



North Head Sanctuary Foundation

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Newsletter No 11 December 2010

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our readers.



Geoff Lambert leading the walk after our last meeting.

Thank you

During the last financial year North Head Sanctuary volunteers worked a total of 2660 hours on site at North Head Sanctuary. Thank you for your efforts.

Coastal Connections activity on Wednesday 19 January 2011

NHSF is partnering with the NPWS and Sydney Coastal Councils Group in a 'flagship' activity which is part of a bigger Summerama Coastal Connections program running throughout the summer. Check Summerama on www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au for other fun coastal activities happening this summer.

Our event, on Wednesday 19 January will begin with bushland rehabilitation activities led by NPWS at Collins Beach. This will be followed by lunch then the option of a guided snorkel in the Collins Beach area or a guided walk led by NHSF from our Nursery and Education Room.

Volunteers are needed to assist with these activities, which will also trial the use of new communications media in promoting the Coastal Connections program.

To volunteer for 19 January, please email northhead@fastmail.fm

Education Centre

We are open every weekend, from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Please come in and visit us 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.

Native Plant Nursery

We are now sowing seed and are planting out the plants grown earlier this year. One new planting area near the North Head Scenic Drive. You can see all the plastic guards protecting the plants from hungry animals. We recycle these bags and stakes.

Help is always appreciated whether on a regular basis or just a one off.

If you would like to help with the planting out, please email northhead@fastmail.fm

Ocean Care Day Festival 5 December 2010

Manly Ocean Beachfront

10.30am – 4.30pm

Theme: 'Keep our sea plastic free'

The Manly Environment Centre hosts the 17th Ocean Care Day Festival, a free community event by the sea with 30+ eco exhibitors including our stall selling Seasons Greeting cards. Please call in and say hello.

Ian Kiernan, 'Clean up Australia' will launch the event at 10.30am. Visit the Manly Environment Centre's Ocean Lab to see marine animal displays, jellyfish jumble, marine environments and magic under the microscopes; meet the 'Princess of Plastic' at the Project Plastic Free area, view the work of our local artists with the opportunity to purchase including cards by Julie Nettleton at our stall; visit the Penguin Pavilion - find out more about Manly's Little Penguins from our Penguin Wardens; talk to over 30 eco exhibitors, check out the Tesla convertible electric car, relax and listen to music from local artists and help us 'keep our sea plastic free' by participating in a beach cleanup at 2.00pm.

Q Station Lecture Series

Sunday 5 December 2pm to 4.00pm at the Old Laundry Lecture Theatre, Wharf Precinct

Indigenous health and epidemics

Free talks by Michael Gracey -
Indigenous Health: From North Head to the North Kimberley, 1788 – 2010:
and by John Carmody-
Controversial epidemic: Chicken pox or smallpox in the colony at Sydney Cove in April, 1789.
Bookings essential 9466 1500.

Mirvac Hotels and Resorts now manage the Q Station.

Mysteries of North Head

By Geoff Lambert

The Navigation Marker



On a sunny summer evening on the way home to Manly on the ferry, if you look at the hill beneath the QS hospital building, you can see this navigation marker fairly plainly. If you own a marine chart of Sydney Harbour, this marker is clearly shown, together with another lower down near the water. Lined up, the two markers delineate a channel for outbound ships. The water-level marker appears to have vanished, but this one is in good condition, despite having lost all of its white paint years ago. This marker dates from about October 1910 when a scheme called "Leading Lights and Beacons" was introduced. They were placed to guide mariners down the western shipping channel of the Harbour. Similar markers still exist all around the Harbour and are still maintained. It is not clear when or why they fell into disuse.

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

To join go to

<http://www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au/join/membership.htm>

Thysanotus tuberosus/junciofolius



Or Fringed Lily is a erect herb with stems to 50cm long with leaves often absent. The mauve flowers open on sunny days and only last for that day but the plant produces flowers from about October to January. Have a closer look next time you see a purple flower in the middle of the bush.

Third Cemetery



James B Freeman was admitted to the Quarantine Station on 20 March 1913 and died on 27 March 1913.

Another child George Braunton also aged two was admitted on the same day, suffering from measles and died on 23 March 1913. He had been a passenger on the steamer Raugatira and was landed at the Quarantine Station with 45 other passengers.

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.