



North Head Sanctuary Foundation

Custodians of North Head

ABN 97093480659 P.O. Box 896, Balgowlah, NSW 2093

northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au

email northhead@fastmail.fm

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2014 Spring Wildflower Walks on North Head

Enjoy the splendour of North Head's bushland.

Come on a 2-3 hour walk led by Sanctuary Foundation member Geoff Lambert. Meet at the Trust Visitor Centre in the Gatehouse Building, off North Head Scenic Drive.

Sunday 14 Sept: Departing at 10.00am

Saturday 20 Sept: Departing at 1.30pm

Sunday 12 Oct: Departing at 1.30pm

Bookings are essential. Numbers limited - Call in to Building 20 on a Saturday or Sunday between 10am and 4pm and book now,

or email: tswombat@optusnet.com.au.

Education Room – Bandicoot Heaven

Our community education room is open 10am to 4pm Saturdays and Sundays in Building 20. Call in to have a chat or gather information. If you'd like to help others get to know more about North Head, please contact Judy Lambert on 9949 3521(ah) or email

tswombat@optusnet.com.au

Manly Hospital Site Community Survey Have Your Say

The survey will close on Friday 19th September. Please complete a survey, your voice counts.

You can complete a Survey Monkey online survey (the preferred option for data collection) click on this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5PM5YXZkay>

Collect a hard copy available from Manly Council, Manly Library, Manly Community Centre and the Premier's Manly electorate office in Wentworth St.

More information at <http://mikebaird.com.au/community-invited-to-have-its-say-on-the-future-of-manly-hospital-site/>

Native Plant Nursery

Last month we had lots of rain and as a result we left early some days. We are planning our production for the next year.

The rain has damaged some of the large *Acacia longifolia* trees on the old oval and these trees will be removed. We will replace with other plants.

Spring is now here and there is plenty to do.

If you would like to help us please email Jenny at northhead@fastmail.fm or turn up any Tuesday or Friday morning between 8am and 12 noon.

My North Head by David Jenkins



North Head is an extraordinary place of reconnection for me as I've spent hundreds of hours there whale watching over the years. Its amazing that no matter how you try to avoid the hectic pace of city living it seeps into your very being. I see this reflected most in what I've come to call the 'Attenborough Effect' where people come with five minutes to spare and expect to see something amazing. They don't seem to realise that it takes the BBC crews months, if not years, to film a few seconds of amazing footage. I even had one lady tell me to get the whales to jump for her. Hilarious!

So I love taking the time to let North Head seep in deep, to wash away the cares and woes, just sitting watching the ocean in all its moods, the waves crashing upon the rocks and beams of sunlight glittering on the water like liquid silver. In all this time spent reconnecting its then that you are privileged to see so much more than you ever expected, a Sea Eagle silently cruise by, massive schools of fish boil to the surface, a storm and water spout darken the horizon, a fat lizard basks in the sun, a seal fishes amongst the kelp and a little penguin's squawk echoes, wildflowers carpet the meadows contrasting dark green leaves and bright colours against the warm sandstone rocks.

As I sit I ponder who has sat here before, watched the same vistas and been warmed by the sun on their backs. I look out to the magic of the harbour stretched out before me and try to imagine it when wild forest covered it all, and the only boat to be seen upon the turquoise water was an occasional bark canoe. What a paradise!

Soon now, come September the little Humpback calves and their mums will be heading south for the deep cold Southern Ocean having very sensibly wintered in the warm tropics. The joy of new life as the calves play, leap and generally have a ball, you can almost see mum rolling her eyes at junior's antics.

.....such magic all on our door step!

Helichrysum elatum



Or White Paper Daisy. An erect herb to 2 metres tall with large, white papery flowers and leaves that are up to 12cm long and 3cm wide. In flower now. One place to see these flowers is the entrance to North Fort Road on the high bank.

Family Fun Day @ Q Station

On Sunday 21st September 2014 between 10.00 am – 4.00 pm at North Head Scenic Drive, Manly
Cost: FREE ENTRY - RSVPs essential
More details at
<http://www.quarantination.com.au/Family-Fun-Day/sydney-family-fun-day.html>

Are you a muggle?

Geoff Lambert

If you went to school at Hogwarts, you will know what muggles are – people without magical powers. On North Head, however, muggles are NHSF people who are restoring the 3rd cemetery. That is if we believe what we read on some “geocaching” web sites – such as “the cemetery was deserted apart from a few muggles trimming plants.”

Welcome to the world of Geocaching. Don't know what it is? Just Google on the word. Better yet Google on Geocache and “North Head”.

Geocaching has been around since the early days of GPS technology, but has recently taken off in a big way on North Head. We know of at least 5 geocaching sites on North Head, including the one in the 3rd cemetery. Geocaching can be very clever- one of the sites requires geocachers to manipulate the information they find on the headstones in the cemetery, to navigate their way to a subsequent site. Geocaching web sites can be informative too- again the 3rd cemetery site gives an accurate potted history of the Quarantine Station and its cemeteries.

If you find a geocache, please do not interfere with it. That would be “muggling” and this carries a heavy sentence from Lord Voldemort – worse than the Deathly Hallows even! This what happened to the Emerald Gardening contractors when they inadvertently disturbed a cache

near the Visitor Centre. A flash of light, a cloud of dust – and they were gone!

Your Team since our AGM

President	Matthew Taylor
Vice President	Geoff Lambert
Secretary	Kathy Ridge
Treasurer	Jenny Wilson

Committee Members

Judy Lambert, Katie Meyer, Toni Stevenson and Judy Reizes.

Contact us at northhead@fastmail.fm. If you do not receive our newsletter, please email and we will add your name to our list.

Thank you to Charlie Taylor for supplying an enjoyable afternoon tea, especially the cucumber sandwiches.

Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

A father remembers his son, Cecil Pepper who died aged 19 of bubonic plague on 21 March 1900. His grave is near the entrance of the Cemetery.

Freeman's Journal (Sydney, NSW: 1850 - 1932)

Thursday 22 April 1920

“NURSE EGAN'S GRAVE.

Sir, — When visiting my late son's grave at the Quarantine cemetery, North Head, lately, I saw the grave of the late nurse who gave her life whilst attending to sick and dying soldiers in the hospital. She was indeed a heroine, and it occurred to me, as I read her name on the wooden tablet on her last resting-place, that a suitable monument should be erected to the memory of such a worthy woman. The cemetery occupies a glorious position, and the views obtained from there of the coast, Middle Harbor, and right up to Sydney, cannot be excelled.

Of course, the late nurse's friends may be contemplating erecting something worthy over her grave; but in event of nothing so far being suggested to this end, the matter might be carried into effect. — I am, etc., JNO. PEPPER, - J.P. 73 Shaw-street, Petersham, 14-4-'20.”

The Sydney Morning Herald Tuesday 8 April 1924

“TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir, - Will you kindly allow me, through the medium of the “Herald,” to appeal to the numerous people who will visit North Head and vicinity on Wednesday morning to have respect for the graves of loved ones buried at the Quarantine Cemetery, for, as the burial ground is in a high position, it is certain that many will go there for the finer view.

I am, etc.

Sydney, April 7. JNO. PEPPER.”