

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

Corymbia ficifolia Goes Berserk!



Red Flowering Gum, *Corymbia ficifolia*.

Our double row of Corymbias please themselves when to flower but right now they are as good as they have ever been. From WA and widely grown as street trees, a version grafted to dwarfing stock is available for home gardens. If these don't put you in mind of a line of Can-Can dancers, nothing will.

But Wait, There's More!



Corymbia ficifolia -fruit

The fruit of the Corymbia (OK, gumnuts) are 25 mm long with a gland at the end that seals in the seed. If the tree dies or the gumnuts separate, that gland opens and thousands of minute brown seeds scatter to the four winds. Each of those seeds, no bigger than a piece of dust, contains the genetic code for a mature tree that might live for hundreds of years. As a four year old child planting bean seeds I thought that process was magic, and the odd few decades later, I still do.

Persoonia Pinifolia - Our Annual Crowd Stopper



Workshops



Be a wise owl - enrol in one of our Workshops!

Imagine a truckload of plants and a paddock full of weeds and rubbish. How do you turn that into the sort of garden that is featured in glossy magazines? Don't know where to start? You need our **Behind the Scenes Workshop**. February 25. The Head Gardener learnt the hard way but you don't have to.

Like to encourage a greater number and diversity of native birds into your garden? Do you have too few birds, or some bully birds that chase others away? You can change this. You need the **Create a Bird Friendly Garden Workshop**, March 4. Each workshop 1.30pm to about 4.00pm, \$30 per person, concessions apply, bookings essential, ph 6267 2020

New Hollands Rule the Roost



New Holland Honeyeater

New Hollands are the most familiar birds around the central garden, with their attractive appearance. They are social birds - you never just have one, there's always a mob. They have a range of calls, including a "zizzing" which warns of danger. I understand a little "birdian" and can usually tell what the threat is, from the intensity of the zizz. They confused me recently when an Echidna wandered through the garden, so I've added a new zizz to my bird vocabulary.

When it Gets Dry...Very Dry.



This Banksia serrata makes the most of a dry slope

Wherever you garden, you'll experience a dry spell. Australian native gardens train for this. How to cope? Choose plants that suit your climate, that have a good form and are not pot bound. Water them in for their first summer or two on the stress principle, and dig a rill on the uphill side, a small trench that holds about a bucket of water. A bucket a week will keep most plants alive. Prune ruthlessly. Mulch is magic. If a plant blooms intensively, out of season, in a dry spell, panic. It's a last despairing gesture before it shuffles off this mortal coil. You'll have losses. That's gardening.

The Wheel Story



A toy for boys of all ages

A recent UK visitor wrote that they've had botany, beauty, poetry, scenery, history, geology, literature, sculpture and joy! Well, yes. It's a garden. And the wheel? Stand there, twirl the wheel and imagine you're Nicolas Baudin, newly arrived at North West Bay, early 19th Century. A recent French couple said they had read all our signs and had learnt things about the French explorers that they did not know. That wheel transports me to another place and time.

Like to Know More...There's our Book!

Next time you visit Inverawe, pick up a copy of our book "*The Inverawe Story*". 100 pages, lots of colour pics, the story of us creating Inverawe, plus some local history, and some poetry, a lot more poems than just the ones on display in the garden. A snap at the price!

We Get Visitors...



An Australian Plant Society Group at Inverawe

The Australian Plant Society recently held their National Conference in Hobart. 150 delegates from all over Australia visited Inverawe, over five days. Margaret's afternoon teas went down a treat. They liked the garden, too, being impressed with the huge amount of work needed to convert 22 acres of woody weeds, piles of rubbish and old bits of fencing wire into an extended landscaped garden. As we pointed out, if we can do it, anyone can. Insanity helps.

Finally:

In gardening, when a plant fails you haul it out of the line and into the compost. You don't forget the lessons learnt but after a bit it stops hurting as you plan your next move. Gardening is about the future and failing is an important part of succeeding.

Inverawe Native Gardens
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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