



**NEXT CLUB MEETING**

**Tote Centre Community Hall**  
100 Joynton Ave., Zetland @ 7.00pm

**CONTACT DETAILS**



0432 461 025



[info@sydneycitybonsai.org.au](mailto:info@sydneycitybonsai.org.au)



<http://sydneycitybonsai.org.au>



PO Box 486  
Summerhill NSW 2130

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Patron	TBA
President	Chris
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	David
Treasurer	Bryan
Newsletter Editor	Bryan/John/Chris
Librarian	Vacant
Committee	Frank, John, Ed

**MEMBERSHIP**

Full membership	\$40
Concession	\$25
Family	\$55
Pensioner	\$25

*SCBC wishes to thank Sydney City Council for their continued support for our Club by providing the meeting hall at a concessional rate.*

**AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

This month's meeting (August) was going to include the AGM plus work-shopping trees. However,

**NEWSLETTER CONTENTS**

**COVID is still with us and the August meeting has been cancelled.** However read on for an alternative.

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**EDITORIAL MATTERS**

We always welcome any contributions from members, so if you have a project underway, have a query, want to sell/swap/buy something, or otherwise have a tale to share, please get in contact via [info@sydneycitybonsai.org.au](mailto:info@sydneycitybonsai.org.au) or one of the Committee members.





### MONTHLY MEETING FEEDBACK - JULY

Easy report – there was no meeting due to Covid restrictions .... again. And it will be the same this month. There will be no August meeting. However it has been suggested that we arrange for an on-line get together for the second Tuesday of the month (10<sup>th</sup> August) at 7.00p.m. It will be on “Zoom” and the link is:-  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71847834844?pwd=bVFySG9XdHVZTHJmeHNsRXQreU5vUT09>

The message will be repeated in an e-mail Bryan will send around from the email address “z\_edo2006@yahoo.com.au”. You should have received an e-mail from this address earlier in the week (Tuesday, 3/8) with the July Newsletter attached. If you did not recognise the sender and have deleted this to trash without opening it, maybe you can retrieve it if you want to read the July Newsletter. There was a technical problem getting the last Newsletter distributed which we will try and remedy for this Newsletter. Anyhow, Simon is going to give a demonstration on grafting that should be worth logging into.

### MEMBERSHIP FEES

We have reached the end of our membership year (June 30<sup>th</sup>) so **membership fees are now due**. As we hope to operate as close to what used to be called “normal”, we will revert to full fees for 2021-22 as listed on the front page. While cash is always welcome, it is preferred that the fees are paid electronically. The relevant details are:-

**Sydney City Bonsai Club**

**BSB : 032-152**

**A/c No. : 166305**

Please include your name in the transaction details.

### CALL FOR NEW EXEC MEMBERS

With the conclusion of our operating year, all Exec positions will be vacated and nominations to fill the positions called. They will be filled by voting at the AGM which will be part of our next face –to-face meeting agenda. There are currently vacant positions. All positions are up for grabs so have a serious think about nominating – we need members to take on positions to keep the Club operating. You do not need to be a bonsai “expert” but should be prepared to come to the monthly Exec meeting and participate in management decision making. **Have a go!**

### SWAP TABLE

There will be a Swap Table at the next scheduled meeting which will be stocked with what pots remain from those kindly donated by Betty Forsyth’s sister. Members are also encouraged to contribute to the table. Bring some loose change along and grab a bargain.

### ON-LINE MATTERS

#### FACEBOOK PAGE

The private Facebook page run by John Brown is still going and anyone interested in participating should contact John for an invitation. I am getting feedback that there is some good quality chat on the Facebook page and members are encouraged to participate.

### NURSERY CRAWL – BONSAI WORLD

Due to Covid restrictions, the Bonsai World nursery crawl for Sunday August 15 has had to be postponed to a date and time TBA.



**HARVESTING the GOLF COURSE – by Lee**

I went for a Covid walk on a favourite walking trail and extended it by traversing a golf course - being instructed by my walking friend on how to avoid golf balls. And then we walked into a small olive grove. My friend is not tree oriented and it was me that was looking at all the suckers, some quite substantial, and considering their potential as bonsai. The next day I considered fronting up to the golf course office and speaking to the green keeper but decided, in the Covid environment, that a phone call was wiser - and so I did. In 10 minutes I had permission to collect. Turns out that there were about a dozen trees that had not yet had the suckers removed.

I reached the trees with my trug, bonsai saw, bonsai tools, refuse bags and intent. Now for all of you who don't know, olive wood is VERY hard. Call it ironwood and you have a pretty good idea of the effort involved in separating a sucker from its parent with a small hand saw. As well, the suckers I chose were all attached to parts of the trunk and were devilishly difficult to access.

In the end I brought 4 home. I don't know if one will survive. It's kinky but I ended up splitting part of the trunk trying to extract it from its parent. I really needed a chain saw, one of the small Stilhs. However, we work with what we have.



The first sucker was well advanced and I was able to get two trunks from it, both with interesting features and promise. This was the easiest extraction from an access point but hard because the trunks were so thick.

Next was a sucker imbedded in the parent tree trunk and while it wasn't big it was devilishly difficult to cut away. I wanted to get a deeper carapace but access for sawing was just too hard.



The third was a quirky little sucker with a few bends. Again, a difficult separation from the parent due to being enfolded in a crease in the tree. Trust me, all the easy extractions were boring and easily passed by. I looked for the best and worked damn hard to bring them home.





Finally home, I removed more branches and stubs to give them a mild first styling. I notched the lower trunks to encourage roots coming from up higher and slathered rooting hormone on all the surfaces. They are now resting in wet sand and I am hoping for roots in the next six months or more. Maybe less but I am being conservative.



Yes, I know they probably all should be in individual pots but I don't have that sort of room and they either grow or die in this large pot. Once [and if] roots develop and they stabilise in individual pots, a Dremel will tidy up all the cut ends and age the trees. But there is no point now until I am sure they are growing.

It was an exhausting but profitable afternoon and a glorious day to do such work. And what a way to relieve the boredom of lockdown.

### **BONSAI THAT FITS ON A STAMP**

It's not often you can send your bonsai collection around the world, but thanks to the latest stamp series from Australia Post, the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia (NBPCA) can do just that!

Bonsai are the feature of a new stamp series released by Australia Post this July that highlight both the adaptability and fragility of nature. The Australian native species featured on the stamps are

a bottlebrush, fig, and paperbark, each crafted in a different style. The NBPCA is extremely proud to be involved in this stamp issue that highlights the beauty and art of Australian native plants as bonsai. Leigh Taafe, Curator of the NBPCA worked with Australia Post in the tree selection from the Collection and he features on the Medallion cover.



Bonsai has been practised in Japan for at least 1,200 years. It originated from the even older Chinese practice of penjing, which is the art of and science of growing miniature landscapes in a pot or tray (as opposed to a single, more sparsely presented tree).

From the late 1960s, the practice of bonsai gained wide popularity and Australian artists started experimenting with Australian native species as bonsai. An emerging Australian style inspired by our landscape, materials and plant species is now recognised globally. The Association of Australian Bonsai Clubs established in 1980 represents 58 bonsai clubs across the country reflects the popularity of the art.

Thanks to Australia Post for highlighting the beauty of bonsai and the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia at the National Arboretum Canberra.



**\$1.10 Bottlebrush as bonsai, *Callistemon viminalis***

This stamp design features a bottlebrush as bonsai, in an informal upright style (some bend or lean in the trunk). The bottlebrush is the cultivar 'Captain Cook', a dwarf form of *Callistemon*

*viminalis*, which has a weeping appearance. Bonsai artists Derek and Sue Oakley kindly donated this bonsai to the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia. The stamp photograph is by Leigh Taafe.



**\$1.10 Fig as bonsai, *Ficus rubiginosa***

This stamp design presents a fig as bonsai, in a formal upright style (no bend or lean in the trunk, and the trunk does not go all the way to the top of the tree). The fig is a Port Jackson Fig (*Ficus rubiginosa*),

known for its thick trunk and long, twisted roots that tend to grow along the trunk's surface. Bonsai artist Max Candy kindly donated this bonsai to the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia. The stamp photograph is by Ben Kopilow, Fusion Photography.



**\$2.70 Paperbark as bonsai, *Melaleuca linariifolia***

This stamp design showcases a paperbark (or honey myrtle) as bonsai, in a slanting style (where the apex of the trunk falls between 10 and 45 degrees to the left or right).

The tree is a dwarf form of *Melaleuca linariifolia*, known as 'Claret Tops' – a cultivar named for the reddish new growth that appears on the leaf tips. The bonsai artist is David Willoughby and he kindly lent

this bonsai to the Collection for display. The stamp photograph is by Ben Kopilow, Fusion Photography.

**Additional collectables**

- Minisheet
- First day cover (blank, gummed, minisheet)
- Stamp pack
- Maxicards
- Self-adhesive booklet of 10 (\$2.70)
- Medallion cover

Order your collectable stamps and medallions at [www.auspost.com.au/stamps](http://www.auspost.com.au/stamps).

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**THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH - July**

**By John**

1. Finish repotting, branch and root pruning of deciduous trees in preparation for Spring growth. The ideal time depends on the species and local climate but is best done when the leaf buds swell but have not burst.
2. As Winter wanes, return [Tropicals](#) outside from their winter protection.
3. Ensure all trees requiring wiring have been done and prepare to monitor them all through spring to ensure they do not suffer wire cutting in.
4. Start fertilising of evergreen trees again.
5. Best time for deciduous Yamadori or to lift, root prune and replant trees from gardens for further growth.
6. Major redesign and work on trees can be done now.



- 7. Grafting of Pines and other evergreens.
- 8. Melaleuca cuttings can be taken now of half-ripe lateral shoots.
- 9. For species susceptible to mildew its worth another spray with Lime Sulphur.

**Sources:**

- 1. AusBonsai Wiki
- 2. "Bonsai, Its Art, Science, History and Philosophy" by D R Koreshoff

**(Your name here)'s BACKYARD**

Team - I am proposing you join me in a new adventure – a tour around your backyard, sharing your treasures with other Club members. Can you take a few minutes to photograph a plant or two and provide a paragraph of text to accompany them, e.g. type of plant, origin, size, age, interesting features, ... whatever. They can be included in an upcoming Newsletter edition for sharing with others. I don't need lots or anything flash.

To kick it off, I have included a number of photos of some of my bare trees, before they (hopefully) bloom, on the last page. Bare trees were going to be a topic at one of our Covid-cancelled meetings, so some of these would have been included as my contribution. So here goes:-

**Photo 1.** Swamp Cyprus, 350mm tall, maybe 10+ yrs old, from a cutting from tree in Photo 2.

**Photo 2.** Swamp Cypress, 970mm tall 15+ yrs old, from a bonsai nursery seedling.

**Photo 3.** Nabari from tree in Photo 2 – Swamp Cypress can have incredible nabari.

**Photo 4.** Desert Ash, 360mm tall, 10 yrs old from a nursery seedling – develop great trunks early.

**Photo 5.** Persian Ironwood, 500mm tall, maybe 15 yrs old, purchased from BSA club member – shiny, textured foliage that changes colour three times in a season.

**Photo 6.** Jacaranda No.1, 250mm tall 10+ yrs old, from a cutting from tree in Photo 7(?) – great trunks but needs close attention to keep greenery compact.

**Photo 7.** Jacaranda No.2 370mm tall, 10+ yrs old, from nursery seedling.

**Photo 8.** Crab Apple, 380mm tall 10 yrs old, from a bonsai nursery, can be a bit unpredictable.

**Photo 9.** Sequoia, 780mm tall. 15 yrs old, from nursery seedling – good for another 2000 yrs.

**Photo 10.** Unknown species, 430mm tall, ??? yrs, collected from bush on private property.

**Photo 11.** Maple, 530mm tall, 15 yrs old, forgettable tree, forgotten past.

**Photo 12.** Privet, 300mm tall, 15 yrs old, cast off from member, cut back for re-potting - indestructible.

**Photo 13.** Who can identify this tree?, 500mm tall, 10+ yrs old, seedling from a friend – it's a Box Elder! So I got a bit carried away. But now its your turn - have a look at your collection pick a theme, and get photographing. Send contributions to the Club website or SMS them to mobile number in the "Contacts" section on the front page.

**BONSAI EVENTS CALENDAR**

	Nepean Bonsai Newsletter	Available on request or visit their website
	Illawarra BS Newsletter	Available on request or visit their website
20-22 August 2021 (Presumed cancelled)	Illawarra BS sponsored event	Stanwell Tops – see IBS website for details
	Yarra Valley Newsletter	Available on request or visit their website



**BONSAI EVENTS CALENDAR (Continued)**

	Victorian Native Bonsai Club Newsletter	Available on request or visit their website – <b>worth a look</b>
12-16 Sept 2021 (Maybe)	Garden Clubs of Australia	National Convention - Townsville
August	Bonsai Society of Sydney show	Cancelled
October	Laura Garden Festival	Cancelled

Most clubs have closed down meetings for Covid compliance. Check out their web-sites for re-commencement details.

**CHRIS' BARE TREES**



Photo 1. Swamp cypress No.1



Photo 2. Swamp Cypress No.2



Photo 3. Nabari of Swamp Cypress No.2



Photo 4. Desert Ash



Photo 5. Persian Ironwood



Photo 6. Jacaranda No 1

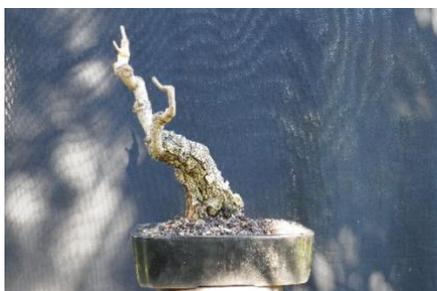


Photo 7. Jacaranda No.2



Photo 8. Crab Apple

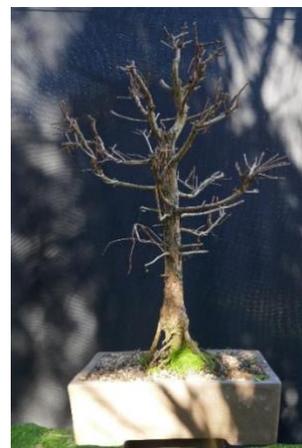


Photo 9. Sequoia



Photo 10. Unknown species



Photo 11. Pathetic Maple



Photo 12. Privet



Photo 13. Box Elder