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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. 267 November 2015

What a mixed bag our spring weather has been this year – the only constant has been an obvious lack of rain – while temperatures have fluctuated with alacrity! As a result of these variable conditions, one must constantly monitor what's happening to our bonsai as their tender, fresh growth is blasted by warm winds and hot sunshine, followed by cold snaps. One or two of my more established trees were rather limp and sorry looking, however a good soaking and a couple of days in dappled shade worked wonders. Don't forget if your trees do dry out, especially those in shallow pots, immersing them in a basin or bucket of water for 10-15 minutes usually improves their appearance. It is worthwhile to keep your shallow pots in trays containing gravel and ensure regular misting to avoid drying out.

Vice President Chris opened the October meeting at 7.35 pm with a welcome to 21 members including Jan Fleming, who assured me she is feeling well since her surgery. Apologies from President Ambrose (in Qld) and Lesley Gillie, and Will was notable by his absence.

The Australian Japanese Society is holding its 45th Anniversary dinner on 14th November, and has invited the Society to organise a display of bonsai for the occasion. Members interested in displaying their bonsai on the night were asked to contact Chris (a separate email containing details was sent out prior to publication of this newsletter.)

A number of reminders to members followed:

- the Rose & Iris Show at the Town Hall held on 6th & 7th November;
- our Committee would welcome ideas for next year's meetings. Please give some thought to what you would like to have included and talk to a committee member;
- Convention Early bird registration expired on 1st November;
- trees for the Convention – must be available to Chris, Tony Hewer, Ambrose or Will by 1st February, and only the best of the best trees will be displayed. All trees to be displayed on stands according to set criteria, with space available for accent planting;
- our end-of-year bbq will include our last workshop for this year (hopefully our partners won't mind if we talk bonsai for a while!). Information on what to take, and details of how to get there are on page 4 of this newsletter.
- Garden & Bonsai Sale to be held on Saturday 28th November in the car park of 54 Quayle Street, Sandy Bay. See full details on pages 4-5 of this newsletter.

Raffle: there being no raffle prize, members very kindly dropped coins into our treasurer's welcoming hands anyway!

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".

Herbert's enthusiasm knows no bounds as he continues his bonsai journey and tonight he brought along his lovely 10year old Azalea displaying deep pink flowers, a small cedar in informal upright style, a lovely Maple and an Oak (both Forcett nursery purchases); Diana's fuchsia, Chris is developing an Ash he found growing near his home; Gill displayed her Hokkaido Elm re-styled by Bjorn, also an

Arctic beech, a cotoneaster planting on rock and red roses in blue bonsai pots; Rob brought his *Pyracantha* and a cotoneaster about 20yrs old; Heather showed her root-over-rock styled tree.

Presentation: Tony Hower gave us some timely tips on taking care of our precious tools. Considering their cost, it is worthwhile to spend a bit of time cleaning and wiping them with a lightly oiled cloth, as well as keeping them stored properly, instead of tossing them all together where they can get chipped and damaged. A cleaning stone is worth having in your toolbox to remove resins or saps and can help reduce the possible transfer of diseases between your plants.

Bonsai Events & Diary Dates:

November meeting Tuesday, 17th November at 7.30pm, and our topic - "Critique on Trees". The following is a list of trees from our November 2014 critique:

Stuart's Scott's Pine (*Pinus sylvestri*); Heather's seedling Elm; Evelyn's Viburnum; Rob's *Pyracantha*; Diana's Green Bottlebrush, and Satsuike azalea "Koma" (pale pink flowers) in free form style; Gill's Tea Tree, and Chinese Elm in root-over-rock style, and Maple: - defoliated at October workshop; Ambrose's lovely orange/pink azalea; Noel's 2 maples in mame style, and Sycamore collected in 1980's, and raft cotoneaster around 1984 – branch placement; Cameron's Chinese Elm (Bunnings special); Chris's *Pinus contorta* (Lodgepole Pine).

Perhaps you would like to bring them back for members to see their development during that twelve month period. Alternatively if they have moved on (or gone to bonsai heaven – perish the thought!) perhaps something from Bjorn's workshop or that you have worked on during the year.

Next workshop: Sunday, 22nd November 2015 at Dysart from 1pm - 4pm (see page 4 for details). Our October workshop was a busy one with members defoliating – either completely or partially (not sure if any tears were shed, but there were a few grumbles and long faces). Chris gave a brief demonstration on the topic – perhaps to reassure us of the necessity for this procedure.

February Meeting: Tuesday, 16th February, 2016 at Bellerive Community Arts Centre, commencing at 7.30pm. Confirmation of the date will appear in our December newsletter.

29th AABC National Convention 20th to 23rd May, 2016: Plenty of notice so PLEASE keep those dates free. We need you all to pitch in and give as much help as you can in whatever way you can. There will be some information available for everyone to nominate where they will be able to assist. Remember, this is the very first time this convention has been held anywhere in Tasmania. It is a real boost for our Society, and we would like all our visitors to take back fond memories of the occasion. If you have questions about the convention, speak to a committee member.

Other Diary Dates

Harmony Garden Centre – 9th December from 5pm-7pm display of bonsai

Dahlia, Gladiolus & Floral Art Show – Town Hall on 11th & 12th March 2016.

Daffodil, Camellia & Floral Art Show – Town Hall on 26th & 27th August 2016



Open on the 2nd weekend of the month, or by appointment . Tel. 6239 1920

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!).

The following contribution is from Robin Everett, whose mother, Betty Ford passed away in July 2012. Robin was uncertain what to do with her Mum's bonsai, but as you will find from her writing, with a little help, she now has a living legacy with which to remember her Mum. The photo included (one of Betty's trees) is a Juniper procumbens nana, which Chris recently restyled for Robin. Tony is working on an article about Betty, which will be published in a future newsletter.

When Mum passed away I thought to myself what am I going to do with all of her Bonsai and Orchids. Firstly I was going to donate everything to do with Bonsai to the club to sell or raffle or do whatever with. I knew nothing about Bonsai and have very limited time, so I thought it would not be a wise move to keep them. But as time passed, I thought to myself one night when I was laying awake in the middle of the night unable to sleep, that I might keep her trees and just weed them and water them and see where it leads.

So after a few weekends of moving everything to my house and setting them all up on the benches my Bonsai journey began. Many of them looked dead to me but, after lots of tender loving care, new shoots started appearing and I got quite excited. I started looking through all of her Bonsai books and thought okay I have got no idea where to begin here so I got in touch with Tony and asked him if he would help me with them.



So my wonderful friendship with Tony began and after much work and lots of knowledge from Tony I started to get enthusiastic and I am so pleased I did. Since then Tony and Chris come to my place every now and then and between them have transformed some of her trees back to how they should be, which I am so grateful for. Those days we spend together enjoying Bonsai I will always treasure.

I do have a lot of plants in Bonsai pots that are not Bonsai, but I don't care as they were my Mum's, and I know that she enjoyed her Bonsai so much and made life-long friendships with some of the members. I think she would be proud of me that I have carried on from where she left off. It keeps me close to her.

Committee Members & contact details:

President: Ambrose Canning –Tel. (H)6225-4002
Vice Pres.: Chris Xepapas – Tel. 0439 383 365
Secretary: Anita Shanahan – Tel. 6228-1281
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Email: e.black@bigpond.com.au

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)

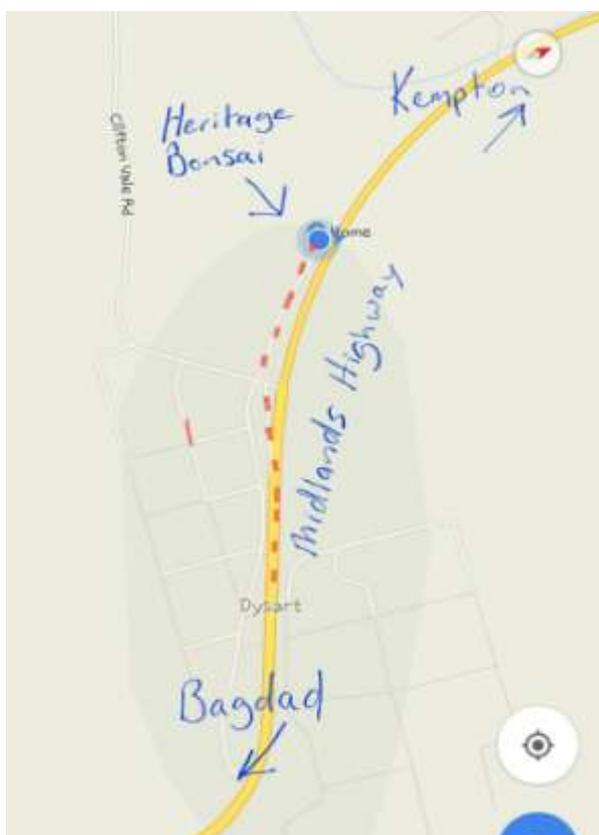
Prices include \$5 per item for embroidered logo. Alternatively, you can have your own shirt embroidered with the logo for \$6. I'm happy to deliver shirts for embroidering and return orders on behalf of members, but it is wise to try for size if you're intending to buy from them!



Open by appointment

Tel.: 0439 383 365

Email: cxepapas@gmail.com



These instructions are from Chris on how to get to his home in Dysart for our combined workshop, barbecue and pre-Christmas get-together on Sunday, 22nd November, commencing at 1pm.

Follow the Midland Highway.

After passing Bagdad you go up Constitution hill.

Near the summit turn onto a slip lane which places you at the Clifton Vale rd intersection.

As soon as you turn left, turn right again immediately onto the old Midland highway.

Continue 150 meters and the road ends. You will see my old church house on the left. I have provided a map

The Society will be supplying the meat and bread for the barbecue. So as we know how many to cater for, please contact Rob White (rwgw100@gmail.com, 0402 340 744) if you will be attending. You are asked to bring a salad or dessert to share as well as your own drinks.

Probably a good idea to pop in plate, cutlery and something to drink from – we don't want to give our hosts a whole lot of washing up to do! Think of it as a picnic.

The following information is from Treasurer Rob, re our Bonsai and Garden Sale. As Rob has very kindly obtained the agreement of his neighbours for our use of the car park on the day, we need to be mindful of ensuring everything is left tidy, and any material not sold must be removed as there is nowhere for it to be stored.

From Rob White:

The Society's Bonsai & Garden Sale is on Saturday, 28 November 2015 at my house at 54 Quayle Street, Sandy Bay from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. There are FOUR ways you can contribute to the success of the Sale.

1. Supply material for sale

I am sure we will have plenty of bonsai material to sell. However, given that there are far more gardeners out there than Bonsai enthusiasts, all garden-related material - plants, pots, tools etc would be very saleable.

Ideally, material for sale should be delivered to my place on Thursday or Friday afternoon up to about 6.00 pm. If you plan to deliver material on the Saturday, we really will need it no later than 9.00 am so that we can display it. Please contact me on 0402 340 744 or [rwgw100@gmail](mailto:rwgw100@gmail.com) if you plan to deliver material at other times.

Although the address is 54 Quayle Street, the entrance is in Osborne Street.

It would be nice to think that we will sell out of everything but this won't happen; any unsold material needs to be collected, preferably straight after the sale.

Please make sure you label material for sale if it's not obvious what it is. You will also need to decide what price you want for any item, and what commission you are willing to offer to the Society – we are operating this year with 3 bands: 20%, 50% and 100%, i.e. full donation. We are hoping that everyone will offer some material at 100% commission to the Society.

Last year, I spent hours labelling up and pricing material – this year I will be asking you to do this when you make your delivery – there will be plenty of labels available.

If anyone has any small cardboard boxes, they will be useful for customers buying multiple items.

Who has tables that we could use for the sale?

2. Publicity

The more publicity front we have for the sale, the better. Please tell your friends about it - send them a text or e-mail. If you are on Facebook, why not share the latest Sale post from the Society page on to your own Facebook page?

I won't be at the November meeting but will send along some posters and handbills. Hopefully you can deliver the handbills in your local area and find useful places to display the posters.

3. Helping with the sale

We will need some help early on to set up the tables and display the material - from 8.30 am onwards. And then when the doors are open, we need people there to talk to customers and, hopefully, take their money. If you can put in an hour or two, that would be great.

I will provide tea, coffee, biscuits (and, of course, access to the loo!) – lunch will be your responsibility.

4. Be a customer

*Obviously, we hope to get a lot of people to the sale but you may well find something you want to buy, so please come along sometime whilst we are open for business!
See you all at the Sale!*

Cheers

Rob