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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)

Newsletter No 244 October 2013

At our September meeting, President Noel Kemp welcomed 25 members, and visitor Chris Xapapas who, along with Andrew Mapley have now joined our Society. Welcome - and may you enjoy a long association with us. Alison Titchen was our only apology.

It was mentioned at the September meeting that no arrangements have, as yet, been made for our usual pre-Christmas get together. The last two years we have organised a site at Risdon Brook Dam and brought the date forward, but for the most part, it's committee members and spouses who attended. So, members, we would like to hear ideas or suggestions for this event and, in particular, if you would like it to continue.

In a break from the norm, we had a guest speaker, Sabatino Cesile, representing Quarantine Tasmania. A brief report appears on pages 3-4.

This Month's Meeting: Tuesday 15th October commencing at 7.30pm. By now, everyone will be aware of our up-coming Exhibition, so we will begin by finalising details including rosters, demonstrations etc. If you are able to assist in any area – even an hour to enable someone to have a lunch break, it would be appreciated. Those displaying trees should provide details of their species on the night, if you haven't already done so! And members with Mame and Shohin bonsai are invited to bring them along for a special “small little tree” display!

19th November Meeting, all members are to bring along **one tree** – it doesn't have to be in a bonsai pot, as long as it is in training as a bonsai. A brief discussion on each tree will ensue, with the owner able to seek advice and ideas for its training and future development. Might be an idea to bring a notebook on the night – just in case!

Workshops: Our last workshop was held on Sunday 22nd September at Island Bonsai.





Bottom Page | Left: Diana in full concentration

Bottom Page | Right: New members Chris & Andrew at work

Left: Ambrose suggests Herbert is giving Will some advice. But I wonder if Will has Herbert looking for those elusive wallabies, or was it possums, that were getting into the nursery?

Photos courtesy of Ambrose

Events:

October 19th & 20th our Exhibition at Rosny Barn – besides a display of our bonsai, there will be six bonsai demonstrations over the 2 days, which should be interesting to all members. Some very nice raffle prizes to be won, lots of plants and a variety of bonsai items for sale. Do your Society a favour by promoting it to as many people as possible – talking, emailing family, friends and neighbours. This is our own special event, showing off our beautiful bonsai in their fresh spring growth! Cameron has put us on Facebook which can be passed on to get the information out there <https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=176558445865244>

November 1st & 2nd Rose, Iris & Floral Art Show at the Hobart Town Hall and, as always, we invite members to participate by displaying at least one bonsai. Trees should be delivered to the Town Hall on Thursday 31st October from about 4pm. Please ensure they have been well-watered, are free of weeds, insect pests etc. and pots and trees looking their best. Stands are always useful – let a committee member know if you require any.

April 12th & 13th, 2014 - Andrew Ward will be holding workshops, followed by a demonstration at our Society meeting on Tuesday, 15th April.

August 21st – 24th, 2014 Bonsai Convention International – see AABC update on page 4.

Raffle: Hans won the moss pot (donated by Anita); Robyn won the Charlie Carp and Ambrose has a small pot.

Tony Hewer has been making spatula tools used for tamping down soil when repotting – these are available for \$10 each. Evelyn still has sets of plastic waterers for \$2.50 a set of 3, as well as fine and medium Klingspor Sandflex cleaning/polishing blocks for \$7 each.

Display Table:

- Ambrose showed us an Amelanchier in an unusual pot –lovely perfume and white blossom;
- Gill's 15 year old Crab Apple was in full bloom and looked a picture;
- Ona's 10 year old Crab Apple is a root cutting from Gill's; and she also had a lovely azalea in a windswept style;
- Noel brought along several including a pink azalea, Crab Apple ,and 2 Japanese Maples from the same part of the garden but one having more foliage than the other. He explained that by removing the long new foliage so that the first pair of leaves is left, encourages the tree to produce new growth;
- Herbert's Wisteria (really 2 trees) is in flower;

- Cameron is developing a black pine which is looking good;
- Diana showed a nicely developed 13 yr. old Olive;
- Will's Grevillea australis displayed small cream-coloured blossom;
- Anita brought in an azalea which was originally white, but has since produced pink flowers! And Leslie also had a lovely white azalea;
- Heather was a month ahead of herself and brought in 2 Mame bonsai – a Juniperus and a Tea Tree;
- Tony Hewer displayed a Sergeant's juniper; and Sue Cerutty had an interesting Cotoneaster group planting on sandstone rock.

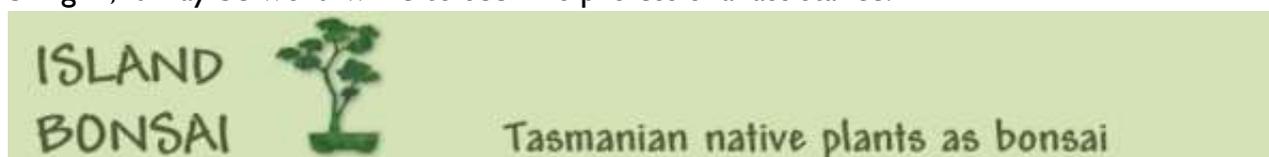
Meeting closed around 8.15pm, after which Sabatino Cesile, Communications Officer with Quarantine Tasmania, gave us an insight into quarantine issues and the difficulties associated with protecting our beautiful state because people disregard import restrictions. Of course, it's not just Tasmania that is vulnerable. Australia, being an island continent has avoided many of the diseases associated with animal husbandry, agriculture, plant diseases and insect infestations which exist in many countries in the world, and it would be devastating to our continent if some of them made it to our shores. On the mainland, each state also has to be vigilant in protecting its borders, and while certain pests and diseases are controlled mainly as a result of differing weather conditions others, such as the Queensland cane toad and certain mosquito species are spreading in various directions. Myrtle rust disease, affecting the Myrtaceae family which includes certain Eucalypt, Teatree, Paperbark, Willow Myrtle and Callistemon, has not yet established itself in Tasmania. But it requires extreme vigilance to ensure it does not!

Myrtle rust

What is it? Myrtle rust is a plant disease caused by the fungus *Uredo rangelii*. The rust was first detected on the Central Coast of New South Wales in April 2010. How the rust fungus entered Australia is unknown. Myrtle rust belongs to a fungal complex collectively known as the guava rust group. This complex includes the fungus *Puccinia psidii* which is significant pathogen of the plant family Myrtaceae. Myrtle rust attacks young, soft, actively growing leaves, shoot tips and young stems. It is only known to infect plants in the family Myrtaceae.

Myrtle rust was detected in NSW on the foliage plant *Agonis flexuosa*, cultivar 'Afterdark' (commonly known as willow myrtle). This plant cultivar is used as an ornamental plant in gardens and landscaping, and as a source of cut foliage for floristry in Australia. The host list of this pathogen is largely unknown with two known hosts recorded in the literature and three susceptible hosts documented in NSW. However, whether it will affect a range of plant genera and species in Myrtaceae is not known.

Sabatino left some useful information behind, some of which will be available from our library. He also suggested we contact him for assistance with information updates regarding trees we may wish to bring in or, for visitors, trees they would like to take home (useful when thinking of the 2016 Convention). And, as we have one or two members with trees they would like to bring in, it may be worthwhile to seek his professional assistance.





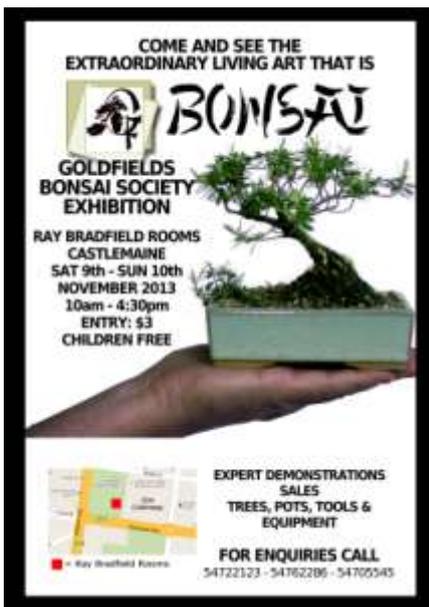
These photos show the mature bright yellow uredinial



Secretary Wanted: Evelyn has resigned from this position for health reasons, so we are looking for someone to take her place, commencing January 2014. She will be available to assist her replacement during the transition. The newsletter is not included, as the Society has grown, and its publication is separated from the Secretary's duties.



Top Left & Right: Some still busy, while others couldn't resist the delicious afternoon tea! (Taken at our last workshop by Ambrose.)



Left: We don't hear from the Goldfields Bonsai Society very often, but they would appreciate if we could promote their forthcoming November Exhibition in Castlemaine

Note: The following information regarding the 2014 Bonsai Convention International is a slightly revised version of the original forwarded by the Australian Association of Bonsai Clubs.

AABC UPDATE – September 2013 Newsletter –

Lindsay Bebb, President

Bonsai Convention International will be held from 21st – 24th August, 2014 at the Gold Coast, Queensland. You can find all the details at the following websites:

www.goldcoast2014.bonsai-bci.com

www.aabcltd.org

Convention venue is QT Gold Coast Hotel and you can make bookings through this web site:

www.qtgoldcoast.com.au

and key in Promo Code “CON” for stay dates between 18 & 28th August 2014.

Special BCI Magazine feature on Australia

Also in the promotion plan is a special feature on Australian bonsai in the BCI magazine for early next year. I would like as much support for this as possible and right now would like to organise a photo gallery of our bonsai. If you would like to submit one or more photos for consideration for this gallery, please email your photos to Lindsay Bebb at bonsai@bigpond.net.au

Special Auction at BCI Convention 2014

At the BCI convention in Denver last year we had a special auction of viewing stones that started online, so that people around the world could participate. We are doing the same thing for the Gold Coast convention. Currently we are accepting donations of quality viewing stones, art items and quality pots for the 2014 auction. If you would like to donate a quality item to this auction, please email Lindsay Bebb on bonsai@bigpond.net.au

We are looking for about 20 items and the auction will go online around February and conclude as a live auction at the convention. Paul Gilbert from Colorado will be the auctioneer.

Already we have four very nice viewing stones from Japan and Helen Su from Taiwan is donating a special oil painting.

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BCI Convention Raffle Tickets

You will soon receive tickets to sell in the AABC raffle related to the 2014 BCI Convention. Last year's raffle was a bit of a flop but after talking about it at our General Meeting in Canberra earlier this, it was apparent that many had missed the point.

Photographic Exhibition at BCI Convention 2014

There will be a photographic exhibition of trees from around Australia that could not be on show. Dianne Boekhout is to co-ordinate the exhibition.

Your club show may be an ideal opportunity to take photos of trees that may be chosen to be entered into the exhibition.

We are trying to get sponsorship to cover the cost of the photographs.

Future AABC Conventions : 2014 Gold Coast; 2015 Adelaide; 2016 Hobart