

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden Opens 1 September, seven days a week till the end of May

Seal You Later!



Not the Head Gardener, sleeping off dinner.

Ms elephant seal came ashore early January, at Inverawe and stayed for a few days, shifting position each night. On the fourth night she put to sea again. Thanks to a number engraved on its side Parks and Wildlife were able to tell us that she had been "registered" at Macquarrie Island, where she had a pup, early November. Some scars on its side were, apparently, caused by sharks, hungry for blubber.

Paws! Paws! Paws!



Kangaroo Paws, Anigozanthos flavidus

It has been a good year for Kangaroo Paws. Like everything else, they were about a month late, due to a cool, wet Spring. Coming from the creek lines of SW- Western Australia they like well drained soil and plenty of moisture. We find they do well in the garden if you keep them away from clay and they do really well in pots. We have tried them in clay-based soil, where they grizzle and mope, refusing to flower. They don't like wet feet. A range of cultivars are available, with absolutely knock out blooms but they do not seem as vigorous, second year around. Worth a spot as a feature pot, to draw visitors' eyes. Paws have a strong "look at me, look at me" value.

Remnant Salt Marsh



Pied Oyster Catchers, one wearing a leg band.

These chaps are on the edge of our remnant salt marsh. When I checked this morning, near them was a Sooty Oyster Catcher, some nesting Masked Lapwings (Plovers) and a White-Faced Heron. Around the world, Salt Marsh is greatly reduced. The flat land at Inverawe was once salt marsh merging into river delta, but you can't re-create the past. We need to do the best we can with what we've got.

Talking of Doing the Best We Can...Workshops

Not sure how to grow natives? Inverawe runs workshops. Choice of dates and topics:

19 February, Create a Bird Friendly Garden

19 March, Gardening with Native Plants

or 16 April. Gardening with Native Plants

Workshops start 1.30pm, finish 4.30pm, \$40 per person, bookings essential – includes a talk, guided tour, printed notes, afternoon tea. A workshop will give you the knowledge and confidence to get stuck into it!

More on Salt Marshes: Masked Lapwings



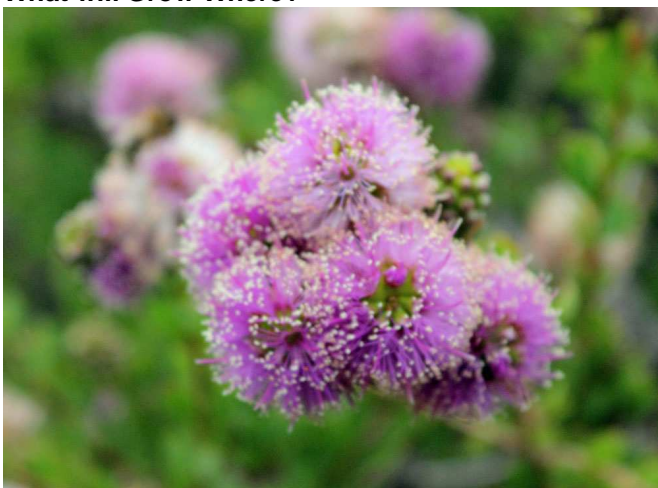
Let's Do Health



View down North-West Bay

The Hobart Mercury recently quoted the WHO describing nature as “our greatest source of health and well-being”, so you’d better get some straight away. If you run out of convenient nature, we’ve got some here – 22 acres of it. Head down to Inverawe, find a convenient seat, soak up the view and your cares will slide away, plus the healthy exercise of walking. If you are a bit distant from Inverawe right now, there will a garden somewhere near you. Just do it!

What will Grow Where?



Melaleuca nesophila – Showy Honey Myrtle

Coming into bloom right now, Honey Myrtle does well for us. The species is a shrub to 4 metres but there are garden cultivars available that behave. Will it do well for you? That depends. Plants don’t grow where you want them to grow, they just grow where they want to grow, a lesson gardeners regularly learn and regularly forget. Match soil type, soil acidity, drainage, aspect, amount of sunlight, temperature range, rainfall and rainfall pattern. Peer over your neighbour’s fence to see what does well for them. When planting, dig a big enough hole, fill it with water and let that drain away. Don’t put fertiliser in the hole, that comes much later. Firm the soil down around the plant, and water it in to settle soil around the roots. Water it on for its first summer. Around here we add a plant guard to stop furry folk. And hope.

A Bit of History



Labillardiere, The Head Gardener, Robert Brown

Early European explorers were interested in this part of Tasmania and visited what is now Inverawe. The French botanist, Labillardiere, and the Scot, Robert Brown, were each in the vicinity, giving scientific names to hundreds of local plants. Various place names reflect early French interest – Huonville, D’Entrecasteaux Channel, Dru Point, and much else besides. Story boards at Inverawe bring you up to speed on these two, and a few more characters.

See you in the garden sometime!

And if you happen to live within shouting distance of Inverawe, think about a Workshop!



Inverawe Native Gardens
 PLEASE PARK IN THE LANEWAY AND ENTER BY THE NEXT GATE

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden

Inverawe Native Gardens
 Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden
 1565 Channel Highway
 MARGATE TAS 7054
 Behind the Margate Train
 Ph: (03) 6267 2020 Mob: 040 686 0584
www.inverawe.com.au
gardens@inverawe.com.au
 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