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The Bonsai Society meets at the Bellerive Community Art Centre,
17 Cambridge Rd, Bellerive at 7:30 pm on the third Tuesday of the month
(February – November)

Website: www.key.org.au/bonsai

Newsletter No 200 – October 2009

Meeting Commenced: at 7.40pm. Vice President Herbert Harding (presiding in Noel's absence) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. There were 14 members present, 3 apologies and we welcomed visitors Jordyn Long and Japheth Thomson.

(A Committee meeting was not held in view of the president's absence.)

Treasurer, Stuart Clutterbuck is evaluating how the reduction in public liability insurance premiums might impact on membership fees, and will advise the committee of his findings.

Discussion ensued regarding the roster for the **Royal Hobart Show**, and we seem to have the four days covered – 21st to 24th October.

We encourage all members (particularly new members) to participate by putting their plants on display at the Show. **With that in mind, a reminder that plants must be there on Tuesday 20th October, between 5pm and 6.30pm.** We are located in the Show Pavilion, where we were last year. (The pavilion is a large blue building to the left of the main gate, which is entered from Howard Road.)

Members were given a reminder of the dig on the 19th September, and a few extra names were added to the list. We have been given a permit that is valid for one year, so anyone who wishes to go at a more convenient time, please let the secretary know and your details can be added. Those of us who attended on Saturday morning had a very pleasant interlude meandering amongst Radiata pine and Macrocarpus. The weather, although windy, was very pleasant and everyone seemed happy with the results of their digging!

The Daffodil, Camellia & Floral Art Show has come and gone. There were some lovely blooms on display, and our collection of bonsai also looked most attractive. Three of our members were successful with entries in the show – Ona Barnes, Jenny Allford and Janet Loader. Congratulations to you all!

Hobart Horticultural Society: 6th & 7th November – Rose, Iris & Floral Art Show (Hobart Town Hall)

Christmas get together: Some ideas appeared in the September newsletter. Can we have feedback on what everyone would like to do.

Inwards Correspondence: Various newsletters from Interstate Clubs

Next Meeting: Will be held on the 20th October (the same day display plants are to be delivered to the show grounds.) While most of us are probably confident enough to decide when to "bonsai" European trees, there is some uncertainty as to the right time for our Australian natives. With this in mind, Will Fletcher will be conducting a presentation relating to "Bonsai-ing natives in the growing season." As Will has been working with natives for some years, his experience and advice in this area will, no doubt, be most appreciated by everyone.

Display Table: Trees of all shapes and sizes are beginning to show off their “green dresses” and our bonsai are no exception. An array of blossom and fresh Spring green was on display with Azaleas, Crab Apples, Satinwood and Cotoneasters looking wonderful in their “new season colours”.

The subject of the meeting was problem trees, and Eva had some expert advice from Diana about what to do with her *Banksia ericifolia*

Raffle: Gillian Roberts organized a plant, which was won by Hans Faltermeier.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Outings: Will Fletcher has offered to co-ordinate/organize excursions to Mt. Wellington, during summer, and Mt Field in autumn to look at deciduous beach – *Nothofagus gunnii*. Of course, both outings would be dependent on weather conditions at the time, but they would give members an opportunity to view this beautiful Tasmanian native in its natural setting. Those who attended the July meeting when Ambrose Canning talked about his trip to India, may remember the photographs he also showed us of *Nothofagus* in its autumn glory. Some members already have bonsai specimens of it, but for those who don't, it may provide some inspiration to include it in their collection!

Editor's note: Hopefully our Society's details will appear in the *Mercury's* “Diary” a week before our next meeting.