



# Natural History of the first National Park

The Linnean Society of NSW will convene a Symposium on the Royal National Park and its surrounding landscapes that will bring together contributions from biologists and earth scientists, geographers, amateur naturalists, historians and sociologists who will present their studies of natural history and human geography in this important area.

Royal National Park, established on the southern outskirts of Sydney in 1879, is the world's first dedicated national park. On the oceanic rim of the Sydney geological basin, it is home to a uniquely diverse flora and fauna and has a long tradition of research and education in the natural sciences. The reserve also chronicles a rich history of human activity from pre-historic aboriginal societies to contemporary multi-cultural communities.

The Linnean Society of New South Wales ([linneansocietynsw.org.au](http://linneansocietynsw.org.au)) is one of Australia's oldest and leading scientific societies that has supported the study of natural history in all its branches since 1874. The Symposium is scheduled for two days of sessions on 29-30 September 2011 at the Audley Dance Hall, with a day-long field trip on Saturday 1 October.

Scientific papers from the Symposium will be published in a special issue of the Proceedings of the Linnean Society of NSW, subject to peer review. In addition, speakers will be invited to contribute to a special extension publication for a broader non-scientific audience.

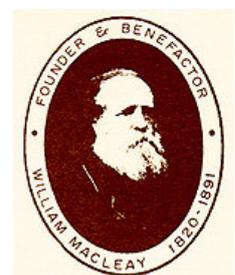
Expressions of interest are sought for presentations on:

- Ecology of native flora and fauna, conservation biology and ecosystem dynamics
- Ecological and human history (pre-historic & contemporary)
- Bushfire science
- Biology of invasive species
- Systematics and biogeography of local and regional biota
- Geodiversity, geomorphology and landscape evolution
- Human use, visitor impacts and management of the Park
- Royal as an education resource and the role of education in Park use and management
- Linking science and practice in Park management

Register expressions of interest for a spoken or poster presentation or attendance at the Symposium by emailing [linnsoc@inet.net.au](mailto:linnsoc@inet.net.au).



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