



## **FOKE 2018 National Trust Australian Heritage Festival Events**



### **Alex Colley and his Forest Vision**

Saturday 12 May, 2018

Turrumurra to Sheldon Forest Walk

9.45am for 10 am start. Finish at 12 noon

Meet at Turrumurra Railway Station Ticket Office

Free

This Turrumurra walk will highlight Ku-ring-gai's wilderness champion Alex Colley OAM (1909-2014) who worked tirelessly to ensure that NSW's forests were loved, appreciated and protected into the future. Reflect on the paths he walked for conservation that involved the Sydney Bush Walkers, the Federation of Bush Walking Clubs, and even the Turrumurra Branch of the Liberal Party who, in the 1960s, unanimously supported the saving of the Colong Caves in the southern Blue Mountains.

Come and be inspired by Sheldon Forest – one of Sydney's rarest urban forests. As well learn more about Turrumurra's heritage that includes the Little Village Park and the Hillview Conservation area. This FOKE walk is in partnership with the Colong Foundation for Wilderness that Alex Colley was Secretary for many years. 2018 celebrates the Colong Foundation for Wilderness' 50th Anniversary.

This is a long walk and involves some steep hills. Bring hat, water & wear good walking shoes. If wet, wear raincoat and bring umbrella.

### **Butterflies, Camellias and Blue Gums**

Sunday 13 May, 2018

Killara to Gordon Walk

9.45am for 10 am start. Finish at 12 noon

Meet at Killara Railway Station Ticket Office

Free

Discover the remarkable story of Dr Gustavus Athol Waterhouse (1877-1950), famed for his expertise on butterflies. Athol lived close to his famous younger brother - Professor Eben Gowrie Waterhouse whose home and garden 'Eryldene' is today one of the most significant and popular house and gardens to visit in Sydney. Athol's house, 'Allowrie' was built in Stanhope Road around 1905. Its memorable gardens were once the site of a magnificent 'butterfly garden'. It was also near to some of the best butterfly collecting places along the hill top bushland ridges of east Killara. This leisurely walk will wander along Killara's streetscapes of camellias and blue gums. Perhaps even a butterfly may be spotted?

The walk will finish at 'Eryldene' where visitors have the option to enter this beautiful camellia garden (entry fee \$12 where Eryldene has arranged a special dedicated tour for those interested in joining this tour) or if they wish join a Mother's Day High Tea (bookings essential as this is Eryldene's busiest day and the celebratory teas need to be pre-booked with Eryldene on (02) 9498 2271 or [www.eryldene.org.au](http://www.eryldene.org.au)). Note the Garden Café will not be open over the Mother's Day weekend).

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**Bookings essential:** Contact: Janine Kitson (02) 9498 2402 or 0428 860 623  
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## **FOKE 2018 National Trust Heritage Festival**



### **Gordon Station Railway Gardens: Camellias and Tree Lovers**

Saturday 19 May, 2018

Gordon Station Garden Walk

9.45am for 10 am start. Finish at 12 noon

Meet at Gordon Railway Station ticket office

Free

Enjoy a leisurely walk around Gordon Railway Station and learn about why this railway precinct is State Heritage Listed and why the community values it so much. The tour will also focus on Gordon Station's heritage gardens – once the most celebrated railway gardens in Sydney. Hear about recent research that reveals just how important *Eryldene's* Professor Waterhouse's 'camellia touch' was to the garden.

As well visit the Annie Wyatt Garden that adjoins Gordon Railway Station and learn about this remarkable woman who founded the National Trust in 1945. Discover the stories behind the people who are named in the various memorial plaques around the garden and why they proudly called themselves "tree lovers".

This is a short walk. However still bring hat, water & wear good walking shoes. If wet, wear raincoat and bring umbrella.

### **Ku-ring-gai Matters: Time for World Heritage**

Sunday 20 May, 2018

12:45pm-3pm

Café Pecorino, 77 Werona Ave, Gordon, next to Gordon Railway Station (on east side)

Cost: \$36. Bookings Essential for Catering

Listen to a range of speakers talk on why it's time to world heritage list Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, the second national park in NSW in 1894, and one of the first in the world.

For over five years conservation groups have been calling for Australia's Royal National Park in Sutherland to be World Heritage listed. When Royal was reserved in 1879 it was the first time the words 'national park' had ever been used to describe a protected park area. When Yellowstone was formed in the USA in 1872 it was named a national park in the sense that the park was under federal, not State, jurisdiction.

In 2017 the English Lake District's World Heritage status was changed to include the role it played in the development of the conservation movement. This new initiative now opens the door for Royal National Park to be world heritage listed. If this is achieved, then it is timely to call for Ku-ring-gai Chase be World Heritage listed as well. After all Ku-ring-gai was one of the first parks to be formed because of the intrinsic values of nature. Eccleston Du Faur (1832-1915) the driving force behind the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park had no doubts about this when he used these words for the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park seal - *Natura Ars Dei* or 'Nature is the Art of God'.

Enjoy a light lunch and coffee at the heritage Café Pecorino to raise funds for EDO NSW (Environmental Defenders Office) who continue to provide legal advice to those communities fighting to defend their environment.

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