

The Bimer Bonsai Club Inc.

Founded February 1983, Inc. 1991



Next Meeting: Saturday 6th February
Church Hall, Jaguar St, West Chermside
Meetings held 1st Saturday of each month, except January
Trade Table / Library open approx. 1pm
Meeting commences 1.30pm
www.bimerbonsai.org.au

Newsletter

February

2016

President

Albert

Ph: 3351 3886

Email: bimercomm@gmail.com

Vice President

Michael

Ph: 3359 0079

Secretary

Peter Mc.

Ph: 0404 055 784

Email: info@bimerbonsai.org.au

Treasurer

Jim

Ph: 3374 2209

Email: blackadderbonsai@gmail.com

Committee

Trade Table David C.

Trade Table Tony S.

Publicity Bruce

Hospitality Elaine

Newsletter

Paul

Ph: 0431 555 861

Email: paul.bridgeman1970@hotmail.com

Library

Jayne

Ph: 3263 9609

Correspondence

The Hon. Secretary

Bimer Bonsai Club

PO Box 64

Geebung QLD 4034

Membership Fees

Single \$20 Family \$25

President's Message

Hello All,

Welcome to the new year. 2015 was a good year for bonsai which included two international visitors. It was great being able to combine resources with the Bonsai Society of QLD to present the demonstrator weekends. We are well ahead in our planning for the 2016 club meetings so have a look at the notice board. If you have any ideas or requests for club activities, please let a committee member know. Our first meeting for the year is a club workshop. The newsletter should have further details for this if you are unfamiliar with it. I encourage everyone to bring a tree to work on and get some advice if needed.

Our annual show is coming up in a few months, so start preparing your trees now. I have found that a report now for my Bougainvilleas means that they will respond well and have lush growth and (hopefully) flowers for the show. There are some hot and humid days forecast for the next couple of weeks, so keep an eye on your trees.

Lastly I would like to congratulate Glenis Bebb, a fellow member of Bimer and BSQ, on being elected the new president of BCI (Bonsai Clubs International). Glenis is well known in the Australian bonsai scene and is the first Australian to hold the president's position. Good luck Glenis.

AG

Display Table



Please remember to bring along a tree for display this month, if you need some feedback or assistance with developing it into a bonsai. Any tree is welcome. An afternoon tea break will be available to pursue advice about your tree. Members are encouraged to share their accumulated knowledge with the newer members. There's also the chance to win an additional lucky door prize for any member who brings in a tree for display.

Announcements

If you would like to receive the newsletter in colour via email (with extra photos) instead of a printed copy, or have an article or other item you would like to see printed in the newsletter, please email paul.bridgeman1970@hotmail.com

Last Meeting



Next Meeting

Bonsai workshops are an excellent way to learn more about bonsai styling and other horticultural techniques. All members are encouraged to bring a tree to work on, but observers are also welcome.

The whole afternoon will be dedicated to the workshop, but allow yourself time to unload, set up your tools, tree etc. and pack them away at the end.



A workshop is a good place to discuss your styling ideas for a tree, or to get some ideas if you are unsure of what to do with a tree. If you are bringing a tree that hasn't been styled before, choose a tree with lots of branching and a reasonable amount of potential. You may also like to take a "before shot" of your tree.



If possible, do as much preparation work on your tree beforehand, such as weeding, to maximise your time at the workshop. It's a good idea to bring more than one tree to work on, so you won't run out of work to do.



Don't bring a tree that has just been removed from the ground or very recently re-potted. Trees must have a well-established and stable root system to withstand styling.

Bring all the tools you will need, although the trade table will be available if you need more wire etc.

If you need help with something, there are lots of experienced members who will be willing to lend a hand.



Remember to have a tea break and see what the other members are working on. Even by just observing you can still learn a lot.

Workshop Etiquette

Bonsai etiquette is simply good manners. Do not touch or style another member's tree without permission. While you may have good intentions, you may offend the owner or inadvertently damage the tree. Constructive criticism, when invited, is always welcome, unsolicited opinions may not be so. If you have been asked for advice on a tree, make any criticism constructive. E.g. rather than saying "that's bad/ugly", say something like "it would be better if..." or "try...". Remember, a bonsai is a work of art, and should be respected as such.

Workshop Checklist

- A tree or trees
- Clean sharp tools
- Wire (as many gauges as possible)
- Turntable
- Rubbish bag
- Cloth to cover branches (to see how removing them would look)
- Wooden wedges (to see how changing the potting angle of a tree would look)
- Spray bottle with water
- Gloves
- Camera

Pen and paper

Library



The library is a great way to get information and ideas for the trees in your collection. Available to **borrow for a month** from our library for all financial members are magazines at 20c each, and books and DVDs at 50c each. Items not returned at the next meeting will incur a **late fee**.

Please respect all library books. If you photocopy or scan pages, please try not to bend or break the spines, as some of them cannot be replaced. Thank you.

Seasonal Notes – February



Many may think that summer is a quiet time on the bonsai calendar, but now is a good time for re-potting tropicals such as Figs and Bougainvilleas. Newly re-potted trees will need some protection from the sun until they show signs of growth.



All this rain and warmth will be making your bonsai put on extra growth. It is a good time to do some light, regular pruning of the foliage which will bring the foliage back into the branch silhouette and also encourage denser growth. This is a good practice to be doing for established bonsai and will prepare them for display at our April show. Some adjustment wiring can also be done to bring the branches into place, which may set in time to remove the wire for the show.

(Written By A.G.)

Notice Board

Bimer Bonsai Club Activities

February 6 th	Club workshop, 10am start 
March 5 th	Albert Garcia - Natives
April 2 nd	Averil Stanley – Potting and Pots
April 9 th – 10 th	Bimer Bonsai Annual Show, Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens
May 7 th	Lindsay & Glenis Bebb – Root Over Rock
June 1 st	David Gibson - Refining
July 2 nd	AGM; Michael Clark - Swampies
August 6 th	Joe Morgan Paler – Visiting Tutor for 2016
September 3 rd	Geoff Bray - Wisteria
October 1 st	Workshop from 10am
November 5 th	TBA
December 3 rd	Xmas Party

Other Events

May 20 th – 23 rd	29th Australian National Bonsai Convention , Wrest Point Hotel, Hobart, Tasmania.
September 3 rd – 4 th	Bonsai Society of Queensland's Annual Show at the Brisbane Botanical Gardens. Go to: http://www.bonsaisouthern-tasmania.org.au/convention.php for more details.
November 6th Sun	Redlands Bonsai Society Inc. Annual Show, Donald Simpson Community Centre, Cleveland

Membership Fees

Remember you need to be a financial member to receive the newsletter or borrow from the library.

Whilst all effort is made, the Bimer Bonsai Club disclaims all responsibility for the content and technical accuracy of the articles published in this newsletter.

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