

UK Bonsai Association

www.ukbonsaiassoc.org



Bulletin Jul24

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Welcome to this month's Bulletin.

At long last the summer has arrived in my back garden, watering twice a day the norm, hope it is the same for you,

Very pleased to confirm we have 11 event reports in this month's bulletin for Jun24, a record number to date for any single one month. A big thank you to all show organisers who went to the trouble to send us photos and a report.

As many of you are aware the UK Bonsai Association supports many events across the country in various ways, be it event signage through to exhibition stands, wherever we can help. We have previously organised auctions combined with specialist shows that have been very successful, but take a lot of organising, we are therefore going to try something slightly different. We are going to try something new on the 08Aug24 at the Staverton Bonsai Fayre and if it's successful may roll it out at other events around the UK. We are proposing to run an auction, the auction will run on a silent basis for 2 hours from 1100-1300 and then go live from 1300.hrs. Sellers can place their lots into the auction between 0900-1030.hrs stating their reserve price, the auction then runs silently for 2.hours going live at 1300.hrs. Once the item has been sold the buyers settle-up with the seller directly cash or bank transfer as requested by the seller with no commissions to pay. This auction is aimed at encouraging more people to travel longer distances, knowing that some items will still be available to buy as late as 1300.hrs. This also allows anyone wanting to sell something but don't have enough sales material to warrant a selling pitch or don't want to be stuck behind a seller's table all day. A different way of selling your unwanted items. Sellers need to arrive in the morning ideally before 1000.hrs, place their items in the auction, then enjoy the event at their leisure until 1300.hrs, at which point the

auction goes live. At that time they must be available at the auction area to settle up with any buyers directly. Buyers can visit the auction area between 1100.hrs and 1300.hrs, if they fancy buying something all they need to do is add their mobile telephone number to the bidding sheet with their bidding amount. For this first trial auction, in order to anticipate the number of lots, we will be dealing with and control the numbers. We propose to limit each seller to no more than 3 items and ask kindly that they be pre-booked in. To pre-book up to 3 lots, please send a text message only to Liz Panton 07368.327244 stating your full name and how many items you are proposing to put into the auction. no photos required. We reserve the right to refuse any items on the day not pre-booked into the auction and will for this first trial event be limiting the lots to 50 total. Any queries please contact Mark 07850.771201 but remind you all pre-bookings of items into auction to be made on 07368.327244 as stated above by text message only. Thanking 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 02Jul24 at 1900.hrs.

Bonsai Events

Jul23 & Aug23

07Jul24 Sun (Confirmed)
Bristol Bonsai Society Show
Failand Village Hall, Oxhouse Lane,
Failand, Somerset. BS8 3TS.
Adm: £5. Under 16s Free. Times: 1000-1600.hrs
Ctc: Mark Wood 07964.249279
Email: bbs-site@outlook.com
www.bristolbonsaisocietv.wordpress.com

14Jul24 Sun (Confirmed)
Surrey Heath Bonsai Show
Chobham Village Hall, Station Road,
Chobham, Surrey. GU24 8AQ.
Adm: Free. Times: 1000-1600.hrs.
Contact: Chris Rhodes 01276.20893
Email: rhodes163@googlemail.com
www.surreyheathbonsai.org.uk
Supporting: International Saikei Association
Supporting Trader: Collette's Bonsai

19-21Jul24 Fri-Sun (Confirmed)
Accrington & District Bonsai Society Display
At Royal Lancashire Show,
Salesbury Hall, Salesbury Hall Road,
Ribchester, Lancashire. PR3 3XR.
Adm: tba. Times: 0930-1700.hrs.
Ctc: Diane Kennedy 07799.567692
Email: dianestardis@icloud.com
www.accringtonbonsai.co.uk

19-21Jul24 Fri-Sun (Confirmed)
UK Bonsai Association Display
At Hyper Japan Festival
Olympia London. Hammersmith Road,
Hammersmith, London. W14 8UX.
Adm: tbc. Times: Fri 1200-2030.hrs
Sat: 0900-2030.hrs Sun:0900-1700.hrs
Contact: Russell Wheeler 07810.372377
Email: russboy23@gmail.com

20Jul24 Sat (Confirmed)
Surrey Heath Bonsai Society Display

At Wood Street Village Show,
Village Green, Wood Street,
Guildford, Surrey. GU3 3EU
Adm: Free. Times: 1200-1700.hrs.
Contact: Chris Rhodes 01276.20893
Email: rhodes163@googlemail.com
www.surreyheathbonsai.org.uk

20Jul24 Sat (Confirmed)
Waltham Forest Bonsai Club Display
At Ingatestone Summer Show.
Seymour Field, New Road,
Ingatestone, Essex. CM4 0HH.
Adm: tbc. Times: 1230-1700.hrs
Contact: Chris Brown 07907.429439
Email: bcraindancer@hotmail.com

20-21Jul24 Sat & Sun (Confirmed)
Chichester Bonsai Exhibition
Manor Nursery, Pagham Road,
Runcton, Chichester. PO20 1LJ.
Adm: Free. 0900-1700 & 1000-1600.hrs.
Liz Panton 01798.865551/07368.327244
Email: lizpanton5@gmail.com
www.chichesterbonsai.uk
Supporting Trader: Collette's Bonsai

21Jul24 Sun (Confirmed)
Bonsai Fair
Penkridge Markets, Clovelly, Pinfold Lane,
Penkridge, Staffordshire. ST19 5AP.
Adm: Free. Times:1000-1600.hrs
Contact: Mark Akins
penkridge@beechfieldbonsai.co.uk

27Jul24 Sat (Confirmed)
UK Bonsai Association Display
At South Yorkshire Anime Festival
Doncaster Racecourse, Leger Way,
Doncaster, South Yorkshire. DN2 6BB
Adm: £10/£20. Times: 1000-1700.hrs
Contact: Mark Moreland
Email: markmoreland@live.co.uk

04Aug24 Sun (Confirmed)
Staverton Group Bonsai Fayre
Opp Long River Farm, New Town Road,
Westbury, Wiltshire. BA13 3ED.
Adm: Free. Times: 0900-1600.hrs
Contact: Tony Oswin 07776.338899
Email: Rob - oakfieldbonsai@aol.com
or Chris - jeffreyschris@hotmail.com
Supporting: UKBA Auction

24-26Aug24 Sat-Mon (Confirmed)
Wirral Bonsai Main Show
Gordale Garden Centre, High Road,
Burton, South Wirral. CH64 8TF.
Adm: Free. Times: 0930-1730/1000-
1630/0930-1600.hrs
Contact: Andy Hardman 07513.953646
Email: andy.hardman@hotmail.co.uk
www.wirralbonsaisociety.wordpress.com

25Aug24 Sun (Confirmed)
Bonsai Shed Car Booty & Auction
Wood Stock Lane North, Hill Park Rose
Centre, Thames Ditton, Surrey. KT6 5HN.
Adm: Free. Times:0900-1200.hrs.
Demo: Will Baddeley & Nacho Salar
Contact: Andrew Barber 07590.595538
Email: foodsmithltd@gmail.com

We would remind people the status of all events is marked in brackets ie, provisional, postponed, confirmed or cancelled. Whenever visiting an event please 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

Bonsai Event Reports UK

To read the full reports with photos on the events listed below please visit the website.

01Jun24 Sat

Milton Keynes Bonsai Society Show



02Jun24 Sun

Chiltern Bonsai Show & Satsuki Azalea Bonsai Show



08Jun24 Sat

Accrington & District Bonsai Society Display



09Jun24 Sun

Bonsai By The Sea



09Jun24 Sun

Midland Bonsai Society Show
Report coming soon

15Jun24 Sat

Berkshire Bonsai Society Display

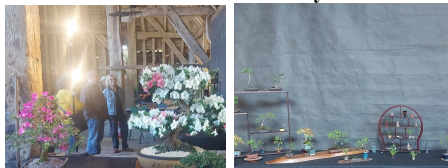


15Jun24 Sat

Middlesex Bonsai Society Summer Show



15&16Jun24 Sat & Sun
Mid-Herts Bonsai Society Show



16Jun24 Sun

North East Lincolnshire & Humberside
Bonsai Show



23Jun24 Sun

Blackmore Vale Bonsai Group Show



23Jun24 Sun

Bedfordshire Bonsai Society Show



Trips Abroad

Don't forget if you're travelling abroad and your trip includes something bonsai then please let us know, thank you.

Club Talks

04Jul24 Thu (1915.hrs)

Talk by Caroline (Caz) Scott

Subject: Yews

Aka Matsu School Of Bonsai

Seaton Community Centre, Seaton,
Seaham, Co Durham. SR7 0NA.

Ctc: Graham Walker 01287.637734

Email: graham.walker11@ntlworld.com

04Jul24 Thu (1930.hrs)

Zoom Meeting Talk by Nigel Saunders

Subject: The Bonsai Zone

Midlands Bonsai Society

Moseley Cricket Club, 105 Streetbrook Road,
Shirley, Solihull, Midlands. B90 3PE.

Ctc: Richard Gilkes 07803.593024

Email: ragilkes@blueyonder.co.uk

04Jul24 Thu (1900-2200.hrs)

Talk by Corin Tomlinson

Subject: tbc.

Northamptonshire Bonsai Society

Weston Favell Parish Hall, Booth Lane South,
Weston Favell, Northamptonshire. NN3 3NS.

Ctc: Richard Boyles 07768.636715

secretary@northamptonshirebonsaisociety.co.uk

10Jul24 Wed (1945-2200.hrs)

Talk by Mark Kerry

Subject: Junipers

Berkshire Bonsai Society
Barkham Village Hall, Barkham,
Berkshire. RG40 4PL

Ctc: Jamie Ewing 07570.368175

Email: jamie1322@hotmail.co.uk

12Jul24 Fri (1900-2200.hrs)

Talk by Peter Warren

Subject: Summer Pruning

Ipswich Bonsai Society

Kesgrave Community Hall, Twelve Acre
Approach, Kesgrave, Suffolk. IP5 1JF.

Ctc: Dave Fryer 07749.801297

Email: daveafryer@aol.com

13Jul24 Sat (1400-1600.hrs)

Talk by Graham Potter

Subject: Pines

North London Bonsai Group

Capel Manor College, Bullsmoor Lane,
Enfield, Middlesex. EN1 4RQ.

Ctc: Bob McGregor 07903.710509

Email: dismcg@hotmail.co.uk

26Jul24 Fri (1915-2145.hrs)

Talk by Caroline (Caz) Scott

Subject: Pines

North East Lincolnshire Bonsai Society

St Giles Church Hall, Church Lane, Scartho,
Grimsby, Lincolnshire. DN33 2EX.

Ctc: Ian Butland 07963.470696

nelbs.chairman@virginmedia.com

01Aug24 Thu (1900-2200.hrs)

Talk by Alex Rudd

Subject: Bonsai Pot Selection

Northamptonshire Bonsai Society

Weston Favell Parish Hall, Booth Lane South,
Weston avell, Northamptonshire. NN3 3NS.

Ctc: Richard Boyles 07768.636715

secretary@northamptonshirebonsaisociety.co.uk

www.northamptonshirebonsaisociety.org.uk

07Aug24 Wed (1930-2200.hrs)

Talk by Simon Roberts

Subject: Japanese Bonsai Nurseries & Shows

Bedfordshire Bonsai Society

Toddington Village Hall, Leighton Road,
Toddington, Bedfordshire. LU5 6AN.

Ctc: Richard Gaiger 07745.507318

Email: r.gaiger@ntlworld.com

09Aug24 Fri (1900-2200.hrs)

Talk by Corin Tomlinson

Subject: tbc.

Ipswich Bonsai Society

Kesgrave Community Hall, Twelve Acre
Approach, Kesgrave, Suffolk. IP5 1JF.

Ctc: Dave Fryer 07749.801297

Email: daveafryer@aol.com

12Aug24 Mon (2000-2200.hrs)

Talk by John Armitage

Subject: Shohin

Manchester Bonsai Society

Stockport Labour Club,
2 Lloyd Street, Heaton Norris,
Stockport, Cheshire. SK4 1QP.

2nd Mon Monthly. Times: 2000-2200.hrs

Ctc: Wayne Crumpton 07742.111142

mbsmembershipsociety@gmail.com

13Aug24 Tue (1930-2200.hrs)

Talk by Mark Moreland

Subject: Propagating & Miniature Bonsai.

Swindon Bonsai Society,

Coleview Community Centre, Towcester
Road, Swindon, Wiltshire. SN3 4AS.

Ctc: Paul Bowerbank 07982.401103

Email: paul1561@virginmedia.com

15Aug24 Thu (1930.hrs)
Talk by: Judith Davison
Subject: History Of Bonsai.
Redditch Bonsai Society
Webheath Village Hall, Heathfield Road,
Redditch, Midlands. B97 5SQ,
Ctc: Richard Gilkes 07803.593024
Email: ragilkes@blueyonder.co.uk

19Aug24 Mon (1930.hrs)
Talk by Simon Jones
Subject: Demo on Cascade Style
Cheshire Bonsai Society
Little Budworth Village Hall, Vicarage Lane,
Little Budworth, Tarporley, Cheshire. CW6 9BP.
Ctc: Elizabeth Scott 01829.733519
Email: bonsailiz@hotmail.com

19Aug24 Mon (1930-2200.hrs)
Talk by David Cheshire
Subject: Mame & Shohin Bonsai
Bristol Bonsai Society
Failand Village Hall, Oxhouse Lane,
Failand, Somerset. BS8 3TS.
Ctc: Nigel Turner 07918.602306
Email: bbs-site@outlook.com

29Aug24 Thu (1930-2200.hrs)
Talk by Rammon Hamers
Subject: Hawthorn Cultivation
Ambion Bonsai Society
Hatters Space, Upper Abbey street,
Nuneaton, Warwickshire. CV11 5DN.
Last Thursday Monthly. 1930-2200.HRS
Ctc: Peter Fielding 07976.271159
Email: peterfielding1@hotmail.co.uk

Notice Board

21Jul24 Sun (Confirmed)
New to the events diary this month
Bonsai Fair
Penkridge Markets,
Clovelly, Pinfold Lane,
Penkridge, Staffordshire. ST19 5AP.
If you want a trader's pitch at this event,
please contact asap: Mark Akins
penkridge@beechfieldbonsai.co.uk

27Jul24 Sat (Confirmed)
UK Bonsai Association Display
At South Yorkshire Anime Festival
Doncaster Racecourse, Leger Way, Doncaster,
South Yorkshire. DN2 6BB.
If you interested in displaying trees at this event
or helping man the display through the day
please contact Adam Booty 07805.123713
Email: adam.booty@hotmail.co.uk

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 this is
your last reminder.
please contact asap: Tony Oswin 07776.338899
Email: Rob - oakfieldbonsai@aol.com
or Chris - jeffreyschris@hotmail.com

07Sep24 Sat (Confirmed)
8 Bonsai Journeys
At Herons Bonsai
Wiremill Lane, Newchapel,
Nr Lingfield, Surrey. RH76HJ
Limited to 80 People only
Pre-booked tickets only.

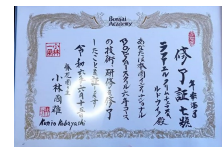
Adm: £50. Times: 1000-2000.hrs.
Ctc: Peter Chan 01342.832657
Email: sales@herons.co.uk
Talks & Demonstrations by:
Kevin Willson
Caroline Scott
Steve Mckee
Russ Farley
Graham Potter
Lee Fincham
Richard Chambers
Warren Radford

13Oct24 Sun (Confirmed)
13th Heathrow Bonsai Show
Sponsored by UKBA
Bracknell Leisure Centre,
Bagshot Road, Bracknell,
Berkshire, RG12 9SE.
Listed below are clubs and societies so far
confirmed displaying at this years Heathrow
Show, if your society is not listed and you want
to display at this show please contact us asap.
Blackmore Vale Bonsai Group
British Suiseki Club
Bury St Edmunds & Cambridge BS
Celtic Knot Bonsai
Chiltern Bonsai Society
Dragon Bonsai Society
Eastleigh Bonsai Society
Glynderi Bonsai Society
Ipswich Bonsai Club
Middlesex Bonsai Society
Mid-Herts Bonsai Club
Milton Keynes Bonsai Society
Newbury Bonsai Society
Northamptonshire Bonsai Society
Salisbury Bonsai Society
Shiten United
Southend Bonsai Society
South East Bonsai Club
South Wales Bonsai Collective
Splinter Bonsai Group
Staverton Bonsai Group
Surrey Heath Bonsai Society
Sussex Bonsai Society
Sutton Bonsai Society
Swindon Bonsai Society
Twickenham Bonsai
UK Mame Bonsai Group

02Nov24
UKBA EXPOBONSAI Display Workshop
On Saturday November 2nd the UKBA are
hosting a bonsai display workshop in the
Surrey area. The day is geared up for Expo
exhibitors and we are hosting Peter Warren
who will run an interactive workshop using the
show tables/backdrops. The intention is to give
a primer on the art of display along with a very
hands-on approach to bringing your trees to a
higher level through the use of display
techniques. E mail invites have been sent out
but if you are an ExpoBonsai exhibitor and
have not received an e mail then details can be
obtained from ebuk18@gmail.com.
Places are filling fast.

16Mar25 Sun
Bonsai -Fest
Lady Eastwood Center,
Newark Showground, Lincoln Road, Newark,
Nottinghamshire. NG24 2NY.
If you want a trader's pitch at this event,
please contact Adam Booty 07805.123713
Email: adam.booty@hotmail.co.uk
www.info@bonsai-fest.com

Heathrow Bonsai Show
We would like to congratulate Rafal
Klimczewski a friend of ours from
Poland on his graduation from the
Shunka-En bonsai Nursery in Japan,
completing his 6 year apprenticeship
with Master Kunio Kobayshi.
The story goes that we met a gentleman
called Marek Gajda from Poland at the
big annual Hwa Fong Show in Taiwan
way back in 2009, there followed a long
friendship. Marek visited the Heathrow
Show in 2015 and kindly judged the
displays. Marek's English was not so
good, so he was accompanied by a young
Polish lad acting as his personal
translator, that young lad was Rafal.
Not many non-Japanese start
apprenticeships in Japan, but very few
successfully complete the full 6 years as
required, so well done Rafal.



Workshops

Beechfield Bonsai Workshops
Location: Shropshire Area.
Ctc: Mark Akins
Email: sales@beechfieldbonsai.co.uk
www.beechfieldbonsai.co.uk

Bonsai4Me
Location: Buckinghamshire Area.
Ctc: Harry Harrington
Email: harry@bonsai4me.co.uk
www.bonsai4me.com

Caz Bonsai Workshops
Location: Tyne & Wear /
Northumberland Area
Ctc: Caz Scott 07854.502708
Email: bonsaicaz1@gmail.com

David Cheshire Workshops
Location: Warwickshire Area
Ctc: David Cheshire 07584.991975
info@davidcheshirenurseries.co.uk
www.davidcheshirenurseries.co.uk

Greenwood Bonsai
Location: Nottinghamshire Area
Ctc: Corin Tomlinson 0115.9205757
Email: Office@Bonsai.co.uk
www.bonsai.co.uk

Herons Bonsai
Location: Surrey Area.
Ctc: Peter Chan 01342.832657
Email: sales@herons.co.uk
www.herons.co.uk

Mendip Bonsai Studio Workshops
Location: Somerset Area.
Ctc: JohnTrott. 07711.205806.
Email: john@mendipbonsai.co.uk
www.mendipbonsai.co.uk

John Hanby Bonsai
Location: Barnsley Area.
Ctc: John Hanby 07399.383106
Email: john@johnhanbybonsai.co.uk
www.johnhanbybonsai.co.uk

Monthly Tasks

Below is a list of bonsai tasks to be carried out during the month of July, 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 July

Summer is now here hopefully and your trees should be actively growing and enjoying the longer daylight hours and sunshine and producing a lot of new growth. Here is a quick generic guide to bonsai in July but for individual species you may need to adjust the guidance as well as for the developmental stage your bonsai trees are at.

Watering:

Continue to check your trees daily and water as required and you will have noticed they will be starting to take up more water and dry out quicker. This is now the time to really increase your watering with the leaves fully out and hardened off. Water in the mornings ideally and if necessary water more than once a day.

Re-potting:

None required unless emergency repotting required where the pot is damaged or there is a pest concern or drainage issue. Try not to damage the roots during an emergency repot and just place the tree in another pot of the same size or larger for the time being until the correct repotting season without root pruning or disturbance.

Feeding:

This is the time to start feeding much more regularly and heavily while the trees are actively growing. Organic feeds are preferable to chemical feeds including products like liquid seaweed and this can be fed daily as part of the watering regime or less often depending on the stage of development of the tree. Ideal feeding at this time is liquid feed as the watering regime has picked up and you can feed with each watering, and the general rule is little and often.

Pruning:

This is the time to prune back all excessive growth on deciduous trees and start to work on removing the larger leaves on a regular basis in preference of retaining the smaller leaves forming after the larger leaves have been removed.

It is also a good time to carry out a full or partial defoliation of broadleaved trees but only if the tree is healthy enough. Ensure that if you do a full defoliation that you place the tree in a more shaded position rather than in full sun following a full defoliation.

Trimming:

Now that the leaves are present continue to maintain the shape through regular trimming and 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. Leaf cutting is also applicable for some species like maples but ensure that they are vigorous and healthy before you carry out leaf cutting and it may be more suitable to do a section of % at any time.

Root pruning:

This is not applicable at present unless any trees are being repotted but for the majority of species they should already have been done.

Insects and pests:

Check for the repeat infestations of bugs and pests like green and black fly, red spider mite, scale insect, mealy bug as well as vine weevil beetles. With the warmer weather insect pests can start to build up numbers and are more likely to appear on the shoots and leaves and start causing foliage damage. Watch out for the on set of mildew and prune out any damaged leaves or treat any infestations if found. Spray with insecticide as required or once a month for pest prevention using products like SB Invigorator. Methylated spirits cotton buds are an effective method of removing scale insects from branches.

Moss and weed control:

Continue to keep this in check and treat or remove unwanted moss and remove any newly forming weeds.

Wiring:

Wiring can be started on some of the larger branches if the tree has been defoliated but otherwise it is not a good time to wire as the process can damage the foliage.

Protection:

Protect from the heat of the sun if the trees have a thin bark like Japanese Beech and provide additional shade and wind protection to avoid leaf scorch or wind burn of the leaves.

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:

If you have trees out in display areas check that they are not drying out or getting too much sun and ensure they have shade if required as the temperatures during the day currently are fairly hot.

Propagation:

This is a good time to take semi ripe cuttings from this years growth.

Interview

UKBA Interview With
Rob Juson



How did you get started?

I have always been interested in nature, flora and fauna. My father was a very keen gardener and I think my underlying interest started through him. My career was mostly in the timber industry and I spent quite a lot of time in forests in Scandinavia and British Columbia, Canada. I believe that trees are vital components of the natural world, they contribute significantly to the environment and human well-being. I'm fairly sure that I read an article on bonsai and found it fascinating that it was possible to cultivate miniature trees that mimic the shape and scale of full sized trees. I started growing bonsai in 1975, at the age of 25, having found a seedling Silver Birch tree in March/April of that year in my garden in Wiltshire. I still have the tree and it's known as Claire's Silver Birch as my daughter Claire was born in August 1975.

How did you learn about bonsai?

I've learnt about bonsai mainly from books and a lot of trial and error! Latterly, Corin Tomlinson's YouTube videos are definitely a must watch!



Korean Hornbeam
with an unusual split trunk. This is in a Tony Remington commissioned pot. I bought this tree from Greenwood Bonsai Studio circa 2004, now approximately 24 years old.

Who was your teacher?

I have never had a teacher. Having moved to Northamptonshire in 1981 I soon discovered Greenwood Bonsai Studio in Nottingham, in my opinion still a truly outstanding bonsai nursery. I was very fortunate to meet Harry Tomlinson on a number of occasions, he was always happy to share his knowledge and advice.

I would add that, I'm sure the continuing investment and developments of Greenwood over the years by his sons Corin and Paul is something Harry would be immensely proud of. They are to be congratulated and deserving of tremendous success. I am still a regular visitor and recommend it to anyone who grows bonsai.

What is the most important thing you learned from him?

From Harry?.....relish every moment!



'Claire's' Silver Birch,

found in my garden as a seedling tree, Spring 1975. This is in a Tony Remington pot.

Do you belong to a bonsai club?

I don't belong to a bonsai club, in the earlier years my job was very demanding, I was overseas quite a lot and worked horrendous hours. What spare time I had was devoted to my family and sports!

Your thoughts on bonsai or dreams?

I think bonsai is an extremely rewarding hobby but in many ways comes with quite a lot of responsibilities. As bonsai growers we are nurturing a life form that becomes entirely dependent upon our attention and ability to care for it. I think it is important that we see our trees through our own eyes and not draw comparisons with trees developed by bonsai professionals or masters who have devoted a lifetime to the art form.

My only dream, or wish, is that my trees survive at least as long as I do!



European Hornbeam

collected as a seedling tree in 1982 from a wood close to my home in Northamptonshire. My apologies, I've realised that it's in need of a trim! The pot is from Greenwood Bonsai Studio.

Do you consider bonsai an art form?

Most definitely! Some of the trees one sees, that have been grown by bonsai masters, are outstandingly beautiful and way beyond the achievement of amateur growers such as myself.

Why do you practise bonsai?

One of the reasons I started bonsai was in the hope that such a long term practice would, as a notoriously impatient person, teach me patience. It most definitely has but only with my bonsai trees!

I do also find it to be very therapeutic. I was very unfortunate in 2013 in having to go through many months of very serious illness. I was able to spend a lot of that time attending to my trees and found it to be an extremely valuable distraction and it definitely contributed to my recovery. As with many other growers, during the Covid lockdowns my trees have never looked so good!



Acer Palmatum.

I bought this from Greenwood Bonsai Studio circa 2008 as an approximately 8 years old tree. The pot was chosen in 2022 for 2023 repotting, with the help of Paul Tomlinson, at Greenwood Bonsai Studio.

One of my trees that I am quite proud of!

Do you have a favourite tree species or size tree?

I don't have a favourite species as such but I have always favoured deciduous trees, the burst of life in spring (the relief they have survived another winter!) and amazing autumn colours....just incredible!

I prefer larger trees, 40cm to 60cm, though I do have some smaller trees.

Do you have a favourite bonsai?

Without doubt Claire's (my daughter) Silver Birch! Not the prettiest or most impressive shaped tree but it has been with me for 49 years!



Cascade Cotoneaster.

I found this as a self seeded young tree in my garden 4 years ago.

It is probably only 6 years old and is in a Tony Remington commissioned pot.

Do you have a favourite Potter?

I have two favourite potters. Tony Remington, one of the nicest people you could meet and very talented. As well as buying some of his standard pots, Tony has produced a few commissions for me, always brilliant. Walsall Ceramics, they produce some remarkable pots.

What mistakes have you made?

Not joining a Bonsai Club!

Have you experienced bonsai abroad?

Unfortunately not, though I would have loved to have had the opportunity to go to Japan and experience bonsai there.



David's Cotoneaster.

This was bought around 4 years ago from Greenwood Bonsai Studio and is in a Tony

Remington pot. It is my son-in-law's tree that lives on my bonsai benches!

Can you recommend one or two bonsai books?

In my opinion there is only one book that covers everything an amateur UK bonsai grower needs, The Complete Book of Bonsai by Harry Tomlinson.

What is your best achievement?

Apart from my daughter.....keeping my trees alive!

Do you have any future ambitions or goals?

To continue to develop my trees and to thoroughly enjoy the special interest, pleasure and tranquillity they give me.



European Larch.

I bought this as a seedling tree at least 30 years ago. It is in a Tony Remington commissioned pot that beautifully complements its gnarled bark

Over the years what has been your favourite bonsai show?

I haven't attended that many shows but have always enjoyed those that I have. Greenwood Bonsai normally put on 'Bonsai Bash' events twice a year and Corin shows trees from his private collection in their studio. When I manage to attend I always enjoy the opportunity to look at these beautiful trees.

Do you have any other interests or hobbies?

I enjoy amateur photography and have for many years dabbled in watercolour painting.

Collectables

Unfortunately, no badges or books for the moment, usual service will resume hopefully soon.

UKBA Quiz Oct21 Answers to Jun24 Quiz

JUNIPER Jane
LARCH Kitty
ELM Ellie
MAPLE Mary
ZELKOVA Lynn

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