



# North Head Sanctuary Foundation

## Custodians of North Head

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### Next General Meeting

Our next meeting will be 2pm on Saturday 18 May at Bandicoot Heaven in Building 20. Our speaker will be William Dobson from The Australasian Native Orchid Society - The Warringah Group and his talk will be on *Dendrobium speciosum* (Sydney Rock Orchid) and its different varieties. Everyone welcome

### A Walk & Talk through North Head

**Saturday 22 June, 9.45am for 10am walk**

Meet at Little Manly Beach (beside cafe)  
Learn about your local Aboriginal heritage on a guided walk with Karen Smith, Education Officer, Aboriginal Heritage Office- from Little Manly Beach up to North Head Sanctuary Foundation Nursery.

From here join Francis Bodkin, Dharawal knowledge holder and botanical author, as she demystifies the plants in a walk around this special area. Return for a morning tea of wattleseed scones, bush jams and bush teas.



"Dew was collected before sunrise from *Actinotus helianthi*, Talara'tingi and given to people to drink after emotional trauma." (taken from our Aboriginal Use of Plants Brochure, available in Bandicoot Heaven)

Free Event; Bookings necessary

Tel: Manly Environment Centre: 9976 2842 or email: [Robynne.millward@manly.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Robynne.millward@manly.nsw.gov.au)

### Education Centre – Bandicoot Heaven

Our Education room is open every weekend, from 10am to 4pm in Building 20. Please call in and see us. Have a look at our range of botanical cards.

### Native Plant Nursery

Every Tuesday and Friday morning, between 8.30am and noon, you will find us hard at work in the nursery and planting out. If you would like to join us, just turn up any Tuesday and Friday morning.

We are investigating a misting system for the igloo (greenhouse) and next month we hope to have one installed. We are also planning the planting out around our shed and igloo.

### ClimateWatching on North Head

Judy Lambert

Sunday 7 April saw seven keen observers doing a 2-hour guided walk with Geoff Lambert as leader.



The walk was another of our introductory walks, helping interested volunteers contribute to the national ClimateWatch database being compiled by EarthWatch.

North Head is one of the focus sites for the ClimateWatch national program and it is important to this major citizen science program that we get as many regular observers as possible involved. Thank you to those who participated in April.

Our next ClimateWatch guided walk will be on Sunday June 2, leaving the Trust's North Head Visitor Centre in the Gatehouse Building off North Head Scenic Drive, at 10.15am. Please join us if you can. The walks are free but bookings are essential – Contact Kirsty at EarthWatch on 03-9016 7590 or email [krichardson@earthwatch.org.au](mailto:krichardson@earthwatch.org.au)

### Echidna



This is a juvenile echidna, photo taken 12 April 2013

Thank you if you have already reported your sighting of an Echidna. If not you can pick up a Echidna Survey form or download from our website <http://www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au>

## New Walk

Soon one will be able to walk through North Fort to the Fairfax lookout. Work has started on the track which uses an existing fire trail and the sandstone wall will be reopened where it was opened previously by the army.



## *Xanthosia pilosa*



Is a small straggling shrub up to 50cm high with hairy leaves. Its flowers are tiny greenish white with 5 petals and 5 sepals and wing-like bracts borne singularly or in clusters on the upper angle between the leaf and the stem.

## Back in Time

The Sydney Morning Herald, 8 September 1913  
**“ESCAPEES.**

### **SMALLPOX PATIENTS IN MANLY. QUARANTINE WALL SCALED.**

Five patients in a contagious state escaped from quarantine, and roamed at will through Manly for a couple of hours on Saturday night.

Roughly speaking, there are about 300 people to be watched in quarantine. The roll is called twice a day, once in the morning, and once in the evening at 10 o'clock, after which lights are out. At the evening muster on Saturday five men, who had been in quarantine for varying periods of two weeks and more, did not answer their names. All the men were in a contagious state, and without delay search parties were instituted. Something of an anticlimax occurred when a couple of hours later, the men were met in a body returning to quarantine.

It appears the men had been to Manly, had visited several business places and pleasure resorts, and had, in fact, mixed freely with the usual crowd to be found in Manly on a Saturday night. Then, having seen sufficient for the time, they tired, and returned. They are now under special surveillance, and will remain so until something has been heard from the Federal Crown Solicitor. It is probable that prosecutions will follow, and it is interesting to note that, under one section of the Act, those who break quarantine are liable to a penalty of £50, and under another, the penalty is imprisonment without the option of a fine. The authorities, it is expected, will endeavour to make a wholesome lesson of the incident.

To make their escape the men had to scale a wall from 15 to 20 foot high and there were also four wire fences to negotiate. From the beginning of the epidemic, police have been stationed at the quarantine. Yesterday the Inspector-General, at the request of the Board of Health, sent an extra force to watch the outer walls to prevent the recurrence of such an unfortunate affair.

The Board of Health lost no time in endeavouring to remedy what damage this irruption from quarantine might cause by sending special officers down to Manly offering vaccination to all who might have come in contact with the men.”

## Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

There were no deaths recorded for September or October 1913 at the Quarantine Station. The men would have been held in grounds of the Station

Thomas Cousin Robertson died on board S.S. Gothic on 5 February 1913, between Melbourne and Sydney, of scarlet fever and his body was brought to Sydney for burial. He was buried on 7 February in Third Cemetery.

The steamer had come from London with 1400 immigrants on board, 700 were for W.A. During the voyage to Fremantle an outbreak of measles occurred, and five young children died. On arrival at Fremantle on 29 January 1913 the infected passengers were removed to Woodman's Point Quarantine Station.

S.S. Gothic arrived in Sydney on 6 February 1913 and was ordered by medical authorities into quarantine, owing to a serious outbreak of measles and scarlet fever among her passengers. 24 suffering from measles, and three from scarlet fever. These 27 cases all recovered and were released from Quarantine on 20 February 1913.

The Gothic had on board at arrival in Sydney. 115 agriculturists, 52 domestics, and 24 boys who had been sent out under the Dreadnought farm scheme. Other passengers were mainly wives and families of men who have already settled here. There was a Mrs Robinson and child on the passenger list.