

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

At Last, the Waratahs are Blooming!



If this doesn't give me bragging rights, I'll go back to growing cabbages.

The NSW Waratahs have finally bloomed, after years of waiting. We have also had a bloom from the Gippsland Waratah (*Telopea oreades*) and the promise of a second. The Tasmanian Waratah (*T. truncata*) is budding up and might just flower around the middle of November. Waratahs prefer moist well drained soil with plenty of sunshine and some shade.

Prostantheras Please



Round leaf mint, Prostanthera rotundifolia, looking through the Tank Trap to the lower Banksia bed. .

The *Prostantheras* were superb this spring. The round leaf mint, a Tasmanian native, had their best year, as did *P ovalifolia*, with intensely purple flowers, and *P scutellaroides*, with its deep green leaves and striking mauve/purple flowers. Unlike most mints, *scutellaroides* loves dry, shady going.

Black Cockies, Take 3

Last edition's tale of our Banksias being roughed up by Black Cockies drew a response from Kevin Collins of the Banksia Farm at Mt Barker in WA. Kevin emailed that he has flocks of over 200 White Tailed Blacks raid the Banksia Farm. Notwithstanding the Cockies, the Banksia Farm at Mt Barker just north of Albany as well as Kings Park Perth should be on all native plant lovers "must visit" list. These are both making a strong contribution to the development of an "Australian" gardening style.

Dog Rose is the Bees Knees



Bauera rubioides, the Dog Rose, as it would be seen by a visiting bee.

Bauera rubioides, The Dog Rose, has cup shaped flowers that hang down – we rarely turn the flower up to see its true beauty. Common in moist locations throughout south eastern Australia, they grow wild on the slopes of Mt Wellington. Inverawe is too dry in summer for them but this one thrives in a large pot.

Padymelons, Potaroos and all the Furry Mob

Visitors often see some of our resident macropods (wallaby sort of things). We don't feed them and they don't seem to eat too much of the garden. Yet. They have arrived since we moved in just over ten years ago and whilst not tame seem to have gotten used to having people around – they are cautious and wary but not too concerned at being seen. Often you hear them rather than see them, as they thump through the understory.

Wheel Installed



The wheel from a Huon Pine motor cruiser.

We acquired this wheel some time ago and after a long restoration process it overlooks North West Bay. Maritime transport was important in our part of the south east until early modern times. A related display of anchors and floats calls visitors' attention to this important but largely forgotten part of our history.

The Grass is Always Greener...

On this side of the fence, thanks to 18 months of fairly damp weather. The grass on the grasslands is lush and green and it is only just now that we are able to get the mower onto it. There are still some areas too wet to mow. The good news is that it is meadow grass, not the broom, boneseed, briar and hawthorn that we have spent so much time attacking. Plus, the dreaded, hay fever inducing Yorkshire fog (a grass) has not yet put in an appearance. After more than ten years, we are on top of the woody weeds.

Volunteers come Aboard.

Best of all, volunteers (self sown, native plants) are starting to appear in places across the grasslands. Volunteers include *Eucalyptus ovata* and *viminalis*, *Pomaderris apetala* and *elleptica*, and *Acacia dealbata*. It has been a very long haul.



Guitar plant, *Lomatia tinctoria*, is now coming into bloom.

This beautiful Tasmanian, *Lomatia tinctoria*, survived as a single plant when we first arrived at Inverawe in 2001. We have re-introduced it and who knows, it might become the next volunteer one day!

Visitors are Important People



Recent visitors at an Inverawe Workshop.

We like to listen to our visitors to find out what works for you. We work on year round colour and have designed the entire northern end as purely Tasmanian. We have also put in additional hand rails where visitors felt a little exposed. We'll keep asking you what you think when you visit.

Guided Tours Available

We now offer guided tours – these can have a botanical focus, or a historical slant. Details are on our website.

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



Inverawe Native Gardens
Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden
1565 Channel Highway
MARGATE TAS 7054
Behind the Margate Train
Ph: (03) 6267 2020
www.inverawe.com.au
gardens@inverawe.com.au
Open seven days a week
1 September to the end of May, 9 am to 6 pm
Entry fee applies: Concessions welcome, gift vouchers, annual tickets and eftpos now available
Tea on the terrace: only \$6.00 extra!