



# BONSAI NEWS UK

## 'Bonsai News U.K. – Editorial'

The first of this year's major Bonsai Events appear to have got off to a very successful start. The combined European Bonsai Association/Noelanders' Trophy event in Genk, Belgium was a highly impressive occasion with a large exhibition of quality bonsai together with the ever popular trade fair. Having exhibited at Noelanders for many years, congratulations must go to Tony Tickle for winning the award for 'Best Deciduous tree' with his hawthorn. Further congratulations also go to Duncan Hield who represented the U.K. in the Amateur New Talent contest. Against strong competition, he came a very creditable fourth out of the 14 contestants.

The four demonstrators were : David Benevente (Spain), Salvatore Liporace (Italy) and from Japan, Mitsuo Matsuda and Daisaku Nomoto. Pines were the order of the day in terms of material being worked upon with our two Japanese visitors demonstrating just what could be achieved with the most difficult of material. Impressive outcomes all round.

Swindon 'Winter Image Show' also successful, once again with an impressive selection of trees from around the U.K. At the time of writing, we still await a report on the event, but a selection of trees exhibited does appear in this issue of the Newsletter. Congratulations to all those from the Swindon group for the time and effort involved in putting on this event.

So far this year, over 50 societies have either joined or renewed their membership of FoBBS. Again, it falls upon me to remind societies that, whether or not they are members of FoBBS, insurance cover is important, especially if a society is involved in putting on a show or exhibition. The venues used should have their own insurance cover, but as a society, you too need cover so please for your own security ensure this is the case.

In addition, our treasurer has informed me that, on receiving membership renewals, she was concerned that in a handful of cases, societies had only one signature on their cheque. I have no doubt that the signatory is a reliable, honest individual, but with all organisations, be it a small society or a massive business conglomerate, there should be at least three signatories, any two of whom should sign cheques. There has already been, in the past, an unfortunate instance when a FoBBS society failed to do this and as a consequence, became bankrupt. I would not wish such a situation on any society, so for future reference, please check on this.

## IN THIS ISSUE

Future Shows	2
Show Reports	3, 4,
Club Activities	5, 6
Adverts and Club Programmes	7, 8, 9, 10, 11

**March 12th 2017****FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL M TOGETHER WITH FNBC ANNUAL BOOT SALE**

Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Westbourne Rd. Birmingham

Boot Sale from 2:00 pm

Annual General Meeting 11.00am

**March 25-26th****Sutton Bonsai Club Show, Wisley Gardens, Wisley Lane, Wisley, Surrey. GU23 6QR.**

Adm: TBA 1000-1630.hrs Contact: Andy Jordan 07958.372101

email: [antique.netsuke@gmail.com](mailto:antique.netsuke@gmail.com) [www.suttonbonsai.wordpress.com](http://www.suttonbonsai.wordpress.com)**April 9th 2017****NORTH LONDON BONSAI GROUP'S SPRING 2017 SHOW** 10am to 4pm at Capel Manor EN1 4RQ. Entrance to the grounds is £5.50, concessions £4.50, and that includes the bonsai show.**April 23rd 2017****THE BONSAI TRADERS ASSOCIATION, SPRING SHOW,**

Sports Connexion, Ryton on Dunsmore, Coventry The perfect opportunities to get all your bonsai essentials.

For more info. Corin Tomlinson Tel. 0115 9205757 Email: office@bonsai.co.uk [www.bonsaitraders.org.uk](http://www.bonsaitraders.org.uk)**May 1st 2017****Accrington & District Bonsai Society Daisy Nook Garden Centre – Spring Show**

Stannybrook Rd. Failsworth, Manchester M35 9WJ info l- 0161 681 4245

**May 7th 2017****WESSEX BONSAI SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW, Kinson Community Centre Bournemouth**Website: [www.wessexbonsai.co.uk](http://www.wessexbonsai.co.uk)**May 6-7 2017****NORTH DEVON BONSAI SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW . Royal Horticultural Society Park , Rosemoor, North Devon**

Exhibition of trees together with sales, demonstrations and advice for visitors.

Info: [www.bonsai-northdevon.co.uk](http://www.bonsai-northdevon.co.uk) email [hutchison415@btinternet.com](mailto:hutchison415@btinternet.com)**May 14th 2017****SURREY HEATH BONSAI SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW** Pirbright Village Hall, Dawney Hill Road, Pirbright, Surrey,

GU24 0JE. 10am - 4pm. Adults £2, Advice and sales table operating all day.

info Chris Rhodes at [Chairman@surreyheathbonsai.org.uk](mailto:Chairman@surreyheathbonsai.org.uk)**May 21st 2017****BLACKMORE VALE ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION, British Legion Hall, Coppice, Street, Shaftsbury**

11.00am – 4.00pm

Admission £2.00, Bonsai demos throughout the day. Info 01747 853475 [www.blackmorevallebonsaigroup.co.uk](http://www.blackmorevallebonsaigroup.co.uk)**May 21st 2017****MIDDLESEX BONSAI SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW** 10.00am -4.00pm, Woodford Hall, Poplars Close, Ruislip ,Middlesex., HA4

7BU. Adults £2 children FOC Sales tables- advice on the day.

Contact [roger.gibbs@talktalk.net](mailto:roger.gibbs@talktalk.net) [www.middlesexbonsaisociety.weebly.com](http://www.middlesexbonsaisociety.weebly.com)**May 21st. 2017****BONSAI FOR ALL,** Exhibition of specimen trees from many Midland Societies. Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Westbourne Rd. Birmingham. Trade and demonstrations throughout the day. Sponsored By Friends of the National Bonsai Collection

**May 23rd –27th**

**CHELSEA ROYAL FLOWER SHOW, ROYAL HOSPITAL SHOWGROUND.**

**Federation of British Bonsai Societies exhibiting as well as other bonsai exhibitors.**

Tickets available from RHS official website [www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/rhs-chelsea-flower-show](http://www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/rhs-chelsea-flower-show)

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**May 28th**

**Chiltern Bonsai Society Show**

**Liston Hall in Marlow, Buckinghamshire, from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.**

**In conjunction with other local societies, an exhibition of trees and miniature landscapes.**

**Also demonstrations by Harry Harrington as well as sales of bonsai accessories**

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**May 29th 2017**

**Accrington & District Bonsai Society**

**Great Harwood Show – Monday 29th May**

**Harwood Lane, Whalley Rd, Great Harwood, Lancs. BB6 7TB**

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**LEAMINGTON BONSAI STUDY GROUP**  
**CLASSES WITH NOBU KAJIWARA**

**Looking for new interested member: an ideal opportunity**

A small group who meet on five Saturday's throughout the year at Cubbington Village Hall, Leamington Spa, Warks. for Bonsai workshops with Nobu Kajiwara. All areas of Bonsai work are covered relevant to the time of year; pruning, repotting, styling, wiring, feeding, watering, etc.

With input into your own trees from Nobu at every workshop, plus time to work on your own, with him close at hand if needed .It is a relaxed, enjoyable and informal atmosphere without judgement on your trees, just honest good advice to improve your trees and further your knowledge.



Any level of tree is acceptable, from starter to specimen.

Cost is £260 per year payable in full in advance. This covers all costs including tea & coffee (9.30 -5.00); you provide your own lunch.

First class this year is **February 11th 2017**.

**NEW TALENT CONTEST 2017 AT  
EBA 2017 AT NOELANDRS TROPHY GENK**

14 contestants from 14 countries competed for the title EBA New Talent winner for 2017 at the highly successful EBA Convention and Noelanders Trophy at Genk Belgium on Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>. All contestants had similar junipers of a good quality to work on and they had 3 hours in which to transform the trees



The competing countries were

15 Austria, 7 Belgium , 9 Czech Republic, 8 Denmark, 10 France, 5 Germany,17 Hungary, 14 Italy, 1 Netherlands, 19 Poland,13 Portugal ,16 Slovenia, 12 Switzerland, 2 United Kingdom,

The winning tree for 2017 was No. 14 from Italy the tree representing UK was No 2, styled very creditably by Duncan Heild of North Staffs and Stoke BS and he was placed fourth.

**SWINDON WINTER IMAGE SHOW 2017**

Reg Bolton receiving an award celebrating his 40 years of support for the Swindon and District Bonsai Society

## Swindon & District 'Winter Image Show'

February 2017

The Winter Image Show hosted by the Swindon and District Bonsai Society is always highly anticipated by bonsai folk as it is the first large UK show of the season and the show this year was no disappointment. This was particularly heartening as this is the 40th year of the Society.

The atmosphere in the show was really friendly with much knowledgeable conversation taking place between the hundreds of attendees viewing the stunning tree displays. The standard and quality of the trees with the attention to detail in the presentation was superb.

The traders areas were well represented and doing brisk business in all the large variety of bonsai requisites that we have grown to expect at a major show.



*"All you need to do  
is to send in a brief  
report of your Show  
preferably with  
pictures and it will  
appear next month"*

We're on the Web!  
[www.fobbsbonsai.co.uk](http://www.fobbsbonsai.co.uk)

## THOUGHTS FROM BARRY WALKER, Chairman of The Friends of The National Bonsai Collection

### BONSAI EXHIBITIONS

Having visited many shows over the last few years I have realised that it is possible to identify many of the show winners in advance of each event.

Why or how could this be?

No criticism of the exhibitors involved because they are working to the rules as stipulated by the organisers. Yes, of course all right thinking people want to see the best possible trees on exhibit – but do they have to compete when they could so obviously win the top prizes? Why not give them the full credit they deserve by putting them “**ON EXHIBITION**” with full honours for what they have achieved. We are very fortunate to have these trees amongst us to be seen, but it is unbelievably hard to compete against them..... “we will never win, it is too disheartening”

Having discussed this with many people, it appears that quite a number are deterred from entering trees in shows; they feel they stand little chance against these high quality trees. This could well prevent progress in the standard of trees being exhibited at some bonsai events.

A few points to ponder:-

High quality trees having won at national and international level; should they therefore compete in local or regional shows?

Are people deterred from entering trees due to the presence of these top quality trees?

What is the point of entering if you know there little chance of gaining awards?.

In an attempt to resolve these issues consider the following ideas:-

1. Grade shows according to your expectations. Local, regional, national and international, with expectations that really top level trees will be exhibited at INTERNATIONAL level.
2. Alternatively, differentiate at the SHOWS. If a tree gains an award at local level, then next year exhibit it at a Regional event and so on to a higher level.
3. A third option depends on the organisers; if they still exhibit that tree as a previous **prize winning tree** ‘so labelled’ but identified as “not for competition” or “exhibition only”.

The idea is to encourage more people to show trees at all levels, and giving them a realistic hope of success. People may even be put off from attempting to start exhibiting because it all seems too unobtainable.

These changes could help to raise the quality of trees being exhibited throughout societies around the country, being more inclusive, rather than allowing the top to dominate at all levels.

# Club Activities

## MIDLAND BONSAI SOCIETY

Meetings first Thursday of every month at Moseley Cricket Club, Streetsbrook Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 3PE at 7.30 p.m.  
Details: Richard Gilkes, 07803 593024

## SOUTH STAFFS BONSAI SOCIETY

Monthly meetings - 3rd Tuesday  
Walmley Community Hall,  
Crawford Road , B76 1NP 7.30 pm  
Meetings in the form of workshops with occasional speakers; beginners are welcome

## REDDITCH BONSAI SOCIETY

A friendly society meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. Webheath Village Hall, Heathfield Rd, Webheath, Redditch, B97 5SQ. Details Richard Gilkes, Secretary.  
tel. 07803 593024.

## STOURBRIDGE BONSAI SOCIETY

The members meet every second Sunday, January to November at the Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge, DY8 4LU. Prospective new members will be very welcome.  
Info. Maurice on 07415 158167.  
Next meeting Jan 8th 10.00 am

## SALISBURY BONSAI SOCIETY

Venue: Laverstock Village Hall at 7:45pm  
Meetings first Monday of month  
[www.salisburybonsaisociety.co.uk](http://www.salisburybonsaisociety.co.uk)

## SOUTH WORCESTER BONSAI SOCIETY

meets on second Tuesday of every month at 7.30 pm.  
Claines British Legion, Cornmeadow Lane Worcester. Contact [Malcolmstyles@yahoo.com](mailto:Malcolmstyles@yahoo.com) or on 07761-440078

## WARMINSTER BONSAI CLUB

Monthly meetings on 3rd Thursday of the month 7:45pm at Christ Church Hall, Upper Marsh Road, Warminster, Wilts BA12 9PJ. Visitors always welcome. For more information go to website [www.warminsterbonsai.co.uk](http://www.warminsterbonsai.co.uk) or email [clive.knight@talktalk.net](mailto:clive.knight@talktalk.net)

## Bonsai News UK

Page 6

### **BLACKMORE VALE BONSAI GROUP**

Meetings second Friday each month, venue, Silver Band Hall, Bleke St, Shaftesbury. From Jan 2017 subs. Will be £15.00 pa.. Plus £2.00 per meeting.

10th anniversary show May 2017

[m5eay.geoff@btinternet.com](mailto:m5eay.geoff@btinternet.com)

[www.blackmorevalebonsaigroup.co.uk](http://www.blackmorevalebonsaigroup.co.uk)

### MIDDLESEX BONSAI SOCIETY

Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month 7.30pm South Harrow Methodist Church, Walton Avenue, South Harrow, Middlesex. HA2 8QU. Meetings include in-house workshop and visiting speakers. All are welcome.  
email [roger.gibbs@talktalk.net](mailto:roger.gibbs@talktalk.net).  
[www.middlesexbonsaisociety.weebly.com](http://www.middlesexbonsaisociety.weebly.com)

### SWINDON AND DISTRICT BONSAI SOCIETY

Monthly meetings ,2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of month [ex. Dec.] Coleview Community Centre, Towcester Road, Swindon, Wiltshire. SN3 4AS  
1930 hrs – 2200 hrs  
[paulbowerbank@lineone.net](mailto:paulbowerbank@lineone.net) Tel. 07982 401103.

### VALE OF CLWYD BONSAI SOCIETY

An active club, all things Bonsai related. With passion and a sense of fun, we believe in caring for our trees and one another in equal measure.

Meet 2nd Sunday of every month at:- Level Lane Community Centre, Level Lane, Hawarden, CH5 3SB. New members and visitors are always welcome  
Contact Mark: +44 7500 005337

### SURREY HEATH BONSAI SOCIETY

Meets every first Tuesday of the month 7.30-10.00pm at Pirbright Village Hall, The Green, Pirbright, Surrey. GU24 0JE. details Chris Rhodes 07740.307163 [chairman@surreyheathbonsai.org.uk](mailto:chairman@surreyheathbonsai.org.uk) or ring Club website: [www.surreyheathbonsai.org.uk](http://www.surreyheathbonsai.org.uk)

### ASHFIELD BONSAI CLUB

Ashfield Bonsai Club is a hands-on club meeting twice a month on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3rd Thurs. (7.30 – 9.30pm) St Michaels & All Saints Church Hall, The Rectory Gardens, Church Street, South Normanton. On the Derby/Notts border 1 mile from Junc. 28 of the M1. Meetings take the form of workshops with occasional speakers.

Facebook: [ashfieldbonsaiclub.blogspot.co.uk](http://ashfieldbonsaiclub.blogspot.co.uk).

'Technology & Nature in Harmony'



'BON-TAG working for a more secure future for Bonsai.'

### Bonsai Identification & Theft Deterrent System

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[www.bon-tag.com](http://www.bon-tag.com)

**You can have your commercial ads. in for 1 year (12 issues for £25.00 for up to ¼ page advert).**

All editions are totally dependent upon you, the members. Without your information this cannot happen; please help us to make it succeed.



## David Cheshire Bonsai

Rotherhams Hill  
Baddesley Ensor  
Warwickshire, CV9 2DR

Open Fridays & Saturdays 10.30-16.00

Other times by appointment only

Parking on Rotherhams Hill. Walk under disused rail bridge at bottom & the nursery is through the wooden gate on the right.

Courses - Talks - Demos  
Workshops

Trees - Pots - Tools  
- Accent Plants -

### Bonsai Tours of Japan

February 2017 - Tokyo - Kyoto - 10 days  
October 2017 - Takamatsu - Shikoku Island - 10 days

David Cheshire Bonsai are sellers & growers of bonsai including starter trees to mature specimens.



[bonsaidave.com](http://bonsaidave.com)

07584 991975

david@bonsaidave.com

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Bonsai News UK is produced monthly with the exception of December

### Insertions:

Free to FOBBS member Clubs

All other clubs £20.00 for 1 year of insertions

Commercial:

£25.00 per year for up to ¼ page advert

# Member Club Annual Programmes

Page 8

WESSEX BONSAI SOCIETY, PROGRAMME 2017		
March 14th	Rob Stewart	Little trees
April 11th	Chris Thomas	dead wood & carving
May 9th	Italo and Mike	raft & wrap around
June 13th	Ken Norman	maples
July 11th	Collette Harrison	azaleas
August 8th	Dean Kelly	styling
Sept 12th	Bill Baker & Roy	critique
Oct. 10th	David Giltrow	large collected trees
Nov. 14th	Club Auction	
Dec 12th	Christmas Social	
<b>SUNDAY MAY 7TH</b>	<b>ANNUAL SHOW</b>	Kinson CC
Sunday workshops 09:00 to 13:00 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan, 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Apr, 21 <sup>st</sup> May, 25 <sup>th</sup> Jun, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jul, 20 <sup>th</sup> Aug, 24 <sup>th</sup> Sep, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct, 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec		
Wessex Bonsai Society meet at Kinson Community Centre, Pelhams Park, Millhams Road, Bournemouth BH10 7LH. Info tel. 07870114767 email <a href="mailto:wessexbonsaisociety@ymail.com">wessexbonsaisociety@ymail.com</a>		

BLACKMORE VALE BONSAI GROUP, PROGRAMME 2017		
Jan 13th	AGM	
Feb 10th	Deciduous	Repotting workshop
March 10th	Chris Thomas	Group planting
April 14h	Conifer s	Repotting workshop
May 12th		Workshop
<b>May 21st</b>	<b>10th anniversary</b>	<b>Exhibition</b>
June 9th		Workshop
July 14th		Workshop
Aug 11th		Workshop
Sept 8th		Workshop
Oct. 13th	10th anniversary	John Trott critique
Nov. 10th		Workshop
Dec 8th	Christmas Social	
Fridays, 7.30 Silver Band Hall Bleke St., Shaftesbury		
Info 01747 853475 email <a href="mailto:m5eay.geoff@btinternet.com">m5eay.geoff@btinternet.com</a> <a href="http://blackmorevallebonsaigroup.co.uk">http://blackmorevallebonsaigroup.co.uk</a>		
Further workshops Feb 25th, Mar 25th, Apr 22nd. May 2th, jun 24th, Jul 22nd, Aug 26th Sep 23rd, Oct 21st.		

SWINDON & DISTRICT BONSAI SOCIETY, PROGRAMME 2017		
March 14th	AGM	repotting
April 11th	Tree Critique	Junipers and pines
May 9th	Spring workshop	
June 13th	Accents	Market Lavington
July 11th	Summer workshop	
August 8th	Japan Event	Mark & Ritta Cooper
Sept 12th	Tree critique	
Oct. 10th	Autumn workshop	
Nov. 14th	Wiring worshop	
Dec	No meeting	
Jan 9th	Show preparation	
Feb 13th	Show Displays	
March 13th	AGM	repoyying
WORKSHOPS		
June 17th John Armitage		
July 8th Pottery, Walsall Studio Ceramics		
Sept 16th Chris Thomas		

SOUTH STAFFS BONSAI SOCIETY, PROGRAMME 2017		
Jan 17th	Talk Nat Bon Col	M and K Hughes
Feb 21st	Workshop	
March 21st	Corin Tomlinson	Demo
April 18th	Malcolm Hughes	Clump styles
May 16th	Clump style camel	Group Activity
June 20th	BBQ Woodlands	
July 18th	Workshop	
Aug 15th	Malcolm Hughes	Summer Mainte-nance
Sept 19th	Barry Walker	Bonsai Stands
Oct. 17th	Mark Bentley	Junipers
Nov. 21st	Mark Skan	Demo
Dec 18th	AGM and slides	
23rd April	Bonsai Traders Associa-tion Show	Ryton on Dunsmore, Coventry
21st May	Bonsai for All	Birmingham Botanical Gardens
11th June	Midland Bonsai Society Show SSBS display	Birmingham Botanical Gardens
14th –18th June	Gardeners World Live	NEC
17th Sept	South Staffs Show	Birmingham Botanical Gardens

<b>SALISBURY BONSAI SOCIETY, PROGRAMME 2017</b>		
Jan 2nd	Geoff	Videos
Feb 6th		Workshop
March 6th		Workshop
April 3rd	Chris Thomas	Broadleaf bonsai
May 1st	Malcolm Driffield	Raft bonsai
June 5th	Ray Broughton	Pests and Diseases
July 3rd	Sale and Auction	
July 14th	Fordingbridge Show	
July 29th	Damerham Fair	
Aug 7th		Workshop
Sept 4th	Clive Knight	Demo and workshop
Oct. 2nd		Workshop
Nov. 6th	AGM	
Dec 6th	Christmas Dinner	
Laverstock Village Hall, SP1 1RQ info . Sec. 01722 500157 <a href="http://www.salisburybonsaisociety.co.uk">www.salisburybonsaisociety.co.uk</a>		

<b>SUSSEX BONSAI GROUP, PROGRAMME 2017</b>		
Jan 25th	AGM	
Feb 22nd	Ken Norman	Repotting demo
Feb 26th	Repotting workshop	
March 22nd	Corin Tomlinson	Demo
April 26th	Ann & Ken Norman & Alan Peacock	Demo
May 24th	Malcolm Stewart	Talk & slides
June 28th		Workshop
July 26th	Paul Caham	Demo pot making
July 29th		
Aug 23rd	Club Auction	
Sept 27th	Malcolm Driffield	Demo
Oct. 25th		Workshop
Nov. 22nd	Lee Verhorevoort	Demo
<b>SHOWS</b>		
April 22 & 23	South Downs Garden Centre, Hassocks	
May 13th	Plumpton College Day	
Aug 12& 13	Old Barn Garden Centre—A24 Dial Post	
Sept 9th	Wivelsfield Village Hall	
Meetings Wivelsfield Village Hall info Ray Brunsden Sec- 01444-244267 <a href="mailto:ray.b@talktalk.net">email ray.b@talktalk.net</a>		