



# North Head Sanctuary Foundation

## Custodians of North Head

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Newsletter No 6 June 2013

### Thank you

William Dobson from The Australasian Native Orchid Society - Warringah Group gave a very interesting talk on *Dendrobium speciosum* (Sydney Rock Orchids) .

We have not discovered any Rock Orchids on North Head but orchids have been known to appear after fire. We will keep you informed.

### The effects of fire on Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub.



Unfenced area, rabbits have been feeding on the new growth.

Funded by the Foundation for National Parks and administered in conjunction with Australian Wildlife Conservancy, this project is producing interesting results. The 6-months post-fire surveys were carried out in March and the 6-months equivalent surveys for Control ("Thinned") plots were carried out in May. A preliminary paper will be presented to the NCC Bushfire Conference in June.

### Australian Wildlife Conservancy missing from North Head

As of Friday 24 May, AWC will be missing from North Head for a while.

We bade farewell to Cam Radford as his job finished on 24th and that meant that AWC Intern, Erica Pankhurst has also gone. Unfortunately AWC does not have a new appointment and with other science positions vacant in their organisation, we don't know when the position will be filled.

We wish Cam well in the next phase of his career as an ecologist.

AWC has been an important conservation partner to the Sanctuary Foundation, and we feel that we've both made useful contributions to the Trust's management of the site, so we are hopeful that (as when Dr Nelika Hughes left) we'll soon get a new scientist with whom to share management research projects.

### New Walk

The sandstone wall has now been reopened and you can walk along the fire trail, which is off the Memorial walk in North Fort to the Fairfax lookout. The track work has not been started yet, but together with signage will be happening soon.



It's whale watching season, so you might see a whale or two from the Fairfax lookout. The light is great for photographs now and there are plenty of flowers out to enjoy.

### Education Centre – Bandicoot Heaven

Our Education room is open every weekend, from 10am to 4pm in Building 20. Please call in and see us. You can pick up a Echidna Survey form or download it from our website

<http://www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au>

### Native Plant Nursery

Early next month our misting system will be installed in the igloo. By the end of July, we hope to have it full of cuttings and seedlings.



We have started planting out the area around our new shed and igloo. We are continuing to plant on the oval and other places. Please call in or say hello when you see us at work. If you would like to help, please email [northhead@fastmail.fm](mailto:northhead@fastmail.fm) .



## *Schizaea dichotoma*



or branched comb fern is an erect fern found in heath. This one was found growing with *Caustis*.

## Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson



Sydney Morning Herald 3 April 1900

“Five additional cases of bubonic plague were discovered yesterday. The first was taken from the Sydney Hospital, the patient being one George Nicholas, aged 40.

The hospital authorities do not refuse temporary admission to plague patients, but the medical staff there have experience of such cases, and the patients presenting themselves are at once taken to a part of the grounds secluded from the other patients, if there is the least ground for suspicion as to the nature of the illness. Nicholas was not long at the hospital before the nature of his malady was discovered, and the health authorities were sent for. Then his removal to quarantine was ordered”.

George together with William Frederick Barnes, who resided in Balmain; Charles Henry Clark who resided in Glebe; James Barker who lived in the city, were removed to the quarantine station on 2 April 1900. Isaac Thompson who resided within the city bounds was removed on 3 April 1900.

George Nicholas died on 6 April 1900 at 1.20pm. He lived at King St City and was Presbyterian. The other men survived.

## Back in Time

From The Sydney Morning Herald 19 Jan 1884  
News of the Day

“A CORRESPONDENT writes to us complaining of the authorities at the quarantine ground having taken up the whole of what is known as Collier's Flat and the adjoining bay, and commenced fencing them in, so as to prevent the public from having access to them, With regard to this we are informed that the improvements which are being carried out at the quarantine ground include the erection of a fence eight feet in height, topped with barbed wire, across the neck of land between the quarantine station and Manly; and a series of buoys will be placed in the bays to indicate the enclosed quarantine waters. Within this fence or this line of buoys the public will not be allowed to pass. It is considered absolutely necessary that the quarantine station should be surrounded with means for effectually preventing any communication with residents of Manly or visitors to that suburb. Hitherto the means of communication have been such as to become at times a source of great danger, for with nothing to prevent the occupants of the quarantine station from mixing with persons outside, there is much more chance of disease spreading than of its being stamped out. It may not be generally known that the whole of North Head is a reserve for quarantine purposes, and has been so from very early times.”



Section of sandstone wall looking up  
From The Sydney Morning Herald 24 May 1935  
"NORTH HEAD RESERVE.

Tenders for Wall Construction.

CANBERRA, Thursday.

In the Commonwealth Gazette to-day tenders are called for the construction of a new sandstone wall and alterations to the existing wall in connection with the readjustment of the boundaries of the Park Hill reserve on North Head, Sydney. Plans and specifications are available at the works and services branch of the Department of the interior, Sydney, and tenders are returnable on June 4."