

# Inverawe Native Gardens

## Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

### Paddy Has a Drink



*One of the Padymelons empties the bird bath*

An amazing cavalcade of animals call Inverawe home, including a family of Padymelons. This photo shows why the bird bath needs constant refilling. Recently I was standing on a main path at dusk, lost in thought when an Eastern Barred Bandicoot emerged out of the twilight, shuffling along the path. It paused at my feet, gave me a considered look and kept walking. I'm not sure if being regarded as harmless by a bandicoot is a compliment or an insult! We often see the neat conical holes drilled by Bandicoots in search of food, rarely the Bandicoot. Betongs and Potaroos are also at home at Inverawe

### The Bird Report



*Pelicans grooming themselves on the point*

Species 91 turned up the other day, fork tailed swifts, flying ahead of an advancing storm front. They were spotted independently by two of our visitors. The hunt is on for species 92. Just to prove autumn is sliding into winter, another visitor spotted our first Dusky Robin of the season.

### Correction

In early editions of the February Newsletter we failed to acknowledge Ray Quinn of the Kingborough Chronicle as the photographer for the picture of Margaret ringing our big red bell. We apologise for that.

### Colour all Year



*Grevillea rhyolitica*

Grevillea rhyolitica is a threatened and rare plant from the mountains behind the NSW south coast. It prefers a well drained, shady slope and flowers most of the year. Other colourful understorey plants include Croweas and Correas. These latter two both do really well in poor soil with dappled light and low moisture levels. The winter flowers from both of them are superb.

### Workshops Spread the Word

We've run a number of successful workshops during the season. Having a native plant garden is increasingly popular and we can help you make the next move. Our workshops will recommence in the Spring.



*If you get lucky at a workshop, you get to take home the flowers, just like this lucky trio!*

### And Now For the Weather Report

Continued moist weather through Spring and Summer saw plants put on lots of lush growth. It also encouraged caterpillars and other pests and diseases. With the first frost of summer everything slows down, letting us turn to the winter planting program. We have 800 Tasmanian plants lined up ready to go in our northern section.

### Little Beauty



*Lysiosepalum involucrellum* in bloom

Pictured is *Lysiosepalum involucrellum*, a small but colourful shrub related to Thomasias. It is a tough little guy from WA that deserves to be more widely grown but lack of a common name together with a cumbersome botanical name is a handicap.

### Cherchez Les Femmes!

The Grevillea genus was named by Scottish botanist Robert Brown (who was here at North West Bay in 1803) in honour of Charles Greville, an amateur botanist and 2<sup>nd</sup> son of the Earl of Warwick. Greville's one time principal squeeze was Amy Lyons, who changed her name to Emma and married Greville's cousin, Sir William Hamilton, to become Emma, Lady Hamilton.

Rose Tascher was born in the French West Indies, travelled to France, married an aristocrat who was guillotined during the revolution and caught the eye of Napoleon Bonaparte, who preferred to call her Josephine. At her Chateau, Malmaison, near Paris, Kangaroos and Emus gambolled under Eucalyptus trees, all collected by French Explorers. Botanist Etienne Ventenat catalogued her collection, naming many species of plants, including Paper Daisies, *Xerochrysum bracteatum*. Paper daisies are grown in the UK and Europe as bedding annuals.

These stories and many more are covered in our popular guided tour, "Botanists and Explorers Experience Guided Tour".



Some of the 100s of Paper Daisies at Inverawe

### The Secret Garden



Two tourists enjoy their visit to the secret garden

The top terrace is our Secret Garden because people are apt to miss seeing it. It has the poorest soil and is the driest part of the garden. We have used heaps of mulch and selected plants that enjoy dry going in poor soil.

To succeed in difficult conditions you need to match plant requirements with soil type, moisture and aspect. We have datasheets on growing natives on the News page of our website.

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



**Inverawe Native Gardens**  
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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  
eftpos now available  
Tea on the terrace: only \$6.00 extra!