

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

New Season opening

Inverawe re-opens 1 September for the new season. We will be open seven days a week through till the end of May. We have done lots of work over winter, so plan your visit now!

Stare, Stare, Like a Bear...



Barry the bear barely keeps his head above the flowers...

With good soil moisture over winter, it looks like being a good spring, with lots of colourful flowers. There is plenty in flower right now and promise of more to come. The bears are lurking in a patch of *Grevillea lanigera* Mt Tamboritha form, which does well here. Paper daisies can be seen in the background.

Rogue Black Cockies pay a flying visit



Black cockies photographed on a previous visit

On 10 August around 30 Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoos arrived and proceeded to shred a fair few of our Banksia cones. There are still plenty of Banksias to see – we have lots – but we won't mind if this mob don't visit us again for a while! The NSW Waratahs that share bed space with the Banksias show signs of flowering for the first time this year. Let's hope the Cockies don't find them – they love shredding Waratahs! That's a gentleman Yellow Tail bottom left, Lady Cockie top right. (Beak Colour)

Wattle Bloom?



Acacia pycnantha, the Coat of Arms Wattle

Many wattle species are coming into bloom. With 30 species at Inverawe and hundreds of specimens, there are at least some wattles in bloom at any time of year but early spring is certainly the peak.

Spring Things

There is still time to plant and it's getting toward mulching time, to lock in some of that winter moisture. On plants we want to bring on we use a little blood and bone or Charlie Carp and Seasol mix but make sure the blood and bone is rated safe for natives. Some blood and bone is "improved" and then it's no good. We don't use fertilisers on members of the Protea family – Banksias, Grevilleas, Telopeas, Hakeas, Lomatias and some others. They have to make do with compost, and organic mulches. The best thing you can do for your soil is increase its organic content.



*This *B praemorsa* manages without fertiliser.*

Select your Partners for the Caterpillar Stomp!

The first pests of spring are saw fly larvae, little black caterpillars with gold tips. They form a dense ball of grubs on young Eucalypts and wag their tails at you when you go near them. Morning rounds now include dealing with these pests, which can kill a young Euc. If they are on a twig, break it off and deal with them (Hint: they can't swim). If they are on a larger branch, knock them to the ground with a stick and dance the Caterpillar Stomp.



Hardenbergia violacea (often sold as *Happy Wanderer*)

Spring Flowers

Hardenbergia is usually a climber but can be trained as a loose shrub (above) – just keep tip pruning to encourage a dense form. The genus was named by British botanist George Bentham. Look closely at the flowers and two green dots can be seen – these reminded Bentham of the green eyes of the Countess of Hardenberg, whom he admired from a distance.



And those beguiling green eyes

Upcoming Workshop

Sunday 18 September, Grow Colourful Natives Workshop, 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm. \$20 phone 03 6267 2020 for bookings. These popular workshops help you analyse your site and select and care for plants. Irene, who attended one of last season's courses had this to say: *Thank you so much for the photo, a lovely reminder of a beautiful afternoon at Inverawe... Your garden is a delight and inspiring.*

If we can find some saw fly larva, we'll even teach you to dance the Caterpillar Stomp. Pretty good, eh?

Our Celebrate Spring Day

Sunday 6 November, Celebrate Spring in a Native Garden – historical and botanical tours with expert guides – put the date in your diary and watch our website for details – www.inverawe.com.au

Poems on Web

If you've visited Inverawe recently you will have seen some of the Head Gardener's poems around the garden. In response to popular demand (well, three people) a collection of his poems are on the web. Go to www.inverawe.com.au/news.html and click on "Bill's Poems".

Northern Planting

We have now planted several hundred Tasmanian natives in the northern end of the property. Clear felling under powerlines by electricity contractors encouraged weed growth, followed by erosion from road runoff. With all of this sorted, we have finally been able to get plants in the ground. Species were selected for the site: Tasmanian, suited to dry soils, not too tall for the powerlines and most of all, available in quantities.

Guided Tours

We now offer "experiential" guided tours – you get to smell, scratch, taste as well as hear and see Inverawe. Phone 6267 2020 for booking details

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
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Behind the Margate Train
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Open seven days a week

1 September to the end of May, 9 am to 6 pm
Entry fee applies: Concessions welcome, gift vouchers and supporters (annual) tickets and eftpos now available

Tea on the terrace: only \$6.00 extra!