



# North Head Sanctuary Foundation

## Custodians of North Head

ABN 97093480659 P.O. Box 896, Balgowlah, NSW 2093  
northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au email [northhead@fastmail.com.au](mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au)

Newsletter No 6 June 2018

### Recognising & celebrating Aboriginal culture

Judy Lambert

The time from national Sorry Day (26 May), when Australians acknowledge and recognise members of the Stolen Generation through to NAIDOC Week (8-15 July) is a time when Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians work together to raise awareness of Australia's original people.

North Head, with its pre-European history as a special meeting place for Aboriginal people across northern Sydney and beyond, is part of those activities.

On Sunday 27 May, local Aboriginal Heritage Officer Karen Smith is leading a North Head walk and talk for people from North Sydney Council area.

**Sunday 3 June is the date for this year's annual talk by D'harawal knowledge holder Aunty Fran Bodkin. As anyone who has been to one of Aunty Fran's talks or read her books will know, she is a wonderful storyteller. Meet at Bandicoot Heaven around 10.15am for a 10.30am start.**

**Bookings essential. Numbers limited. For your booking contact Robynne Millward at Manly Environment Centre 9976 1428 or email:**

**[robynne.millward@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](mailto:robynne.millward@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au)**

Then, on Sunday 8 July, at the beginning of NAIDOC week, Karen Smith is planning another walk and talk on North Head – more details in our next newsletter.

NAIDOC week focuses on recognising and celebrating Aboriginal history, culture and achievements. This year the theme for the week is "Because of her, we can".

Bandicoot Heaven (Building 20 at North Head's former School of Artillery) is the venue for each of these activities.

### Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

Our community education room is open 10am to 4pm Saturdays and Sundays in Building 20.

Maybe you would like to learn about volunteering in our education room. Ask one of volunteers or contact Judy Lambert at [tswombat@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tswombat@optusnet.com.au)

### Native Plant Nursery

We have lots of maintenance to do together with planting and if you could help that would be great. There is no need to come every week, just when you can. Please join us on Tuesday or Friday morning between 8 am and 12 noon.

For more details email [northhead@fastmail.com.au](mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au)

Or just turn up and ask for Jenny.

### It's Whale Watching Season

Have a look for passing humpback whales making their way north when visiting North Head and the Fairfax lookout.

### New Track on North Head

Geoff Lambert



By a quid pro quo arrangement between Sydney Water and NPWS ("tracks for NBN cables"?), a new track has been built on North Head. The track starts from the top of Darley Rd and, keeping within the 8-metre wide strip which is National Park, wends its way along Bluefish Drive, to the back gate of the SHFT property. Surfaced with two layers of crushed sandstone (the upper one of which contains a little cement), the track looks as though it ought to stand up to the usual wear and tear. The wet parts of the track are on standard NPWS plastic grid material. The official opening will occur in "a pair of moments", so to speak, but the still unnamed track is already being used by walkers, cyclists and the Local Member James Griffin, who helped obtain funding for it.

### Back in time

Jenny Wilson

I was looking through the old newspapers and came across these gems. I was looking for why North Fort is called North Fort.

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW:1842-1954) 11 Jan 1935

#### "Recreation and Defence.

A conference took place at Manly yesterday between the Minister for Defence (Mr. Parkhill) and the Mayor of Manly (Alderman Cross) and members of the council's finance committee to discuss the Defence Department's decision to repossess part of Park Hill (the reserve on North Head) for defence purposes.

The Defence Department supplied the Manly Council several months ago with a plan showing the area of North Head which the department intended to repossess for new

forts. The plan showed that less than one quarter of Park Hill, which had previously been part of the quarantine area, would be retained for the public, although a new reserve would be added from the present quarantine area. The original reservation was 279 acres, and only about 60 acres of this, near the look-out at the southern end, would remain under the control of the council. The Avenue of Honour, with its rows of Norfolk Island pines, would be taken into the defence area.

The proposals of the finance committee were explained to Mr. Parkhill yesterday, and it was agreed that as much of the recreation area as could possibly be spared would be reserved for the public, and that sufficient would be retained to enable visitors to obtain uninterrupted views of the coastline."

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW:1842-1954), 24 Aug 1935  
**"COASTAL DEFENCE.**

Installation of New Guns. AREA CLOSED TO PUBLIC. The following statement was issued yesterday by the military authorities at Victoria Barracks:"

"Preliminary preparations for the installation of the modern coast defence guns at North Head, Sydney, have reached a stage when, in the national interests, the area enclosed by the north wall of the battery will definitely be closed to the public.

"From Monday next, no persons will be allowed to take photographs in the vicinity of the fort site, or to have any access whatever to the area which has been reserved for the new batteries."

### Julie Nettleton's Triptych Geoff Lambert

At the recent Botanica exhibition, Julie Nettleton, whose famous cards are displayed and sold in NHSF's Bandicoot Heaven, had a number of her recent and past works on display. This one particularly caught the eyes of North Head aficionados, featuring as it does, three iconic North Head species. From left to right, these are

- Flannel flowers (*Actinotus helianthi*)
- Grass Tree (*Xanthorrhoea resinosa*)
- Camfield's Stringybark (*Eucalyptus camfieldii*)



We bought it!

### Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson  
 Sun (Sydney, NSW: 1910-1954), Mon 16 December 1918  
 "INFLUENZA - Another Death  
 PATIENT FROM MAKURA NO NEW CASES"

"The death of a patient from the Makura was reported from North Head today. There are no new cases. To date only 11,073 persons have been inoculated, and the Minister for Health considers this very unsatisfactory. "It shows," he says, "that the people of Sydney do not realise the magnitude of the danger." Another death, the first from the mail steamer Makura at Sydney, was reported from the Quarantine Station, North Head, today. The victim was Mr. G. C. Grainger, a steward on the mailboat, whose next-of-kin, according to the quarantine officials, is Mrs. Maggie Roberts, 382 Moore Park Road, Paddington. The deaths at quarantine now total 41. Though only on the seriously ill list for a couple of days, the death occurred suddenly. Not since he was admitted was Mr. Grainger reported as being dangerously ill. Miss Sime, a Makura passenger, who was dangerously ill on Saturday, is today in a critical condition. Mr. F. Orton, from the Atua, who was dangerously ill for two weeks, has recovered sufficiently to be placed on the convalescent list. The only patient now in quarantine from the Manuka is Mon Yick. He is ill. Mr. Fred Roberts, of the same steamer, is still convalescent. The medical report issued at 11,30 a.m. today is as follows: -

EX MAKURA

Died Mr. G. C. Grainger.  
 Dangerously ill Miss Sime (critical).  
 Seriously ill Alexander Moar. William Skivington.  
 Ill Mrs. Maxwell. G. Gallagher. C. Burgess. JD McMahon."

Sun (Sydney, NSW:1910-1954), Fri 20 December 1918  
 "INFLUENZA -Another New Case - DEATHS TOTAL 42  
 The death of Miss Sime, one of the Maura's passengers, who had been dangerously ill since the arrival of the vessel, died last night, brings the total deaths from influenza at the Quarantine Hospital since the epidemic reached Sydney up to 42. Miss Sime's next of kin is Mrs. Mary Winton Elliott, also a passenger by the mail-boat. A new case was reported from the Samoan relief vessel, but the Quarantine Information Bureau would not supply any information regarding the patient. Details of the medical report, made available at 11 o'clock this morning, are as follow: -

FROM THE MAKURA

Dangerously ill Mr. A. Moir (crew).  
 Seriously ill Mr. W. Skivington (crew).  
 Ill Mr. C. Gallagher (crew). Mr. C. Burgess (crew).  
 Mon Yick, one of the Manuka's cases, is still on the ill list."

Deaths from Makura were:-

George GRAINGER, age 29 on 16.12.1918, Alice Ethel SIME aged 28 on 19.12.1918, Alexander MOAR aged 28 on 20.12.1918 and Mon YICK aged 30 on 21.1.1919.