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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.bonsai-southern-tasmania.org.au

Newsletter No. 258 February 2015

Well members, what a beginning to SUMMER! Lovely drop (read downpour!) of rain in January. My apologies to those who like the beach and heat! I think of the less likelihood of bushfires, the filling of dams, reservoirs and rainwater tanks and the benefit to all living things – we can't do without water.

Our January BBQ on Sunday 18th was a quiet, cosy affair (probably the weather was a bit of a turn-off) but we didn't get wet and, although a bit breezy, the sun shone, water sparkled and the scent from many eucalypts hung in the air. Around 14 took the plunge, enjoying a tasty selection of salads, sausages, patties and chicken, followed by cakes and desserts, and Gill very kindly provided hot water for coffee and tea. There was a bit of bonsai banter, news that one member is expecting an addition to his family in June (congratulations Mr & Mrs Wadley!!!), Chris showed off his chef's uniform (in demand at the airport), and yours truly flashed her newly embroidered BSST polo shirt and rugby top.

Is everyone ready for this year? I must confess, I always feel somewhat at a loss when our last workshop/meeting for the year is over, and look forward with expectation to the first meeting in the new year. I know there are still plenty of "bonsai" things to do, but there's something about the banter and camaraderie amongst members that I miss.

Your Committee has put together some presentations for the year ahead. There may be a minor adjustment (nothing is set in stone), but you will be advised either via the newsletter or at a monthly meeting. Our aim as always is to make these meetings relevant, informative and interesting. We also invite members, who would like to do a presentation or have a topic/subject they would like raised for discussion, to speak to a committee member. Our first monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, 17th February.

Monthly workshops commence on Sunday 1st March and continue through the year with the last on Saturday, 28th November. Please note some changes to our normal arrangements in that workshops usually occur the weekend following our monthly meetings. However, due to a few dates clashing and the Arts group committed to weekend workshops with visiting artists, some adjustments were necessary. This year's bonsai calendar is included at the end of the newsletter, which should ensure everyone has the correct dates – location will be at Bellerive.

So better get those bonsai tools cleaned and sharpened, ready for pruning, trimming (v-cuts anyone?); tree foliage will have hardened off by now (some of my maples are starting to show early autumnal colouring of the foliage); deciduous trees can still be pinched and pruned back; junipers and cypress can be wired (but keep checking that it's not biting in – no tram tracks!); safe to do major work on all conifers; and a good time to defoliate ficus. (Please let me know if you do not have a copy of Chris's guide chart which was re-published in the December newsletter.)

Don't forget our monthly display table. There are occasions when it literally groans with trees, and times when I wonder where all the bonsai have gone? No matter what time of year, our

bonsai (be they bereft of foliage, or covered in blossom) have their beauty. Besides, one can always be sure of some advice if they bring something “untouched” along.

And I’m sure there will be plenty of expertise on offer, especially as we prepare for our own **Exhibition to be held on 30th – 31st May** at the Rosny Barn (please keep those dates free). There is much to do in preparation for the occasion, just as there is much to be done this year as we move ever closer to the **2016 Convention!** I recall the first time the, then, committee talked about the possibility of putting up our (collective) hand for it, and one member remarked that he would be “such and such” an age by then! Well, Hebert, we got it and I’m sure, like myself, our members hope you will be around to participate and enjoy it too!

Bonsai Events & Diary Dates:

First Meeting for this year (Hooray!) Tuesday, February 17th at 7.30pm – presentation on Cedars by Chris & Tony.

Sunday, 1st March 2015 our first workshop for the year, at Bellerive Community Arts Centre from 1pm - 4pm.

March Meeting: Tuesday, 17th March at Bellerive Community Arts Centre, commencing at 7.30pm. Presenter, Shane Boyce will be discussing Micro-climate bonsai. Members interested, Shane will be conducting bonsai classes as per the following information:

The Bonsai School of Tasmania
with the generous co-operation and support of
The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens
will be conducting 2 ‘Introduction To Bonsai’ classes
in Hobart on Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th March 2015.

The class will be conducted by our Society member and Japanese Accredited Bonsai Artist Shane Boyce.

Go to their website for more information www.bonsaitasmania.com or Tel. 0417 186 048

AABC Convention 2015: May 15th – 18th in Adelaide

Bonsai Society Exhibition: Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st May 2015 at Rosny Barn.

Other Diary Dates

Mar. 13 th & 14 th	Dahlia, Gladioli & Floral Art Show – Town Hall
Sept. 11 th & 12 th	Daffodil, Camellia & Floral Art Show (location to be confirmed)
Nov. poss. 6 th & 7 th	Rose, Iris & Floral Art Show – Town Hall (date to be confirmed)

Library Collection:

The Society’s selection of books and journals is available for members to borrow for a month at a time, at no charge. It’s regarded as a further source of gaining information and improving our bonsai skills. New members in particular might find copies of “*Bonsai Today*” especially helpful on re-potting, shaping and pruning, see numbers 50 – 52, 57 -60, 63, 65 and 66. The first 49 copies also include some useful information, with bonsai enthusiasts such as Peter Adams looking at optional designs for particular trees.

Invitation:

If you have something interesting you would like to share with other members, or a request for information, let’s hear from you. And if you’d like to tell us about yourself and how you became interested in bonsai, it gives everyone an opportunity of getting to know you better.

I found to my surprise that I first joined the Society in November 2007 – time flies when you're having fun! Although I'd been interested in bonsai for a long time, due to work and business commitments, as well as home and garden renovations, there was never enough time to pursue it.

My bonsai journey really began in 2004 with a Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum*) "Sango Kaku" purchased for \$10. A year later, Arnold presented me with a Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*) "Nire Keyaisi", and the rest is history – so they say! As bonsai enthusiasts know, collections never remain static, and over the years Arnold has been called on to build shelves and set up a misting system.

I know I still have an enormous amount to learn and that, because of my interest in creative writing, I don't spend as much time as I should attending to my collection. I find bonsai relaxing, time drifts and worries dissipate as I tend my trees. I so enjoy observing their changes through the seasons – watching the new buds form and gradually unfurl revealing fresh spring foliage, seeing their texture change as temperatures rise, then as the cooling days of autumn advance the foliage, especially of maples, elms and oaks, again changes colour and leaves begin to fall.

This past year my trees have been more exposed to the elements than they ever were, and that too has impacted on their growth and development, as trunks and branches seem sturdier, and like the foliage, have been weathered by the fickle elements common to our island home.

It has taught me that, while our trees are much smaller versions of their naturally growing relations, it is important not to over protect them in order to attain that aged appearance.

On a personal level, thank you everyone for your companionship, good spirits, encouragement and enthusiasm and, most importantly the sharing of your knowledge and experience. It is a pleasure to be a member of the Bonsai Society of Southern Tasmania.

(Evelyn Black: Editor)

Committee Members & contact details:

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Will Fletcher- Tel. 6239-1473 Email: will@islandbonsai.com.au

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Cameron Wadley: Tel. 04389 23539 Email: crazywadley@gmail.com

Editor: Evelyn Black: Tel. 6229-5741 Email: e.black@bigpond.com.au

Members might like to have the following information re the polo & rugby shirts, purchased from:

TAS Workwear Group, 50D Browns Rd. Kingston. Tel.62292881 – contact Peter.

Polo Shirt – short sleeve, cotton stretch, navy, size Small \$21.20 (Item No.PS55)

Rugby Shirt – long sleeve, 100% cotton, navy, size Medium \$60.50 (Item No. Lakeport)

Prices include \$5 per item for embroidered logo.

I'm happy to pick up orders on behalf of members, but it is wise to try for size!

Secretary Anita was contacted by the Aust. Japanese Society, asking if we might have a display of bonsai at their "Summer Street Festival". Despite the short notice Chris, Tony, Anita and I put a small display together and spent a pleasant evening on 27th January – a range of food stalls, an ikebana display, origami, massage, a few ladies dressed in lovely kimonos – were also part of the scene. Quite a number of visitors who were also interested in bonsai.

Heritage Bonsai Tasmania

Open by appointment

Tel.: 0439 383 365

Email: cxepapas@gmail.com



Found these on Google:

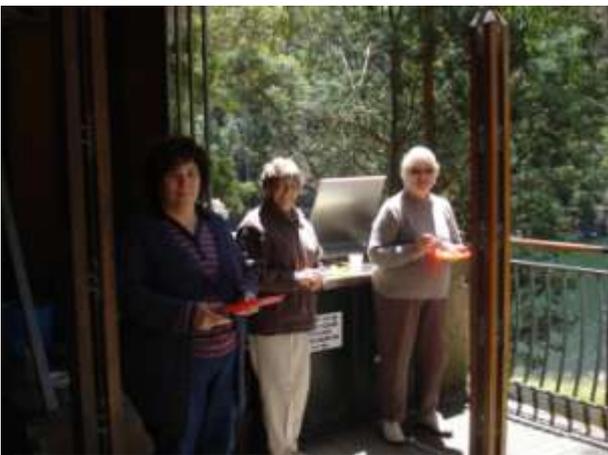
Above: “azalea bonsai” by Paul Richardson, and Right: “maple bonsai”. A number of red leaf maples are included – doesn’t it look beautiful! www.pinterest.com



Some secret men’s business going on between Rob and Herbert????



A contented group bask in the sunshine.



Anita, Margaret & Lesley enjoy their dessert.



Cameron all smiles – a second bub is on the way – due in June!



Your Bonsai Calendar for 2015

Jan. 18 th (Sunday)	BBQ lunch at Waterworks
Feb. 17 th (Tuesday)	Meeting – Chris & Tony – Cedars
Mar. 1 st (Sunday)	Workshop – Bellerive Community Arts Centre
Mar. 13 th & 14 th	Dahlia, Gladioli & Floral Art Show – Town Hall
Mar. 17 th (Tuesday)	Meeting – Shane Boyce – Microclimate bonsai
Mar. 28 th (Saturday)	Workshop – Bellerive Community Arts Centre
Apr. 21 st (Tuesday)	Meeting Chris – Pine refinement & pad development
Apr. 26 th (Sunday)	Workshop – Bellerive Community Arts Centre
May 19 th (Tuesday)	Meeting – Native Species Symposium – Will Fletcher
May 15th-18th (Fri-Mon)	AABC Convention 2015 - Adelaide
May 23 rd (Saturday)	Workshop – Bellerive Community Arts Centre
May 30th – 31st (Sat. & Sun)	Bonsai Exhibition – Rosny Barn
June 16 th (Tuesday)	Meeting – Report on our 2016 Convention presentation in Adelaide
June 28 th (Sunday)	Workshop Bellerive Community Arts Centre
July 21 st (Tuesday)	Meeting – Ambrose to discuss making bonsai stands
July 25 th (Saturday)	Workshop – Bellerive Community Arts Centre
Aug. 18 th (Tuesday)	AGM – Cameron discussing Azaleas
Aug. 23 rd (Sunday)	Workshop Bellerive Community Arts Centre
Sept. poss. 11th & 12th	Daffodil, Camellia & Floral Art Show –
Sept. 15 th (Tuesday)	Meeting – Noel (Mame & Shohin)
Sept. 27 th (Sunday)	Workshop Bellerive Community Arts Centre
Oct. 20 th (Tuesday)	Meeting – Bonsai Hardware
Oct. 24 th (Saturday)	Workshop – Bellerive Community Arts Centre
Nov. poss. 6 th & 7 th	Rose, Iris & Floral Art Show – Town Hall
Nov. 17 th (Tuesday)	Meeting – Critique on trees
Nov. 28 th (Saturday)	Workshop & pre_Christmas get together – Bellerive Community Arts Centre

N.B. Workshop dates for Feb., March, June, Sept., & Oct. these are a week later than normal.