



## SA Bonsai Newsletter

### President's Report

*Andrew Ward*

Your SA Bonsai Society Committee has been working industriously both in front and behind the scenes, so as to provide members with maximum opportunities at your club. The strength of a club is in its membership, and particularly in its committee. Your committee is extremely active and I am constantly buoyed by their enthusiasm and initiative in bringing ideas to action for the benefit of members.

The committee is always visibly active on our club nights; setting up and packing down the evenings, ensuring the technology is in place to support full access to presentations, preparing presentations, bringing in materials for demonstrations, providing a range of services that help to promote bonsai and educate members in our passion.

In the background are a number of activities that are not so visible. These include checking on stock, ordering and pricing stock for the sales table, meetings to arrange future programs, visits to other clubs (local gardening groups and interstate bonsai groups) where ideas are shared, preparation for regular club events (such as our annual show and participation in The Royal Adelaide Show), discussions about possible visiting tutors. More recently a lot of energy has been invested in preparing the Draft Constitution (to be voted on at our August meeting).

On a public front, our club has been very busy internationally and nationally. A number of members attended the WBFF International Bonsai Convention in Saitama, Japan and returned extremely motivated by their experiences. A number of members also attended the AABC National Bonsai Convention in Brisbane and were inspired by Marc Noelanders and the other presenters and various experiences.

We have recently hosted Averil Stanley for a second visit to The SA Bonsai Society this year. This time the visit was supported by The AABC Visiting Tutor Program. We had a full day of workshops hosted at Alan and Carole Jabs' home followed by a presentation on black pines at our June meeting.

The visits continue this year with a visit from David Allen from Bendigo Bonsai Club at the end of July. David will be hosting a bonsai dig workshop where members will be able to dig potential future bonsai (particularly olives). David will show us what to look for when digging a tree from the wild, so that we do not end up with backyards full of boring plants that have little potential to be interesting bonsai in the future. This is a FREE PROGRAM with the aim of helping all our members be more selective in digging bonsai from the wild into the future, hopefully improving the quality of our bonsai into the future another step. At the August Meeting on Tuesday 1 August, David will be presenting on wiring in a way that will demystify the process for all of us – this presentation will be useful for all our members and I urge everyone to make the time to be at this meeting.

We have Chris Xepapas visiting South Australia as the Bonsai Judge at The Royal Adelaide Show; if you don't have your entries registered for this year's competition then you will need to be quick as entries close on Friday 14 July at 5pm. There are plenty of incentives to participate, not least is the terrific prize money on offer, ribbons and certificates ... it is nice to be recognised for what you do well so please give it some serious thought (but do not procrastinate). Chris will run a workshop for members on Saturday 2 September with a maximum of 8 participants in the morning and afternoon sessions. Chris will also demonstrate at our September meeting on Tuesday 5 September.

We are also hosting Rui Ferreira (from Portugal) on Friday 8 and Saturday 9 September. Rui is a highly respected international bonsai artist and demonstrator, he has an extensive collection of bonsai that he maintains at his nursery 'Jardim De Bonsai'. You are able to find more about Rui's work at [www.blogjardimdebonsai.blogspot.com](http://www.blogjardimdebonsai.blogspot.com) Rui will be presenting for our members at a special meeting on Friday 8 September and will be running two workshops on Saturday 9 September. Please be sure to set time aside so that you are able to participate (or observe) these activities.

I hope that you are making preparations for our annual show which will be held on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 October at The Goodwood Community Centre. It is a fun weekend of demonstrations, sales, and sharing; but a weekend that relies upon the participation of members to ensure it is a success. This also relies on you

encouraging your friends, colleagues and families to attend our annual show – who knows, they might even be bitten by the bonsai bug, just as you have!

It has been a busy year for our bonsai calendar, and is going to be a busy year for the remainder of the year. Hope that you are all strapped in for the ride.

*Happy bonsai-ng*

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## 8th World Bonsai Convention – Japan – April 2017

*Ruth Creedy*

A decade on since joining SA Bonsai, and again I'm thrilled to report on my recent trip to Japan.

Don and I had visited Japan in 2007 specifically to visit *Omiya Bonsai Village* and *Kinashi Bonsai Village* in Takamatsu. This time I had the added bonus of being able to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> World Bonsai Convention, thus returning to Omiya City where the first one was held by convention founder Saburo Kato.

I have to say, the development of Omiya itself and the stunning welcoming display of bonsai in the train station created by bonsai enthusiasts from the JR (Japan Rail) East Gardening Club, completely 'blew me away'! After all, we had merely arrived at the station – the venue for the convention proper was at Sonic City, a wonderful new hall some 5 mins walk from the station.



On the first morning I fronted at the registration desk very early, got my kit and official program and found I had free time until the opening ceremony at 3pm. My sister and I saw a 'swarm' of delegates lined up for the free shuttles so decided to head back to the station and take a local train to the bonsai nurseries and museum (a mere 10 minutes). We had approx. 4.5 hours to explore and be overwhelmed by wisteria, pines, junipers, quince, hawthorns and the fine spring foliage of red and green maples, elms, ginkos and zelkova to name a few (and azaleas were flowering everywhere).



The iPads were in meltdown, as everywhere you looked there were images worth recording. The wonderful thing about Omiya is that every household, not just the nurseries, realised they were part of a special cultural and tourist event and went out of their way to contribute to the ambience, with sidewalks decked out with spring flowers. Several of the nurseries don't permit photography in their enclosures but that doesn't detract from the visual sensation afforded.

Many specimen trees are hundreds of years old and some belong to the 'gentry' of Japan – so nurseries often undertake periodic potting and prepping for major exhibitions.

Spring is a wonderful time to visit and holding the annual festival of bonsai in Omiya from the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> May, enables convention participants to see the trees, village and museum at their peak – everything from moss displays, Shohin, accent plants, grasses to Yamadori in massive pots often tied to their stands, Suiseki and water features.

Back to the convention venue at 3pm precisely in front of thousands of local and international delegates, the conference began with spectacular Taiko drumming, a performance lasting about 10 mins. On stage we were greeted by various bonsai and government officials. All the demonstrators were onstage and finally the glitterati of bonsai were honoured with the arrival of the Crown Prince and Princess.

The Crown Prince addressed the convention and then from a large screen, Shinzo Abe also welcomed the delegates to the convention. This was followed by a wonderful musical performance using traditional and contemporary instruments and featuring a blend of traditional Japanese and contemporary Western music.

No expense had been spared to make the convention the best ever staged in the world with all the bonsai masters represented. Saburo Kato, whom Don and I had met 10 years ago was represented by his son, Hatsusi, who now runs *Mansei-en* nursery in Omiya, still the most prestigious of all the nurseries in Saitama.



The sensation of the convention opening was the two-hour commemorative demonstration by living legend Masahiko Kimura. He was assisted on stage by three lads who had served a six-year apprenticeship with him – two of them were Japanese and the other was Ryan Neale from the US. Ryan was as always, very competent in his interpreting the wisdom and advice Kimura provided throughout the demonstration.

Kimura's demonstration paid homage to the mystical mountains of China. He worked with a huge sandstone block that he had carved, drilled, coloured and attached wire fixtures so that 15 Shimpaku Junipers could be convincingly positioned into the rock. The Junipers had been air-layered, wired and styled 12 months earlier in

preparation for placement. The final composition was a joy to behold and beyond my descriptive powers – you had to see it to believe its revelation.

The Saitama super arena was the main venue for exhibitions of bonsai, suiseki and other demonstrations by the likes of Hiroshi Takeyama, Kenji Oshima, Kunio Kobayashi to mention a few, as well as various other international demonstrators.

The exhibitions were 'to die' for and I doubt the 8<sup>th</sup> convention will ever be surpassed. They ranged from children's bonsai created by some 1000 students from eleven elementary schools in Saitama City to those classical masterpieces such as Yasunari Kawabata's five needle pine, Okina's red and black pine that had survived Hiroshima's atomic bomb and Saburo Kato's famous Ezo spruce.

If this was not enough the super arena hosted 160 trade tables with every possible permutation catering to bonsai needs, even a quarantine and export section for overseas visitors.

Although Australians were unable to take advantage of this facility due to the restricted importation of plant material, we were well catered for with opportunities to purchase book, scrolls, suiseki, conference souvenirs, tables, pots and handcrafted tools.

I've only scratched the surface, but it's an experience I will never forget.

#### **If you're planning a visit:**

- [Omiya Bonsai Festival](#) is an annual event 3-5 May
- [Kinashi Bonsai Gardening Festival](#) is held annually in late October
- Sales and exhibition markets are held in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of every month

The movie from [Bonsai Empire](#) is well worth viewing.

Also, there are some great photographs from the convention on the [Bill Valavanis Blog](#)



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## 8th World Bonsai Convention Report

*Alan Jabs*

There will never be another event to match the twelve hundred delegates and over forty thousand members of the public attending the recent 8<sup>th</sup> WBFF World Bonsai Convention.

The world of bonsai and in particular the bonsai royalty of Japan were all freely available and on show. It was the biggest and most sensory overloaded convention you could imagine with nothing spared to delight those who came, saw and participated.





Headquartered at the Palace Hotel in Omiya and facilitated at the Saitama Super Arena along with off site locations such as the Omiya Bonsai Village, the four day extravaganza had something to interest, delight, be involved in, eat, photograph and cripple the credit card. Even the local railway stations had bonsai displays set up in their concourses.



The exhibition area featured many private collections including that of the Japanese Imperial family, as well as almost 500 trees, pots and stones. Public schools also got involved with one thousand trees potted and displayed along a single wall.



The retail area had nearly two hundred retailers selling absolutely everything bonsai from tools to very expensive trees.

Entering the exhibition floor the very first tree seen was a one thousand year old tree – nice way to start.

Demonstration stages were set in four different locations with the international demonstrators set up near the exhibition trees which allowed the public to see them as well as delegates. A Shohin stage was off to one side and also open to the public. The other two stages were for delegates only and featured the highest echelon of the bonsai world to show their stuff.

The event began with the opening ceremony and a demonstration by Masahiko Kimura (rumoured to be his last public demonstration) assisted in translation by Ryan Neil. The Bonsai Master was then seen at almost all of the demonstrations every day sometimes taking the microphone and commenting.

With so much to see and do, choosing where to be was the biggest task made a little easier as many of the demonstrations were also streamed live across the internet and are now available on U-Tube.



Statistics from the event included 12,400 paying public on the first day, with over 40,000 over the three days.

Over 1200 delegates. 170 retailers. Most of the souvenir t-shirts sold on day one.

Most expensive tree – \$1 million (second was \$880,000)

Oldest tree 1000 years old.

Top three international countries with registered delegates – 1<sup>st</sup> USA, 2<sup>nd</sup> India, 3<sup>rd</sup> Australia... (we had 80 delegates)





Sensory overload is probably the best way to describe the whole experience. There will be a book I am told so look for that too as it will be a collectors item.

Way too soon we came to the closing ceremony and the big announcement of the location of the 9<sup>th</sup> WBFF World Bonsai Convention. Many in the know had the answer and were prepared with flags and business cards inviting all to come to Perth, Western Australia in four years time.

So was it worth it – yes! I am so glad I made the effort despite the crowds of people. The ability to talk bonsai with Kimura, Kobashi and Suzuki (and take photos) an absolute highlight. The four days are now passed into memory but will live long and be discussed and watched well into the future. My recommendation – start saving now for Perth!

## Japan – April 2017

*Alan Jabs*

As a part of my planned trip to the WBFF World Bonsai Convention I was looking to be away for about a month and being retired from full time employment gave me the opportunity to make specific plans for this trip. The convention was the reason for the trip but I wanted to fill in the days in ways that were bonsai related. This was made easy as I headed to my favourite search engine to see what was out there.

Kyoto was chosen as a central base for the first part of the trip and as it was my first visit, all the usual heritage and tourist spots were pencilled in to my itinerary. Day one was Kojo-en Bonsai. I'd emailed seeking a visit – the reply was 'yes'.



Kojo-en is a Shohin nursery owned by Tomohiro Masumi. Tomohiro is well known not only in Japan but globally for his small Shohin sized trees and upon entering the nursery after a short walk from Kyoto station it was very easy to see why. He along with family and apprentice were busy watering trees and more specifically getting ready for the WBFF Convention scheduled for the following week. Tomohiro was to be a demonstrator as well as a retailer at the convention. In the bright sunshine I was free to wander around and photograph. If only we could import with safety...

Of interest was the potting bench where only Akadama was being used – no potting soils to be found. Questions all answered, magazine autographed and disappointingly nothing purchased, the time came to leave with a promise to catch up in Saitama.

Although not bonsai related, the sister city to Adelaide is Himeji. An hour further south on the Shinkansen and a wonderful day was spent wandering around the heritage listed castle as well as gardens and the city itself. Well worth the trip, especially coming from Adelaide. An approach to the Adelaide City Council will bring forth information as well as city maps.

A short trip again by Shinkansen to Nagoya then a local train, we find ourselves in the pottery capital of Japan, Tokoname. This is an easy town to get around and walking the best option. Close to the station is the potter's walk where the







tourist can follow the trail through the old pottery area and find all sorts of interesting sights, shops and people. I could find no bonsai pots so asking at one of the businesses and using a flyer from the convention that was on the counter, the owner was immediately on his phone so that within ten minutes I had been introduced to Ikko Watanabe, a master potter who lived nearby. We bundled into his car and set off to his studio so that for the next few hours I watched in awe as Ikko make pots by hand and I came to understand why they cost what they do. I purchased my Tokoname pot from his upstairs showroom and left with a new friend added to my list – we also promised to catch up in Saitama.



More sightseeing around Kyoto concluded my visit and I returned to Tokyo making this the base to continue with the bonsai theme. First up was a visit to S-Cube's shop in the Ginza where I purchased an antique Chinese pot, followed by a return to

Masakuni to purchase some of those all important tools. I was remembered from my previous visits so it was like being a part of the family and I was warmly welcomed.

Tools chosen and paid for so another quick visit upstairs to the museum. Photos taken and a very pleasant walk back to the station with my new acquisitions.



The next exciting bonsai bit was the WBFF convention which after a brief conversation with a USA based journalist and now new friend on what to do post convention leads to what could be the highlight of my trip – visiting the home of Shinji Suzuki.

Suzuki, along with Kimura and Kobiashi, is probably one of the most revered and famous bonsai artists in Japan. Just an hour from Omiya to Nagano then 30 minutes to Obuse and from here it is a short walk to his museum. So getting off

the train in Obuse with 11 Italians who had also been at the WBFF, we all front the gate and push the doorbell. One of the apprentices opened the door and invited us in. Can we look around? The answer is a yes and in fact Mr Suzuki is at home. He gave us a personal tour including the workshop areas and glass houses where hundreds of trees await his magic touch.



We are invited by his wife to enjoy coffee and cakes and are then given an impromptu lesson on how to set up a tokonoma by the man himself, with the apprentice translating and providing the different elements as the display was changed before our eyes thus showing us how it all comes together. Questions asked, photos taken, coffee drunk and we all wander outside to marvel at the garden and trees. We were finally farewelled by the apprentices and Mr Suzuki and his wife at the gate.



My Italian friends wandered back to the station and I spend a few hours walking around Obuse when I noticed a car slowing down beside me – it was Mr Suzuki and his wife wanting to know if I was OK or could they be of assistance. Again parting as friends, I eventually made way back to Omiya for just the last few nights before travelling home to prepare for the next bonsai event, the AABC convention in Brisbane.

## Festival of Flowers

Annie Reid

The area we were allocated was larger than last year and a prime spot to attract visitors.

All would agree that the Festival attracted fewer people than last year and while we all speculated the reasons, sales remained brisk and we distributed hundreds of fliers promoting our own show in October, as well as answering the numerous questions asked about bonsai and how to care for them.



This was the first time I had been asked to take a lead in managing the two days so I have to say how painless this proved to be because of the club members willing to provide trees and give of their time over the weekend. In between talking to those who wanted bonsai information and distributing fliers, we had time to chat with each other, share stories, critique trees and generally get to know each other better. It made for a most enjoyable volunteering experience and one that I would recommend

to all in the club.



Our Festival of Flowers 'team' was Jenni and Boyce Carnie, Malcolm Roberts, Howard Hamon (demonstrator), Bob Smith (demonstrator), Con Preston, Mark Wheatley, Sven Kuusk and Rebekah Gillies.



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## 2016 Survey of Members

S.A. Bonsai Society Members were asked to respond to a survey regarding their satisfaction with the activities of the S.A. Bonsai Society.

[Luke Parsons administered the survey and has summarised the results for us.](#)

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## A Bucket List for the novice bonsai gardener

*Bill Hines*

Sue and I have been novice members of the South Australian Bonsai Club for over 5 years now and are still not ready to put our trees on display or give advice on anything bonsai. On the other hand, we like to try out most things the club gurus teach at meetings, then in the back yard we often turn good miniature trees into excellent



compost. I love to work with wood but my experience is with kiln dried dead wood that can be passed through a table saw. So, my approach to bonsai generally horrifies Sue, the keeper of all things living...alive.



Over the years, I have found that life is too short to waste time on cheap average woodworking tools and we are learning from Alan Jabbs and Phil Ekers, that this is true with Bonsai as well. This of course means that we need to be able to properly store our new tools. The problem for a woodworker turned bonsai novice is that bonsai tools generally don't fit into a woodworker's tool box. There are other issues related to dirt, sap, cuttings, rock and muck that would never be problems in woodworking.

So, during the past 5 years Sue and I have keenly watched what club members bring to meetings, digs and workshops. We scrutinise what are they doing that streamlined their projects. We have seen tool box handles double for wire storage which rations wire like paper off a toilet roll holder. We have observed members use PVC pipe to store reclaimed straight bonsai wires for easy access and many members wrap their tools in everything from protective canvas to leather. On the other hand, disorganised members like us make repeated trips to the car to get what we need for Tuesday Workshops then spread it out all over the table.

So, at some point we started organising our tools in a hessian bag, but found it was too deep and everything had to be removed from the bag on Tuesday night because the bag wasn't compartmentalised. We then tried a compartmentalised fishing tackle box and though much better for organising our fiddly bits it did not accommodate any big stuff. Aargh!

We kept looking for the perfect bonsai storage unit while creating a list of tools we wanted to get and what we needed in order to store those tools. On our bonsai bucket list, we wanted a container that would allow Sue and me to do everything from gardening to storing fresh diggings on expeditions, carry soil, and yet keep our tools and wire safe but handy. We wanted to be able to go to meetings carrying our tools in one hand and our trees in another.

When we roamed through Masters and Bunnings looking at tool belts, boxes and bags, none seemed to fit our bucket list criteria. And then it hit us, why not a bucket and tool belt combination? We could carry dirty stuff and at the same time safely carry tools. So, the search was on...

## Part 2

So far we discussed the need for an everything container for bonsai. The nice thing about this day and age is that someone who is thinking along the same line as you may have solved your problem and a search of the internet found the answer...

... a bucket organiser!



So here is our list of what we carry in our bucket so far:

- Saw
- Scissors x3
- Root Hook
- Rake
- Chopsticks
- Ryuga bonsai tools (various)
- Spade
- Tree balm
- Wire pre-cut
- Parachute Bag
  - With multiple spools of wire
  - Fiddly bits
- Tape
- Little cutting containers x6
- Ginning tool from Carbatec
- Tool sharpener



- Tool cleaner
- Hessian
- Gloves
- Knife
- Wire cutter
- Band-Aids
- Hand wipes
- Wisk brush
- Chisels
- Water bottle
- Door stop
- Pliers
- Turntable
- Orange oil
- Leather strop
- Two cans of coke



These bucket organisers are available on the Bunnings and Masters Websites. The brand we purchased can be found on the Australian eBay website and Amazon.com. Depending on the number of pockets you desire the Australian prices start around \$49 AUD and you can even get a lid to sit on your bucket as well.

So now we have a container to keep the tools safe, transport organic stuff and make fewer trips to the car.

Can this be topped? We are contemplating attaching a lazy-Susan to the bottom of the bucket to make it twirl. So, there you go... Bonsai advice from a novice.

## AABC Convention Brisbane – May 2017

*Alan Jabs*

Freshly back from Japan and it was time to repack the bags, leave chilly Adelaide and head to warmer climes, namely Surfers Paradise and ultimately Brisbane for the 2017 National Convention featuring Marc Noelanders.

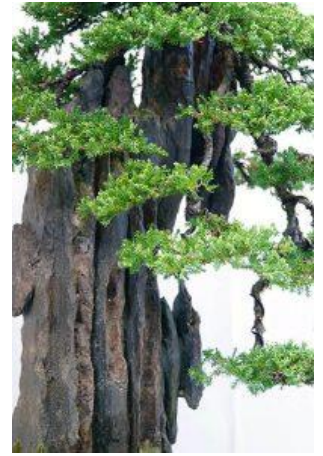


Having a week to unwind before the convention didn't mean no bonsai as there were many places to visit to keep the interest rolling along.

The first Saturday after arrival just happened to be World Bonsai Day. A facebook message from Averil Stanley (who was soon to be in Adelaide again for the next Society workshop) indicated that the Bonsai area at Mount Coot-tha was having a promotion so we packed the car with supplies and the GPS and headed to the Botanic Gardens. Upon arrival we were greeted by no less than Lindsay and Glenis

Bebb along with Averil and Bob Stanley. A look around, photos taken and a bit of a chat and was I going to the Gold Coast Bonsai Club at Surfers Paradise? Well not until you mentioned it and as that is where we are staying then yes, I will see if I can get there. I did by mid afternoon and who should I find – Lindsay and Glenis Bebb. The club was having a meeting with demonstrations, displays, trading table, raffle and a tree critique and would Lindsay like to be the person doing the critique?

It was a warm and friendly hour and one where I learned some, gave some, took photos and was applauded for coming all the way from Adelaide.



Andrew, Janet and Malcolm arrived a few days later and we made connection, visiting Red Dragon Bonsai one day and made an afternoon visit to Eumundi Markets as well as Averil and Bob's wonderful garden a day later.

Friday rolled around and we packed the car to set off for Brisbane and the convention, *but*, on the way a side trip is planned to visit Robin Godfrey Bonsai in Oxley. Now here is a treasure trove of all sorts including reasonably priced pots. Worth a visit if you are in Brisbane – but take cash as

they do not have EFTPOS available. We all came away with things that would test the weight of our bags.

Arrival at our digs around the corner from the convention the goodie bag and registration collected and completed it was time to catch up with friends old and new – dinner by the Brisbane river.

The convention was two full days of demonstrations with Marc featuring in every session, complemented by other concurrent demonstrators on stage. A very interesting session involved making pots with a new super-doooper microwave kiln that just happened to dry, cook, fire, glaze and cool the manufactured pot all in 90 minutes...(without giving too much away the kiln was in reality just a cardboard box). I will leave you to work out how the rest was done – should have been there...



I will give credit to Marc as he was informative, funny, approachable, succinct, and simply very good. His knowledge and stage presence was perfect and I enjoyed his demos as I did everyone else.

The exhibition was a bit cramped but featured some wonderful trees, stones and the retail area had everything the bonsai enthusiast could want.

The whole roadshow now meets in Melbourne next year and for something a little different it will be in July and not the traditional May with key demonstrator Bjorn Bjorholm from the USA. He was in Japan at the WBFF (see how all this is connecting together) as a demonstrator and translator and looks like being another worth seeing.

Departing Brisbane a few days later and home to get ready for the Averil Stanley workshop.



Averil Stanley visits Adelaide



Annie Reid

A bonsai demonstrator from Queensland, Averil worked with sixteen club members at a very productive Sunday workshop and presented at the club's Annual General Meeting in March. Her presentation focussed on styling Ficus but she began by reiterating that developing a bonsai is a long term project involving several pathways. The first involves three steps:

1. **Structural Pruning** – the stage when raw nursery stock has unnecessary branches cut back to create the first 'image' of the desired style. After wiring branches the tree is left to rest as the structural pruning stage is quite stressful for the tree.
2. **Developmental Pruning** – the layers of foliage are created by developing secondary and tertiary branches from the primary.
3. **Refinement Pruning** – this stage involves using sound horticultural practices to ensure all leaves are the same size or needles the same length.

The second pathway is the more difficult challenge and involves styling from the bottom up:

- surface roots
- trunkline/attitude
- trunk taper
- primary branches
- apex (the most difficult area to develop)

Averil reminded us that surface roots for formal and informal upright styles should radiate from the trunk where as with cascade and windswept styles, roots should be compressed under the trunk and spread away from the leaning side. She also added that roots spreading from the sides of the trunk will make the trunk appear thicker – a tip to remember when determining the front of a tree.



When Averil spoke of styling Ficus she began by suggesting that while Australia has some beautiful Ficus varieties, we are inclined to be too influenced by classical Japanese bonsai styles when working with them. Instead we should observe how Ficus grow in nature and emulate this when styling. This means a large irregular canopy that shades the root system and encourages the development of aerial roots.

When aerial roots appear they can be encouraged by surrounding them with a drinking straw split down the side. Moisture needs to be maintained in the straw so sphagnum moss can also be inserted in the straw. This will remain around the root until it is firmly rooted into the ground.

Averil also suggested using moss on the surface of the main root system to help improve humidity.

While the general view is that developing the Banyan style is very difficult in the SA climate, Averil showed an example from Egypt and concluded that if they can do it in Egypt, we can do it here.

For further information try [this article by Jerry Meislik](#)

## Averil Stanley's second visit – the workshop

Alan Jabs

South Australia put on a cool welcome for Averil with early morning temperatures at the workshop location getting down to 1.6c. – not what a Qld'er is used to at any time of the year. The day however was bright and sunny so once the sun took hold it warmed to a more manageable 17c.





This workshop is a follow up to Averil's previous visit only a matter of months ago and there were repeat attendees who brought those trees worked on during the earlier workshop. Pleasingly, there were first timers in attendance as well.

Trees were varied in species and size and both sessions were well attended giving all plenty of work during their sessions. Sitting out in the winter sun is certainly more appealing than inside a cold hall and the BBQ lunch set the hunger at bay along with tea, coffee and something a little stronger found on ice in the cooler.

Luke Parsons was also on hand to discuss pots.

All in all a wonderful day and we thank Averil and Bob for coming down from QLD and those who attended for making the day a good one.

Look for another backyard workshop in October, they are worth being a part of.

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## Upcoming Events

- **David Allen** will conduct a dig workshop at Kapunda Sunday July 30th
- **Chris Xepapas** will do workshop on Saturday Sept 2nd and a demonstration the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting
- **Rui Feirrer** (Portugal) – Sept 9th will be two workshops. Demonstration on Friday Sept 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.30
- **Annual Bonsai Show** – Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 October

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## Meeting Venue:

Goodwood Community Centre  
Rosa St  
Goodwood

**Postal Address:** PO Box 159, Goodwood, SA, 5034

**Patron:** Dorothy Koreshoff

### Office Bearers:

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