

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Date: 15 September 2010**

### **Waratah Passion!**

Spring is set to explode at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden with the **2010 Wild about Waratahs Festival**. Excitement mounts as the feature of this year's festival - an exhibition of new artworks by Jenny Kee entitled **Waratah Passion** - draws closer to its unveiling.

Jenny Kee's twelve new waratah inspired acrylic paintings on canvas are part of her own emotional and spiritual journey. "I want to share my passion for the waratah: the flower that has become my totem, the symbol of my fiery emotions," Jenny says. Red is a trademark of her career and Jenny's paintings proclaim their existence, making an intense statement, just like the Waratahs themselves.

"I live surrounded by native bushland that is frequently ravaged by fires. After fire, waratahs are like flames exploding into bloom from their bed of ashes, big crimson hearts opening to the sun. I am always astonished that such beauty can spring from such devastation. I see waratahs as the essence of fire - from the destruction comes rebirth."

Included in the artworks is Jenny's first work on silk in twenty years! This vibrant silk scarf embraces the latest digital technology, creating a striking collage of 24 of Jenny's most favourite artworks. The limited edition scarf is handstitched and 100% Australian made. The scarf may be viewed as part of Jenny's exhibition on show in the Visitor Centre from Saturday 25 September through until Sunday 7 November. Selected works will be available for purchase from the Gardens Shop.

The Wild about Waratahs Festival program continues on with something for everyone. Designed to celebrate our State's floral emblem and inspire a love of Waratahs in the wild, this annual festival includes a state wide bloom competition, floral arranging demonstrations, local Waratah farm open day, National Parks and Wildlife Discovery Walk, Q & A Clinic and children's craft workshops. The festival opens on Saturday 25 September and runs through until Sunday 10 October.

For more information about the Wild About Waratah Festival program or any

### **CONTACT US**

**Kristen Winder**  
Functions & Events  
Coordinator  
Mount Tomah Botanic  
Garden  
Phone: (02) 4567 3019  
Mobile: 0408 256 910  
Fax: (02) 4567 2037  
Kristen.winder@  
rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

**Continued ...**

**Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain**  
Mrs Macquaries Road  
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia  
Tel (61 2) 9231 8111  
Fax (61 2) 9251 4403

**Mount Annan Botanic Garden**  
Mount Annan Drive  
Mount Annan NSW 2567 Australia  
Tel (61 2) 4648 2477  
Fax (61 2) 4648 2465

**Mount Tomah Botanic Garden**  
Bells Line of Road  
via Bilpin NSW 2758 Australia  
Tel (61 2) 4567 2154  
Fax (61 2) 4567 2037

**National Herbarium of NSW**  
Mrs Macquaries Road  
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia  
Tel (61 2) 9231 8111  
Fax (61 2) 9251 7231

other spring activities, contact Mount Tomah Botanic Garden on 4567 3000 or visit [www.mounttomahbotanicgarden.com.au](http://www.mounttomahbotanicgarden.com.au)

This media release was issued by Kristen Winder at 12.40pm

**Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain**  
Mrs Macquaries Road  
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia  
Tel (61 2) 9231 8111  
Fax (61 2) 9251 4403

**Mount Annan Botanic Garden**  
Mount Annan Drive  
Mount Annan NSW 2567 Australia  
Tel (61 2) 4648 2477  
Fax (61 2) 4648 2465

**Mount Tomah Botanic Garden**  
Bells Line of Road  
via Bilpin NSW 2758 Australia  
Tel (61 2) 4567 2154  
Fax (61 2) 4567 2037

**National Herbarium of NSW**  
Mrs Macquaries Road  
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia  
Tel (61 2) 9231 8111  
Fax (61 2) 9251 7231