



# Bimer Bonsai Club Inc.

Founded February 1983, Inc. 1991

October 2016 Newsletter

**Next Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> October 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)

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**Vice President**

Michael  
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**Committee**

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

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**Newsletter**

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**Library**

Jayne

**Membership Fees**

Single \$20  
Family \$25

## President's Message

Hello All,

Thank you to Geoff for last month's demonstration on Wisterias. We obtained some great information from him and his trees looked spectacular. I have put together some notes from his talk with help from David C.

The next meeting we have Averil demonstrating on the club Juniper we bought last year, which will also be re-potted. This will be a great opportunity to get some tips on re-potting in general as well as on Junipers.

There will also be a general workshop beforehand at 10am. I apologise if this was not advertised previously, but the committee had decided earlier in the year to hold it, but it slipped our minds. We plan to hold more workshops prior to the normal meetings to encourage more people to work on trees and hopefully have more people displaying at our annual show.

I recently attended the Qld Native Plant show at Mt Coot-tha. They had an extensive display of flowers from native trees which was great to see. I hope we get to see more flowering native bonsais at our show and club meetings. See you at the meeting.

AG



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

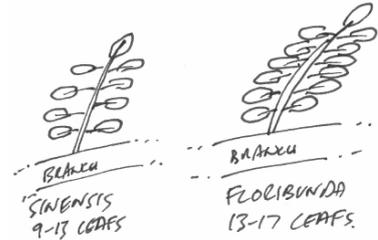


**“Averil Stanley – Juniper Demo / Potting” is on October 1<sup>st</sup>, following a 10am workshop**

Averil will be potting the Club’s large juniper into its new container. It will be an opportunity to explain the refinement process of Junipers, and bonsai in general. There will also be a short slide show from their recent visit to Japan where they were privileged to spend half a day with a third generation Master Potter from Tokoname – Katsushi Kataoka of Seizan Toen kiln, and view some of his beautiful creations.

**Last Month’s Meeting - Notes taken during Geoff’s Demonstration on Wisterias**

- The Chinese Wisteria (W. Sinensis) has been found to perform better in the SE QLD climate over the Japanese (W. Floribunda) variety.
- Sinensis usually flowers before the leaf breaks.
- Telling the difference between Sinensis and Floribunda:
  - Sinensis: Has 9-13 leaflets to a ‘leaf’ and the new foliage is bronze coloured.
  - Floribunda: Has 13-17 leaflets to a ‘leaf’ and the new foliage is green.

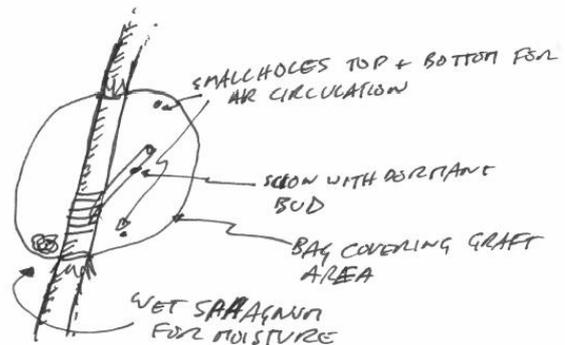


**General Care**

- Place in full sun
- Responds better if over-potted
- Ensure plenty of water and in fact shallow water trays are used during the warmer seasons to stop the soil drying out too quickly.
- Geoff said he uses a general fertiliser, but swaps to a low nitrogen fertiliser late in the season to ensure better flowering so make sure it has high P & K values in the NPK rating.
- Geoff advised to use a well-draining potting mix.

**Grafting**

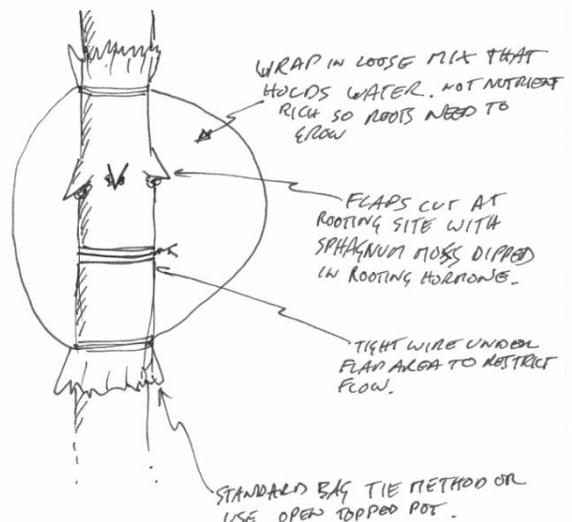
- Wisteria responds to grafting well.
- Has found grafting on to old woody trunks is very difficult. The graft is more successful if done on the young vigorous growth.
- Uses the stand cleft graft technique. The scion portion can be wrapped up with the grafting tape like a mummy leaving the dormant bud exposed. He prefers to use the bag technique.



- Place the newly grafted tree in a light area out of direct sun.
- Prefers to graft during spring and summer.
- Once new growth is seen, gradually open the bag.
- Roots can be grafted in a similar process.

**Pruning/Styling**

- Pruning is usually done after flowering.
  - Let growth take off for most of the season. Only cut the long branches if too long for you to manage or continue to let grow if you want to extend the branches.
  - Prune back to 4-5 nodes on the stem. These are the dormant flower buds.



- Styling is mainly done via clip and grow, but can be wired.
- Root pruning is done late in Winter before flowering.
- Wisterias also respond well to layering, but had had issues with the full ring bark technique. Cut flaps where roots are wanted.



#### Jeff's list of Wisteria Species suitable for our climate in order of suitability

WISTERIA sinensis	(PURPLE)	Any cultivar
WISTERIA sinensis Alba	(WHITE)	Poor flowerer BUT Jako is a popular cultivar
WISTERIA brachybotrys	(WHITE)	Cultivar "Shiro Kapitan"
WISTERIA venusta		A synonym for the above species, any cultivars should be suitable
WISTERIA floribunda "Carnea"	(LIGHT PINK)	Any Floribunda cultivar but can take 10 years to flower
WISTERIA frutescens "Amethyst Falls"		American wisteria flowering late spring and summer while in full leaf

### October Activities

Trees should be showing vigorous growth from the recent rains and warmth, so ensure that they receive sufficient sunlight to maintain compact growth. Also, make sure that there is ample room for adequate air circulation and even lighting of all branches. Turning your trees regularly will help balance the light.

It is probably too late to repot black pines, azaleas and deciduous (ideally done before bud burst). Do all others you intend to pot this month, leaving ficus, clerodendrum, bougainvillea, privet, and buxus harlandii until last. Don't leave it too long if it looks as if it is going to be an early, hot summer. If there is new growth on a tree, wait until it has hardened off before root pruning it. Watch natives particularly for the correct time to root prune.

If you are re-potting into a free draining mix, the roots at the surface may dry quicker than the deeper roots. Use shredded sphagnum moss to coat the surface. This layer can be removed once the tree has established. If the sphagnum is used straight from the bag, it has a tendency to peel off the soil surface. Shredding can be done by 'grating' dry sphagnum through a large grade sieve (10mm).

Newly re-potted trees need semi-shade for several weeks before full exposure to morning sun. A shade cloth area is good for this purpose. Figs, conifers, junipers and bougainvilleas will tolerate more sun than deciduous trees such as elms, maples and liquidambar. Water usage in re-potted trees is a lot slower so reduce your watering accordingly. A sharpened chop stick left in the soil of re-potted trees will allow you

to check the soil before watering. This technique can also be used on established trees that are considered more delicate to prevent overwatering.

### Display Table



Please remember to bring along a tree, a **Juniper** or any tree for display this month. You may 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.

### BUS TRIP GOLD COAST NOVEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> CANCELLED

This year the annual bus trip will be NOT be to the Gold Coast and Tweed Bonsai show at Robina due to a date change and a clash with our monthly meeting.

### FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS/ SEMINARS

The committee is always looking for input from members for our program. Please see a committee member if you have some ideas for the future.

### DISPLAY TREES FOR 2017 AABC CONVENTION BRISBANE

Over the next several months we will be selecting Bonsai for the display. If you have bonsai that you would like to submit for consideration please send a front view photo and description (including species, height and width). Photos just need to give a clear view of the trees. Bimer Club members are eligible for insurance coverage on your bonsai whilst exhibited at the Convention and also in transit to the venue. This is a great opportunity to show off the work of Bimer members, so please have a good look at your trees. Please send your submissions to: Glenis Bebb - [glen@bonsainursery.com.au](mailto:glen@bonsainursery.com.au)

## Memberships are overdue for 2016/2017

### NOTICE BOARD

<b>Bimer Bonsai Club Activities</b>	
October 1 <sup>st</sup>	10am workshop / Averil Stanley – Juniper Demo / Potting
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	Phil's Organics – / David G – Tree refinement
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	TBA
April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	TBA
April 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2017	Bimer Annual Show Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens
May 6 <sup>th</sup> 2017	TBA
<b>Other Bonsai Related Activities</b>	
October 29 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>	Sunshine Coast Bonsai Society Annual Show, Buderim.
November 6 <sup>th</sup>	Redlands Bonsai Society Annual Show.
November 5 <sup>h</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>	Gold Coast & Tweed Show, Robina
May 19 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2017	AABC Convention Brisbane Royal on the Park

New Members:

The following people have recently joined the club: R MACKENZIE, R WHITING