



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

Newsletter No 167 September 2022

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 17 September at 2pm in Bandicoot Heaven (Building 20). Everyone welcome.

Our speaker will be Anne Jackson, a retired nurse and Member of Sydney Wildlife Rescue. Anne will introduce you to **MediDivert**.

Native Plant Nursery

The Nursery grows mainly Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub plants for planting by our volunteers into degraded areas of North Head.

If you would like to join us, there is planting, weeding and maintenance to be done.

Please call in any Tuesday or Friday morning between 8am and noon, when we are open or email

northhead@fastmail.com.au, if you would like to join us.

To join you must be a member of North Head Sanctuary Foundation and be COVID vaccinated.

Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

We are open **Saturdays and Sundays between 10am and 4pm**. Please call in and have a chat.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer and helping visitors to better get to know North Head and all its treasures should contact Judy Lambert (email: tswombat@iinet.net.au or phone 0427 217 580).

Spring is sprung!



Lapwing chick, just hatched. Taken on 22 August by Ian Evans.

Q Station Open Day

Sunday 25 September 2022

Enjoy a walk around the site and see what's on.

We will have a stall again.

Spring Wildflower Walks: Still some spaces

Places on some of our walks are full, but other walks still have plenty of spaces.

Our August newsletter gives you some details. The guided walks will leave from Bandicoot Heaven (Building 20 on North Fort Road) as follows:

Sunday 4 Sept: -fully booked Departing at 2pm

Saturday 24 Sept:- fully booked Departing at 10am

Monday 3 Oct: Departing at 2pm

Sunday 9 Oct: Departing at 10am

Wed 12 Oct: Departing at 10am

Bookings are required: email tswombat@iinet.net.au or call in to Bandicoot Heaven between 10am and 4pm on a Saturday or Sunday.

Knowing where bodies are buried Peter Macinnis



No, not the Third Cemetery ones. I mean the figurative bodies, the secrets and curiosities that lie behind what we see. Why does the ant lion's pit (first photo) lie at that angle, and why does the ant heap (second photo) show the same angle?

I used to be a teacher, and when people asked what I taught, I would grin and reply "Children!". The answer is *angle of rest*, but if you ask for more, I will drag you into why I sat on a rock outside Manly Vale Public School with a

Vegemite jar, half full of sand, and told Year 4 in plummy 1960s ABC tones, "I'm sitting on a 205-million-year-old fossil".

These days, I'm a story-teller, and that's just one of my stories. I write mainly for young readers, and while B-grade celebs "write a book for children" (meaning they had it ghost-written), the kids' market is the hardest of the lot, and my main publisher was, and still is, the very exacting National Library of Australia.

So, I talk to other children's writers, and some of them found my account of saving an echidna from drowning without plummeting into a drain hilarious, and over coffee, I was strong-armed into writing a book on echidnas for young readers, one which is about real natural history, told in an intellectually honest fashion, at the age of a ten-year-old. I'm still seeking a publisher...

North Head has a million stories, like *why is that ant heap so white? or do redbacks really get on dunny seats, and where did the story come from?* Sometimes, those answers turn up in my blog, but you'll have to dig, and this time, it was for kids and grown-ups.

At the start of COVID, I began putting together a web page that became a site, **The Nature of North Head**, and as I have yet to decommission it, you can probably find it, but don't bother. I made an Amazon book with the same title, available in print in monochrome or colour (more expensive). Then, because it is more open to upgrades and allows colour, I did it as a PDF through Google Play, which is phone-friendly, portable and cheap.

You can locate that version here and get all those answers here: <http://tinyurl.com/polymoth>

It may even tell you why I use a 50-cent coin...

Editor's note If you want a hard copy of Peter's book, they will be available at our AGM on 17 September.

North Head Scenic Area safety and access improvements

The carparking and landscape improvements are now complete and carparks 1 and 2, the new pathways and the new bus stop are open.

On your next visit you will notice improved visitor access and safety through:

- creating 2500 square metres of new turfed recreation space for visitors to sit and enjoy views across the harbour,
- the installation of pedestrian crossings and 600metres of new accessible pathways to improve safety, access and pedestrian circulation,
- traffic calming measures to reduce speed and improve pedestrian (and bandicoot) safety,

- a new bus stop, including shelter and seating,
- improved rubbish facilities and bike hoops.
- a new picnic shelter and table.
- accessible parking and ramps.

Construction of the two new lookouts at North Head has commenced and is expected to be completed by the end of 2022. Replacement of the damaged fencing is also underway. The old lookouts have now been demolished and these areas are now unsafe for visitors. The Fairfax Track remains closed to pedestrians and North Head Scenic Drive loop is open to vehicles only."

Taken from

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

Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

Argus (Melbourne, Vic.1848 - 1957), 9 December 1918.

"DIED ON SERVICE.

STOCK.- On the 6th December, at Quarantine Station, N.S.W., Staff-Sergeant Joseph Stock, Dental Corps, the loving and beloved husband of Elsie, of "Overleigh," Wells street, Middle Brighton, the dearly beloved eldest son of Fred and Mary Stock, of "Rosslyn," 37 Pt. Nepean road, Elsternwick, and beloved brother of Janet, Thomas, Will (returned), Charles (O.A.S.), Hilda, and Fred, aged 32 years 9 months.

His part: His mother's part is a broken heart, and a burden of weary years. -(Inserted by his parents."

Shepparton Advertiser (Vic: 1914 - 1953) 12 December 1918, page 3

"OUR HEROES.

Staff-Sgt. Joseph Stock.

Mrs H. Klemm, of Vaughan Street, has received word of the death at the quarantine station, N.S.W., of her nephew, Staff-Sgt. Stock. The deceased soldier was on board one of the Australian transports which, owing to the armistice, were stopped on the outward voyage at New Zealand and recalled to Australia. He contracted Spanish influenza, and this was the cause of his death. Sgt. Stock was the eldest son of Mrs Klemm's sister, Mrs Stock, of Elsternwick, and two brothers are still at the front."

Joseph was buried in the Third Cemetery on 7 December 1918 in an unmarked grave under a concrete slab.

Newsletter

If you would like a copy of our Newsletter, please email northhead@fastmail.com.au, so you can be added to our list.