



# Bimer Bonsai Club Inc.

Founded February 1983, Inc. 1991

December 2016 Newsletter

**Next Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016**  
**Church hall, Jaguar St, West Chermside**  
**Meetings held 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month, except January**  
**Trade table / library open approx. 1pm**  
**Meeting commences 1:30pm**  
[www.bimerbonsai.org.au](http://www.bimerbonsai.org.au)

#### President

Albert  
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#### Treasurer

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#### Secretary

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#### Vice President

Michael  
Ph: 0418 996 254

#### Committee

Trade Table – David C.  
Trade Table – Jim T.  
Publicity – Bruce  
Hospitality – Elaine

#### Correspondence

The Hon. Secretary  
Bimer Bonsai Club  
PO Box 64  
Geebung QLD 4034

#### Newsletter

Tony S.  
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#### Library

Jayne

#### Membership Fees

Single \$20  
Family \$25

### President's Message

Hello All,

Thanks to David G for speaking to us about refining bonsai, which will help us take our trees to the next level. Unfortunately I was looking after the little one so I missed most of the talk. We also had Phil from Phil's Organics talking about his organic fertilisers and other products that we can use for our bonsai. **Just a reminder to anyone at Phil's demo that the soil and mediums he discussed are suitable for pot and garden culture but may not be for bonsai. Generally speaking we want our potting medium to be free draining and watered often.**

Next meeting will be our Christmas party. For the newer members, this meeting is run a little differently to the others. We will have a Dutch auction at the start where you write your initials and a bid higher than the previous one for an item you are interested in, which was donated by a fellow member (you are also welcome to bid for the stuff you donated yourself). At the end of the allotted time, the person with the highest bid will win that item. See later in the newsletter for further details. After the auction we will have some food and drink to celebrate the end of the year. I hope to see you all there.

It has been a great year for Bimer bonsai and we are planning an interesting and informative program for 2017. We have been asked to hold some style specific demonstrations, so we have tried to accommodate this as well as work on the Bimer advanced stock that we currently have. There will be no meeting in January. The Bimer Committee hope you all have a safe and relaxing (and not too hot) end of year break and I hope to see you all in the new year. AG



Click here to like us on Facebook – Website: [Bimer Bonsai Club](http://www.bimerbonsai.org.au)

NICE TAPER BUT IS THE WIRE  
FEELING A LITTLE TIGHT?



## *Bonsai Foundations*

*A new Australian book on bonsai by Stephen Cullum.*

Explore the aesthetic and horticultural knowledge which is essential for the successful cultivation and styling of bonsai. Be inspired to create and unleash your ideas. Get your bonsai in the right shape and build better bonsai. Paperback, 144 pages, more than 250 photos and illustrations.

Visit the website: <http://bonsaipotterycoy.blogspot.com.au/p/publications.html>

Preview the book here: <http://au.blurb.com/b/7388760-bonsai-foundations>

In public libraries everywhere.



## **December Activities**

Not too different from last month's – watch for heat stress and pests, and keep at the vigorous growth. Don't let your trees, particularly the fast growers like Celtis, Clerodendrums and figs get away from you - it wastes growing time and the tree's energy if you have to cut back too much of the seasons growth as a result of letting them grow out of design. Trees being grown on can be let run (e.g. if you are trunk or branch thickening) but do remove anything growing in an obviously wrong place – some shaping should be done even during this building phase.

Care is now motivated by the demands of the hotter weather. Protection from the midday and afternoon sun for deciduous and other more delicate trees to prevent dehydration and burning of the new growth should be considered. Shade houses or large trees are ideal. If you are going to be away all day and it is going to be hot (34°+), move your trees into shade to protect them. Rotate trees for even growth over the tree. Watch your trees, as they all have different tolerances. Leaf burn could indicate too much light; elongated branches – too little light.

Wiring needs to be checked regularly during this period of vigorous growth to prevent cutting and scarring.

Watering demands will increase with the warmer conditions. Trees should almost dry out before watering, but heat; low humidity and hot dry winds will all increase the drying rate. Hotter days may require two waterings per day, or at least an evening misting to increase humidity. Morning watering is preferable, as evening watering has to hold the tree overnight, but may not last through the following day. Ground covers and mulch will maintain a higher humidity in the area. Plants in small pots and delicate plants may benefit from being stood above a water tray. Swamp cypress will boom if stood in a water tray, as the name suggests, they love wet feet. Watch pines especially if it is rainy and humid – they hate wet feet, but love the sun. Tilting the pot with a chock will facilitate drainage.

Feeding demands are high due to the trees' growth. A little often is better than occasional heavy feeds. In the hottest period though, demand for food will decrease.

Deciduous trees have slowed down. Overgrown branches can be cut back to the required length. Watch the growth in the apex – try to keep it a little open to allow even light penetration.

Figs should be growing well – repotting can be done now. Avoid doing it on very hot, dry, or windy days. Don't do natives if they have any new growth on them.

Pests and diseases may be busy - treat accordingly and as appropriate. Check your figs for scale attack. As we start to get regular rain and humidity, root rot is a chance – if these conditions occur, you may want to water with an anti-fungal every couple of months. Remember that healthy trees have a great immunity to attack.



### Display Table

Due to space restrictions there will be no display trees in December. If you are new and have a tree you would like some advice on by all means bring it along.

### CLUB SHIRTS WITH LOGO

Please see Elaine for a sample shirt and to place your order before the order deadline of December.

### DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Dutch auction is to be held at the next meeting. Look in your cupboards anything bonsai related that you no longer need or want. If you bring green stock please ensure it is dry and ant free. Wine is also accepted. Try and bring some change to make the purchase easier. Remember half the money raised goes to a nominated charity so dig deep!

## NOTICE BOARD

<b>Bimer Bonsai Club Activities</b>	
December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Xmas Party
January 2017	<b>NO MEETING</b>
February 4 <sup>th</sup> 2017	Workshop
March 4 <sup>th</sup> 2017	Craig Jurd - Trident Maple/ Cut Above Tools talk
April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	10am WORKSHOP/ Lindsay and Glen Bebb - Review of club trees
April 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2017	Bimer Annual Show Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens
May 6 <sup>th</sup> 2017	Steve Cullum
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10am WORKSHOP/ Averil Stanley Driftwood
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	AGM/ Albert – Forest Style
August 5 <sup>th</sup>	10am WORKSHOP/ Tony Bebb - Stones/ Geoff Smiley - Mame
<b>Other Bonsai Related Activities</b>	
May 19 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2017	AABC Convention Brisbane Royal on the Park
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	Esk Garden and Lifestyle Fair

New Members:            The following people have recently joined the club: John K