



# North Head Sanctuary Foundation Inc

## Custodians of North Head

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Newsletter No 156 October 2021

### Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

We are closed at present, but look forward to re-opening soon after lockdown ends.

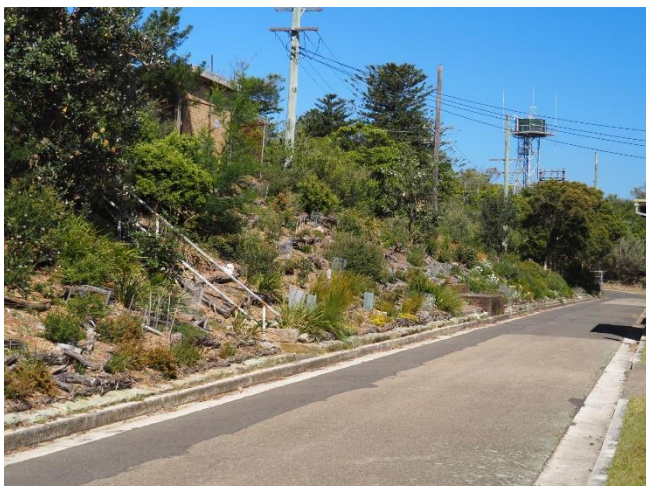
### Native Plant Nursery

We grow Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub plants at our Nursery for planting back into degraded areas of North Head.

One of these areas is the bank behind the Barracks or Building 1 or below the tennis courts.



These photo above were taken by Peter Macinnis on 6 August 2019 and the ones below on 23 September 2021.



Next time you are having a walk at North Head walk behind Building I and enjoy.

Unfortunately, we are not planting out during lockdown but we are watering our plants in the Nursery bays.

When we are back at work, we will welcome more hands to help with planting and weeding in our allocated areas.

If you would like to join us, please call in any Tuesday or Friday morning between 8am and noon, when we are open or email [northhead@fastmail.com.au](mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au)

### My North Head

Peter Nash

All landscapes change over time but as a volunteer at North Head on Friday mornings one tends not to notice the gradual changes that occur in the landscape, but which are evident from photos taken over the last ten years. Some plants have not survived while others have thrived but that is the nature of our ever-changing environment.

Although my main interest is in Australian plants, I appreciate most landscapes from formal gardens through to the native bush and particularly appreciate designers who use Australian plants such as Fiona Brockhoff from Victoria who has to contend with the winds and dryness of the Mornington Peninsula, which is not dissimilar to the harshness of North Head. She is not afraid to shape some of her plants and included in her designs have been species of *Allocasuarina* and *Leptospermum* as well as *Banksia integrifolia* with which many are familiar.

What I love about planting out at North Head is that we are planting plants that are indigenous to the area and that we have grown them ourselves from either seed or cuttings or by division. The fact that many of them are from the endangered Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub community, and which grow in nutrient poor sands, is an added bonus. Another attraction is that the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust works in partnership with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy which has reintroduced locally extinct species including the Bush Rat, Eastern Pygmy Possum and the Antechinus and it is wonderful that we can enhance the habitat for these and the existing species. Last but not least is the pleasure from working with other volunteers who also derive a similar satisfaction from improving the environment at North Head.

## Birds of North Head



Grey Butcher bird (*Cracticus torquatus*) by Alan Ventress



Baby Masked Lapwings (*Vanellus (Lobipluvia) miles*) by Peter Macinnis.

There are two lots of baby lapwings, one lot at North Fort and the other near the Parade ground. Their parents nest in the grass every year.

## *Solanum aviculare*



Or Kangaroo apple

This native plant that has come up in the burned areas of North Fort. It is short lived. It came up in 2018 controlled burns and there is no trace of it now in those areas.

## Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

The only burial in the Third Cemetery in 1907 was John Lindsay Christie who was only 4 months and 21 days old. He died of Pneumonic Plague.

His father lived and worked at Quarantine Station. He was appointed as an engine driver, quarantine tender in 1901.

**Windsor and Richmond Gazette (NSW: 1888 - 1961), Friday 30 October 1931**

"RIVER NEWS

The following is taken from a recent issue of, the "Manly Daily Pictorial": After a service of thirty years with the Health Department at the North Head, Quarantine Station, Mr. Lindsay Christie recently retired. On behalf of his fellow officers, the superintendent, Mr. J. J. Drew, J.P., presented the retiring member with a silver mounted umbrella, suitably monogrammed. In making the presentation, Mr. Drew spoke feelingly of his long association with Mr. Christie as friend and fellow officer. In reply, Mr. Christie expressed his regret at leaving the 'community' after so long a residence. Mrs. Christie was presented with an engraved silver teapot as a token from the wives of members of the staff, and other members of the family received gifts. Mr. and Mrs. Christie, with their family, in tend leaving for their future home at Lower Portland, Hawkesbury River, next Saturday. Mr. Christie's family are old and well-known residents of the Hawkesbury district. (It is just bordering on 100 years since his grandfather, the late Thomas Christie, acquired the farm still in possession of the family)."

George Mark Burman died on 23 April 1900 and his body brought to the Quarantine Station on 24 April 1900 for burial. He was 57 years old.

**Evening News (Sydney, NSW:1869-1931), 25 Apr 1900**

"THE PLAGUE,

A post-mortem examination was held yesterday, in connection with the death of a man named George Mark Brunan, lately residing at Thomas-street, Ultimo. Brunan died under circumstances which caused the medical man who was called in to decline to give a certificate, here being strong reason to believe that the case was one of septicaemic plague, a form of the disease in which death occurs very rapidly though the plague symptoms are often hardly discernible. The examination confirmed this supposition. Arrangements were at once made to quarantine the house, and to remove six contacts to the Quarantine Station. Brunan was employed in the area which is regarded as infected-about Sussex-street. This is the fiftieth death which has occurred, the number of cases being 140.

The Board of Health, at a meeting yesterday, decided to permit 14 of the convalescent patients to be released. Twenty-seven persons in all have recovered from the plague up to the present. "

The death certificate was in name of BURMAN.