

## Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

### The Voice of Labillardiere



Yves Ginat voiced our Labillardiere manniken. He is shown here with Adele at our Spring Fling.

Recent visitors to Inverawe will have been stopped in their tracks when Yves Ginat's *Bonjour!* rings out, voicing our Labillardiere model. Yves is an apiarist so buy some of his Miellerie honey, take a spoonful of it and lie back and think of France.

### The Bird Report



Photo Credit: Mick Brown

This brilliant image of the Crescent Honeyeater was taken by local birdwatcher, Mick Brown, who visited Inverawe in early October and spotted 26 species. In late September Tim Roberts from Brisbane spotted 30 species, including our 94<sup>th</sup> overall, the Shining Bronze Cuckoo. Tim put his list of 30 birds on the Eremaea website ([www.eremaea.com](http://www.eremaea.com)) which could be worth a look for birders. We've also entertained birdwatchers from WA and the UK. On 29 September we had a fly past of 4 Swift Parrots, back from their winter holidays on the mainland. On the Grasslands, Masked Lapwings and Native Hens have had chicks. The Oystercatchers are still nesting.

### Breakfast with the Birds

Our next Breakfast with the Birds will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Phone to book a place.

### Callistemons Muscle Up



A Callistemon just coming into bloom

Our Callistemons (Bottlebrush) are heavy with buds. In recent years the buds have dropped before they open and I've had the Green Rosellas under suspicion (they seemed to have a guilty look) but in reality it was spider mite, little guys who chew through the base of the buds before they open. Organic soap seems to sort out most of them. The real problem is we have about 30 Callistemon in the same area, a great display if it comes off but if one gets sick, they all get sick, a bit like chicken pox at kindergarten.

### Grevilleas Good Value



The yellow form of *Grevillea Juniperina*, shown here, is good value. It also comes in red and orange forms

Ground covering Grevilleas flower for much of the year and help suppress weeds. There is a huge range to choose from - we like *G lanigera*, *G juniperina*, as well as the more vigorous *G Poorinda* Royal Mantle, Bronze Rambler and Forest Rambler but there are many more. Find some that suit your patch.

### RTBG Spring Community Festival

Inverawe was at the Botanic Gardens for their Spring Festival and over 100 people tried their hand at "guessing the Tasmanian native" We'll be in Cygnet 25 November for the Herb, Health and Organic Expo, encouraging sustainable gardening.

**Garden Club Visit**



*Huon Valley Garden Club members Rod and Sally Gordon, with club official Junior Roney*

18 members of the Huon Valley Garden Club visited recently. Rod and Sally Gordon, shown here, won the bouquet of flowers.

**A Garden With Attitude**

Whilst we've borrowed ideas from everywhere, Inverawe is unique - it's not a copy or imitation of something else. It's got flowers, birds, fragrant scents, views, whimsy, sculpture, poetry and interpretation but it's more than that. Inverawe is designed to sit softly on the wider landscape. We want to encourage the development of waterwise gardens that are in harmony with their environment.

A long time ago, on a visit to Britain, the Head Gardener and his muse discovered that English farmers had regretted the elimination of hedgerows, clear felled in the name of agricultural efficiency. All sorts of small birds and animals which had nested in the hedgerows had vanished, opening the way for crops to be attacked by insects. With the hedgerows restored, the guys with feathers and fur came back and resumed eating insects. We need National Parks and agriculture but for the rest of us, we need to find that middle way, in harmony with our land.

**Hoot if you're Happy**



*A parliament of owls keep watch*

These owls keep watch over the Rabbit Hill Track. They were available quite cheaply in plain concrete from a local hardware store. Five coats of paint later, don't they look smart?

**PST's - Pea Sort of Things**



*Eutaxia obovata a West Australian*

There are a lot of Australian species in the Pea family, with characteristic pea sort of flowers, often "eggs and bacon", like this Eutaxia. Another pea, *Pultenaea juniperina* is native to Inverawe (and much of Eastern Australia). It has a very similar flower. The peas are mostly as tough as old boots, require little maintenance and whilst they may not be long lived, most of them come away easily from seed and brighten the spring garden.

**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**