

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

Autumn Banksias Mark the end of Season

The autumn flowering Banksias on our Banksia slope are superb this year, with masses of flowers. There are about 60 Banksias on the slope with a few more scattered around the garden.



Autumn Banksias take a lot of beating!

The late winter – early spring flowering *B praemorsa* are carrying lots of flower spikes this year, promising great things for spring. Banksias are fussy about soil type but do well on the basalt below the Rabbit Hill Lookout. This winter we will extend the Banksia garden, adding another 10 to 15 plants.

French Visitor Spots a 40 Spot

A visitor from France was ecstatic to see a rare 40 Spotted Pardalote drinking from one of our water bowls. The 40 Spots are rare and endangered Tasmanian endemics, exquisite, tiny birds that are hard to, well, spot. We also have the common Spotted Pardalote and the Striated Pardalote.

Recently we saw a Yellow Throated Honeyeater drinking from one bowl whilst another endemic, the Black Headed Honeyeater was on a second bowl, and a third endemic, the Crescent Honeyeater was on a third water bowl. If you can't see birds at Inverawe, you probably need glasses. For visitors with an interest in birds we can provide a bird list, as well as a guide "How to find birds".

Business Manager Drums up Business

Our business manager, Margaret recently participated in a Tourism Tasmania organised swing through the other eastern states, talking to Inbound Tourism Operators. The aim was to encourage more overseas visitors into Tasmania. "Inverawe's product was very well received", said Margaret on her return to Margate. Inverawe offered a two hour guided tour that emphasised the botanical history of our region, supplementing our existing self-guided tour.

Big Plans for Winter



Not such a shabby garden

Nine years ago it seemed impossible we could ever transform the property into a garden. We're making progress! Where woody weeds and piles of rubbish prevailed, colourful natives flourish. This winter we will deep plant some more trees on the grasslands and replace others that have failed due to unusual weather patterns. We will landscape parts of the long terrace where we have recently had a new path and steps constructed, and start work on the northern corner of the property. We've got some more Croweas to plant, and we're working on an area above the North West Bay Lookout.

Winners are Grinners – the 2010 Poetry Comp!



2009 Year 10-12 Winner, Hayley, with Mum Trudi

The 2010 Inverawe Nature Poetry Competition has a first prize of \$1000 and a generous range of other prizes. Just write a poem not longer than 28 lines on a nature theme. Full details and the necessary entry form are on our website.

A student competition, in four divisions, is also on offer, with its own range of prizes. This year the 10 - 12 first prize has been increased to \$100. The competitions are supported by Kingborough Council. Full information: www.inverawe.com.au

Compost Corner

Ever wondered about compost for native plants? Well, here's your big chance! The Head Gardener has prepared a PDF file on compost (no, really!) and you can get your copy by emailing a request to: gardens@inverawe.com.au It's absolutely free.

Another Tasmanian Endemic



A Green Rosella plots fresh mischief

Green Rosellas, another Tasmanian endemic (an endemic is a plant or animal only found in one location) are regular visitors and like all social birds, have a range of calls. (*This tastes good, I'm over here...and so on*) Their colour varies from this yellow to a really dark green.

Correas Carry Colour in Autumn-Winter



Correa Lydia Pink flowers prolifically

Correas are plants that like dry going. They flower in autumn and winter, when most other plants are resting and they are bird attracting. Lydia Pink is one of many cultivars that have enhanced flower form. Marion's Marvel and Clearview Giant are others we like.

Possum Eats the Evidence!

Botanist Alan Gray has indicated that the picture labelled *Gauthera hispida* (Snow Berry) in the last issue of "Inverawe News" is in fact a related species. When the Head Gardener checked, some furry fiend had eaten the buds, or berries, or fruit, destroying the evidence. The plant itself is fit and healthy and growing like a weed but we'll have to wait till spring to see more flowers. Curse you Baggy-pants the Possum, you black hearted villain!

Geographically Misplaced Passengers Miss Bus.

A busload of cruise ship passengers, heading for Inverawe as part of their day in Hobart were more than an hour late recently. On Mount Wellington, two of their colleagues had not returned to the bus! All that was left was a hat sitting on the back seat. The remaining passengers were very pleased to arrive at Inverawe and pile into hot cups of tea, and refreshments. The missing passengers? Just hopped on the wrong bus, we suppose, at any event they made it back to the ship. We hope they got their hat back.

And Another Thing... On our Website You'll Find

- A link to our Gardening Australia TV segment
- Back copies of the newsletter
- The list of 88 bird species we've seen
- Two of the 2009 winning nature poems
- The two judge's reports from the 2009 poetry competition
- An opportunity to request the *Head Gardener's Seven Steps to Successfully Growing Natives*.
- Lots of great images of our plants!

Your hosts at Inverawe Native Gardens are Bill and Margaret Chestnut. We look forward to seeing you in the garden!



Inverawe Native Gardens
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Behind the Margate Train

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Open seven days a week

1 September to end May, from 9.00 am to sunset

Closed Christmas Day,

To see the garden during June, July, August,
please give us a call.

Entry fee applies: Concessions welcome

Tea on the terrace: only \$6.00 extra!