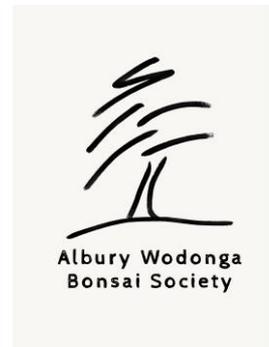


# Albury Wodonga Bonsai Newsletter

November 2016



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## Fees:

Fees have been set at \$20 per member or \$30 per couple for 2016. You can pay Neil at a meeting or post subs to Neil at P.O. Box 135, Yackandandah, 3749.

**Please note:** Next year (2017) fees rise to \$25 and \$35.

## Next Meeting:

Tuesday, November 22, 2016 at Harry's Hut, Olive St. South Albury at 7:30 pm.

For those who have not been before, Harry's Hut is the meeting room at the Gardens beside Brown's Lagoon. Entry off Olive St., opposite the end of Nurigong St., South Albury.

Members and visitors are always welcome to bring a tree (or 2 or even more) to our meetings if you want to show off your successes (or failures!), to work on a tree, or to ask about a problem.

## Topic for Next Meeting:

Tools of the trade.

This month we're offering the opportunity to all members to show and tell which tools and equipment they are using for bonsai. Newer members are keen to find out what to get and where to get it so be ready to share websites, retailers, etc as well as stuff you have made yourself. If it helps with bonsai we want to know about it this month.

## Last Month:

Annalea made the trip up from Benalla again to give us some great tips on developing exotic (not Australian) species as bonsai.



After the presentation Annalea offered advice and ideas on a number of trees that members had brought along. It is great to have such great knowledge and experience to draw on at our club meetings.

## Bonsai Events:

Bonsai Week 2017: National Bonsai and Penjing Collection in Canberra. Various activities including workshops with visiting UK bonsai expert Tony Tickle. Monday 20 March- Sunday 26 March.

BFA calendar of events: - <https://teamup.com/ks55bf2733e25865a6>

## Business:

We put on a good display at the Albury Show. Thanks to Ian and Theo for spending all weekend watching the trees and talking to possible new members. Helen juggled duties with Albury Horticulture society and the bonsai group to lend a hand when she could. Awards from the bonsai competition bench were shared between Ian and Neil. We intend to suggest that the Hort society add a 'novice' category for next year which will allow anyone who has not won before to enter a bonsai.

Myrtleford show display and competition now happening on November 26, just a couple of days after the next meeting. If any members have some time that day you'd be welcome to see Ian and Neil there.

I have been promising to organize an olive dig but have not been able to find any spare weekends. I'm now proposing to postpone this until autumn when time should be easier to find.

## Proposed 2016 program:

Members at last year's November meeting tossed around lots of possible ideas for meeting topics. Well its November again so let's have a think about next year's program. Figs are generally the topic for January, so let's stick with that!

November: Tools of the trade

December: no meeting due to proximity to Christmas.

### 2017

January: Figs

February - November - Up for discussion.

Ideas for next year's program can be emailed to Theo.

Some photos from Albury Show:

Ian's winning oak bonsai



Our Bonsai Club display tables

And a few more display trees from club members.



## Seasonal Notes from Shibui Bonsai

The word this month has been 'pinching'. Several times a week I find myself with the scissors cutting back growing shoots and before long the trident maples have produced new shoots and started to grow again.

'Watering' has also been on the agenda as the days get longer and the rain has abated somewhat. As usual, the dry caught me by surprise and a few trees had burnt leaves before I realised it was quite so dry. I'm now watering every day and wondering how long until I need to move to summer watering twice each day. In the past I have noted that light rain often doesn't actually water the trees. I think that the dense canopy of flat leaves sheds the raindrops and very little actually makes it into the pot so take that into account if you're wondering whether or not to bother watering after rain.

Since last month Margrit and I have travelled to Melbourne with trees to sell at Bonsai North West annual show. Some great bonsai on the display benches and plenty of good trees, including some quite advanced bonsai in the sales area.

While we were in Melbourne we also visited Bonsai Art nursery where there was a Satsuki Azalea bonsai display. The trees were flowering quite late this year but there was still a very colourful display and some quite advanced azalea bonsai on show.

This spring I root pruned a cedar - *Cedrus atlantica*. It has responded by dropping all the old needles. I have read that this can be an issue when cedars are repotted early in spring but this is the first time I have experienced it. Some growers have been advising that summer or autumn repotting is better for many conifers so I think I might try it out next time.

Natives do best when repotted during the growing season when the weather is warm. Many of my natives need repotting but I have been holding off until the weather warms up a bit more. Usually November is OK to start repotting natives in this area but I'll try to find time during December and January to get through the ones that are pot bound.

Neil

Maybe someone else can give us some words or pictures of their bonsai journey for next month. Again thanks to Christina and Ian for providing this month's contributions. It wasn't that hard was it!?

Even if you just email me some pictures I'll put them in so we can all enjoy something different. If you want to add some words that would be even better.

If you can't get to a meeting (or even if you can) why not email Neil [neil@shibuibonsai.com.au](mailto:neil@shibuibonsai.com.au) with a question or a comment or even a few photos to go in the newsletter?

### **Does anyone have anything for next month's**



Members and visitors are always welcome to bring a tree (or 2 or even more) to our meetings if you want to show off your successes (or failures!), to work on a tree, or to ask about a problem.

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**Fees for 2016 are now due. Please forward your payment to Neil ASAP.**

**We also need to confirm members contact details to keep club records up to date. Please complete this membership details form and lodge it with your payment.**

**Name:**

**Postal address:**

**Telephone:**

**Email address:**

**Membership type: Family**

**Individual**

**Concession**