

FINAL

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In

SOUTH AFRICA



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Growing

BONSAI

in South Africa



CREATIVE PR

Doug Hall
John Haw

1

COMPETITION

The competition question is: *What does "Jo-Da" stand for? *(T's & C's apply).*

Win this stunning signed copy of this book by sending your answers to:

info@bonsaisouthafrica.co.za

This competition was sponsored by Jo-Da Bonsai Distributors in Dunottar, Gauteng. I would like to thank them for their unwavering support of me and

Jo-Da Bonsai Distributors

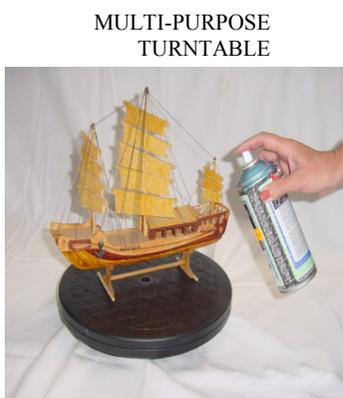
Supplier of Bonsai and Accessories

A FEW EXAMPLES OF BONSAI & ACCESSORIES IMPORTED AND LOCAL

IF WE DO NOT STOCK IT WE WILL OBTAIN IT FOR YOU.



PROFESSIONAL & COMMERCIAL BONSAI SMALL TO VERY LARGE



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WITH OR WITHOUT FEET
& EXTENSION



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JO-DA BONSAI DISTRIBUTORS

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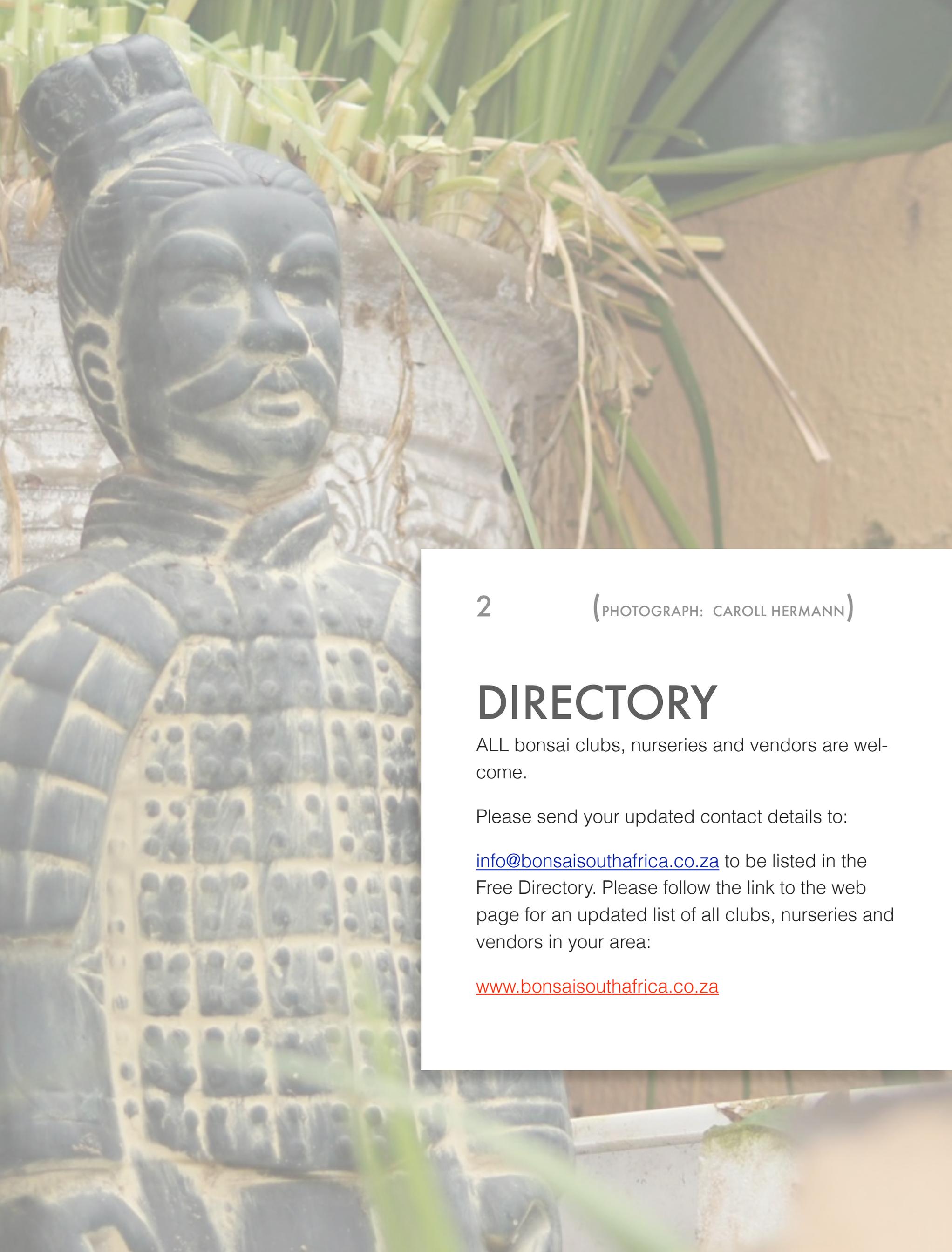
the magazine. JoDa Bonsai Distributors are well worth the visit.

IF THEY DO NOT STOCK IT, THEY WILL FIND IT FOR YOU.

Regular "Bonsai Concepts and Care" workshops are held. A re-potting and styling service is offered with "free advice". Group bookings are taken for Bonsai Demonstrations and or tours.

This competition was won by **Janet de Witt**. Congratulations, I hope you enjoy the book.





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(PHOTOGRAPH: CAROLL HERMANN)

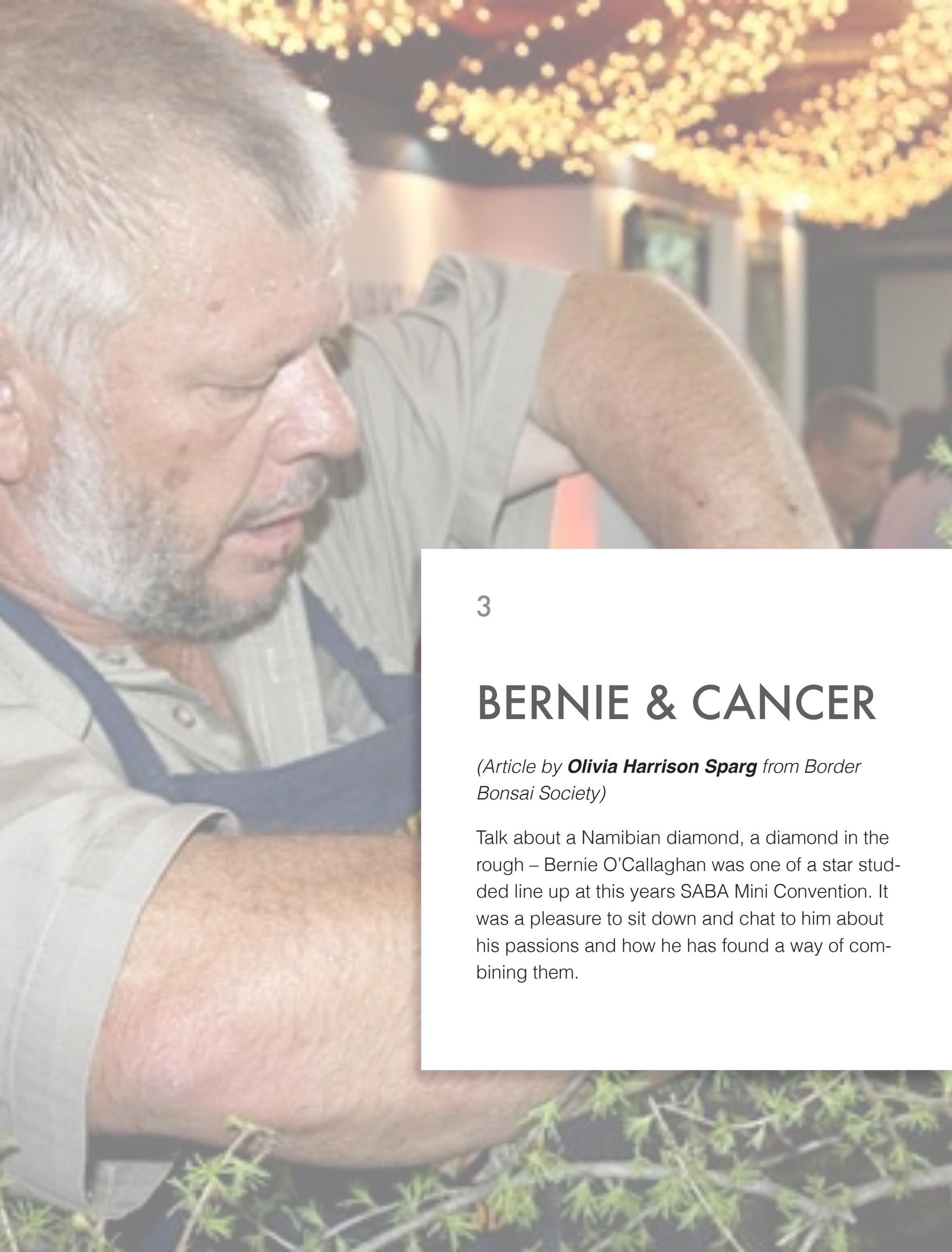
DIRECTORY

ALL bonsai clubs, nurseries and vendors are welcome.

Please send your updated contact details to:

info@bonsaisouthafrica.co.za to be listed in the Free Directory. Please follow the link to the web page for an updated list of all clubs, nurseries and vendors in your area:

www.bonsaisouthafrica.co.za



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BERNIE & CANCER

*(Article by **Olivia Harrison Sparg** from Border Bonsai Society)*

Talk about a Namibian diamond, a diamond in the rough – Bernie O’Callaghan was one of a star studded line up at this years SABA Mini Convention. It was a pleasure to sit down and chat to him about his passions and how he has found a way of combining them.



PHOTOGRAPHED ON SAFARI 2011: ROBERT STEVEN, JERRY MEISLIK, TOBIE KLEYNHANS, LAMPIE SCHOEMAN WITH THEIR NAMIBIAN HOSTS.

Bernie started bonsai in 1997 and broke away from his club in 2009. Still wanting to exhibit trees, he realised he would need a partner and who better than the Cancer Association of Namibia. They chose Feb 2010 for the first Exhibition as this is International cancer awareness week and all proceeds from ticket sales were donated to the Association.

Wanting to build on the successful show the following year Bernie included raffles and external exhibitors. He has also included a 10 day photographic safari. The next photographic safari will be in March 2015. (something not to be missed!)

Three years ago Bernie's wife was diagnosed with cancer, because of his hard work and dedication, the Cancer Association did not hesitate to

offer their assistance and pay for her transport to and from SA for medical treatment. She is now thankfully clear of cancer.

Bernie's vision and motto " Bonsai fights cancer" has been inspirational and has grown to an eight man exhibition. In this short space of time they have already raised an impressive R170 000 for their cause. This humble man can be an inspiration to us all.

Should you wish to know more about Bernie and his work, you can contact him on:
aquagardens@iway.na.



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(PHOTOGRAPH & TREE: GARY HOWES)

BONSAI CALENDAR

This is your handy guide to most important bonsai happenings in South Africa, If you want your event to be included, please send your bonsai activities info@bonsaisouthafrica.co.za. Go to the page and subscribe to it to be reminded at the time it occurs.

Bonsai in South Africa is not affiliated to any organisation and any person or instance is welcome to post and list their activities. Please follow the link to the web site:

[EVENTS CALENDAR](#)



5 THE LAST WORD

This is literally the last word. After long, hard and many considerations, I decided to close this magazine. It has been fun and I met a lot of people who I hope will stay long and lasting friends.

It was not an easy decision to make, and I left it for long to make sure that it was really what I felt. BiSA has been a major part of my life for so long. I took keeping the bonsai community in South Africa informed, very, very seriously. I started in 2004 with a newsletter and in 2008 BiSA was born. After long and hard deliberation, I decided that there is no longer a place for BiSA. With all the blogs, Facebook and the internet, clubs are keeping enthusiasts informed enough and having a separate “magazine” which contained the ramblings of one mad woman, was just over-kill.

A lot of what went into the magazine came from people who kindly allowed me to copy their blogs and/or

content, thereby just duplicating which is already out there.



I have now also entered a new phase in my life with bonsai. I finally completed my PhD (in Bonsai philosophy) and have started a project within prisons working with offenders. I have also pre-

sented my first paper on the benefits of bonsai in mental health at a conference in Japan, so my writing has taken on a different direction.

I will be traveling overseas again next year and if I plan it right, make it to a major convention in Europe. In 2016, I will be presenting again in Japan at *the* Psychological conferences of conferences. All based on my PhD studies. Hopefully a few more articles will come from my registered project.

As most of you know, BiSA was a labour of love, but people did donate books, pots, fertiliser, etc in exchange for advertising and competitions. A big thank you goes to all of you, you know who you are. (I don't want to leave anyone out).

I would also like to thank all the people who made the effort to send me emails about the magazine. Your words of encouragement went a long way. If it wasn't for you, (you know who you are:-) I would have closed BiSA long ago! And then my sincerest apologies to the people who had just signed up.

I am continuing with my website and will now join the world of blogging! It will be more of a diary for my own bonsai development and a safe place to save all the good articles that I read. You are welcome to

“follow” BiSA on there.



With this then, with real sadness in my heart, but joy and excitement for the future, I wish all of you a Christmas full of blessing whichever way you celebrate it and an awesome bonsai 2015!