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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](http://www.chooseit.org.au/bonsai)

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## Newsletter No 228 – May 2012

President Noel Kemp opened our April 17th meeting at 7.48pm, welcoming 17 members, including new members, Richard Forcey and Andrew Bailey. There were 3 apologies. We also would like to welcome new members John Barnard, and Pam and Andrew Thomas.

Noel thanked Committee members for their hard work in bringing the exhibition to fruition, also making mention of Society members Diana Jones, Tony Brown, Tony Hewer, Trish Hosking, Rose Osborne, Lesley Gillie and Hans Faltermeier, as well as Arnold Krieg, all of whom pitched in with assistance over the two days. A more detailed report appears on page 2.

**First Workshop:** 21<sup>st</sup> April saw quite a large group at Island Bonsai working on a variety of plants. Some of our trees have already cast off their foliage ready for winter's "hibernation phase", while others are still displaying their autumn colours. New members came along to observe and ask questions, joining in the usual camaraderie that makes these afternoons enjoyable. And of course, there was a lovely afternoon tea which is always a bonus!

**Next Meeting:** will be held on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May – Noel will focus on a literati –one of the more difficult styles to achieve a distinguished looking tree, and Ambrose will report on progress, and work on the aerial layering specimens he started a couple of years ago.

**On the Bonsai Calendar:**

May 12th	World Bonsai Day
May 15th	Meeting
May 20th	Normal workshop at Bellerive
May 18th – 21st	Melbourne Bonsai convention
May 26th-27th	Visiting tutor workshops & demonstration

**Raffle:** Slice of granite donated by Tony Hewer was won by Richard Forcey, and Diana won a packet of plant labels.

**Happy Birthday** Those with birthdays in May, your birthstone is the beautiful Emerald – Happy Birthday. Taurus is an earth sign – considered practical, realistic and restrained. Taurus is the second sign of the Zodiac – its symbol is the bull.

Other May trivia –on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1931 the Empire State Building opened in New York, and the 12<sup>th</sup> May is World Bonsai Day.

**Display Table:** After our efforts to display plants at the exhibition, the display was a little light on, but some interesting plants which included – Gill's maple, Antarctic Beach (*Nothofagus antarctica*), a Canadian maple (almost black leaves), a white camellia *sasanqua* and a red azalea. Diana brought a variegated ivy and Noel showed us a Black She oak (*Allocasuarina literalis*).

Will gave a brief report on his attendance at the 9<sup>th</sup> National Exhibition and Symposium of Australian Native Plants as Bonsai, which was hosted by the Canberra Bonsai Society. There were between 35-40 native species on display, ranging from a Banksia forest, a water gum (*Tristanopsis*) and Angophera, which belongs to the Myrtaceae family and is closely related to Corymbia and Eucalyptus.

Noel brought in two Cotoneaster he is training as topiary, explaining how easy it is to bend the branches to achieve the shape he desires.

Ambrose talked about his Myrtle group planting (*Nothofagus cunninghamii*) consisting of three trees which had excelled themselves with new growth over the summer. He explained that while constant pinching keeps it small, nothing changes, so allowing this excessive growth has also allowed the trunks to thicken up. He will cut it back at the workshop and may repot it. The trees came from different sources and look slightly different from each other. The group had been fertilized regularly commencing in spring with Seasol then adding a bit of Charlie Carp. Through Jan-Feb he used some Aquasol.

His Himalayan Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*), which had been heavily wired at a workshop (plus many hours at home), needs consistent trimming of new growth because it does not shoot back on old wood.

**Meeting closed** at 8.45pm

### **Report on Bonsai Exhibition** (including photos) by Ambrose Canning

The Society's second bonsai exhibition at Rosny Barn was held over the weekend of 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> April. As we had decided to space them 18 months apart this meant that this one was in Autumn and would display a different aspect of the trees. It was very successful and we even had the Premier Lara Giddings perform the official opening on Saturday afternoon. Because it was our Premier she had a couple of TV cameras in tow, and she spoke well and was surprisingly knowledgeable about bonsai. The best TV coverage was on ABC news on Saturday night during the lead story when our bonsais featured behind Lara, even though there was no direct reference to our display. Given Tasmania's poor financial state they featured Lara commenting on her ironic gift of a money tree. If only money did grow on trees.

There was a great selection of bonsai on display. I don't know exactly the total but the numbering went up into sixties or seventies. There were so many good bonsai and so many that I had not seen before. There are many great bonsai amongst our membership that don't ever make it to our meetings or the occasional horticultural shows in the City.

Demonstrations for the public were performed by Noel, Tony and Will and were very well received. I even sat in on one. The sales table was well stocked and to me it appeared to have many more developed or partly developed bonsai for sale this year, rather than just starter plants. Diana and her other assistants put in a great job selling over the two days. I was even spotted heading off after Saturday on my bicycle with the top of a black sheoak sticking out of my pannier.

The raffle was drawn on the Sunday afternoon just before we closed. The three winners were Frank for the paler azalea bonsai and white wine, Cameron Wadley for the darker semi-cascade azalea bonsai and red wine, and Katherine Morgan for the bonsai shears, bonsai book and white wine. Thanks to Gill for donating the azaleas, Noel for the shears, and Ambrose for the book and wine. The public's vote for most popular bonsai was more difficult to determine as many votes had to be tallied up. The unanimous result was Will's deciduous beech (*Nothofagus gunnii*) which was looking superb in the midst of its Autumn colour change with some green leaves and some yellow, and just starting to drop leaves. Based on comments I overheard during the two days I thought that Herbert's apple bonsai, with its single perfect fruit, would be popular and it was, with a mention in the popular voting tally. The winner drawn from the popular bonsai votes was Izzi von Lichtan who received the small bonsai pot donated by Will Fletcher.

The number of visitors to the exhibition was not quite as many as we had to our previous Spring exhibition. It may simply be that Autumn is not such an active time for gardeners, plant or bonsai interested people. In Spring the weather is improving, plants are growing and flowering and the public may be more enthusiastic about horticultural events such as a bonsai exhibition. However, our Autumn exhibition was a complete success and generated income for our Society. This income is

being used to subsidise other events for members, for example the upcoming demonstration and workshops by visiting tutor Andrew Ward on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May.

Finally, many thanks to all those people who volunteered to help on the Friday when setting up, or on the Saturday or Sunday during the exhibition, and those who helped planning in the months before. You know who you are. I would like to especially mention our secretary Evelyn who has put in a lot of work planning, documenting and organising and who ensured a successful exhibition.

Ambrose.





## Andrew Ward Workshops

Cost for participation by Society members is \$10 per workshop, Non Society members \$20. All observers \$5 per workshop. An updated list appears below – **please advise Evelyn if you are unable to attend, or if you wish to make any change to your present choice.**

It would be appreciated if members could arrange payment for the workshops at our next meeting on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May, rather than on the day of the workshops as this takes up valuable teaching time.

### Saturday 9-12noon

### Saturday 1:30-4:30pm

#### Name & preference (participant or observer)

Name:	P or O	Name	P or O
Gill Roberts	P	Gill Roberts	O
Evelyn Black	O	Evelyn Black	P
Richard Forcey		Will Fletcher	O
		Heather Wiggers	P
Irene Chau	O	Tony Hewer	O
Trish Hosking	O	Trish Hosking	O
Ambrose Canning	P	Ambrose Canning	P
Rob White	P	Rob White	P
Aaron Wierzbicki	P	Aaron Wierzbicki	O
Stuart	P	Stuart	
Noel Kemp	P	N Kemp	P
D Budd	O	D Budd	P
Phil Dilger	O?	Phil Dilger	O?

### Sunday 9-12noon

### Sunday 1:30-4:30pm

#### Name & preference (participant or observer)

Name	P or O	Name	P or O
Heather Wiggers	P	Noel Kemp	P
Diana Jones	P	Tony Brown	P
Jon Bouffard	O	Herbert Harding	O
Noel Kemp	P	Evelyn Black	P
		Will Fletcher	O
Phil Dilger	O?	Tony Hewer	P
Gill Roberts	P	Helene Browne	O
Ambrose Canning	P	Phil Dilger	O?
		Heather Wiggers	P
		Gill Roberts	O
		Ambrose Canning	P
		R Osborne	O



# BONSAI PRESENTATION

**Featuring**

**South Australian Bonsai Society Member and Demonstrator**

**with the**

**Australian Association of Bonsai Clubs**

**Tutor Programme**

**ANDREW WARD**

**Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup> 2012**

**Commencing 7:00pm**

**St Marks Church Hall**

**Cnr. Church & Scott Sts., Bellerive**

**All welcome.**

**Entry: \$10.00**

**Bonsai Society of Southern Tasmania** [www.chooseit.org.au/bonsai](http://www.chooseit.org.au/bonsai)

Phone 0418 342 046 or 6229 5741 for further information

# Bonsai Exhibition April 2012 - Public votes count

43 out of the total of 73 exhibits scored at least one No.1 vote!!!

59 out of 73 exhibits scored a top three vote!!!

## Number 1 votes

Position	Tree No.	Tree	Artist	Votes
1	42	Deciduous Beech	Will Fletcher	24
2	54	Cheeseberry	Will Fletcher	11
3	15	Atlantic Cedar	Herbert Harding	9
4	4	Japanese Maple	Noel Kemp	9
5	51	Trident Maple	Gil Roberts	8
6	39	Japanese Juniper	Tony Hewer	7
7	12	Apple	Herbert Harding	7
8	67	Monterey Cypress	Noel Kemp	7
9	29	Radiata Pine	Noel Kemp	7
10	55	Fuchsia 'Carnival Lights'	Tony Brown	6
11	18	Corky bark Elm	David Budd	6

## All Votes

Position	Tree No.	Tree	Artist	Votes
1	42	Deciduous Beech	Will Fletcher	50
2	54	Cheeseberry	Will Fletcher	25
3	39	Japanese Juniper	Tony Hewer	25
4	15	Atlantic Cedar	Herbert Harding	23
5	12	Apple	Herbert Harding	23
6	4	Japanese Maple	Noel Kemp	22
7	30	Huon Pine	Will Fletcher	18
8	25	Port Jackson Fig	Tony Hewer	16
9	67	Monterey Cypress	Noel Kemp	15
10	51	Trident Maple	Gil Roberts	14
11	63	Rockspray Cotoneaster	Noel Kemp	14