



TAUNTON & SOMERSET BONSAI CLUB

Covid-19 Bonsai Newsletter April 2021



A Bonsai Enthusiast's Dream.

See more photos of one of our member's new bonsai gardens further on in this page

Over a year now under the curse of Covid but at least via the magic of Zoom we can still get together and compare notes about our trees and get the advice of the old hands or show off our present Bonsai pride and joy.

Alistair

Alistair apart from being Club Secretary is a keen and imaginative member, never daunted by problem trees and always ready to try ambitious techniques to improve his collection.

An established Beech was Alistair's tree for suggestions, he has decided already on a windswept look for it but how far to take it? The general opinion on the night was to take the upper right hand branch back a bit to add to the leftward inclination of the style.



Alistair also showed us two Root over Rock Trident Maples which are now bursting forth.



James

We also welcomed a new face to our gathering in April, James from Taunton and we hope that after an evening with us as a visitor he will still be happy to become a member. James was quick to show us three of his trees and soon convinced members that he will be a welcome addition to our band of bonsai.



Itoigawa Juniper



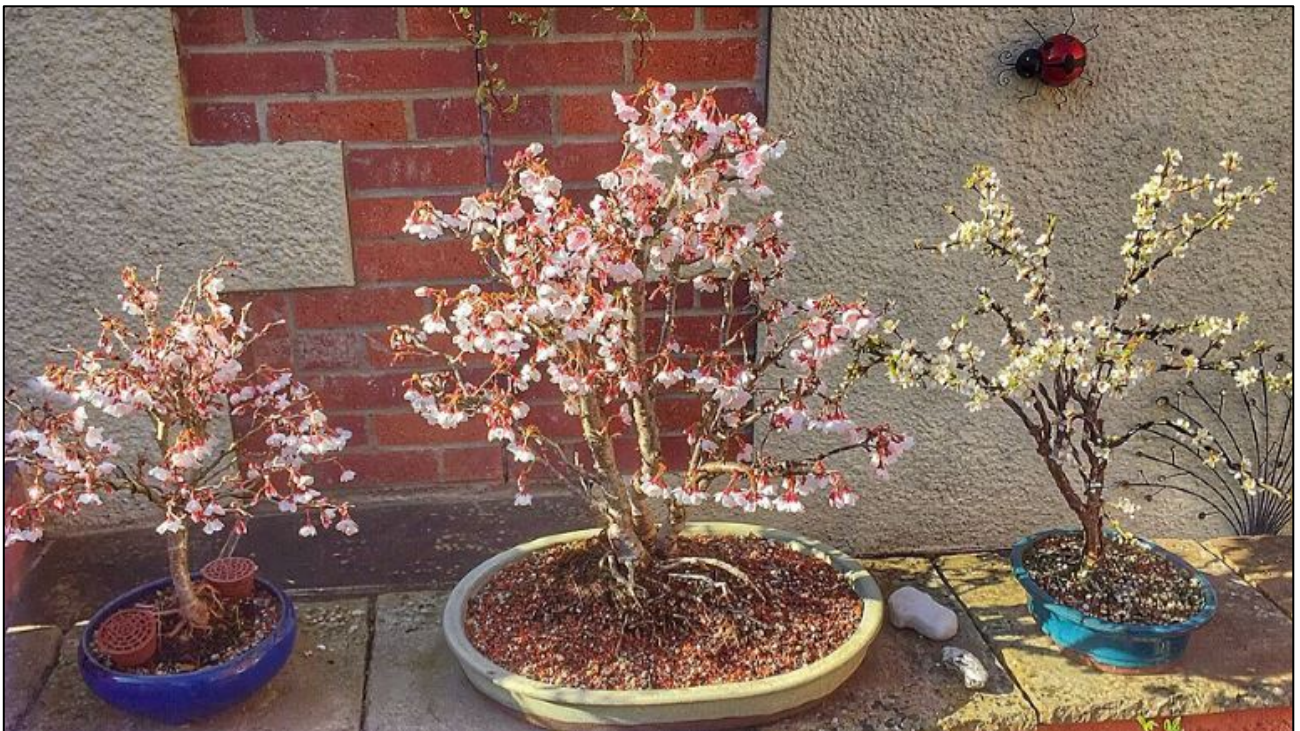
Larch Forest



Acer

Pam

A display of Fuji Cherries from Pam brought us a refreshing reminder that whatever happens Spring will follow Winter and the seasons will take their turns, I just wish they would come a little faster sometimes.



Roger

From Roger we saw an impressive array of trees this month which included a -



Blue Atlas Cedar



Trident Maple



Hollow Trunk Field Maple

Tony

Now there is one tree that nearly always attracts such comment on bonsai forum sites as- 'Useless, waste of time, leave it alone' and 'don't bother', and that is a Horse Chestnut. So trust Tony, he tackled the jobs they said couldn't be done and he did it.



It was about now we had the cabaret

Ever since the lockdowns started my dear wife Susan had been on at me to take her to the M & S Food store at Bridgwater and this miserable old codger has put it off for months ever since I heard tales of vast queues standing in the rain right across the car park.

Suddenly Sue discovered to her delight that instead of our usual old Sainsbury deliveries there is an Oi Can Do site that will bring her those M & S treats that she has missed for so long and she had unknowingly chosen Bonsai Zoom night, as there was a free slot, for our first delivery.

Such was my dear Sue's delight on the evening that as members tried to watch their zoom and concentrate on their trees she could be heard dancing and singing around our kitchen as she unpacked her collection of grocery goodies.

Food Glorious Food

Words and Music by
LIONEL BART

Steady

1. Food, Glor-ious Food! Hat, sun-ny and new-ly-baked,
2. Food, Glor-ious Food! Dear, Dear, here what it looks like.

She was so thrilled to receive her longed for delicacies from Marks that as I rushed in to assist with the unpacking I'm told Sue gave a fine rendering of a few bars from a popular Lionel Bart musical.

I had been hoping for a chunky steak pie in the delivery but may well have had Sue's choice of 'American Pie' instead, which is one of our old favourites really.



As a long time Paul Simon fan we might easily have had Sue's rendering of 'Parsley Sage Rosemary and Thyme' which could have helped our herb selection. (She was never so fond of Garfunkel).

Then there might have been the usual delivery failures you get with these internet orders which could have resulted in 'Yes We Have No Bananas



Possibly rounded off with a dessert of 'Strawberry Faire' for the lover of tradition English folk songs.

Many thanks to the kind young man from Ocado and to our audience on Zoom apologies for the interruptions.

The Bonsai Garden

A couple of months ago we featured some photos of an amazing bonsai garden that one of our members is constructing at the moment at his new home. One day perhaps it will be the location for a club outing I hope, though whether one goes home inspired or ready to give up bonsai altogether after seeing such a magnificent display is another matter.



Now that's the way to do it – the right gear for the job.

That's so impressive; all that equipment, the right materials and so much careful planning what could possibly go wrong?





Now what was it William of Orange said about the Little Gentleman in Velvet

(Historical note : 'To the little gentleman in velvet' was a Jacobite toast to the mole who raised the Molehill that tripped William of Orange's horse resulting in the kings death, so King William probably had some very bitter last words regarding moles.)

NEXT MONTH Zoom Meeting MAY 12th

Don't forget to have ready photos of your favourite tree for May

Keeping it to myself and not telling a soul but the Hawthorn that I started from seedling in 1987 had one flower last year so I am keeping fingers crossed for May 2021

Apologies

Well that's it for the April Zoom meeting report, if I missed anything it is probably because I was busy helping unpack the groceries. If there are any site mistakes it's down to WordPress who had such an easy site to use until like anything else in life that suddenly decides to have a New and Improve version just to drive the regular user round the bend.

Bye the Way Guys, do you think I should enter Sue for one of those Saturday night talent shows on TV and do I tell her first or leave it till nearer the day?

Hope you've all had your job or jobs and keep well and stay safe.

M.C. April 2021