



SOMERSET BONSAI SOCIETY

Monkton Elm - Demo and Workshop

Following on from our inaugural workshop in April, we held another Saturday workshop at Monkton Elm Garden Centre on the 8 June.

The lovely people at Monkton Elm offered us the use of a room – “The Sanctuary” in exchange for doing some bonsai demonstrations and talks for the public. This time, Alistair gave a talk on the history and development of bonsai and a brief overview of the different styles.

The talk seemed to go down well with both the audience and members (it’s always a good sign when people ask lots of questions) and finished with a game of “where would you find a tree like this in the wild”, always a popular game in my house at Christmas!

Once finished, six society members settled down to an informal workshop with help on hand from Alistair. Most of the work revolved around pruning and wiring, with several “potensai” started on their journeys to become proper bonsai. Dave also managed to wire a sizable White pine and completely restyle a medium size Yew.

It was a very enjoyable and productive afternoon for all those who attended. ‘The Sanctuary’ room was perfect for our needs and the café is right next door should you want lunch. We have one more Saturday workshop booked with Monkton Elm, on the 3 August and we hope that this successful partnership will continue into future years.

