due on Sunday, with 31 farm laborers, 17 domestics, and 35 nominees. The bulk of the people arriving by these vessels are nominated immigrants and have relatives or friends who have guaranteed to find employment and homes for the newcomers, so that they will be absorbed into the community at once."

## Stony Range Botanic Garden Spring Festival is on Sunday 9 September 9am to 4pm.