



North Head Sanctuary Foundation Inc

Custodians of North Head

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General Meeting - Orchids

Our next General Meeting will be held at 2pm on Saturday 17 June 2023 at Bandicoot Heaven (Building 20).

Our guest speaker will be Wendy Grimm BSc, MPhil from Australian Plants Society, North Shore Group.

Her talk: "A beginners guide to local orchids" will cover many northern Sydney orchid species in the general order in which they flower through the year.



Greenhood orchids, photo taken in April 2023 by Peter Macinnis.

Bandicoot Heaven – getting to know North Head's environment

When overseas visitors (especially people from the UK) come to our Education Room, Bandicoot Heaven, an early question from many of them is about what spiders we have at North Head. It is always good to be able to show them our spider sheet and explain that the most common spiders in the bush at North Head are the Golden (or Garden) Orb Weaver and during some seasons, the St Andrew's Cross.



The Garden Orb Weaver (*Eriophora biapicata* or *Eriophora transmarina*) builds a fine wheel-shaped web between trees or shrubs (often across the walking tracks), in which it catches its prey – various flying insects. The Orb Weaver is an important food source for birds, including Honeyeaters.

The St Andrews Cross spider (*Argiope keyserlingi*) builds a



distinctive web with strong strands in a X-shape. The spider rests in wait for its insect prey with 2 legs on each of these strong

strands, and with its distinct yellow marks across its body, it is easily recognised.

Other more dangerous spiders, including the ground-dwelling Funnel-web and the Red-back undoubtedly occur at North Head, but are only rarely seen (except as a large soft toy in Bandicoot Heaven).

Spiders are a vital part of Sydney's ecosystems. Along with the more than 3500 other spider species found in Australia, the North Head spiders are contributing to pest insect control and providing food for birds, lizards and some small mammals.

The Australian Museum's website

(<https://australian.museum/learn/animals/spiders/>) is a helpful source of information about these and other spiders found in Sydney.

Volunteers in our community education room (Bandicoot Heaven, Building 20 on North Fort Road) can also provide you with information about the plants, birds, small animals and other parts of North Head's natural environment.

Open Saturdays & Sundays 10am-4pm.

Bandicoot Heaven & Native Plant Nursery:

To become a volunteer, you must be a member of North Head Sanctuary Foundation and be COVID vaccinated.

<https://www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au/join/20190629%20NHSF%20membership%20form.pdf>

Newsletter

If you would like a copy of our e Newsletter, just email northhead@fastmail.com.au

If you have a photo, information, or a story regarding North Head, please send to same email address. Thank you.

Native Plant Nursery



Some of our Tuesday group Nursery volunteers in their new safety jackets. Photo Peter Macinnis

The Nursery grows mainly Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub plants for planting by our volunteers into degraded areas of North Head. You are welcome to join us. There is always 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.

Remembering Rory Lynsky



It is with sadness that we report the death of Rory Lynsky, long-time member of the Nursery Group and as well, in previous years, Bandicoot Heaven. He suffered from the debilitating illness - Motor Neurone Disease, but his death was the result of a heavy fall. He was unable to recover from his injuries.

Rory was a man of great spirit, despite having significant health problems. Just a couple of weeks before his death he and Brenda returned from a month of visiting friends in Brisbane and along the way. Brenda drove and Rory navigated. Rory was at the Nursery until just before his fall. Rory's work with the Nursery and Bandicoot Heaven was greatly appreciated and our thoughts are with Brenda, who has been Rory's dedicated carer throughout his declining health.

Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957), Friday 18 May 1900
THE SYDNEY OUTBREAK.

TWO MORE CASES AND TWO DEATHS.

SYDNEY, Thursday.

"Henry McDonough, of St. Peter's, whose attack by plague was reported last night, died this morning before he could be removed to quarantine.

David Fatzeus, who was quarantined from the Glebe last week, also died this morning.

Mrs. Donnelly, aged 49, residing at Kensington-street, city, was found to be suffering from plague this morning, and a Chinese named Ah Hern was left by his countrymen at the Mission-hall in Castlereagh-street when attacked by the disease.

Seven hundred and seventy-two rats were burnt to-day, and 254 persons were inoculated at the Town-hall.

Several buildings in the Glebe area which has been isolated have been found to be unfit for habitation and ordered to be destroyed."



David John beloved son of Ed and Mary Fatzeus.

Died 17 May 19, age 20 years and 3 months.

Heaven is my home.

Photo Jenny Wilson

North Queensland Register (Townsville, Qld. : 1892 - 1905), Monday 21 May 1900,
SYDNEY, May 18.

"Mary Read, aged 35, living in Searles Lane, City, was taken to the Quarantine Station this morning suffering from plague, -

Bernard Sullivan, aged 20, died at his residence, Little Essex Street, City, to-day. A postmortem examination revealed that plague was the cause of death. Edward M. Swadgan, aged 46, residing at the corner of Vane and Abercrombie Streets, Redfern, developed plague to-night. The Chinaman, Ah Hern, who developed the plague yesterday, died this morning before he could be removed to the Hospital."