



# North Head Sanctuary Foundation Inc

## Custodians of North Head

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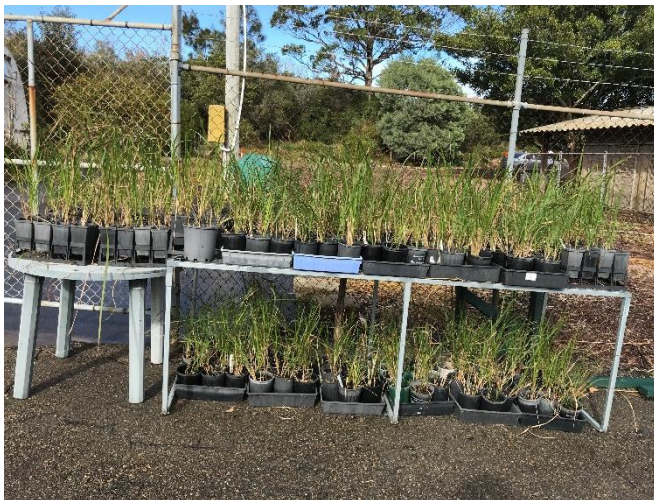
### Annual General Meeting

Saturday 17 September at 2pm in Bandicoot Heaven (Building 20). Everyone welcome.

Our speaker will be Anne Jackson, a retired nurse and Member of Sydney Wildlife Rescue. Anne would like to introduce you to **MediDivert**.

Hospital and medical waste management is one of the biggest challenges of present day administration. It can present a significant impact on health and the environment. MediDivert (a not-for-profit venture) goes some way towards changing the way hospitals and medical companies deal with waste and at the same time provides benefit to wildlife.

### Native Plant Nursery



National Parks and Wildlife Service requested some *Imperata cylindrica* (blady grass) for planting in their car parking areas at Fairfax lookout. We supplied over 300 pots together with some *Acacia myrtifolia*, *Acacia suaveolens*, *Acacia ulicifolia*, *Dillwynia retorta*, *Ficinia nodosa* and *Helichrysum elatum*, making the total of 880 plants. We were happy to supply plants as they were all grown from North Head seed and cuttings and were to be planted on North Head.

The Nursery grows mainly Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub plants for planting into degraded areas of North Head by our volunteers.

If you would like to join us, there is planting, weeding and maintenance to do, although now that it is colder, we are catching up on maintenance.

Interestingly, our volunteers did a total of 2508 recorded hours for the period 5 October 2021 to 30 June 2022 and planted 1598 plants.

We were closed due to COVID for the first three months of the financial year.

Please call in any Tuesday or Friday morning between 8am and noon, when we are open or email [northhead@fastmail.com.au](mailto:northhead@fastmail.com.au), if you would like to join us. To join you must be a member of North Head Sanctuary Foundation and be COVID vaccinated.

### Education Room - Bandicoot Heaven

We are open **Saturdays and Sundays between 10am and 4pm**. Please call in and have a chat.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer and helping visitors to better get to know North Head and all its treasures should contact Judy Lambert (email: [twswoombat@iinet.net.au](mailto:twswoombat@iinet.net.au) or phone 0427 217 580).

### Spring wildflower walks are returning

Our guided wildflower walks are back after the past two years during which COVID brought these to a halt. Enjoy the splendour of North Head's bushland in spring. Come on a 2-2½ hour walk led by Sanctuary Foundation member Geoff Lambert.

Bookings are essential.

Numbers on each walk will be limited and COVID-safe conditions respected. You can book by emailing [twswoombat@iinet.net.au](mailto:twswoombat@iinet.net.au) with your name, contact number, number of participants in your booking and preferred walk date, or call in to Building 20 (Bandicoot Heaven) on a Saturday or Sunday between 10am and 4pm and book on the sheet provided there.

Walks are free, but of course, we always welcome donations.

This year's walk dates will be:

Sunday 4 Sept:	Departing at 2pm
Saturday 24 Sept:	Departing at 10am
Monday 3 Oct:	Departing at 2pm
Sunday 9 Oct:	Departing at 10am
Wed 12 Oct:	Departing at 10am

### A new community survey:

#### Echidnas at North Head- 10 years on

Judy Lambert

Echidnas are almost uniquely Australian animals (one species living in Papua New Guinea is the only one occurring naturally beyond our shores). They are such



unusual little animals that they are a source of interest to North Head visitors, whether Australians or from overseas. Based on a year-long citizen science photo-survey project in 2013, we estimate the number of echidnas we have at North Head to be at least 18 adults (quite a high number for an area of just under 300ha). Using photo survey mapping of echidna sightings, we assessed where they were living as they searched for food or a mate. (Studies on Kangaroo Island and on the mainland have shown that they will travel several kilometres to satisfy these needs, but our 2013-14 survey suggests a smaller range for each echidna at North Head).

Help us repeat this survey. NHSF, through its Education Room 'Bandicoot Heaven', plans to repeat the citizen science study of the echidna population at North Head using the same methods as were used in 2013-14. Beginning in September, visitors to North Head are encouraged (through our newsletter, a brochure distributed through 'Bandicoot Heaven, the Trust's Visitor desk, an article in the Trust's newsletter and distribution to all North Head land managers, and by word of mouth) to let us know of any echidna sightings and record them on camera. A copy of the project information brochure is available at Bandicoot Heaven (Building 20) visitor information room and on our website ([www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au](http://www.northheadsanctuaryfoundation.org.au)).

Most echidnas are individually identifiable by carefully



comparing their colour, markings, size and general appearance.

However, they don't usually wait around for us to do this, so hence the need for photos.

By developing a new folder of photos, each with a sighting date and approximate location (taken from the photo), we can build up a repeat 'census' of the North Head population of echidnas and assess what has changed over time.

This will add to visitor experiences on the headland and assist with management to help conserve the population.

### Third Cemetery

Jenny Wilson

Inverell Times (NSW :1909-1954), 29 November 1918  
"PRIVATE FRED MORGAN

The influenza epidemic claimed an Inverell soldier as a victim in the person of Private Frederick Morgan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Morgan, of Dog Trap. The circumstances surrounding his demise are particularly sad. Deceased's two elder brothers, Privates William and Hubert, have been with the A.I.F. in France for over three years, and it had been the great ambition of the deceased to join them. When he attained the age of 19, he enlisted, and he had been in camp about four months when he

sailed in the Medic. Before the vessel reached its destination the armistice was signed, and the ship was recalled. On the return journey influenza broke out, and the young Inverell soldier was one of those to be stricken down, and he passed away at the quarantine station, North Head, on Tuesday last, being buried the same day with full military honors."

His unmarked grave is in the Third Cemetery.

### After the Controlled Burn of Bushland near the Nursery

Peter Macinnis

The first photo was taken on 22 November 2020, the middle one 9 February 2021 and the last one 12 July 2022. The double-trunk Banksia is a good reference point. Unfortunately, as my marker had gone, I failed to recall that the water tower was supposed to lie between the twin trunks. As you can see there has been a good recovery and it is hard to match photos taken after September 2020 burn with the areas today due to vegetation growth.

