

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

The Bird Report

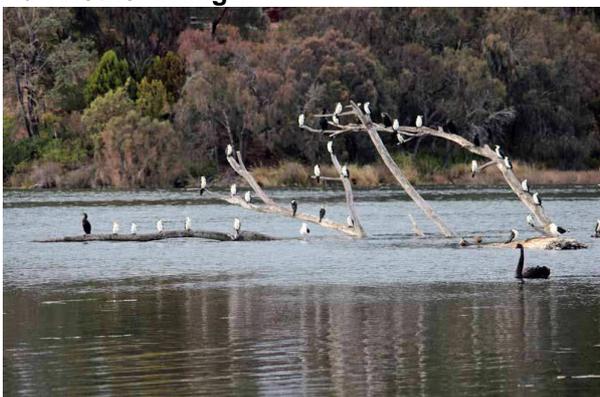


A recent visitor, Mr B Wren, enjoys a quick stroll. Visitors have added two more species to our bird list. A Queensland birder found the Fan Tailed Cuckoo by comparing its song to his smart phone app - I want one of those! A birder from Devon, UK spotted a group of Royal Spoonbills just off shore. Pizzey and Knight list them as rare visitors to Tassie, so well done!

Breakfast with the Birds

Our next Breakfast with the Birds is February 10, from 8.00 am onwards. Bookings essential, ph 6267 2020. The last Breakfast group polished off a pile of hot muffins and then found 30 species of birds!

And Another Thing...



A bit hard to see at this scale but there are at least five birds species in this snap!

Just for the record, Black Cormorant, Pied Cormorant, Black Swan, Kelp Gulls and a couple of ducks. Did you get them all?

Dry, Dry, Dry and yet more Dry!

Does anyone know a really effective rain dance? Many plants are standing up to our extremely dry conditions. Some of the Acacias, Melaleucas, Hakeas, Kunzias and Callistemon are very impressive in dry going. When the weather eventually turns we will know what species to plant, and make much freer use of compost and mulch to get them going.

Carpet of Flowers!



The secret garden has been colonised by Paper Daisies.

Native Plant Workshop

Our next native plant workshop will be 1.30 pm, Sunday February 17. Bookings essential, ph 6267 2020. All you need to know about growing natives in these difficult times!

What People Say:

*I didn't know there was such a variety in Australian native plants...
Wonderful signage...
Far exceeded our expectations...
I learnt such a lot about the history of Tasmania during my visit...
It's a treasure, inspirational...*

What People Saw



This Echidna was taking refuge during that really hot day we had recently

Apart from the Echidna and our often seen family of Padymelons, one visitor saw two Wedge Tailed Eagles low down over the grasslands, another reported a Ring Tailed Possum and someone else saw a hopping mouse. We think this was a marsupial mouse, although it might just have been a regular mouse with a sore toe. We've also got skins in battalion strength, and some (harmless) Shingle-back Blue Tongue Lizards to startle the unwary.

Hint of the Week on Facebook

For those people up to speed on Facebook, we are putting a garden "hint of the week" on our Facebook page, week by week. One of our followers was kind enough to say "All your tips are golden" We've learnt them all the hard way. If only our compost bin could talk, what tales it could tell!

Talking of Hints of the Week...



Kangaroo Paws do well in pots or in well drained loamy soil.

One of our recent hints of the week: Kangaroo Paws flower brilliantly right through summer. Plant the common flavidus species - at Inverawe we've got yellow, green, red and orange Paws in bloom. They like well drained soil and need a bit of extra water during the dry times. They'll develop flower stems 2 metres tall which keep well in a vase. Some of ours get bent over a tad, with Honeyeaters landing on them. New Holland Honeyeaters just love Kangaroo Paws!

What's in Bloom in Summer

Try Paper Daisies, Kangaroo Paws, Scaevola, *Melaleuca hypericifolia*, *M nesophila*, Native Hibiscus (*Alyogyne*). *Westringias* continue to bloom sporadically. Although most *Grevilleas* have given it away until autumn, *G Bronze Rambler* just never stops and *G lanigera* is just starting up again after a bit of a rest. And autumn's only six weeks away!

Summer Snow?



Myoporum floribundum is a spectacular, summer flowering large shrub

A Long Hot Summer

Our hearts go out to those people who have lost so much in the recent bushfires, not just in Tasmania but right across south eastern Australia. The only glimmer of hope is the way in which volunteers have turned out and the way bushfire appeals have been supported by the community.

Finally...



Summer flowering *Melaleuca nesophila*

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



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Open seven days a week
1 September to the end of May, 9 am to 6 pm
June, July & August, ring for an appointment
Entry fee applies: Concessions welcome
Gift vouchers, annual passes, Eftpos available
Tea on the terrace just a little extra