

# UK Bonsai Association

[www.ukbonsaiassoc.org](http://www.ukbonsaiassoc.org)



## Bulletin Apr24

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Welcome to this month's Bulletin.

Perhaps one of the busiest times of the bonsai year. You should have re-potted most things by now and be sitting back watching everything come to life. It's still an anxious time, trees you gave winter protection to should now be finding their way out onto the open benches, but being very prepared to bring them back under cover if we experience any last minute frosts or inclement weather. Where my garden is located, we seem to have had one of the wettest winters on record, rain most days. Still it's all part of this fascinating hobby getting the best out of your trees whatever Mother Nature throws at us.

This month I need to thank two people for their hard work behind the scenes.

Firstly, a big thank you to Amelia Williams who has been putting together a series of very helpful handbooks. These handbooks are aimed at complementing the existing knowledge available and moving the UK bonsai community forward in a positive direction. They cover five specific specialist areas within the hobby, exhibiting, judging, running shows, running clubs and societies, and developing your bonsai. Whether you're a novice or an old hand at the hobby, whether one particular subject interests you or you browse all five handbooks, they make interesting reading. These handbooks will be available to everyone in the future free of charge, with a launch date of the 14Apr24 at the Expo Bonsai UK.

Secondly, I would like to thank Liz Panton for endeavouring to complete the thankless task of updating the UKBA Club and Society listings. This list is used by many people and it's good to know the list is accurate and up to date. She has asked me in turn to thank everyone who corresponded with her and confirmed their respective club details.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind everybody, especially event organisers that we update the UKBA events diary on an

almost daily basis. This obviously is good news for the average bonsai enthusiast visiting an up-and-coming show. But what is not so obvious, is the usefulness of the events diary stretching into the future. This enables organisers to schedule their respective events on days when there are no other clashing events. We hope that event organisers will notify us immediately by email of any future event, even if we mark the event as provisional and at a later date move the status of the event too confirmed, it helps other organisers to choose a date that does not clash with another. Unfortunately, this last month on the 24Mar24 we saw an example of things going wrong. We have possibly five car boot style events taking place in the UK this year and two of them were on the 24Mar24. These events were located almost 4 hours drive apart, but still reports afterwards on social media reported lower attendances than usual at both. If they were on separate dates, even just one week apart, sellers and buyers would then get the opportunity to visit both events.

We would kindly advise event organisers to always consult the diary before committing to a future date and plant your event flag in the sand as early as possible.

Thanking you — Mark Moreland

If you can make any contributions to the UKBA website or this news bulletin then please don't hesitate to contact us. Whether a change in your club location or a trip that you make abroad, why not share with us all?

The next steering group meeting on Zoom is scheduled for Tuesday 02Apr24 at 1900hrs.

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## Bonsai Events

Apr23 & May23

14Apr24 Sun (Confirmed)

5th Expo Bonsai UK

Sponsored by UKBA

K2 Leisure Centre,

Pease Pottage Hill, Crawley, West Sussex. RH11 9BQ

Adm: £8. Accompanied under 16yrs Free.

Times: 1000-1600hrs.

Contact: Steve Hale 07850.771201

Email: ebuk18@gmail.com

[www.ExpobonsaiUK.weebly.com](http://www.ExpobonsaiUK.weebly.com)

Supporting Traders:

Ange Bonsai Pots

Atlantic Mariculture

Beech Field Bonsai

Bonsai Brushstrokes

Bonsai Shed

Bonsai4Me

Bon-Tag

Brookfield Plants

Chris Thomas Bonsai

Christine's Ceramics

Collette's Bonsai

Dan Lake Pots

David Cheshire Bonsai

Dave Sampson

DR Bonsai Tables

Dragonfly Bonsai Pots

Elmbrook Bonsai

European Bonsai Pot Collective

EVERY SPROUT

G G Evergreen Bonsai

Glynderi Bonsai

GoBonsai Air

Gordon Duffett

Greenwood Bonsai

Hadori Bonsai

Heron's Bonsai Nursery  
Hinata Ceramics  
House Of British Bonsai & Yamadori  
IKIGAI MK  
Japan Journeys  
LV Bonsai  
Majestic Bonsai  
Oakfield Bonsai Supplies  
Oceana  
Rowena Edwards Ceramics  
RH Bonsai  
Saruyama  
Shohin-Bonsai  
Spectre Ceramics  
Springwood Ceramics  
Stone Monkey Ceramics  
Suteki  
Troll Pots  
UK Bonsai Tables  
Windybank Bonsai  
Woodandclay  
Zacs Bonsai

20&21Apr24 Sat & Sun (Confirmed)  
Accrington & District Bonsai Society Display

At Daisy Nook Garden Centre,

Stannybrook Road, Daisy Nook,

Failsworth, Manchester. M359WJ.

Adm: Free. 0900-1700hrs & 1030-1630hrs.

Ctc: Diane Kennedy 07799.567692

Email: dianestardis@icloud.com

[www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk](http://www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk)

25-28Apr24 Thu-Sun (Confirmed)

Yorkshire Bonsai Society Display & Show

At Harrogate Spring Flower Show,

Great Yorkshire Showground,

Railway Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire. HG2 8NZ.

Adm: tba. (Exhibitors Free).

Times: 1000-1700hrs

Contact: Craig Brown 07763.771701

Email: jcraig008@sky.com

Supporting Trader: Driftwood Bonsai

27&28Apr24 Sat & Sun (Confirmed)

Celtic Bonsai Morten Albek Weekend

Workshop Fully Booked

Pre-booked viewing places only left £25 each

Masion Aberglasney Gardens,

Llangathen, Carmarthenshire, Wales. SA32 8QH

Contact: Chris Thomas 07798.798194

Email: chris.thomas1@sky.com

04&05May24 Sat & Sun (Confirmed)

Accrington & District Bonsai Society Display

At Barton Grange Garden Centre,

Garstang Road, Brock, Preston. PR3 0BT

Adm: Free. 0900-1730hrs & 1000-1630.

Ctc: Diane Kennedy 07799.567692

Email: dianestardis@icloud.com

[www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk](http://www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk)

04-05May24 Sat & Sun (Confirmed)

Sutton Bonsai Society Show

Wisley Gardens,

Wisley Lane, Wisley, Surrey. GU23 6QB

Adm: £ tba Times: 1000-1630hrs.

Contact: Andy Jordan 07958.372101

Email: antique.netsuke@gmail.com

[www.suttonbonsai.co.uk](http://www.suttonbonsai.co.uk)

11-12May24 Sat & Sun (Confirmed)

Greenwood Spring Bonsai Bash

Greenwood Bonsai Studio,

Ollerton Road, Arnold, Nottingham. NG5 8PR

Adm: Free. Times: 1000-1700hrs

Contact: Corin Tomlinson 0115.9205757

Email: office@bonsai.co.uk

[www.bonsai.co.uk](http://www.bonsai.co.uk)

12May24 Sat (Confirmed)  
[Ayrshire Bonsai Club](#) Open Exhibition  
Troon Concert Hall,  
South Beach, Troon, Ayrshire. KA10 6EF.  
Adm: £2.50. Times:1100-1600.hrs  
Contact: Jeff Banning 07799.477895  
Email: jeffbanning@btinternet.com

21-25May24 Tue-Sat (Confirmed)  
[Chelsea Flower Show](#)  
Royal Hospital Chelsea, London. SW3 4SR.  
Adm: tbc. Times: 0800-Late.

25May24 Sat (Confirmed)  
[North London Bonsai Group](#) Show  
Capel Manor, Bullsmoor Lane,  
Enfield, Middlesex. EN1 4RQ.  
Adm: £10. 1000-1600.hrs.  
Contact: : Bob McGregor 07903.710509  
Email: dismcg@hotmail.co.uk

27May24 Mon (Confirmed)  
[Accrington & District Bonsai Society](#) Display  
At Great Harwood Show,  
The New Showground,  
Harwood Lane, Great Harwood, Lancashire. BB6 7UL  
Adm: £10 Adults. Times: 0900-1700.hrs.  
Ctc: Diane Kennedy 07799.567692  
Email: dianestardis@icloud.com  
[www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk](http://www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk)  
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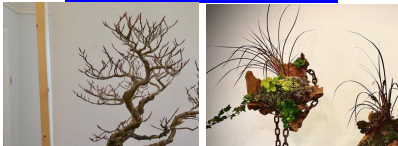
We would remind people the status of all events is marked in brackets ie, provisional, postponed, confirmed or cancelled. Whenever visiting an event please check for more up to date details on the website and if travelling any great distance, please confirm the event is still running with the event contact person.

We only list on the bulletin events scheduled to take place in the next two months, if you want to know about events further into the future, please visit the main diary on the website.  
Thank you  
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## [Bonsai Event Reports UK](#)

To read the full reports with photos on the events listed below please visit the [UKBA website](http://www.ukbonsaiassoc.org). [www.ukbonsaiassoc.org](http://www.ukbonsaiassoc.org)

09&10Mar24 Sat & Sun  
[Dragon Bonsai Spring Show](#)



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17Mar24 Sun  
[Southend Bonsai Society Spring Show](#)



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24Mar24 Sun  
[South East Bonsai Fair](#)



24Mar24 Sun  
[Friends Of The National Bonsai Collection](#)  
[Bonsai Boot Sale](#)

Unfortunately to date we have received no report or photos of this event  
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## [Trips Abroad](#)

06&20Feb24  
[Scouse Tree Huggers Tour - Japan](#)



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11-21 Feb24  
[Michael Pegg - Indonesia](#)



Don't forget if you're travelling abroad and your trip includes something bonsai then please let us know, thank you.  
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## Club Talks

03Apr24 Wed (1930-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Corin Tomlinson  
Subject: tbc.  
[Mid-Herts Bonsai Club](#)  
Mead Hall, East Lane, Wheathampstead,  
Hertfordshire. AL4 8BP.  
Ctc: Geoff Conybeare 07396.732817  
Email: info@midhertsbonsaiclub.co.uk

05Apr24 Fri (1900-2130.hrs)  
Talk by: Robert Cupar  
Subject: tbc.  
Fife Bonsai Club  
Baptist Church Hall  
79 Bonnygate, Cupar, Scotland. KY15 4BY.  
Ctc: Roger Ferguson  
Email: bonsaimad57@gmail.com

08Apr24 Mon (1915-2130.hrs)  
Talk by Mark Moreland  
Subject: Propagating & Miniature Bonsai.  
[Milton Keynes Bonsai Society](#)  
Reform Synagogue Hall, 1 Hainault Drive,  
Giffard Park, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. MK14 5PQ.  
Ctc: Simon Roberts 07592.527736  
Email: simon.roberts26@btopenworld.com

08Apr24 Mon (2000-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Corin Tomlinson  
Subject: Demonstration  
[Manchester Bonsai Society](#)  
Stockport Labour Club,  
2 Lloyd Street, Heaton Norris, Stockport, Cheshire. SK4 1QP.  
Ctc: Wayne Crumpton 07742.111142  
Email: mbsmembershipssecretary@gmail.com

10Apr24 Wed (1930-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Amelia Williams  
Subject: Roots & Repotting.  
[Somerset Bonsai Society](#)  
Bishop Henderson Primary School,  
Henderson Close, Taunton TA1 4TU  
Ctc: Michael Cooper 01458.210796  
Email: coopersstudio@btopenworld.com

15Apr24 Mon (1930.hrs)  
Talk by Rachel Seville

Subject: Pines  
[Cheshire Bonsai Society](#)  
Little Budworth Village Hall, Vicarage Lane,  
Little Budworth, Tarporley, Cheshire. CW6 9BP.  
Ctc: Elizabeth Scott 01829.733519  
Email: bonsailiz@hotmail.com

18Apr24 Thu (1930.hrs)  
Talk by Malcolm Hughes  
Subject: Tree Critique  
[Redditch Bonsai Society](#)  
Webheath Village Hall, Heathfield Road,  
Redditch, Midlands. B97 5SQ,  
Ctc: Richard Gilkes 07803.593024  
Email: ragilkes@blueyonder.co.uk

19Apr24 Fri (1930-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Peter Warren  
Subject: Juniper Cultivation & Care  
[Southend Bonsai Society](#)  
Ashingdon Memorial Hall,  
Ashingdon Road, Rochford, Essex. SS4 3HF.  
Ctc: Paul Schofield 07942.679688  
southendbonsaisociety@gmail.com

26Apr24 Fri (1915.hrs)  
Talk by Corin Tomlinson  
Subject: Group/Forest Planting.  
[North East Lincolnshire Bonsai Society](#)  
St Giles Church Hall, Church Lane, Scartho,  
Grimsby, Lincolnshire. DN33 2EX.  
Ctc: Ian Butland 07963.470696  
nelbs.chairman@virginmedia.com

29Apr24 Mon (1930-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Chris Thomas  
Subject: Bonsai Styling  
[Bristol Bonsai Society](#)  
Failand Village Hall, Oxhouse Lane,  
Failand, Somerset. BS8 3TS.  
Ctc: Nigel Turner 07918.602306  
Email: bbs-site@outlook.com

01May24 Wed (1930-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Steve McKee  
Subject: Preparing Trees For Shows  
[Mid-Herts Bonsai Club](#)  
Mead Hall, East Lane, Wheathampstead,  
Hertfordshire. AL4 8BP.  
Ctc: Geoff Conybeare 07396.732817  
Email: info@midhertsbonsaiclub.co.uk

02May24 Thu (1930-2130.hrs)  
Talk by John Armitage  
Subject: Maples  
[Ashfield Bonsai Club](#)  
Evergreen Club,  
Cornhill, Allestree, Derbyshire. DE22 2FT  
Ctc: Mike Rose 07968.951515  
Email: rosemike1960@gmail.com

02May24 Thu (1930.hrs)  
Talk by David Cheshire  
Subject: tbc.  
[Midlands Bonsai Society](#)  
Moseley Cricket Club,  
105 Streetbrook Road,  
Shirley, Solihull, Midlands. B90 3PE.  
Ctc: Richard Gilkes 07803.593024  
Email: ragilkes@blueyonder.co.uk

08May24 Wed (1930-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Harry Harrington  
Subject: Walkabout Workshop  
Bedfordshire Bonsai Society  
Toddington Village Hall, Leighton Road,  
Toddington, Bedfordshire. LU5 6AN.  
Ctc: Richard Gaiger 07745.507318  
Email: r.gaiger@ntlworld.com

08May24 Wed (1945-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Amelia Williams  
Subject: Air Layering Workshop  
[Berkshire Bonsai Society](#)  
Barkham Village Hall, Barkham, Berkshire. RG40 4PL  
Ctc: Jamie Ewing 07570.368175  
Email: jamie1322@hotmail.co.uk

09May24 Thu (1830-2130.hrs)  
Talk by Caroline (Caz) Scott  
Subject: Pines & Junipers  
[Twickenham Bonsai Club](#)  
Whitton Community Centre,  
Percy Road, Whitton, Twickenham, Middlesex. TW2 6JA.  
Ctc: Tony Ulatowski 07956.362743  
Email: twickenhambonsaiclub@gmail.com

11May24 Sat (1400-1600.hrs)  
Talk by Alex Rudd  
Subject: Bonsai Pot Selection  
[North London Bonsai Group](#)  
Capel Manor College, Bullsmoor Lane,  
Enfield, Middlesex. EN1 4RQ.  
Ctc: Bob McGregor 07903.710509  
Email: dismcg@hotmail.co.uk

13May24 Mon (1900-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Mark Kelly  
Subject: Junipers  
[Chiltern Bonsai Society.](#)  
Booker Memorial Hall,  
Limmer Lane, Booker Common, High Wycombe. HP12 4QS.  
Ctc: Michael Pegg & Adrian Garnett  
Email: mikew.pegg@btinternet.com  
Email: adrian.garnett@virginmedia.com

16May24 Thu (1930-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Mark Moreland  
Subject: Propagating & Miniature Bonsai.  
Crawley Bonsai Group  
CH Society Hall, Ifield Avenue,  
West Green, Crawley, West Sussex. RH11 7AJ.  
Contact: Tony McKenzie 07837.577680  
Email: tony.mckenzie1955@btinternet.com

16May24 Thu (1930.hrs)  
Talk by David Cheshire  
Subject: tbc.  
[Redditch Bonsai Society](#)  
Webheath Village Hall, Heathfield Road,  
Redditch, Midlands. B97 5SQ,  
3rd Thu Monthly. 1930.hrs  
Ctc: Richard Gilkes 07803.593024  
Email: ragilkes@blueyonder.co.uk

18May24 Sat (1000-1300.hrs)  
Talk by Tony McKenzie  
Subject: Junipers / Pines & Workshop  
[Middlesex Bonsai Society](#)  
South Harrow Methodist Church,  
Walton Avenue, South Harrow, Middlesex. HA2 8QU.  
Ctc: Mark Moreland 07850.771201  
Email: markmoreland@live.co.uk

29May24 Wed (1945-2200.hrs)  
Talk by Harry Harrington  
Subject: Deciduous Maintenance.  
[Surrey Heath Bonsai Society](#)  
Chobham Village Hall,  
Station Road, Chobham, Surrey. GU24 8AQ  
Ctc: Chris Rhodes 01276.20893  
Email: rhodes163@googlemail.com  
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## Notice Board

14Apr24 Sun  
[5th Expo Bonsai UK](#)  
Sponsored by UKBA  
K2 Leisure Centre,  
Pease Pottage Hill, Crawley, West Sussex. RH11 9BQ

All details are in place for our largest show so far with only one thing missing, the people that oil the machine behind the scenes. We are still looking for a few more volunteers to help with both setting up on Saturday and on the day itself. If you are able to help and want to be part of the Expo team then please contact either Mark Moreland or Steve Hale asap. All offers are truly appreciated. Thank You  
[Ebuk18@gmail.com](mailto:Ebuk18@gmail.com)  
07850.771201

07May24 Tue  
[Garden Museum](#)  
Lambeth Palace Road, London. SE1 7LB  
Lecture by Luis Vallejo, a renowned Spanish landscape designer and curator/director of the Museo del Bonsai in Alcobendas and formerly created/curator of the bonsai collection of the Real Jardin Botanico in Madrid. In 2008 he received the Order of the Rising Sun conferred by the Emperor of Japan. Luis Vallejo's new book 'The Wind Among The Leaves' is a portrait of one of the most outstanding collections of bonsai in Europe, and of the collector himself through his collection. For more information Tel: 020.74018865  
[www.gardenmuseum.org.uk](http://www.gardenmuseum.org.uk)

25May24 Sat  
New to the events diary this month  
[North London Bonsai Group](#)Show  
Capel Manor, Bullsmoor Lane,  
Enfield, Middlesex. EN1 4RQ.  
Adm: £10. 1000-1600.hrs.  
Contact: : Bob McGregor 07903.710509  
Email: dismcg@hotmail.co.uk

25-28Apr24 Thu-Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
Yorkshire Bonsai Society Display & Show  
At Harrogate Spring Flower Show,  
Great Yorkshire Showground, Railway Road,  
Harrogate, North Yorkshire. HG2 8NZ.  
Adm: tba. (Exhibitors Free).  
Times: 1000-1700.hrs  
Contact: Craig Brown 07763.771701  
Email: jeraig008@sky.com  
Supporting Trader: Driftwood Bonsai  
Please contact Craig immediately if you want to participate in the show.

30Jun24 Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
[Satsuki Azalea Bonsai Show](#)  
Organised by [Chiltern Bonsai Society](#) & [UKBA](#)  
Liston Hall, Chapel Street, Marlow,  
Buckinghamshire, SL7 1DD  
Adm: tbc. Times: 1000-1600.hrs.  
Contact: Amnon Paldi 07801.183316  
Email: amnonp@icloud.com  
This is the first all Azalea bonsai show for many years and if you own an Azalea and would like to participate in the show please contact Amnon Paldi as soon as possible.

20-21Jul24 Sat & Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
[Chichester Bonsai](#) Exhibition  
Manor Nursery, Pagham Road,  
Runcton, Chichester. PO20 1LJ.  
Adm: Free. 0900-1700 & 1000-1600.hrs.  
Ctc: Liz Panton 01798.865551/07368.327244  
Email: lizpanton5@gmail.com  
[www.chichesterbonsai.uk](http://www.chichesterbonsai.uk)  
We can confirm planning for this show is well under way, if you are a club wanting to display

at this event please contact us as soon as possible, thank you.

Supporting Trader: Collette's Bonsai

04Aug24 Sun  
Staverton Group Bonsai Boot Sale  
Opp Long River Farm, New Town Road,  
Westbury, Wiltshire. BA13 3ED.  
If you want a trader's pitch at this event, please contact: Tony Oswin 07776.338899  
Email: Rob - oakfieldbonsai@aol.com  
or Chris - jeffreyschris@hotmail.com

05&06Oct24 Sat & Sun  
The Bonsai Show Live 2024  
Telford International Centre,  
International Way, Telford, Shropshire. TF3 4JH  
We would like to confirm another demonstrator has now been booked for this event, Rammon Hamers. He joins Caz Scott and Mauro Stemberger.  
Contact: Andrew Avraam 07886.990610  
Email: info@thebonsaishowlive.co.uk  
Website: [www.thebonsaishowlive.co.uk](http://www.thebonsaishowlive.co.uk)

17Nov24 Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
[Southend Bonsai Society](#) Winter Show  
Ashingdon Memorial Hall, Ashingdon  
Road, Rochford, Essex. SS4 3HF.  
Adm: £3. Times: 1000-1600.hrs  
Ctc: Paul Schofield 07942.679688  
southendbonsaisociety@gmail.com

23Mar25 Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
[South East Bonsai Fair](#)  
Little Fant Farm, Farleigh Lane,  
Maidstone, Kent. ME16 9LY.  
Adm: Free. Times: 1000-1500.hrs  
Contact: Adam Hadley 07765.522117  
Email: hadoribonsai@gmail.com

21Sep25 Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
[South East Bonsai Fair](#)  
Little Fant Farm, Farleigh Lane,  
Maidstone, Kent. ME16 9LY.  
Adm: Free. Times: 1000-1500.hrs  
Contact: Adam Hadley 07765.522117  
Email: hadoribonsai@gmail.com

[Bonsai Focus Magazine 2024 Mar/Apr 187/210](#)

Contact: [www.bonsaifocus.com](http://www.bonsaifocus.com)  
Latest edition highlighting:  
Bruno Pionette Tocca from Japan talks about creating deadwood.  
Shay Cohen of Israel improves the nebari of a Hackberry.  
Kunio Kobayashi of Japan lectures on tokonoma displays.  
Susumu Shinkawa of Japan talks through the design of an Azalea.  
Dennis Fuchs of Germany works on a Scots pine from Spain.  
Brian Hollowell of US talks about his bonsai passion.  
Katsumi Komiya of Japan guides us through ways of improving our shohin.

David Cheshire Workshops  
Location: Warwickshire Area  
06Apr24 Sat  
Subject: Childrens Workshop  
20Apr24 Sat  
Subject: General Workshop  
21Apr24 Sun  
Subject: Beginners Workshop



18May24 Sat  
Subject: General Workshop  
26May24 Sun  
Subject: Beginners Workshop  
Cost: tba. Times:1030-1530.hrs  
Ctc: David Cheshire Tel: 07584.991975  
info@davidcheshirenurseries.co.uk  
[www.davidcheshirenurseries](http://www.davidcheshirenurseries)

### LV Bonsai

Lee's latest consignment of trees has arrived from Japan, he has 2 open days on Sat 06Apr24 0830-1700.hrs & Sun 07Apr24 1000-1600.hrs, some trees will be subject to a 3 month quarantine period but can be reserved. Further details contact Lee Verhorevoort leev@lvbonsai.co.uk

### Mendip Bonsai Studio Workshops

Location: Somerset Area.  
21Apr24 Sun  
Subject: Broom Styling & Air Layering  
27Apr24 Sat  
Subject: Preparing for Exhibition  
28Apr24 Sun  
Subject: Cascade & Semi-Cascade Styling  
25May24  
Subject: Beginners Workshop  
Cost: £50. Times: 1100-1700.hrs  
Ctc: JohnTrott. Tel: 07711.205806.  
Email: john@mendipbonsai.co.uk  
[www.mendipbonsai.co.uk](http://www.mendipbonsai.co.uk)

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## Obituaries



Jeremy Wheeler

On Thursday 22nd February 2024, we tragically lost a dear friend and Dragon Bonsai Team colleague.

Jerry was an incredible person, who shared everything he knew with us all, he never once had too little time to teach anyone who asked for advice or help.

His enthusiasm and skills were known nationally throughout the Bonsai community both in the United Kingdom and further afield in Europe where he commanded both the respect and friendship of so many.

He would always tell you where you needed to look – and what to do with any tree, especially if it was a Juniper or Yew – although there wasn't any tree that he couldn't offer his wisdom and knowledge on.

He was a brilliant teacher – and was never afraid to tell you where you were going wrong – and how to best progress your tree. He'd always ask the group to offer their views on his own trees that he'd brought in and through some lengthy discussions we were all learning. We were so fortunate to spend time with Jerry. He would often spend the entire Sunday at a club meeting – working on other member's trees – and anything he'd brought in himself to work on was carried back into his car at the end of the day.

Hearing him saying "That branch has to go . . . " and , " If it was my tree . . ." were legendary

in our club, and we often handed over the branch cutters if we just couldn't do it. He was a lovely, gentle, and beautiful soul that we will remember forever.

--- Simon Evans  
Dragon Bonsai Team

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Roy Booth

It is with great sadness that Manchester Bonsai Society has to report the passing of Roy Booth on January 2024.

Roy was a stalwart of MBS for many years, regularly winning the Ted Fuller Cup at the annual show and supporting our displays at RHS Tatton. He was a founder member of MBS and served as both secretary and chairman. Roy was always generous with his advice and help for less experienced members and forthright in supplying others with down to earth opinions when they were getting too la-de-da. In recognition, Roy was awarded honorary life membership.

In later years he was unable to attend meetings for health reasons and didn't want to bother anyone by asking for lifts to and from. However, during COVID he joined in our Zoom meetings, bringing his usual pithy humour to both the videos and discussion. He kept informed of our goings-on via the monthly Newsletters.

He will be greatly missed by the whole bonsai community.

--- Wayne Crumpton

Secretary of Manchester Bonsai Society

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## Monthly Tasks

Below is a list of bonsai tasks to be carried out during the month of April, 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 April

Spring has now sprung and hopefully all your bonsai trees have come through the winter. Here is a quick generic guide to bonsai in April but for individual species check out some of the other species-specific posts.

#### Watering:

In the UK it has been a fairly dry winter so continue to check your trees daily and water as required but start to increase your watering with the buds now pushing and leaves opening. 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 coming to an end of your repotting so keep an eye on the trees which you have repotted.

Review any trees that have yet to be repotted as it is a slow start to spring for some species so you could still repot in early April if it stays cool.

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, start feeding any trees that are now out in leaf that you did not repot while do not

feed those repotted in March yet, wait till the end of April. Start increasing the feeding of evergreen trees as they start to show more signs of stronger growth.

Tropical trees and Evergreens can continue to be fed with a low nitrogen feed to maintain health and vigour at the onset of spring. Feed flowering trees that have not been repotted yet like Forsythia, Chamomiles, Cherry, Akebia etc.

#### 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.

Remove unwanted branches and look for dead branches now that you can see the new buds swelling and clean out any dead branches before the leaves fully flush. Prune back any branches that are too long to a suitable live bud pointing in the right direction. Seal any large wounds with cut paste.

#### Trimming:

Now that the leaves are starting to appear trimming can be carried out to remove the terminal shoot in some species to aid with creating a more compact form. Continue to prune tropical trees to maintain their shape and trim the new shoots.

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.

It is still worth checking the roots of trees that you are not fully repotting but this is more difficult if you have wired the trees into your pots as advised. If you are not seeing good bud swelling, then potentially there is an issue with the roots so remove from the pot and check for white root tips and healthy roots.

#### Insects and pests:

Check for the newly emerging bugs and pests like green and black fly, red spider mite, scale insect, mealy bug as well as vine weevil beetles. With the onset of warmer weather insect pests can start to emerge and are more likely to appear on the new shoots and leaves.

#### 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.

#### Tools:

The following is something everyone should do each time they use their tools but often it is not easy to do depending on how often you use them. However, it is good practice to clean and sharpen your tools after use and this is also 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.

If you have flowering trees, think about setting up a viewing of display area so you can admire these while they are in bloom and if you do bring them indoor ensure they remain in a cool room and only for a couple of days.

**Propagation:**

Take cuttings of late starters. Pot on last year's seedlings.

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## **Interview**

**UKBA Interview With  
Tom Buchanan**



**How did you get started?**

I'd been interested in Bonsai for a while but never had a garden (or the patience) to do anything about it. Around 2000 I moved into a flat that had some outside space, and picked up a few starter trees - the usual suspects - and started pulling seedlings out of flowerbeds and so on. Most of them died fairly rapidly, but I do still have some of my 'first trees'.

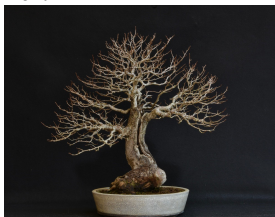
**How did you learn about bonsai?**

Mainly from the Internet and books. This was back before Facebook and Instagram, but there were a few specialised bonsai forums such as the "Internet Bonsai Club" and "Gardenweb" where I picked up a lot of information. More recently I'm very fortunate in that my club, Sutton Bonsai Society, has a number of members who practice bonsai at a very high level. I've learned a lot from them.



**Who was your teacher?**

I've never really had a teacher - in fact I've never even done a workshop! I've tried to see as many talks and demonstrations as I can though, and followed the work of various people online. Probably the people who've influenced me most in terms of approach are Will Baddeley and Peter Warren.



**Do you belong to a bonsai club?**

I've been a member of Sutton Bonsai Society since 2015. Previously to that I had worked on bonsai alone, and not had a 'club' other than

people I talked to online and one or two friends who also grew bonsai. Nowadays I'd always recommend people to join a club - for me it opened up a lot of opportunities in terms of showing trees, collecting opportunities, and the chance to talk to other bonsai hobbyists.

**Do you consider bonsai an art form?**

I think bonsai has both art and horticultural craft elements. Once you start thinking about design, presentation, and display, then I think you're definitely in the realm of an artistic pursuit. I'm really interested in formal bonsai display.



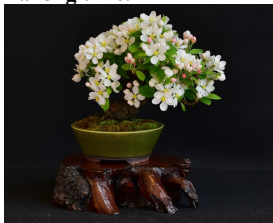
**Do you have a favourite tree species or size of tree?**

I find that most of the trees I like are chuhin sized. I have all sizes in my collection (other than super-large ones - nothing bigger than a one-person lift). I'm trying to build my shohin collection, but I usually find the trees that I really like are just a bit bigger than that. In terms of species, I am mainly drawn to UK natives, particularly deciduous species such as elms and hawthorns. Having said that, I do have quite a few Scots pines that I've collected over the years.



**Do you have a favourite bonsai?**

Most of my favourite trees are owned by other people! I don't think I have a favourite tree in my collection, but there are a few that I particularly like - mostly trees I have been working on for a long time and have a bit of history with. All of my trees are self-developed, either from semi-styled stock, trees that I have collected, or garden centre material. That means most of the better ones have been in my garden for a long time.



**Do you have a favourite potter?**

I don't have a favourite potter. There are a fair number of UK potters that I like and I wouldn't want to single any out. Potters whom I've commissioned work from include Dan Barton, Stone Monkey, Daniel Butler, Tony Oswin, Gordon Duffett, Erin, Tony Remington, Christine Beresford, Walsall Ceramics, Springwood Ceramics - so that may say something about my tastes. I also like good quality Japanese pots.



**What mistakes have you made?**

Too many to list, most of them resulting from either poor choices or overworking trees. Last summer I almost lost a very promising shohin maple in the late heatwave - I use a watering system in the summer, but this one wasn't getting any water because I'd put it back in the wrong place on the bench. It took me two days to notice the leaves had gone crispy. Fortunately it has surprised, but it was a bit tense waiting to see if it would bud out again.



**Have you experienced bonsai abroad?**

I haven't been to Japan or any of the big European shows so far. I do try to visit public collections when I can - for instance in the Barcelona botanic garden, and more recently the Lake Merritt bonsai collection in San Francisco. Both worth a visit with some nice trees.

**Can you recommend one or two books?**

My favourite book is Four Seasons of Bonsai by Kyuzo Murata which is great for inspiration, rather than 'how to' instructions.

**What is your best achievement?**

Very recently, I've had the first ever flowers on a small Prunus spinosa that I've been developing for over 20 years. That felt like a real achievement



**Over the years what has been your favourite bonsai show?**

In terms of regular shows, rather than one-offs, I've always liked Expo Bonsai UK ( <https://expobonsaiuk.weebly.com> ) which everyone will be familiar with. My favourite though is probably the two-day show that Sutton Bonsai Society holds every year in the superb setting of RHS Wisley. That gives a fairly relaxed opportunity for bonsai display, with lots of visitors from the general public, and typically includes a good number of high-quality trees.





**Do you have any other interests or hobbies?**  
 Related to bonsai, I am keen on growing accent plants and kusamono. I also make carved wooden stands - although nowadays that's only when I need one for a specific display, as they are so much work. Outside of bonsai I'm keen on watersports, especially paddleboarding.

--- Tom Buchanan  
 Sutton Bonsai Society

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**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 four decorative badges from around the world.

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**Badges**



**UKBA Expo Bonsai UK 2024**  
 Country: United Kingdom

Image supplied by Mingchen Moreland

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**Ayrshire Bonsai Club 1983**  
 Country: United Kingdom

Image supplied by Jeff Banning

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**15th Asia-Pacific Bonsai Exhibition**  
 Country: Vietnam

Image supplied by Mingchen Moreland

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**WBFF**

**World Bonsai Friends Federation**  
 Country: World

Image supplied by Kim Sae Won  
 Korea

**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?

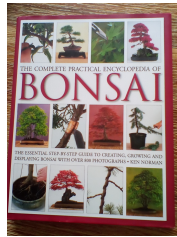


**Ann Swinton**  
**Bonsai**

Published: 1985  
 ISBN: 0863073875

Image supplied by Liz Pantou

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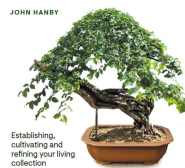


**Ken Norman**  
**Encyclopedia Of Bonsai**  
 Published: 2015

ISBN: 9780754821809

Image supplied by Liz Pantou

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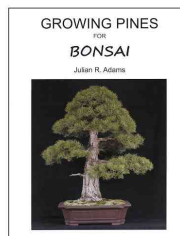


**John Hanby**  
**Practical Art Of Bonsai**  
 Published: 2022

ISBN: 9781785009853

Image supplied by Mark Moreland

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**Julian R Adams**  
**Growing Pines For Bonsai**  
 Published: 2021  
 ISBN: Unknown

Image supplied by Alex Pilkington

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**UKBA Quiz Apr24**

WORD SO DOKU

Using WET BONSAI

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**Answers to Mar24 Quiz**

**Hazel O'Connors** a British singer-songwriter and actress. She became famous in the early 1980s with hit singles "Eighth Day", "D-Days" and "Will You?" She also starred in Film Breaking Glass.

**Rose Tyler.** Fictional companion to the 9th Dr Who.

**Stan Laurel** an English comic actor, writer, and film director who was one half of a duo with Oliver Hardy.

**Theresa May,** a British politician who served as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Leader of the Conservative Party from 2016 to 2019.

**Olive Oyl,** Popeye's girlfriend.

**Jasmine** fictional character in Walt Disney Pictures' animated film Aladdin. Voiced by Linda Larkin.

**Fern Britton** an English television presenter and author. She co-presented Breakfast Time and Ready Steady Cook

**Dawn French** a British actress, comedian, and writer. Her best friend and comedy partner is Jennifer Saunders. (Redwood).

**Holly Hunter** is an American actress who played in The Piano, The Firm, and Thirteen. She was the voice of Elastigirl in the Incredibles

**Rowan Williams,** Welsh Anglican bishop, theologian and poet. He was the 104th Archbishop of Canterbury,

**Willow Rosenberg** is a fictional character created for the fantasy television series Buffy the Vampire Slayer

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