



President: Noel Kemp
☎ (03) 6243 6296

Secretary: Evelyn Black
12 Clearwater Court
Blackmans Bay, TAS 7052
☎ (03) 6229 5741
E-mail: e.black@bigpond.com.au

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 238 – April 2013

Our March meeting was held on a mild evening, with 20 members and 5 visitors. Phil Dilger was the only apology. President Noel opened the meeting at about 7.50pm with a warm welcome to everyone, including new member Robyn Everett, daughter of the late Betty Ford who was a member of the Society for many years.

Noel reported on a small presentation for International Ladies' Day at Bunning's Store, Rosny Park on 7th March, for which store management presented a \$50 gift voucher. They would also be interested in a further presentation, July – August being a good time when we are re-potting, pruning and carrying out other work on our trees.

Our Society again had a much admired display at the Dahlia & Gladiola show at the Town Hall. We do strongly encourage new members to display trees at these events, and perhaps spend a couple of hours with an experienced member at our displays. Talking with visitors, observing other members' bonsai, asking questions are all part of the learning experience.

And a milestone has been reached - as our membership is now 40!

Following up on the Committee's February meeting, a proposal for our Society to host the 2016 AABC Convention has now been forwarded to that organisation for their consideration.

This Month's Meeting: Tuesday, 16th April, commencing at 7.30pm, is titled "Will's "Dug up Tree". As Will and his lady are heading off for a three month trip to the "wild north west", including the Kimberley's and other interesting features on that large island to our north, we thought he should at least provide us with some inspiration before leaving our shores.

And judging by the ad appearing on page 2, there are some bonsai bargains begging for new homes!

Workshops: next one will be held on Saturday, 20th April at Island Bonsai, commencing at 12 noon. Cost is \$3 and a plate of something to share is always welcome.

Events: May 3rd, 4th & 5th – Chrysanthemum & Floral Art Show at the Town Hall. Members are reminded that plants be delivered to the Town Hall on Thursday, 2nd May from about 4pm and picked up on Sunday between 4- 4.30pm. Plants should be well watered (they will receive light spraying during the show), pots clean and free of weeds etc. Information should accompany each tree, and stands are very useful.

May Meeting: This will be something different, with Phil Dilger guiding us in the art of making pots. They will be small hand-size which Phil will fire – it should be an interesting evening. Phil suggested that you may wish to bring rubber gloves to wear while working.

Raffle: Items won by David (pot), Evelyn (pot) Anita (gloves).

Information - Brumby's Home Hardware at Mornington have 10 litre bags of Debco bonsai mix for \$7.40/bag.

One of our members asked some time ago about internet websites from which books and items relating to bonsai (tools, sharpening blocks etc.) could be purchased. From my own experience, I have purchased items from Stone lantern and booktopia, both of which sell a wide range of books, while Stone Lantern also sells just about everything "bonsai". Occasionally, booktopia have "postage free" deals, and while postage is fairly high from USA, some of the prices charged by Stone lantern still make it worthwhile. E-bay is also good (providing you can find your way round their site etc.)

Display Table: There was quite a selection of bonsai on display, styles ranging from informal upright, windswept, literati to Herbert's Trident maple forest.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm, after which a discussion ensued on potting mixes and fertilizers with several members informing us on the various ingredients they use to assist in their plant's growth.



For inspiration: a Tasmanian Pencil Pine in the Wild

Well, I don't actually have this Pencil Pine available in the **autumn sale** at Island Bonsai, but I do have a whole bunch of beautiful Tasmanian plants that are!

The deal is: I'm over stocked, so whatever you spend on pre-bonsai stock in plastic pots, you can choose plants up to an equivalent value from the sales plants area. So it's virtually 2 for the price of one!

Island Bonsai is open this weekend (**13/14 April**) at 37 Hall St, Ridgeway (10am - 5pm), or if you can't make it then, feel free to phone on **(03) 6239 1920**, or email will@islandbonsai.com.au for a suitable time to drop by.

I look forward to seeing you soon. All the best, Will Fletcher

***Editor's Apology:** due to an on-going issue affecting my right hand/arm I must apologise for delay in delivery of the newsletter, as well as the brevity of its content. Hopefully some rectification will allow me to produce something better for our next one.