



BUSHLAND NEWS

KATANDRA BUSHLAND SANCTUARY NEWSLETTER
Winter 2021

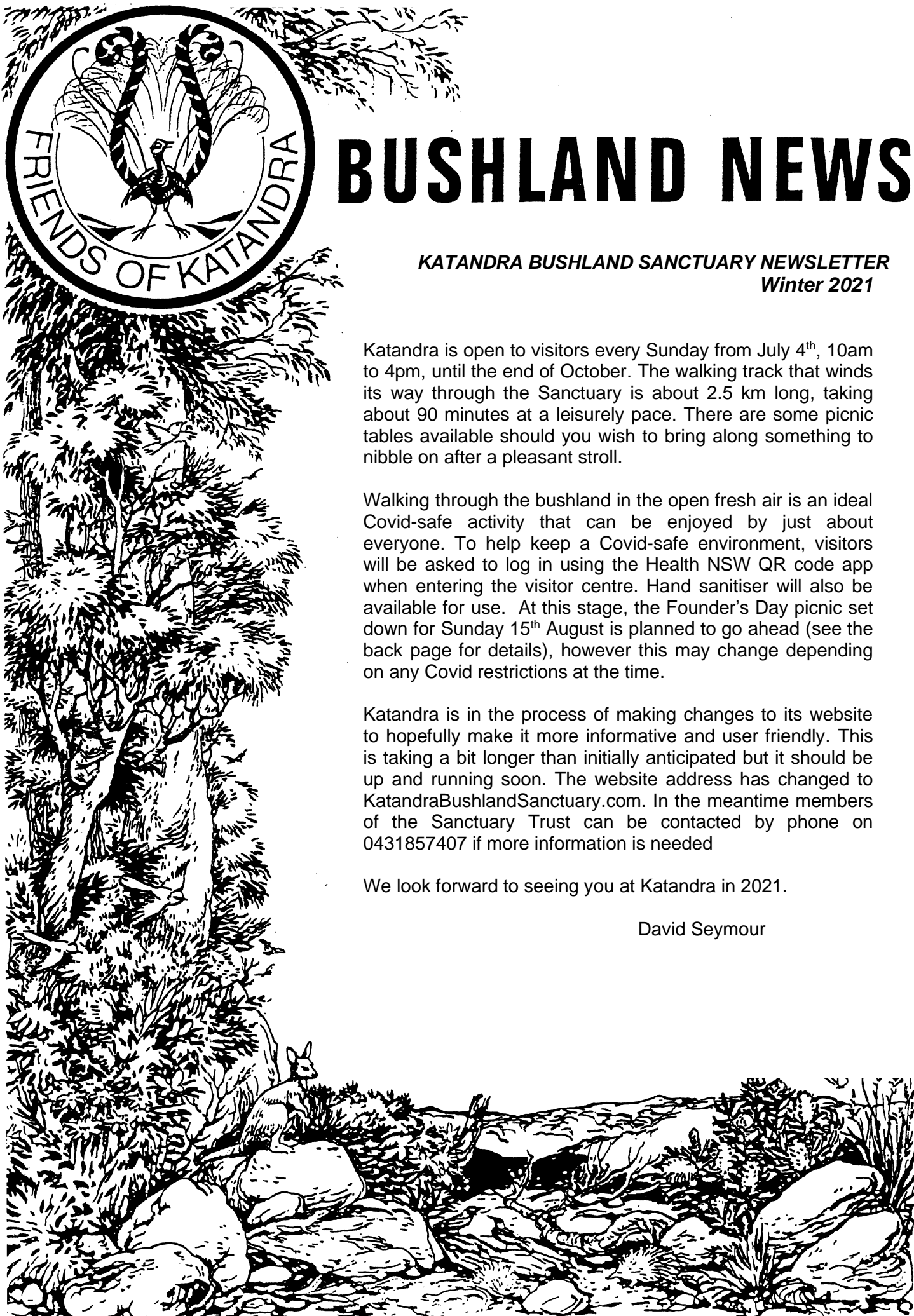
Katandra is open to visitors every Sunday from July 4th, 10am to 4pm, until the end of October. The walking track that winds its way through the Sanctuary is about 2.5 km long, taking about 90 minutes at a leisurely pace. There are some picnic tables available should you wish to bring along something to nibble on after a pleasant stroll.

Walking through the bushland in the open fresh air is an ideal Covid-safe activity that can be enjoyed by just about everyone. To help keep a Covid-safe environment, visitors will be asked to log in using the Health NSW QR code app when entering the visitor centre. Hand sanitiser will also be available for use. At this stage, the Founder's Day picnic set down for Sunday 15th August is planned to go ahead (see the back page for details), however this may change depending on any Covid restrictions at the time.

Katandra is in the process of making changes to its website to hopefully make it more informative and user friendly. This is taking a bit longer than initially anticipated but it should be up and running soon. The website address has changed to KatandraBushlandSanctuary.com. In the meantime members of the Sanctuary Trust can be contacted by phone on 0431857407 if more information is needed

We look forward to seeing you at Katandra in 2021.

David Seymour



Yurt repairs



The yurt which functions as Katandra's visitor centre has had some repairs to the roof cupola at the top. This building is almost 40 years old, having been built in the early 1980's. It miraculously survived the bushfire in 1994 despite the trees all around and hanging over it being burnt. With these repairs and the recent replacement of the entrance veranda it should easily last for another 40 years.

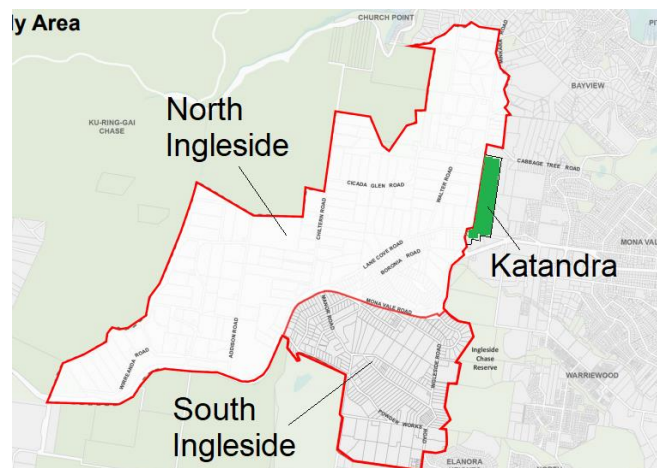


The Katandra yurt under repair

Ingleside Precinct development update

A new set of plans for the development of the Ingleside precinct have been recently put on exhibition by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. It proposes the construction of a maximum 980 homes along with a small shopping centre, community centre and sporting fields.

This plan replaces the previous one released in 2016 which proposed the construction of nearly 4000 homes across the suburb. A bushfire risk study commissioned in 2018 deemed that the proposed development area would be exposed to an unacceptable risk in the event of a catastrophic bushfire, with a lack of ability to safely evacuate the area in such an event. This new plan restricts development only to an area of about 180 hectares to the south of Mona Vale Road. Housing will be a mix of low-rise apartments and townhouses (about 40%) and detached dwellings on regular and larger land lots (about 60%). The reduced number of dwellings has meant that the Department of Education has shelved plans for a new school, claiming existing nearby schools have sufficient ability to cope with any subsequent increase in student numbers. The area to the north of Mona Vale Road will retain its existing rural-residential character. It is not included in the development plans as it is deemed to be unsuitable for such development due to a range of infrastructure, environmental and fire risk considerations.



This map shows the reduced land area included in the new draft Ingleside Precinct development plan. Mona Vale Road is represented by the red line separating the areas labelled North Ingleside (no development) and South Ingleside (development area). Katandra is shown in green.

From Katandra's point of view this new plan is a vast improvement on the previous one. The area immediately surrounding Katandra is not included for development and areas forming the vital bushland corridor along the Warriewood escarpment linking to Katandra are proposed to be conserved. The reduction in the scale of the development will also greatly reduce the negative environmental impact on the wider Ingleside area.

This draft Ingleside Precinct Strategy exhibition was to be open for public comment until July 6th.

Banksia

Banksia is a genus within the Proteaceae family of plants. Other genera in this family include Grevillea, Conospermum, Hakea, Lambertia, Persoonia and Telopea (which includes the spectacular waratah).

Banksias range from low growing shrubs to trees up to 25m. they are easily recognised by their large flower spikes and woody follicles. Each of these flower spikes contains hundreds of tiny flowers tightly packed together in pairs. The flowers have four perianth segments and no calx. There are four stamen, each one attached to a separate perianth segment. There is a single style with a sticky disc around the stigma at its tip. The colour of the flower spikes, usually ranging from yellow to red, is determined by the colour of the perianth parts and the style.



Pollination of the flowers is helped by the abundance of nectar produced which attracts nectar seeking insects, birds and mammals. Banksias are an important food source for mammals such as the Sugar Glider, Feathertail Glider, Brown Antechinus and the Eastern Pygmy Possum (all of which can be found in Katandra) as the flowers in many species appear in Autumn and Winter when many other food sources are scarce.

After fertilisation the ovary develops into a woody fruit called a follicle. Despite the large number of flowers on each spike, only a few of them develop fruit. Each follicle has two valves which protect two small winged seeds. These follicles remain stored unopened on the tree, attached to the woody interior of the flower spike long after the flowers die off. Only when completely dried out will the follicles open to release the seeds eg if the tree dies or they are stimulated by fire.



Banksia spinulosa flowering in Katandra

These woody withered banksia spikes were brought to life as the evil "Banksia Men" by May Gibbs in her classic tales of "*Snugglypot and Cuddlepig*". While they may resemble cones, they are not true "cones" as cones only appear on conifer plants.

There are over 170 species of Banksia. All, except one, are endemic to Australia with those found growing in western Australia different to those found in the east. Katandra is home to seven Banksia species;

- Banksia ericifolia* (Heath-leaved Banksia)**
- Banksia integrifolia* (Coastal Banksia)**
- Banksia marginata* (Silver Banksia)**
- Banksia oblingifolia* (Fern-leaved Banksia)**
- Banksia serrata* (Old Man Banksia)**
- Banksia spinulosa* (Hair Pin Banksia)**



An old withered "Banksia Man" with some follicles opened having released the seeds stored inside

Katandra website:
www.KatandraBushlandSanctuary.com

KATANDRA BUSHLAND SANCTUARY

Foley's Hill, Lane Cove Rd, Ingleside NSW
Department of Lands Reserve No 86487
Founder: the late Harold Alfred Seymour
Managed by Katandra Bushland Sanctuary Trust.
Phone: 0431857407

OPEN: Every Sunday: July, August, September,
October

HOURS: 10 am — 4 pm

ADMISSION: \$3 donation

KATANDRA BUSHLAND SANCTUARY TRUST PO Box 365 Mona Vale NSW 1660

President: David Seymour
Vice-President: David James
Secretary: (acting) David Seymour
Treasurer: Peter Hammond
Minutes Secretary: Julie Emerson
Bushland News Editor: Marita Macrae
Trustees: Roberta Conroy, David Malin
(Cover Design by the late Walter Cunningham)

**Enquiries: phone 0431857407 or by email
information@katandra.org**

Volunteers are needed

If you can assist on maintenance days or with
welcoming visitors to Katandra on open days,
please phone 0431857407

DIARY DATES 2021

SAUSAGE SIZZLE (CANCELLED)

Sunday 2nd May, 12 noon

FOUNDER'S DAY (to be confirmed)

Sunday 15th August, 12 noon

Bring your lunch to cook on the wood burning
BBQs. The trust will provide 'dessert', drinks, tea
and coffee.

CHRISTMAS PARTY (to be confirmed)

Sunday 5th December, 4.30 pm

Cold meats, drinks and salads are provided, but
please feel free to bring along some sweets or
savouries to share before or after. Also enter the
raffle to win one of Ruth's sort-after Christmas
cakes.

SANCTUARY MAINTENANCE 2021

(3rd Sunday March–November)

9 am Sunday 21 March

9 am Sunday 18 April

9 am Sunday 16 May

9 am Sunday 20 June

9 am Sunday 18 July

9 am Sunday 19 September

9 am Sunday 17 October

9 am Sunday 21 November

PUBLIC OPEN DAYS 2021

Each Sunday of July–October

10 am – 4 pm

Katandra Bushland Sanctuary Trust
PO Box 365 Mona Vale NSW 1660