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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. 264 August 2015

Well everyone, while the rain has been spasmodic, we have certainly had a real taste of winter these past few days. Since living in Blackmans Bay, this is the second time we have experienced snow and, I think, more this time than in 2005. Even my bonsai were covered, and our neighbour's ball-shaped elms reminded me of giant Christmas puddings heavily dusted with icing sugar! Who knows what might be in store for us, considering that in NSW they experienced bushfires in an area that only a few weeks previously had received snow. But that's Australia – a land of many contrasts.

President Ambrose opened the July meeting at 7.35pm with a welcome to 17 members and 4 visitors. Apologies from Noel (still trekking in South America), Jan Fleming (in the Kimberleys), Rose Osborne, Rob White (in Spain), Chris Xepapas (trip to Japan) and Koula (kept busy looking after the bonsai during Chris's absence!).

The following reminders were given:

- our AGM which will be held during the August meeting;
- Registrations still available for Bjorn Bjorholm workshops 12th & 13th September;
- Our next workshop on Saturday 25th July from 1-4pm;
- Will's proposed trip to Cradle Mountain during the 2016 Convention (NOT Lake St Clair as was stated in last month's newsletter) for further details contact Will direct;
- A range of pots made on our potting night have still not been claimed, and will be sold or used as raffle prizes by the Society should their owners not come forward;
- Debco bonsai potting mix for which Gill has been taking orders;
- Tony Hower also has potting mix available to members (Tel.6239-0096 or Mob:0419-329-915)

Any member who doesn't have their **new name tag**, could you please let the editor know.

Raffle: John won a very nice azalea; Tony Brown chose a pot; Bob opted for a book and Robyn also won a pot.

Display table: Don't forget our monthly display table. No matter what time of year, our bonsai (be they bereft of foliage, or covered in blossom) have their beauty. And one can always be sure of some advice if they bring along something "untouched". There weren't a large number of trees, but some interesting ones in the display:-

Scott brought in a Trident Maple which he is developing; Tony Brown showed his Box and a Chamaecyparis; Anita chose a 2 year old Honeysuckle with small leaves; Gill's semi-cascade quince surprised her by producing pink flowers for the first time ever, and she brought her Correa which always seems to have flowers, (recommends it as a good specimen for bonsai), a Grevillea *australis* in cascade style and a pretty companion planting of crocus; and Diana's Camellia displayed small pink flowers.

(Advice on Camellias and Azaleas: these should be re-potted after flowering.)

Presentation: Ambrose presented us with a selection of tables and stands, in various shapes and sizes, which he has either purchased, made or adapted to display his bonsai. A number of suggestions arose and items such as tiles, slate, pavers, coffee tables, driftwood, and even cupboard doors could all be useful items for display purposes. It was agreed it was really up to one's own imagination. From the small boxes he'd brought with him were a number of items – door knobs (used for feet) PVA glue, aquadere, araldite, a range of sandpapers, stains, and sealers – available at most hardware stores, and not expensive.

The following information on the Debco bonsai mix which is available from Harmony Garden Centre:- 10Litre Bonsai mix at the special price of \$6.95 for the Bonsai Society, which will be available to all members on presentation of this newsletter article, or happy to take a bulk order pending your preference. Our address is 450 South Arm Rd., Lauderdale.



(Gill Roberts has placed a bulk order from those who were interested, and will advise when it is available. If you need some urgently, Gill has a couple of spare bags which she can bring to the meeting (Tel. 6247 9719). And if you do intend visiting the nursery, please ensure you have this newsletter with you so staff will know you are from the Bonsai Society of Southern Tasmania!)

Bonsai Events & Diary Dates:

This month's meeting Tuesday, 18th August at 7.30pm This will be our AGM which will include election of the 2015/16 committee. Afterwards, Cameron will be discussing azaleas – so if you have any bonsai styled or in training, a good time to bring them along.

Next workshop Sunday, 23rd August 2015 Bellerive Community Arts Centre from 1pm - 4pm. Information in last month's newsletter advised that now is the best time for re-potting our trees, and if you need help – especially if unsure about root removal or re-direction – advice will be available. And anyone still not sure about a suitable tree for Bjorn Bjorholm's workshops, please bring it along. Our VP Chris is back from Japan, full of enthusiasm, new ideas and raring to go! His main problem right now is adapting to our "cool" weather conditions!

The July workshop was a fairly quiet affair attended by 9 members, some of whom were busy making stands and came armed with saws, sandpaper, stains and sealers – perhaps getting some ideas from Ambrose, Rose was busy wiring and Diana spent time re-potting her Wisteria which are already sprouting vigorously.

September Meeting: Tuesday, 15th at Bellerive Community Arts Centre, commencing at 7.30pm. Noel will be our presenter for the evening – topic to be advised.

Other Diary Dates

Sept. 11th

Bjorn Bjorholm demonstration venue to be decided

Sept. 12-13th

Bjorn Bjorholm workshops at UTAS

Sept. 11th & 12th

Daffodil, Camellia & Floral Art Show at the Town Hall

Nov. 6th & 7th

Rose, Iris & Floral Art Show – Town Hall

29th AABC National Convention –will be held from **20th to 23rd May 2016**: Plenty of notice so PLEASE keep these dates free We will need EVERYONE to pitch in and give as much help as you can in whatever way you can.

Don't Forget Membership fees are now due: – Cheques made payable to: Bonsai Society of Southern Tasmania Inc., and those wishing to make a direct deposit, our bank account details are as follows: BSB 067-000, Account 28039262, please provide first initial and surname as your reference so Rob can track payments.



Open on the 2nd weekend of the month, or by appointment . Tel. 6239 1920
(Note: Island Bonsai will be closed till the end of August due to building works, but Will hopes to be open for the 2nd weekend of September i.e. 12th & 13th.)

Library Collection:

The Society's selection of books and journals is available for members to borrow for a month at a time, without 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 your own "bonsai journey", it gives everyone an opportunity of getting to know you better. Photos are also accepted – whether they are your own or something from the internet (don't forget to include your source!).

Committee Members & contact details:

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

The following information is for members still interested in polo/rugby shirts, or having your own shirt embroidered with the Society's logo:

- 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. Alternatively, you can have your own shirt embroidered with the logo for \$6. I'm happy to deliver shirts for embroidering and return orders on behalf of members, but it is wise to try for size if you're intending to buy from them!



Open by appointment
Tel.: 0439 383 365
Email: cxepapas@gmail.com

President's Report, 2015.

Thank you to all members who participated in or contributed to our various events during this last year, since our last AGM in August 2014. Also, my thanks to our committee who work behind the scenes, in addition to myself there is vice president Chris, treasurer Rob, secretary Anita, newsletter editor Evelyn, Tony H, Will and Cam.

During the last year we have had ten general meetings all held at the Bellerive Community Arts Centre on Tuesday evenings, and we have had ten workshops held on alternative Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Thanks to those members who gave presentations or demonstrations at general meetings including Will Fletcher, Chris Xepapas, Tony Hewer, and Shane Boyce.

During the year Evelyn organised embroidered polo and rugby shirts and caps displaying our Society logo, which can be worn at events where we represent the Society. These can still be obtained.

This last year our Society had four public bonsai displays, three associated with the Hobart City Council supported Horticultural Society shows. The Daffodil, Camellia and Floral Art Show held in September. The Rose, Iris and Floral Art Show held in November. The Dahlia, Gladioli and Floral Art Show held in March this year. Also, we had our Rosny Barn exhibition which we hold every 18 months and this year held in May, in autumn, and which was extremely successful with good numbers attending and good fund raising for our Society. The improved attendance was primarily due to better promotion this year.

In November 2014 we held our first Bonsai and Garden Sale, organised by Rob White with support from the committee. This was a great success raising over \$700 of profit for the Society which will be used to support other events and benefits for members.

In January we held a subsidised barbeque at the Waterworks Reserve and around 14 members attended to welcome the new year, socialise and talk a little bonsai.

During the year your committee has been organising a visit to Hobart by Bjorn Bjorholm, an American living and working in Japan as a bonsai professional. Bjorn will hold workshops on September, 12th and 13th, later this year. His Australian trip has been organised in conjunction with other mainland clubs in other states he will visit. This is an opportunity not to be missed.

Also during the year a sub-committee has been busy with the planning for the 29th AABC national convention to be held in Tasmania for the first time in May 2016, in Hobart. *Southern Bonsai – Island Style* is our theme. The event was publically launched at the 2015 convention in Adelaide where ten Tasmanians attended, including seven Society members.

Lastly I want to mention that during the year we have had two collaborations with the Australian Japanese Association. In January and at short notice we participated in their Summer Street Festival and put on a small display. Then at our May exhibition they organised a food stall on the Saturday.

I will conclude by thanking all members for their support of our Bonsai Society of Southern Tasmania as it consists of the members and depends on your support and participation where ever you can.

Ambrose Canning, July 2015.

This article and photograph of former president, Noel Kemp, appeared in the TasWeekend supplement of the Mercury on Saturday 18th July, 2015. However, with Noel trekking in South America, we haven't yet discovered how it came to be!

JOIN THE CLUB BONSAI SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN TASMANIA

Indulge in the meditative and traditional art of bonsai with the Bonsai Society of Southern Tasmania. The art form originated in China and Japan, and allows a person to control the shape of a small tree for purposes of meditation, decoration and respect for nature. Join this society to meet with other bonsai enthusiasts, learn from visiting masters and attend monthly meetings where you can chat about how to maintain your bonsai. The next meeting is on Tuesday from 7.30pm at the Bellerive Community Arts Centre where Ambrose Canning will demonstrate how to make a bonsai stand. Feel free to bring your own tree for critique. Yearly memberships cost \$35. for more information, go to bonsai-southern-tasmania.org.au



Got a group? Email tasweekend@news.com.au