Volume 3 Issue 3

July / August / September 2009



BONSAI TIMES



CLUBS

Auckland Bonsai Society

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Contact: office@bonsai.co.nz Sec: 21 Cherrington Rd, Clevedon

Meetings: 2nd Thurs 7:30pm Auckland Horticultural Council, 990 Great North Road, Western Springs, Auckland http://sites.google.com/site/aucklandbonsaisoc/

Avon Bonsai Society

President Beverley Van - 03 358 2591

Sec: Alison McIntosh, 2/15 Celia St, Redchiffs, ChCh

Contact: alisonmc@clear.net.nz

Meetings: 1st Wed 7:30 Isleworth School, Farrington Ave, Bishopdale, Christchurch

Bay of Plenty Bonsai Society

Gloria Smith - 07 576 9650 Contact: rob@bopis.co.nz 7 Smiths Road, Matua, Tauranga

Meetings: 1st Sun 1:30 - 4pm

Cliff Road Club Rooms, 45 Cliff Rd, Tauranga Website: http://bonsaibop.googlepages.com/

Blenheim Bonsai Kai

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Bonsai Study Group

Bob Langholm - 09 629 3662 Contact: bob-si@ihug.co.nz 41 Taumata Rd, Mt Albert, Auckland Contact Bob for details

Christchurch Bonsai Society

President Wendy Gibbs - 03 981 8594 Contact: chchbonsai@yahoo.com 27 Endeavour St, North New Brighton, Christchurch Meetings: 2nd Wed 7:30 Cotswold Preschool, Colesbury St, Bishopdale, Christchurch

Eastern Bay of Plenty Bonsai Society

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Gore Bonsai Club

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Hamilton Bonsai Club

President Peter Mudie - Ph 07 871 9510
Contact: peter@lrd.co.nz
Secretary 22 Normandy Ave, Melville, Hamilton
Meetings: 2nd Sun 2pm May /Sept then 2nd Wed 7:30
Feb/April and Oct/Dec at Glenview Community Centre Cnr
Tomin Rd and Glenview Tce, Hamilton
Website: www.hamiltonbonsai.co.nz

Hawkes Bay Bonsai Society

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107 Riverbend Road, Napier

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Matamata Bonsai Club

President Graeme Hancock

Kaimai View Garden Centre SH7, Matamata Meetings: By arrangement contact Graeme

Nelson Bonsai

President Nigel Sutton

Contact: Nigel.sutton@ihug.co.nz

11 Torlesse Street, Wakatu, Stoke, Nelson 7011 Meetings: 1st Mon 7:30 (Except Public Holidays) Nikau Gardens, 411 Nayland Rd (Summer) Stoke Hall,

Stoke (Apr/Aug)

New Plymouth Bonsai Club Inc

President Glenys Jackson – 06 753 9644 Contact: mrep@clear.net.nz 4 Waiwera Place New Plymouth 4312

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Blind, 131 Vivian, St, New Plymouth

Otago Bonsai Society

President Brian Ellis – 03 467 9629 Contact: gjletts@xtra.co.nz Sec: Jan Letts 41 Ellife Place, Andersons Bay

Meetings: 1st Tues 7:30 Holy Cross Church Hall, Cnr Ajax

& Richardson St, St Kida, Dunedin

Rotorua Bonsai Club

Jan Hansen - 07 345 6339 Contact 11 Charles Road, Hannahs Bay Rotorua Meetings: 3rd Sun 2pm St Luke Church Hall

South Canterbury Bonsai Society

Presdient Jan Simmons - 03 688 2386 Contact bakfarm@xtra.co.nz 98 Pooke Rd, RD 1, Timaru Meetings 1st Wed Feb/Nov 7:30pm Art Centre, Gleniti Road, Timaru

Wellington Bonsai Club

President: John Costello Secretary: Marilyn Hannah PO Box 30-621, Lower Hutt 5040 Email: wnbonsaiclub@paradise.net.nz Website: www.huttcity.com/bonsai

Meetings: 1st Sunday of each month except January, 1.00pm Hutt Valley Tramping Club Rooms, Birch St

Reserve, Waterloo, Lower Hutt

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If your information needs amending please advise The Editor

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From The Presidents Desk

pring greetings to all bonsai enthusiasts out there, it is now coming on to spring and a very busy time for us all. I personally have enjoyed my first winter in the north and I must admit that on some mornings I thought I was back in Christchurch, the frosts in Auckland this year certainly reminded me of that.

I have been very privileged over the last few months to attend two Bonsai conventions overseas, the first being the AABC in Brisbane. This was a great weekend. Bill Valavanis was a good demonstrator and all who were there enjoyed him very much. We had a great turnout from New Zealand, I think it was about fifteen in all. People, let's hope we have at least fifteen Australians here in Christchurch this year.

I also attended the first Bonsai Olympics with the 6th WBFF Convention in Puerto Rico in early July a fantastic five days and twenty-one world bonsai artists demonstrating. Read all about it later in my report.

Now we all have a lot of repotting to do and I hope to see the most of you all in Christchurch at Labour weekend for the National Convention, I can assure you it will be a great weekend and the Christchurch team are working hard behind the scenes to make sure we all have a great time.

Also a reminder from me if you are entering any

of the national contests make sure your entry is in on time, we will not be accepting late entries.

See you all in Christchurch.

Lindsay Muirhead













BONSAI TIMES brings you the inspiration, motivation and encouragement to create remarkable bonsai.





BONSAI TIMES

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eing inspired is one of the keys to your development as a bonsai artist. Inspiration is everywhere, it's just being about to see it. Or giving yourself the opportunity to be inspired. Inspiration is all around us open your eyes and there is a journey of discovery waiting for you.

In the colder winter months there is plenty of time to do some research, read that stack of bonsai books and magazines, check out the internet. Get out with your camera, go for a walk, observe your environment. Study all those deciduous trees in their winter undress. Explore other people's collections. Attend a convention overseas. Go to a club workshop. The opportunities are endless to seek that inspiration to create something new or give you the answer to that long held question. We just have to get out there.

In this edition we are taking the time to catch up on all the inspiration that has been going on. Several New Zealanders took the opportunity to attend the AABC National Convention in Brisbane. Lindsay, our President went to Puerto Rico to attend the WBFF Convention and Tony Bebb was the instructor at a two day workshop in Hamilton. We hope that these pages will bring something new to your mind. Remember it is important to get in touch with your bonsai over Winter and they will appreciate you looking at them with new eyes.

In October Christchurch Bonsai Society is holding the National Convention and the first ever National Exhibition. You owe it to yourself to attend this event. If you have not registered yet send that booking form now!

Be inspired

Dianne

Comments from you



he art of bonsai is growing a tree or trees to great age in a small container, said Bethney McLennan from the Dominion Post, when reporting about her ten year old cork oak. Fortunately it reached the hands of our Patron Keith Lowe for a health check and she was prepared for the worst.

The little tree, botanically know as Quercus suber, was a mere seedling when another bonsai enthusiast, the late Bill Winstanley, trimmed, wired and set it into its container but it had outgrown its wires, most of which has been taken off so they wouldn't bite into the bark, and was almost certainly in need of root pruning and fresh potting mix.

Keith's response to Bethney was: "It didn't look too bad" and he was "especially pleased with the moss that had grown over the soil surface and the rock on which the roots had been trained. Moss is part of the landscaping of the overall bonsai and in exhibitions marks are added or subtracted according to how well it looks."

Keith caught the bonsai bug about fifty years ago when he still had his first shop, a greengrocery, in the city of Wellington which eventually evolved into a plant shop selling birds and fish and finally into what is now California Home and Garden in Miramar.

Keith says that with bonsai you can have all your favourite trees, whatever the size of your garden. The only tree he hasn't tried to bonsai is the kauri. He feels the leaves are a bit too big for a miniature tree but also admits "Maybe I've got too much respect for the kauri" He told Bethney that Bonsai are

neither stunted nor tortured as their detractors usually claim, but are generally fed, watered, pruned and treated as normal trees. Many live much longer than full sized trees of the same species and as evidence of their health, flower and bear fruit. They need the same conditions as other members of their species and must be raised outdoors in soil and climate conditions suited to their species. The broad aim is to grow a healthy tree to maturity while keeping it miniaturised by way of root and branch pruning and training to shape.

It was great to hear from Malcolm. I'm sure Jeff Richards is pleased that his view in our favourite subject, bonsai was appreciated.

Hi Jeff

Absolutely great article, mate. Is there going to be a sequel or will you leave it to someone else to pick up the thread?

I think the trouble is that too many bonsai "specialists" present things as the *only* way rather than perhaps the *best* way. Then there are those who dream up reasons without any proof, just a theory. Like the chestnuts about not using moss from a vertical surface and not watering in the sunshine because leaves will burn. And what about the Tutor from Sydney (remember Nelson Convention?) who says the only way a plant will develop *feeder* roots is by damaging their *exploratory* roots? I wonder how plants we put in our gardens seem to get by okay.

Well done, Jeff, and well done Di for publishing.

Best regards Malcolm Potts

What to you think? We need to hear from you now. This is a great chance to express your views, pass on information and most of all get involved.

SAIKEI



aikei consists of two Japanese words, 'Sai' meaning a plant and 'Kei' meaning a view or a scene. Another way of describing this subject from a Chinese point of view is a Penjing Landscape, or rock, water, or land planting. And to confuse you even more another name is Bonkei. Don't get me to explain that one!

Unlike bonsai this style gives you the opportunity to play with cuttings and seedlings. You can also use developed smaller bonsai. In addition to this you can also work with small stones and rocks. As this material is within everyone's reach Saikei can be the perfect starting point for aspiring new enthusiasts.

Saikei is planted up in a shallow tray. This is usually a rectangular or oval shape. You can also use very flat rocks. The best colour for the base is earth tones for a natural look

Your main objective in creating a Saikei (or any other name that you choose) is to imitate a landscape in nature. For this of course one has to understand nature just like in bonsai. This time you have to observe the total scene in the environment, not just what the environment has done to the tree. It is a good idea to observe rocky scenes, mountain sides, and coastal scenery to get a feel for this style. Observe how the trees grow and the direction and shape of the rocks.

Creation of a Saikei can be done with the same species of trees or a mixed variety. Make sure the leaves are small. Some can have berries or flowers. If a variety of plant types are used make sure they are in harmony with each other, for example

colour and texture, if you want your Saikei to appear realistic. If you choose small young trees you will get the chance to explore shaping and arranging without the expense of large expensive trees.

Stones and rocks can be included. Make sure they have interesting shapes. Rough and jagged surfaces are better than smooth shiny ones. The stones must be all of a similar type and texture and be a variety of sizes. For example a stone with a white streak down the side of it can be used to create a waterfall or an arched rock could be a seaside cave. Fine gravel is also used for pathways and seaside scenes.

Grasses and mosses are also an important component. These are best being very small in leaf and fine in texture. Different types and colours of moss can be used to create texture.

Figurines of animals, bridges, people, boats and pavilions can also be added. These add interest and can personalise your Saikei. It must be remembered though to keep these additions in proportion.

So if you want to create something truly memorable get together the following; flat rectangular or oval tray, or large flat rock. A selection of rocks and gravel. Moss, grasses and last but not least a selection of small trees and have a go. Bring your creation to your next bonsai club meeting for discussion.

If you want to update yourself beforehand good books to read are:

Saikei: Living Landscapes in Miniature by Toshio Kawamoto

Creating Bonsai Landscapes by Su Chin Ee

Mountains in the Sea: The Vietnamese Miniature Landscape Art of Hon Non Bo by Phan Van Lit and Lew Buller



WBFF WORLD BONSAI CONVENTION



WBFF World Bonsai Convention Puerto Rico July 2009

In early July I was very fortunate to attend the 6th World Bonsai Friendship Federation Bonsai Convention in Puerto Rico. This would have to be the most fantastic Bonsai experience that I have had in my Bonsai life. As I have recently been selected as an International Consultant representing Australasia it gave me great pleasure to represent our country at this event.

It all started on the Wednesday with the executive of the WBFF meeting. This took from nine in the morning till four. It was interesting in that the first time people talked we had to wait while several interpreters translated back in their own language. All parts of the world were represented and it was a great privilege to be there as an International Consultant representing Australia and New Zealand along with Lindsay Bebb as the Director for this region. From this I am pleased to say that the next WBFF Convention will be in China in 2013 after a close battle with Korea. It was interesting to see two countries put their cases as to why it should go their way. The Chinese even brought the mayor of the city where it will be held.

The convention which started on Thursday was based on the first Bonsai Olympics and Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were handed out to all the winners and place getters. New Zealand was represented in one competition and results will be announced at the New Zealand Convention in Christchurch in October.

Over twenty-one different demonstrators from around the world were present. It was great to catch up again with the likes of Salvatore Liporace and Chase and Solita Rosade plus many more that had only been names before this, and now I have made a lot of great contacts.

I saw some fantastic trees: Figs, Buttonwoods, Buxus and lots of other great trees. They were in all sizes some very big with 40 to 50 cm trunks, as well as great shohin trees. They all had good proportions (we have some way to go here).



Another photo this time of a drawing of one of the demo trees. Most demonstrators did drawings to show what they expected their tree to look like. This was Francois Jeker from France.



Whilst there I met a lot of great bonsai people who would love to come down this way. The comments that I got: "You must have some fantastic yamadori trees in your country" as most of them have seen the Lord of the Rings movies and the trees in that. A lot of us don't realise how lucky we are to be living here in New Zealand. I have even had many Australians say to me I only wish we had the yamadori trees that you have in New Zealand. That is a challenge to us and I will put more of this to you all at the



convention in Christchurch this year in October. I hope to see lots of people from all around New Zealand there, it will be an exciting time and I feel that we will learn a lot from John Hanby and I feel that refinement will be at the top of the list.

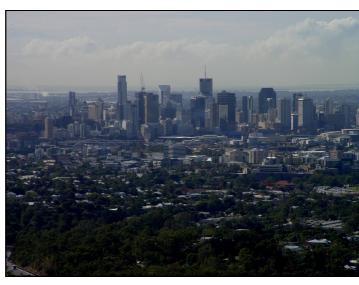
I would encourage all members if you get a chance to attend a major Convention overseas to go. It will open your eyes to what we could achieve with what we have here in gods own. This was my second overseas convention this year as I attended the AABC Convention in Brisbane in May along with quite a few Kiwis a fantastic weekend.

Lindsay Muirhead President NZBA International Consultant WBFF

A very nice Buxus about 90cm tall with fantastic ramification

AABC CONVENTION

R I S B N E









Inspiration from across the Tasman turn the page and begin the journey.......



s our ties with Australia grow stronger every day it was wonderful to see so many New Zealanders attend the Australian annual convention in Brisbane in May. The convention began on Friday with a City Tour. This started with a trip to the top of Mount Isa, which gave us a fantastic view of the city. This was followed by a guided tour of the Botanic Gardens.

The tropical plants were amazing but the highlight of our day was walking through the Japanese gates into the tranquil setting of the garden. Sun Dragons (lizards) soaked up the sun and even though the leaves were gone for the winter on the weeping willows it did not take much imagination to conjure up the scene in spring.

The next stop in the gardens was the Bonsai House, brilliantly constructed from scaffolding and rammed earth. Nature and metal—remind you of something.





joyed an evening BBQ meal where we caught up with everyone and met the demonstrators

TONY BEBB

irst to impress was Tony Bebb. We have seen a lot of this young man recently and again he did not disappoint. His tree was a little shy though. It had nothing to worry about as Tony soon got to work

The work began quickly as the power tools came out. The foliage fell to the floor, the raffia appeared and within no time the new tree began to appear.









There wasn't much left of this juniper but it certainly had some amazing carving work done. A spare branch was even used to create a fantastic root feature. The future looks much brighter.

BILL VALAVANIS



ill Valavanis was the headline demonstrator from the United States. He was a bundle of energy, full of jokes, answers and most of all skill. It was a joy to watch such a professional. Bill kept everyone enthralled as he restyled this thirty-five year old Japanese Black Pine. His enthusiasm and skill soon transformed an already fabulous bonsai into an outstanding one. The angle was changed in the pot, a number of branches removed and lots of wire applied for the reshaping.

The day concluded with a joint demonstration by Chris De Nola and Ian Lawson.

Above: Bill at work and the finished

tree to the right

Below: Exhibition Winner





If you ever tired of watching the magical work of the demonstrators it was only a short walk to the next room to view the fantastic exhibition trees. If you had lots of spare room in your suitcase and not so much cash you could snap up a bargain from the many trading tables.



n the exhibition each tree was individually displayed and placed on a stand. This gave each bonsai its own stage and made photography much easier. The middle area was a combined display with the suiseki. If that wasn't enough the trade stands took over another room.

Exhibition

Below: This Chinese elm was the winner of the BCI Award



Sunday commenced with a joint demonstration by Ian Glew, Peter McClosky, Bruce Sullivan and Mark Harris. All worked with Juniper and had set styles to produce, Bill encouraged and gave a few tips. This was followed by Brenda Parker, President of Suiseki Australia giving a powerpoint presentation on suiseki and daiza making.



LINDSAY BEBB



he final demonstrator was Lindsay Bebb. We have seen Lindsay a number of times in New Zealand and it is always a wonder to see him create yet another masterpiece

Here is Lindsay giving us an impersonation of scuba diver doing bonsai - seriously?

Lindsay gave us all an impressive lesson in driftwood style. This Juniper was attached to this old trunk which Lindsay had carved prior to the event.



There was no need for disguises here as it was clear that these two pieces had to go together and it was going to be achieved by this man no matter what he was wearing.

Glenis assisted with the wiring and friendly advice and encouragement. It was a great way to end an outstanding convention.

I would like to recommend that you find the time to attend next years event in Sydney. You will not be disappointed.

OTAGO BONSAI SOCIETY



Celebrating 30 Years

fun filled night was held at our June meeting to mark the 30 years since the formation of the Otago Bonsai Society.

It began with a delicious pot luck meal, which was just the thing on a cold wintry night. While we were enjoying the food and wine Colin Morton entertained us with some recollections of the early days of the club, and referred us to photo albums, that hold many memories from over the years. Following a demonstration on restyling by Sean Heseltine, we played a version of pin the tail on a donkey, only bonsai style. That entailed (pardon the pun), blindfolded participants drawing a bonsai, and with much noisy encouragement from teammates, some interesting versions of trees in a pot resulted.

There was also a decorated hat competition on a horticultural theme.

To mark this occasion, a special edition of the newsletter, with a history, and profiles of our present life members was printed. A special thanks for this go to Colin Morton (research) and Brian Ellis (editing and compiling).

SOUTH CANTERBURY BONSAI SOCIETY



rom small beginnings to thirty years, the South Canterbury Bonsai Society celebrated with a weekend of bonsai, with members filling the Westend hall with ninety of their trees. Although the weather was wet, windy and very cold it didn't stop members of the Avon and Otago clubs and a steady stream of interested members of the public coming to watch the demonstrations, admire the trees and buy from the stall. Lindsay Muirhead our guest demonstrator restyled our first club tree initially worked on by Oki Ben. It was great to watch and learn.

Bonsai in South Canterbury started with Ralph and Sylvia Lillico and David Belcher doing bonsai in their backyards, with the Lillico's going to Christchurch each month to the club up there. They were later joined by Chris Joyce the Lillico's accountant. While visiting Chris saw the bonsai

and realised they shared more than just the business's books. It was after this that Ralph, Sylvia, David and Chris began to meet regularly at the Lillico's home to share their interest. One night while talking outside after their meeting it was suggested during conversation that maybe others would be interested and maybe they should form a club. To get members they advertised in the Timaru Herald. Meetings were still held at Ralph and Sylvia's for several years. Later the club was changed to a society and meetings transferred to the Arts Centre. The club has accomplished a lot in thirty

years. Some include displays placed in the Dominion Motors building (now the Stafford mall) ANZ bank and Ballantyne's window. Joining the Horticultural Society to display at their shows, regular visits with Christchurch and Dunedin clubs, tree finding missions, rock collecting and three successful conventions all with international demonstrators.

An anniversary dinner was held at Seven Oaks, where Chris Joyce and Ray Sansom were presented with Life Memberships by Lindsay Muirhead as President of NZBA. A cake was cut by Sylvia Lillico and Chris Joyce both founding members. An enjoyable weekend was had by all.



BONSAI COLLECTING



ow many times have you been on that journey and spied the perfect bonsai growing on the side on the road. "If only it was the right time of year to dig that one up" or "Gosh you would need to be a mountain goat to get that one" Yes those moments. Well it doesn't need to be like that.

Now is your moment. August is the perfect time to lift ground grown trees. So get digging. It doesn't have to be from the mountainside.

Above: Looks like Adriaan drew the short straw in the digging department.

Below and Right: Peter and Sandra with their precious merchandise.



Ann and Peter Mudie along with Sandra Quintal decided to use this time to visit Fern Valley Nursery run by Adriaan and Poppie Engelbrecht in Tauranga. This is a popular place to dig for field grown trees.

Adriaan and Poppie have a large selection of ground grown trees just bring along your spade, plastic bags, lots of energy and the ute.

When you get your finds home it is important to pot them up immediately, give them a water and keep in a shaded warm environment. The foliage will need to be misted to prevent it from drying out. Hopefully you will be rewarded with new growth in the Spring.

AUSSIE WORKSHOP WEEKEND



Over the last few years the Hamilton Club have invited an overseas Bonsai Artist to lead a weekend workshop for its members and the members of other clubs in the area. Since 2005 Clinton Nesci has been over twice and Lee Wilson and John Marsh have also flown across the ditch. This year the invitation was extended to Tony Bebb. Peter Mudie and Jeff Richards report on this event

ony is currently the President of the Bonsai Society of Queensland and had just finished hosting the very successful 2009 AABC conference. He may have thought that his trip to Hamilton was going to be a much needed break but there was a surprise waiting for him. As usual this event was held at the Waikato Potters Society as there are plenty of wee tables and you are able to make a mess.

Saturday saw twelve members bring along a variety of material ranging from field grown raw material through partially trained material to some very old bonsai that needed a restyle. Tony is very thorough in getting out of you what your "Hopes, Dreams and Aspirations" are for the tree and then provides a series of alternatives with explanations as to why each would work. It's then up to you to decide on the way forward.

These workshops are a great way to gain new ideas, and to cement some of these skills into our brains as you are doing bonsai for one to two days straight. This applies to one and all, from bonsai beginner to the old hands, we can all learn something and it allows you to see things from a different perspective. Even Noel (one of the ancient ones) brought along a tree that he was unsure of and walked out with a prize winning bonsai that he had not been seen buried within its ancient woody frame!

The trees presented varied considerably. Some people brought along just a few specimens some fairly raw and some well and truly bonsai - good old trees; whilst others brought along several trees for discussion and ideas. Some worked on all whilst others selected just a few to style or refine.





Two trees which provoked a lot of interest were a cascade Juniper from Lindsay Muirhead and a very old twin trunk Juniper from Noel Plowman. Both trees went away looking very different from when they came in.

There were lots of happy bonsai people going away happy with the results, even if there was still a few decisions to make.

On Saturday night a few brave souls withstood the horrible weather (we had to set an example for our bonsai) and a shortage of parking spaces to dine out at Gengys. This is a Mongolian restaurant where you pick and mix the raw ingredients and they cook it for you.



As with Saturday there was a variety of material and a further two trees provoking a lot of thought. Melody's very old Juniper and Jeff's literati Scots Pine. Both had two alternative styles and there was a lot of discussion as to which way to proceed with them. The weekend was a great success with everyone enjoying Tony's relaxed style, thorough professionalism and sheer enjoyment at working with Bonsai. Tony will definitely be getting an invite back to the club in the future.



You can eat as much as you like in whatever combinations. For dessert eat one or two (or more, depending upon the size of your stomach and eyes) pancakes with a dollop of ice cream, fruit and chocolate sauce.

Sunday saw a slightly smaller number of participants but we were joined by Adriaan Engelbrecht, Tauranga who brought an impressive Ficus and a large twin trunk Hawthorn he had collected from South Island (styling this gave Adriaan's sawing arm a good workout).



THE DECISION

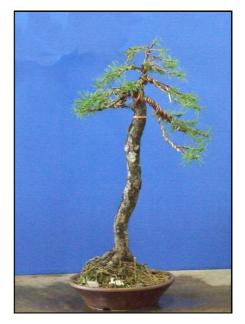


Top: The tree at the start of the workshop

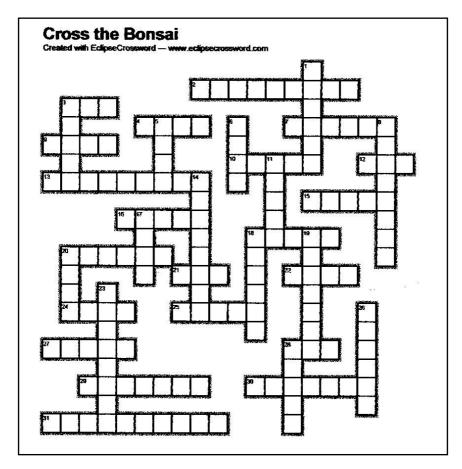


Right: At the end of the workshop





Which option would you choose?



Across

- 2. bare all in winter
- 3. rays of light
- top of the subject.
- 7. ··· food factory
- 9. the smallest of all
- 10. house job for spring again
- 12. not a drink
- 13. blowing in the wind
- 15. always there seldom seen
- 16. elephant tree part
- 18. big in the himalayas
- 20. banks have them too
- 21. the best pair of shoes
- 22. like a dog
- 24. not dirty
- 25. red red red
- 27.everywhere and not a drop to drink
- 28. english master

- 29. falling down on the job
- 30. rock of ages
- 31. always green

Down

- 1. we all stand together
- 3. tear strips off me
- 5. we needle you
- 6. used for a bender
- 8. snip snip
- 11. the kindest cut of all
- 14. tree house
- 17. something to rest upon
- 18. old policeman
- 19. Soil from Japan
- 20. promise to grow in spring
- 23. slim and elegant
- 26. small and cute
- 28. oil tree

INSPIRATION AROUND US



As some of you already know I have recently moved to Northland and being a strong believer in finding bonsai inspiration from my environment I have been venturing out on a number of walks. I discovered that not only are the views spectacular the trees have their story to tell as well. Take this journey with me through the swamp. **Bv Dianne Miller**

inally the rains had stopped. I would debate the quote: "The winterless north". The temperature is definitely warmer but boy it rains. Today the sun had been out making the ocean views sparkle so I decided to do the Mangrove Walk, A very brave thing to do as it was into the eerie unknown. I'd seen lots of cars parked beside the mangroves but never saw anyone come back out again. I'd heard all the talk. It was an experience. That it certainly was, once walking through the swamp over a boarded pathway of course the fun began. I had to negotiate this massive hill through the bush and along the coastline to get to the inlet which then took you along to the Wharf at Opua. Where no one was waiting unfortunately and I had to turn around and walk all the way back! It's about five kilometres one way.



I decided it would be great to walk along the coast with the journey beginning via the Mangrove Swamp.

I marched forth into the mist.....

MADE IT OVER THE HILL to the beautiful view above and many more besides. I then had to begin my descent. I slid down the wet clay paths and finally made it to Mrs Fishers Seat, which was just made for the bonsai artist. Underneath the most amazing old roots, which were holding up a massive old Pohutukawa Tree. The grandpa's beard hung over all the

other branches and waved in the breeze it was so long. I'd like to know how long the old gentleman has been sitting on this cliff.

MRS FISHERS SEAT

I soon discovered what happens to steep clay tracks after one month of rain. No I did not sit down - slid yes! At no time did my bottom connect with the earth. Only lots of seats along the way to gaze at the most amazing views.



I made it back home with some excellent memories and images for future crea-



These beautiful wood pigeons are everywhere, along with the Tuis, Fantails and other native birds. The wood pigeons sure make a noise when they fly over. They are huge. This fellow kept me amused for awhile letting me catch my breath. This did me fine.

This is one amazing view along the way which gave me the energy to continue on my way. I decided that trees have a great sense of humour as they find ways to





SO YOU THINK YOU HAVE SEEN **EVERYTHING!?**





CAPTION ANYONE

This was one of those Moments. Do you have an interesting caption that you think would fit.

Bonsai Clubs International



Bonsai Clubs International (BCI) is a non-profit educational organisation, advancing the ancient and living art of bonsai and related arts through the global sharing of knowledge. We educate while promoting international friendship and building world relationships through cooperation with individuals and organisations whose purpose is consistent with ours.

Bonsai is a unique, living art-form enjoyed and practised by diverse

cultures, utilising the lessons of nature to improve the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of mankind and our relationship to the environment.

Glenis Bebb and Ian Glew are the Australian directors of BCI and would be happy to provide further information.

Email addresses respectively: glen@bonsainursery.com.au iglew@b022.aone.net.au



Have you ever thought about joining BCI?

Clubs or individuals are able to join Bonsai Clubs International (BCI) which is the longest running Bonsai organisation in the World.

Benefits of being part of the group are:

- Quarterly copy of the Bonsai and Stone Appreciation magazine.
- BCI Annual Convention discount in varied and diverse locations.
- · Discounts on a range of books and magazines.
- Access to the BCI web site.
- BCI sponsored competitions, many with prizes.
- Ambassador program including a quarterly newsletter.

Becoming a member of a larger Bonsai Family of enthusiasts is fun and rewarding and expands your knowledge of Bonsai and Stone Appreciation.

Membership is only US\$40.00 per year. For further information check out the website or email *bcibizness@cox.net*.

www.bonsai-bci.com

NZBA AWARDS & COMPETITIONS

t's that time of year again to start thinking about your entries to the awards and competitions run jointly with the association. This year also brings the National Bonsai Show and the Emerging Talent Contest. Both excellent opportunities to recognise and build bonsai talent.

Past years have seen a lack of compliance with the closing off dates and a number of late entries arriving at the convention. Please be aware that the organisers and sponsors of these events need time to set up the displays and judge the entries. Late arrivals cause upset not only to yourself but to the committee as well. The association feels you now know what events there are so in the future late entries will not be accepted. If you are not sure what the rules or criteria are please contact your local club first for information.

Information on all these competitions have been sent to your local club secretaries. If you are an individual member of the association you can still enter but will need to either contact our secretary, Brian Ellis, or check out our Website for entry forms and the terms and conditions. You may consider joining your local club, they would appreciate your support. Club contact details are inside our front cover.

You can still register for the coming convention in Christchurch. Registration forms are included in this newsletter. If you need any further information contact the organisers on 03 981 8594

Award	Closing date for receipt of entries	Submit Entries to	Rules & Information
National Bonsai Show	24 April 09 CLOSED	520 Pine Hill Road Pine Hill Dunedin	NZBA Website Secretary local Bonsai club
Emerging Talent	31 August 09	520 Pine Hill Road Pine Hill Dunedin	Local Club
Joy Morton Photographic Competition	16 October 09	520 Pine Hill Road Pine Hill Dunedin, 9010	NZBA Website Secretary local Bonsai club
Suiseki Award	16 October 09	520 Pine Hill Road Pine Hill Dunedin, 9010	NZBA Website Secretary local Bonsai club
Vision to Reality Award	1 October 09	2033 Te Pahu Rd R D 5 HAMILTON	Dianne Miller 07 829 8887

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EMERGING TALENT KORU AWARD

he NZBA Committee has decided to **extend the deadline** for nominations for the Emerging Talent Award to **Monday 31 August 2009**. We have received three nominations so far and all three have been accepted.

The reason for the extension is that it is believed that not all those who would be eligible and interested in this award have been notified. For the future of bonsai in New Zealand it will be necessary to develop new talent, and this award is considered to be one effective way of encouraging this.

Please bring this matter to the attention of your club/society committee as a matter of urgency. We are unable to extend the deadline beyond 31 August. Please get back to me if you require a further copy of the application form.

Brian Ellis Secretary

New Members

David Blanchard—Cambridge

Joyce Duncan—Havelock North

Kai Uwe Pluschke—Auckland



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TITLE	DESCRIPTION	FEATURES	Rating
Finding the Bonsai Within 98 minutes	Working with difficult trees. Ponderosa Pine Wiring Techniques	Andy Smith	7
In Full Circle	Japanese-Style Garden. Design and Implementation	D Slawson & P Krause	
Bonsai & Pottery		Alan & Beverley Van	
Bonsai at his home		John Naka	4
Juniper Forest Demonstration		John Naka	6
111-Tree Florida Elm Demo		John Naka	5
39 Tree Stewartia Demonstration		Saburo Kato	6
Two Shimapaku Plantings	Includes Rock Plantings	Yuji Yoshimura	6
US National Bonsai & Penjing Museum	Comments on trees viewed one by one.		7
Demonstration	Accent Plants	Kieko Yamane	6
Newstead 2 Bonsai Extravaganza 2006	UK selection display for the Ginko Exhibition	John Hanbys Newstead Bonsai	7

HIRE RULES

DVD's are available at \$10 per month each Alternatively you can hire 2 DVD's at \$15 per month To hire you or your club/society has to be a member of NZBA Forward postage by NZBA Return postage to NZBA payable by the hirer.

To arrange the hire of a DVD contact

Les Simpson: Simmys@xtra.co.nz

Telephone: 07 823 2162

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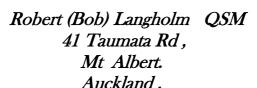


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