



EBS Newsletter

February 2020

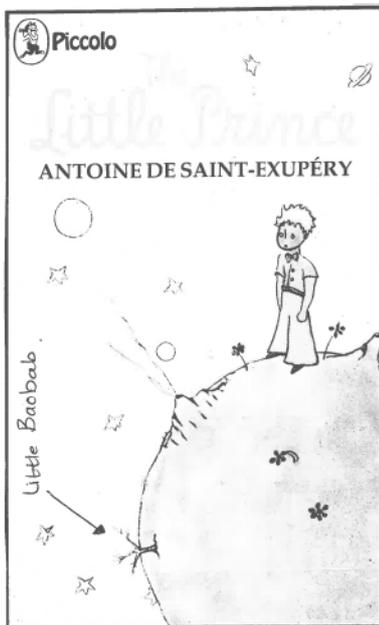


From the Chairman:

Dear EBS Members

Last year I really looked forward to the holidays, planning to spend a great deal of time in my Bonsai- and, putting mulch groundcover down to discourage weeds and re organising trees, but above all to work on my trees, pruning, feeding, wiring. I then had to work till the 24th and the period between Christmas and New Year was spent during urgent chores around the house with the result that I started the year tired and that at the end of January I am ashamed to say, that up to now my trees had little more attention than watering.

On a recent Gautrain trip I was the only passenger with a book, and whilst all the other passengers sat fiddling with their cell phones-playing games or like the young woman near me: doing all her make up in the reflective screen of her phone, I read an old favourite: The Little Prince by the French pilot, Antoine De Saint-Exupery. The story of a little prince that leaves his very small planet called Asteroid B-612 to travel to earth .On his planet he has a Baobab, some flowers , a vain rose and 3 volcanoes, 2 active and 1 extinct, also some good and some bad seeds hidden in the soil.



"The soil of that planet was infested with them. A baobab is something you will never, never be able to get rid of if you attend to it too late. It spreads over the entire planet. It bores clear through it with its roots. And if the planet is too small, and the baobabs are too many, they split it in pieces....."

"Sometimes", he added, "there is no harm in putting off a piece of work until another day. But when it is a matter of baobabs, that always means a catastrophe. I knew a planet that was inhabited by a lazy man. He neglected three little bushes....."



"I should have followed in the Little Prince's footsteps" I thought: destroying a bad plant (weed) as soon as possible-the very first instant I recognised it, pruning and doing all the tedious work...but I never did and now I have to catch up in February.

PS I must say that I do like the Nebari, trunks and pads on his Baobabs ☺



ROOT-AND-BRANCH TACTICS

Thirty years ago, in a Viennese exhibition called Fussball in der Vitrine (Football in a Showcase) there was a drawing by environmentalist and architect Max Peintner; The Unending Attraction of Nature. Since then, this icon depicting a time when forest exists only as exhibition objects, made its way into German textbooks, as well as being referred to in a wealth of international publications. Klaus Littman failing to buy the art piece decided to realise the drawing, to experience it in real life.

He started a feasibility study, apply for different permits, organise funding, staff, logistics, advertising and media work. The whole process took 6 years. They looked for a suitable venue and finally Wörthersee stadium in Klagenfurt (that was built for Uefa Euro 2008 and no longer used to maximum capacity) opened up for a 3-month window.

Nobody has ever tried to bring 299 trees to a stadium. The technical challenges were masterminded by Swiss landscape architect, Enzo Enea, that has his own tree museum in Switzerland. All the specimens were sourced from different nurseries. The trees were replanted every couple of years to prepare them for their performance in the stadium and their final planting site. It was crucial that all the trees live after the project. Sixteen species including larch, birch, silver fir, maple and lime inter alia were chosen (all can be found in the forests of Carinthia and this combination is the most effective for combating climate change). By design, a stadium, gives the impression that the forest is kept in captivity like animals in a zoo and that it is losing ground to human activity. The stadium evokes artificiality as all events are limited in time but not impact.

Financing was done in 3 ways; private Swiss supporters, contributions in kind and manpower from companies; and tree adoptions (you can adopt a tree for 5000 Euros).

This “forest that only survives as museum exhibit” takes trees (something we all know) and put them in a new context. It forces people to question things they take for granted and to get them thinking of how we destroy trees, forest nature. The exhibition ended October 2019 and trees were then planted in final growing places.

Read more @forforest.net

JANUARY MEETING

Fred Oudmayer spoke on Buddleja.

There are 2 species –a long leaf and a narrow shot leaf variety-the latter is better for ramification and leaf reduction. “Cut and grow” is easier although young branches can be wired, older ones break easily.

They need soil with good drainage. Water once a day- a good thorough soak.

They are temperamental and don't like roots disturbed. Fred keeps his Buddleja in training pots and only plant them in Bonsai pots for shows.

They shoot freely and back bud easily if well fed. If trees have long internodes-cut right back. Sections of tree will die back if there is not enough light or air in a section.

Feeding in month 1-bounce back, month 2-big hand organic pellets, month 3-seagrow.



February meeting

Eddie Menges of Shibui will do a short dem and talk ..." Imagine". He will talk on refining a tree and will work on a unusual vertical cascade. He will replot the tree during our workshop section. Eddie started Bonsai 1982 and was a member of Southern till 1992 when he joined Shibui. He is also bringing a selection of his smaller trees for us to see.

Beginners course 11-12.30

Committee meeting 11-12.30

Birthdays

Nilesh is our only February baby on the 1st February.

Thank you Nilesh for the cakes at our February meeting.

Beginners Course

Dave W will supply all beginners with info regarding course

From Treeview:

Teacher: What if you have 5 Bonsai and someone wants 2 of them. How many Bonsai do you have left?

Answer: 5

Teacher: Ok, let's say someone forcefully takes 2 Bonsai. What do you have now?

Answer: 5 Bonsai and a dead body.

Enjoy your Bonsai as we are entering Late Summer/early Autumn.

Please don't forget to bring a list of trees to our February meeting that you are going to show at our May BRAT day and do bring trees that you might want help with, or advice given to ready them for BRAT.

Bring a tree for our "show" table and stand a chance to win a R50 shop voucher.

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 8th February

Regards Anthony

Japanese names for common bonsai styles

| Common name of bonsai style | Japanese name of Bonsai style | Diagram of style | Common name of bonsai style | Japanese name of Bonsai style | Diagram of style |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Formal Upright | Chokkan |  | Informal upright | Moyogi |  |
| Slanting | Shakan |  | Semi Cascade | Han kengai |  |
| Cascade | Kengai |  | Broom style | Hokidachi |  |
| Root over rock | Sekijoju |  | Clinging to rock | Ishizuki |  |
| Group planting | Yose-ue |  | Windswept | Fukinagashi |  |
| Raft style | Ikadabuki |  | Flame style | Honen |  |
| Literati | Bunjin |  | Driftwood style | Sharimiki |  |
| African Styles PIERNEEF | |  | African Styles BAOBAB | |  |

More information about "What is a BRAT Day?"

This takes place four times in a year, on the 5th Saturdays in a month. BRAT (Bonsai Region Association of South Africa) request one of its affiliated regional Bonsai Clubs to host a BRAT Day. Collectively the regional associations fall under SABA (South African Bonsai Association). This event is an opportunity for other members of clubs and non-members to spend a few hours together, to attend demonstrations by experienced bonsai hobbyists on topics of interest. See example of BRAT Day program and typical layout. Club members bring show trees to display which fellow BRAT club members view and judge which tree is the best in each category. These results are collated and awarded at the end of the day.

Overview of BRAT Day program

Registration and placing of trees for competitions and exhibition (8:00-9:00)

Welcome

Demonstration 1

Tea and voting for trees entered for the competition.

Demonstration 2

Lunch and voting for trees entered for the competition.

Raffle tickets

Demonstration 3

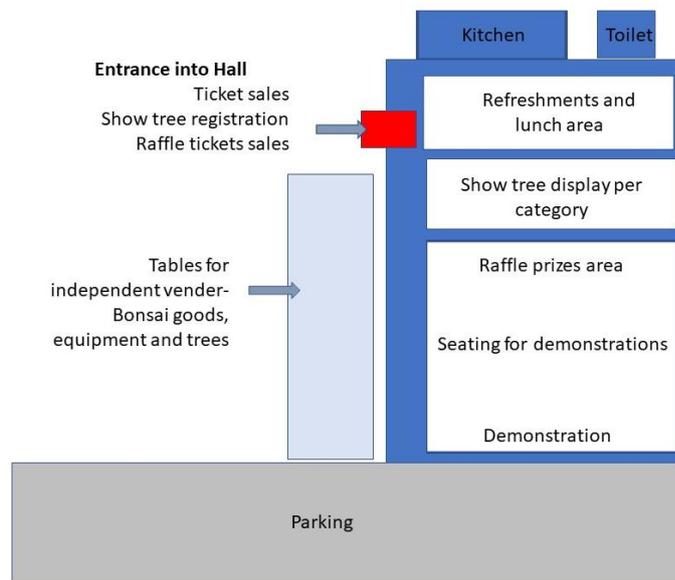
Tea

Demonstration 4

Announcement winning trees in all categories. Pictures will be taken.

Closing.

Typical layout



On 29 February Bonsai Addicts is hosting a BRAT Day in Pretoria and 30 May we, EBS, are hosting a BRAT Day, preparation is underway.

BRAT

&

BONSAI ADDICTS

09:00 AM | FEBRUARY

LYNNRIDGE CHURCH | **29**

269 LANCIA STREET, LYNNWOOD RIDGE, PRETORIA

• *Bring a bonsai you would like to work on & your tools !!*

Programme

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 – 9:00 | Registration Placing of show trees |
| 9:00 – 9:10 | Welcome - Wayne Clark BRAT President - Org Exley |
| 9:10 – 10:30 | Bonsai Design Carving - Kathy Steyn Workshop |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Tea Time, Raffle & Voting for Show Trees |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | Tool Sharpening 101 - Bruce Workshop (Bring your blunt tools) |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | Mallorca: Bonsai under Spanish Skies - Jessica Kleynhans & Josh Havermahl |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | Lunch |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | Prize giving of show trees |
| 14:00 – 16:00 | Bonsai workshop fun continued |
| 16:00 | Acknowledgements & Farewell |

R 130.00 BRAT members
R 150.00 Non BRAT members

General:

Workshops

The club offers a workshop every meeting and members are encouraged to bring trees for working on and advise.

Remember bonsai is best supported through doing

EBS on the web

Website: <http://www.ebs.org.za/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/easternbonsaisociety>

Shop

The Club shop will be open from 11:30 - 12:30hrs, preceding a club meeting, at Hospice.

Library

The library will be open from 11:30 - 12:30hrs preceding a club meeting, at Hospice. Please note books are taken out on a monthly basis. Kindly return books on time.

Every meeting is a mini show

Lucky draw on all trees brought by members to work on. Prize R50 voucher for EBS shop.

Cake Roster

Name

Month

Nilesh

February

Volunteer needed

March

Volunteer needed

April

Volunteer needed

May

Contact Kathy T

Cups and teaspoons

Should any member have spare coffee/tea mugs and teaspoons at home that they would like to donate to the club it would be much appreciated. Hospice crockery and cutlery is not always available and polystyrene cups and plastic teaspoons are really only for emergencies.

BRAT Events

| Date | Club hosting | Location |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 29th February-30th May | Bonsai Addicts- Our own EBS- | Pretoria Johannesburg |
| 29th August-31st October | East Rand Bonsai Kai- Suikerbos Bonsai Kai- | Johannesburg Heidelberg |

Things to do for January

- Check for pests and diseases. Remove weeds.
- Watch for mealy bugs, scale, aphids, white fly.
- Treat black spot on leaves with funginex or rosecare.
- Water twice daily in hot weather.
- Add extra nitrogen to deciduous, flowering and fruiting trees.
- Prune trees not done in November.
- Pruning on deciduous trees should near completion.
- Prune evergreens and conifers now.
- Finish off Azaleas and Bougainvillaeas styling/ pruning
- Only repot where absolutely necessary.

*Conditions differ from region to region. Consult with local club.

Raffle table

Any of those trees or pots that are in your way could find a happy new owner via the raffle table. Any bonsai or non-bonsai related items are welcome.

Thank you to people who brought items for the raffle table. It is highly appreciated. Raffle tickets are still R5.00 each. The raffle table will have plenty of items available-support the club and buy raffle tickets.

Banking details

ABSA Bank

Branch Sandton

Account holder name- Eastern Bonsai Society

Account number -711951156

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Draw a line from the common bonsai name to the Japanese name. Refer back to article earlier in the newsletter to see how many of the fourteen styles you have correct.

| Common name of bonsai style | Japanese name of Bonsai style |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Formal Upright | Hokidachi |
| Slanting | Han kengai |
| Cascade | Chokkan |
| Root over rock | Fukinagashi |
| Group planting | Bunjin |
| Raft style | Myogi |
| Literati | Yose-ue |
| Informal upright | Honen |
| Semi Cascade | Shakan |
| Broom style | Ishizuki |
| Clinging to rock | Kengai |
| Windswept | Sharimiki |
| Flame style | Ikadabuki |
| Driftwood style | Sekijoju |

Committee Members:

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Chairman | Anthony Bosman | 084 557 7348 |
| Vice Chairman | Dave Wilson | 082 923 2538 |
| Secretary | Kathy Tinney | 072 999 9672 |
| Treasurer | Alan Russell | 082 766 0670 |
| BRAT Representative | Dave Wilson | 082 923 2538 |
| New members & Membership | Jennifer Georgeson | 082 336 5425 |
| Website | Naseem Ebrahim | 084 401 2379 |
| Raffle & Tree Sales | Yatish Poonee | |
| Committee member | Clive Cosser | 083 876 4581 |
| Committee member | Gerhardt Buchner | 082 805 2037 |
| Committee member | Vaughan Brenchley | |
| SABA Representative | Hansie Bekker | 082 820 4306 |
| Facebook | Annetia Russell | |

Next committee meeting is on Saturday 8 February 2020, at 11:00hrs.