

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

Masked Owl at Inverawe



Inverawe's 90th Bird species: The Masked Owl

This rare Masked Owl was a recent visitor to Inverawe. It was being harassed by Forest Ravens (Crows). Our Head Gardener saw the Owl safely to a tree and stood guard until the Ravens lost interest.

Animal Rescue



Ranger Jeanette Mudge with the rescued Heron

Two visiting American birders noticed this White Faced Heron swinging upside down high up in a very large gum tree at Inverawe. Its legs were tightly bound with fishing line, the free end of which had snagged a branch. A few phone calls later, a carer from Bonorong Wildlife Park's "Friends of Critters" program arranged for National Parks Ranger Jeannette Mudge to call round. Together with our Head Gardener, she effected a rescue. When last heard of the Heron was alive and well.

What People Say

One recent visitor said "I like the whimsy of the signs, and the poetry." Another said "you can photograph the birds here, because they are used to people." A third visitor, planning her own native garden, said "You are generous with your advice." And another – "This land is lucky that you bought it." We want everyone to build their own sustainable garden!

Next Native Plant Workshop

For people within shouting distance of Hobart, our next workshop, "Grow Colourful Natives", will be held 1.30 pm Sunday 20 February. This is your chance to learn how to successfully grow natives. We keep the groups fairly small so everyone gets a chance to learn what they need. Past participants have praised the workshops but bookings are essential. Phone 6267 2020

Brother Rat



Hint: Look for his big black eye, bottom left third of the picture.

A recent visitor has been this enigmatic bush rat. There are about three species of native Tasmanian rat, and this is one of them. The photo is cryptic because Brother Rat is active at twilight, scuffling through the undergrowth and snuffling through the mulch. We like him because he chases Blackbirds off his patch.

Evidence to Parliamentary Committee

Bill recently gave evidence to the State Upper House Committee on Tourism. Tourism in Tasmania is going through a difficult time at present. Bill stressed the need to develop a culture of quality across tourism – quality in terms of satisfying customers. First time visitors to Inverawe are bowled over by what they see. That's because we listen to our visitors. That's led to labelled plants, well benched, stable tracks, wide, safe stairs with handrails, lots of seats, a tea terrace and plant sales. We will continue to listen. And improve.

Help Needed

If you enjoyed visiting Inverawe, you can help other people enjoy the same experience by leaving a review on Trip Advisor. Go to www.tripadvisor.com, select "Write a Review" then type "Inverawe Native Gardens Tasmania" in the select attraction bar. Just write your review and help someone else enjoy a great visit!

Retired not Expired



Kingborough's "Retired not Expired" group visits

"Retired not Expired" is an initiative of Kingborough Council and the group recently visited Inverawe. The weather was inclement but a very cheerful group had a good time. Inverawe provided light refreshments.

What's in Bloom?

February is the month for ground covers. *Myoporum*, *Scaveola* and a host of ground covering *Grevilleas* are in flower. The Paper Daisies are in full swing, as are the Kangaroo Paws. Yellow Buttons are in bloom and two species of *Melaleuca* – *nesophila* from around Albany in WA and *hypericifolia* from the Illawarra region of NSW.



M hypericifolia, in bud, right, flower centre, seed pods, left.

Hypericifolia is similar to Bottlebrush but the stamens in *hypericifolia* are fused for most of their length, branching out into a micro feather duster at the tips. Bottlebrush stamens are separate from the base.

Take a Guided Tour

We have branched out into guided tours for individuals or small groups. The tours can be themed to suit your interests. We suggest either the Head Gardener's Tour, which emphasises the botanical and gardening aspects of Inverawe, or the History tour. Inverawe sits on historic North West Bay. The French explorers were here over 200 years ago, as were pioneer botanists, Frenchman Labillardiere and the Scot, Robert Brown. They named over 500 Australian species each and many of them grow at Inverawe. For further information, see our website.

The Borrowed Landscape



The sculpture garden, looking across the Bay to Dru Point and Mount Louis.

"The borrowed landscape" is a term used to denote imaginative and inclusive use of the wider scene. This is our borrowed landscape. Yours might be a neighbour's trees or some other natural feature.

The Final Word

We've changed our "Friends of Inverawe" to Supporters of Inverawe. We think it better describes what we are about. Enquire now about becoming a supporter!

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



Photo: Ray Quinn/Kingborough Chronicle

Inverawe Native Gardens
Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden
1565 Channel Highway
MARGATE TAS 7054

Behind the Margate Train

Ph: (03) 6267 2020

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

Open seven days a week

1 September to the end of May, 9 am to 6 pm
To see the garden during June July, August,
please give us a call.

Entry fee applies: Concessions welcome
efpos now available

Tea on the terrace: only \$6.00 extra!