



BONSAI NEWS UK

Bonsai News UK – Editorial:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|---|
| Future Shows | 2 | First I would like to express my thanks to all those who have submitted material for this months 'Bonsai News UK'. After a slow start, it is now becoming an established item and an opportunity for societies to input material as well as short articles that reflect bonsai within the UK. |
| Show Reports | 3,4 | |
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| Adverts | 6 | The piece submitted by Sandy Reid may well strike a chord with many readers, following on in turn from Peter Warren in last months' 'Bonsai News UK'. |
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IN THIS ISSUE

It also reminds me of the changes that appear to have taken place over the years with society members. As someone who has been on the speakers/demonstrators circuit for many years, the decline in numbers is obvious. Not only that, but recruiting new members, particularly those of the "younger" age group appears to be more and more difficult. You have to ask the question – to what extent have computers and social media eclipsed youngsters going out for an evening to a society?..... we are not only talking of bonsai societies here. It is less than ten years ago that I did a talk to my local horticultural society with an audience of nearly eighty. Within five years, due to decline in membership, and a largely elderly membership at that, the society in question ceased to exist.

At this time, we have not even got onto the topic of "costs" relating to the hobby! Enough said already.

What does however prove to be an area where numbers remain steady, if not actually showing an increase, is attendance at bonsai events. This last month, the 'Noelanders Trophy' once again proved to be a popular draw. Over the years that I have attended this event, numbers attending have always been high, but what has become more noticeable is the increased numbers of Brits turning up for the occasion. This event now attracts in excess of 100 Brits to cross the channel in what can often prove very bad weather in the middle of winter. Something of a paradox one might say when viewed against the decline in society membership numbers together, in recent times, with a slight decline in actual bonsai societies here in the UK. This event attracts up to 75 traders from around Europe and the organiser Marc Noelanders talks of that increasing still further.

It will be interesting to see what happens next year, 2017, when the 'Noelanders Trophy' will be host to the annual European Bonsai Association Congress. Shortly after, at the end of April, the 8th World Bonsai Friendship Federation Convention will be held in Saitama, Japan – a number of Brits I have spoken to see this as a 'once-in-a-lifetime' opportunity, so I suspect quite a few people will have now established for themselves a 'Japan 2017 Fund'!!

By the time this edition goes to print, the 2017 'Winter Image Show' hosted by the Swindon Bonsai Society will have taken place – reports on this event in the April issue.

In conclusion, a number of member societies are now sending their programmes for the year; this is great, but could I please ask that these are kept concise – we have introduced a new page for them but there is only space for bare details.

Malcolm Hughes, Chairman, FoBBS.

Future Shows up to May 2016

March 13th 2016

BONSAI BOOT SALE' AND FEDERATION BRITISH BONSAI SOCIETIES AGM

The Louden Suite, Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

Booking for Boots, please contact Kim Turton at: turtonkim@hotmail.com

March 27th 2016

North London Bonsai Group Spring Show, Capel Manor, Enfield, EN14RQ **10.00am - 4.00pm**

Includes bonsai auction www.bonsaigroupenfield.wix.com

April 2nd-3rd. 2016

"Spirit of Shohin 2016" at Royal Horticultural Society Grounds, Wisley, GU23 6QB .

A major exhibition of the best of British shohin bonsai run by British Shohin Bonsai in association with Sutton Bonsai Society: antique.netsuke@gmail.com

April 10th 2016

The Bonsai Traders Association, Spring Show, Sports Connexion, Ryton on Dunsmore, Coventry.

The perfect opportunities to get all your bonsai essentials.

For more information contact Corin Tomlinson. Phone: 0115 9205757 Email: office@bonsai.co.uk

www.bonsaitraders.org.uk

April 24th 2016

South Staffs Bonsai Society Annual Show

Birmingham Botanical Gardens, 10.30 - 4.00

May 1st 2016

Wessex Bonsai Exhibition and 27th Open Competition

Kinson Community Centre, Pelhams Park,, Kinson, Bournemouth. BH10 7LH.

Admission: £3.50 Concessions 1030 - 1700.hrs

Contact: Brian Evans 07763.338101 www.wessexbonsaisociety.co.uk

May 15th 2016

Middlesex Bonsai Show, Woodford Hall, Poplars Close, Ruislip, Middiesex.HA4 7BU.

Contact: Roger Gibbs 07542.594557 Email: roger.gibbs@talktalk.net

www.middlesexbonsaisocietyweebly.com

May 24-28th 2016

CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London.

For five days in May, the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea will be transformed into the world's greatest flower show. Fobbs and several other bonsai traders and individuals will be exhibiting.

Any members of Fobbs member clubs interested in manning the stand please contact Reg Bolton on 01793 822 470.

Sun 29 May 2016

Chiltern Bonsai Society Show

Exhibition of Bonsai together with miniature stone landscapes from The British Suiseki Club Sales, and a chance to meet Harry Harrington, with signed copies of his latest publication.

10 am until 4 pm. Admission £2.00. Liston Hall, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 1DD

Ambion Bonsai Club

News from Ambion Bonsai. First meeting of the year in January, Evening revolved around members talking about their trees, what they'd done, and what they intended to do with a Q and A on the trees. Photo. President, George Cox, demonstrating.



Comments From Sandy Reid, Wisbech

Malcolm, your comment that exhibitions of bonsai ignite enthusiasm, and are a window for all society members and the general public alike, is so true. Peter Warren's provocative article on where the craft moves from here is similarly stimulating.

Peter's first thoughts on individuals being willing to pay to exhibit struck a chord. The majority of bonsai enthusiasts who I meet professionally consider bonsai to be a cheap hobby. Trees which are considered for purchase are looked for as bargains with a 'deal' being seen as part of the purchase. Club members are very willing to give their time, construction skills and effort to produce and staff club exhibition stands and these are often of a high standard to show the trees exhibited in a good light. But individuals personally paying to exhibit? I don't know?

My club has eleven members, all of whom are now over 60, and most of whom attend every meeting. We are very aware that the club will decline as we all age and if no new blood comes in. Our personal enthusiasms are as high and our bonsai-learning rates are probably higher than ever due to professional instruction within the group. Our meetings are dynamic, active and invigorating and certainly a highlight of my life. We have put on exhibitions to attract new members and several existing members have come through these. Showing trees does work in getting the word out there.

I know that there are many bonsai growers who beaver away by themselves and either do not know of their local club or consider it irrelevant. More than once we know of their interest only after their demise when their partner approaches us to dispose of the collection. Yes, some collections are composed of 'sticks in pots' but others are large and well-cared for. Clubs should support the individual member to progress their trees. A disappointing lack of positive tree development must be the major factor in so many giving up bonsai. Many clubs, I would suggest, are not doing this and will in time collapse. It was so good to hear of the North Stoke and Staffs group initiative.

FNBC Bonsai Boot Sale 2016. Sunday 13th March 2016

8am to 12pm. Please note that parking arrangements are as last year. You are responsible for entering the registration number of your vehicle into the machine inside reception in the gardens. This will be open from 8am. The automatic camera will photograph your vehicle on entry and you must enter the vehicle registration number within one hour of arrival.

Cost. £15 per vehicle for selling space.

Car parking for visitors is free.

Do not arrive before 7 am at the earliest.

turtonkim@hotmail.com



Please park as directed in the bays at the bottom of the car park within the normal parking spaces as we only have limited space available.

Kim Turton – FNBC



Spirit
of
Shohin
2016

2016 Show British Shohin Bonsai



[BREAKING NEWS!!!!!! Your chance to undertake a workshop with Taiga Urushibata](#)

As part of its *"Spirit of Shohin"* weekend on **April 2nd and 3rd 2016**, the British Shohin Bonsai are delighted to announce that we will be running workshops led by **Taiga Urushibata**.

This is a **major opportunity** to work with one of Japan's foremost young bonsai artists and will give participants an unforgettable bonsai experience.

The cost for these workshops will be **£130 per day**. Participants should bring their own material and equipment. Please note that **any size of tree is acceptable** for the workshop.

If you are interested in taking a place on one of these workshops, please contact us at britishshohinbonsai@gmail.com to book your place. Please state your preferred day – i.e. Sat or Sun or if either is acceptable.

Places will be strictly limited and allocated on a first come-first served basis so please get your booking in quickly to avoid disappointment.

Do not send any payment at this point. Once we contact you to say your booking has been successful, we will be asking for a **£65 deposit** immediately to secure the place, followed by the remaining **£65** four weeks before the event. Unfortunately deposits will be non-refundable.

Get in quickly for this marvellous opportunity to work with one of Japan's finest bonsai artists. We look forward to hearing from you.



"All you need to do is to send in a brief report of your Show"

We're on the Web!
www.fobbsbonsai.co.uk

MIDLAND BONSAI SOCIETY

Meetings first Thursday of every month at Moseley Cricket Club, Streetsbrook Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 3PE at 7.30 p.m.

Mar. 3rd: China Mist

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

Mar. 15th: demo Corin Tomlinson

davidbarnsley@blueyonder.co.uk

REDDITCH BONSAI SOCIETY

A friendly society meets 3rd 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. Next meeting March 13th 12.00 noon Info 07415 158167.

Prospective new members will be very welcome.

Info. Maurice on 07415 158167.

ACCRINGTON & DISTRICT BONSAI SOCIETY

Events for 2016

Spring Show

Sun 1st – Mon. 2nd May at Daisy Nook Garden Centre, Stannybrooke Rd. Failsworth,

Oldham M35 9WJ Tel; - 01616814245

Great Harwood Show

Monday 30th May Halley Rd Showground, Great Harwood Blackburn BB6 7TD

Two day Bonsai Exhibition

Sat 25 & Sun 26th June, Haworth Art Gallery Hollins Lane, Accrington, Lancs BB5 2JS Tel; - 01254233782

Summer Show

Barton Grange Garden Centre Sat 13th and Sun 14th August. Garstang Rd. Brock, Preston PR3 0BT; - 01995642900

BLACKMORE VALE BONSAI GROUP

Meetings second Friday each month, venue, Silver Band Hall, Bleke St Shaftesbury. Workshops from February to October, Thorngrove Garden Centre, Gillingham. 4th Saturday from 11 am. to 4pm.

Cost £3 including refreshments.

m5eay.geoff@btinternet.com

www.blackmorevalebonsaigroup.co.uk

MIDDLESEX BONSAI SOCIETY

Meeting 3rd 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.

www.middlesexbonsaisociety.weebly.com

SALISBURY BONSAI SOCIETY

Venue: Laverstock Village Hall at 7;45pm

Meetings first Monday of month, the 7th March will be talk and demonstration on bonsai landscapes, all welcome.

SWINDON AND DISTRICT BONSAI SOCIETY

Monthly meetings, 2nd Tues of month [ex. Dec.]

Coleview Community Centre, Towcester Road, Swindon, Wiltshire. SN3 4AS 1930 hrs – 2200 hrs

paulbowerbank@lineone.net

Tel. 07982 401103.

Facebook – Swindon & District Bonsai Society

Tues 8th Mar

AGM

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

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MANCHESTER BONSAI SOCIETY PROGRAMME 2016

Programme 2016

- 14.3.2016: Demonstration by John Barnes -planting on a slab.
- 11.4.2016: Workshop.
- 9.5.2016: Steve Kitchman of China Mist -pot making demo & make a pot for £5.
- 13.6.2016: Bring & buy sale and buffet.
- 11.7.2016: Members show techniques.
- 8.8.2016: Workshop.
- 12.9.2016: Speaker: Roy Booth.
- 10.10.2016: My favourite tree.
- 14.11.2016: Guest speaker Chris Williams
- 12.12.2016 Bring & buy sale and buffet.
- 9.1.2017: Annual General Meeting.



Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month 8 pm-10 pm : Stockport Labour Club, 2 Lloyd Street, off Wellington Road North (A6), Heaton Norris, Stockport, SK41QP.

Annual Show: Saturday 14.5.16: At Lymm United Reformed Church, Brookfield Road, Eagle Brow (A6144), Lymm, Cheshire, WA13 OQL, 10am - 4pm. Car park on Davies Way, WA13 OWQ.

RHS Tatton Show. 20/24.7.16: Members may volunteer to man the stand and speak to members of the public about the art of bonsai, and to see some of the show.

off

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

Bonsai News UK ,produced by Kath Hughes for FoBBS and all Bonsai enthusiasts, mkhughes567@btinternet.com
All material for publication in 'Word' or jpeg format.

Cheques payable to 'FoBBS'
'The Woodlands', New Hall Drive,
Sutton Coldfield, West Mids B76 1QX

Member Club Annual Programmes

SUSSEX BONSAI GROUP

2016 Programme, Wivelsfield Village Hall, 8pm-10pm

| | | |
|-------|------|--|
| 23 | Mar | Paul Eslinger - Satsuki Azaleas |
| 9/10 | Apr | Show, South Downs Garden Centre, Brighton Rd, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 9LY |
| 27 | Apr | Styling Workshop |
| 14 | May | Show at Plumpton Agricultural College, BN7 3AE |
| 22 | May | Eastbourne Bonsai Show — Herstmonceux |
| 25 | May | Paul Canham — make your own accent pot |
| 22 | June | Mystery Demo Ken Norman |
| 9,10 | July | Chichester Bonsai Show |
| 27 | July | Bonsai Theme Night — Junipers |
| 24 | Aug | Bonsai Auction |
| 17/18 | Sep | Show, Garden Pride, Comm. Lane, Ditchling, BN6 |
| 28 | Sep | Lee Verhorevoort |
| 26t | Oct | Kevin Fletcher |

AMBION BONSAI CLUB

Meetings last Thursday of the month, 7.30-9.30, Hatters Space Community Centre, Abbey Street, Nuneaton, CV11 5DN.

Programme 2016

| | |
|------------|--|
| Mar 24 | David Cheshire, Preparation for Exh. and Shows |
| Apr 28. | John Armitage, Shohin Bonsai |
| May 21 Sat | Member's comp, Thisledome Bonsai Nursery |
| May 26 | To be arranged |
| Jun 30 | Members Barbecue, venue TBA |
| July 28 | Steve Brown, Flowering Trees |
| Aug 25. | Members Tokonoma competition |
| Sep 29. | David Jones, 'Right Tree, Right Pot' |
| Oct 27. | David Collaby, Scroll Designing and Making |
| Nov 24 | A.G.M. and Christmas Party |
| Dec | No club meeting |

Info:- Linda and Glyn Carvell 02476 366140
email glynscarvell@btinternet.com

NORTH LONDON BONSAI GROUP

2016 PROGRAMME

| | |
|--------|--|
| 8 Mar | Repotting Workshop |
| 27 Mar | <i>Club Spring Show 10am to 4pm including Bonsai Auction</i> |
| 12 Apr | Steve McKee – pruning deciduous trees |
| 10 May | Graham Potter – raw material to bonsai |
| 14 Jun | Club Tree Competition |
| 26 Jun | <i>BTA Show</i> |
| 12 Jul | Workshop |
| 13 Sep | Linda McArdell - Mame |
| 25 Sep | <i>Club Autumn Show 10am to 4pm</i> |
| 11 Oct | Malcolm Hughes – judging bonsai |
| 8 Nov | Lee Verhorevoort |

MIDLAND BONSAI SOCIETY

Programme 2016



| DATE | SPEAKER/ACTIVITY | TABLE DISPLAY |
|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 7th Jan | Workshop, | Winter image |
| 4th Feb | Barry Walker, | Pines |
| 3rd Mar | China Mist, | Junipers |
| 7th Apr | Steve Tolley, | Spring foliage |
| 5th May | Corin Tomlinson, | Satsuki azaleas |
| 2nd Jun | Show workshop, | Larches |
| 7th Jul | Garden visit - | |
| 4th Aug | Members' forum | |
| 1st Sep | Malcolm Hughes, | Acers |
| 6th Oct | Alpine Gar. Soc. | Accent plants |
| 3rd Nov | John Pitt, | Pick the right pot |

SOUTH STAFFS BONSAI SOCIETY

Programme 2016



| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| 19 Jan | Workshop |
| 16 Feb | Workshop |
| 15 Mar | Corin Tomlinson demo. |
| 19 Apr | Show prep. workshop |
| 17 May | Talk grafting, Dillon Rees |
| 21 Jun | BBQ, Woodlands |
| 19 Jul | Workshop |
| 16 Aug | Create a camel |
| 20 Sep | Preparing for winter - Malcolm Hughes |
| 18 Oct | John Trott, - demo |
| 15 Nov. | Workshop |