



North Head Sanctuary Foundation

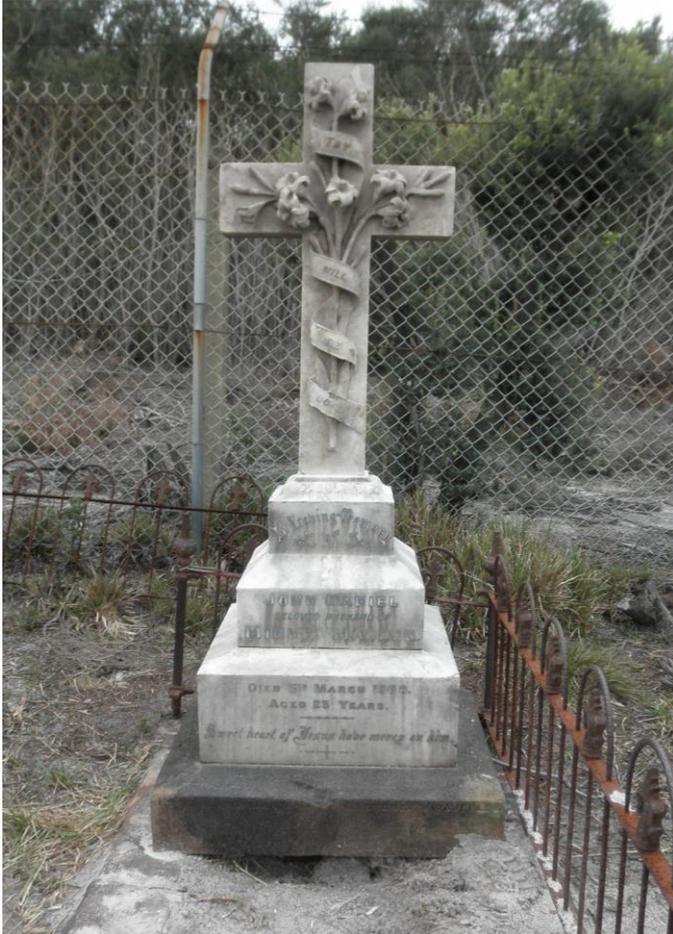
ABN 97093480659

P.O. Box 896, Balgowlah, NSW 2093
northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au

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Third Cemetery

is now open to the public and the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust received a grant to employ stone masons to repair some of the graves. One of the graves repaired was that of John Madden. When the vegetation was being cleared from the grave by Don, a Sydney Harbour Federation Trust volunteer, he found the cross buried on top of the grave.



John Daniel Madden died on 5 March 1900 of Bubonic plague. He was the proprietor of Hunter River Inn and was brought from there in a serious condition to the Quarantine station on 2 March 1900.

On 5 March 1901, a year later, his loving wife, Minnie Madden and his sister-in-law Mrs. Annie Hall and sister-in-law Miss Monaghan all put notices in the Sydney Morning Herald in loving memory of John Daniel Madden. Miss Monaghan's read;

"Out in the lonely graveyard,
Beneath the lonely soil.
Our dear one is sleeping there.
We know he is with God." RIP

Education Centre

Open every weekend, from 10.00am to 4.00pm.
Please come in and visit us in Building 21.

D'harawal

Natural Resource Management Practices
A talk with Frances Bodkin at Manly Art Gallery & Museum on Saturday 11 June 2pm to 4pm
Free but bookings essential – 9976 2842 or email mec@manly.nsw.gov.au

Helping others get to know North Head

Judy Lambert

One of our key roles in the Sanctuary Foundation is to help others get to better know and appreciate North Head. A recent TAFE English as a Second Language (ESL) class gave us a great opportunity to do this. On a clear, sunny Monday in May 16 adult ESL students from 14 different countries visited North Head Sanctuary. Using the urban environment as a focus for learning English, the class and two of their lecturers had a short orientation talk, some time for questions then a walk & talk.

One mature age student from Japan was very enthusiastic about the opportunity to get to know some of the native plants that she had first observed while living at the Quarantine Station after her arrival in Australia several decades ago. Another was overheard to say at the end of the session "That was the best Monday class ever". Let's hope some who took walks brochures and membership forms will be inspired to come back with their families and friends.

Native Plant Nursery

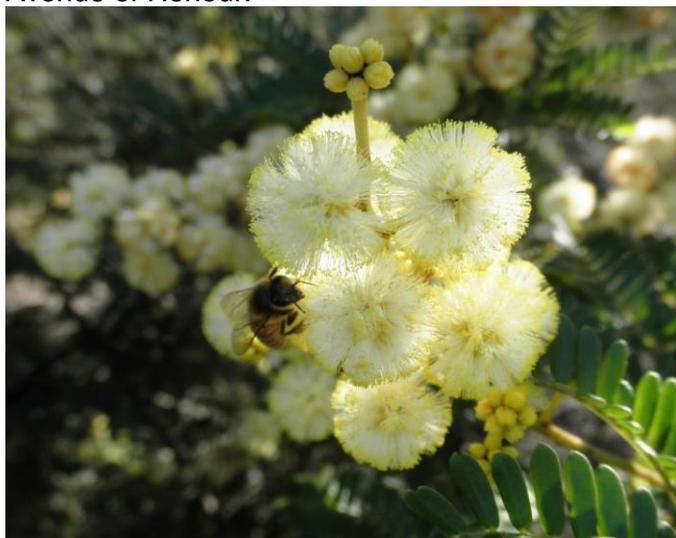
Planting out continues and now that it is colder the Nursery is doing cuttings.

Acacia ulicifolia



or Prickly Moses is a small shrub to 1.5 metres tall with needle-like leaves. Flowers are pale yellow and are solitary. We have grown some of these plants from seed in the Nursery and have planted them out. Some of these plants are now flowering.

Other wattles on display now are *Acacia terminalis* (Sunshine Wattle), *Acacia suaveolens* (Sweet-scented Wattle) and *Acacia myrtifolia* (Myrtle Wattle). All four wattles are on display on the Avenue of Honour.



Acacia terminalis

Too good for soldiers

Geoff Lambert

Many of the School of Artillery buildings are heritage items. They are lucky to be so. During construction, North Head was visited by the Minister for Defence, who was "shocked" by their elaborate nature. He opined that they were "too good for soldiers" and implied that they ought to be pulled down and rebuilt. This was rather ironic because the plans were drawn up by the Commonwealth using its own standard Art Deco schemes of the era. The actual design person remains unknown.

Help always WANTED - Volunteer

Volunteers are always appreciated. If you would like to help in our Education room, talking to visitors or helping with a display, writing an article for our newsletter, planting out, or weeding please email northhead@fastmail.fm

Sanctuary Foundation aims:

'The Sanctuary for biodiversity will honour the natural and cultural significance of North Head. It will be a safe place for flora, fauna and people, a living laboratory promoting the spiritual and biological value of Sydney Harbour.'

It will:

- * Respect and honour the Indigenous significance of North Head;
- * Build understanding of the natural and cultural values of North Head; and
- * Promote integrated planning and management for the whole area, to ensure the highest level of protection for the natural and cultural attributes of North Head.

Cane Toads on North Head?

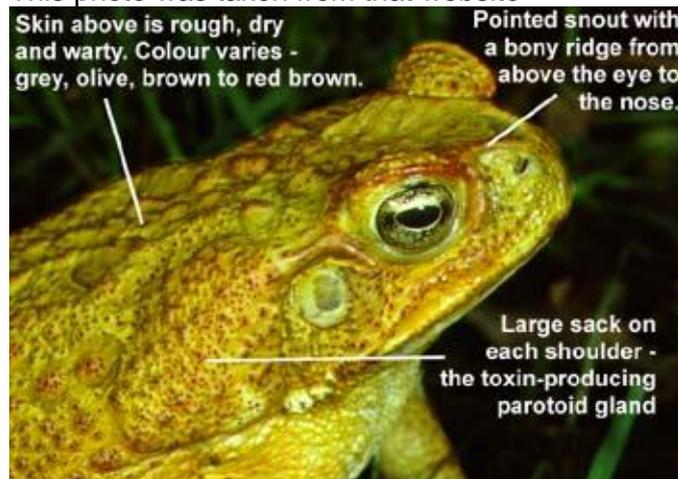
On 26th May 2010 whilst undertaking a familiarisation of North Head with NPWS Ranger Andrew Bayley, The NPWS Metro North East Pest Management Team Ben Hope and Mel Hall, Senior Ranger pest species, found a dead cane toad in the vicinity of the water tower on SHFT estate. The toad was next to a pile of mulch. We cannot be sure whether the toad came with the mulch or by some other means or whether it arrived alive or already dead. It is important to note that cane toads are known to hitchhike in nursery and landscaping supplies and that when receiving supplies from northern NSW or Queensland loads, should be checked for toads.

A few hitchhiker toads are reported each year in north eastern Sydney and NPWS and the SHFT ask that volunteers keep an eye and an ear out for Cane Toads to prevent them establishing. Cane toads need regular access to shallow standing water or they will dehydrate, male cane toads sit by shallow bodies of water and call to females (generally on warm humid nights) so listen for their call, it sounds like an old fashioned telephone "brinngg brrinngg" and is quite distinct from any native frog.

Cane Toads and their tadpoles can sometimes be confused with native frogs but there are a few distinctive features that can be used to identify them specifically: the large sack or toxin producing gland on each shoulder and their pointed snout with a narrow bony ridge from above the eye to the nose and their skin is rough, warty and dry. For more information

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pestsweeds/CaneToads.htm>

This photo was taken from that website



So no local frogs are harmed, if in doubt about identification consult a frog expert. If you find a suspect cane toad, please inform the Ranger on SHFT site (0434 652 152) or if in the National Park the NPWS office, (9960 6266).

Note - all Cane Toad records on park or off park estate should be entered into the NSW Wildlife Atlas.