REDLANDS BONSAI

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Upcoming Events 2024

- **September Meeting – Saturday 28th**
- **Hugh Grant Visit Saturday 26th October**
- **Sunshine Coast Bonsai show 26-27th October**
- **National Bonsai Convention 16-19May 2025**

President's Message

The year is flying by, and our bonsai have well and truly Sprung into Spring, and a sending out lush growth. A special reminder to check on your wire as it will cut in very quickly. They'll also be wanting plenty of food and water.

We are back in Bonsai exhibition season, which at time of writing, BSQ had just completed theirs, while both Gold Coast and Toowoomba will be holding their shows this weekend (21-22nd September), and Sunshine Coast will be on the weekend of 26-27th October. If you can get along to any of these to show (pun intended) your support for the bonsai community, that would be great.

Our September meeting will be a reflection on bonsai by a number of our senior members. They be weaving a story of how they got into bonsai, what they would do differently if they started over again, and also talking about a special area of bonsai passion. Should be both thought provoking and entertaining.

Geoff Stewart is also going to go through a restyling of Alain's beautiful Ficus, that will be great for all members looking to take their figs to the next level.

For our October meeting, Hugh Grant will be visiting for a presentation and demonstration on Saturday 26th October meeting and will run club workshops on Sunday 27th October. Workshop bookings are now open for just $75/session. A workshop space will even be part of a special raffle pool for September and October. If you don't feel you have a tree for the workshop, please come along as an observer (only $10/session). You learn so much from just watching.

Hugh is also keen to stay in Brisbane for a couple of extra days around before and after that weekend. If you are keen to have a one on one, or a private group workshop with him, please let me know, or contact Hugh directly on 0429 195 514 or hugh@treemakers.com.au to make arrangements.

A reminder that Rod is always looking for material to add to the newsletter, no matter how big or small. Eugene is looking after our social media (Facebook for now, and we'll be starting on Instagram again soon), so please feel free to post interesting bonsai tid-bits or send them to Eugene or I, and we will get them included. Short video content is also quite good for the Facebook algorithm to pitch to current and potential members.

Lastly – PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE bring some of your trees to display at the meeting.

They don't need to be a 30 year old prize winning bonsai, but just something that you are proud of, has a special feature (flowers or colour etc), or even a tree that you'd like some feedback from the members. A great display area looks fantastic, shows pride in our club, helps you and other members grow in your ability to style and display.

Happy Bonsai 😉

Nick

Bonsai Society of Queensland show

Last weekend was the annual Bonsai show of the Bonsai Society of Queensland (BSQ). The show occurred one week after the annual Japanese Festival (Matsuri), keeping the Japanese theme going. The Bonsai show took places at the same location as Matsuri, the Whites Hill State College in Camp Hill.

The show was set up in the school hall, with high ceiling, good lighting and plenty of room. It was nicely set up, with a great variety of tree species, in all shapes and sizes, providing a very enjoyable Bonsai journey across the entire show. I entered a couple of trees myself, as I always enjoy seeing some of my trees amongst others.

As they say, "a picture speaks a thousand words", so below is a very small sample of the beautiful trees exhibited that day. Bravo to everyone who showed a tree, thank you for sharing your work(s).

Happy Bonsai 😉

Alain

Insight of a Bonsai Beginner

With the recent club member event providing a free native tube stock, I would like to encourage everyone to attempt to grow trees from the available free stock. Having received several trees from the club giveaway some three years ago and having enjoyed seeing the trees grow and the learnings that I have gained from keeping and the growth of this tube stock.

The value of growing native trees is how fast you can gain a look of a mature tree in the base trunk in such a short period of time. I displayed at the last meeting several trees that I had been maintaining and growing over the last three years and as you can see by the photos that some great trunk growth has been developed over this period. I will now be looking to achieve the ramifications off the branch structure within these trees over the next two years.

On starting the journey with these trees three years ago I did not fully understand the process required to develop the stock into the start of a bonsai structure so as you would have read from some of my articles is that I thoroughly enjoy the growing of my trees. So hence the great development of the trunks and the lack of development of the branch structure and ramification.

So now with a new understanding and armed with new tube stock I will be looking to growing two trees the same variety alongside each other. One where I will be looking to grow the trunk quickly and then develop of the ramification later. The second is where I will look to achieve earlier branch ramification through the binary cut and grow method. This will be an interesting experiment in seeing which process leads to the quickest achievement and best bonsai structure.

Experience now tells me that everything takes five years in bonsai so with the event of my trees now being three years old and I will be looking to achieve ramification of these trees I look forward to reporting back in our newsletter over the next two years of the development.

I am hoping this encourages members to take this opportunity to go out and grow a native tree and see how fast you can achieve a bonsai. I will be looking forward to seeing the development of your trees and hope to see you reporting back showing your achievements to your fellow club members.

If you have a photo of your progress, I will add to the newsletter to inspire other members on their journey.

You will see that on the tree photos below of my three-year-old tube stock that I have placed a golf ball in the picture to show trunk size as I find it hard to compare and visualise from the size in the photos and time and the tree history.

You will also see the new tube stock in the photo from the same starting point three years ago. The trees will be cut back in the coming weeks and the binary cut and grow method started.

Rod

This is the photo out of May 22 newsletter where it was worked on at this meeting

August Meeting Photos

Steve on sharpening and maintenance of bonsai tools

Nick on the use of wiring and methodology

Hugh Grant workshop October 27

Redlands Bonsai Society
OCTOBER WORKSHOP

Redlands Bonsai Society is proud to present:

HUGH GRANT

Hugh Grant is an Australian bonsai professional and educator located in the Upper Blue Mountains of NSW, where he operates Tree Makers Design, a garden and school focusing on local interpretations of Bonsai.

Hugh has practiced bonsai for over 20 years and has interned under Ryan Neil at Bonsai Mirai (USA) where he was exposed to American native material in both classic and locally derived interpretations. This study of bonsai in a Western context, allowed for a layered learning experience that he applies to Australian native species to create local aesthetics.

27 October 2024

The Sunday workshops will be held as two separate sessions:

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
12:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Price: $75/participant
$10/observer

A workshop space will be part of a special raffle pool for the September & October meetings.

Hugh will also be in Brisbane a few days before and after the weekend, and he's open to arranging one-on-one or private group workshops during his stay.

If you're interested in scheduling a private session, please reach out to him directly on:
0429 195 514
hugh@treemakers.com.au

TREE MAKERS DESIGN

Wellington Point Recreation Hall, 347-371 Birkdale Rd, Wellington Point QLD 4160
Email: redlandsbonsai@gmail.com | Mobile: 0419 705 611
www.redlandsbonsai.org

Visit at:
http://redlandsbonsai.org or https://www.facebook.com/RedlandsBonsaiSociety

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 will find the yearly program on the last page of our newsletter. Watch this space for the 2024 program calendar or check out the website. The hall will be open at 10:30am for members and visitors' workshops, with the demonstration for the day from 12:30.

Foundations Development Program

See Course information above - 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. Please check program calendar at end of newsletter for dates.

Sign-in and Raffle

All members are required to sign in as they arrive. The sign in sheets are located on the front table as you enter the hall. If you don't want to sign into the meetings, please talk to one of the executive committee members.

There will be a raffle at each meeting and tickets are available for purchase at the sign in table.

Visit at:
http://redlandsbonsai.org or https://www.facebook.com/RedlandsBonsaiSociety

Fees for 2024

Our membership fees for 2024 are $25 for a single, $35 for a family and we have removed the monthly $2 entry fee.

- Fees are due in December for the following year
- New members who join the club in the first 6 months of the year pay full membership fees
- Members joining after 30 June pay half fees for that year, with full membership fees due in November for the following year.
- Any member who has not paid their fees by 31 January for that year will be deemed unfinancial and not eligible to exhibit in the annual show, sell products at the show or meetings or vote at the AGM.

Banking details for on-line renewals are:

Name: Redlands Bonsai Society Inc
BSB: 633000
Account Number: 169724416

Workshop Meetings

We aim to provide a number of workshop meetings throughout the year. These are great opportunities for people of all stages of their bonsai journey to come together, discuss and work on their trees. The more experienced members of the club are available to answer any questions and assist you in deciding the future style and care of your trees.

Remember advice will vary across the members, so weigh up the information and follow the advice you are most comfortable with.

Committee Members for 2024

President: *Nick*

Vice President: *Heather*

Treasurer: *Karen*

Secretary: *Noreen*

Newsletter: *Rod*

Member: *Eugene*

Member: *Ryan*

REDLANDS BONSAI SOCIETY - PROGRAM FOR 2024				
Month	**Date**	**Day**	**Meetings and Workshops**	**Additional activities**
August	**21**	**Wed**	**Evening Workshop**	7pm - 9pm
	24	**Sat**	Learners Group and Workshop	10:30am - 12pm
			Tool Sharpening, Potting & Wiring Workstations. Bring trees (including big ones) you need help with	12:15pm for a 12:30pm start
September	**18**	**Wed**	**Evening Workshop**	7pm - 9pm
	28	**Sat**	Learners Group and Workshop	10:30am - 12pm
			Senior Members group Demonstration	12:15pm for a 12:30pm start
October	**16**	**Wed**	**Evening Workshop**	7pm - 9pm
	26	**Sat**	Learners Group and Workshop	10:30am - 12pm
			Guest Demonstrator - Hugh Grant - TreeMakers Bonsai	12:15pm for a 12:30pm start
	27	**Sun**	Workshops - Hugh Grant	2 Sessions - 8:30am - 4:00pm
November	**20**	**Wed**	**Evening Workshop**	7pm - 9pm
	23	**Sat**	Redlands Christmas Bonsai Market	Setup from 10am Market open 11am - 1pm
			Club Members Christmas Party	1:30pm to 4pm

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