



North Head Sanctuary Foundation

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SIGNS OF PROGRESS ON NORTH HEAD SANCTUARY



The North Head Sanctuary Foundation (NHSF) has warmly welcomed the erection of a new sign at the entrance to North Head, which brands the iconic site as simply the “North Head Sanctuary”

NHSF Committee member Dr Geoff Lambert said that the sign was “tremendous symbolism” and one which was being backed by real progress on the ground.

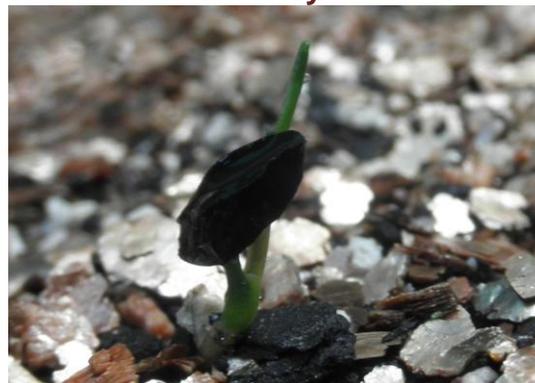
“It is fair to say that Indigenous people managed this area as a unified ‘sanctuary’ from the time of the last Ice Age. We Europeans took our first lessons on how to manage land with fire on North Head within weeks of the arrival of the First Fleet.”

“Since 1788, Europeans have ‘sliced and diced’ North Head repeatedly. Now, in the 21st Century, we have 8 separate ‘stakeholders’ who are responsible for caring for the land there.”

Geoff says it is a sign of the stakeholders' commitment to the idea of a North Head Sanctuary that they all agreed to the sign being of the simplest and most logo-free form. At last they are presenting North Head as it ought to be presented - a sanctuary valued for its own sake and not who controls it.

Geoff said that good progress was being made on turning the concept of the Sanctuary into real results “on the ground”. He said that visitors to North Head were reporting increased numbers of wildlife, including echidnas and the newly reintroduce Bogul native bush rat.

Native Plant Nursery



Xanthorrhoea (Grass tree) seedling, 10 February 2012

Did you know that Xanthorrhoea seedlings are very slow in growing and can take over two years to reach a size suitable for planting. The seeds were collected in November 2011, sown on 10 January.

Sunday 11 March 8.30 to 11.30am Next Planting/Weeding Morning

Thank you to everyone who helped on Sunday 5 February and Thursday 16 February. Its great to see what you can achieve in a couple of hours.

If you have a spare three hours on a Sunday morning to help with planting or weeding, please come and join us and stay for morning tea . Please wear a hat, sun screen and closed in shoes. For more information, please contact email Sue at shalmagy@bigpond.net.au.

Help climate science Enjoy the natural beauty of North Head

NHSF will be conducting ClimateWatch guided walks on the first Sunday of each month from March to June.

An initiative of Earthwatch, and developed with the Bureau of Met. and University of Melbourne, ClimateWatch is a citizen science program in which people in their local communities gather information about the influences of temperature and rainfall on plant and animal behaviour. North Head is one of the ClimateWatch key monitoring sites, and the Foundation is assisting the program here. More info about ClimateWatch at www.climatewatch.org.au.

On 4 March, 1 April, 6 May and 3 June the Sanctuary Foundation's Geoff Lambert will lead 2-hour guided walks to do some ClimateWatch species watching. The walks will depart from the Trust Visitor Centre, Gatehouse Building at North Head at 10am. Please wear enclosed shoes, a hat and insect repellent and bring water and

sunscreen. The walks are free but bookings are essential (max 20 per walk). Contact Rachel Maitland at Earthwatch for more information and to register. Email: rmaitland@earthwatch.org.au or phone 02 8966 9800 or 0403 167 556.

Have your say

Public Exhibition of Development Proposal - Proposed Child Care Centre at North Head Sanctuary (NHS).

The Sydney Harbour Federation Trust has received a development application from YCW Childcare Pty Ltd for a proposal to adapt an existing building (Building 49) at the NHS for use as a long day child care centre. Submissions are invited until 5pm, Monday 5 March 2012. For more info, see <http://www.harbourtrust.gov.au/about-us/planning/applications/index>.

Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson



In loving memory of our dear sister, Alice Lawler.

On 1 May 1900 Alice Lawler died of the Bubonic plague at her home at 160 Walker St., Redfern, as she was too ill to be removed. Her body was brought here for burial. Minister was Rev Ignatius. She was 24 years old.

Lillian Conyers, Alice's niece, a little child, 4 years of age was living with her aunt at the time of her death. Lillian was removed to quarantine on 3 May as a suspected case of Bubonic plague.

However Lillian Jane Conyers she recovered and married Alfred John Harry in 1919, but died on 10 June 1919, aged 23, at Royal North Shore Hospital.

Education Centre – Bandicoot Heaven

Call in for a chat or some information. See our displays. We are open every weekend, from 10am to 4pm in Building 20. Have a look at our range of botanical cards that are available for purchase.

Back in Time

The Sydney Morning Herald 5 October 1936

"NORTH HEAD FIRE.

The fire in the scrub on the old quarantine reserve at North Head made a spectacular blaze. Fanned by a light north-easterly breeze, fires which had smouldered earlier in the day broke out fiercely about 6 p.m., and the services of several men of the Royal Artillery from George's Heights and from the Manly and Crow's Nest fire brigades under District officer Spring were rushed to the scene. Several breaks were made, and the flames were kept in check. They raged round the old cemetery on the Quarantine Reserve, and spread towards the North Head garrison buildings, but their onset was blocked by a solid stone wall. The lurid glare attracted many sightseers, and from the heights overlooking Manly the flames presented a striking scene."

Themeda australis



Or Kangaroo

Grass is one of the most widely distributed native grasses in Australia and is found on North Head. It is recognised by its distinctive brown and reddish-purple spikelet clusters. We have grown this grass in the Nursery as habitat for the bandicoots.

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.

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