



Mornington Peninsula Bonsai Society Inc

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2023

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Club Details:

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)

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Social Media

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

Web Site

<https://bonsaimornington.com.au>

PLEASE—if you have any photos of what you have been doing with your trees, please email them to me the photos with the story, so that I can put them in the Newsletter.

Dear Members,

Hi Everyone, I hope you are well and that your trees are thriving. With the cold weather rapidly approaching monitor your watering carefully. My deciduous trees have for the most part lost all their leaves, no Autumn colour for me, so they are not requiring as much water. The March meeting on for the 15/3/23 will be a discussion on carving. I will discuss the methods of carving and the tools that can be used to achieve various effects. Also mentioned, will be the reasons for carving, which I feel is the most important aspect to consider. Please bring trees that you have carved for the display table and/or trees you wish to carve for discussion. Please note there will be no carving on the night.

As I am still far from 100% health wise I would appreciate a few members to arrive early to help set up the Hall.

Cheers, Steve



CLUB NIGHT WEDNESDAY 15/3/23—Our discussion this night, is on the carving of our tree/s which we were unable to do last meeting (15th Feb) due to cancellation. This, we will do at this meeting - the reasons for, how best to carve, and whether it is right for our tree. Something I know many of us are interested in, so, on the following Open Workshop, Saturday April 1st, we will follow up on the carving for those who would be interested, so bring along a tree to work on. If you don't wish to carve, then you can still bring along your other trees to work on, you don't have to have a tree to carve. Please email/ring Jillian if you will be attending, we can then work out what we may need for the

Carving follow up at this Workshop on that Saturday. Full Open Workshop is 10.00am to 2.00pm at Advance Native Nursery, Mornington.



BONSAI CALENDAR 2023

-JAN: Check/Remove wires, Water/Feed regularly Good time to work on Figs if you have any, they love the heat.

-FEB: Keep watering but stop feeding, reduce trimming

-MAR: Growth at a standstill, only Nitrogen-free fertiliser

-APR: Deciduous trees lose leaves, water if necessary

-MAY: Remove wiring carefully, check all plants for pests

-JUNE: Water if necessary, do not feed

-JUL: Dormant period for most trees and plants

-AUG: Prune hardy deciduous trees, prepare for repotting

-SEP: Wire deciduous trees and repot most trees

-OCT: Prune most trees, end repotting and watch for bugs

-NOV: Start feeding and light trimming, water regularly



BONSAI CARE

- ♦ Check wires on all trees regularly as trunks and branches grow rapidly at this time of the year.
 - As new branches harden you may apply wire.
 - Pinch back new growth on shoots as they grow and elongate. Frequent pinching will promote the development of fine branches and thicker foliage pads.
 - Maples grow rapidly and put out long shoots, pinch back to first pair of buds.
 - As azaleas finish flowering, prune back to maintain shape. It is recommended that you trim using scissors rather than pinching. Also you may repot after flowering. Be alert for lace bugs.
 - Natives can be re-potted in January and February.
 - Remember to water thoroughly and regularly. Hot winds and the sun dry plants out quickly. Avoid watering leaves in the hot sun. Water in the mornings or evenings.
 - Never put your bonsai on concrete paths as your pot will overheat.
 - For pines, allow the soil to dry out between watering as this reduces the needle size.
- ♦
 - You may need to shelter the maples and other soft leaf plants from the hot sun.
 - Defoliate if you haven't already done as this will reduce the size of your leaves.
 - Figs should be re-potted by the end of February.
 - Check for pests, diseases and spider mites. Spray to eradicate.
 - Junipers are apically dominant i.e. they grow strongly at the apex and tops of trees. Trimming and pinching the apex allows lower branches and twigs to grow, it reduces foliage to allow light into the tree and restores a balance of growth evenly across the whole tree.
 - Remember that excessive heat does not kill bonsai – a lack of water does. We should be watering enough to ensure the soil never dries out in the pot.

PHOTOS FROM MARCH OPEN WORKSHOP



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Bruce's fig that I bought at the Auction at the AGM. Just a stump with 14 branches. It is now Eleven trees. The biggest tree is the stump that has four branches still on it—coming along nicely I think. Might bring it to carving workshop. Jill



Our Sickies:

If you know of a member who is not well, please let me know.



Facebook & Website

Remember, we have a Facebook Page and Website. On the Facebook Page, feel free to put up any photos of your trees or items that you may think are of interest to members, we would love to see them and on the Website you are able to see what is happening during the year. Thankyou Jeff for co-ordinating the Website.

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

Website: <https://bonsaimornington.com.au>

Diary Dates 2023



- Wed Jan 18 Club Night - Fig Workshop & discussions 7.30pm
- Sat Feb 4 Open Workshop Advance 10.00am—2pm
- Wed Feb 15 Club Night - Due to unforeseen circumstances cancelled
- Sat Mar 4 Open Workshop Advance 10.00am—2pm
- Wed Mar 15 Club Night—Information on the carving of our trees.**
- Sat Apr 1 Open Workshop— Carving Follow-up, bring along your own trees and try some carving or see someone else try it.**
- Wed Apr 19 Club Night - TBA
- Sat May 5 Open Workshop Advance 10.00—2pm
- Wed May 17 Club Night - TBA
- Wed June 14 Club Night - TBA
- Wed July 19 Possible Don de Luca
- Sat Aug 5 Open Workshop Advance 10—2pm
- Wed Aug 16 Club Night - TBA
- Sat Sep 2 Open Workshop Advance 10—2pm
- Wed Sept 20 Club Night - TBA
- Sat Oct 1 Open Workshop 10—2pm at Jillian's place.
- Wed Oct 18 Club Night - Quentin Valentine—Natives

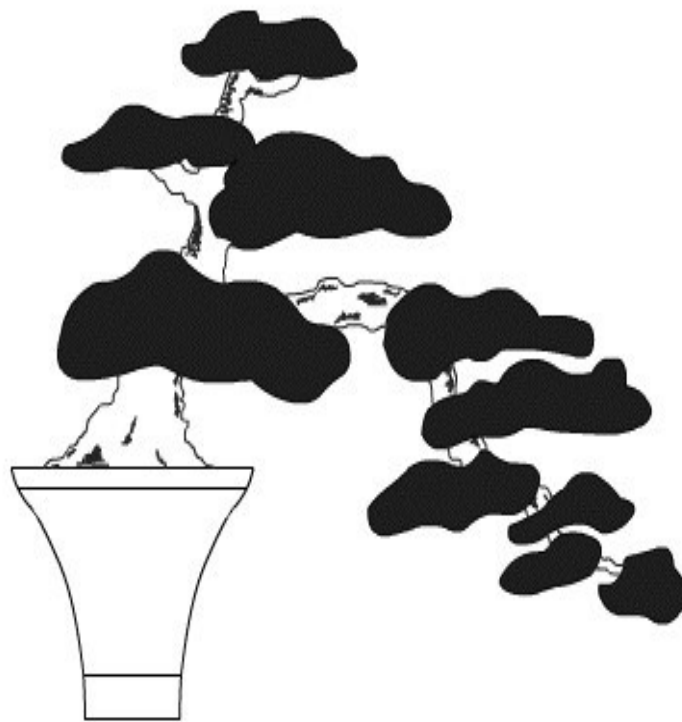
Wed Nov 15 Club Night—AGM—Christmas Breakup —Last Club Night for the year.

As you can see we are still working on some of the dates. If you have any ideas, feel free to contact us. Thank you.

Club Fees —Club Membership fees are now due for the 2023 year. You can do a bank Transfer BSB: 633-000 A/c No: 151674512 or hand cash to Gwen on the Next Club Night. Please put your name in the reference. Thank you.

The Committee





Mornington Peninsula Bonsai Society Inc.

- Creative,
- Living,
- Art

Established: 1979