August 2016

Next Meeting 22nd August  7.30pm.

**NOTE**  Membership fees were due at the end of June. Please make your payment if you have not already done so.

This meeting will be a presentation on bonsai progression by Matt R.

“I have been doing bonsai for about 7 years so I do not consider myself an expert. I do however believe that anyone can make nice bonsai with a few basic skills and a bit of time. Over the years I have made bonsai using a range of different techniques that include, ground growing from a cutting or seed, air layering, restyling existing bonsai, yamadori, using regular nursery stock and from stock purchased from a bonsai nursery. On Monday I will be going over the techniques and methods I have used to create my bonsai and in doing so, hopefully show how easy it can be to make nice bonsai in a relatively short period of time.” Matt R

Monday Monthly Meeting July 2016

The Monday meeting was a workshop/critique meeting. Members bought along a tree to work on and also had the opportunity to put their trees up for open discussion with the group. This discussion was moderated by Gerard. Everyone enjoyed the night.

Val working away on her *Juniperus chinensis*- Chinese Juniper

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A Selection of Members Trees on Display

*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*
Dawn Redwood

*Ulmus parvifolia*
Chinese Elm

*Pinus thunbergii*
Japanese Black Pine

*Ulmus procera*
English Elm

*Acer palmatum*
Japanese Maple

*Pyracantha*
Firethorn

*Juniperus chinensis*
Chinese Juniper

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I have been growing this *Acer buergerianum*– Trident Maple for many years, aware that the root system was extremely ugly. I addressed the problem in 2011 by successfully grafting some new roots but the following year I decided to place a layer on the trunk just above the root system and thus replace the old root system with a new one. This was carried out in October 2012. A ring of bark with a width about equal to the diameter of the trunk was removed. This was to ensure that the tree would not attempt to heal the wound. A mesh screen was used to built up the soil level around the trunk to cover the wounded area. Unfortunately there are no photos of the tree at this stage.

In July 2014 it was decided to separate the old roots from the tree as new root growth seemed to be well developed.

The Maple as it appeared after removal from the pot.

The Maple in July 2016 prior to repotting. In summer 2014 I built up the soil level around the new root system as I was worried that the new roots would be harmed by the hot sun.

The old root base that was separated from the tree in 2014. Regrowth has occurred.
Trident Maple Repot cont.

After root prune. The roots were gently combed out and the old mix was washed out.

Before and after root pruning. The base of the trunk is clearly visible and root growth is prolific around the trunk. The cut was sealed with a paste sealant when it was separated from the original roots.

New pot prepared with mesh wired in and tie wires to hold the Maple securely in place.

Maple repotted in a mix of approximately 60% Diatomite and 40% good potting mix. This mix I use for all my trees though the proportions are varied slightly. For conifers I use 50:50. The tree has also been pruned removing long or unnecessary branches. The main task for the future is to increase the ramification on the branches.

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‘Bonsai Lakeside’, a BFA South event hosted by Bendigo Bonsai Club was everything in the making. Full of fun, friendship, an atmospheric informal get together offering a variety of bonsai activities with four of our local guru tutors.......whaaa!

The early birds were nestled into a newly built ‘glasshouse’ snuggled around a patio heater, cosy and warm, chatting, renewing old friendships and making new ones. We had a BBQ and a few drinks as well as David’s bonsai to view. What a treat this was absolutely fantastic.

Saturday began with the bonsai car boot sale with loads of bonsai items for sale. From the feedback this was pretty popular. On the lakeside of the venue was a display of bonsai manned by members of the BBC, that could be viewed by the public. However inside the rowing Club was where the action was happening. Our 4 gurus were put to work assisting workshop participants in developing both their trees and their knowledge. A popular idea was having a roaming tutor for those who chose to work on their trees independently to the workshops.

A magnificent job of catering by the BBC ladies saw everyone well fed throughout the weekend. Saturday night dinner and the fun continued. A relaxed and informal evening eating, drinking, chatting and watching our 4 gurus put to the test again. ‘Tony and Don’ and ‘Joe and Steve’ styled 2 trees which were auctioned later in the evening.

More of the same informality, fun and friendship followed on Sunday. Those who did not attend missed a great event and we hope to see you next time. ‘Bonsai Lakeside’ was everything that it set out to be and who could ask for anything more.

Bonsai Meeting Dates

Society Meetings
The BSV monthly meeting is held on the 4th Monday of each month at 7.30 pm. Next meeting 22nd August. Meetings alternate each month between demonstrations and workshops.

Members are also invited to attend the monthly Saturday meeting held on the second Saturday of every month starting at 12 pm. Here members can discuss the progress of their bonsai and receive expert advice from experienced members. Next Saturday meeting is the 10th September 2016.

**Monthly Meetings 2016**

East Kew Uniting Church 142 Normanby Road
East Kew Vic 3102, on the 4th Monday of each month at 7.30 pm
- 22 August - Bonsai Progression Presentation by Matt
- 26 September - VTP Demo details TBA
- 24 October - Workshop -
- 28 November - AGM - 3 Point Display - Modern Take

**Saturday Styling Review Meetings 2016**

East Kew Uniting Church 142 Normanby Road
East Kew Vic 3102, on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 12 pm
- 10 September
- 15 October - note this is the 3rd Sat
- 12 November
- 10 December

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Coming Events

VICTORIAN NATIVE BONSAI CLUB SALE DAY
Harry Atkinson Centre, Lake Grove, Coburg Lake Reserve, Coburg. $2 entry. Free workshops held throughout the morning.

Sat. 20th August 2016 9.30am—12pm

BONSAI SOCIETY OF VICTORIA ANNUAL EXHIBITION 2016
Box Hill Town Hall, 1022 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill. $5 entry.

Sat. 8th October 9am—5pm, Sun. 9th October 9am—4pm

With the show date fast approaching there are a number of things of which you need to be aware. Once again we have a catalogue of all the trees in the exhibition. If you wish to display trees, please forward the following information:

- Botanic and common name
- Tree information (20 to 25 words) this can include approx age of bonsai, nursery stock or collected material, any horticultural peculiarities it may have, etc
- This year’s show theme is ‘Yamadori’. If you are proposing to exhibit a tree that was a Yamadori in origin, some additional information would be useful, e.g. Date of collection, place of collection, what was the attraction to collecting the material? And any early photos.
- **THIS INFORMATION NEEDS TO BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY SEPTEMBER 26**

Please email the information to: secbonsaivic@gmail.com or eventsbonsaivic@gmail.com

If you are proposing to sell any trees, stock or bonsai related material you will need a personalised Sales Sheet. You also need to be a financial member of the club. No items will be accepted for sale unless they are listed on this personalised Sales Sheet. Each sheet has room for 80 items to be listed and you are welcome to request as many Sales Sheets as you would like. These sheets can be obtained from the above email addresses upon request.

If you prefer to mail your responses/requests, please use the Society’s P.O. box 4023 Gilberton, Vic 3072

Bonsai tool sharpening is available through Steve J. (Ph: 9772 2542) Tools can be handed to Steve on a meeting night and can be collected at the following meeting. Tools need to be wrapped and labelled clearly with the owners name and phone number.


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