

# UK Bonsai Association

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



## Bulletin Apr21

Welcome to this month's bulletin, one of the busiest months of the year. The unique pleasure and satisfaction gained by the bonsai enthusiast's close relationship with their trees, watching and marvelling as trees break from their winter dormancy. The clocks went forward on the 28Mar21 giving us in the UK another hour of daylight to work on our trees and absorb the changes as deciduous trees move from one season to another. For the ever watchful and caring enthusiast close scrutiny of their trees will signal the prime time to re-pot and examine the health of a tree's root, correcting where necessary for the growing season ahead. All of the overwintering protection and last year's feeding regime now hopefully paying off, like an uncoiled spring deciduous trees will be bursting into life, enjoy.

Hopefully all of us of a certain age will have received our first vaccination by now, perhaps some of us even our second jab, so many will be feeling a little more positive. Unfortunately, with regard to bonsai events, the roadmap from full lockdown back to a resemblance of normality may not be so straight forward. As we made everybody aware last month the UK Events Diary will have all future events 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  
So in keeping with this, the April events on this bulletin can be disseminated as two events cancelled and one event on the 25Apr21 possible happening, as it's marked provisional. Therefore, please do not travel to this event on the 25Apr21 without getting confirmation that it's happening from the respective event organiser/contact.

We would suggest that whatever bonsai event you travel to in the future it would be best to check the UKBA website events diary before making any journeys.

Any change of information we receive from event organisers you can be assured the website is up dated within minutes.

We would like to remind everybody that the UK Bonsai Association now has a steering group that meets once a month to discuss all matters bonsai. If you have any comments or ideas worthy of consideration by the steering group, please don't hesitate to email us. The next steering group meeting on Zoom is scheduled for Sunday 25Apr21 at 1900.hrs.

We are pleased to confirm the on-line Zoom talks have been going from strength to strength

with participation steadily growing. If you are not aware, the meetings take the format of a talk or demonstration with questions asked during or after the talk lasting approximately 2.hours. During the pandemic lockdown this has been a lifesaver for some people, so please do not miss out, it's all free and joining in is very simple.

## Virtual UK Bonsai Show Spring/Summer 1Mar21-31Aug21

We are now one month into the new show, so please do not be shy. When you take pictures of your trees and one of them is looking good please share and enter the image into the show. Your support is appreciated; the show guidelines are listed on the website. Thank you

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### Chuhin Trees



BT002

- Species: Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa)
- Origin: UK, Yamadori
- Category: Chuhin
- Style: Mother and Son
- Size: Height of the tree 36cm / 14"
- Potter: Walsall
- Stand: None
- History: Dug up as a stump from a raised bank at a lake in 2014. It had been continually cut back a part of fishery maintenance. It popped buds everywhere so regrew selected branches. Flowered 2018 and gets more flowers every year. After a few discussions I have decided it may be a naturally occurring hybrid as the flowers are slightly larger than normal Blackthorn and the growth does not seem typical of Blackthorn. It does have the nice rough black bark on the lower portion though.
- Date of photo taken: 09 Mar 21

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BT003

- Species: Chinese Elm (Ulmus parvifolia)
- Origin: bought in the UK
- Category: Chuhin Plus
- Style: Informal upright
- Size: Height of the tree 45 cm / 17.7"
- Potter: John Pitt
- Stand: Home made
- History: In about 1998 one of the Club members had to retire and go into a nursing home due to illness. His collection was sold off and I purchased this tree, it was nothing more than a trunk and a few branches. A small bit of wire and a lot of clip and grow until
- Date of photo taken: 15 Mar 21

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BT004

- Species: Larch (Larix Leptolepis)
- Origin: bought in the UK
- Category: Chuhin Plus
- Style: Informal upright
- Size: Height of the tree 86.4 cm / 34"
- Potter: Chinese pot from Dai ichi
- Stand: Home made
- History: Owner bought the tree as a standard stock tree of about 12ft tall 24 years ago from a tree nursery just outside Cardiff. The display stand is an old scaffold plank that has been burned with a gas torch.
- Date of photo taken: Mar 21

### Shohin Trees

No entries in Apr 21

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### Mame Trees

No entries in Apr 21

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### Chuhin Pots



BP019

- Category: Chuhin plus pot
- Style: rectangle
- Height of Tree: 41W x 28.5 D x 8 H cm
- Potter: Gordon Duffett in 1989
- Date of photo taken: 01 Mar 21



### BP022

- Category: Chuhin pot
- Size: 24 x 15 x 5cm
- Potter: Jon Burgess, Kilnery Bonsai
- History: Pot made in August 20Glaze made from a unique combination of several layers that have interacted in a very pleasing way
- Date of photo taken: 08 Feb 21

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### Shohin Pots



### BP020

- Category: Shohin pot
- Style: Round
- Size: Dia. across rim 19.3cm
- History: Drum pot which is wheel-thrown with individually applied rivets and hand-sculpted cloud feet. Features a Cinnabar red, shiny glaze with crystals and toasted, dark edges to the wide rim, feet and raised details. Made in Jan 2021
- Date of photo taken: Jan 2021

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### BP021

- Category: Shohin pot
- Style: round
- Size: Dia. across rim 17.6cm
- History: Wheel-thrown with sculpted feet. Made in Jan 2021. Chartreuse green Matt glaze with soft darker toned modulations on the rim, edges and 3D details.
- Date of photo taken: Jan 2021

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### Mame Pots

No entries in Apr 21

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## Naked Bonsai Day

1May21

For a bit of fun, in conjunction with World Naked Gardening Day held every year on the first Saturday of May, the UK Bonsai Association runs our own competition called Naked Bonsai Day. Photos are submitted through out the year and through the month of April members vote for their favourite images. The competition for this year is now closed. Sadly we only have 3 photo submissions but a big thank you to the three fantastic participants. The month of April is your chance to help us by voting and putting the images into some sort of order 1st Place, 2nd Place and 3rd Place. Please visit the website to view the images and email: ukbonsaiassociation@gmail.com example as below:

Naked Bonsai Day

1st Place = X. 2nd Place = Y. 3rd Place = Z.

Please email your votes by 24Apr21, results will be in next months May21 bulletin.

## Bonsai Events

11Apr21 (Cancelled)  
Expo Bonsai UK  
Harlinton Sports Centre, Pinkwell Lane,  
Harlinton, Middlesex. UB3 1PB.  
Adm: £5. Times: 1000-1600.hrs.  
Contact: Steve Hale 07850.771201  
Email: ebuk18@gmail.com  
www.ExpobonsaiUK.weebly.com

18Apr21 (Cancelled)  
Bonsai Traders Association  
Ryton On Dunsmore, Coventry. CV8 3FL.  
Adm: Free. Times:1000-1600.hrs  
Contact: Corin Tomlinson 0115.9205757  
Email: office@bonsai.co.uk  
www.bonsaitraders.co.uk

25Apr21 (Provisional)  
Bonsai Car Boot Sale  
Birmingham Botanical Gardens,  
Westbourne Road, Edgbaston,  
Birmingham. B15 3TR.  
Adm: Free. Times:0800-1200.hrs  
Contact: Kim Turton  
(Text Only) 07760.186522.  
Email: turtonkim@hotmail.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.

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## Bonsai Event Reports

Unfortunately no events in Mar21 to report on.

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## 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. Please reserve your space as early as possible. Thank you.

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

5May21 Wed (1900.hrs)  
Zoom Meeting with  
Morten Albek Talking about  
Mame & Shohin Trees  
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.

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## Notice Board

### UKBA Membership

Thanking you for your support, today 1Apr21 UKBA membership stands at a total of 1586, expanding daily.

### 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  
 1Apr21 Thu (1900.hrs)  
 Peter Thorne / Scotland  
 15Apr21 Thu (1900.hrs)  
 Mark Cashman and Piotr Wiecek / Ireland  
 22Apr21 Thu (1900.hrs)  
 Alexandre Escudero / France

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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 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 vigor 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

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.

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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## 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 the United States, see website for more badges.

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### United States Badges



Great New Orleans Bonsai Society  
 Image supplied by Dan Barton

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Bonsai Societies Of Florida  
 Image supplied by Dan Barton

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American Bonsai Societies (ABS)  
 Image supplied by Jim Gould

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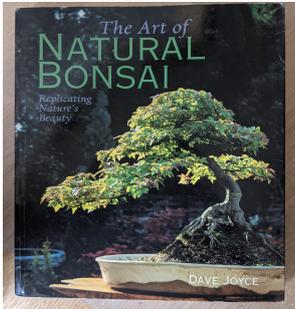


Golden State Bonsai Convention North  
 Image supplied by Jim Gould

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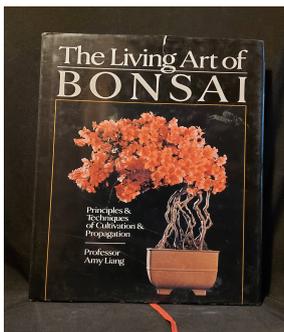
## Books

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?



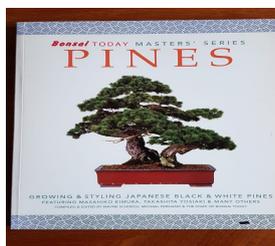
**Dave Joyce**  
**Art Of Natural Bonsai**  
**Published:2003**  
**ISBN: 9781402735240**  
**Image supplied by**  
**Philip Ridout**

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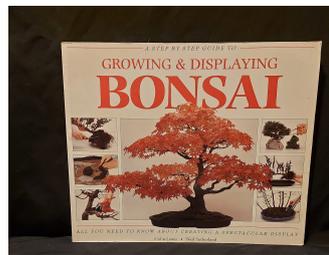
**Amy Liang**  
**Living Art Of Bonsai**  
**Published: 1991**  
**ISBN: 1402719019**  
**Image supplied by**  
**Mingchen Moreland**

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**Various Authors**  
**Bonsai Today Master Series**  
**Pines**  
**Published: 2005**  
**ISBN:0979755009**  
**Image supplied by**  
**Terry Hewitt**

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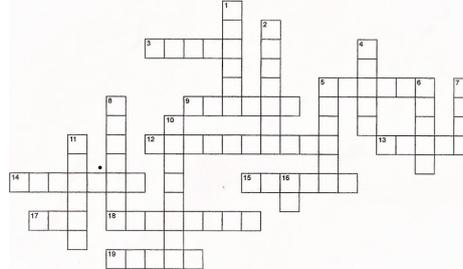


**Colin Lewis & Neil Sutherland**  
**Growing & Displaying Bonsai**  
**Published: 1993**  
**ISBN: 1858330459**  
**Image supplied by**  
**David Swinhard**

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## CROSSWORD QUIZ

This month's quiz is in the form of a crossword. The clues are the common and Latin names of trees. All you have to do is fill in the crossword puzzle with the country of origin (or where they are now commonly found). Most of it is logical but not all is what it seems e.g. Scots pine = UK. Good luck!



### CLUES

#### ACROSS

- 3 Amur Maple *Acer ginnala* (5)
- 5 Cyprus Cedar *Cedrus Lebani. Brevifolia* (6)
- 9 Almond *Prunus dulcis* (6)
- 12 Korean Hornbeam *Carpinus turkzaninowii* (5,5)
- 13 Antarctic Beech *Nothofagus antarctica* (5)
- 14 Hop Hornbeam *Ostrya carpinifolia* (7)
- 15 Deodar *Cedrus deodara* (6)
- 17 Swamp Cyprus *Taxodiun distichum* (3) abr.
- 18 Chinese Juniper *Juniperus chinensis* (8)
- 19 Italian Alder *Alnus glutinosa* (5)

#### DOWN

- 1 Purple Crab *Malus x purpurea* (6)
- 2 Atlas Cedar *Cedrus atlantica* (7)
- 4 Keaki *Zelkova serrata* (5)
- 5 Red Pine *Pinus resinosa* (6)
- 6 Common Box *Buxus sempervirens* (5)
- 7 Strawberry Tree *Arbutus unedo* (4)
- 8 Common Beech *Fagus sylvatica* (7)
- 10 Cork Bark Oak *Quercus suber* (8)
- 11 Common Juniper *Juniperus communis* (6)
- 16 Scots Pine *Pinus sylvestris* (2) abr.

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## Answers to Mar21 Quiz

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

--- Geoff Conybeare

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