

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

Brilliant Banksias



Banksia spinulosa

We've got over 100 Banksias in our Banksia section, so there's always something worth looking at. This is a fairly recent photograph of *Banksia spinulosa*, The Hairpin Banksia. Ours is a small cultivar, maybe a metre or so high. We grow our Banksias on east facing basalt soils below the Rabbit Hill Lookout. They're fussy about soil type and taller Banksias need protection from our westerly winds, which can bowl them over. We'll plant more Banksias this winter. Honeyeaters love them and Black Cockies help us prune them.

And Talking of Banksias...

If you missed The Inverawe segment on ABC TV's Gardening Australia, where Tino pruned some of our Banksias and planted a couple of new ones, there's a link on our website, and another on our Facebook Page. The link also includes an earlier segment with Jane Edmanson, in 2008. It's interesting to contrast the "then and now" growth in our plants, ten years apart.

Workshops

We don't just want to grow natives ourselves, we want everyone else to get in on the act. Our next workshop is *Create a Bird Friendly Garden* on September 16, followed by *Plan a Native Garden*, October 24. Details on our website.



Epacris longiflora (NSW & Qld) is a stunner in a pot!

Autumn: A Fungus Time of Year



Fly Agaric - great appearance but rated poisonous

MUSHROOMS

Suddenly,
they're here.
Fully formed.
A fairy ring.
They weren't here
yesterday
and might be gone
tomorrow.
But today,
they're here.
Pristine
Purposeful
Knowing
Cryptic
Ephemeral

Urgently thrusting
into the light.
So fragile,
so certain
No time to lose!

Here I am
Says the mushroom,
I can do no other.

One of Our Favourite Correas



Correa Marion's Marvel - lots of flowers, easy to grow

A Bit of Weather, Really



Flood debris piled up against the bottom gate

We shared in Hobart's recent "Weather event". Lots of wind and rain but the ridge garden held up well, just wind blown debris to be moved. As you can see from this snap of our southern gate, the river flooded the bottom land. We had at least a metre of water, flowing at speed. Our trees were OK, apart from one that lost its head. We lost 200 metres of fencing, there's branches, whole plants, a lot of silt and patches of gravel that came down river plus someone's garbage bin, and a car tyre. The gravel doesn't look water worn so it must be from a road. The silt might be topsoil from further up river. The mudflats on the Bay are much more extensive, and the river mouth has wandered a few metres further north. The silt build up highlights the desirability of always having plant cover on your soil even if they are weeds, whether your problem is water run-off, or drying winds. The good news is We're not going to run out of work anytime soon!

Plants Completely Lose the Plot



Anopteryx glandulosus - Native Laurel

Our Native Laurel, grown in pots, are flowering early this year. Folk from as far afield as Sydney are reporting plants going into Spring mode, in Autumn. They'll get a shock when winter really arrives. Our Paper Daisies didn't fire up this Spring but are popping up all over the place, now we have had some useful (!) Autumn rain. It has also encouraged weeds, so if you are running short of Oxalis, Milkweed or Flickweed, let me know.

The Bird Report



Sea Eagle, note missing feather.

We're up to 105 species, thanks to regular visitor (and expert birder) David Morrison, who bagged the Yellow Rumped Thornbill and from talking to David I've unscrambled my Currawongs - we're claiming both the Black and the Grey (Clinking) Currawong. David also pointed out that somehow the Eastern Rosella had missed the list, so they're on now. 106 is out there, somewhere - maybe it's the enigmatic Beautiful Firetail. Scarlet Robins are around, as are Eastern Spinebills. Little Wattle Birds have been missing from the top garden but are busy sorting out the Banksias at the end of the ridge. The Yellow Wattle Bird has been around recently and Bronzewing seem to be more frequent at the moment.

Finally:

Paul and Alice B (UK) *What a marvellous find! A total joy, super views, interesting birds. A testament to a lot of dedicated hard work.*

Allan and Lois W (NZ) *Best garden this trip to Oz.*

Gwenyth B (Oregon USA) *Lovely!*

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 Follow us on Facebook
 Open seven days a week
 1 September to the end of May
 First entry 9 am, last entry 5.00 pm
 Entry fee applies: Concessions welcome