



Volume 28 No 01

CENTRAL COAST BONSAI

February 2025



The official monthly magazine of the Central Coast Bonsai Club Inc.



Central Coast Bonsai Club

Affiliated with the Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

Member of Australia Associated Bonsai Clubs.

Member of Bonsai Federation of Australia Inc.

President	Simon Coutts-Bain	president@centralcoastbonsai.com.au
Vice- President	Clive Simmons	training@centralcoastbonsai.com.au
Treasurer		
Secretary	Jennifer Thorn	secretary@centralcoastbonsai.com.au
Magazine Editor	Andrew Edge	edgebonsai@gmail.com

**Address for all Correspondence including memberships:
Central Coast Bonsai Club**

33 Clare Crescent
Berkley Vale, NSW, Australia

MEETINGS & MEMBERSHIP

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except January) at 7pm at Mingara Recreation Club, Mingara Drive, Tumbi Umbi 2261 NSW. The annual membership fee is due on or before the November meeting and reminders, with the current amount payable, will be given in the newsletter and at meetings. Contact the treasurer to renew your membership or pay at a meeting.

WEBSITE: www.centralcoastbonsai.com.au

DISCLAIMER

This newsletter is prepared by the Editor from material and articles which are submitted by members of the Central Coast Bonsai Club Inc. and others. The views and information expressed in the articles, and also in the advertisements, are those of the contributor and not necessarily those of the club.

COPYRIGHT

No item may be reproduced without the written permission of the Editor. ©2025

From the Workbench

Editor

So far so good for us here on the coast. There have certainly been some hot days but overall this Summer has lived up to the meteorologists forecast of a milder and wetter Summer. Nice to see them get one right for a change. Well done BOM. I've always said that being a weatherman or lady is the best job in the world, as you can get it wrong everyday and still retain your job!

I hope everyone is getting the final touches on their trees as they prepare for the 2025 Bonsai Open. Another huge event awaits us as we have another 120+ trees and extra vendors from last year. Not forgetting the always popular club sales area.

Watch out for wire digging into branches and trunks over this time. Scars can take years to heal, so be sure to remove it in time. I will leave wire on conifers longer than deciduous or evergreen trees. They will take longer to set and generally the rough bark of a conifer, e.g. pine, will soon cover the scar and over a few years the scar will disappear completely.

On the news front, Unryu-en Bonsai Garden is currently under construction at Somersby with machinery and workers everywhere. The space is now has an extra 800 square metres added to what is already a large space. Imagine Edogawa Garden at East Gosford X 3! This is going to a great resource and space for everyone to appreciate Ric's collection. With around 120 trees on display at all times, including bonsai over 70 years old there will be a lot to see. Added to that, workshops and demonstrations will be held in the main building with many events on the horizon.

Fun times for bonsai on the coast ahead!

Happy Bonsaiing

Andrew

Next Meeting

February 11th 7pm Tasman Rooms
Mingara Recreation Club
Tumbi Umbi

STYLE: CASCADE/ SEMI CASCADE

SPECIAL CATEGORY: SUISEKI / KUSAMONO



Presidents Report

Simon Coutts-Bain

Happy New Year!

For me, a new year represents new opportunities & possibilities. I typically ask myself; How will I approach this year personally? How will this approach influence all my interests & relationships? I am naming this year (for myself) as “a year of self-compassion & balance”. So how might this inform my approach to Bonsai? I suspect it will allow me to try new things, to experiment, to take risks without feeling pressure to get it right. Perhaps for me, this will allow me to further grow in my journey in Bonsai.

Let us start this newsletter by recognising our end of year club gathering on the 14th December at East Gosford Lions Club Hall. What a wonderful day, with a great turn out! Fun games, great food, awards, prizes & a real community feel was had at our Xmas party.

Central Coast Bonsai 2024 Bench Competition Results

Category	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Kindergarten	S. Coutts-Bain	A. Edler	A. Warnest
Novice	S. Coutts-Bain	A. Edler	J. Thorn
Intermediate	B. King	D. Denham	
Advanced	D. Knight	D. Allen	
Platinum	K. Patterson	M. Kempson	
Style	M. Kempson	B. King	A. Edler
Mini	M. Kempson	K. Patterson	K. Owens
Suiseki	P. Gardiner	D. Knight	A. Warnest
Kusamono	M. Kempson		

Congratulations to all the participants and prize winners for the annual bench comp for 2024. Prizes were awarded at the party, for those who were not able to attend the party, your awards will be available for collection at our February meeting. I would love to see the competition hot up this year. Remember for those who enter each month, there is a chance to obtain feedback & support on your work from the guest demonstrators on the evening.

The themed Tree (that rhymes with “ee”) competition saw some amazing, creative & challenging (to guess) entries that turned some smiles on the day.

The tag team bonsai styling comp turned out to be quite entertaining (with blind folds increasing the tension). Some amazing results were obtained under pressure, with the winning team of April, Jen & Dane taking out the prize with their minimalist leaning/ penjing style Tea Tree. The winning team received each of the trees styled on the day to be split between them.

Lunch was a hit with quite a spread put on, BBQ chicken, a great range of salads, and a huge effort from members to produce many a nibble & treat left no person hungry on the day! During the lunch break Santa arrived with his bonsai sled cart and each member in attendance received a wrapped gift.

We also had a large selection of trees, pots, books & smaller items on sale for the day from the donated Ross Marshall selection. A great deal of these were moved onto new caring homes, raising more funds for the club to make use of for members into the future.

Club Memberships are now past due for this year, so if you have not already done so, please go to the club website and complete the membership renewal form and be sure to update your contact details [RSVP 2 — Central Coast Bonsai Club Inc.](#) Membership renewal is also possible at the club meetings, please see Jen Thorn at the entry table.

The 2025 Club Exhibition & Bonsai Open is almost upon us. The Open Committee & volunteers have been tirelessly working away in the background getting things ready. As always, we are looking to lock in & organise our full compliment of volunteers for the weekend. **We would really love for**

all members to play a role in the show, even if it is just for 1-2 hrs over the weekend. Every set of hands is highly valued. Please contact April aedler27@hotmail.com to make it known that you are interested in helping out.

Our next regular club meeting will be on Tuesday February 11th at 7pm at Mingara. On the night, we will have Helen from Neutrog – Biological Fertilisers speaking with us about their products. We will also have some of our members sharing their fertilising knowledge & experiences with us. If you would like to be part of the fertiliser panel & pass on some of your experiences, please email me to let me know president@centralcoastbonsai.com.au

Don't forget that **2025 will see the addition of a new category to the Monthly Bench Comp. Native Category!** Clive's passion for & desire to promote Native bonsai, has prompted this idea; each month there will be a native species-specific category that can be entered, just as we have the specific style category for each month.

Bench comp style category theme for February is Cascade/ Semi Cascade & Suiseki/Kusamono .

Native species category for February is Eucalyptus, Corymbia and Angophora.

Jobs for February

Andrew Edge

As we come into this final month of Summer, watering continues to be the primary concern for our trees. The continued heat and February winds will start to pick up as the month goes on putting more pressure on your watering routine. If you're using an automatic watering system always ensure that it is working properly and efficiently, to make sure the trees are being watered but also to minimise water wastage. If you don't have inline filters (and even if you do...) spray nozzles can block up creating dry areas. Make sure it has a battery back up too so if the power goes out the system doesn't reset or turn off.

Work on Ficus species continues with repotting and defoliating. This is the last month to repot and de-foliate (depending where you are on the coast- further north can safely perform these techniques into March) as we need the new roots to grow and stabilise in the pot and the new leaves to fully harden and mature before the cold sets in. Immature foliage can be 'burnt' by a cold snap reducing the trees ability to survive over the winter. If you're in the mountains region of the coast be aware of this as your climate is different to that of the coastal regions. Increasing humidity will see aerial roots emerging from your figs. If you like them train down to the soil surface by using wet tissue, a paper straw or sphagnum moss. If you don't like them, simple rub them off as they appear.

Deciduous trees such as Maples and Elms can also be de-foliated at this time so as to induce a second flush of leaves for the Autumn display. Most of these trees will display some sort of damage due to the summer heat. De-foliating is used to produce more branching in the tree and therefore increase ramification. Smaller leaves are the secondary result of this technique. Do this at the beginning of the month to allow the new leaves to fully harden off before the cold.

NOTE: Any tree suitable for de-foliation must be of excellent health. Performing this technique on un-healthy trees will only further weaken the tree and possibly cause desiccation in some or all of the tree.

Aftercare post de-foliation of your tree is important but can be tricky. You want as much sun as possible to get to the tree, but, on hot days a defoliated tree has no way of removing heat from its cells and 'sunburn' can occur to the trunk of the tree. Put the tree in a sheltered position, wrap a towel around the trunk, or maintaining a cooler temperature through misting are some of the ways to mitigate this on a scorching hot day. As buds form, remove any buds that are not growing in the right spot before they start to become significant (especially on figs). We don't want these new buds to mature as we then need to remove them, creating a wound that the tree will need to send energy to in order to heal. Left too long and they can also thicken areas that we may not want. Branch junctions are a common place to find these buds.

Natives can be repotted now. When they're in growth they can be cut

back and root pruned hard depending on what stage of development or refinement your tree is at. More mature trees in refinement are treated with a lighter touch so as not to induce heavy regrowth post technique. Wiring can also be done now too. Be aware that natives thicken very quickly, and wire will cut in within weeks when they're in growth. Callistemon, Melaleuca, Lepto's, Kunzea etc. (any spring/early summer flowering native) should have seed capsules removed and any pruning should be finished by the end of February if you're after flowers next spring.

Trimming of those trees that have grown out of the profile continues. This includes removal of large leaves and any shoots that have extended beyond the silhouette. Decandling of Black and Red Japanese pines has now come to an end with the shohin trees having had their turn in mid January. Don't feed those decandled and needle plucked pines now until the new shoots have hardened off. Should you decandle now, the shoots will be very weak and likely just form buds, set up for next Spring. There is a late Summer prune technique as well which is performed at this time. Performing this technique will also produce buds for next Spring rather than shoots. It is a developmental technique rather than a refinement one so keep that in mind when handling your pines.

Continue to keep Junipers tidy by way of old needle removal and pad delineation (removing underside needles). Major work on Junipers such as heavy bending, branch removal and major foliage reduction will commence in March. Prune Crepe Myrtles and Gardenias back hard post flowering to get them back in shape. Leave Camellias alone now as they set their buds for flowering. Other late winter flowering trees such as Azaleas, Crabapples, Wisteria and Prunus species should not be pruned after this month if flowering is wanted in Spring. This will depend on what stage the tree is at with flowering. Remember that flowers or the 'flower show' should not be a consideration for trees in development. Once in refinement the flowers become the focus for the grower.

Be on the lookout for an increase in pests and fungal issues as humidity increases. Azaleas should be sprayed for lace bug (pyrethrum or soapy water) while maples can succumb to powdery mildew if watered late in the evening or are crowded. Fig leaf beetles are also around now so be vigilant as they'll ruin those leaves quickly. Replacing moss damaged during summer not only looks good but will help to mitigate some of the transpiration from the soil substrate on hot days.

Maintain fertilising routines through February according to what stage

your tree is at. Developing trees are fed year-round.

Natives can be immersed in water on hot days (although I don't recommend this as permanent) and minis / shohin can be placed in sand on a suiban tray or the like to keep them hydrated. Bury them into the sand about halfway up the pot. Mulch can also be used to cover the soil surface too but be mindful of watering if you are to do this as there is far less evaporation from the substrate.

Christmas Party



DEADLINE for the Newsletter is 25th of each month.
Send items to the Editor—details page 2.





DEADLINE for the Newsletter is 25th of each month.
Send items to the Editor—details page 2.

www.centralcoastbonsai.com.au

Fertilisers

Fertilizer for Bonsai

Many years ago Central Coast Club member, Chris Alnutt wrote an 8 chapter article for our magazine. At the time I skimmed it and dismissed it as too difficult. Chris wrote the article when he was studying horticulture at Ryde TAFE and it is detailed and comprehensive. I have summarised his article in the hope you will do more than a skim.

At the end is a summary more specific to bonsai that I have written.

A *fertilizer* is anything that we add to a growing medium that will supply one or more nutrients essential for growth.

Inorganic fertilizers are chemical products. These are usually either complete or specific fertilizers. Complete fertilizer contain trace elements as well as N:P:K. Specific fertilizers contain various levels of N:P:K. Inorganic products may be soluble, solid (urea, nitro-phosphate) or slow release. Carefully read the instructions on the side of each container for use.

Our bonsai trees need to grow and be healthy, they need nourishment and they are largely dependent on us the growers to provide this- unlike natural soil our potting substrates contain little nutrient. They are also frequently watered and thus nutrients are leached from the potting substrate.

- ◆ NEVER FERTILIZE A SICK PLANT.
- ◆ WATER ALL PLANTS BEFORE FERTILIZING (never fertilize dry as chemicals can burn roots)
- ◆ ORGANIC FERTILIZER IS SLOWER TO BE ABSORDED, LASTS LONGER.
- ◆ INORGANIC FERTILIZER IS ABSORBED FASTER, LEACHED MORE EASILY THUS LASTING FOR SHORTER PERIOD OF TIME.

The nutrients plants need are both macro and micro nutrients. Simply some macro nutrients are N:P:K where N stand for Nitrogen, P is for Phosphorous and K is for Potassium. Micro nutrients are commonly called trace elements.

There are sixteen essential elements that plants require and four other elements that are important. The macro elements are Carbon, Hydrogen, Oxygen (all from the air and water) from Nitrogen, Phosphorous, Potassium, Calcium, Magnesium and Sulphur (from the soil). The micro elements are

Iron, Manganese, Boron, Copper, Zinc, Molybdenum and Chloride. Other important elements are Cobalt, Sodium, Aluminum and Silicon. Deficiencies of these nutrients and elements can cause problems with plant health as can incorrect potting substrate pH.

Carbon, Hydrogen and Oxygen.

Importance: Required for photosynthesis and respiration.
Deficiencies: Are not normally encountered.
Sources : Carbon Dioxide from the atmosphere, air and water.
Toxicity/Excess: Not usually encountered.

Nitrogen.

Importance: Essential component of protein
Needed in highest concentration in plant parts that are actively growing (young leaves and root tips).
Nitrogen encourages leaf growth.
Deficiencies: Leaves turn pale green then yellowish to brown.
Leaves small and stalks stunted.
These symptoms usually appear gradually.
Sources: Different fertilizers and decaying organic matter.
Toxicity/Excess: Increase vegetative growth at the expense of flowers and fruit.

May cause excessive top growth at the expense of root growth.

Phosphorus.

Importance: Required for functions in all bio-chemical process.
Is a component of cell protein.
Is vital for rapid extension of shoots and roots.
Associated with drought resistance.
Improves quality of fruits and grains
Promotes early maturity.
Deficiencies: General stunting.
Little branching – plants look spindly, thin and lack lustre.
Leaves become purple before yellowing (this purpling is a classic phosphorus deficiency symptom).
Usually appears in oldest leaves first.

NB: Most Australian soils are low in Phosphorus except for Northern NSW and SE Queensland

Sources: Water soluble, citrate soluble or citrate insoluble. Usually sourced as super phosphates, phosphoric acid or ammonium phosphate.

Toxicity/Excess: Death of leaf margins then the whole of older leaf. The youngest leaves of some species become yellow through interference with iron supply by excess phosphorous. Usually the family *Proteaceae* and some *Acacia*

Potassium

Importance: Key role in photosynthesis and translocation of photosynthesis. Promotes stronger and disease resistant plants by thickening cell walls. Plants may take up excess potassium early in the season.

Deficiencies: Leaves first become dull grey-green and leaf tissue becomes chlorotic in spots with marginal necrosis (death of a cell within a localized area).

Stems become weak, thin and shortened.

Symptoms usually appear in older leaves first.

Sources : Sources are Nitrate of potash and sulphate of potash.

Toxicity/Excess: No detrimental effect except it may delay maturity.

Organic vs Inorganic

Inorganic fertilizers are soluble salts that release nutrients quickly, which can help plants grow faster. Good qualities are :

- Higher levels of nutrients compared to organic fertilisers
 - As soluble salts the nutrients are more readily available for plants to take up
 - Usually cheaper than organic fertilisers
- Can be made to break down slowly in the soil by containing larger molecules and/or are coated granules

Problems can be:

- Inorganic fertilisers do not add to the organic content of the soil
- Can easily be overapplied and cause harm to plants
- Soluble salts can be more easily leached from the rhizosphere (plant root zone) and potentially harm other parts of the ecosystem

- Over time they are likely to make the soil more acidic and the soil will need pH amendment

Inorganic fertilizers are typically made from petroleum products or are mined, and so have a negative environmental impact.

Organic fertilizers include, composts, animal manures and other plant or animal products such as blood and bone meal, fish meal and wood ash. Good qualities are :

- Plant or animal material adds to the organic matter in the soil, and thus water retention, and encourages a healthy microbiome (life in the soil)
- They are mostly sustainable and have a lower environmental impact
- Less caustic and less likely to cause burning to plants than inorganic fertilizers
- Nutrients are released more slowly and are thus available for longer

May contain many micro-nutrients not in inorganic fertilizers

Problems can be :

- Organic fertilizers are often more expensive than inorganic fertilisers
- The level of the five major nutrients is generally low
- Organic material must be broken down by soil organisms to a form available to the plants
- Fresh manures that have not been fully broken down may have high nitrogen levels that are harmful to plants

Fresh manures may also contain harmful micro-organisms that could contaminate vegetables that would be consumed

There are advantages in both organic, and inorganic fertilizers, you may like to try using a combination of them to give you the best results.

References cited by Chris Alnutt.

Horticultural Soil and Chemical Chemistry (TAFE –student notes)

By AMD Thomas, J Fakes and J Lauricella 2000.

Gardening Down Under By Kevin Hendreck, 2nd edition

Landlinks Press, Collingwood, Vic 2001

Potting Substrate pH

pH is an indicator of the acidity or alkalinity of potting substrate and is measured in pH units. The pH scale is logarithmic and goes from 0 to 14 with pH 7 as the neutral point. The lower the pH, the greater the acidity. A potting substrate with a pH of 4 has 10 times more acidity than a soil with a pH of 5 and is 100 times more acid than a soil with a pH of 6.

Most bonsai grow best when soil pH is between 6.0 and 6.5, no higher than 7.0

However, there are exceptions e.g. azaleas like and acid soil with a pH between 4.5 and 6

pH can be measured with a standard pH test kit available from nurseries or a more expensive pH meter.

Soil pH affects the solubility of minerals or nutrients essential for plant growth. In very acid soils, all the major plant nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, sulphur, calcium, magnesium and the trace element molybdenum) may be unavailable, or only available in insufficient quantities. Plants can show deficiency symptoms despite adequate fertiliser application.

pH is commonly described using the following terms:

4.5 – 5.0	very strongly acid
5.1 – 5.5	strongly acid
5.6 – 6.0	moderately acid
6.1 – 6.5	slightly acid
6.6- 7.3	neutral
7.4 – 7.8	slightly alkaline
7.9 – 8.4	moderately alkaline

In bonsai, NPK (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium) are essential nutrients that each play a distinct role in the tree's growth, with Nitrogen promoting healthy foliage and above-ground growth, Phosphorus focusing on root development, and Potassium enhancing overall plant health and resilience against stress and disease; essentially, N builds the "muscles" (leaves), P builds the "foundation" (roots), and K acts as the "protective shield" for the bonsai tree

Principles of Fertilization for Bonsai

1. Nutrient Requirements:

- Bonsai trees need the same three primary macronutrients as all plants:
- Nitrogen (N): Promotes leaf and shoot growth.
- Phosphorus (P): Supports root development and flowering.

- Potassium (K): Enhances overall health, disease resistance, and fruit/flower production.
- Secondary nutrients (calcium, magnesium, sulphur) and micronutrients (iron, zinc, copper, etc.) are also necessary in smaller quantities.

2. Seasonal Needs:

- Spring: High nitrogen fertilizers encourage active growth as the tree wakes up from dormancy.
- Summer: A balanced fertilizer supports continuous growth and overall health.
- Autumn: Fertilizers lower in nitrogen and higher in potassium and phosphorus prepare the tree for dormancy.
- Winter: Fertilization is often reduced or stopped for deciduous bonsai, as they are dormant.

3. Tree Type Consideration:

- Deciduous Bonsai: Require higher nitrogen during active growth periods.
- Natives can benefit from balanced fertilizers for a longer period of the year round since they grow for a longer part of the year.
- Flowering/Fruiting Bonsai: Require fertilizers with higher phosphorus content to support blooms and fruit development.

4. Soil Conditions:

- Bonsai soil is designed to be well-draining, meaning nutrients can leach out quickly. Regular fertilization compensates for this.

5. Avoid Over-fertilization:

- Over-fertilizing can lead to salt buildup in the soil, root damage, or excessive growth that disrupts the bonsai's proportions.

Fertilization Techniques for Bonsai

1. Types of Fertilizer:

Organic Fertilizer:

- Made from natural materials (e.g., fish emulsion, bone meal, or compost).
- Provides a slow-release source of nutrients, promoting steady growth.

Inorganic Fertilizer:

- Chemical fertilizers provide nutrients in a readily available form for immediate uptake.
- Typically comes in liquid or pellet form.
- Balanced vs. Specialized Fertilizers:
 - Balanced fertilizers (e.g., 10-10-10 NPK) are suitable for general use.
 - Specialized fertilizers (e.g., higher phosphorus for flowering bonsai) are

tailored for specific needs.

2. Methods of Application:

Liquid Fertilizer:

- Dilute according to package instructions to avoid root burn. Some only ever use liquid fertilizers at half the recommended strength

Slow-Release Fertilizer:

- Granules or pellets that release nutrients gradually over weeks or months.
- Placed on the soil surface or in fertilizer baskets to prevent them from being washed away during watering. It is hard to know the rate of fertilization accurately as rain or hot weather can cause a greater release of nutrients

Fertilizer Cakes:

- Small, compact cakes of organic fertilizer placed on the soil surface, slowly releasing nutrients over time. It is hard to know the rate of fertilization accurately.

3. Frequency:

- Fertilize during the growing season (spring to autumn) every 2-3 weeks with liquid fertilizer or monthly with slow-release options.
- Pause fertilization for dormant trees during winter.

4. Application Tips:

- Always water the tree before fertilizing to prevent root damage.
- Avoid fertilizing immediately after repotting, as the roots need time to recover.
- Adjust the amount of fertilizer based on the tree's size, health, and species.

5. Use of Fertilizer Baskets:

- These baskets hold slow-release fertilizers and keep them in place, preventing leaching and ensuring a more consistent feeding but it is still hard to measure the release of nutrients.

6. Special Considerations:

- For flowering bonsai, fertilize with a low-nitrogen, high-phosphorus fertilizer once flower buds begin to form.
- Weak or stressed trees may benefit from diluted fertilizer to encourage recovery.

The fertilizer you choose should also depend on the developmental stage of your trees. Our goal for a Bonsai in early development is strong growth, hence we need a relatively strong fertilizer with high nitrogen. For a Bonsai in late development or refinement we desire balanced growth for fine ramification, and a gentler fertilizer would be

recommended. High nitrogen will give larger leaves and larger internodal length- neither are desirable in refinement.

Monitoring and Adjusting Fertilization

Observe your tree's response:

- Healthy growth indicates proper fertilization, while yellowing leaves, stunted growth, or excessive leaf drop can signal deficiencies or over-fertilization.
- Periodically flush the potting substrate with plain water to prevent salt buildup from fertilizers.

Calling all club members!

The 2025 bonsai open will be here soon and the club needs your support!

In order to make the show the huge success it has been in previous years, we need volunteers to help out at the event. There are roles for everyone, so no-one needs to think they don't have the skills for the job, and support will be on hand to help out all volunteers.

Who do we need?

We have jobs for everyone. Those who are comfortable handling cash/ square reader are well suited for the **entry** desk, raffle sales and member **sales** areas (Saturday and Sunday). Strong arms or energetic enthusiasm will be very helpful in the exhibition **set up** Friday daytime and **pack down** Sunday from 4pm. Attention to detail is a great skill for those wishing to volunteer for exhibition tree entry and exit (Friday and Sunday afternoons). And we also have a number of other roles, such as general security / information in the exhibition and sales areas, tree minding, and general "gofer" throughout the weekend.

What are the benefits of volunteering?

- 1) Anyone who has volunteered for a job and turns up on the day of their rostered job, will get free entry to the venue: exhibition and sales areas.
- 2) Volunteering for exhibition set up or tree entry on Friday will afford you a sneak peek / early option to buy from the members' sales areas, so

you won't be disadvantaged by volunteering and too busy to get the best look at our members' trees.

3) This year, I have set up a flexible roster, so everyone will have the opportunity to volunteer for as little or as much time as they are able to, without being tied into time slots. That means that everyone who volunteers should be able to go from one station to the next, as they can, with time for breaks in between as needed.

How do I put my name down?

Please email April, at aedler27@hotmail.com to register your preferred roles and availability (in half hour time slots) by 28 February. Preferably, volunteers will sign up for 2 hours minimum, however extenuating circumstances will be catered for.

General times needed, from set up and exhibition entry, to pack down are:

Friday 21 March, 9am to 7pm

Saturday 22 March, 8.30am to 5.30 pm

Sunday 23 March, 9.00am to 8.00pm

Questions?

If you have questions about the roles, or your availability, I would love you to email me or grab me at the next club meeting. And please remember: our goal is for everyone to enjoy our 2025 Bonsai Open: general public, exhibitors, demonstrators, vendors, and members alike! Let's all make this happen together!

Demonstrators

Evan Marsh
Hugh Grant
Megumi Bennett
Sean Hood

Vendors

Ray Nesci
Bonsai Better
Megumi Bennett
Handmade stands
Handmade pots
Greg Horner

Potting Substrates
Figurines
Tools
Starters
Vendors
Handmade stands
Handmade pots
Books
Unusual Figs
Advanced trees
Antique pots

CCBC bonsai tree sales room

www.centralcoastbonsai.com.au

RAY NESCI
BONSAI NURSERY
26 Sagars Road Dural



Phone: 9654 1893
Fax: 9654 2237
www.raynescibonsai.com

For all of your Bonsai requirements, we welcome you to visit us at our
Nursery in Dural

- We offer an extensive range of plant material from starter to large poly box size and beyond! Many unique plant varieties not found elsewhere
- Large selection of ceramic bonsai pots to cater for plants large and small
- Stockist of Bonsai Today back issues, Bonsai Focus and International Bonsai magazines
- Accessories including wire, potting mix, pebbles, zeolite, figurines and books
- Bonsai to satisfy any budget or taste

Open 7 days 9am to 5pm
email: raynescibonsai@bigpond.com

Bonsai Open 2025

March 22nd and 23rd



Saturday 9 am - 5 pm
Sunday 9 am - 4 pm

Demonstrations
on
growing and styling
bonsai

Sales Area
tables / stands
handmade pots
tools
starter bonsai
advanced bonsai
figurines
potting substrates

Raffles

Over 120 bonsai on display

Mingara Recreation Club, Tumbi Umbi, NSW

www.centralcoastbonsai.com.au

Bonsai Better

'Better tools style bonsai better'



Knob Cutters are an essential tool for the novice through to the expert bonsai artist. Their unique shape ensures a cut that will heal quickly and naturally.

With brands in stock such as Kikuwa and Ryuga in carbon steel as well as stainless steel, we have you covered when it comes to your next tool purchase.

Delivered to your door with fast flat rate shipping for under \$11

Darren McIlwain - 0400 850 678

bonsaibetter@gmail.com

Find us at:



www.bonsaibetter.com.au

Why not come along to the club workshops Check 'Dates for your Diary' on page 20.

Come and stay for as long or as little as you like. Sit and chat, work on a tree, or, more importantly, have a free tea or coffee with a biscuit or two.



It is a great opportunity to meet other members and work on your trees, get free advice, and opinions on your trees from oth-

CLUB SPONSOR



MINGARA
Life's Great!

Dates for your Diary

(New or updated entries are in bold)

2025

- February 11 Club Meeting Mingara - 7pm.
**February 24-25 Australian Plants as Bonsai 2024 Exhibition
Australian Botanical Garden, Banksia Centre
9.30am-4pm both days, demos at 11am and 2pm**
- March 11 Club Meeting Mingara - 7pm
March 22-23 CCBC Annual Show and The Bonsai Open
- April 5 -6 Nepean Bonsai Society Annual Show.
April 8 Club Meeting Mingara -7pm
April 12-13 Bonsai by the Beach - Port Macquarie
- May 13 Club Meeting Mingara– 7pm
May 16-19 2025 AABC National Bonsai Convention
Canberra Rex Hotel, Canberra.
- May 30-
June 1st Bonsai Society of Southern Tasmania
Rosny Barn, Hobart.**

www.centralcoastbonsai.cm.au

Group Email List

The email list is used to send reminders about meetings, workshops, and information about Bonsai events from other areas. To go on the group email list, email Denise at deniseallen@westnet.com.au

CENTRAL COAST BONSAI CLUB Inc.
