

## The Location



The Bonsai Federation of Australia Inc was established in 1980 as a representative body for bonsai clubs throughout Australia. The objectives of the Federation include promoting the art of bonsai in the general community and providing educational opportunities, such as overseas guest speakers for demonstrations and workshops, for its member clubs. The Federation facilitates close interaction between clubs and provides assistance to both city and country clubs.

Bonsai Federation of Australia Northern Inc

invites you to a weekend of

# BONSAI by the HARBOUR



A unique program will be presented with multiple demonstrations occurring throughout the day – a friendly, informal gathering of bonsai friends in a stunning harbourside setting. You will be free to move between the various demonstrations. A silent auction will be held over the two days.

Saturday & Sunday 12 & 13 June 2010

Sydney Church of England Grammar School's Rowing Facility  
86 Wharf Road, Gladesville NSW

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Closing date for registration is 4 June 2010 (late registrations will not be accepted)

## Saturday 12 June 2010

<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Registration</b>	
9.00am-12.00	Khanh Linh will captivate the audience with his artistry, a unique blending of both Asian and Australian approaches to the creation of bonsai with wonderful landscape imagery.	
<b>10.30-11.00am</b>	<b>Morning tea</b>	
11.00-12.00	Juniper bonsai and how they have progressed – Shane Marmara	How to create taper from an ugly chop-off – Barry Reeve and a little (but substantial) shohin - Chris Allnutt
<b>12.00-1.00pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
1.00-2.30pm	Drawing bonsai made easy – how you can be an expert and get those branches in the right place – Chris Helyar. (Just like bonsai, drawing is quite time consuming to get it right. All art forms employ the same principles of shape, composition, perspective, light, etc. Drawing from reality is the study of the entity you are recording. Chris will show you in this demonstration just how easy it is to draw with reasonable accuracy for bonsai.)	
<b>2.30-3.00pm</b>	<b>Afternoon tea</b>	
3.00-4.00pm	Joint critique/improvement ideas on your trees – just like the visiting masters do. Please bring an established bonsai to ask questions (no work done unless authorised) – Noel Summerell & Ross Miller. <b>For this to work we need your trees.</b>	
<b>4.00-4.30pm</b>	<b>Conclusion of Silent Auction* and Close</b>	
5.00pm	Barbecue at the Boathouse for those who wish to stay on and enjoy a barbecue, followed by an instructive critique and reverse critique of trees presented by Jan Briggs. Attendees are invited to bring a tree for display and critique.	

\***Silent Auction** – attendees are invited to bring items for sale at the silent auction. Those wishing to bid on an item write their bid on the slip provided and the last highest bid at the conclusion of the day is the winner. A 10% commission is payable to the BFA by the original owner.

## Sunday 13 June 2010

<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Registration</b>	
9.00am-10.30am	Sifu Philippe Tot shows the marvellous Chinese Penjing art which is acknowledged as the original source of bonsai going back to very early times	
9.00-10.30am	? – Alex Bennett	
<b>10.30-11.00am</b>	<b>Morning tea</b>	
11.00-12.00	The importance of matching your display to the style of bonsai – Lee Wright	Repotting the evergreen maple from last year's big demo – Ric Roberts.
<b>12.00-1.00pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
1.00-3.00pm	AusBonsai.com website - practical information about the internet as it relates to bonsai (this should make things easier for the less-technically minded) – Steven Hantos	
	<b>Afternoon tea</b>	<b>Results of the silent auction</b>
3.30-4.00pm	Conclusion of silent auction and raffle draw	
<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Close</b>	

### Demonstrators (continued)

**Ross Miller** has been practicing bonsai since 1979. He has been a long term member of Illawarra Bonsai Society, but has recently also joined clubs in both Canberra and Goulburn after moving to the NSW Southern Highlands. Most of the mature trees in his collection are figs, elms and maples although over recent years he has started working with pines. He has done demonstrations and talks on bonsai at a number of bonsai societies as well as garden clubs.

**Sifu Philippe Tot** is founder of The Lingnan Penjing Academy of Australia. He began studying Lingnan penjing in 1984 and furthered his studies in Hong Kong before being appointed as Penjing Curator and Horticulturalist in 'The Chinese Garden of Friendship' Darling Harbour, Sydney. At the young age of 17, Philippe created a Penjing Collection in the Chinese Gardens that is one of the highest standards in the country. Philippe currently remains guardian of the penjing collection at Darling Harbour, and is now curator of the Chinese Garden of Friendship. He is also writing several volumes on Chinese thought and various teachings. Over the years he has held many talks, conferences and award-winning exhibitions both in Sydney and abroad, teaching students about Lingnan Penjing, Chinese Gardens and their philosophies.

**Alex Bennett** is a Horticultural Graduate of the Ryde School of Horticulture and a member of the Bonsai Society of Sydney Inc. For the past 10 years Alex has worked at Imperial Bonsai Nursery Terrey Hills, two years of which he served an apprenticeship at Mansei-en Bonsai Nursery in Omiya, (owned by Mr Saburi Kato), increasing his knowledge, practical skills and philosophy, working on major Japanese material. Alex has demonstrated and conducted workshops both locally and interstate and co-ordinated the exhibition and assisted Mr Kimura for the 2005 AABC seminar. He teaches bonsai at his family nursery and currently has 30 students. Alex's favourite tree is the black pine and Japanese Maple and his favourite style is forest settings.

**Lee Wright** first did bonsai in 1968-1970, learning from Len Webber and Vita Koreshoff. It wasn't until 2000 she returned to the hobby with an absolute passion, winning "The World's Ugliest Olive Starter" in a \$1 raffle at her first club meeting. Its subsequent styling and alteration from "Bastard to Bonsai" made her an olive addict. She has a penchant for odd trees, natives and, of course, olives. The olive Lee will be working on was picked up at an auction, having been separated from a group setting. It has growth oddities and needs some good styling to make it a stand alone tree, and there's carving needed. In the past year it has gone from undernourished to full vitality and she is looking forward to bringing out the best in it.

**Ric Roberts** has a background as an artist/designer and has been involved in bonsai for thirty years. He is the author of many articles for "Bonsai Down Under" magazine. Ric has frequently travelled overseas to bonsai conferences and visited the collections of many contemporary bonsai masters. He has given many lectures, demonstrations and workshops for NSW clubs and societies. Ric is a member of the Bonsai Management Committee of the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia.

**Steven Hantos** (Administrator AusBonsai.com) – Steven's bonsai fire was first ignited in 1982 when his mum took him to a plant show at the Ryde School of Horticulture where bonsai was exhibited. For the past eight years he has become particularly interested in bonsai with Australian flora. A lack of readily available information on native bonsai led Steven to creating an Australian bonsai website where information could be freely shared for all to enjoy and learn from. In November 2008, after months of design and research, AusBonsai.com was launched. It has since bloomed into a truly national bonsai community with over 1400 members, 53,000 posts and more than 8,000 pictures. AusBonsai.com is and will remain a free resource where you can view, study and chat about bonsai from the comfort of your own computer. Like regular bonsai clubs, the success of AusBonsai.com depends on the participation of members who contribute their ideas, knowledge and pictures to help grow the art of bonsai in Australia.

**Jan Briggs** has been practising bonsai for over 30 years, having studied with both Deborah and Dorothy Koreshoff, and participated in workshops with most of the international demonstrators to visit in that period. Jan is Secretary of the Bonsai Federation of Australia, and she has given many demonstrations to NSW clubs as well as regularly judging bonsai at the Castle Hill Agricultural Show. Jan's favourite material to work with include junipers, camellias, pines and Australian natives, and she particularly likes saikei, penjing and suiseki.

## The Venue

The unique venue for this weekend seminar is the Sydney Church of England Grammar School's rowing facility, situated on Looking Glass Bay. It has picture book views of our beautiful harbour and is just across the bay from "Rockend" cottage, the childhood home of Banjo Patterson. The large room (used during the rowing season to accommodate the rowing crews) overlooks this beautiful vista, and will be the perfect space for the variety of bonsai attractions we will be presenting to inform, interest, inspire, explain – and not the least, to entertain – not just the "experts", but anyone who loves and aspires to the bonsai idea. There is a large balcony where the major works of carving, potting and other interesting techniques can be demonstrated. There is some on-site parking available as well as on-street parking in the area. This venue has been arranged with the assistance of Mr Garry Uebergang and Dr Timothy Wright, the Headmaster of Shore.

## The Demonstrators

**Khanh Linh** was born in Vietnam and at a very young age he helped his grandfather make bonsai. At 20 he began researching Asian cultures, painting style view, art gardens and writing articles about art culture. He has learnt a high level of landscaping views and has exhibited at art galleries throughout Sydney, has appeared on Burkes Backyard and in a couple of the Sydney Morning Herald articles. He will demonstrate mini landscape, new techniques and naturalness of the landscaping views that he creates.

**Shane Marmara** joined the Central Coast Bonsai Society in 2006. Still relatively young, Shane shares the interest/addiction with his father, Sam. He has demonstrated at club nights and annual shows. Shane likes the fact that bonsai is a living art that can always change and evolve. He likes most trees and styles and is experimenting to achieve different outcomes. Shane is currently the president of his club and aims to build the club and take himself and the members to the next the level.

**Barry Reeve** – Barry's interest in bonsai began about 5 years ago. He can thank (or blame) his eldest son Stephen for catching this bug, as he gave Barry his start-up bonsai as he obtained better material. After finding that bonsai are no harder to grow than orchids, which he had been growing for over 20 years, he was hooked and soon realised the need to join a club to gain knowledge. He then joined Sakura Bonsai Studio and also became a member of the Bonsai Society of the Central Coast, Australian National Bonsai Association and Suiseki Australia.

**Chris Allnutt** has a broad background as both a student of bonsai and teaching students of both Megumi Bennett and the School of Bonsai. He holds a Certificate in Horticulture – Nursery Studies from Ryde School of Horticulture, passing out with an Award of Excellence for Best Achievement in Practical Studies. Chris has attended two world bonsai conferences and travelled twice to Japan on bonsai tours. These days he prefers to work with minis, as they are more challenging than larger trees because getting the ramification correctly proportioned is harder to achieve in smaller trees than in their larger counterparts. However he does get plenty of practice with larger trees while assisting Ric Roberts with his collection.

**Chris Helyar's** background is in architecture and fine arts. Having completed architecture at the University of NSW in 1980 he moved to San Francisco to attend art school at the California College of Arts. After a year of living in Mexico, and an honours degree in both fine Art and Architecture, Chris returned to his home town of Wagga Wagga and three months later, he established Chris Helyar Design – an architectural, landscape and interior design practice. During the Peter Adams visit to Australia, a fellow bonsai artist commented that he wished he could draw like Peter. What this person didn't know, was that he actually could.

**Noel Summerell** is a bonsai enthusiast of 40 years experience, who has a special interest in natives and mame. He is a past President of Illawarra Bonsai Society and is well-known for his off-beat sense of humour and the laid-back manner he delivers his many talks.

## Registration

(Includes seminar registration, morning/afternoon tea, and lunch.  
Does not include Saturday evening Barbecue at the Boathouse)

- ☐ **Full registration \$70** (Saturday & Sunday)  
(does not include barbecue) \$.....
- ☐ **Saturday registration \$40** \$.....
- ☐ **Sunday registration \$40** \$.....
- ☐ **Saturday evening Barbecue at the Boathouse \$35**  
(not included in registration fee)  
for those who wish to stay on, followed by an instructive  
critique and reverse critique by Jan Briggs  
(please indicate number of people (No. ....)) \$.....
- TOTAL** \$.....

- ☐ **Silent Auction** (I will be bringing items for silent auction)
- ☐ **Tree for Critique** (I will be displaying a tree for critique)

Name: .....

Phone No:.....

Address: .....

.....

Club Affiliation: .....

Please return this form together with cheque/money order to:  
The Secretary, Bonsai Federation of Australia Inc, PO Box 40, Beechwood. 2446.

Closing date for registration is 4 June 2010 (late registrations will not be accepted).