



## Newsletter May 2023 in this issue

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## President's Message

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Hello

Our last meeting was a forest demo and forest bring back. I can happily report that the *Wrightia religiosa* planting is doing well and so far, all the cuttings are still alive. I am keeping it as warm as I can without a greenhouse to rely on. We had a pleasant afternoon and welcomed a few new members, as well as our usual afternoon tea. Thanks to Sandy who does a great job every month in the kitchen. We never go hungry with the yummy food the members bring to share with the group.

Our May meeting will start with a learner's group at 11am, followed by a demonstration on tiny trees with Tony Watt at midday. We will stop for afternoon tea and then hold a workshop after that. Please bring your tiniest tree in your Collection to display to the group. It doesn't have to be in a bonsai pot.

I hope to see you all on Saturday May 27th.

Karen 😊

## Upcoming Events 2023

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- ❖ **May 27<sup>th</sup> Next Meeting – Tiny Trees and Workshop. - Learner's Group 11am**
- ❖ **Mid Year Meeting – June 24<sup>th</sup> Ugly Tree Day**
- ❖ **Bonsai Society of Queensland – Annual Show Sep 10<sup>th</sup>**
- ❖ **Toowoomba Bonsai Society – Annual Show September 16th & 17th**

## Club update membership fee

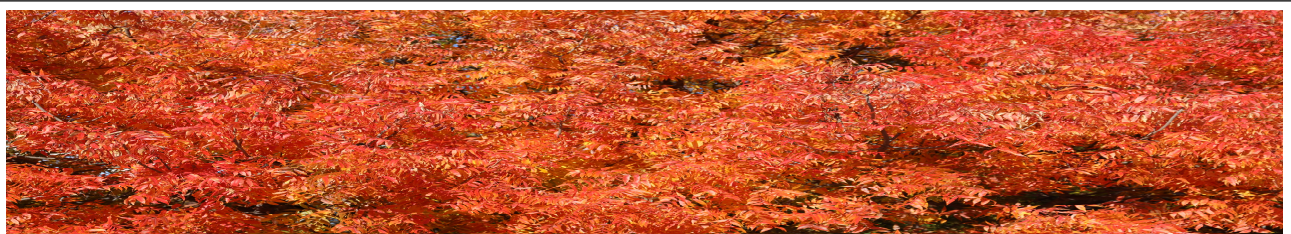
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Your committee has decided to reduce the membership fees back down to \$25 single and \$35 for a family. Those of you who have paid the \$40 fees are eligible for a refund. If you would like a \$15 refund, please send your bank details to me at [karen.freeland@outlook.com](mailto:karen.freeland@outlook.com) and I will reimburse you.

## Calling for articles for newsletter

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This is a shout out to all members to think about contributing an article great or small to the newsletter or a photo of your bonsai journey. I am more than happy to take a photo of your trees or write an article for you. There is always something interesting happening in your garden and the newsletter is a good forum to share with other like-minded enthusiasts.



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# REDLANDS BONSAI



## *Insight of a Bonsai beginner*

Recently I wrote about the value of growing your own cuttings and the pleasure of seeing them transform from 3-inch sticks to that of small plants and then taking on the shape of early bonsai's.

What I am now hoping to convince you is to try growing some plants from seeds, but I must add you need vitamins not only for the plants but for yourself as this will take an extra few years before you start to see them take on the form of bonsai.

I started by picking up some seeds of a Leopard tree in my street after seeing the great branch structure they have. What I could not find was the seed in the pod when breaking them open, although the internet showed a small black seed. So, losing interest I put several seed pods in some potting mix using old coffee cups. I know you all looked at the photo first and thought I was going to talk about Wild Bean bonsai's no just reuse recycle.

It took more than 12 months to break down the outer seed shell to allow for germination. I now realise that the seeds were immature in this instance when collected.

I have since found new seeds where you can hear the seed rattle in the pod and when opened up a small black seed is revealed. These seeds then germinate in 7-10 days once taken out of the pod. What is of interest with these leopard trees is that they are one of the few trees that talk to you by closing up their leaf structure at nightfall and when moisture is low. Even of greater interest is one of the leopard trees I have grown from scratch has now grown in the same pot as a touch me knot a species I have not seen for many years. So now my leopard tree and touch me knot have formed a good relationship closing at night and closing when being touched. I have now grown a number of different seeds collected from my own trees and have been able to germinate Leptospermum, Callistemon, Lininifolia and collected Swamp Cypress seeds. It amazes me how a plant starts from such a small seed. Once again, the enjoyment of growing from scratch is enhancing the enjoyment of my hobby.

Rod



Young Leptospermum



Lemon scented Tea Tree seeds



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# REDLANDS BONSAI



*Club meeting*

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Starting of a forest planting from an air-layer



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# REDLANDS BONSAI



Photo from two years ago



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## *RBS Meeting Protocol*

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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.

### **Workshops**

Meetings generally consist of workshops and/or demonstrations. Tables will be provided for members to work on their trees.

Bring trees that need work, or trees for which you would like some advice. More experienced members are encouraged to share their accumulated knowledge with the newer members.

### **Name Badges**

Name badges are provided by the club, and we encourage everyone to wear them at the meeting allowing everyone to converse with other members by name.

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## **Door Prize / Raffle**

At each meeting there will be door and raffle prizes drawn. Members displaying trees will be given a free raffle ticket. Do not forget to let the people on the front desk know you are entitled to a free ticket if you have brought a display tree.

## *Annual Fees*

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### **Fees for 2023.**

Our membership fees for 2023 have now been reviewed and the updated fees are included in the newsletter above for your information. There will still be a raffle for those who want to participate. Fees are due by the end of this year (2023).

Banking details for online renewals as follows:

Name: Redlands Bonsai Society Inc – BSB

633000 – Account 169724416

Fee arrangements are as follows:

- ❖ Annual fees are payable from the date of the AGM in November, for the following calendar year.
- ❖ For members, fees unpaid on 31st March in the year make the member unfinancial and no newsletter or other club services will be available until membership fees are paid.
- ❖ New Members who join the club in the first 6 months of the calendar year pay full membership rates.
- ❖ Members joining after 30th June pay ½ fee for that year. They will thereafter be required to pay a full year fee from November for the following calendar year.
- ❖ Participation in exhibiting in the annual show, selling product at the show or at meetings, receiving the newsletter and voting at the AGM are not available to non-financial members.

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## *Workshop Meetings*

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Workshop Meetings are scheduled as outlined below in the yearly calendar.

The purpose of these workshop meetings is for both novice and experienced members to work on and discuss their bonsai trees in an informal environment. Experienced bonsai artists are available to answer and assist with any queries and questions. Please reach out to any of these members. Always remember advice comes with many opinions so weigh up all the information provided and follow the advice you are most comfortable with. What story do you want your trees to tell?

### **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.

You are welcome to join the committee to help add your voice to the operation of the club. It is always good to get feedback and suggestions and your input is always welcome to advance the club experience.

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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	<b>Annual Show</b>	
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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