



North Head Sanctuary Foundation Inc

Custodians of North Head

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Native Plant Nursery

We will be closed over Christmas and New Year. Last day for 2020 is Tuesday 22 December and the first day for 2021 is Tuesday 5 January.

If you would like to join us, there is plenty to do, especially planting and weeding, please call in any Tuesday or Friday morning between 8am and noon to have a look.

To join us one needs to be a member of North Head Sanctuary Foundation. For more details, please send an email to northhead@fastmail.com.au

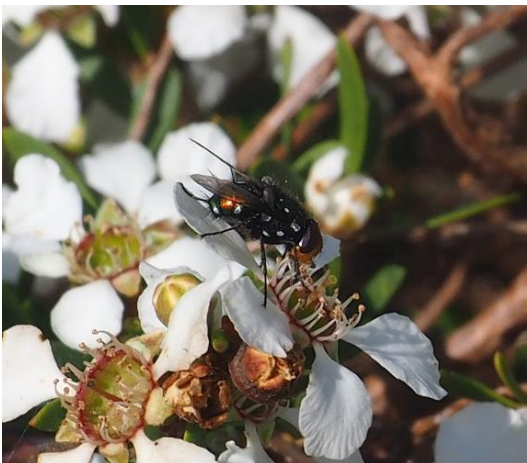
Regrowth after September Controlled Burn

The area behind the Nursery was burnt in a controlled burn on 4 September and is now showing signs of regrowth.



This photo is from Post zero, half-way up the road to the small oval. The inset is epicormic buds on a *Banksia aemula* and was taken on 17 November 2020 by Peter Macinnis.

A Domino Cuckoo Bee - *Thyreus lugubris*



The Cuckoo Bees are beautiful but lead a life of deceit! They lay their eggs in the nests of other bees, just like cuckoo birds.

Photo Jenny Wilson

Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

We are closed due to COVID-19.

We hope to open our doors in January 2021 or sooner.

Calyptorhynchus funereus



A baby Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo seen at North Head Sanctuary. Taken in September 2020 by Alan Ventress.

Over the Wall – Burnt 17 October 2020

photos by Ian Evans on 25 November 2020



Here is the view from over the sandstone wall. The burnt areas should not be entered and have been closed to the public. One needs to let nature take its course and not trample on new growth or bring in weeds. Notice the green covered tunnel in this photo. This has been put in place by Australian Wildlife Conservancy as a refuge tunnel to connect patches of unburnt vegetation and provide shelter for surviving animals. This protects them from predators. Nest boxes and watering tubes have also been installed for the surviving animals.



This photo shows some regrowth in foreground and wet parts of the Hanging Swamp that were unburnt.



Another refuge tunnel

Echidna and fire



Photo Peter Macinnis taken at Northern Beaches lookout. November 2020

“Grant Palmer, senior environmental science lecturer at Federation University, said the ongoing smoke could trigger wildlife to behave bizarrely.

“Smoke can trigger different behaviour in wildlife — they might appear more active or a bit unsettled,” Dr Palmer said.

Instead of fleeing from fire, echidnas burrow underground and ‘hibernate’ while waiting for the fire to pass them.

“They dig into a burrow or the soil and slow down their metabolism and make a buffer from them and the fire,” Dr Palmer said.

“Their spikes are actually modified hairs, so it's like us singeing our hair. They look a bit weird for a little while, but they do recover,” he said.”

From <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-01-17/australian-wildlife-struggles-to-survive-in-bushfires-echidnas/11872718>

Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

Petty Officer Arthur Davies, Royal Australian Navy serving on HMAS Tingira, died on 21 June 1919 at Quarantine Station of Pneumonic influenza. He was buried in the Third Cemetery.

He was born on 29 March 1889 and married to Alice Byatt in 1909. He had been serving on Tingira since 15 September 1916. He joined R.A.N. on 1 July 1912.

His name is on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memoria. His grave is one of the unmarked concrete slabs at Third Cemetery.

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), Monday 16 June 1919, page 9.

INFLUENZA. 47 DEATHS FOR THE WEEK-END.

“According to the official figures issued by the Board of Health last night, the Influenza pandemic is steadily gaining in virulence. All the public and emergency hospitals are full, and last night there was not a vacant bed. The number of nurses attacked by the disease increases daily, and the position in this regard is becoming acute. At the Moore Park Emergency Hospital, a doctor and two nurses yesterday contracted the malady.

The figures for the weekend show that 47 additional deaths occurred in the metropolitan area, and 340 fresh cases were admitted. The number discharged was 207, leaving 1661 still under treatment in hospital.

At North Head quarantine station hospital there are 90 patients suffering from pneumonic influenza. These include 40 boys from the training ship Tingira, all of whom were removed from the vessel yesterday. None of them, however, is in a very serious condition, the attack being of a mild nature.

On Saturday, the Board of Health was notified of 90 fresh cases and two deaths in the country. The following centres were included: -Dorrigo, 1 death; Murrumburrah, 1 death.”