



# North Head Sanctuary Foundation Inc

## Custodians of North Head

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

northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au

email [northhead@fastmail.com.au](mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au)

Newsletter No 157 November 2021

### Save the Date - AGM

Geoff Lambert

We are aiming for December 11 and will advise of location and provide an agenda and related papers to our members at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

### Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

We are closed at present, but look forward to re-opening as soon as the Harbour Trust gives an ok.

### Native Plant Nursery

We grow Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub plants at our Nursery for planting into degraded areas of North Head. 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). To join you have to be a member of North Head Sanctuary Foundation and be double vaccinated.

### Vale CHRISTABEL

Toni Stevenson



Sadly, a Nursery Volunteer of longstanding, Christabel Casimir died on 27 September. Christabel used to work on Tuesday mornings. In the early days she weeded and planted, but in the past few years she became the expert in looking after the Nursery stock. This involved weeding, catching insects and watering. Christabel enjoyed travelling, walking and music. Before taking up bush regeneration and plant care at North Head, she sailed and skied. Christabel was a valued member of the Tuesday group who was always friendly and cheerful, with a good sense of humour and fun. She is missed.

### National Parks and Wildlife Service

is improving visitor access at North Head, Sydney Harbour National Park. The Scenic Area upgrade is expected to start late October and to take approximately 3 months to complete Stage 1. This project will enhance the visitor experience and improve visitor access and safety.

These works will require the closure of North Head Scenic Drive starting near the Bella Vista Café to include all of the National Parks and Wildlife Service carparks for the full works duration. This approach will enable a shorter works program than staged openings and closings of these car park areas.

There will be unavoidable impacts to visitation:

- visitors will be able to drive and park at the North Fort.
- the North Head Sanctuary and Bella Vistas Café will still be accessible.
- pedestrian access to the Fairfax loop will be closed during the first stage of construction (approximately 6 weeks) – this will be reinstated once works are complete for new footpaths.
- buses will be required to stop at the roundabout at the Q-Station and other large vehicles will not be able to access North Head past the Q-Station.

More information at

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/park-management/community-engagement/north-head-upgrade>

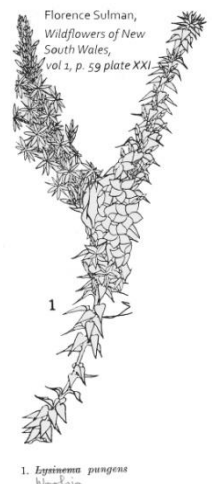
### Loquerisne Latine?

Peter Macinnis

I am hoping to find a better Latinist than I, who was told ex cathedra by Wally the Deadmaster: "Boys who do Physics don't do Latin!". This dictum was probably delivered at the urging of the dragon lady who taught us Latin, but I digress.

This is about three masters of 19th century Australian botany: Louisa Atkinson (*Beata Ludovica Calvert*), Ferdinand von Mueller (who referred to Louisa in that way) and William Woolls.

*Woollisia pungens* was always the first plant collected by Botany II students in the 1960s, when we were sent off at the end of Lent term to collect "70 native species". Back before the glaciers started tumbling, *Woollisia* was one



Florence Sulman, *Wildflowers of New South Wales*, vol 1, p. 59 plate XXI

1. *Lyginonema pungens* Wilson & Lachn.

of the few plants flowering in chilly May. Having collected and pressed my specimen, I wondered “why *Woollisia?*”, and asked Roger Carolin, who said it was named by von Mueller for William Woolls. Jump forward to the twenty-noughts when I was a Trove-fiend and found that Woolls used to write as ‘W.’ for the *SMH*, so one lazy night, I searched out and tagged most of his articles with his name.

I still didn’t know what the plant was first called, but as I am doing a second edition of a book at the moment, I dug deeper. Antonio Cavanilles called it *Epacris pungens* in 1797, but Robert Brown later moved the species to a Westralian genus, *Lysinema*, something I had deduced from a pencilled note in my copy of Florence Sulman’s little book, you can see it on page one.

As an avid reader of old *Herald* copies, I knew von Mueller had named *Atkinsona* after Louisa Atkinson, later Mrs Calvert, and here is why:

*This plant, at my request, was named by Dr. F. Von Mueller, in honour of my friend Miss Atkinson (now Mrs. Calvert), who collected many interesting specimens during her residence at the Kurrajong, and to whom the compliment was especially due.*

— *Sydney Morning Herald*, 31 March 1871, 2.

*Epacris pungens* (Cav. Ic. iv. 26, t. 346; *Lysinema pungens*, R. Br. Pr. 552) positionem generis proprii nomine *Woollisia* nuncupandi bene occupat, habitu illi quam huic similior. Tali modo characteres tam *Epacris* quam *Lysinematis* firmiores redduntur. *Woollisia* etiam nomini generis *Lysinematis* haud respondit. Beata Ludovica Calvert hanc plantam in tractu Blue Mountains collegit. Genus nunc propositum et ill. auctori opusculorum “Plants of Parramatta” et “Contribution to the Flora of Australia” dicatum, quidem monotypicum remanet, quod quoque de *Needhamia*, *Oligarphena*, *Prionotes* et *Cosmelia* dicendum est.

Ferdinand von Mueller, *Fragmenta phytographiae Australiae* 8, 1873, 55.

That article was mainly about Woolls’ *Species Plantarum Parramattensium*, or *Plants of Parramatta*, and that was the key, when you burrow into von Mueller’s Latin. Line 6 tells us Louisa collected it in the Blue Mountains, and the author of the little work is William Woolls.

As to Woolls’ life, see Wikipedia, but for the plant, they said of Christopher Wren, *si monumentum requiris circumspice*: to see his monument, look around. Woolls’ monument is all over North Head.

Now can anybody help me with the Latin?

## Australian Painted Lady

or *Vanessa kershawi*

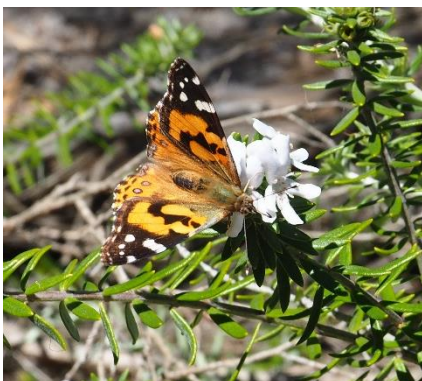


Photo  
Jenny Wilson

## Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson



Taken by Ian Evans on 30 October during a storm

Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW:1883-1930), 8 Dec 1884  
**SMALLPOX IN SYDNEY-**

“A fresh case was also discovered in Sydney last evening. The person attacked is a man named John Casey, aged 33 years, a journey-man butcher, residing at No. 12 Adastreet, off Quarry-street, Ultimo. He has been employed at a butcher’s in Elizabeth-street and left off work on Thursday. The next day symptoms of a rash showed upon him, and last evening his case came to the knowledge of the health authorities. He was then visited by the medical inspecting officer who found that he had contracted a severe attack of smallpox, and the house was ordered to be quarantined. Besides the patient, who is a married man, another family lived in the house, and altogether they numbered eight. All of them will be removed to the Quarantine Station to-day. The case, so far, cannot be traced immediately to any of the previous cases. The shop at which Casey was employed is some distance from the house in Elizabeth-street from which a person suffering from smallpox was removed, and it is not known that he came in contact with any of the inmates of that house. It would seem, therefore, that a fresh centre has been created.”

John Casey died on 20 December 1884 and was buried in the Third Cemetery in grave no 15.



Another photo by Ian Evans. The flannel flowers are looking fantastic this year, the smoke from the fires and the rain have all helped to make a great showing.