

15 March 2021

Bandicoot Heaven at North Head Sanctuary reopens to the public

The North Head Sanctuary Foundation's education centre, Bandicoot Heaven, has now reopened to the public with COVID safety measures in place. Located at North Head Sanctuary in Manly, the community-run centre is an opportunity for locals, students and other visitors to learn about local flora and fauna.

Open every Saturday and Sunday between 10am and 4pm, Bandicoot Heaven is the heart of the North Head Sanctuary Foundation's operations.

Judy Lambert, a founder of the North Head Sanctuary Foundation, said the partnership with the Harbour Trust allows the organisation to continue its critical work across the headland.

"Visitors to Bandicoot Heaven can learn about the local bushland including the endangered Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub, local wildlife, including Echidnas, Long-nosed Bandicoots, and a rich diversity of birds, and discover more of the First Nations heritage of North Head," said Ms Lambert.

"Being on site and working with the Harbour Trust is important to our efforts to conserve the natural environment right across North Head, which is a special place in many ways," she said.

North Head Sanctuary Foundation is a volunteer run organisation, staffed by locals and ecological enthusiasts who donate their time to the protection and cultivation of native flora, fauna and threatened species. The foundation runs operations out of the Former School of Artillery at North Head and volunteers manage the foundation's education centre and nursery. In 2009, a formal partnership was established between the NHSF and Harbour Trust.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Harbour Trust, which was established in 2001 to protect heritage sites in Sydney, share their diverse stories and enable all Australians to access and enjoy the rich experiences of the sites under its management. Celebrations will commence with the <u>Harbour Trust Rediscovery Days</u> in March to commemorate the date the Harbour Trust legislation was first presented to Parliament, and will culminate in September to commemorate the proclamation of the Harbour Trust Act.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES: Please contact Rebecca Hage at the Harbour Trust on (02) 8969 2143 or 0438 852 465









