

2023 AUGUST

WARRNAMBOOL GARDENS FOR WILDLIFE NEWSLETTER



SNEAK PEEK OF WHAT'S INSIDE:

- *Gardens for Wildlife Warrnambool program OPEN!*
- *Gardens for Wildlife Victoria socials & resources*
- **Feature garden:** *Warrnambool's Miura Friendship Garden*
- **Profile:** *Butterflies*
- **Article:** *Golden Everlastings* by Linda Handscombe

Do you have an article or idea you would like to share with the Warrnambool G4W group?
Send your submissions to Kristy Roche via kroche@warrnambool.vic.gov.au



Warrnambool Gardens for Wildlife becomes an ongoing program



Expressions of Interest – **NOW OPEN**

Expressions of Interest to participate in the 2023 -24 Gardens for Wildlife Warrnambool program are NOW OPEN!

Following positive feedback from the Gardens For Wildlife pilot program during 2021, we are pleased to announce the launch of the ongoing Warrnambool program.

A warm thank you to our current program volunteers who are actively supporting the ongoing program and 2023-24 program launch.

Do you have an interest in volunteering to be a Garden Adviser, or would you like to request a free garden visit?

For further information please contact Kristy Roche at kroche@warrnambool.vic.gov.au, or to register an expression of interest please visit:

<https://www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au/active-community>

Gardens for Wildlife Victoria

Gardens for wildlife Victoria consists of local community members and Council/Shire officers from across Victoria supporting each other to be more involved with local residents, schools and businesses to join in on helping and caring for native plants and animals in our communities.

The neighbourhood is a combination of public and private land, which together can create a diverse habitat for various plants and animals. Our Council can take steps to protect and improve habitats on public land, while homeowners, businesses, schools and other private land owners can do the same on their own land, through wildlife and gardening, we can collaborate with our community to make our area a home for native species.

Check out Gardens for Wildlife Victoria on socials

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/Gardens4WildlifeVic/>

Website - <https://gardensforwildlifevictoria.com/>

Gardens for wildlife Stories & Tutorial's - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYdRxEm5LdlZsSbe2I48uR1tWED30X_t



Miura Friendship Garden

Article written by Abbie Lee

The Warrnambool Miura Friendship Garden celebrates the sister city relationship between Miura, Japan and Warrnambool.



It was designed using Japanese garden principles and built using indigenous plants and locally sourced materials. The garden elements represent the geographical connection between Australia and Japan

Located in the midst of Albert Park, the garden is best accessed by foot, though in dry weather cars can access the site via Grafton Road.

Butterflies



Butterflies love sunshine which is what gives them the energy they need to fly, they also love to eat garden flowers that contain nectar, and puddles of water which they drink from. Strong winds and rain is not ideal weather for butterflies as they have trouble flying stably in rain and winds.

What can I do to get butterflies to my garden?

- Put some rocks in your garden so butterflies can sit on them and soak up the sun
- Maintain diversity when planting (height, colour, and flowering periods)
- A variety of nectar-rich native plants
- Placing a small shallow dish of muddy water in a sunny spot as this acts as a puddle for the butterflies

Try not to:

- Use poisonous pesticides in your garden

List of nectar rich plants

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| • Kangaroo Paw | • Golden Buttons |
| • Twiggy Heath Myrtle | • Grey Cottonheads |
| • Banksias | • Correas (Native Fuchsia) |
| • Sand Bottlebrush | • Seaspray |
| • Common Appleberry | • Gynea Lily |
| • Sunset Serenade | • Eremopila |
| • Callistemons | • Little Evodia |
| • Geraldton Wax | |

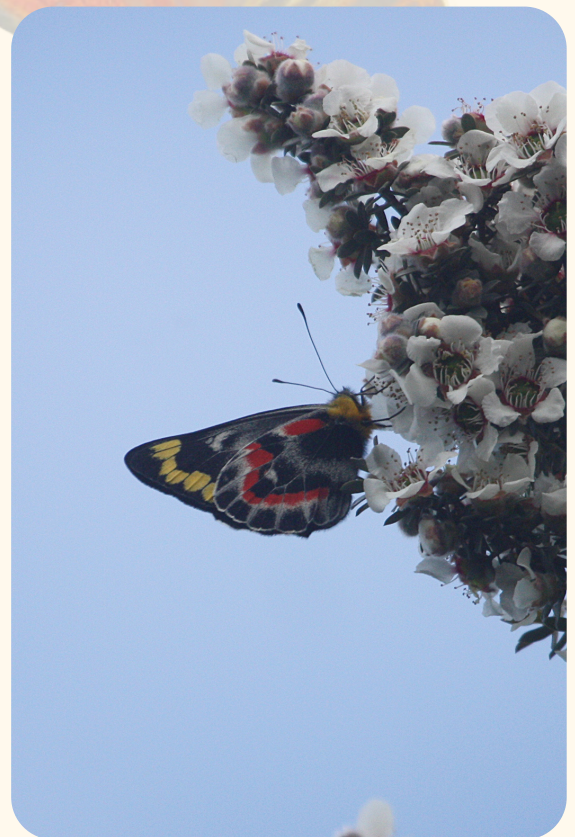


Photo taken by Gordon Reid



Golden Everlastings

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY LINDA HANDSCOMBE

In our four-year-old Illowa garden, we've discovered that Golden Everlastings (*Xerochrysum bracteatum*) are highly useful and attractive in various ways. These small shrubs grow quickly have eye-catching appeal, making them exceptional. While they can be utilised as cut flowers, their most significant benefit is the contribution they make to local wildlife.

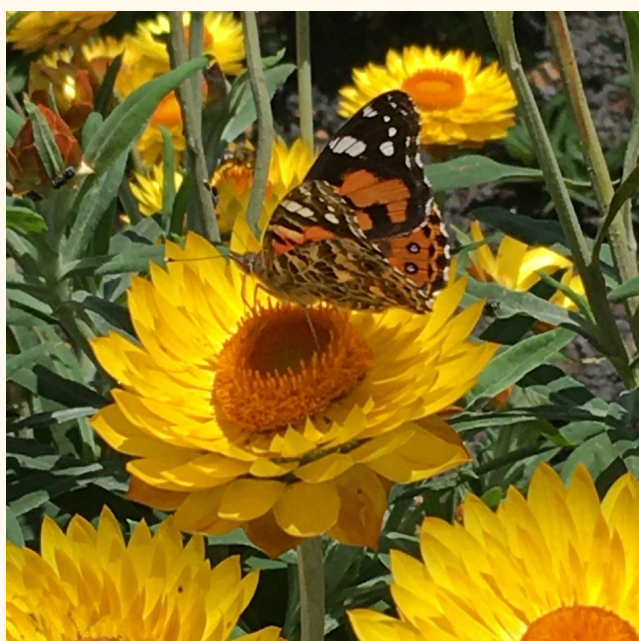


Photo taken by Linda Handscome

Golden everlastings mainly bloom from late spring through to Autumn and can be easily propagated from seed and cuttings, which self-sow in autumn. They thrive in open sunny areas with well-drained soil and benefit from early-stage tip punning to promote more flowers and a bushier plant. The plants flower heads consist of numerous small flowers, with papery bracts that appear to be petals closing at night or in wet conditions. Golden everlastings were the most effective insect-attracting flowers in our garden this season, drawing in hundreds of hoverflies, lady birds, and various fly species every sunny day.



Photo taken by Linda Handscome

Golden Everlastings are found throughout Australia and can grow to be anywhere from 10cm to 100cm and 25cm to 120cm wide. Their natural flower colours range from white to cream, yellow, gold, but many cultivars and hybrids have been developed in Europe and Australia over the last century providing more colour options such as oranges, pinks and burgundies.



Photo taken by Linda Handscome

They also attracted many introduced and native bees, moths and butterflies, providing food for insectivorous birds that have begun to make our garden their home. Willy Wagtails, Grey Fantails, and Pardalotes as well as Superb Blue Wrens that built two nests in the middle of the everlastings, have all been welcomed with enthusiasm. Each clutch of chicks was successfully raised



Online Event

WEDNESDAY 30 AUGUST 2023 AT 7PM



FREE EVENT:

*FOCUSING ON THE RECIPROCAL BENEFITS OF CONNECTING WITH OUR
LOCAL BIRDS*

REGISTER VIA BIRDLIFE AUSTRALIA OR EVENTBRITE:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/birds-meet-nature-connection-tickets-695764980787?aff=oddtcreator>