



Newsletter August 2023 in this issue

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President's Message

Hello folks,

We have a great couple of meetings ahead of us, starting with Jeff Bray from Gold Coast Tweed Bonsai Club coming to our August 26th meeting starting at midday. Jeff has many years of bonsai knowledge and experience to share with us and undoubtedly will do a great presentation.

Next, we have Leigh Taafe attending our September 23rd meeting and continuing with two workshops scheduled for the next day. Please see the info in this newsletter to book your spot for the workshops as a participant or an observer. Don't wait too long to book as we will be opening spots to other clubs that are not filled, after our August meeting.

See you soon.

Karen

Upcoming Events 2023

- ❖ **Meeting 26th August – demonstration Jeff Bray 12 o'clock**
- ❖ **Bimer Market Day – 27th August**
- ❖ **Bonsai Society of Queensland – Annual Show Sep 10th**
- ❖ **Toowoomba Bonsai Society – Annual Show September 16th & 17th**



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In my Garden

In colder climates than ours the arrival of spring is an important time of renewal, much anticipated and celebrated. It is the same for we bonsai tragnics, who over winter, look forward to what we might achieve with our little trees in the coming season.

So it's almost a relief to at last be able to get into root pruning and repotting but when confronted with the task we are reminded quickly about just how much our collections have grown and I don't mean simply in length.

I've had a busy couple of weeks in my garden. The deciduous trees are by now settled in and producing a nice flush of new shoots. With the broadleaf evergreens, depending on where there are in the development pipeline, they have been left with somewhere between 75% and none of their former foliage after seasonal set-up. Of course, after root pruning this early the post pruning watering has to be carefully managed. To make this work I have grouped my root pruned trees by the amount of foliage on them. Those closer to ramified and with more remaining leaf can have a little more water than the ones which are earlier in development that have been defoliated and pruned back hard in the interests of building the core structure. Then there are those as yet unpruned, that have filled their pots with roots and a single watering a day is almost not enough. Its quite a juggle but like all the powerful lessons, one learned the hard way.

Steve



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**Redlands
Bonsai Society**



Redlands Bonsai Society is proud to present:

“Discover the Art of Bonsai” with Leigh Taafe

It was the movie Karate Kid that inspired Leigh in 1984, at the age of 13, to move his interest from cacti to bonsai, an interest that was to shape Leigh's personal and professional life from that moment on. Leigh continued to pursue bonsai as a hobby as he completed his degree Business/ IT and during his working career in the private sector.

In 2000 Leigh opened Ledanta Bonsai Nursery, a commercial retail/wholesale bonsai nursery which offered other services included bonsai maintenance, bonsai hire, bonsai workshops and masterclasses. Since then, Leigh has exhibited at National Conventions, been guest speaker internationally and nationally, won multiple awards and has been editor of bonsai publications.

Now, as the Curator of the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection, Leigh manages over 120 trees including the permanent collection and trees on loan, manages and trains bonsai volunteers, engages the public and bonsai professionals through an ongoing event program.

Leigh will be discussing his work as the Curator of the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection and giving tips on how to improve your trees to get them up to this standard.

DON'T MISS THIS RARE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM A RENOWNED BONSAI PROFESSIONAL . WHETHER YOU ARE A SEASONED ENTHUSIAST OR JUST STARTING YOUR BONSAI JOURNEY, THE AFTERNOON PROMISES TO INSPIRE AND ELEVATE YOUR SKILLS.

SATURDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2023

12.00pm-3.30pm

Venue:

**Wellington Point Recreational Hall
347-371 Birkdale Road, Wellington Point**

Cost: Free



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**Redlands
Bonsai Society**



BONSAI WORKSHOPS WITH LEIGH TAAFE

Sunday, 24th September, 2023

It was the movie Karate Kid that inspired Leigh in 1984, at the age of 13, to move his interest from cacti to bonsai, an interest that was to shape Leigh's personal and professional life from that moment on. Leigh continued to pursue bonsai as a hobby as he completed his degree Business/ IT and during his working career in the private sector.

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Now, as the Curator of the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection, Leigh manages over 120 trees including the permanent collection and trees on loan, manages and trains bonsai volunteers, engages the public and bonsai professionals through an ongoing event program.

This is a rare opportunity to work with Leigh on your trees, and plan what is necessary to have your bonsai worthy of being with the National Collection.



**LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE
2 SESSIONS**

SUNDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2023
9.00am - 12.00pm (8 spaces)
1.00pm - 4.00pm (8 spaces)

**Cost: \$40 members
\$50 non-members**

**Venue:
Alexandra Hills Community Hall
131-155 Finucane Road, Alexandra Hills**

10 additional
spaces available
for silent viewing
of the workshop.
Cost \$10 per
person.

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Insight of a Bonsai beginner

I was thinking about style and how a number of my young tree's would turn out. Although I may be not qualified to discuss this subject as my friends tell me I don't have any style and my mother said I was behind the wrong door when they were giving it out. But what I have noticed as I have travelled to the many Bonsai shows that it appears that each club has its own styles. Could this be led by club member's influence. I know through my photography that you migrate to a style and this changes over time as you gain experience. Bonsai just like photography where you have rules like the "rule of thirds" where you have a point to focus on so your eye and view is not lost in the photo. Similarly, where the tree is placed in the pot, the trunk thickness and height to the canopy are all relative to how we view the tree. You can access and view a lot of bonsai styles from books and the internet but seeing them and building the tree from the ground up is more challenging. This is where you should glean as much information from our experienced member's on how the tree was built to achieve this style. Or you could borrow from nature. Anyway, I will continue the journey as the learning is the enduring part of the hobby.

We would love to hear about your styling journey.



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RBS Meeting Protocol

Our meetings are held at the **Wellington Point Recreation Hall**, 347-371 Birkdale Rd, Wellington Point QLD 4160, unless otherwise noted. Our annual show is generally held at the Donald Simpson Centre in Bloomfield Street, Cleveland. You will find the yearly program on the last page of our newsletter. Watch this space for the 2023 program calendar or check out the website.

The hall will be open at 11am for members and visitors' meetings, with committee meetings to be held from 11am before each normal meeting.

Foundations Development Program

This is a course of 8 x 3hr lessons, please talk to Steve C if you wish to join in this program.

Learners' Group

The group is designed for informal tuition and coaching from 11am to 12:00 pm on meeting days when a demonstration or presentation is scheduled. Senior members will be available to offer advice and support. Please check program calendar at end of newsletter for dates.

Sign-in and Raffle

All members are required to sign in as they arrive. The sign in sheets are located on the front table as you enter the hall. If you don't want to sign into the meetings, please talk to one of the executive committee members.

There will be a raffle at each meeting and tickets are available for purchase at the sign in table.

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Fees for 2023

Our membership fees for 2023 are \$25 for a single, \$35 for a family and we have removed the monthly \$2 entry fee.

- Fees are due in December for the following year
- New members who join the club in the first 6 months of the year pay full membership fees
- Members joining after 30 June pay half fees for that year, with full membership fees due in November for the following year.
- Any member who has not paid their fees by 31 January for that year will be deemed unfinancial and not eligible to exhibit in the annual show, sell products at the show or meetings or vote at the AGM.

Banking details for on-line renewals are:

Name: Redlands Bonsai Society Inc

BSB: 633000

Account Number: 169724416

Workshop Meetings

We aim to provide a number of workshop meetings throughout the year. These are great opportunities for people of all stages of their bonsai journey to come together, discuss and work on their trees. The more experienced members of the club are available to answer any questions and assist you in deciding the future style and care of your trees.

Remember advice will vary across the members, so weigh up the information and follow the advice you are most comfortable with...

Your Committee Members for 2023

President: Karen F.

Vice President: Heather L.

Treasurer: Nick J.

Secretary: Noreen C.

New member greeter: Julie B.

Newsletter: Rod C.

Member: Mel B.

Member: Julie B.

Member: Sandy C.

Member: Ryan M.

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REDLANDS BONSAI SOCIETY - PROGRAM FOR 2023				
Month	Date	Day	Meetings and Workshops	Additional activities
January	28	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Foster tree return / Show raffle tree rework with Steve	Learners group from 11am
February	25	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			AGM 2022/2023 Prep your trees for show / Workshop	From 12pm
March	25	Sat	Show Setup	
	26	Sun	Annual Show	
April	22	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Forest trees bring back and forest making demo	From 1200
May	27	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Talk on Minis with Tony Watt and arvo workshop	Learners group from 11am Meeting 12pm
June	24	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Ugly Tree day Problem tree advice session	From 1200
July	22	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Workshop / Deciduous tree wiring and pruning	Learners group from 11am Meeting 12pm
August	26	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Jeff Bray from Gold Coast Tweed Club	From 1200
September	23	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Workshop	Learners group from 11am
October	28	Sat	RBS Market Day	
November	25	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Native Tree bring back and native workshop Q&A	From 12pm
December	9	Sat	Christmas Party	

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