



North Head Sanctuary Foundation

ABN 97093480659

P.O. Box 896, Balgowlah, NSW 2093
northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au

Newsletter No 7 August 2010

Thank you

To all of our members who have renewed and a reminder to the rest that your membership renewal is now due. Please continue your support - There is strength in numbers.

Notice of Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 1 September 2010 at 6.30pm

Our Annual General Meeting will be in the Education room in the Gatehouse.

At this meeting, there will be reports from the President, Treasurer, the Education Manager and the Nursery Manager. All Office Bearers and committee positions become vacant and we would appreciate nominations for all positions by financial members.

Guest speaker:

Andy Donnelly, Science Partnerships Director
EarthWatch Institute

Andy, who is based at North Head but works on conservation projects all over Australia, will talk about the science and community partnerships in which EarthWatch is involved. Himself a science communicator, Andy's talk will be dynamic, interesting and informative.

Education Centre

We are open every weekend, from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Please call in and see our displays in Building 21. Walk past the Parade Ground, continue along the road till you see our banner and then follow the footprints from our gate.

We have three new card designs from Julie Nettleton - *Banksia aemula* cone, *Kunzea capitata* and *Lasiopetalum rufum*- \$5 each



We also have copies of Seasons and Climatic Cycles; Compiled by Frances Bodkin for \$40.

Exhibition of Amended North Head Sanctuary Management Plan

This plan is on public exhibition from 28 July to 24 August 2010 and the plan is available electronically at www.harbourtrust.gov.au/about-us/community/on-public-exhibition/index.html or by telephoning the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust on 8969 2100.

Sunday at the Sanctuary, 22 August 10am-4pm North Head Sanctuary -A Living Lab

This is a Manly Environment Centre (MEC) and Harbour Trust event held in conjunction with 'Science Week' and the 'International Year of Biodiversity'.

Key features of this event;

- Join wildlife author Louise Egerton on a walk to the Hanging Swamp
- Aboriginal Art & Storytelling
- Take part in an Earthwatch climate indicators survey
- Explore what Manly's bandicoots eat for breakfast with Australian Wildlife Conservancy
- Take a walk with Geoff Lambert to find out what grows on ice-age sand dunes of Sydney Harbour.
- Kids Nature Hunt and artwork activity
- Whale Tales with David Jenkins (Wildlife Photographer) & Shona Lorigan (ORCCA)
- 'Artists with Easels' – meet local artists as they paint or photograph images throughout the day for the 'Beauty of Biodiversity' upcoming exhibition
- Take up the Banksia Challenge
- Walk and talk with Frances Bodkin, an Aboriginal D'harawal knowledge holder, on weather wisdom and bush secrets.
- BBQ, kids' activities, entertainment and much more...

To book or further info please contact MEC on 9976 2842 or visit www.mec.org.au

Native Plant Nursery

Working Bee Sunday 8 August 2010 8.30am

There is plenty to be done -

Planting out in front of the Roden Cutler building near the main entrance and in other areas

Marking out the edges of the planted areas with logs; re-marking the track within the planted area across from the nursery with heavier logs so that the rabbits do not change the path and moving mulch. Morning tea is provided.

Please wear a hat, closed in shoes and bring gloves and a trowel if you can.

Please contact Sue Halmagyi if you can help on shalmagy@yahoo.com.au or by phoning 9968 1806 or 0407 461 820.

Something in the Air

If there is an unpleasant smell in the air at North Head, please report it to Sydney Water's 24 hour Number 9934 4423 and also to DECCW on 131 555.

Who's Who at North Head



Siân Waythe is employed by the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service as the Environment Manager at the Quarantine Station at North Head. A role she has held for six years.

Working closely with staff from Mawland Q Station's hotel operations, Siân oversees environmental planning and monitoring aspects of that site's management. With a strong emphasis on sustainability, she has contributed to a wide range of plans for the site. Siân's job is in part to ensure that the many environmental conditions attached to approval of the Q Station lease are met.

Siân has a honours degree in applied physical geography and a masters degree in environmental management. She has held many environmental management roles for local, state and Federal government agencies through her career.

Out of work, Siân volunteers her time with the State Emergency Service and Sydney Wildlife. Last year her love of animals took her to Thailand where she volunteered at an elephant rehabilitation centre, where this photo has been taken.

Not much chance that Siân will lose her way. When not at work, one of her interests is rogaining.

Philothea buxifolia



Is a small spreading shrub less than 1 m tall. The buds are pink and the flowers, with five petals, become lighter after opening. It is in flower now. It is a species characteristic of Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub

Back in Time

An article in The Sydney Morning Herald Monday 8 October 1873.

.A very serious disaster took place at the North Head on the 12th. September, by which a fine barque, named the Oscar, after getting on shore, foundered. The following are the particulars: -The Danish barque Oscar, 300 tons, Captain Kielseth, from Amoy, had called in at Maryborough, whence she sailed for Sydney on the 23rd ultimo, in ballast, having been purchased, subject to approval, by Mr Brooks, of Newcastle. She had on board a Malay crew, and also the captain's wife and two children. On Friday evening she was boarded by Pilot May, who, on taking charge, worked the ship to the Heads, wind blowing fresh from W. by N. The vessel was under her topsails, fore course, staysail, jib, and spanker. She stood on the starboard tack for the South Reef, where Pilot May's boat cast off, and the vessel was then stayed and stood for the North Head, when sufficiently over on the northern side the helm was put down, but while coming round a sudden puff took her aback. She was then kept away for the purpose, of getting more way on, and a second attempt was made to get her about, but again a squall took her aback. Pilot May, seeing the danger, let go an anchor which parted. The second anchor was then promptly let go but, before it had sufficient hold of the ground, the ship struck the rocks at a place known as "The Old Man's Hat," which is just inside the North Head. This occurred about 9pm. The pumps were at once sounded, and 1 foot of water was in the hold; a second sounding showed that the water had increased to two feet. With this the crew became frightened, and got the boat which was on the main hatch overboard, and passengers and crew all jumped in, the ship meanwhile drifting, with all canvas flat aback, towards the North Head. The crew had only been able to secure three oars, and endeavoured to pull up the harbour, but one of the oars was carried away, and pilot May determined to make a fair wind and endeavour to reach land from outside the Heads. With considerable difficulty this was accomplished with the remaining oars and the bottom boards of the boat, which were used as paddles. The boat was beached at Big Manly, and providentially all hands were safely landed. Subscription lists are in circulation for the relief of Captain Kielseth and his family, and the appeal is being liberally responded to.

This article was suggested by Steve Johnston, thanks Steve. Do you have interesting information from the past concerning North Head? We would love to hear from you.

Please email northhead@fastmail.fm Articles for the Newsletter are always welcome.

Not a Member? If you would like a Membership brochure, please email northhead@fastmail.fm or call 0414 735 350.