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President's Message

Hi folks,

Another great show this year. Thanks again to all the members that helped put it all together in the display room and worked in the sales area. Thanks also to the hard-working committee.

Congratulations to this year's trophy winners.

Keith Stanley was our judge and said it was a hard job picking the winners from this year's entrants, so well done everyone.

Our next club meeting is Saturday 23rd at midday.

We will be looking at our native tube stock and deciding what to do next and doing a repotting demo. We have some bonsai soil at the club for those who need it but bring your own if you want to work on your natives. I have lost some of my name tags for some tube stock so I will be bringing them for identification. Lol

I hope to see you all back to it on the 23rd.

Karen 😊

Upcoming Events 2022

- ❖ Next Meeting 23rd April includes Native Tube Stock Repotting and discussion.
- ❖ Meeting 28th May

Introduction to the Editor

I would like to introduce myself as the new editor of the newsletter. With the March edition under my belt, I would like to extend an invitation to the club members for your input for future editions. If you have any bonsai experiences, it would be great to share them with the club as we have a lot of members who would gain from this sharing experience. The world of bonsai is an interesting one and there is more than one way to create your bonsai. By sharing your experiences, it enriches the experience of other members and creates an engaging discussion on the topic. If you have any interesting news, snippets of information or an interesting experience in your daily bonsai maintenance please send through to my email to share in the newsletter with the club or feel free to come up and see me at the meeting if you want to have a chat.

To get things started each month we will be showcasing through a factsheet an Australian Native which can be created as a bonsai.

Rod - cbells111@yahoo.com



In My Garden April 2022

In my garden,

I've been under pressure lately, weed pressure. Specifically, Military Fern. It's been coming up everywhere even in the spaces between the bricks holding my benches up, just more and more of it. And what's worse it doesn't really react quickly to the 'go to' Glyphosate.

I set about looking for an alternative having seen a posting online somewhere about Pine Oil being effective and then where to get it. There is a product available called Bioweed Organic but only online and by delivery. Desperate times call for desperate means, so I bit the bullet and ordered a bottle. OMG this stuff is like nuclear annihilation for weeds. I sprayed a few test spots in the morning and by lunchtime they were pristine little circles of nothing. You probably don't believe me just as I wouldn't have believed it if I'd not seen it myself. BUT IT HAPPENED.

Suffice to say the next morning I blitzed the weed everywhere, used up the whole bottle and by lunchtime day 2 nearly got rid of all the military weed in my bonsai garden. AMAZING. Instant gratification.

Then I was talking to a friend about my newly found lethal weapon and he told me about SLASHER. Yes, it is the name of a weedicide product and available at Bunnings. It is a different organic material but is just as effective as the Pine Oil. It's so good to go to my bonsai nursery now and I really have to search to find a weed. A great weight off my shoulders.

In the before and after photographs the Slasher was sprayed on the plant on the left. The plant on the right has been sprayed with a mixture of vinegar, salt and surfactant. These are the ingredients of another commercial product available at Bunnings. (surfactant = detergent like stuff). As you can see (after photo, right hand

plant) it is almost as effective and very cheap when you make it yourself. These products act to desiccate the foliage and so may need reapplication on any reshooting. Run your own tests before spraying on the surface of your bonsai pots.

Happy bonsai, Steve



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Insight of a Bonsai beginner

From our annual show this year we had several new members join our club so I thought as a relatively new member myself I would share my experience of taking part in the bonsai foundation program run by the Redlands Bonsai Club.

We were ready to start back in January 21 but after a COVID delay and lockdowns we finally were able to start our Bonsai program. The course runs for 8 sections and is divided over several months.

Being new to Bonsai but not to growing plants and gardening I thought creating a bonsai would be easy but was I wrong. As I grew more and more plants from cuttings what I ended up with was large cuttings in pots thinking I needed to first get a good trunk size then this would make them all like small trees (Bonsai).

What I learned was the tree needs to be built early as it is the growth of the branch structure that is equally important as building the trunk. The other key learning was the potting medium and the drainage required to allow the plants to grow and prosper.

I will warn you that a short art course may be needed to complete the bonsai foundation degree as I found one of the homework subjects was drawing a tree. I later found out I should have done a short story subject as when I asked what should I do to the tree the question is asked back what story do you want the tree to tell? Several questions were asked back to me and not being sure which one was the right one I now needed to grow several cuttings to see what the right answer was. I am starting to see they may have all been correct answers.

During the course we were given 2 tube stock trees to grow and work on, (photo attached) of the tree some 12 months later being grown, cut, grown and recut and I believe it now is starting to look like a real bonsai with the branch structure starting to take place.

The enjoyment for me has been in the learning and sharing the experience with likeminded people to experience the creation of our bonsai.

I would like to say thank you to Steve for his mentoring and the learning the foundation members have experienced through these lessons. The courses have provided a wealth of information to allow us to create and enjoy our bonsai.

Rod



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BONSAI SHOW RESULTS 2022

Best in Show

Winner: Geoff Smiley Coastal Tea Tree

Large: over 65cm

Winner: Tess Simpson Brazillian Grape

Runner up: Heather Luck Swamp Cypress

Best Native: Geoff Stewart Ficus Benjamina

Intermediate: 45-65cm

Winner: Brian Johnson Bougainvillea

Runner up: Steve Cullum Clerodendrum

Best Native: Ross Power Claret Top

Small: 25-45cm

Winner: Gilbert Tooth Clerodendrum

Runner up: Steve Cullum Clerodendrum

Best Native: Geoff Smiley Coastal Tea Tree

Miniature: Under 25cm

Winner: Tony Watt Boston Ivy

Runner up: Tony Watt Japanese Black Pine

Best Native: Geoff Smile Coastal Tea Tree

Novice Class

Winner: Alain Hilfiker Crepe Myrtle

BCI Award Brian Johnson Clerodendrum



Certificate of Merit

Dean Litchfield
Noreen Cicala
Julie Bell
Nick Justo
Mal Cox
Andrew Mitchell
Alain Hilfiker
Brian Johnson

People's Choice

Tess Simpson	<i>Brazilian Grape</i>
Brian Johnson	<i>Clerodendrum</i>
Geoff Stewart	<i>Ficus Benjamina</i>
Geoff Smiley & Ben Flegg	
Tony Watt & Rhett Hook & Brian Johnson	
Tony Watt & Tess Simpson	
Greg Hatfield	
Rhett Hook	
Ross Power	
Karen Freeland	

REDLANDS BONSAI



Show Photo's



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REDLANDS BONSAI



Bonsai Club International Excellence Award

Brian Johnson



This is the raffle winner for the show tree. Greg. H
Winners are grinners



Overall, Winner Coastal Tree

Leptospermum Leavigatum

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REDLANDS BONSAI



Some of the Show's Exhibition



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REDLANDS BONSAI



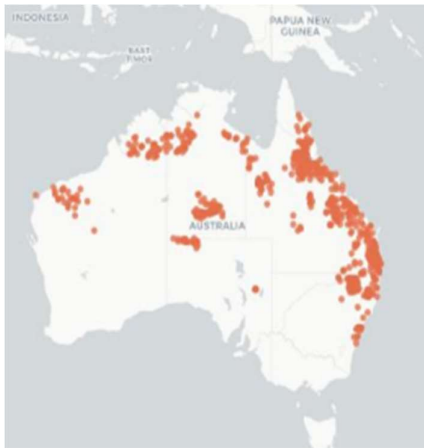
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Melaleuca Bracteata Black Tea Tree

The Black Tea-Tree, river tea-tree or mock olive is native to northern Australia. It usually occurs as a large shrub but under ideal conditions can grow into a tree up to 10 m tall. It is an adaptable species in cultivation and several cultivars have been developed. Its bark is rough, latticed, hard and dark grey to black in colour. The leaves are small at it readily coppices from large cuts. The species has been used for decades in Brisbane as a street and landscaping tree in both the green and yellow leaved variations. It naturally develops an attractive 'cumulous cloud' shaped canopy. It is highly suited to bonsai cultivation and can be compared for ease of use with the exotic Clerodendrum species, commonly used for bonsai in SEQ



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Annual Fees

Just a reminder that 2022 membership fees are due. Please pay by electronic funds transfer if possible. It makes Nick's life a little easier. Please include your surname in the payment reference.

Banking details for online renewals as follows:

Name: Redlands Bonsai Society Inc

BSB: 633000

Account: 169724416

For Your Information

Steve is once again running the Foundations Program this year. This program is a fantastic start to your bonsai journey packed with information. Please see the attached flyer and contact Steve if your interested in joining this year's curriculum.

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'll find the program on the last page. Here is an explanation of some of the items:

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

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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.

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. Midday sharp.

Name Badges

Name badges are provided by the club, and we ask that you wear them at the meeting to help everyone with bad memories.

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're entitled to a free ticket if you've brought a display tree.

If you are wondering about the **experience level definitions**, you will find them online in the blog:

<http://redlandsbonsai.blogspot.com/p/experience-levels.html>



Annual Fees

It has become necessary to update and clarify information on club annual fees. They are currently \$20 per year for single membership and \$30 for couples or parents and children and can now be paid online.

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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

Workshop Meetings

We generally schedule club workshops at every second regular monthly meeting.

As we have a number of newer members attending these workshops it is timely to describe their purpose and how they are intended to operate. For many the workshop afternoon is an opportunity to put aside some time and give a couple of their trees some quality time. For others it is an opportunity to get some advice or assistance.

Please feel free to come along and work independently on your trees. If on the other hand you want some advice, then there are always several senior club members in attendance to ask. The workshops aren't designed to be formal teaching workshops, so rule number one is if you want some help you need to ask for it.

The other challenge is that you might get different advice from different people, you will get different advice! That's because there's never a right answer or just one, it depends on so much. This is one of the challenges of bonsai; learning enough to be able to discriminate and evaluate the advice you are given. It is like going to two doctors and getting three opinions. It happens and it is in your hands to choose.

So that comes back to the advisers present. You can speak to one or as many as you can get their attention or the one that stands in front of you and says 'Hello, can I help? So, rule number two is you do not have to do what is suggested if you are unsure or don't want to. Just say 'thanks I'll think about it'.

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Workshops:

- Ask for help if you want it.
- Evaluate the advice you are given.
- Take action on the advice only if you want.

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Committee members for 2021

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.

Please consider joining the committee to help add your voice to the operation of the club. It's always good to get feedback and suggestions.

REDLANDS BONSAI SOCIETY - PROGRAM FOR 2022				
Month	Date	Day	Meetings and Workshops	Additional activities
January	22	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Fig Demo with Steve/ Bring your figs	Learners group from 11am
February	26	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Workshop / Pre show critique of display trees. AGM 2021/2022	From 1200
March	26	Sat	Show set up	
	27	Sun	Annual Show	
April	23	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Native tube stock day and report	From 1200
May	28	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Workshop/ return of group planting update	Learners group from 11am
June	25	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			TBA	From 1200
July	23	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Workshop	Learners group from 11am
August	27	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Grafting / Air Layering Group Participation	From 1200
September	24	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			Workshop	Learners group from 11am
October	22	Sat	RBS Market Day	
October	29	Sun	Bus trip to SCBS Show	
November	26	Sat	Committee Meeting	11am
			TBA	
December	10	Sat	Christmas party	

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