



North Head Sanctuary Foundation

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northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au

No. 11 Newsletter – December 2009

We wish all our members and readers a Happy Christmas and New Year. This is our last newsletter for 2009; our next Newsletter will be late January 2010.

At our November meeting Dr Nelika Hughes told us about tracking bandicoots on North Head. We will be having her back later next year to talk about the results.

Education Centre

We are open from 10.00am to 4.00pm, every Saturday and Sunday except that we are closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day but open on New Year's Day. Please call in and see our displays.

We have copies of Grow Me Instead in stock. This booklet provides information to gardeners about plants which are potential weeds and advises which plants to use instead. Avoiding weedy garden species helps protect our bushland.

If you have not got your Christmas cards, we have our own Christmas cards designed by award-winning botanical artist Julie Nettleton. They are \$20 for a pack of 10 and you can buy them in the Education centre or at our stall on Ocean Care Day.

Ocean Care Day Festival
Sunday 6 December 2009 11am to 5pm
'International Year of Astronomy' – Tidelines.

Come along and enjoy the 16th Ocean Care Day Festival, there will be plenty to see and do. Our stall will be there with our display and cards by Julie. Call in and say hello.

Public comment invited

Draft Recovery Plan for *Acacia terminalis* subsp. *terminalis* is open for public comment to 4 January 2010. You can download a copy of the plan from www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/recovery-comment.html or phone 1800 803 772.

Volunteers needed to assist AWC

The Australia Wildlife Conservancy needs your assistance. If you are a cat owner on Eastern Hill or North Head and would like to know more about the activity of your cat, please contact Nelika Hughes about a tracking collar for your pet.
nelika.hughes@australianwildlife.org

Native Plant Nursery

Last year we had nothing, just empty truck washing bays and now we have two Nursery bays with 15 wooden benches and plants which were grown in our Nursery from seed collected and cuttings taken from North Head.

We have planted out over 200 plants included the endangered *Acacia terminalis*. Plantings have taken place at North Fort entrance and the steep bank near the barracks building.



Sue Halmagyi with Toni Stevenson, Peter Nash and Matthew Taylor planting out at North Fort. Note the rubbish bag is weeds that were removed first.

Thank you for all the Nursery volunteers Sue Halmagyi- Nursery manager, Toni Stevenson, Chris Jackson, Janet Fish- expert painter of benches, Jenny Wilson, John Ellis- expert builder, Judith Halnan, Katie Meyer, Ken Higgs – expert builder, Matthew Taylor, Peter Nash, Robin Smith and Timothy Thurston.

Our Nursery volunteers numbers have increased but there is still room for people with experience. Please contact Sue on shalmagy@bigpond.net.au

PS Thank you for all the pots donated but we have plenty for now.

Join us

We are a volunteer organisation and we need your support to continue our protection of North Head. Please consider joining us, numbers count.

Who's Who on North Head

By Dr Judy Lambert



Peter Jensen has for the past 6 years been the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust's Environment Officer. In that position he is responsible for bushland and open space management across the Harbour Trust's sites.

Peter is quietly passionate about the bushland and biodiversity conservation in general and can often be found working to restore areas at the North Head Sanctuary that have been degraded by past uses. Recently Peter has been sharing his experience with Sue Halmagyi and her team of Nursery volunteers to identify places where native plants grown in our nursery can contribute to restoration.

Before joining the Trust, Peter worked for 8 years as a Bushcare Support Officer and Project Manager with Greening Australia NSW and prior to that with bush regeneration contractors throughout the Sydney region. With almost two decades of experience in bush restoration, Peter has led bush regeneration teams, contributed significantly to plant identification and brought many people into active participation for special remnants of native bushland around Sydney and beyond.

Elaeocarpus reticulatus



Or Blueberry Ash is a small tree with blue berries that stay on the tree for ages. It has white flowers, bell shaped and fringed. The leaves are shaped like a lance - oblong to a narrow oval and turn red with age before falling off. It is in flower from November to December. It is a species characteristic of Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub.

North Head 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

NHSF Membership Application

I, _____
(full name of applicant - please print clearly)

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Hereby apply to become a member of the abovementioned incorporated association.

Single \$20 Family \$30 Unwaged \$10

Donation \$..... (tax deductible if in separate cheque from membership)

In accordance with Model Rules, membership is subject to acceptance by the committee. I agree with the aims of NHSF and I agree to be bound by the rules of the association.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Cheques made payable to
North Head Sanctuary Foundation
PO Box 896, Balgowlah NSW 2093