



# North Head Sanctuary Foundation

## Custodians of North Head

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### SEASONS GREETINGS

At our general meeting on 20 November 2013, it was decided to lodge a submission regarding **North Head WWTP NSOOS Scrubber Replacement REF.**

### Storm Damage - North Fort

On Monday 18 November 2013 the heavy storm and winds took out Building 229 at North Fort. It was almost demolished. This building is the one next to the sandstone wall on North Fort Road. Nearby buildings were slightly damaged and a large tree, on the other side of the wall, came down and has been removed. The North Fort volunteers had been using part of this shed as their lunch room, so it is great no one was hurt during the storm.



The back of the building with North Fort Rd in front. Photos Peter Macinnis.



Side of the building closest to the Wall.

### Education Centre – Bandicoot Heaven

Our Education room is open every weekend, from 10am to 4pm in Building 20. Call in and see us for a chat, get information about the new tracks, or buy a botanical card, (4 for \$15) which are great for gifts..

### Native Plant Nursery



Our volunteers have just finished putting the shade cloth cover over the igloo. This is to protect the cuttings and seedlings during the hot weather, so that they do not get burnt. In the background you can see volunteers weeding. The heavy rain we have been having is great for the plants but also helps the weeds to flourish.

The area opposite the Nursery and in front of Bandicoot Heaven was one of the first areas that we replanted. It was Sue Halmargyi's idea to make a path that people could wander down and enjoy. This path is now included in one of the Sydney Harbour Trust walking tracks.



November 2013 (above) and early 2010



## *Stylidium lineare*



or Heath Trigger Plant is a small tufted herb 10 to 40cm tall. The flowers have four petals and a tube with a tufted end which is bent under the flower and acts like a trigger hammer when an insect lands on the flower, it springs onto the back of the insect depositing or picking up pollen. In flower now.

## Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

### THE SMALLPOX OUTBREAK.

### DEATH OF A PATIENT.

### CITY CASES TRACED TO THE CHINGTU.

"At 3.15 p.m. on Saturday Mrs. Alice Blendell, a patient in the smallpox hospital at the Quarantine Station, died of the disease. Yesterday morning she was buried in the cemetery on the ocean slope. The patient was a married woman, aged 24 years. She lived in North Sydney, when she was taken ill, and was removed to the Coast Hospital on the assumption that her illness was an ordinary infectious one. On Monday last its true nature was discovered, and the patient was taken to quarantine."

"The Health Department report having satisfactorily established a connection between the Chingtu cases and those which occurred in Surry Hills and North Sydney respectively. The medical officers make the report with gratification, because it removes the fear that the disease had got an independent hold in the city."

Sydney Morning Herald 10 June 1901.

For more info on CHINGTU, see our May 2012 Newsletter.

This notice was placed in Freeman's Journal - Saturday 10 June 1905

"IN MEMORIAM. BLENDPELL.— In sad but loving memory of my dear daughter (Agnes), Mrs. H. D. Blendell. who departed this life June 8th 1901. Merciful Heart of Jesus have mercy. A greater trial was never known, or sorrow so severe. Inserted by her sorrowing mother."

There is a record of a marriage in 1901 of an Agnes Kennedy to William E Blendell. However the death certificate stated Alice Blendell.

## Back In Time

### Evening News Wednesday 2 January 1895

"A KETCH ASHORE.

### Wreck at North Head. The Captain Drowned. Narrow Escape of a Lad. A Perilous Time.

A ketch named the Emma Matilda, 30 tons register, was wrecked at about 3.30 this morning on the rocks off North Head. The vessel, which was loaded with maize and sundries, was captained by John Bernsdoff, a resident of St. Albans, Hawkesbury River. She left Broken Bay at about 7.30 on Tuesday night laden with the produce consigned to W.J. Gray, of Sussex-street. The captain was accompanied by his adopted son, a lad of 17 years, who had been living with his sister at No. 2 Adastreet, Ultimo. The two evidently comprised the crew. According to the statement of the boy all went well till about 3.30 this morning, when just off North Head, at the entrance to Port Jackson. A heavy sea was running, but there was no wind, and the captain made several attempts to bring his vessel 'about,' but failed, and she drifted on to the rocks, and very soon became a total wreck. Captain Bernsdoff lowered the ship's boat and, with his son, got in just before the ketch struck the rocks. However, the heavy sea swamped the boat, and she overturned. The captain sank immediately, but the boy managed to clamber on to the keel of the upturned boat, and with considerable difficulty remained in that position till the boat drifted ashore. He then succeeded in landing on the rocks, and groped his way, wet and cold, around the cliffs. Finding ascent impossible in the dark, he waited till daylight, and then walked round to Fairy Bower, and on to Manly. He informed the police there, and afterwards proceeded to Sydney by the first boat, and communicated with Inspector Hyem, and Senior-constable Holmes, of the water police, the facts of the disaster. The Manly police are now keeping a look out for the body of the missing captain. So far as the youth knows the vessel or cargo was not insured."

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If you would like to support us by becoming a member, please download a form at

[www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au/join/membership.htm](http://www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au/join/membership.htm). If you would like to receive a copy of our enewsletter, email [northhead@fastmail.fm](mailto:northhead@fastmail.fm)