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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.chooseit.org.au/bonsai

Newsletter No. 213 – November, 2010

Next meeting: will be held on 15th February 2011 at the Bellerive Community Arts Centre.

President Noel Kemp opened the November meeting, which commenced at 7.48pm. Noel commented that it was pleasing to see 17 members in attendance, as well as visitor John Bright. An apology from Rose Osborne was received.

Committee Meeting: Noel reported on the Committee meeting held on 9th November, which included the exhibition, workshop fees and the forthcoming Christmas barbecue. After some discussion, Society members were asked for a show of hands on their preference for an annual exhibition or one held in about 18 months. The majority voted in favour of one in about 18 months time.

The Committee decided to increase workshop fees to \$3 per workshop which would cover the cost of hiring the Arts Centre. Dates and workshop locations will be advised early in the new year.

A show of hands was called for those intending to participate at the Christmas barbecue – some 20 people (including partners) have indicated their willingness, so it will go ahead. (Details below)

Royal Hobart Show: Gill asked if we will participate in the Hobart Show next year, and Noel informed members of the theft of one of his plants during a demonstration. It was decided to decline requests for demonstrations from the organisers next year and wait for their response as to our future participation. Diana raised the issue of visitors to the stand asking how or where they can buy bonsai which, as most members know, we are unable to sell because the stand is free to the Society. This prompted the suggestion that we should consider holding our exhibition after the show – not before.

Christmas Barbecue: will be held on Sunday 5th December, commencing 12 noon, at Island Bonsai. Meat will be provided by the Society, and members are asked to bring along a salad or desert to share. There will be a lucky door prize, and prize for the best decorated bonsai – so let's see some Christmas spirit!

January Barbecue: 16th January at the home of Gill and Glen Roberts (3 Elinga Street, Howrah - Tel. 62479719 – just in case you get lost.) This is a BYO everything, and you might like to bring along a chair.

Special Announcement: David Budd has worked hard since the exhibition, counting all the votes in the People's Choice Award, so it was fitting that he should announce the winners. A separate report from David is included at the end of this newsletter, outlining the results.

1st prize was exhibit no. 39 – Herbert's Maple group; 2nd prize was exhibit no. 54 – Will's Huon Pine. On counting the votes for 3rd place, David found that if first votes were the criteria for deciding the winner, then his Oak tree (exhibit no. 32) was the winner. However, if the criteria relied on total number of votes, then exhibit no. 49 (Ambrose's Myrtle group) was the winner. Gallantly, he felt that 3rd place should go to Ambrose.

A special thank you to David for his hard work, and congratulations to the People's Choice winners. Thank you also to Will Fletcher for promoting the idea, which proved very popular with visitors – altogether 270 people voted, including 30 juniors.

And thank you to Heather Wiggers for supplying the wine to the lucky recipients.

David drew attention to some of the comments made by voters on their voting slips. Some gave Will's huge Banksia (at front door) their first, second and third votes! One voter gave reasons for their nominations e.g. 1st – No. 29 (Noel's Cypress for its bark technique); 2nd – No. 20 (Will's Guinea flower for its colour); 3rd – No. 41 Noel's Atlantic cedar for its shape). Another voter's comments went as follows: 3rd choice No. 17 (Will's alpine landscape) "because of its simplicity and I think I can do that and keep it alive!" It was nominated by an "adult without a green thumb", who thanked us for a marvellous display.

Raffle: Raffle tickets were available and the four prizes were won as follows:

Evelyn won a pot (donated by the Society); Tony took the plant (donated by Diana); Stuart opted for the mouse pad and bag (courtesy of Will); and Irene won the Sedum and pot.

Display Table: Some interesting bonsai graced the table –

Ambrose – Smoke tree (*Cotinus coggygria*) -windswept style - in flower; *Amalanchier*; and a lovely Azalea bearing apricot flowers.

Will – *Ozothamnus hookeri* – displaying a mass of creamy flowerheads; *Nothofagus*.

Herbert – Lovely pink azalea.

Gill – Grafted pink Hawthorn displaying its pretty blossom; miniature fuchsia; and a lovely Copper Beech in full leaf.

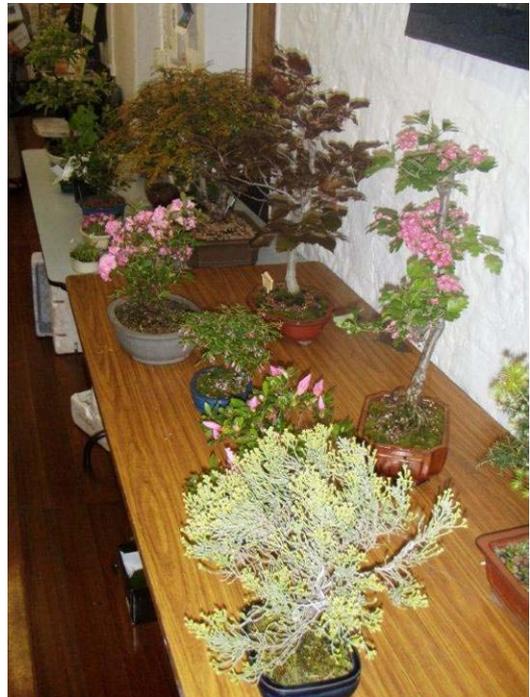
Diana – pink and white azaleas

Hans – Zelkova

Noel – 2 Port Jackson figs – one with large foliage, the other variety "Ruby Red" with smaller foliage; Chinese Elm which needs to have the wire removed; very fine leafed Cotoneaster (which is late this season), while his larger leafed specimen is in flower; an small leafed ivy which had been "misplaced" for a couple of years.

Irene brought in a maple for which she sought some advice – Noel suggesting she should remove the wire now as it's starting to cut in, and nip back new foliage. Tony Hewer – brought in a white English Hawthorn on which berries are beginning to form. Tony told us he had collected the tree about 20 years ago. Underneath the tree he has green-hooded orchids growing.





(Photos of the display table courtesy of Ambrose Canning)

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 15th 2011.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm, after which Will Fletcher regaled us with an account of part of his three week trip to Japan. The February issue will provide some photographs and an article from Will.

(Editor's note: Does anyone know the significance of the "raccoon" statues Will photographed in Japan? I didn't think Japan had any racoons.)

A request from one of our members asks if anyone objects to their email address/telephone number being given to other members, for the purpose of keeping in touch with members when not attending meetings. If any of our members do object, would they please notify the secretary/editor who will exempt them from the list.



Photos from the Exhibition
(courtesy of Ambrose Canning)



As it's almost the Festive Season, I take this opportunity of wishing all members and their families a Very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year.