



A brief history of Accrington and District Bonsai Society

The club was formed in 1979 by a group of friends intending to help one another to enhance their knowledge on the art of bonsai.

This group of friends included Vic and Madelaine Lawrence, Gordon and Glenys Wilkinson, Pat Murphy, Alan Isherwood, John Walsh, Jack and Elsie Tatlow, Don White and one or two others.

One of the first meetings was at the Broadway pub In the centre of Accrington and some of the following venues were also used, Accrington Conservative club, The Thorn Inn in Church, Church Conservative club, The Commercial Pub in Church, Oswaldtwistle Conservative club, The Marlborough Club, Miners Pub, Oaklea Pub, Great Eastern Pub and finally Hippings Vale Community Centre Oswaldtwistle.

We have had our Summer Shows at Accrington Town Hall, Ramsbottom Town Hall, Oswaldtwistle Mills, Read Garden Centre, Shackleton Garden Centre and our present location Barton Grange Garden Centre

The Society has spawned one or two bonsai artists as in Tony Tickle, Terry Foster and Dave Prescott (who wrote the 'Bonsai Handbook')

The Society has had its ups and downs in its membership, at one point in the late 1990's it was down to six members, but the membership currently is around the 30 mark and an ever growing number on our Facebook group