

# Inverawe Native Gardens

**Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden  
is Open seven days a week till the end of May**

Well, it must be Autumn



Crowea Festival

Saturday, March 20 is the Autumn equinox – from then on, nights are longer than days. We humans mightn't notice for a week or two but plants are right onto it, like this Crowea. They are small shrubs with various species from across Southern Australia. I think they are just wonderful, flowering sporadically throughout the year but at their best right now. I would have a lot more of them if the folk with fur would let me.

And it's Still Autumn!



*Grevillea rhyolitica* – Deua Grevillea

This is another plant which is in bloom right now. A small to medium shrub, from the south coast of NSW. The name refers to the rhyolitic soils that it grows on in the wild. We have had mixed success with it – sometimes it comes off – like this one and sometimes it mopes, perhaps pining for the silica rich volcanic soils of home. It is such a beauty that it is well worth persevering with. If you can crack this, the birds will love you!

Another Autumn Visitor



Goldfinch

Goldfinches are seasonal visitors to Inverawe. Seed eaters, they turn up when the grass is in seed. They are also partial to the seeds of our Paper Daisies. Their less showy cousins, Greenfinches, also visit in Autumn. Sparrows are distant cousins, all originally from North Africa, once the granary of the Roman Empire. It must have been heaven for these seed eaters.

Flamboyant? Who, me? That's Lilli-Pilli!



*Syzygium australe*, small Lilli-Pilli, or Brush Cherry

Widely grown in Gardens in SE Australia, these are rain forest plants that can get very big. Ours is in a pot, where it is quite happy. The small fruit are reported to be edible. Having showy plants in pots means we can wheel them in and out of the chorus line, as they flower then fade. They spend their down time in our plant compound, with their friends.

### Last Workshop of the Season

Our last workshop for this season is "Plan a Native Garden", March 28, details on our website, bookings essential phone 6267 2020. If you've ever wondered where to start, here's your chance. We will run more workshops next season, from September onwards.

### Recent Visitors



Yellow Throated Honeyeater

Yellow Throats are one of the 12 Tasmanian endemic species, each of which is on the Inverawe Bird list. As you can see from its stance, Yellow Throats can be aggressive but at Inverawe they are seriously outnumbered by New Holland Honeyeaters, who do a fine line in aggression themselves. We had not seen any Yellow Throats for a while but there are a few of them around now, including immatures, so they must be breeding on the property. We fill our water bowls twice a day, and clean them a couple of times a week. We have 110 species on our bird list, close to a third of the total for Tasmania.

### Grow Your Own



*Hakea drupacea* – Sweet Scented Hakea

*H drupacea* has very attractive pink tipped, white "pom-pom" flowers through the warmer months. These are the fruit. Pick them off, store in a paper bag on a sunny windowsill and the fruit will split open, revealing two seeds. These are easily germinated in seed raising mix. Pretty soon you will have more Hakeas than you know what to do with. That is the deal with propagating native plants – far too many, or none at all. Don't be discouraged!

### Paper Daisies



*Xerochrysum bracteatum* Paper Daisies

Also known as Straw Flowers and often sold as *Helichrysum*, a former name, these self-seed at Inverawe. The seed packs are cultivars, with many different colours but over several daisy generations they revert to this, the species colour. Occasionally we buy some of the cultivars, to get colour back into the flock. Ours flower 12 months of the year but mainland visitors report somewhat shorter flowering seasons. They were first described and named by the French botanist, Ventenat, from specimens growing at Malmaison, Josephine Bonaparte's Chateau just out of Paris.

**Inverawe Native Gardens**  
**Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden**  
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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  
 Garden closes 6.00 pm  
 Entry fee applies: Concessions welcome