



North Head Sanctuary Foundation

Custodians of North Head

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Newsletter No 9 September 2016

Annual General Meeting

Will be held on Saturday 8 October at 2pm in our Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven – Building 20.

At this meeting elections will be held for all positions and updates given for the last financial year. If you are not a member of NHSF- please consider becoming one.

Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

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

We'd welcome some new volunteers to help staff Bandicoot Heaven. If interested, please contact Judy Lambert at tswombat@optusnet.com.au

Native Plant Nursery

Some of our plants in the Nursery bays were eaten, by a possum, we suspect. Hence we checked the roof and reinforced some weak points. Bottom of door was also reinforced



If you would like to join us any Tuesday or Friday morning between 8am and 12noon, planting, removing weeds and doing maintenance, just turn up or email: northhead@fastmail.com.au.

Boronia ledifolia



our Sydney Boronia is in flower now. Flowers have 4 petals and eight stamens.

Spring Wildflower Walks on North Head

Enjoy the splendour of North Head's bushland

Come on a 2 to 3 hour walk led by Sanctuary Foundation member Geoff Lambert

- Sunday 4 Sept: Departing at 10.00am
- Saturday 10 Sep Departing at 2.00pm
- Wednesday 21 Sep Departing at 10.00am
- Monday 3 Oct Departing at 10.00am

Bookings are essential as numbers are limited

Call in to Building 20 (Bandicoot Heaven)

on a Saturday or Sunday between 10am and 4pm and book now or

email: tswombat@optusnet.com.au

Walks free, donations welcomed.

Meet at Bandicoot Heaven (Building 20, former School of Artillery, off North Head Scenic Drive).

Please wear comfortable walking shoes, and bring a hat, insect repellent and a water bottle.

When registering, please give us your email address and (in case of bad weather) a phone number where you can be contacted on the walk day.

Manly Environment Centre celebrates their 25th Anniversary with Biodiversity Month

and a poster competition for primary school students featuring local threatened species.

Many local groups will be featured with displays and information. North Head SanctuaryFoundation will be there.

Join us in the celebrations

When: Sunday, 25 September, 2016.

Time: 1pm to 4pm

Where: Northern Beaches Council, grassy forecourt in front of Council building, Manly

Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

From Evening News 29 March 1900

“ANOTHER DEATH.

THE ANNANDALE CASE.

Oliver Bennett, 24, who was removed to the Quarantine Station from Young-street, Annandale, on Tuesday evening, died shortly after noon yesterday. Bennett is said to have recently been employed in Goulburn street. He was buried in grave No. 62, in the Spring Cove Cemetery, the usual precautions being taken to guard against infection.”

Another plague victim, notice Spring Cove was used instead of the Quarantine Third Cemetery.

High Rises on North Head?!

Geoff Lambert

- High-rise flats at the QS roundabout
- A heliport at AIPM
- A 9-hole golf course at Fairfax
- A foreshore walk through the penguin colony
- A Shopping Centre along North Head Scenic Drive
- A “Riviera-style” hotel at Quarantine.
- A marina at Quarantine Bay
- A “Recreational Reserve” overlooking the penguin colony
- A school, a Baby Health Centre and a “Neighbourhood Centre”
- 6 kilometres of new roads
- High-density housing comprising 600 home-sites

All of these things were seriously proposed for North Head by Manly Council in 1959. The Council wanted the Quarantine Station to be moved to “a more remote area”, so that it could then take over the 160 acres of land thus vacated and develop it. To its credit, the Council wished the existing Army land to “remain forever in its largely virgin state”.

The plan, thankfully, went nowhere – although there are those who might say that we got the “Riviera-style” hotel anyway.

Venomous Spiders – More Redback Bites

part four of four

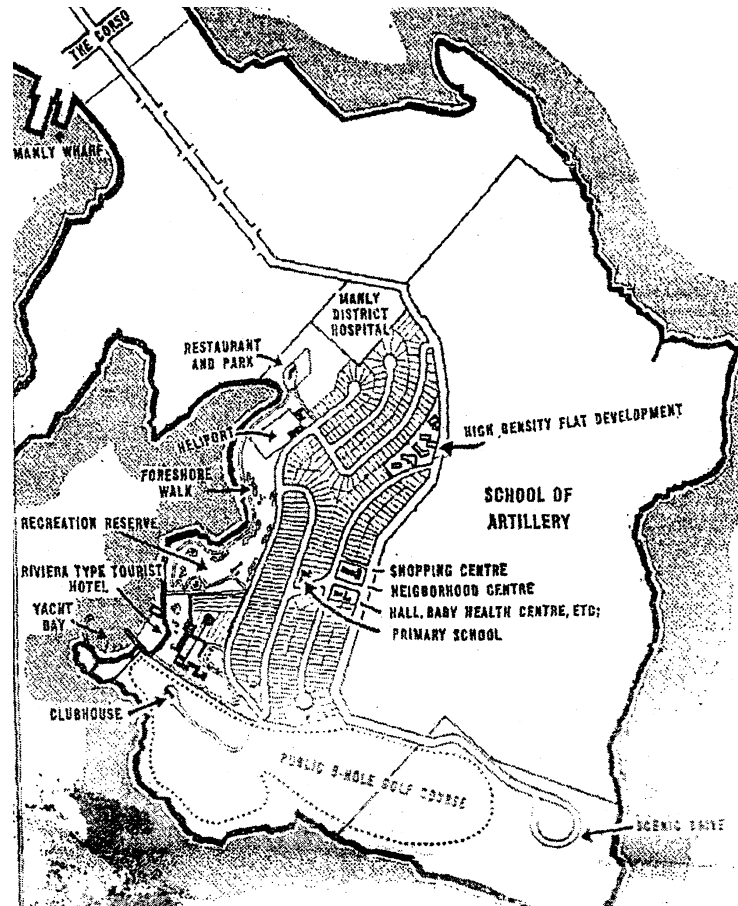
Peter Macinnis

As we have seen, in previous parts of this story, redbacks do sometimes lurk on dunny seats, and they can bite you, and you may well wish you were dead, but you probably won't die, not unless you are weakened by some other medical condition.

Dr Carr called his second case, a Mrs Lithgow, “very corpulent”. She was bitten under similar circumstances at 5 pm on 23 February, just 400 metres from the O'Connor residence. Bitten close to the groin on the inner right thigh, she had similar symptoms, and was in a critical condition by 11 pm.

I prescribed similar remedies to those stated in the first case, with like results. She sweated profusely. The breathing was relieved in four hours, the irregularity of the heart in eight hours. She dozed a good deal, but never slept till the evening of the second day, after which she quite recovered, the feet, as in the other case, being the last parts affected.”

In 1883, Caroline Creaghe and her husband travelled from Normanton to Darwin, in company with Ernest Favenc, who was bitten.



This morning & afternoon, he has been frantic with the pain. It bit him on the nape of the neck & it swelled down his shoulder, & both that & his head is dreadful.

— Peter Monteath (ed.), *The Diary of Emily Caroline Creaghe, Explorer*, Corkwood Press, 2004, 30 March 1883, 35 – 6.

Favenc suffered for most of the week. But should we kill the spiders? In 1894, “Rus” said we should not, even if people were sometimes bitten:

In an outhouse I have lately observed a large black spider with a red stripe down its back. Its body is shaped like a bulb, and it is about three-eighths of an inch in length. I cannot find its web, but at any time it is on the alert to feed on flies that infest that quarter. It pursues its daily round in a quiet and unobtrusive manner, disappearing with its prey into one or other of the many crevices of the building ... The common aversion to the different kinds of spider is scarcely sufficient reason to assure their wholesale destruction ... The true balance may be left to birds that prey on spiders and insect life.

— *The Australasian* (Melb), 27 October 1894, 33, <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/1397019>
11.