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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 203 – January 2010

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 16th February at 7.30pm. Look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. President Noel is somewhere in Burma (he should be back for our March meeting), so Vice President Herbert Harding will chair the meeting.

With the mild summer we have been enjoying, plus some welcome rain, our bonsai should be basking in Nature's kindness – so to speak. That should mean a good collection for our display table!

Demonstration: Diana will discuss insects and diseases – which have been a bit of a nuisance this year. She will also be providing some advice on preparing conifers for Autumn repotting, and organizing our bonsai so they are easier to water and get to work on.

General Business: A special committee meeting was held on 1st December 2009 to review our constitution subject to the Society's incorporation, which involved a lot of reading.

Also discussed was the possibility of holding an exhibition/event (refer Sept. N'letter 199) during 2010 to help promote the Society, bonsai in general and, hopefully encourage new members. Several venues were suggested and, after inspecting Rosny Barn, a temporary booking has been made for October - dates to be confirmed. While we are still very much at the discussion level, it would be helpful for all members to support the concept by offering assistance in whatever capacity they can. Most likely it would run over 2 days (Saturday & Sunday) between 10am and 4pm. Morning and afternoon tea would be served, and a sausage sizzle has been suggested. We would like to arrange demonstrations to enable visitors to see what we do, and hold one or two raffles. It's your Society – let's give it our full support.

Another issue which has come to our attention is, that Clarence Council has increased the cost of hiring the hall. This change takes effect from 1st of January 2010, when it will change from \$10/meeting or workshop to \$11.00/hour. Thus a 3 hour workshop would cost \$33.00 instead of \$10. At the moment, members pay \$2 each to attend a workshop. Treasurer Stuart Clutterbuck has been looking into the issue to see if the new hire fee can be reduced, and will report back his findings.

Inwards Correspondence:

Bonsai Federation minutes and notice of meeting to be held on 20th February 2010.
Newsletter – Bonsai Society of WA
Newsletter – Bonsai Society of Victoria

Summer Barbecue: On the 17th January Ambrose and Gabriella Canning welcomed members of the Bonsai Society to their Federation home at Sandy Bay. Ambrose showed his expertise in cooking the barbecue and Gabriella provided her “special” potato salad and a delicious pavlova which further enhanced members’ contributions. Members wandered through their lovely garden, where Ambrose’s bonsai collection was on display in various locations – including the aerial layered maple and viburnum he used for his presentation and demonstration at our last meeting. Despite some of us having concerns for their survival - they are very much alive!

Unfortunately, the afternoon turned cool, but the warm welcome and the cosy room (complete with fire) made sure spirits were not dampened by the weather. Hopefully, Stuart and Nicole’s exchange student, Bernardo, from Brazil, was not put off by our weather, and enjoyed the day too.

Thank you to Ambrose and Gabriella for their hospitality, and thank you to members for their participation.

Outings: Mt. Wellington and Mt Field. Further information will be made available.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 16th March 2010 at 7.30pm