



BUSHLAND NEWS

*KATANDRA BUSHLAND SANCTUARY NEWSLETTER
Autumn 2024*

Greetings from Katandra

CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS

Please note there has been a change in Katandra's postal address. It is now PO Box 485 Mona Vale 1660.

You can also contact us by phone 0431857407 or via the Contact Us page on the Katandra website.

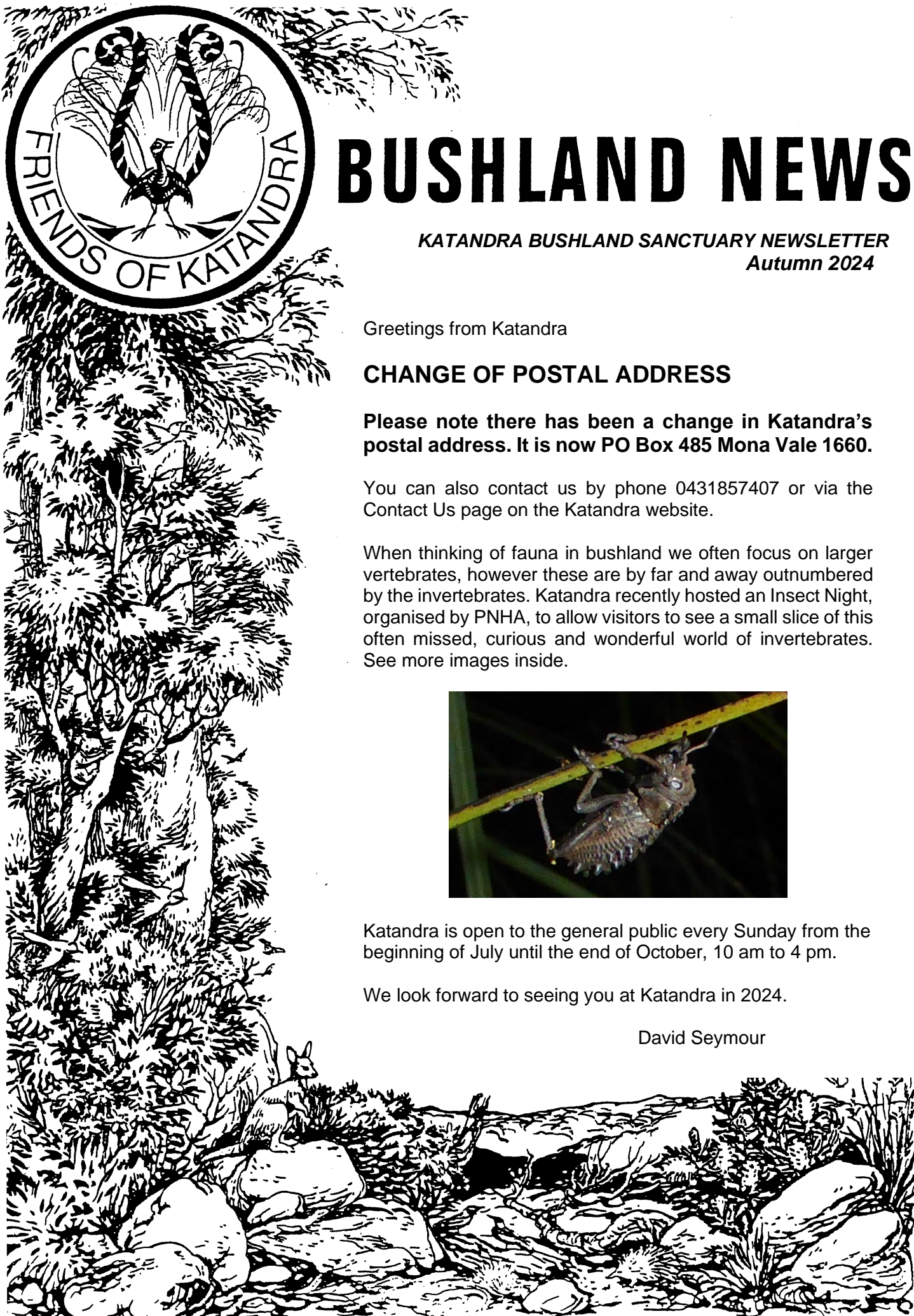
When thinking of fauna in bushland we often focus on larger vertebrates, however these are by far and away outnumbered by the invertebrates. Katandra recently hosted an Insect Night, organised by PNHA, to allow visitors to see a small slice of this often missed, curious and wonderful world of invertebrates. See more images inside.



Katandra is open to the general public every Sunday from the beginning of July until the end of October, 10 am to 4 pm.

We look forward to seeing you at Katandra in 2024.

David Seymour



Washpool NP / Gondwana Rainforest



Washpool NP (left), Katandra Creek (above)

Washpool and Gibraltar Range National Parks, in northern NSW between Glen Innes and Grafton, contain some areas of Gondwana Rainforest. These rainforests are so-named because fossil records indicate that when Australia was joined with other continents as part of Gondwana, it was covered by rainforests containing the same kinds of species that are living there today. In 1986 the importance of these rainforests was recognised by World Heritage listing – a chain of fifty remnant “rainforest islands” stretching from SE Qld to Barrington Tops in NSW. Other areas of Gondwana Rainforest also occur in Tasmania.

On a recent trip to Washpool National Park, I was struck by the familiarity of the types of vegetation in some areas – reminiscent to that existing in Katandra Bushland Sanctuary, though Katandra obviously covers a much smaller area. The peaceful, shaded rocky creeks lined with

tree-ferns and mottled trunks of Coachwood trees (*Ceratopetalum apetalum*) had a remarkable similarity to Katandra Creek, also lined with tree ferns and Coachwood. This, despite the difference in rock types, Gibraltar Range being made primarily of granite while Katandra is sandstone. (Washpool NP claims to have the largest forest of Coachwood in the world). Away from the creeks in Washpool NP, the woodlands on the hillsides are dominated by tall Sydney Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*) with an understory of yellow flowering plants of the pea family (*Fabaceae*). In Katandra away from the creeks, the woodlands are dominated by large Sydney Red Gum (*Angophora costata*) with an understory of yellow flowering Graceful Bushpea (*Pultenaea flexilis*) and Native Holly Pea (*Oxylobium ilicifolium*) and Heathy Parrot Pea (*Dillwynia retorta*).



The mottled trunk of a Coachwood



Sydney Blue Gum



Sydney Red Gum

Sydney Blue Gum and Sydney Red Gum are quite different. Both are mainly smooth barked but the Blue gums are very tall and straight trunked while



Pea plants from the Faboideae subfamily of Fabaceae growing in the bushland understory of Katandra (left) and Washpool National Park (right)

the Red Gum has a wonderfully gnarled appearance. The similar common names of these trees however, provides a wonderful linking between these two different woodlands. Then to complete the experience we watched a lyrebird scratching away at the leaf litter beside the walking track, similar to many lyrebird encounters in Katandra.

The World Heritage listing of these Gondwana Rainforests recognises and emphasises the importance of conserving not just these delicate rainforest areas but also other areas of native bushland. These make up only a small fraction of the bushland that once existed, bushland that is home to shrinking populations of native fauna. The founders and supporters of Katandra, a small pocket of local bushland, share this recognition of conservational importance.

Insect Night at Katandra

Pittwater Natural Heritage Association (PNHA) recently organised an "Insect Night" in Katandra. Lights and a sheet were set up to allow the large variety of attracted insects to be more easily seen. A photo montage showing a variety of the many insects seen has been set up at Katandra in the visitor centre yurt.



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: \$5 donation

**KATANDRA BUSHLAND SANCTUARY TRUST
PO Box 485 Mona Vale NSW 1660**

President: David Seymour

Vice-President: Roberta Conroy OAM

Secretary: David Seymour

Treasurer: Peter Hammond

Minutes Secretary: Julie Emerson OAM

Bushland News Editors: Marita Macrae OAM
David Seymour

(Cover Design by the late Walter Cunningham)

**Enquiries: phone 0431857407 or via the
Contact Us page on the Katandra website**

Katandra website -
katandrabushlandsanctuary.com

PUBLIC OPEN DAYS 2024

Each Sunday of July–October
10 am – 4 pm

Picnic tables are available for use should you wish
to bring along a picnic lunch to enjoy in the
Sanctuary.

DIARY DATES 2024**SANCTUARY MAINTENANCE 2024**

Maintenance days are generally once a month
from March to November.

The schedule of days for 2024 is currently under
review. Dates for the maintenance days will soon
be available on the Katandra website.

Volunteers are needed

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