



TAUNTON & SOMERSET BONSAI CLUB

Bonsai Newsletter June 2021



'Ne'er cast a clout till May be out.' my old Granny used to say.

Now did she mean May the month or May the blossom of our old friend of the English Hedgerows the Hawthorn?

Whatever she meant she was a Yorkshire woman so there would have been absolutely no point in disagreeing with her, she was always right.

Members at our June meeting could not agree either on this rather futuristic pot that Ade had used for his hawthorn. Some thought a crescent pot would be best others rather liked what it was in. Possibly overstated and detracting from the tree said Nigel, rather impressive said another but then he may like Henry Moore's work.

The ideal pot really should be like the ideal picture frame it should complement and enhance the contents without competing with them.

Our June Zoom meeting was attended by a few of the old faces and we welcomed Kevin from Chard as a prospective member paying us a visit for the evening.

John Trott - Club President

John brought a number of photos to the meeting this month to make up for his absence last month. A beautiful Chinese Elm broom style which he purchased some years ago in auction and evidently beat Ian from the Blackmore Vale Group to the winning bid, so the evenings Zoom meeting was a bit of a wry moment for Ian who happened to be one of visiting the Blackmore members.

John also brought along a Trident Maple of great age, the provenance of which he can trace back through various owners for at least 120 years,



Chinese Elm in pot by Dan Barton



Trident Maple in pot by Gordon Duffett



John also showed as a Japanese Quince and a Sutsuki Azalea



The Japanese Quince is also known as a Chaenomeles can have red or white flowers.

Satsuki is Japanese for the month of May 五月 when it usually flowers.

John's last but not least offering was this rather lovely large Azalea.



A pretty inspiring selection from John, aged venerable trees, with colour and some nice pots.

Ian - visiting Blackmore member



Not to be totally upstaged by John showing the Chinese Elm that he was under bidder on, Ian played a fine card with this splendid Copper Beech in yet another sought after pot by David Aspinall. The bar is being set very high now in the pottery stakes it seems.

Geoff

Geoff had been working on his trees the same day the meeting and showed us three Larches that he had been pondering various courses of action on, whether we added to his confusion or firmed his resolve of plan we have yet to see.



Ade

Ade showed us his Laburnum now more resplendent than ever as the racemes had progressed from last month. These were once very numerous trees in suburban gardens but suffered a decline in popularity due to bad publicity regarding the toxic seed pods having attracted the attention of young children. Many thanks for these photos and continued support for the website Ade.



Amongst Ade's other photos he showed were a fine Field Maple group, a Berberis and an extremely natural looking Beech, not easy to achieve at all.



Tony

A regular supporter of all meetings real and Zoom, Tony was absent this month, I hear he was battling against intensive security problems on the road to Penzance airport. Fancy trying that during the G7 conference, should have called on help from some of his old friends at The Met for a special escort. Tony has been a great help and encouragement to this old scribbler, thanks Tony.

CLUB NEWS

We have heard that the school is still happy to welcome us at their premises whenever the regulations allow and we will keep you informed as soon as the situation is clear.

Next Zoom meeting unless we can arrange an actual meeting is 14 July @ 7.30pm.

My apologies to Alistair who kindly provided me with photos and text which I have struggled with editing, but am not yet familiar with the new site procedure and have had to just go ahead and publish without further delay. Thanks for your help a number of times Alistair in making this site more interesting.

M.C.



M.C.s Anniversary Acer, Kashima, a present from my Wife Sue on our Golden Wedding Anniversary in 2016, now going to get more attention

Well that's all folks I'm afraid that after six years and over eighty reports on meetings and shows together with taking most of the photos, Bill Parr helped with those in the earlier days, I am retiring from this task.

I have thoroughly enjoyed doing it, recording the activities and spreading the word about T. & S. B. C. in the world of bonsai but the time has come to call it a day.

My thanks to the members who supported the site with text and photos and encouragement from time to time and to Nigel for his recent help and organising a new site after the hacking incident, but with that and the changes in the system we were using it's too much to teach an old dog new tricks.

Hoping to meet you all soon in real life when meetings continue, meanwhile Stay Safe and Keep Well.

Cheers Michael Cooper