

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

Newsletter – December 2009

100 Turn Out for Poetry Readings

Over 100 locals listened to the reading of the winning poems in the 2009 Inverawe Nature Poetry Competition. First prize of \$1000 in the open competition went to NSW but local poets scooped the pool in the student competition



Members of the Derwent Scottish Pipe Band entertained visitors at the poetry readings.

588 poems were received in the competition, 294 each in the open and student divisions. The competition was supported by Kingborough Council and prizes were presented by Mayor Graham Bury and Councillor Paul Chatterton.

The winning poems in the open competition and in the year 10 to 12 student section are on the website, www.inverawe.com.au/Poetry.htm. The Judges' reports can also be found there.

Visitor Numbers Increase

Visitor numbers to Inverawe are up again this season as Inverawe is increasingly seen as a unique Tasmanian attraction. Whilst we have always catered for independent travellers, visits from tour groups are increasing as tour companies discover Inverawe.

With its extensive plant collection, stunning views, bird life, formed paths, sculpture, poetry and plentiful seating, Inverawe doesn't disappoint.

As the organiser of a recent garden convention wrote:

"Thank you for a wonderful hour at Inverawe. Everyone was impressed with your gardens, including the poetry, sculpture and historical interpretation."

Inverawe Gift Vouchers – a great gift idea! Just phone 03 6267 2020 or email gardens@inverawe.com.au

Pathfinder Signs Show the Way



One of the new panels

Inverawe overlooks North West Bay, an area first mapped by the French in 1792-3. The area was visited in 1792 by the French botanist Labillardiere and in 1803 by the Scots botanist Robert Brown. Between them, they pioneered Australian botany. A new series of interpretive panels at Inverawe, The Pathfinder Series, shows the contribution they made and the difficulties they faced. The Pathfinder series are a result of our participation in Tourism Tasmania's Signature Experience.

The Secret Garden



Pimelea ferruginea is an adaptable small understorey shrub that strikes readily from cutting

The front terrace is our "Secret Garden" because many visitors miss it. Huge amounts of mulch have been added to this dry and sandy area over several years and dry country plants selected to grow there, like this *Pimelea*, which has bright pink flowers that fade to white, creating a multi-colour effect. Be sure to catch the secret garden when you visit. It shows what just what great effects you can achieve with dry, difficult sites.

New Map Aids Visitors



The new Inverawe map also appears in the self tour guide.

The self guide brochure issued to visitors has been fully revised and now is in full colour. It includes a new, full colour map which has also been arranged as a track-side sign, above. The map was suggested by a marketing focus group.

Gardening Australia TV Segment on File

On 5 September Gardening Australia showed a six minute segment that featured Inverawe. We've put a button on our home page www.inverawe.com.au that leads to the GA archive page, where you can find the segment.

Photographing the Landscape



The central terrace, looking south east

A visiting photographer said "It's easy to photograph well laid out gardens – the principles of composition are the same."

The picture (above) is the view that greets visitors just inside the main gate. There's a small statue to draw the eye, low plants in front, medium plants behind, and then a couple of larger plants, left and right, to frame the view and pull the eye through to the Bay, beyond. Good views just don't happen. You may not notice, but in the red Kangaroo Paws to the right and behind the statue is a New Holland Honey Eater. They just can't resist Kangaroo Paws.

Murder, Mutiny and all that Jazz

David Nelson collected samples of a tree unknown to the west, at Adventure Bay, Bruny Island in 1778. He was the botanist on Captain Cook's third voyage. Cook never returned to Britain (he was killed at Hawaii) but Nelson and Cook's sailing master William Bligh both got home. Ten years later, in 1788, the French botanist L'Heritier examined Nelson's collection at Kew Gardens and coined the name "Eucalyptus" (Greek = well capped) but Nelson was back in the South Pacific with Bligh on the Bounty.

After the Bounty mutiny, Nelson took to the long boat with Bligh but died a few days after reaching Timor. L'Heritier returned to France and in 1800 was stabbed to death one night in the streets of Paris, an unsolved murder. And Cranky old William Bligh? He died peacefully in England, after enough adventures to fill a Boys' Own Annual.

Nelson's tree was Eucalyptus obliqua. We grow them here at Inverawe. You can also see a copy of L'Heritier's original sketch of Nelson's samples.

What's in Bloom? A heap of Stuff. Come and see for yourself!



Kunzia Badja Carpet, now in bloom, as is the very similar Kunzia ambigua, and much more!

Your hosts at Inverawe Native Gardens are Bill and Margaret Chestnut. We look forward to seeing you soon! Just turn up and take a self guided tour, or pre book an individually guided tour tailored to your interests.

Inverawe Native Gardens
1565 Channel Highway
MARGATE TAS 7054
Ph: (03) 6267 2020

www.inverawe.com.au
gardens@inverawe.com.au

Open seven days a week, inclusive
1 September to end May, from 9.00 am to sunset
Closed Christmas Day, Open Holiday Mondays.

Other times by arrangement.
\$12 entry, \$10 concession entry
Enquire for group rates and booked tours.

Tea on the terrace: only \$6.00 extra!