

# North Head Sanctuary Foundation Custodians of North Head

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## Newsletter No 3 March 2013

# Clean up Australia Day Sunday 3 March

This year you can clean up and help conserve the environment at North Head. For more details see http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/North+Head +Sanctuary

## Native Plant Nursery



One can see Welcome Swallows on the oval. Maybe they are looking for insects in the mulch? Here they are resting on bamboo poles which support the plastic plant guards. Rabbits love to eat our young plants, so we protect them until they are older and not so inviting. Planting continues on the oval, one can see older plantings in the background.



The first planting of grass trees (*Xanthorrhoea*) grown in our Nursery. They are very slow growing and we planted out a few to see how they will go before we plant out the other 100 that are now a year old.

If you would like to help the Nursery group, please contact Sue Halmagyi at sue.halmagyi@gmail.com or phone 0407 461 820.

## **Education Centre – Bandicoot Heaven**

Our Education room is open every weekend, from 10am to 4pm in Building 20. Call in and see us.

#### Become a 'citizen scientist' – Join our next Climate Watch walk

Where better than North Head to learn about the Climate Watch program run by Earthwatch? On Sunday morning 7 April, Geoff and Judy Lambert will run the next of the introductory walks that let you know how you can become a climatewatcher. Learn about the program, enjoy the natural beauty of North Head and help capture data as part of a national project that is monitoring the impacts of climate change on nature. Meet at Sydney Harbour Federation Trust's Gatehouse Visitor Centre (off North Head Scenic Drive, Manly), at 10.15am for an easy tracks walk

lasting about 2 hours. Wear covered shoes, bring a hat, water bottle and insect repellent. Bookings essential: Contact Kirsty Richardson at Earthwatch on 03-9016 7590 or email:

krichardson@earthwatch.org.au Mon-Fri 8am-4pm. See you there!

# **Cunningham's Skink**

Geoff Lambert



Or *Egernia cunninghami* is a sun-loving variety of spiny-tailed skink. It is named in honor of Alan Cunningham; botanist and explorer and botanist, who collected the first specimen.

## Here is the bug eats spider event.

Geoff Lambert



#### Thank you

Scott Pentland gave a fascinating talk about old military history that can be found in the bush.

#### **Third Cemetery**

Jenny Wilson



Ebenezer John Wakeham was taken to Quarantine on April 11 and died of Bubonic Plague at 2pm on 15 April 1900. He lived at Windsor Street Paddington and was employed as an unpacker in a large establishment near the Haymarket.

He had married Jessie AJ MacLaren in 1878 and they had two children Alfred John Wakeham born in 1882 and Hilda E Wakeham born 1889.

During his youth, his parents had been robbed-**The Sydney Morning Herald 10 Oct 1868** "Stealing in a Dwelling.

James Maguire and Elizabeth Whittaker were indicted for having, on the 6th June last, stolen a quantity of clothing, the property of Ebenezer Wakeham. The prisoners pleaded not guilty; the female prisoner being defended by Mr E S Thompson, Mr. Forbes conducted the prosecution. The articles in question wore missed by Mrs. Wakeham on the 7th June, from her bedroom, and about a fortnight afterwards she saw the female prisoner in the street wearing a shawl which was among the missing articles. The prisoners were arrested, and many articles identified by Mrs Wakeham as her husband's were found in their possession and upon the premises where they resided. The male prisoner was seen wearing a drab coat, which, from the description, corresponded with a coat that was stolen from Mrs Wakeham. There was a side door leading from the street into Wakeham's rooms, and Mrs Wakeham left this door unfastened while she was out for about a guarter of an hour, on the evening of the robbery. Mr. Thompson made an address on behalf of the female prisoner, and the jury returned a verdict of guilty on the second count of the indictment against the female prisoner; and found the prisoner Maguire not guilty. There were several previous convictions against the woman Whittaker, and both prisoners were undergoing sentence for theft. The prisoner Whittaker was sentenced to two years imprisonment in Darlinghurst gaol, with hard labour. '

#### Weeds on North Head

Weeds are plants that don't belong were they are. They can included plants from overseas and often grow faster than the native plants.



Scotch thistle - *Onopordum acanthium* Can be found on North Head and it is amazing how many seeds one flower produces.

#### North Head 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

#### NHSF Membership Application

(full name of applicant - please print clearly)

Address

I.

Phone

Email

Hereby apply to become a member of the abovementioned incorporated association.

1 year - Single \$20 Family \$30 Unwaged \$10 5years - Single \$80 Family \$120 Unwaged \$40 Donation \$...... (tax deductible if in separate cheque from membership) I agree with the aims of NHSF and I agree to be bound by the rules of the association.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Cheques made payable to North Head Sanctuary Foundation Inc PO Box 896, Balgowlah NSW 2093 OR By Direct Deposit to BSB 802-147 Ac No 40214 Account name North Head Sanctuary Foundation