



# FOREST OF TRANQUILITY

## Firefly Magic Twilight Festival Season

1st Saturday in November - Saturday before xmas.

We have set our opening dates to help you plan your calendar in advance.

We open 6-9 every night when our Fireflies come out in November.

Every Year the Fireflies come out when the weather is right for them!!

Some things that may be of interest.

- Did you know - Fireflies are a Beetle!! - Not a Fly & Glow worms are a Fly and Not a Worm!
- Both of them are Bioluminescent.
- Bioluminescent Beetles light up the night skies of every continent except Antarctica! There are 1700 different species in the world but only 25 in Australia.
- Fireflies are an Insect. Insects are animals and they are 1 of 5 major kingdoms of Living Creatures !!!!!
- Insects are the largest food source for Animals.
- The study of insects is done by an Entomologist. Entomology divides living creatures into 32 Orders.
- Orders are sub divided into Families.
- Families are divided into genus and species.
- Only animals that belong to the same species can reproduce fertile offspring.
- Our local Firefly species is *Atyphella lychnus*.
- Scientists known as Taxonomists are the people who give the names in Latin.
- Some insects are considered pest?
- Many insects feed off other insects. These are sometimes known as beneficial insects and are GOOD GUYS.
- Fireflies fly at twilight (dusk). They emit a greenish yellow flashing light. It is produced by both the male and female in their abdomen. The light serves to bring them together as the flash frequency is a code so the male can find a female of their species.
- In the Australian Rainforest Sanctuary at Ourimbah NSW they come out in November for about 1 month depending on the weather conditions. They like high humidity and don't mind a little rain!! The display is different every night depending on rainfall, humidity and temperature which can fluctuate.