

# UK Bonsai Association

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



## Bulletin Mar24

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Welcome to this month's Bulletin.

I will remember this February with mixed emotions. Firstly, attending some amazing events, something going on every weekend, a joy to be at and mix with fellow enthusiasts. The UK events ranged in size from local events through to larger regional events, all were well attended and having personally attended all of them looking forward to a quiet weekend in the back garden. The Trophy Show, Europe's main annual show held in Belgium, was well supported by enthusiasts from the UK and if you have never been to this show make sure you attend next year as this is going to be a special extended three day show to celebrate its 25th anniversary. I started this column saying it was a month I will remember with mixed emotions. Unfortunately, many of us in the bonsai hobby are of a certain age and this month has seen several bonsai personalities whom we have grown to know very well departing this world, but they leave very fond memories behind. Another big shock to the system has been to hear that the very successful Doncaster Bonsai Experience will no longer be taking place. This news was indeed unwelcome, but understandable, the event which was being held twice a year at Markham Grange on the outskirts of Doncaster has been taking place for over 15 years gradually building up in size. Unfortunately this go-to event in the north of England has become so popular it has finally outgrown the nursery where it was being held and become a victim of its own success. Who knows what the future holds but for now the bonsai community owe the dedicated Doncaster team who built this incredible event up a very, very big thank you for all their past efforts.

When we first published the bulletin way back in Jan18 we had in mind to list workshops, but because of the complexities involved decided not to continue. However, at recent events where we had the UKBA stand and interacted with members and general public, it

was suggested that such a listing of workshops would be beneficial for members. We are therefore going to give it another go, with eventually a full listing on the website and current two months on the bulletin, at the moment not in date order but in teacher name order. So if your running a workshop and would like enquiries from the membership, please send us the information, thank you.

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 05Mar24 at 1900.hrs.

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## Bonsai Events

Mar23 & Apr23

09&10Mar24 Sat & Sun (Confirmed)

Dragon Bonsai Spring Show  
Open workshop & Clinic  
Aberglasney Gardens, Llangathen,  
Carmarthenshire, Wales. SA32 8QH.  
Adm: £9.50 Children Free  
Times: Sat 1000-1600.hrs Sun 1000-1500.hrs  
Contact: Chris Thomas 07798.798194  
Email: chris.thomas1@sky.com

17Mar24 Sun (Confirmed)  
Southend Bonsai Society Spring Show  
Ashingdon Memorial Hall,  
Ashingdon Road, Rochford, Essex. SS4 3HF.  
Adm: £3. Times: 1000-1600.hrs  
Ctc: Paul Schofield 07942.679688  
Email: southendbonsaisociety@gmail.com

24Mar24 Sun (Confirmed)  
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

24Mar24 Sun (Confirmed)  
Friends Of The National Bonsai Collection  
Bonsai Boot Sale  
Birmingham Botanical Gardens,  
Westbourne Road, Edgbaston,  
Birmingham. B15 3TR.  
Adm: FREE. 0800-1200.hrs.  
Contact: Kim Turton 07760.186522 (Text Only)  
Email: turtonkim@hotmail.com

14Apr24 Sun (Confirmed)  
5th Expo Bonsai UK  
Sponsored by UKBA  
K2 Leisure Centre, Pease Pottage ill, Crawley,  
West Sussex. RH11 9BQ  
Adm: £8. Accompanied under 16.yrs Free.  
Times: 1000-1600.hrs.  
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
European Bonsai Pot Collective	

EVERY SPROUT	G G Evergreen Bonsai
Glynderi Bonsai	GoBonsai Air
Gordon Duffett	Greenwood Bonsai
Hadori Bonsai	Hinata Ceramics
Herons Bonsai Nursery	
House Of British Bonsai & Yamadori	
IKIGAI MK	Japan Journeys
LV Bonsai	Majestic Bonsai
Oakfield Bonsai Supplies	
Oceana	RH Bonsai
Saruyama	Shohin-Bonsai
Spectre Ceramics	Springwood Ceramics
Stone Monkey Ceramics	
Suteki	Tone Ceramics
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. 0900-1700. & 1030-1630.hrs.  
Ctc: Diane Kennedy 07799.567692  
Email: dianestardis@icloud.com  
[www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk](http://www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk)

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  
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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 pleased 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.

04Feb24

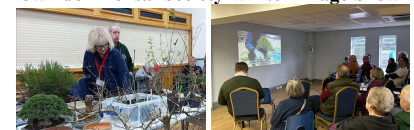
Twickenham Bonsai Club Show



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11Feb24

Swindon Bonsai Society Winter Image Show



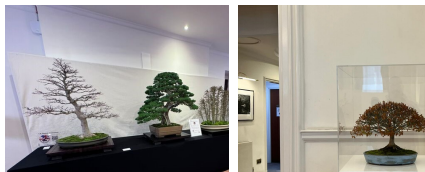
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25Feb24  
Doncaster Bonsai Experience  
& The Spring Bonsai Exhibition



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27&28Feb24  
Japan Embassy UKBA Display



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## Trips Abroad

17&18Feb24  
Trophy Show - Belgium



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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

05Mar24 Tue (1830-2115.hrs)

Talk by Corin Tomlinson  
Subject: Refinement & Showing Trees.  
Leicestershire Bonsai Club  
Whitwick Park Hall, North Street, Whitwick,  
Coalville, Leicestershire. LE67 5HA.  
Ctc: Paul 'Olly' Olson 07563.283199  
Email: paul.olson174@icloud.com

06Mar24 Wed (1930-2200.hrs)

Talk by Steve Brown  
Subject: Soils, Compost & Other Matters  
Bedfordshire Bonsai Society  
Toddington Village Hall, Leighton Road,  
Toddington, Bedfordshire. LU5 6AN.  
Ctc: Richard Gaiger 07745.507318  
Email: r.gaiger@ntlworld.com

06Mar24 Wed (1945-2200.hrs)

Talk by Mark Moreland  
Subject: Propagating & Miniature Bonsai.  
Surrey Heath Bonsai Society  
Chobham Village Hall,  
Station Road, Chobham, Surrey. GU24 8AQ  
Ctc: Chris Rhodes 01276.20893  
Email: rhodes163@googlemail.com

07Mar24 Thu (1930-2130.hrs)

Talk by Rammon Hamers  
Subject: Tanuki Demonstration  
Ashfield Bonsai Club  
Evergreen Club,  
Cornhill, Allestree, Derbyshire. DE22 2FT  
Ctc: Mike Rose 07968.951515  
Email: rosemike1960@gmail.com

09Mar24 Sat (1400-1600.hrs)

Talk by Paul Eslinger  
Subject: tbc.  
North London Bonsai Society  
Capel Manor College, Bullsmoor Lane,  
Enfield, Middlesex. EN1 4RQ.

Ctc: Ray Powell 01708.340806  
Email: ray-powell@hotmail.co.uk

10Mar24 Sun (0945-1200.hrs)

Talk by Caroline (Caz) Scott  
Humberside Bonsai Society  
58 Finkle Street, Kingston Upon Hull,  
Hull, Lincolnshire. HU16 4AZ.  
Ctc: Tony Roberts 01482.565469  
Email: 2tone54tr@gmail.com

11Mar24 Mon (1915.hrs)

Talk by Steve Brown  
Subject: tbc.  
Milton Keynes Bonsai Society  
Reform Synagogue Hall, 1 Hainault Drive, Giffard  
Park, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. MK14 5PQ  
Ctc: Simon Roberts 07592.527736  
E: simon.roberts26@btopenworld.com  
www.mkbonsaisociety.co.uk

13Mar24 Wed (1930.hrs)

Talk by Kevin Wilson  
Subject: Styling On Pre-Wired Trees  
Norfolk Bonsai Association  
Postwick Village Hall, Postwick,  
Ferry Lane, Norwich, Norfolk. NR13 8HL.  
Ctc: Mick Hillocks 01362.695922  
Email: mickhillocks@aol.com

14Mar24 Thu (1930-2200.hrs)

Talk by Amelia Williams  
Subject: Penjing  
Chichester & District Bonsai Society  
The Basil Shippam Centre, Tozer Way, St Pancras,  
Chichester, West Sussex. PO19 7LG.  
Ctc: Liz Panton 01798.865551  
Email: lizpanton5@gmail.com

19Mar24 Tue (1930-2200.hrs)

Talk by: Corin Tomlinson  
Subject: Deciduous Bonsai  
National Bonsai Society  
Banks Leisure Centre, Greaves Hall Avenue,  
Banks, Southport, Merseyside. PR9 8BL.  
Ctc: Stephen Holland 0151.9338757  
Email: sholland19547@gmail.com

21Mar24 Thu (1930.hrs)

Talk by: David Cheshire  
Subject: tbc.  
Redditch Bonsai Society  
Webheath Village Hall, Heathfield Road,  
Redditch, Midlands. B97 5SQ,  
Ctc: Richard Gilkes 07803.593024  
Email: ragilkes@blueyonder.co.uk

27Mar24 Wed (1930-2200.hrs)

Talk by Corin Tomlinson  
Subject: tbc.  
Derby & District Bonsai Association  
Grange Hall Community Centre, Park Lane,  
Littleover, Derbyshire. DE23 6FX.  
Ctc: Tony Lloyd 01332.679584  
Email: tlloyd98@gmail.com

28Mar24 Thu (2000-2200.hrs)

Talk by: Tony Tickle  
Subject: tbc.  
South Yorkshire Bonsai Society  
Deepcar Village Hall, Helliwell Lane, Deepcar,  
Sheffield, South Yorkshire. S36 2NH.  
Ctc: Graham Morris 0114.2888027  
Email: info@southyorksbonsai.org.uk

28Mar24 Thu (1930-2200.hrs)

Talk by: David Cheshire  
Subject: Rock Planting  
Ambion Bonsai Society  
Hatters Space, Upper Abbey street,  
Nuneaton, Warwickshire. CV11 5DN.

Ctc: Peter Fielding 07976.271159  
Email: peterfielding1@hotmail.co.uk

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

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  
E: 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  
E:mbsmembershipsecretary@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  
E: cooperstudio@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  
E: 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  
E: 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

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## Workshops

David Cheshire Nurseries Ltd  
Russell's Garden Centre,  
Mill Hill, Baginton,  
Coventry, Warwickshire. CV8 3AG.  
17Mar24 Sun: Mame Workshop  
Cost: £95. (Includes tree)  
Times:1030-1530.hrs  
Ctc: David Cheshire Tel: 07584.991975  
E: info@davidcheshirenurseries.co.uk  
www.davidcheshirenurseries

Mendip Bonsai Studio  
Location Somerset Area.  
02Mar24 Sat: Pine Styling & Development  
03Mar24 Sun: Root Over Rock & Deadwood  
17Mar24 Sun: Beginners / Bonsai Refining  
23Mar24 Sat: Potting Evergreen/Deciduous  
24Mar24 Sun: Junipers  
21Apr24 Sun: Broom Styling & Air-Layering  
27Apr24 Sat: Preparing Bonsai For Exhibition  
28Apr24 Sun: Cascade & Semi-Cascade Styling  
Cost: £50. Times: 1100-1700.hrs  
Ctc: JohnTrott. Tel: 07711.205806.  
Email: john@mendipbonsai.co.uk  
www.mendipbonsai.co.uk

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## Notice Board

24Mar24 Sun  
South East Bonsai Fair  
Little Fant Farm, Farleigh Lane,  
Maidstone, Kent. ME16 9LY.  
If you want a trader's pitch at this event,  
please immediately contact Adam Hadley  
07765.522117  
Email:hadoribonsai@gmail.com

14Apr24 Sun  
5th Expo Bonsai UK  
Sponsored by UKBA  
K2 Leisure Centre,  
Pease Pottage Hill, Crawley, West Sussex. RH11 9BQ  
We would like to publicise the 2024 pin badge  
which features Lee Fincham's tree that won the  
Best Of Show award of last years show. this will  
be available on the day to purchase.



20&21Apr24 Sat & Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
Accrington & District Bonsai Society Display  
At Daisy Nook Garden Centre,  
Stannybrook Road, Daisy Nook,  
Failsworth, Manchester. M359WJ.  
Adm: Free. 0900-1700.hrs & 1030-1630.hrs.  
Ctc: Diane Kennedy 07799.567692  
Email: dianestardis@icloud.com  
www.accringtonbonsai.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.

04&05May24 Sat & Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
Accrington & District Bonsai Society Display  
At Barton Grange Garden Centre, Garstang  
Road, Brock, Preston. PR3 0BT.  
Adm: Free. Times: 0900-1730. & 1000-1630.hrs.  
Ctc: Diane Kennedy 07799.567692  
Email: dianestardis@icloud.com  
www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk

27May24 Mon  
New to the events diary this month  
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

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.

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

13-15Sep24 Fri-Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
Yorkshire Bonsai Society Display & Show  
At Harrogate Autumn Flower Show,  
Newby Hall, Ripon, North Yorkshire. HG4 5AE.  
Adm: tba. (Exhibitors Free)  
Times: 1000-1700.hrs  
Contact: Craig Brown 07763.771701  
Email: jeraig008@sky.com  
Supporting Trader: Driftwood Bonsai

29Sep24 Sun (Cancelled)  
Doncaster Bonsai Experience  
& The National Shohin Exhibition  
Due to unforeseen circumstances this event  
and all future events at Markham Grange  
Nursery sadly have been cancelled.

05&06Oct24 Sat & Sun  
The Bonsai Show Live 2024  
Telford International Centre, International  
Way, Telford, Shropshire. TF3 4JH.  
A third demonstrator has now been booked for  
this event Rob Atkinson, joining Caz Scott and  
Mauro Stemberger.  
Contact: Andrew Avraam 07886.990610  
Email: info@thebonsaishowlive.co.uk  
Website: www.thebonsaishowlive.co.uk

12Jan25 Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
Ayrshire Bonsai Club Winter Image Show  
Alloway Village Hall, 36a Alloway,  
Ayrshire. KA7 4PY.  
Adm: Free. Times:1330-1700.hrs  
Contact: Jeff Banning 07799.477895  
Email: jeffbanning@btinternet.com

18Jan25 Sat  
New to the events diary this month  
Middlesex Bonsai Society Winter Show  
South Harrow Methodist Church,  
Walton Avenue, South Harrow,  
Middlesex. HA2 8QU.  
Adm: Free. Times:1000-1300.hrs.  
Ctc: Mark Moreland 07850.771201  
Email: markmoreland@live.co.uk

16Feb25 Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
Swindon Bonsai Society  
Winter Image Show  
Grange Leisure Centre, Grange Drive,  
Stratton St Margaret, Swindon,  
Wiltshire. SN3 4JY.  
Adm: £7. Times: 1000-1600.hrs.  
Contact: Paul Bowerbank 07982.401103  
Email: paul1561@virginmedia.com  
www.swindon-bonsai.co.uk

21-23Feb25 Fri-Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
Trophy Show  
Limburghal cv, jaarbeurslaan 6,  
B-3600 Genk, Belgium  
www.bonsaiassociation.be

11May25 Sun  
New to the events diary this month  
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

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### Tribute to Bob Bailey



It is sad to report the passing of Bob  
Bailey on Tuesday the 13th Feb 2024  
following a long illness.



Bob had been an active member of the  
Swindon club for well over 20 years, he was  
also well known at most of the bonsai shows  
in the UK and some in Europe. His real  
passion was small trees and he used his  
bonsai skills to achieve this. Displaying  
trees, sharing the artist's message and  
discussing the effectiveness were the  
pinnacles of this journey for him.



He was always happy to pass on his knowledge to others, helping with the running of the club and assisting with our yearly 'Winter Image' shows. He had acted as a judge at many shows, as well as an exhibitor.



He was a lover of a good breakfast before a show or when on a bonsai nursery trip. Bob and his wife Sandra have grown up children and a number of grandchildren, our thoughts are with them.

Paul Chairman  
Swindon & district Bonsai Society

### UKBA Membership

Thanking you for your support, today 1Mar23 UKBA membership stands at a total of 2966 expanding daily.

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## 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 which are coming into bloom. Water in the mornings ideally to avoid the colder temperatures at night. Spray any re-potted 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.

#### 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 them. 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.

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## Interview

UKBA Interview  
With Haidi Jenkin  
Twickenham Bonsai Club



### How did you get started?

I've always been a fan of the Japanese aesthetic and I had admired bonsai from afar for many years, but with zero knowledge of plants it was always something that other people did. Then two things happened – first, I married an avid gardener who demystified plants for me and made me realise I could actually own a plant without killing it. Second, about 6 years ago my then 8-year-old son expressed an interest in bonsai as a summer holiday project. So we bought a few starter trees, pots, tools and some books and did it together - inevitably he lost interest but I became completely hooked.

### How did you learn about Bonsai?

Initially Harry Harrington's website, and then his books, which I devoured. I like the level of detail that he provides as well as images, which help you understand how to do things in practice. I also watched the 'Aussie Bonsai Bloke' videos on YouTube (I'm Australian so his bonsai setup working in his shed in a pair of shorts and flip-flops, with a beer in hand, appeals to me), and some Nigel Saunders videos as well. The Evergreen Gardenworks website has some great articles by Brent Walston. And then I joined Twickenham Bonsai Club a couple of years ago, where I have learned a lot from other members as well as visiting speakers like Peter Warren, Corin Tomlinson and Mark Moreland.



### What is the most important thing you have learned?

Right at the start of my bonsai journey I realised that my plant biology knowledge was actually pathetic. I found that this was getting in the way of understanding why trees behave the way they do. So I decided to do something about it. Initially I studied the GCSE biology syllabus with the goal of sitting the GCSE, but there was way too much animal content and not enough plants! So I bought lots of university textbooks on plant biology, books about cells, plants, life and trees, and started reading these cover to cover, with bonsai in mind.

Eventually I realised I would never remember all this information without



some way of organising it and writing it down, and it occurred to me that maybe there were other bonsai people out there who might be interested. So I decided to create a website dedicated to the science that underpins bonsai – which mainly focuses on plant biology and the particular biology that relates to trees. I worked out all the different topics that I would need to write about, spent 7 months researching and writing all the articles, and the website <https://bonsai-science.com> launched in January 2023. Since then I've had over 8,000 visitors and according to my website statistics the most popular article is "Bonsai Tool Materials – carbon or stainless steel?" followed by "Conifer scale leaves". However my favourite article to write was "Mysterious mixaploids – Satsuki azaleas and their mixed-up flowers" as this was all about genetics which I find utterly fascinating. So a very long-winded answer to this question is – all of the science that I learned in creating the website. As soon as you understand how plants work it makes it a lot easier to approach bonsai tree creation and care. It also helps you cast a critical eye over some of the claims that are out there.

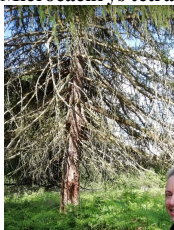


**Do you belong to a Bonsai club?**

Yes I belong to the fabulous Twickenham Bonsai Club, which was founded during lockdown. I joined in 2022 and it has been the best thing I ever did, not just to improve my bonsai practice but also to meet other people with a similar weird obsession to me! Having a WhatsApp group with almost daily tree images being posted is my idea of social media at its best.

**Your thoughts on Bonsai or dreams?**

I really want to create a bonsai pinetum. A pinetum is a living collection of conifers – an arboretum but specifically for gymnosperms (or, non-flowering plants) and my dream would be to have a tree from each of the 68 genera in the conifer family (plus ginkgo - not a conifer but still a gymnosperm). Some are very rare and not realistically procurable so it is probably going to be a pinetum with 50 or so specimens. So far I have 20 different species in my collection\* and a couple of others in my garden awaiting propagation. Most are still babies so it will be a long-term project – but isn't everything in bonsai? (\* My collection currently includes: Cedrus atlantica, Abies koreana, Juniperus chinensis, Pinus sylvestris, Athrotaxis selaginoides, Sequoiadendron giganteum, Sequoia sempervirens, Torreya nucifera, Calocedrus decurrens, Cephalotaxus harringtonia, Lagorastrobis franklinii, Taxus baccata, Pseudolarix amabilis, Taxodium distichum, Fitzroya cupressoides, Araucaria Araucana, Chamaecyparis obtusa, Cryptomeria japonica, Picea glauca & Microcachrys tetragona.)



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

I'm not sure about this one. I see art as a way of expressing ideas, challenging the status quo and

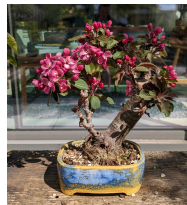
changing peoples' points of view, and I'm not sure that bonsai does this. I would say it is a highly skilled artisanal practice that relies on a sense of design and creativity.

**Why do you practice Bonsai?**

I find it both relaxing and challenging – it is completely absorbing and takes you out of the daily grind and into a happy mental state. However it also challenges you to think, learn and improve. This is why I think the hobby is so compelling and long-lasting - you're never finished, there is always more to do, more to learn and another tree to work on.

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

I'm leaning more towards shohin these days as they are more manageable and I think quite exquisite when you can squeeze a good structure out of such a small tree. Also I can fit more trees in my garden, which being in southwest London doesn't have infinite capacity. In terms of species, I do love a true cedar. The George Omi cedar videos on YouTube are incredible. I have about thirty cedar saplings at my allotment waiting for the George Omi treatment but they are so incredibly slow growing I'm not sure they will ever make it. Satsuki azaleas also blow my mind. I think they are amazing plants and outstanding bonsai.



**Do you have a favourite Bonsai?**

No, different ones catch my eye at different times, I'm always reorganising my bonsai benches to show off different trees as the seasons change.

**Do you have a favourite potter?**

My most beautiful pots are Erin pots which I bought second-hand but I also like lots of texture such as the pots made by Paul Rogers.



**What mistakes have you made?**

What mistakes have I not made might be a shorter answer! How about when the hosepipe attachment for my watering system popped off the tap in the middle of the baking hot summer holidays and water flowed onto the ground for 4 days instead of onto my trees? That killed quite a few. I have been known to be too enthusiastic to prune/repot/style all within a short period and the tree just hasn't coped. I think Harry Harrington's advice is good – stick to no more than one 'vegetative insult' per year. This advice is quite hard to stick to however!



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

I can do better than that – on my website is a page of references which includes non-fiction books, articles, websites and fiction about trees & bonsai.

But if pushed I would suggest The Life of a Leaf by Vogel, Trees: Their Natural History by Peter Thomas, all of Harry Harrington's books, and Dorothy Koreschhoff's Bonsai: Its Art, Science, History and Philosophy (which is available 2nd hand).

**What is your best achievement?**

Aside from my website, I'd say my air-layering – I separated 22 layers from a crabapple tree at my allotment (over 3 years), plus a big fat cypress air layer from a tree which we were having removed, and a dainty Japanese maple from one in our garden which eventually died so this is the last I have of that tree.



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

Our own Twickenham Bonsai Club show, because it's fun working with everyone getting the show planned and running it on the day.

**Do you have any other interest or hobbies?**

Being a Mum to two teens and staying gainfully employed are what I spend my time on outside of bonsai, but I'll also admit to being a member of the Australasian Plant Society, whose members try against the odds to grow antipodean plants in the UK. I'm also a member of Kew Gardens and can quite happily stroll the arboretum for hours – and my guilty pleasure every Friday night is watching Gardening Australia online despite the fact that barely anything they show will grow in my garden. So as you can see I'm a total plant geek and all my interests revolve around plants!  
Haidi Jenkin

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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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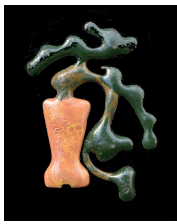
**Badges**



Country: Unknown

Image supplied by Simon Tudor

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## Books

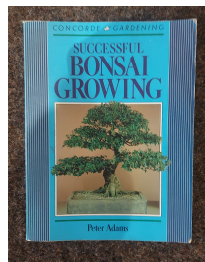
The book section on the website can be found in the knowledge section, we have nearly sixty books listed and ask kindly if you can recommend a book, old or new and we don't have it listed on the website, please email us an image, the title of the book, the authors name, the date published, the ISBN (International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



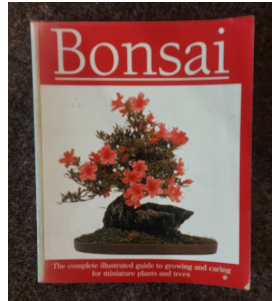
Jon Ardle  
RHS Wisley Handbook / Bonsai  
Published: 2003  
ISBN: 1844030199  
Image supplied by Steven Reddington  
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Kiran Misra  
Bonsai  
Published: 1998  
ISBN: 1856052966  
Image supplied by Steven Reddington  
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Peter Adams  
Successfully Growing Bonsai  
Published: 1987  
ISBN: 0706365038  
Image supplied by Steven Reddington  
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Werner Busch  
Bonsai  
Published: 1995  
ISBN: 1898350502  
Image supplied by Steven Reddington  
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## UKBA Quiz Mar24

### FAMOUS NAMES

Match the names of plants seen at bonsai shows with the plant-related names of the person describe.

\_\_\_\_\_ 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.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tyler . Fictional companion to the 9th Dr Who.

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

Theresa \_\_\_\_\_ British politician who served as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Leader of the Conservative Party from 2016 to 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_ Oyl, Popeye's girlfriend.

\_\_\_\_\_ fictional character in Walt Disney Pictures' animated film Aladdin. Voiced by Linda Larkin.

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Rosenberg is a fictional character created for the fantasy television series Buffy the Vampire Slayer.

Dawn, Fern, Hazel, Holly ,Jasmine , Laurel, May ,Olive, Rose, Rowan, Willow.

## Answers to Feb24 Quiz

A=7 ILEX	B=11 JUNIPER
C=26 CEDAR	D=5 APPLE
E=13 MAPLE	F=9 YEW
G=17 ZELKOVA	H=15 ELM
I=3 WISTERIA	J= 18 BEECH
K=20 BIRCH	L=22 FIG
M=24 QUINCE	N=1
O=6	P=10
Q=8	R=4
S=19	T=12
U=25	V=2
W=23	X=14
Y=21	Z=16

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