



North Head Sanctuary Foundation

ABN 97093480659

P.O. Box 896, Balgowlah, NSW 2093
northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au

Newsletter No 4 – May 2010

Next Meeting – Wednesday 2 June 2010

Our next General Meeting will be in the Education room in the Gatehouse at 6.30pm. Visitors welcome.

Education Centre

We are open every weekend, from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Please call in and see our displays, in Building 21. Walk past the Parade Ground, continue along the road till you see our new banner and then follow the footprints from our gate.

Native Plant Nursery

We are really happy to be working with Nelika Hughes (AWC) on a new project concerned with finding out if the bandicoots have a preference for a particular habitat. The picture shows one area planted out with *Lomandra longifolia*. The wire fence will remain in place until the plants thicken up. Other plots will have *Dianella*, *Dillwynia retorta* and the like.



We have a lot of tube stock still to be planted, and would welcome extra planters. Register with Jenny at northhead@fastmail.fm.

Join us

We are a volunteer organisation and we need your support to continue our protection of North Head. Just being a financial member adds your voice to ours and although we need more helpers for various activities, you can be a member without being a volunteer.

Orchids of North Head

By Geoff Lambert



Spiranthes australis taken by Geoff Lambert

The number of orchid species known from North Head continues to grow. New species (that is, "new" for North Head) have been reported by NHSF Secretary Kathy Ridge, SHFT's Peter Jensen, the SHFT landscape gardeners and Geoff Lambert. Currently the list stands at 16, with the following tentative identifications:

<i>Acianthus</i> sp.,	
<i>Caleana major</i> ,	
<i>Caledenia</i> sp,	
<i>Calochilus robertsonii</i>	Purplish Beard Orchid,
<i>Chiloglottis trapeziformis</i> ,	
<i>Cryptostylis erecta</i>	Cup Orchid,
<i>Cryptostylis subulata</i>	Tongue Orchid,
<i>Dendrobium linguiforme</i>	Tongue Orchid,
<i>Dipodium punctatum</i>	Hyacinth Orchid,
<i>Diuris sulphurea</i>	Tiger Orchid,
<i>Erythrorchis cassythoides</i>	Climbing Orchid,
<i>Orthoceras strictum</i>	Bird's-mouth Orchid,
<i>Prasophyllum</i> sp.,	
<i>Pterostyllis</i> sp.,	
<i>Spiranthes australis</i>	Austral Ladies' Tresses
<i>Thelymitra ixioides</i> .	

Something in the Air

If there is an unpleasant smell in the air at North Head, please report it to Sydney Water's 24 hour number 9934 4423 & also to DECCW on 131 555.

Banksia integrifolia



or Coast Banksia is flowering now. It grows mainly on the coast, the leaves are green on top and white below. It is a species characteristic of Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub.

More on the Obelisk

By Steve Johnston

Lat 33° 49' 08" South, reminded me of the visit Lt William Bradley and Captain Hunter made to North Head in 1788 to obtain a bearing of Latitude. They recorded Bradley 33° 49' 23" South which runs right over Fairfax lookout and Hunter 33° 49' 16" South which passes over Old Man's Hat area through North Fort. Pretty good for those days without a GPS. Also I think the trench around the Obelisk could have been a fire pit to illuminate the then whitewashed structure at night as this could have been seen by ships coming up the coast and they could lay off at sea till morning. But this is just a thought and I've no evidence of this being done anywhere else. But if you were waiting for a nice piece of cheese from England or a letter you wouldn't want to be missed.

Mysteries of North Head

By Geoff Lambert

The Guns that never were

E 151° 17' 19"

N 33° 49' 13"

North Head is full of artillery archaeological remains. This one is unusual in that there is no official record of it. The photo shows the mounting in the middle of the 11 metre diameter base of what we believe to be one of two 153mm (six-inch) guns that were to be set up on the cliff face just downhill from Old Man's Hat. Behind each gun base is a concrete ammunition store, one still with the wooden shell racks seemingly as fresh as yesterday. There are 2 stores behind each gun, making 4 in all. A military heritage survey in 1973 discovered these "emplacements" but was baffled as to their existence. The North Fort boys had never heard of

them either. It seems that these guns were planned following the 1943 submarine attack because they are placed to fire down the harbour and not out to sea. Guns like these were also planned for Nielsen Park- their similar remains are buried beneath the grass now.



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 Inc
PO Box 896, Balgowlah NSW 2093 **OR**
By Direct Deposit to
BSB 802-147 Ac No 40214
Account name North Head Sanctuary Foundation