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President's Message

Hi folks.

I hope you have all had a great Christmas with your family and friends. Our first meeting of the year is January 27th and is an Open Day and workshop.

We are hoping to introduce a few more people to the great bonsai hobby, pastime, or obsession, whichever the case may be. If you know anyone who

would like to come and visit our club, please bring them along. If you would like to bring a tree to display for our visitors, please do so.

We will be having a relaxed day with a couple of beginner friendly demonstrations and a workshop for our members to socialise and chat to the new people, while enjoying refreshments and a free sausage sizzle for lunch.

Our February meeting will start with the Learners group at 11am and our AGM at midday.

Kimberly Halter from Toowoomba Bonsai Club will be doing a Presentation/Demonstration on Junipers. Bring your show trees and Kimberly will share her knowledge and critique your trees to make them show ready.

You will notice the program is not yet complete for the full year as we are still juggling dates to get the special guests, we are wanting for 2024. We promise they will be worth the wait.

See you on Jan 27th at midday.

Karen ☺

Upcoming Events 2024

- ❖ **27th January Open Day, Sausage Sizzle and Workshop.**
- ❖ **24th February – presentation by Kimberley Halter and AGM**
- ❖ **Membership renewal for 2024 – see details on Page 8.**

AGM – February 24th

If you are looking for a great opportunity to get involved in your club, think about joining the committee. There is no skill required only your enthusiasm and love of all things bonsai.

Our AGM is scheduled for February 24th at our meeting. The following positions will be open, and we hope you take the opportunity to nominate for a position and become involved.

- * Treasurer
- * Social Media Coordinator
- * Events Coordinator
- * Community Outreach Officer

We will also be looking for a Kitchen Convenor who does not have to be a committee member just a willing volunteer.



Visit us at:

<http://redlandsbonsai.org> or <https://www.facebook.com/RedlandsBonsaiSociety>



Open Day - January 2024



Redlands Bonsai Society Open Day & Workshop

**Saturday January 27th
11.00am to 4pm**

**FREE ENTRY &
REFRESHMENTS**

**Come and join us
and learn about
our friendly club.
Bring your tree
for some advice**

**Wellington Point
Recreation Hall
347 Birkdale Road,
Wellington Point**

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Insight of a Bonsai beginner

With the coming of a new year and a very hot one at that, I have started looking back at what I have learned over the past year.

In the words of Donald Rumsfeld "there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know". The bonsai journey???

I asked Steve if I could borrow the chip inside his head for a day and he replied that it is always getting a firmware update and continuing to be reprogramed. From this message I received the knowledge with Steve's mastery is that the Bonsai journey is a never-ending road without a destination just continued ongoing learning.

What I do know is that over the last few months with the very unstable weather we have experienced is that the wind has played havoc with my trees with them being blown over and breaking new branches (Murphy's Law would have it that a plant falls over and only breaks the best developing branches, the law of the buttered bread always ends up face first). When the pots are not sitting upright and because I use an auto watering system allows, they miss out on much needed moisture, and they dry out quickly with the loss of trees when you are away for a few days. Also given the heat wave we have experienced pots sitting upright is critical to keeping them alive and thriving.

The repotting process is the one that I have feared most when you spend several years growing the plant and then lose it due to lack of technique and attention. I have lost three promising bonsai trees this year due to not defoliating the tree when repotting and the tree dies through dehydration and others where they were not secured during the extreme weather conditions. With some of my smaller trees I have just repotted and not wired into their new pots and unfortunately some 50% of them fell out of the pot with the winds and storms. This is a very valuable lesson learned and I will now wire all plants when repotting to allow the new root growth to develop and allow the tree to get the necessary nutrients to grow.

Rod



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36th AABC National Bonsai Convention

17th - 20th May 2024

Royal on the Park Hotel, Brisbane City



Bonsai Exhibition showcasing some of Queensland's best bonsai

Sales area for all of your bonsai needs - pots, tools, trees and more!



Workshops, masterclass and demonstrations with:
Koji Hiramatsu from Hiramatsu Shunshoen, Japan
Martin Walters - New Zealand
Andrew Sellman - Queensland
Lindsay & Glenis Bebb - Queensland



Visit Brisbane's biggest bonsai nursery & the new Bonsai House at the Botanical Gardens on our Friday Tour (lunch included)



Book Your Convention Package Now!



For more information or to register visit:
www.bonsaisocietyqld.asn.au



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- URGENT NOTICE - AABC CONVENTION 2024 ACCOMMODATION UPDATE

The Brisbane Organising Committee have advised that there are multiple events in Brisbane happening on the weekend of our AABC Convention (17 – 20 May). As a consequence there is heavy demand for accommodation and it is becoming harder to find rooms for reasonable costs. Additionally, the booking code for accommodation at the event venue (Royal on the Park Hotel) can now not be used to obtain discounted rates.

For members who have not yet made their accommodation reservations please search the various online accommodation websites as soon as you can to find your accommodation.

Please continue to promote and encourage your members to register for the Brisbane Convention.

More information for AABC 36 - *Bonsai By Design* - can be found by visiting the website:

<https://bonsaisocietyqld.asn.au/events/#!event-list>

The Convention venue is:

Royal on the Park Hotel
152 Alice Street, Brisbane City 4000
<https://www.royalonthepark.com.au/contact>

International Demonstrators are:

- Koji Hiramatsu, from Japan,
- Martin Walters, from Auckland, New Zealand.

with supporting Australian Demonstrators:

- Lindsay & Glen Bebb, and
- Andrew Sellman, (one of the AABC VTs from Queensland).



Frank Kelly
Secretary AABC
20 January 2024

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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 2024 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 2024

Our membership fees for 2024 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 – AGM for 2024 Committee (24th February)

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 2024				
Month	Date	Day	Meetings and Workshops	Additional activities
January	28	Sat	Committee Meeting	10am
			Open day / Sausage Sizzle / Workshop	11am to 4pm
February	25	Sat	Committee Meeting	10am
			AGM 2023/2024. Presentation by Kimberly Halter and critique show trees.	Learners group from 11am Meeting starts 12pm

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