



# BUSHLAND NEWS

*KATANDRA BUSHLAND SANCTUARY NEWSLETTER  
Summer 2019*

Best wishes for the New Year.

2019 will be an interesting year for Katandra. Firstly the bushland continues to recover from the recent controlled fire in the area near the entrance to the sanctuary. Six months on and the landscape continues to change as green growth emerges from blackened trunks and new seedlings emerge. Fortunately the Sydney coastal areas escaped the worst of the summer heat and there have been some good rains falling to assist this recovery.

In good news for the local natural environment, the development of Ingleside will not go ahead as planned due to unacceptable fire risk. It has been suggested that any development that does occur will need to be on a much smaller and less dense scale (see inside for more details).

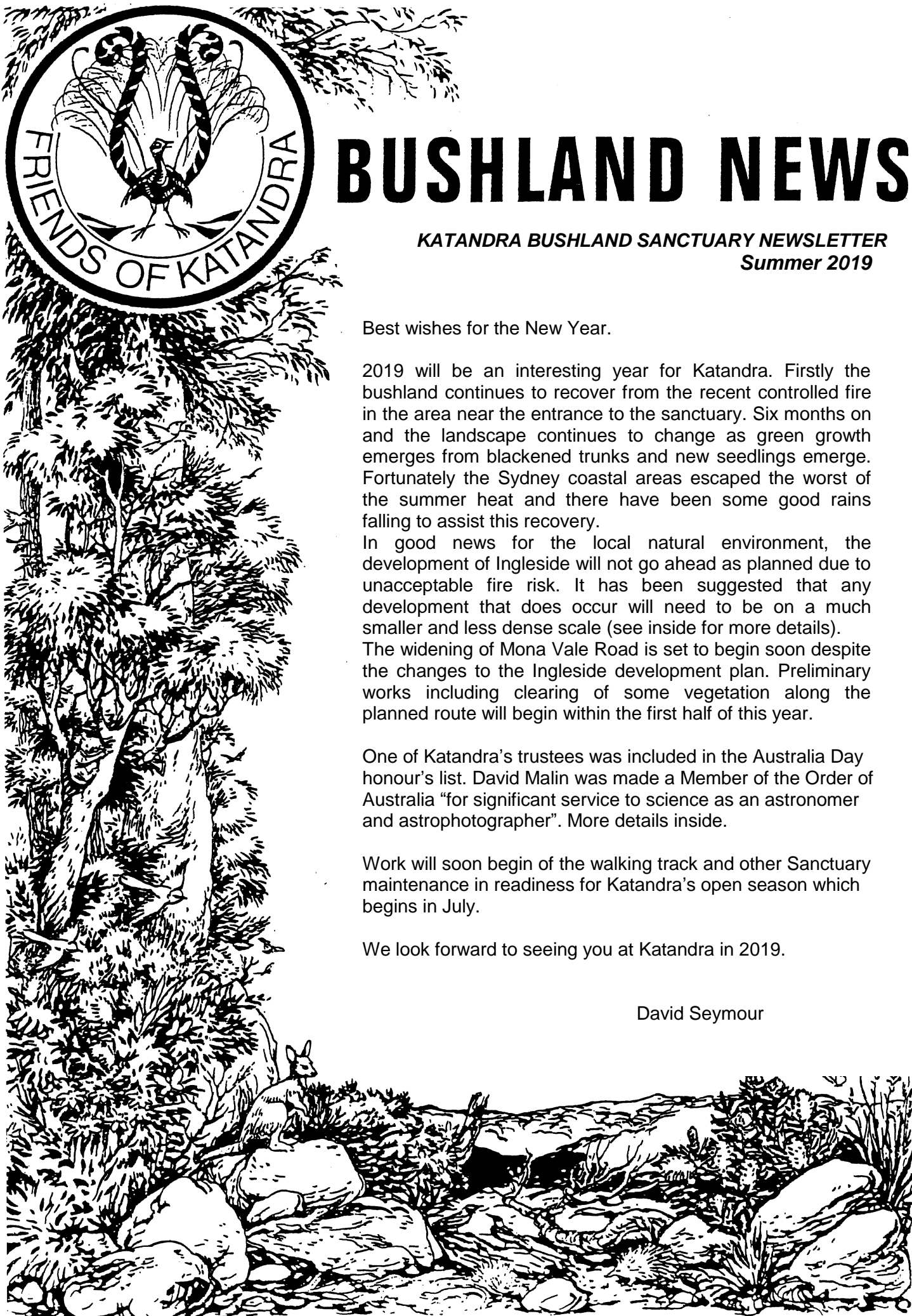
The widening of Mona Vale Road is set to begin soon despite the changes to the Ingleside development plan. Preliminary works including clearing of some vegetation along the planned route will begin within the first half of this year.

One of Katandra's trustees was included in the Australia Day honour's list. David Malin was made a Member of the Order of Australia "for significant service to science as an astronomer and astrophotographer". More details inside.

Work will soon begin of the walking track and other Sanctuary maintenance in readiness for Katandra's open season which begins in July.

We look forward to seeing you at Katandra in 2019.

David Seymour



## Fire Recovery



*The beautiful contrast of green leaves against the fire blackened trunk of a Xanthorrhoea arborea*

The bushland in Katandra is showing good signs of recovery following the controlled environmental burn that was carried out in late July last year. The frequent rainfall earlier this summer has been well received with an abundance of small seedlings springing up throughout the area and the *Xanthorrhoea* grass trees flourishing.



*A small seedling of Boronia ledifolia emerging through the leaf litter*

The images below show the same section of the Sanctuary, immediately after the fire (left) and almost six months later.

## Ingleside Development Update

The development of Ingleside will not go ahead as previously planned due to unacceptable fire risk. At a meeting of the Ingleside Community Reference Group (ICRG) held in December the following message was presented "The safety of our residents is of paramount importance. Both, DPE and Council planners believe that continuing with the draft plan in its current state would introduce unacceptable risk to the community. We are constantly learning new things about the pattern and behaviour of fires. The Strategic bushfire assessment is in line with



*After the fire*



*Six months on*



latest research and NSW RFS' new risk assessment requirements. Any future development would need to be at a much lower scale and would need to guarantee that the road network could handle the extra development in the event of an evacuation. It would also need to include upgrades to the existing road network and bushfire defences."

"The safety and security of our community is Council's number one priority. Presented with the indepth bushfire investigations by the State Government, it was immediately clear that the current plans for development at Ingleside are simply not viable. We understand this may be a disappointment for some of our residents. However, we must put current and future residents safety first and we support the State Government's plan to do further investigation to see what, if any, development is possible in the precinct."

The new RFS' risk assessment requirements were released for implementation in August 2018. A number of local residents were quite vocal at the ICRG meeting in their criticism of this latest change of plan. One of the issues raised was the continued lack of adequate infrastructure in the area, including water and road maintenance. They claim that improvements to these basic needs are put off due to impending development planned for the whole area, however these plans never seem to progress so nothing is done. Despite this uncertainty about the Ingleside development, the planned upgrade of Mona Vale Road is set to continue with construction beginning "early 2019".

## David Malin AM

David Malin, one of the Trustees of Katandra Bushland Sanctuary, was made a MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA in this year's



Australia Day Honours list.. This award was presented "For significant service to science as an astronomer and astrophotographer"

David Malin worked for 26 years at the Anglo-Australian Observatory (now known as the Australian Astronomical Observatory – AAO) as a photographic scientist and astronomer, having previously worked as a chemist using optical and electron microscopes and X-ray diffraction techniques to explore the very small.

While working at AAO David developed several photographic processing techniques to maximise the ability to extract faint and low contrast detail from images on photographic plates. As well as exposing new information about distant and faint astronomical objects, these techniques also pioneered the making of true-colour astronomical photographs, providing the wonderful colour images of these deep space objects that David is world renown for. From his images he also discovered the largest known spiral galaxy in the universe, which has since been named "Malin 1". This galaxy is about six and a half times larger in diameter than our own Milky Way galaxy and located over one billion light-years away.

David has published over 140 scientific papers and a similar number of popular articles on astronomy and photography, as well as ten books and contributing to many more.

Congratulations to David for this well-deserved recognition of his wonderful and distinguished career.



*One of David Malin's images showing the Horsehead Nebula in the constellation of Orion.*

More of David's spectacular images can be seen through the AAO website - [www.aao.gov.au](http://www.aao.gov.au)

Katandra website: [www.katandra.org](http://www.katandra.org)

### **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: David Malin  
Bushland News Editor: Marita Macrae

(Cover Design by the late Walter Cunningham)

**Enquiries: phone 0431857407 or by email  
[information@katandra.org](mailto: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 2019**

#### **SAUSAGE SIZZLE**

**Sunday 5th May, 12 noon**

Enjoy a sausage sandwich and drinks provided by the Trust.

#### **FOUNDER'S DAY**

**Sunday 18th August, 12 noon**

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

#### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Sunday 1st 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 2019**

(3rd Sunday March–November)

9 am Sunday 17 March

9 am Sunday 21 April

9 am Sunday 19 May

9 am Sunday 16 June

9 am Sunday 21 July

9 am Sunday 15 September

9 am Sunday 20 October

9 am Sunday 17 November

#### **PUBLIC OPEN DAYS 2019**

Each Sunday of July–October

10 am – 4 pm

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Katandra Bushland Sanctuary Trust  
PO Box 365 Mona Vale NSW 1660