

East Anglian Bonsai Show 2018



The first East Anglian Bonsai Show was held on the 9 September 2018 at Kesgrave Community Centre near Ipswich. The idea had been discussed for a few years and it had been suggested, when club members from around the area met up at other shows. There were no shows in this part of the country. It was agreed that the clubs who took part would share the cost and any profit made. Four clubs participated - Ipswich Bonsai Society, Norfolk Bonsai Association, Southend Bonsai Society and Bury and Cambridge Club.

They staged a show of a high standard and the public enjoyed the show with over 130 people coming through the doors.

Steve McKee judged for us as well as displaying his wonderful Yew.

Best Club display- Norfolk Bonsai Association
Public vote - Juniper by Dave Tilbury

One best tree from each club was selected -
Ipswich - Dave Tull - English Elm
Southend - Dave Smith - Larch
Norfolk - Richard Marjoram - Juniper Squamata
Bury - Derek Archer - Beech.





We were well supported by traders who between them filled over 20 tables and were happy with the day.

We included a performance of Japanese dance and swordsmanship by Tensho Dojo Ginkenshibudo, put on twice in the day, which people appreciated.

We are hoping to make this the first of what could become an annual show, building on this first one with more clubs joining us. The show may move around the area being hosted by the different clubs, decision will be made very soon. If there are any other clubs reading this who may be interested in joining us please contact Dave Fryer. Chairman Ipswich Bonsai Society

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Southend Bonsai Society was invited to present a display of members' trees at the inaugural, 'East Anglian Bonsai Show'. The show was hosted by Ipswich Bonsai Society, in Kesgrave Community Hall (Ipswich) on Sunday 9th September 2018. Four clubs took part; Bury St Edmunds, Ipswich, Norfolk, and Southend. Plus two individual entries from Steve Mckee, who also took on the role of Judge for the day! A number of traders attended and appeared to have a successful day.

The show was well attended and a good selection of quality trees from all four clubs (and Steve) made up the overall display (you can see a couple of the SBS entries attached)

The larch (photo below), trained by Dave Smith, was voted 'Best in display' for SBS.

It is anticipated that this will now become a regular fixture in the UK Bonsai events calendar. Stay tuned for next year's date and venue.

Paul Schofield



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