



# North Head Sanctuary Foundation Inc

## Custodians of North Head

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Newsletter No 137 March 2020

### General Meeting – Saturday 7 March at 2pm

Our speaker is Indigenous knowledge-holder Aunty Fran Bodkin. Everyone welcome. Meeting will be held in Bandicoot Heaven, Building 20 on North Fort Road.

### Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

Our community education room is open 10am to 4pm Saturdays and Sundays in Building 20. Call in, say hello and have a look at our displays.

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

### Native Plant Nursery



Some of our volunteers planting into mulched beds on Tuesday 18 February. Photo Peter Macinnis

You are welcome to join our group any Tuesday or Friday morning between 8am and 12noon to help with the planting, weed removal or maintenance. We still have huge piles of mulch to spread on the Old Oval and elsewhere. Help is always appreciated.

For more details email [northhead@fastmail.com.au](mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au) Or just turn up and ask for Jenny, phone 0414735350.

It was great to see all the rain in February. The photo below was taken on 9 February, and shows the frog pond, one of the areas we look after, which was overflowing. The water overflow disappeared once it stopped raining, but everything got a good soaking.

Photo Caroline Greentree



### Independent review of the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

One can find the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust's own submission at

<https://www.harbourtrust.gov.au/en/community/notice-board/independent-review-harbour-trust-submission/>

then follow the download link.

NHSF has also made a detailed submission.

### Birdlife

North Head is a great place to have a walk and enjoy the birds, views, insects and flowers.



This rainbow lorikeet was enjoying the nectar from a Banksia aemula flower when it stopped to check who is walking by.

Photo Peter Macinnis

Wattle bird enjoying the Banksia aemula nectar, above and below having a look at the photographer.



© Ian Evans



© Ian Evans

Photos Ian Evans



Caper White Butterfly, taken on the Old Oval on 20 February 2020 by Ian Evans.

This is interesting as "the Caper White lives mainly west of the Great Dividing Range, where it feeds on caper shrubs, but is sometimes blown towards Sydney while on its northward migration in about November." From Australian Museum site

For more information see

<https://australianmuseum.net.au/learn/animals/insects/caper-white-butterfly/>

### Back in Time

Jenny Wilson

Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1931-1954),  
30 August 1939

#### TRESPASSED ON FORT FINED FOR GOING ON FORT AREA

"The way I was treated savoured more of the methods of totalitarian countries than of the democracies." Gilbert Percy Whitley, 36, said this in an interview yesterday after he had answered a charge of having trespassed on military land at North Head. Whitley, an ichthyologist at the Australian Museum, was fined £1, with £2/10/ costs, at Manly Court. Mr. Oram, S.M., said in court: "It is surprising that an important part of our defence works is not enclosed by some sort of fence. The public are given an open invitation to walk along the road and into the area. "No Obstruction" Colonel Meredith, officer commanding coast defences, gave evidence that on August 13, while in mufti, he saw Whitley near a gate inside the fortified area. Cross-examined by Mr. J. M. Bruxner (for Whitley), Colonel Meredith said that there was no physical obstruction to prevent anyone walking on to the defence property. One notice warning against trespass was attached to the gate and another to the wall, he said. Constable H. G. Neal said he had taken a camera from Whitley's pocket. In evidence Whitley named 12 scientific associations and societies, of which he said he was a member. "After Specimens" On August 13, he said, he had gone to North Head for a walk, and to look for natural history specimens. "I nearly always carry a camera on such walks," he added. "I had no idea I was trespassing on military property." ... Mr. Oram said he had no doubt that Whitley knew he was on defence property "but was satisfied he was there with no ulterior motive."

### North Head Sanctuary Foundation

If you would like to support us by becoming a member, please download a form at

[www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au/join/membership.htm](http://www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au/join/membership.htm) or email [northhead@fastmail.com.au](mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au)

If you join now, your Membership will go until 30 June 2021.

Also please

email if you would like to receive our monthly email newsletter.

If you photograph anything interesting or have a tale to tell about North Head Sanctuary or the Third Cemetery, please email [northhead@fastmail.com.au](mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au)

### Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Wednesday 5 June 1901, page 8

#### THE SMALLPOX OUTBREAK.

##### FURTHER CASES FROM THE ORMUZ.

The spread of smallpox among the passengers and crew of the mail steamer Ormuz has grown somewhat alarming. Up to last night no less than 19 cases were definitely diagnosed as those of the dreaded disease, and four persons were in isolation pending decision of the medical authorities at the Quarantine Station on the nature of their ailments. The following is a full list of the cases from that vessel. Second-class passengers, Stanley J W Clarkson, Charles E Jull, third-class passengers, A. Atkinson, P. Benjamin, J. Gillespie, L. Handcock, G. Pavett, J. Reynolds: crew, steward department, E. W. Abel, E. S. Dale, F. Gilbert, S. Julius, A. Mansfield, W. Perrin, H. Pockett, F. Sturman: able seamen, Frank E. Smith, Peter Cleary engine-room, A. Brofeldt.

Concerning the condition of the patients, yesterday's bulletin issued from the station states that Mrs Blendell is seriously ill, and Clarence Olliffe has slightly improved, but is in a critical state, these two cases were discovered, it will be remembered, on shore. Of the Ormuz patients, Lavilla Handcock was in a critical state, Reynolds, Atkinson, Gilbert, and Clarkson, were severe cases; while Smith, Brofeldt, Cleary, Jull, Pockett, Abel, Perrin, Dale, Pavett, Gillespie, Julius, Mansfield, Benjamin, and Sturman were doing well."

On 5 June 1901, a small child named Lavilla Handcock died of the smallpox. She was five years old and was buried in the Third Cemetery. She was the only death from the Ormuz.

Mrs Alice Blendell, who was not on the Ormuz, died on 8 June 1901 and is buried in the Third Cemetery.