



# North Head Sanctuary Foundation Inc

## Custodians of North Head

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### Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

#### New volunteers needed

We are open on **Saturdays and Sundays between 10am and 4pm**. Please call in, have a chat and see our new echidna poster. We also have some new card designs.

We need to recruit new volunteers to help provide visitors with information about North Head and its bushland.

Anyone interested should contact Judy Lambert (email: [twsombat505@gmail.com](mailto:twsombat505@gmail.com) or phone 0427 217 580).

### Native Plant Nursery

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



Some of our Nursery volunteers doing cuttings. Photo Ian Evans

You are welcome to join us. There is always planting, weeding (never ending), and maintenance to be done in one of our many areas.

Please call in any Tuesday or Friday morning between 8am and noon. In really hot or wet weather we may not work or may leave early after morning tea. Email [northhead@fastmail.com.au](mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au) if you would like to join us.

### *Banksia aemula*



One of the plants that we grow in our Nursery is *Banksia aemula* which is one of the plants found in Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub. Maybe you know it as Wallum Banksia. It is similar to *Banksia serrata* (Old Man Banksia), its leaves are narrower but the only reliable

distinguishing feature is the stigma which is a shorter round bump on the end of the spike.



These are *Banksia aemula* seedlings that we are growing at present. Photo Ian Evans

### iNaturalist

Scientists from Sydney Royal Botanic Gardens of Sydney recently visited North Head Sanctuary. The teams collected over 231 specimens for documenting in the National Herbarium of NSW, where the scientists will help unravel the secrets of the flora within the sanctuary. You can explore some of the findings on iNaturalist. ([iNaturalist Australia \(ala.org.au\)](http://iNaturalist Australia (ala.org.au))). The iNaturalist website and app help you to identify local plants in your area.

### Pampas Grass

Or *Cortaderia selloana* is a native plant of South America and is an invasive weed spoiling our area. It is a large perennial tussock with numerous fluffy



seedheads. Each plume produces up to 100,000 seeds in autumn/late summer and the wind spreads the seed over a wide area especially when it travels on the wind into rocky areas.



Leaves are highly flammable when dry and can be habitat for feral pests.

Photos Cathy Griffin

## Garigal Landcare

Cathy Griffin

Garigal Landcare Bushcare teams removed at least 750 of Pampas flower heads over the last three weeks from the Sydney Harbour National Park at North Head. Last week the volunteers removed an additional 50 flower heads from the SHFT land near the Memorial walk.

The Landcare group have been working in the area since the hazard reduction fire of late 2020 and, among other weeds have removed a large number of Pampas plants over that period in both the valley down from the car park and the area adjacent to the North Head Wastewater Treatment plant facing the ocean. The NHWWTP took up the challenge last year and removed most of their large flowering Pampas plants from their site after a request was made at one of their Community Consultation meetings. This work resulted in now flowering head in this area this season, only an occasional small Pampas seedling shooting up which we have removed.

But Pampas continues flowering on the slope facing Spring Cove, the Old Man's Hat and harbour side of the Q Station as well as on the cliff areas facing the ocean adjoining in the SHFT site.

A very large stand of Pampas on the rock shelf halfway down the valley from the new car parks opposite the Bella Vista Café has increased in size since last year and has seeded some small plants on the opposite side below the

new lookout. These flowers have been removed from the plants in the last few weeks.

## Garigal Landcare Group

Garigal Landcare members, who are registered and supported by NP & WS volunteer at North Head.

The group works without chemicals and concentrates on weed removal to allow indigenous plants to sprout up.

We work every second Thursday morning, weather permitting, from 8-10am and every Sunday morning. Since the fire they have removed tonnes of weeds such as Pampas grass, Caster Oil Plant, Paspalum, African Lovegrass, Thistles, Montbretia, Cape Honeysuckle, Ink Weed and Crofton Weed.

Volunteers welcome, but please call or text me beforehand. Conny Harris 0432 643 295

## Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1883 - 1930),  
Wednesday 20 May 1914.

"SMALLPOX - THE STATE AND NORTH HEAD.  
AN AGREEMENT ARRIVED AT.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.— As the outcome of the conference of Messrs. Groom, Flowers, Dr. Cumpston and the New South Wales Director-General of Public Health, it has been arranged that the State health authorities shall have the use of the quarantine station at North Head from the end of this week. The State is to vacate the station as to contacts on 48 hours' notice, in case of overseas necessities arising. Any contacts then released are to be placed under strict surveillance under the Commonwealth Act. This permission granted to the State Government is to continue to the end of the year. Mr. Flowers undertakes that the State shall meantime take steps, to provide for the accommodation of its own patients and contacts on a site to be determined. The appointment of the State officers as quarantine officers will continue until the State confers the necessary powers up on its own officers. After the passage of a state law, the re-appointment of the State officers is to be considered. The Minister has undertaken to introduce a bill to provide adequate power to deal with such epidemics. The State Government will be responsible for the acts done under the Federal law by State officers. The Quarantine Department will appoint a special medical officer in Sydney, to keep in touch with the Director-General of Health in Sydney, who will give him every facility. The State will reimburse the Federal Government for expenditure, on the basis of actual payments, until another basis can be arranged."

No one died at Quarantine of Smallpox during 1914. The last person to die of smallpox at Quarantine Station was Mrs. Mary Martin who died of smallpox and childbirth on 29 November 1913, she was 29 years old.