



# Mornington Peninsula Bonsai Society Inc NEWSLETTER September 2021

Established: 1979

## In This Issue:

- President's Report
- Our Sickies
- Bonsai Repotting Guide
- Fertilizing
- A note to all members
- Monthly Bonsai Funnies
- Don't Forget
- Diary Dates

## Club Details:

Email: [jillian24@bigpond.com](mailto:jillian24@bigpond.com)

Meetings are held at the **Moorooduc Community Hall**, cnr Derril Road and Moorooduc Rd, Moorooduc, commencing 7.30pm, the third Wednesday of the month (no meeting in December).

## Postal Address:

The Secretary  
8 Charles Drive, Pearcedale, 3912

## Office Bearers:

President: Steve Jarrold  
0451 942 944  
Secretary: Jillian Lewis  
0407 361 989  
Treasurer: Gwen Robinson  
0411 331 517

## Email Editor—Jillian Lewis

Email address for news & photos  
[jillian24@bigpond.com](mailto:jillian24@bigpond.com)

## Social Media

Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/bonsaimornington/>

## Web Site

<https://bonsaimornington.com.au>

## Presidents Report:

I hope you are all in good health and spirit as we continue with this lock down. Unfortunately our scheduled Wednesday meeting, which was to be a demonstration by Don De Luca, has been cancelled and the following Saturday workshop with Don is also cancelled. How is your repotting going? I have completed the repotting of all my deciduous trees, a task that was not helped by the cold wet weather, and most of my conifers have also been repotted. Now the task of pinching and pruning the new growth on the deciduous trees is taking place, particularly with the Japanese maples. Now that the weather is warming up I will begin to repot my native trees. Our next workshop that was to be held at Jill's house on 2nd October might need be cancelled, depending on lockdowns and we will keep you informed as to whether the meeting on 20th October will go ahead. This meeting is to be presented by Quentin Valentine who has a vast knowledge of all things concerning bonsai. Please consider helping out with the newsletter. A short article, or simply a photo or two of your trees would be a great help. Send anything you have to Jill. Maybe if you would like to include a recommendation of a good book to read, or something concerning other interests that hold your attention. There may be other common interests amongst members that can be shared.

Keep safe!

Cheers Steve



**Our Sickies**—Hoping there are none at the moment, but if there are, we are thinking of you and get well soon. If you are aware of any Club member who is unwell, please let Jill know. Thank you.

## Bonsai repotting guide



1.

Make sure you have the right tools, a root rake (or plain old butter knife), scissors, wire cutter, and a chopstick or something similar.



2.

Often Bonsai are anchored by wire to the pot they are planted in, in that case, cut the wire away.



3.

Carefully remove the tree from its pot using a root rake or round bladed knife. This will slide round the edges of the pot to take the dirt away from the sides of the pot, making it easier to come out.



4.

Evaluate if repotting is necessary, in this case, it is, as the roots are circling around the inside of the pot.



5.

Using a chopstick, carefully remove the old soil, start on the sides and bottom of the tree. Try to avoid damaging roots in the process. When repotting pines, leave at least half the root mass untouched to protect the mycorrhizal fungus which is essential for the tree's survival.



6.

Using scissors, cut away any roots that have grown too long. Do not prune more than 30% of all roots. The root pruning is important for balancing the growth of your Bonsai.



7.

In this case, we replot the tree into the same pot. We prepare the pot by covering the drainage holes with mesh. You can wire the tree into the pot if you wish. Wiring a tree in, especially if a larger tree, will help to keep the plant stable until the root system has grown back.



## Fertilizing – What is it? What does it do?

**( N ) Nitrogen:** Helps plants grow quickly, whilst also increasing the production of seed and fruit, and bettering the quality of leaf and foliage growth. Nitrogen is also a component of chlorophyll, the substance that give plants their green color, and also aids in photosynthesis.

**( P ) Phosphorus** also plays a part in the photosynthesis process, it also supports the oils, sugars and starches. The transformation of solar energy into chemical energy is aided by Phosphorous as well as the development of the plant and its ability to withstand stress. Phosphorus also encourages the growth of the roots and promotes blooming.

**( K ) Potassium** assists also in the photosynthesis, fruit quality, the building of protein, and the reduction of disease.

Whilst these three elements only scratch the surface of healthy plant nutrition and growth, they are the main nutrients required in the development of healthy, productive plants.



The above trees are Courtesy of Lou Leeman

**A note to all members** —The Current Situation is not looking at all good at the moment for our Saturday Open Workshop on the 4th September, our Club Night on the 18th Sept and our visit from Don De Luca and the Workshops that we were hoping to have with him . As Don lives in New South Wales, there is a very big possibility that he may not be able to come into Victoria. At this time, it is a wait and see game for everything and everyone. I am pretty certain that the Variety Bash I usually do in August, won't be happening again this year either, even tho it has been postponed to this coming October for now. This will be two we have missed if this happens, which means all the disabled and special kids in Victoria are missing out on the funds the Bash usually generates each year. Please all stay safe and warm.

## BONSAI FUNNIES



**Don't forget,** to send in any photos you think people may like to look at, funny instance or photograph that might make light of the World's situation at the moment.

## *Diary Dates*



- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>September 4</b>  | Saturday Open Workshop Advance Nursery 10.00—3.00pm—Cancelled         |
| <b>September 15</b> | Wednesday Club Night - Don DeLuca depending on Covid—Cancelled        |
| <b>September 18</b> | Saturday Paid Workshop with Don DeLuca—don't forget to Book—cancelled |
| <b>October 2</b>    | Saturday Open Workshop at the home Jillian Lewis 10.00—3.00pm ? Covid |
| <b>October 20</b>   | Wednesday Club Night - Quentin Valentine Natives depending on Covid   |
| <b>November 7</b>   | Annual General Meeting & Christmas Break Up                           |