

Bonsai Society of Sydney Inc.

NEWSLETTER

Veetings are held on the 4th Saturday of each month February-November from 1pm at the Forest Community Arts Centre, No. 6 Darley Street, Forestville, NSW 2087 (subject to change).

www.bonsaisocietysydney.org.au
Next Meeting February 26, 2022 at 1.00 pm

A Member of:

- The Bonsai
 Federation of Australia Inc.
- Association of Australian Bonsai Clubs Ltd.
- Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

December-January 2021-2022

No. 125

We wish you a Merry Christmas – better things ahead in 2022

President's report

Hello all Bonsai Society of Sydney members.

Well, another disappointing and disastrous Covid dominated year with cancellations, postponements, lockdowns, and general upheaval to our lives is ending, not only for our club but all clubs and associated bonsai events.

I, personally, would like to thank all our Members for supporting the Club and the Committee during all the ups and downs of the last two years to help keep the club going, but circumstances happened beyond our control.

Also, I would like to thank all of the Committee for all their kind and wonderful help in what has been a very disastrous and frustrating couple of years.



Little woman, large tree, humungous job. Megumi performing winter work on her favourite Japanese red pine.

Our first meeting for next year is scheduled for February 26th at our usual venue in Forestville.

The proposed dates for our meetings next year are: February 26th, March 26th, April 23rd, May 28th, June 25th, July 23rd, August 27th (our Annual Bonsai Show), September 24th, October 22nd and November 26th (AGM and Christmas Party).

Our Committee will meet early in the New Year to formulate a calendar of events and monthly meeting themes, such as guest demonstrators, Bonsai Shows, possible Buy/Swap/Sell dates and any other Bonsai events that we learn of from various clubs and organisations.

If there are any topics that you, the Members, would like a talk on or want a demonstration on a particular subject, please let us know and we will try to organise them, of course all events will be subject to the presence of Covid affecting our lives.

Despite the events of the last two years our Bonsai soldier on and provide us with pleasure and enjoyment despite growing in ways we do not want or tell them to do (partly due to the craziness of the weather and the care or lack of we give to them), they cannot read the books on how to perform as Bonsai!.

Let us hope that 2022 will bring a lot more normality than the past two years!

I will sign off now, keep safe and well and enjoy the Festive Season with family and friends.

From all of us have a Merry Bonsai Christmas and a very Happy Bonsai New Year.

Cheers, Galen.

2021 AGM and Christmas party

The 2021 Annual General Meeting and Christmas Party of the Bonsai Society of Sydney was held at Forestville on Saturday, November 27th with approximately 16 people in attendance.

Eight apologies were received and noted.

Proceedings started at 1.00 pm with President Galen extending a warm welcome to all in attendance.

Master of ceremonies Evelyne presided over the meeting and in turn Secretary Alex asked everyone to read the minutes of the previous AGM. Galen then gave his annual report for the year, after which the Treasurer's report by Glenda was read and accepted by the members.

The election of office bearers was the next item on the agenda, all positions became vacant. Nominations were received and accepted from the previous year's candidates with Agus stepping down and replaced by Richard as a new committee member.

Master of ceremonies then vacated the chair and handed over to the President. After all general



Megumi addressing the audience.



BSS Committee for 2022. Absent from the photo Jocelyn and Richard who could not attend.

business and other matters were discussed the meeting was closed by Vice President Di.

The Christmas party then commenced with everyone bringing a plate of food to share around.

Members were invited to dress up a Bonsai as a Christmas tree to display.

There was some very imaginative people who spent a great deal of time to adorn their bonsai trees with a variety of decorations just for the day.

Christophe was again awarded the accolade for the best Christmas tree on show.

Everyone enjoyed another successful AGM and party on the day with plenty of food left over at the conclusion of the year's events.



A lot of thought and effort went into these exhibits.



Christophe was awarded best Christmas tree (again) for his display.





Di and her beautiful variegated Duranta.





Glenda and her handiwork with a fig tree.





Evelyne and Megumi show their beautiful displays.





Simon (l.) and azalea, Michael and his Shimpaku.



JAPANAROO 2021

Enjoy Japanese Cultural events, viewing Japan Expo, Art, Origami, Bonsai and an Ikebana installation and demonstration, calligraphy, Japanese foods, drinks, sake stalls, martial arts and other displays, during the day, which is free of charge and an Australian and Japanese concert and kimono show at night in the Centennial Hall at the Sydney Town Hall on Friday, 17th December, 2021. Arts display at

the Hall starts at 11 am till 5.00 pm. The Gala night concert begins at 7 pm-9.30 pm (Doors opens at 6.00 pm).

I, and Alex and Bonsai Art Pty. Ltd. are very honoured to be proudly invited to participate in this spectacular Japanese Cultural event. We will display our showpieces of bonsai at the entrance. I will give a demonstration of Ikebana (12.00 pm and 2.00 pm) and workshop open to the public, which costs \$10 including flowers, a container and other materials, so participants can take an ikebana arrangement home.

The interesting night program Concert will need tickets to be booked (prices from \$50-\$160), mention "Japanaroo" to receive a discount. Please see website below.

- Megumi Bennett.

Japanaroo.eventbrite.com.au

Our first meeting since June

Finally after lockdown finished we were able to hold a meeting at Forestville on October 23 for the first time since June. There was a large attendance of members who come along with their trees seeking instruction on the day.

We opted for a general workshop so members could bring along any of their trees that they wanted to work on and receive advice on how to grow them and the proper care and maintenance for their trees.

On hand were Megumi and Galen plus other long time members to offer their helpful advice and guidance to those who attended the meeting.

The range of trees brought in varied from figs through to Australian natives, deciduous and conifers.

A few new members attended for the first time to receive guidance for their bonsai.

An enjoyable day was had by all the members who left with obtaining a bit more knowledge about their bonsai trees.



A Japanese maple shown by Megumi to some of the members who attended.



New member Shanti receiving instruction on her bottlebrush from Megumi.



Richard and Megumi with his Banksia serrata.



Galen with new member Katherine and her bonsai.



Galen and Megumi helping Judy with her fig.



Jeff and Megumi discussing his Trident maple with Richard looking on.

Raffle tickets still available for Chinese Juniper



Raffle tickets are still available for this beautiful 41-year-old Chinese Juniper.
The draw will be held at a meeting in the new year when enough tickets are sold.

Tickets are for sale to Members only and cost \$10 each. There is no limit to the number anyone can buy.

Tickets are on sale at our monthly meetings at Forestville and also at Bonsai Art nursery.

A NOTE ON OUR BONSAI LIBRARY

- Only 2 items per person, per month.
- Please ensure library items are returned the following month.
- If you would like to borrow something for longer, please indicate on the library card when borrowing.
- Please ensure the library items are returned correctly either to our Librarian or a Committee Member. Please don't just leave them in the cupboard or on tables.
- Please do not borrow items if you are unable to return them after more than 2 months.

Please talk with our committee if you have any questions or if you would like to see what we have on offer in our library.

Thank you for your co-operation and happy reading!

Membership fees are now due

From January 1st fees for membership are now due. Please complete an application form with your contact details and return it to the Treasurer, Glenda or myself.

It is important we receive your application form to make sure your contact details are correct.

You can either return the application form to Glenda or myself by photographing it and send by email or return it to Bonsai Art Nursery.

Payment is by direct debit to our bank account or by cheque or cash at Bonsai Art Nursery (details on application form), please include a reference, e.g. name, so we know who the payment is from.

Seasonal notes December 2021- January 2022 by Alex Bennett

Watering

This is perhaps the most important aspect of our summer work, if we neglect to water our trees the results could be fatal. Also remember my saying: "if the tree is dry, water it; if you're not sure, water it anyway."

On very hot days it may be necessary to water both in the morning and in the evening. It is a good idea to move cool climate deciduous trees such as Maples and other sensitive deciduous trees out of the full sun and into semi-shaded area.

I recommend watering the foliage as well as root soil area. Foliage watering reduces the dust that could accumulate on the leaves.

If you have a lot of small trees, you could place these trees into a large tray filled with sand, so the bonsai is surrounded by the sand. The sand can act as a water absorber and protect from any accelerated drying out.

Remember, it is impossible to overwater your trees in summer. Any signs of wilting or death, usually is related to drying out or insect damage. In summer it is one or the other. Ensure the watering is completely saturating your tree. Misting only the foliage with a sprayer is totally inadequate.

If you're going on holidays, it is an idea to show the person who is looking after your trees how much water to give and how you would like to do the watering. Also show them how to tell when it is enough. Most people are unaware of how much water a bonsai needs.

Also ensure:

Another option if you have a collection is to think seriously about installing an irrigation system.

I highly recommend this option for peace of mind. But I would recommend following up with watering as the drippers only water one section so don't be afraid to move the sprinkler head around every week or two.

Wilting

If a plant wilts, soak it in a bucket or tub with the water level over the soil level for a least 20 minutes or until the bubbles have stopped rising. Leave in a semi-shaded area on the ground, not on a high bench or work area, to allow it time to recover. You can apply Seasol or its equivalent about a month if the tree has shown signs of recovery.

In case, where you have followed your normal watering schedule, the wilting probably means that

the plants have dried out because it is root bound and the water could not get through. If this is the case, put a rock under the pot and make it slope to one side. This will assist with the drainage.

Fertilising

Maintain fertilising until mid-January and then halt until mid-February as the hot weather will have forced the plants to reduce their growth rate. Continue to use your soil conditioners such as Seasol®.

Water all your trees well before fertilising, to protect the delicate feeding roots from fertiliser burn. Never fertilise a dry plant and avoid fertilising on very hot day. Always read the back of the label before using.

Wire

Remove all your wire in December to give the plants a rest. Start to re-wire again at the beginning of March when the weather cools and the plants are still very flexible. Do not let the wire cut into the bark. Avoid heavy bending. The branches are full of water and bending will cause branches to snap like celery or crack at the ends of the branch.

Pruning

If your trees have received good watering and you have a consistent fertilising regime. You may need to continue to prune the trees during the summer.

The idea is to trim any leaves that have overextended the outline of the tree. If you're not sure count the internodes on the branch. If it has more than five or six, it is too long. Cut back to the second internode. If still uncertain or you lack the confidence yet, just cut any too long a branch in half to keep it to the outline. Leave the weaker branches longer.

If you are working on a conifer, pluck about the top one third of the foliage mass. Envisage the shape of a fan. Then pluck the foliage into a fan shape.

Red and black pine

At the beginning of December, examine the tree for new buds that have grown as a result of breaking the candles in Spring. Don't touch any new buds that have developed down the branches of the tree; leave these until next year. Examine any new buds that have developed around the broken candles. Select the medium and weak buds and using scissors cut to 3-5 mm in length. Wait ten days then cut the stronger buds in the same way.

Pests and diseases

Some problems to watch for over the summer months:

- A) Ants. These insects are a result of living in soil conditions where no water reaches their uninvited nest. If you are able to find a way to collapse those tunnels; you destroy the nest. Removal of the old soil is one way and replacing it with fresh soil is what to do. New soil is more water permeable, it will flood any remaining tunnels.
- B) Azalea lace bugs these bugs are fast breeding which show typical signs of black and silvery markings particularly under the leaves. Spray with an Imidacloprid based insecticide, i.e., Richgro Bug Killa®.
- C) Powdery mildew use eco-fungus® (formally known as eco rose). However you will need to spray twice. Once then ten days later.
- D) Aphids small, with a large abdomen insect that breed in colonies, produces honey substance that causes leaves to go black. Pyrethrum®, Eco oil®, Pest oil®, Sharpshooter®.
- E) Scale extremely damaging in numbers. Tiny flat limpets that are white and can

- cause discolouration it signs of damage can be accelerated if the tree is in a deteriorated state, i.e., needs repotting or watered infrequently. Be careful not to spray on hot days. Pest oil or eco oil. Neem oil for Conifers.
- F) Mites usually affects Junipers and Black pines. Leaves become pale green, yellowish for no reason, not brown. That indicates drying out.
 - Can spread over and affect the entire tree's foliage within weeks. Use eco neem oil or Yates ® Nature's Way miticide.
- G) Black sooty mould or fungus indicative of scale or mealy bug Pest oil® or Eco oil®.
- H) Mealy bug 1. (on the foliage) white fluffy similar in size to scale, often confused as scale, most noticeable on black pines. Eco neem is ideal but will require two or three follow up sprays every 10 days. Searles Conguard is another recommended product that works well too.
 - 2. (sometimes found in the roots). I have found washing out with water on a jet spray. Change the soil and if required add Richgro Bug Killa®, a soluble powder that melts into the soil and stays active within the soil for two months.

Bonsai Art Pty. Ltd.

ABN: 30002816248

AT HIDDEN ORIENT 206-208 Forest Way, Belrose 2085 Ph: 0423 763 506

e-mail: bonsai@megumibennettbonsai.com website: www.megumibennettbonsai.com



A message from Bonsai Art Pty. Ltd:

WE ARE OPEN AGAIN!

Yes! We are open again trading for goods and materials, operating within the restrictions that the government has set out.

For any information regarding Bonsai, Workshops and Lessons please call us.

Thank you.

Bonsai Nursery (Bonsai Art Pty Ltd)

ABN: 30002816248

At Hidden Orient

206-208 Forest Way Belrose (Corner of Crosier St & Forest way)

M: 0423763506 E: bonsaiart@megumibennettbonsai.com W: www.megumibennettbonsai.com

Bonsai Beginners Course 2022

Dear

Thank you for your interest in bonsai classes which we hope you will find enjoyable and relaxing.

This course is designed as an introduction to bonsai with the emphasis on the practical. Students will learn repotting a Fig, creating a Juniper informal upright, a deciduous tree and a Saikei setting (miniature landscape). In 10 lessons you create 4 bonsai.

Tuition fee is \$300 including GST and bonsai notes for 10 lessons and is payable by $1^{\rm st}$ February 2022 to Bonsai At p/l. Tuition fee is non-refundable after the commencement of classes.

Tuition fee does not include material used but we make available tools for students use.

Please note classes are filled in the order applications are received. Classes have a maximum of 8 students of a 2hour duration.

At your first lesson, please bring a pen and notebook.

If you are interested to furthering your study, classes are available to the next stage. On public holidays, class times are subject to change. See schedule of classes.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to talk to either Alex, Megumi or Brian.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards.

Alex Bennett

Bonsai Nursery (Bonsai Art p/l)

Abn:30002816248

AT HIDDEN ORIENT

208 Forest Way, Belrose 2085 (cnr. Crosier & Forest Way)

M: 0423763506 E: bonsaiart@megumibennettbonsai.com

W: www.megumibennettbonsai.com

BEGINNERS BONSAI COURSE 2022

ENROLMENT FORM

NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
	p/code
TEL:	M:
E:	
No. OF PEOPLE:	
Please circle:	
Class A: 4th Saturday m	orning. (9.00am to 11.00am)
Class B: 2nd Sunday m	norning (11.30am to 1.30pm)
PAYMENT DETAILS:	Tuition fee \$300.00
Direct transfer:	
Bank Account: Bonsai	Art p/l: Bank: ANZ: BSB 012266: A/C 222561786
Credit Card: Visa/Mas	tercard
NO:	exp. date:
Name:	
Signature:	
Note: Please do not ser	nd credit card details over the internet.
Please phone with deta	ils. (0423 763 506)

DIRECT BANKING IS PREFERRED.

Bonsai Nursery (Bonsai Art p/l)

Abn:30002816248

AT HIDDEN ORIENT

206-208 Forest Way Belrose 2085 (cnr. Crosier & Forest Way)

M: 0423 763 506 E: bonsaiart@megumibennettbonsai.com

W: www.megumibennettbonsai.com

BONSAI BEGINNERS COURSE 2022

Learn step by step the basics of bonsai.

The classes consist of 10 lessons in which 4 bonsai are created.

TIME: 2 hours duration 9.00am – 11.00am or 11.30am - 1.30pm

TUITION: \$300.00 (This does not include materials but includes GST and a set of notes).

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:

CLASS A. 1st stage: The 4th Saturday of each month, 9.00am – 11.00am.

Commencing 12th February till 12th of November 2022.

Feb. 26th; Mar. 26th; Apr. 23rd; May. 28th; June. 25th; July. 23rd; Aug. 27th; Sept. 24th; Oct. 22nd Nov. 26th

CLASS B. 1st stage: The 2nd Sunday of each month, 11.30am – 1.30pm.

Commencing 13th of Feb till 13th of November.

Feb. 13th; Mar. 13th; Apr. 10th; May. 8th; June. 12th; July. 10th; Aug. 14th; Sep. 11th; Oct. 9th; Nov. 13th

2022 BONSAI WORKSHOP

BONSAI ART p/l ABN:3000281624 206 Forest Way, Belrose 2085

M: 0423 763 506 E: bonsaiart@megumibennettbonsai.com

This workshop is suitable for beginners or intermediate and for people who wish to further their knowledge and skill.

TIME: 9.30 AM--12 NOON (2.5 Hours) / 1.00 PM -- 3.30PM (2.5 Hours)

TUITION: \$70.00 (plants of any types) or \$75.00 (for Black Pines)

*Children 8 to 15 years \$35.00 (General workshop only).

*Bring maximum of two trees.

19th Feb. Sat. General Workshop

6th Mar. Sun. General Workshop

*19th Mar. Sat. Japanese black pine (Autumn work)

3rd Apr. Sun. General Workshop

21st May. Sat. General Workshop

5th Jun. Sun. General Workshop (Except Figs)

3rd July. Sun. General Workshop (Except Figs)

*16th July. Sat. Japanese black pine (Winter work)

7th Aug. Sun. General Workshop

17th Sept. Sat. General Workshop

*2nd Oct. Sun. Japanese black pine (Spring work)

15th Oct. Sat. General Workshop

19th Nov. Sat. General Workshop

*4th Dec. Sun. Japanese black pine (Summer work)

11th Dec. Sun. General Workshop

We offer more in-depth comprehensive Beginner Bonsai Courses from

February-November. Megumi's regular Bonsai Classes are also available.

Ask us for more info.

Bonsai Art Pty Ltd

abn30002816248

At Hidden Orient 208 Forest Way Belrose M: 0423763506 A.H (02) 94562424

> E: bonsaiart@megumibennettbonsai.com Web: www.megumibennettbonsai.com

Bonsai Workshop

ENROLMENT FORM 2022

NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
	P/CODE
TEL:M:	
EMAIL:	
No. of People:	
Add additional person(s) name:	
	(AM or PM)
\$70.00 (General Workshop) or \$75.00 (Black	ck Pine): TOTAL: \$
PAYMENT DETAILS:	
Bank account: Name: Bonsai Art P/L BSE	3: 012266 Account no: 222561786
Name of cardholder Credit Card: Visa/Mastercard	<u></u>
No:	Exp. date
Name:	
Signature:	Date:
Note: Please do not send credit cards detail	
Please phone Bonsai Art Pty Ltd (0423 763	560) with details.

If more than one person, please detail each name.

Direct banking preferred.

MEGUMI'S BONSAI CLASSES

For intermediate and advanced students

NAME:(Print)		••••••			
Address:	•••••				
Mobile:		Hom	e tel.no		
Email: (print)		•••••	•••••		
Please indicate your class: cir	cle your o	class an	ıd paymen	t method.	
A. 1st Saturday: 2hr lesson o	r 2.5hr le	sson (AM/PM)		
B. 2nd Saturday:	2hr	-	_	(AM/PM)	
•	2hr	or		(AM/PM)	
D. Monday: (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th)				, , ,	
E. Wednesday: (3 rd)	2h			(, ,	
Timetable: AM class: 2hr 9am-11.00am/ PM class: 2hr 12.00pm- 2.00p				n	
Tuition: 10 lessons 2 hours	•	-	00 each ti 0.00 each t		
	•	•	.00 each t	iiie.	
(Tuition): please circle					
PAYMENT DETAILS:			•••••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Bank account: Name: Bonsai Art p	p/l BSB:	012266	Account no	<u>: 222561786</u>	
Credit Card: Visa/master card					
No:			Exp.	date	_
Name:					
Signature:					

Please do not send credit cards details over the net. Please phone with details.

Bonsai Society of Sydney Inc. - 2022 Club Calendar

2022	Workshop/Topic	Description
February 26th	General workshop	General workshop. Bring along any tree to work on and receive helpful advice.
March 26th		Topic to be decided.
April 23rd		Topic to be decided
May 28th		Topic to be decided

Important Dates - 2022, Calendar of Events

2022	Event/Exhibition	Details
March 5-6th 2022	Central Coast Bonsai Club	Bonsai Open Exhibition and introducing Australian Shohin Pot Competition. Entries close January 21, 2022. For more information: www.centralcoastbonsai.com.au
		No further information on club events supplied at this time.

QUIET GARDEN

ABN 81005241844

GARDEN PRUNING AND STYLING SPECIALIST



- Specialised Pruning, Styling, Hedging such as Buxus sp., Maples, Japanese black pines, Azaleas and Murrayas.
- Pest identification and plant management.
- Garden maintenance, garden consultation, weeding, mulching.
- A special pick up/delivery for overgrown plants and bonsai.
- Tree services including removal, thinning and deadwooding.

Alex is insured and operates throughout the Sydney metro area.

206-208 FOREST WAY, BELROSE 2085
Mobile: 0401275313. Email: alexbe.415@gmail.com



A Member of:

- ❖ The Bonsai Federation of Australia Inc.
- * Association of Australian Bonsai Clubs Ltd.
- ❖ Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

Club meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of each month from February to November from 1 pm at the Forest Community Arts Centre, No. 6 Darley Street, Forestville, NSW 2087 (subject to change).

Web: www.bonsaisocietysydney.org.au

Mail: Bonsai Society of Sydney Inc., P.O. Box 186, Terrey Hills, NSW 2084.

Bonsai Society of Sydney Committee 2021			
Honorary Patron	Megumi Bennett	bennettmegumi@gmail.com	
President	Galen Gannon	gig45@bigpond.com	
Vice President	Diane C.		
Secretary	Alex Bennett	alexbe.415@gmail.com	
Treasurer	Glenda W.	gwfreshcanvas@hotmail.com	
Newsletter Editor	Keith Gallie	keithgallie@bigpond.com	
Committee Member Membership Officer	Valma W.		
Committee Member	Jocelyn M.		
Committee Member	Christophe C.		
Committee Member	Agus N.		

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BONSAI SOCIETY OF SYDNEY INC.

Membership Application Form 2022

		Postcode:
	@	
Member \$35	Family Member	\$40
ceive a hard copy of the	e Newsletter for an	additional \$10 annually?
Yes		No 🗌
ly will pay half of the an	nual fees to bring ther	n up to the renewal date of 31st
i Society of Sydney Inc.	, I/we agree to abide	by the constitution of the So-
	Dat	re: / /
ayable to: " <mark>Bonsai Soc</mark>	iety of Sydney"	428
ı to:		
Bonsai Society	of Sydney Inc.	
	Member \$35 Ceive a hard copy of the Yes Ily will pay half of the annual Society of Sydney Inc. Close securely with formal Society BSB 012-298 An to: The Treasurer Bonsai Society PO Box 186, Te	ai Society of Sydney Inc., I/we agree to abide Close securely with form) Date of Sydney Society of Sydney Elose to: "Bonsai Society of Sydney" Elose SB 012-298 Account No: 499616