

UK Bonsai Association

www.ukbonsaiassoc.org



Bulletin Mar21

Welcome to this month's bulletin, the first month of spring, perhaps the busiest time in the bonsai calendar. Let's hope we will be blessed with good weather as we were last spring, a glorious time in the garden as trees burst into bud and unfold their leaves, enjoy.

The good news with the pandemic is the light at the end of the tunnel seems to be glowing brighter. Many clubs have embraced the concept of Zoom meetings, keeping in touch through these troubled times, something most of us would not have dreamt about several years ago. Even though these meetings on-line have flourished during the pandemic, many of us cannot wait to get back to physical meetings with fellow enthusiasts.

As many of you know the UK Bonsai Association is run on a very informal basis, we have not felt the need to establish a committee, just fellow enthusiasts bouncing ideas off each other. We have however, this last month established a discussion group which we are calling the 'UKBA Steering Group'. The group is made up of like-minded non-professional enthusiasts from all corners of the UK who have been invited to join a monthly zoom meeting where collective decisions can be made on the future direction of UKBA. From the very first meeting this has blossomed into a fruitful coming together of minds and moving the association forward in a positive direction with new ideas.

Firstly the virtual UK bonsai show was discussed and people overwhelmingly agreed that we should split the show into two distinctive parts. So, with immediate effect 1Mar21-31Aug21 we will have a Spring/Summer show, followed by 1Sep21-28Mar22 an Autumn/Winter show. Also another major change is that pots can be entered from any UKBA members, you do not have to have made the pot physically yourself, but it must have been made by someone in the UK. Some other changes have also taken place so please visit UKBA website www.ukbonsaiassoc.org/Events / Virtual UK Bonsai Shows for up-to-date guidelines.

Secondly the UK Events Diary will have future bonsai events listed in date order as usual, but will be categorised in four distinctive ways:
(Provisional) = Intention is to hold the event
(Confirmed) = Event is confirmed
(Postponed) = Event is being re-scheduled
(Cancelled) = Event is cancelled

This will allow more accurate information about events as we come out of the pandemic and also in the future the better scheduling of events. There's nothing worse than a Sunday with nothing going on, followed by a Sunday with three bonsai events, followed by another Sunday with no events. It can be frustrating, especially if you wanted to go to all three.

Thirdly everybody was in total agreement that on-line talks have been a great benefit through this pandemic keeping communication going between the bonsai community. Moving forward, even when we thankfully return to physical meetings, there will now always be a place for on-line talks.

We are therefore asking all the clubs out there that wish to participate, to send us information with regard their on-line talks so that we can share and communicate this to the wider bonsai community.

Last but not least, we confirmed with all 82 UK clubs that their information on the UKBA website [www.ukbonsaiassoc.org/information/Bonsai clubs](http://www.ukbonsaiassoc.org/information/Bonsai%20clubs) is accurate and up to date, adding links to individual club Facebook pages as required.

We would like to thank all members who have sent images of their favourite books into us, please keep them coming in.

Virtual UK Bonsai Show Spring/Summer

1Mar21-31Aug21

Everybody on the UKBA steering group agreed that last year's show was a great success, but thought it needed some adjusting. In order to focus people's minds and encompass more the changing seasons we have divided the show into two distinctive smaller shows. This first spring/summer show will highlight all the deciduous trees breaking into leaf and looking their finest, the Autumn/Winter show later in the year will highlight changing colours and branch ramification when out of leaf. All the size categories for trees and pots will remain the same

Mame (under 12cm)

Shohin (between 12cm-22cm)

Chuhin Plus (Over 22cm).

So please start sending us in your Spring/Summer images, your support will be appreciated, the show guidelines are on the UKBA website www.ukbonsaiassoc.org/Events / Virtual UK Bonsai Shows.

Thank you!

Chuhin Trees



BT006

- **Species:** Cotoneaster Microphyllus (Cotoneaster microphyllus)
- **Origin:** from Kaizen Bonsai
- **Category:** Chuhin
- **Style:** Broom
- **Height of Tree:** 34 cm / 13.4"
- **Potter:** Walsall Ceramics
- **Stand:** Exotic Hardwood Slice
- **History:** purchased the tree in about 2012 from Kaizen Bonsai
- **Date of photo taken:** Feb 21



BT007

- **Species:** Western Hemlock (Tsuga Heterophylla)
- **Origin:** UK
- **Category:** Chuhin
- **Style:** Formal Upright
- **Size:** 61 cm / 24 "
- **Potter:** John Pitt
- **Stand:** Owner
- **History:** Yamadory. Collected locally 13th March 2010. It was growing in 7 cm of Humus on top of heavy clay. Roots did not go into the clay so had a nice root spread. It is the same height as when collected but the trunk has thickened considerably. Some branches we
- **Date:** 02Feb21

Chuhin Pot



BP012

- **Category:** Chuhin
- **Size:** 15x15x24.5 cm
- **Style:** Cascade Pot
- **Note:** cascade pot of mixed stoneware
- **Date of Photo taken:** 22Feb21



BP015

- Category: Chuhin
- Size: 17.5 x 7.5cm
- Style: Drum Pot
- Note: Unglazed Chuhin Mushikui drum pot
- Date of Photo taken: Feb 21



BP016

- Category: Chuhin
- Size: 22x16x5 cm
- Style: Rectangle Pot.
- Note: Owner's favourite of all his pots. The "motif" always reminds him of as map of Scotland from the Borders to Inverness. Now home to a shohin chamaecyparis. Also shown for good measure !!
- Date of Photo taken: Feb21



BP017

- Category: Shohin
- Size: 16x5 cm
- Style: Round Pot
- Note: Just a super quality pot with unusual glaze and finely sculpted legs and totally glazed to the underneath. I was persuaded to buy this for a shohin cotoneaster I have been developing but it probably deserves better !
- Date of Photo taken: Feb21

Shohin Pots



BP013

- Category: Shohin
- Size: 12.5 x 4cm
- Style: Hexagonal Pot
- Note: Hexagonal pot with duck egg blue crackle glaze
- Date of Photo taken: Feb 21



BP018

- Category: Chuhin

- Size: 31x23x4 cm
- Style: Oval.
- Note: Beautifully glazed pot, predominantly pale blue but with subtle hues of green and even more subtle hues of pink - lovely! Not yet planted but intended for an acer group which owner has been bringing along in his allotment.
- Date of Photo taken: Feb21

Mame Pots



BP014

- Category: Mame
- Size: 7.5 x 4cm
- Style: oribe pot Pot
- Note: Mame Green oribe crackle glaze
- Date of Photo taken: Feb 21

Bonsai Events

21Mar21 (Postponed until 25Apr21)
 FNBC Bonsai Car Boot Sale
 Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Westbourne
 Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. B15 3TR.
 Adm: FREE 0800-1200.hrs
 Contact: Kim Turton 01543.685600
 Email: turtonkim@hotmail.co

28Mar21 (Cancelled)
 Spring Bonsai Exhibition & Car Boot Sale
 Markham Grange Nursery,
 Longlands Lane, Brodsworth,
 Doncaster, South Yorkshire. DN5 7XB.
 Adm: Free. Times: 0900-1500.hrs
 Contact: Dave Newman 07966.405134
 Email: georgeanddavenewman@yahoo.co.uk
 Contact: Daryl Harris 07376.582222
 Email: darylh@gmx.co.uk
 Contact: John Skill 07818.110978
 Email: karskill@aol.com

We completely understand that many shows are currently cancelled or on hold. Keeping the date of a show provisionally marked on the events diary gives everybody a clear indication of your intentions to hold a show on a particular date when we come out of this pandemic. Please check out UKBA website for the most up to date information on shows.

Bonsai Event Reports

Unfortunately no events in Feb21 to report on.

Please check out Simon Roberts of Milton Keynes Bonsai Society, photos of his trip Jan20 to Gafuten & Meifuten Exhibitions in Japan.
www.ukbonsaiassoc.org/Reports &
 Gallery/Bonsai Show Abroad

On-Line Talks

You can book your space on a zoom meeting up to 24.hrs prior to the meeting, but meetings are limited to the first 100 persons, so please reserve your space as early as possible. Thank you.

4Mar21 Thu (1900.hrs)
 Facebook Talk with
 Mauro Stemberger / Italy
 Talking about Yamadori and
 the story of his trees
 For further details email:
tony@tonyulatowski.com

10Mar21 Wed (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with Andy Hardman
 Talking about tree physiology
 For further details email:
ukbonsaiassociation@gmail.com

18Mar21 Thu (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with Chris Thomas
 Creating Larch forests
 For further details email:
tony@tonyulatowski.com

25Mar21 Thu (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with Andy Hardman
 Talking about soils and fertilisers
 For further details email:
tony@tonyulatowski.com

31Mar21 Wed (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with Amnon Paldi
 Talking about Suiseki
 For further details email:
ukbonsaiassociation@gmail.com

1Apr21 Thu (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with
 Peter Thorne / Scotland
 Talking about Pine Pruning
 For further details email:
tony@tonyulatowski.com

7Apr21 Wed (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with Sean Stolp
 Talking about Yamadori
 For further details email:
ukbonsaiassociation@gmail.com

15Apr21 Thu (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with Mark Cashman
 and Piotr Wiecek / Ireland
 Talking about Mame small size bonsai
 For further details email:
tony@tonyulatowski.com

22Apr21 Thu (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with
 Alexandre Escudero / France
 Talking about tba
 For further details email:
tony@tonyulatowski.com

26Apr21 Mon (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with Mark Kerry
 Talking about Maples
 For further details email:
ukbonsaiassociation@gmail.com

24May21 Mon (1900.hrs)
 Zoom Meeting with Mark Kerry
 Talking about Junipers
 For further details email:
ukbonsaiassociation@gmail.com

As and when you arrange a speaker for a physical or zoom meeting and you want to increase the audience, please advise us and we can advertise your night.

Notice Board

UKBA Membership

Thanking you for your support, today 1Mar21 UKBA membership stands at a total of 1508, expanding daily.

Walsall Studio Ceramics

Dear friends and customers.

Due to the current climate and personal circumstances Walsall Studio Ceramics will be taking a break from production while we restructure the business. Esther and I will be continuing in a smaller capacity once Mark retires at the end of Feb21. This will mean that for the foreseeable future we will no longer be taking custom built orders.

Best wishes, David, Mark and Esther.

TWickenham Bonsai Club

TWickenham Bonsai Club presents 'Six Nations Of Bonsai'. Chairman Tony Ulatowski extends an open invite to anyone who wants to join in the following club zoom meetings, all you have to do is email him and he will confirm the details to you.

Email: tony@tonyulatowski.com

4Mar21 Thu (1900.hrs)

Mauro Stemburger / Italy

18Mar21 Thu (1900.hrs)

Chris Thomas / Wales

25Mar21 Thu (1900.hrs)

Andy Hardman / England

1Apr21 Thu (1900.hrs)

Peter Thorne / Scotland

15Apr21 Thu (1900.hrs)

Mark Cashman and Piotr Wiecek / Ireland

22Apr21 Thu (1900.hrs)

Alexandre Escudero / France

Bonsai Club International Magazine

Bonsai & Stone Appreciation 2021 Q1

Contact: www.bonsai-bci.com

Latest edition highlighting:

23rd Taiwanese Bonsai Creators Association (TBCA) Exhibition.

Kuntoro Wiryanto from Vietnam talking Suiseki.

Massimo Bandera from Italy talking Japanese Cyprus.

Marco Tarozzo from Italy visiting the nursery of Kenichi Abe in Japan

Min Hsuan Lo from Taiwan talking about Ficus.

Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society from US talking about their virtual show.

Mario Pavone & Marco Insubreman from Italy working on an old Pinus Sylestris.

Bonsai Focus 2021 Jan/Feb 169/192

Contact: www.bonsaifocus.com

Latest edition highlighting:

Shohin trees from the Gafu-ten exhibition in Japan.

Harry Harrington from UK working on an old crab apple.

Lukas Sirotny from Czech Republic his passion for bonsai.

Mike Lane from US his passion for buttonwood

Bartosz Warwas from Poland talking good planning is the key to bonsai success.

Andrei Bessonov from Russia his final work as an apprentice to Master Kimura.

David Quintana from Spain works on a Buxus. Techniques in how to create bonsai from cotoneaster cuttings.

Monthly Tasks

Below is a list of bonsai tasks to be carried out during the month of March, it must be adapted to your localised conditions and is meant only as a general advisory list of tasks for the bonsai enthusiast.

Bonsai in March

Hopefully all your bonsai trees were protected over the winter and you are starting to look forward to the onset of Spring in the UK so here is a quick generic guide to bonsai in March.

Watering

Continue to check your trees daily and water as required. Watch for buds swelling and ensure to keep trees topped up with water during this period especially for flowering trees who are coming into bloom. Water in the mornings ideally to avoid the colder temperatures at night. Spray any repotted trees to ensure they do not dry out.

Re-potting

You should now be in full swing of your re-potting as the onset of Spring is now upon us. So with your soils sifted, pots selected and wire to the ready let re-potting commence in full if you haven't started already. During repotting smell the soil that the tree comes out of, check roots for dead sections and rot ie look for black roots and remove any dead roots.

Check also for pests in the soil and roots and remove or treat any pest problems like vine weevil larvae and mites. Prune roots dependent on the stage of root development and ensure the correct pot size if changing the pot.

Ensure that the soil mix is suitable for the tree species and that you use a range of techniques that are suitable for the tree species, stage of root development and health of the tree.

For any trees that you are not repotting still remove the top surface and re-top dress to remove any crusting on the surface to improve airflow and drainage down through the soil. Plus clean the pots of the trees if they have got green algae forming on them.

Feeding

For broadleaved trees, feeding should not be necessary yet as the leaves are still not out and do not feed until at least 6-8 weeks after repotting for all trees that have been newly repotted.

Tropical trees and Evergreens can continue to be fed with a low nitrogen feed to maintain health and vigour at the onset of spring.

Pruning

Species to avoid pruning in Spring due to potential for sap bleeding would be Acer, Betula, Carpinus, Carya, Juglans, Magnolia, Morus, Populus and Tilia.

If you haven't carried out your winter re-structure pruning if the buds have not started to fully swell then it would be alright to carry

out any branch removals to address defects but ensure to cover with wound paste.

Remove and thin out unwanted buds or buds facing the wrong direction but do not over trim or prune at this stage.

Trimming

Until the leaves appear trimming will not be required on broadleaved trees but continue to prune tropical trees to maintain their shape.

Where too much growth is expected and buds are well advanced, removal of unwanted future twigs may be anticipated by pinching out buds now. Where density is required of foliage, pinch or remove the terminal bud to promote side buds to develop. This is also a good opportunity to check buds to see if they are viable.

Root pruning

Species to avoid severe root pruning in Spring due to potential for sap bleeding would be Acer, Betula, Carpinus, Carya, Juglans, Magnolia, Morus, Populus and Tilia.

Insects and pests

Hopefully following winter treatments the pest and insects should not be a concern in March but check for scale, mealybug and red spider mite just in case on overwintering twigs in old bark wounds and treat as necessary.

Moss and weed control

Continue to keep this in check and treat or remove unwanted moss and remove any newly forming weeds

Wiring

Check wires and guys to ensure they are not cutting in and this is a good time to straighten out dis-used wire, which can be re-used for training wire.

Protection

Continue to protect from late frosts as it is still not very warm outside and ensure to harden off leaves before moving your trees out from a cold greenhouse.

Assessment

Continue to update your bonsai records and photograph your trees to record their progress.

Collection

This is a good time to still collect trees from the wild (subject to permission) as broadleaved trees are still dormant generally and lifting trees can usually be carried out from October through to the end of April subject to avoiding frosts or frozen ground. The very best time to lift trees is when the trees energy has moved from the root system up into the branch structure just prior to the buds opening out into leaf.

[To learn more about collecting trees from the wild join the On-line talks on the 4Mar21 with Mauro Stemburger and 14Apr21 with Sean Stolp](#)

Tools

This is something everyone should do each time they use their tools but often it

is not easy to do depending on how often you are using your tools. However, it is good practice to clean and sharpen your tools after use and this is a good time to go through your tool kits and clean them up before the start of the pruning season.

Display areas

Subject to how you display your trees, if you are looking to bring your trees out later in Spring from their winter protection it is an ideal time to clean off your display areas or benches and disinfect them as well as re-treat with a wood preservative or relevant treatment for the material so they show your trees off once they are ready to come out.

Propagation

Sow any seeds this month like Dwarf Quince, Cedar, Pine, Punica, Cypress, Sophora. Take softwood cuttings when buds are well on the move.

Collectables

Pin Badges

Please check out the pin badge section under collectables on the website, if you have any badges we have not listed, please send us an image of the badge and we will add it to the section. Thank you

This month we are highlighting pin badges from Japan, see website for more badges.

Japanese Badges



11th ASPAC Takamatsu Japan 2011
Image supplied by Mingchen Moreland



Kokufu Award 2009 Naemi Iwasaki
Image supplied by Jim Gould



Kunio Kobayashi
Image supplied by Jim Gould



World Bonsai Convention Japan 1989
Image supplied by Dan Barton

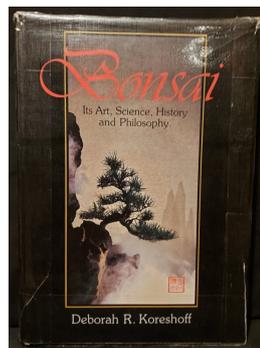
Books

The book section on the website can be found in the knowledge section, we have nearly sixty books listed and ask kindly if you can recommend a book, old or new and we don't have it listed on the website, please email us an image, the title of the book, the authors name, the date published, the ISBN (International Standard Book Number) and of course can we use your name or do you want to be anonymous?



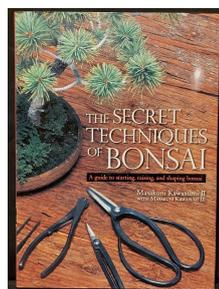
Craig Coussins
Handbook Of Bonsai
Published: 2007
ISBN: 1903327547

Image supplied by Steve Reddington



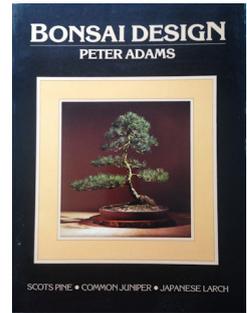
Deborah R Koreshoff
Bonsai Its Art, Science, History & Philosophy
Published: 1984
ISBN: 070991556X

Image supplied by Mark Moreland



Masakuni Kawasumi

Secret Techniques Of Bonsai
Published: 2005
ISBN: 9784770029430
Image supplied by Nigel Bevard



Peter Adams
Bonsai Design
Scots Pine & Common Juniper
Published: 1985
ISBN: 9780948224003
Image supplied by Alistair Hodgson

Word Sudoku

A word sudoku using HER BONSAI to complete the quiz.

	B	O					H	I
	S	E		R				A
R		N		I	O			
		A	B				O	
B	R		S		H		E	N
	E				R	I		
			O	H		S		B
N				S		E	R	
H	I					N	A	

Answers to Feb 2021 Quiz
Pine £6; Juniper £34;
Spruce £12; Rowan £4

--- Geoff Conybeare

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UK Bonsai Association

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