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Albury Wodonga bonsai - Facebook group.

www.facebook.com/groups/alburywodongabonsai/

Albury Wodonga Bonsai Society meets 4th Tuesday each month (except December) at [North East Trades and Labour Council](#) offices at 1/7 Thomas Mitchell Drive, Wodonga. Click on the link for a map.

Next Meeting:

January 28th, 2024 @ 6:30pm

Topic: Figs/Natives- - **By Adrian.**
Workshop night

Hope you all had a very lovely and safe beginning to the NEW YEAR



by 15th of each month please.

All Newsletter items need to be sent to Loretta

For all members it is a good time to see how this wonderful group strives to keep us all busy and entertained with looking after and developing our trees.

If you are a member by newsletter only - we invite and welcome you to come and visit on one of our meeting nights. Each newsletter will be sent out prior to meetings.

Club calendar for 2025 To be confirmed- some of the Evenings are open for members to assist with presentations of topics-please let Loretta Know if you are happy to give it a go.

Date/start Time	Topic & demonstrated by
January 28th 630pm	Figs/Natives- - By Adrian. Workshop night
February 25th-7pm	Arboretum & virtual tour night. - By Alison
March 25th -7pm	Pot Choice & Tools-Cleaning, sharpening, wire straightening Etc- - By Winston
April 29 th -7pm	Workshop night - pines/others- bring in your tree
May 27 th - 7pm	Shaping Trees readying for show
June 24 th - 7pm	Repotting Plants & mixes
July 22 nd -7pm	Workshop Night - Forests - By Loretta
August 26 th - 7pm	Problem Trees- bring along any you are having troubles with.
Possible workshop addition	30th Sept or 1st Oct- Scott Martin- (Bonsai Matsu) Considering to book for demonstration & workshop
September 23 rd -7pm	Workshop Night - prepping for show- trimming, displaying/ Stand choices- Accent Planning
October 28 th -7pm	Bonsai Basics for all
November TBA	End of year social function, AGM and planning for the coming year

Business To Attend:

1- Subs are now due!

Membership fees for the 24/25 year are now due. There is no increase from the previous year, so the fees are,

Individual membership \$30.00

Family membership \$50.00

Newsletter only membership \$10.00

Fees can be paid by good old-fashioned cash or by direct deposit to our bank account.

Account name Albury Wodonga Bonsai Society

BSB 633 000

Account # 205 851 850

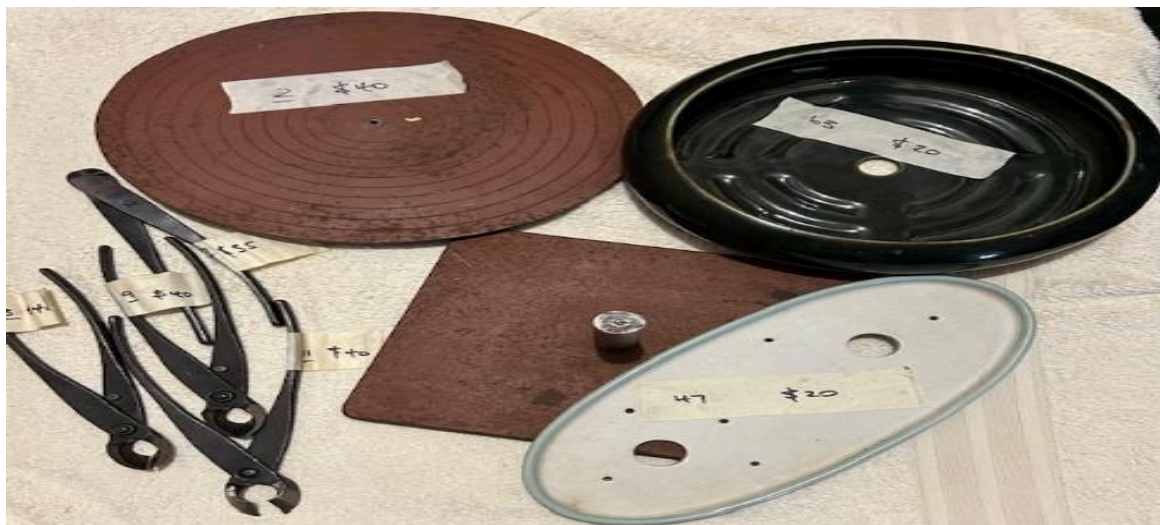
Please note your name when doing the transfer. Thanks to those who have already paid.

2- Sale of the Bonsai Materials at the AGM

There was frenetic activity around the bonsai materials sale table. Most of the goods went off in double-quick time. People getting in practice for the Boxing Day sales!

Sales totaled \$1135.00. Excellent outcome for the members who got amongst the bargains and particularly for the vendors who were sent a bank transfer of \$908.00. They were happy to donate 20% of the total sales to the Society. We made a tidy \$227 on the proceedings.

There are still a few items left, so if you're still wondering what happened to all the goodies while you were tucking into the AGM feast, there are a couple of pots, a turntable and a few tools still available for the discerning buyer available at the January meeting. See pic. They will be at the January meeting. Proceeds will be sent on to the vendors, minus commission!! There is also a heap of wire that didn't sell but the Society purchased the balance with a view to making smaller rolls for later sale.



- 3- Workshop discussion and confirmation of Scott Martin (Bonsai Matsu)- dates to consider & book- 30th Sept or Oct 1st. as suggested.

Well, we are ready for the first meeting of the year. January 28th with an earlier start than normal- 630pm.



The Subject is FIGS- what to do & how to manage.

This workshop will be Chaired by Adrian Gorter

Items to Bring - FIGS TREES

Bonsai Events:

Feb 2025 – Australian Plants as Bonsai. Hosted by Canberra Bonsai Society at National Botanic Gardens, Canberra

March 22nd – March 23rd 2025 - Central Coast Bonsai Club Annual Exhibition and Open. \$5,000 prize pool and 4 national demonstrators. Mingara Recreation Club, Tumbi Umbi, NSW.

May 16th – May 19th 2025 – 37th National Bonsai Convention. Hosted by Canberra Bonsai Society. Canberra Rex Hotel. Registrations now open

https://www.canberrabonsai.club/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=139:2025-aabc-bonsai-convention-3&catid=87&Itemid=2374 \l

":~:text=Get%20ready%20for%20an%20exhilarating,the%20Canberra%20Bonsai%20Society%20Inc

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WHAT'S NEW AT SHIBUI

Jan-Feb at Shibui Bonsai

Monitor watering is the primary task at Shibui Bonsai in Summer. Long, hot, dry days mean the trees need to transpire lots of water to stay cool and hydrated. That water must come from the pot or soil so it's important to make sure trees are properly watered. Hurried or inadequate watering means only the surface is wet while deeper in the pot it's still dry. This, in turn means the tree won't have enough water for the next hot day.

If a pot is dry, either soak it in a tub for at least 10 minutes to allow the dry potting mix to absorb water OR water copiously at least 3 times with a few minutes between each watering to allow the water to soak into the root ball.

Trees that have not been repotted for a few years will have filled the pot with roots leaving less and less space for vital water. If you have trees that wilt each day despite plenty of water, sit the pots on a gravel tray or even in a shallow tray of water during hot weather. The extra water can mean the difference between surviving or dying.

The rapid Spring growth is slowing now but Lengthening branches can still be trimmed as often as required. Sometimes it is good to let branches on developing trees grow without trimming for up to a year. The extra growth and leaves will help speed up thickening if that's what you need.



I have many trees where the apex is well developed but some lower branches are still a little thin. In this case, trim top shoots regularly but allow shoots on the thinner branches to grow longer to add some strength and thickness to those thinner branches.



Above: a cluster of 8 branches growing from one node. The area is already thicker than the trunk below.

Right: After pruning to remove excess branches. That's a pretty ugly job. If it doesn't heal well the tree can be chopped to a lower branch.



Check Japanese maples for clusters of shoots, especially after pruning. Clusters of shoots growing close together can quickly produce inverse taper so thin out unnecessary shoots as soon as possible. Trident maples can also send up strong shoots from the trunk or from lower branches. Often they grow unnoticed, hidden by outer foliage so check inside the canopy regularly to catch these before they create unwanted thickening.

Pines that were pruned or decandled in December should now have lots of new buds opening. Let those new shoots grow until Autumn.

Nutrients are important to maintain good growth and tree health. Regular, heavy watering leaches soluble nutrients out of the pots so it is important to keep replacing lost nutrients by regularly fertilising. Solid fertilisers can release nutrients for 3-6 weeks so add a little more every month through the growing season. Liquid fertiliser has mostly water soluble nutrients which are leached away quicker so use liquid fert every 2-3 weeks. Controlled release fertilisers have a polymer coating that only allows a little nutrient to escape when there's water around the prills so they can keep feeding your trees for 3-9 months depending on the coating. Osmocote and

A REMINDER FROM LAST NEWS LETTER

Setting on Gravel Tray- groups



Setting on gravel Tray -Single



SEE YOU ALL ON JANUARY 28TH, 630 PM
