Landscape Views

The newsletter of the International Saikei Association 栽景

May 2011 Issue 31

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This E-Magazine is provided to members of the International Saikei Association

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International Saikei Association

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May 2011

Appreciating, Encouraging and Promoting the Art of Saikei

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Quick News and Board Activity

General News

Editor

The board is going to try and meet either online or in person before the end of June. If anyone has any items they wish to put forward please send them to newsletter@saikei.co.uk and we will try to ensure they get put on the agenda or under any other business.

We understand that David Penny will be working on some Saikei during the Eastbourne and Wealden Bonsai Show at Stonecross Hall on the 2nd of July and again at the show at Humbees, on July 17th.

Website

Editor

Please can members who are willing to act as a contact point for ISA in their country/area of residence let us have their details so we can publish, email and telephone for interested persons to contact. We are going to provide a pack for any potential members as part of the new website plan.

It is our hope that you will let us know about any events you have planned so that we can let other enthusiasts know about them through this newsletter and our website.

Send your news and events to newsletter@saikei.co.uk

Learning Opportunities News

Learning Coordinator

The dates for the next ISA Certificate level 1 will be announced shortly if you wish to register your interest please email learning@saikei.co.uk

We are also interested if you view this newsletter as part of the learning process as we do.

Events and Shows

Eastbourne Bonsai & Saikei Show 3rd of July 2011

Events Coordinator

The Eastbourne and Wealden Bonsai Club will be holding their show on the 3rd of July. There will be a good selection of Bonsai and Saikei on display and David Penny will be giving a demonstration of Saikei.

The show will be open from 10.00—16.00

The address is : Stone Cross Hall, Stone Cross, Eastbourne, East Sussex

Eastleigh Bonsai Show 17th of July 2011

Events Coordinator

The Association has been invited to attend the Eastleigh Bonsai Group show at Humbee's Garden Centre which is almost directly opposite Marwell Zoo near Winchester.

The Association will be putting on a display of Saikei and members will be creating a few Saikei under the watchful eye of the president of ISA. There will also be around 90 bonsai on display.

The show will be open from 10.00—16.00

The address is: Thompsons Lane, Owslebury, Winchester, SO21 1JH

Bonsai World 2011 3rd and 4th of September 2011

Events Coordinator

The Association has been invited to attend the Bonsai World show at K2 Leisure Centre in Crawley, West Sussex.

The Association will be putting on a display of Saikei and other Japanese Cultural Activities will be demonstrated. There will also be some of the best bonsai in the country on display.

We will post more details in the next newsletter.

The address is: K2 Leisure Centre, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 9BQ

The website for further information is: http://www.bonsaiworld2011.co.uk

If any member outside the UK wishes to attend this event please contact us and we will arrange to have local information sent to you regarding where to stay, local airports, places to eat and local contacts for the Association.

Back to Basics

Lowland

The lowland style is one of the easiest to create this is because the composition concentrates on movements in the soil rather that impressive rock formations.

A Lowland Saikei

A typical rock in a lowland setting

A typical scene might be a meadow with a stream running through it or a woodland with very smooth, some might say uninteresting rocks, just visible amongst the moss. As with all Saikei the only limit is your imagination.

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Creating a lowland Saikei

To start lowland Saikei you will need to get a variety of small trees and plants I often find that looking at pictures of lowland scenes helps in the arrangement stage. Try to focus on certain elements in the scene that will create harmony and naturalness.

- Begin by placing netting over the holes of the pot, and then introduce the stones into the composition. The stones provide visual anchors to the composition so be very careful about the arrangement.

- Bed the stones with either sand or natural clay to avoid excessive movement in the pot. Then add a layer of soil avoiding the parts where you will be adding aggregates to represent water.

- Now start to place the plants starting with the largest first and then reducing to the moss. Then gradually add soil around the trees and plants and contour the soil to give a natural impression. Use plants like thyme to represent shrubs in your landscape and use light moss in the spaces and dark moss under the trees and shrubs. This will give a better impression of light and dark contrast in the landscape. Remember in lowland styles there should not be a dramatic rise and fall in surface levels but use the soil and mosses to vary the level in small amounts.

A lowland lake

Saikei Tree - Cryptomeria Pruning

In this article we will be reviewing Cryptomeria pruning, with the use of these pictures and article you should be able to understand something of the techniques required to successfully train Cryptomeria.

In the previous article without some of the small varieties used in Saikei, the compact habit of the small leaved Cryptomeria necessitates strong and vigilant pruning of all new growth, entangled branches and overlapping shoots. The main reason that we prune Cryptomeria in this way is to ensure that space, light and air reach areas of foliage which we wish to use within our design.

He Cryptomeria will thicken at intersections between trunks and branches and so we must ensure that unwonted branches are removed as soon as possible otherwise we may find that trunk expansion happens where we wish good taper to be achieved.

Pruning

The best time to prune Cryptomeria is from mid-spring through to the end of summer. A word of warning do not prove Cryptomeria during the winter as the Cryptomeria is delicate after pruning and should be pampered by shielding it from intense sun and wind misting several times a day for a few weeks after it has been worked on. In the picture you can see a Cryptomeria photographed in the middle of May, you can clearly see the shoots that have been left unchecked until this time.

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Pinching

I have personally found that pinching of Cryptomeria is very successful ensuring redirection of energy to inner branches that would otherwise die. I found that by using tweezers you are able to access small shoots that your fingers would be unable to distinguish from other shoots.

You must be careful when using tweezers that you don't crush the shoot but simply to gently trap it so that it can be removed without the use of scissors. In the picture you can see the use of tweezers on a shoot in mid-May having been allowed to grow unchecked until this time.

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Pruning with scissors

Pruning with scissors should only be conducted where small branches are required to be removed or where soft pinching is no longer viable. The scissors must be sharp to avoid crushing and separating the cambium layer from the wood. You must ensure that you do not cut through any of the other surrounding foliage, if you do you will cause browning of the foliage where it has been cut which is very unsightly. In the picture you can see the correct way to remove a length of branch.

After-care

As previously mentioned Cryptomeria become very delicate after pruning and so therefore should be removed from direct harsh sunlight and placed in a sheltered position away from wind. I have also found it very beneficial to mist on a regular basis as this seems to dramatically improve the recovery time for the tree.

Feedback

If you have found this article useful then please tell us as it will help us to decide on future articles, if you have any suggestions regarding articles on subjects please contact us and we will make every effort to find an individual to write on that subject.

You can contact us by e-mailing newsletter@saikei.co.uk

Members News

Membership Drive 2011-12

We will be having a concentrated push on membership during 2011/12 at various shows. We are keen to hear from any member that has any ideas regarding ways in which we can promote the association.

We are also seeking opinions from members regarding what should be included in a welcome pack to new members.

membership@saikei.co.uk

If you are able to help with any of these items please contact us.

International Membership

We wish to encourage members from outside the UK and would be pleased to hear from anyone who feels able to promote membership to the association in their own country. We would like to help you by providing a membership pack aimed at residents in your area.

membership@saikei.co.uk

How to Pay your Membership Fees

Please send your cheque to Brian Dale or contact him to get a standing order form to pay annually directly from your bank.

We have also arranged a online payment scheme with PayPal and details of this can be obtained by contacting the vice president membership on the email below.

brian.dale@saikei.co.uk

Members News cont...

Show Help

If you are able to help at any of the shows please make contact with the show secretary who will be delighted to take your name ready for production of the rotas. On both shows we will require people to help set up and also to break down at the end of the day as well as people to man and act as promoters for the Association.

These promise to be very good events with plenty of trees and traders all displayed for your enjoyment, there may be an opportunity to get hold of a pot or tools that you might need. There will also be the opportunity to meet and discuss Saikei with members of the board, if you have a Saikei that you wish to discuss or get ideas on please bring it along and there will be individuals able to discuss and help with any Saikei problems.

Please remember that at each show we hold a best in show Saikei so if you have a Saikei but you wish to display please contact the show coordinator with details of which show you wish to display and the size of your composition.

events@saikei.co.uk

Feedback Please

Following last months plea we are again asking members to provide some feedback.

1. We are currently seeking some ideas for workshop venues and would be interested to hear from any members.
2. Please can you let us know if you have any ideas for improvements to the services that are currently provided to members.
3. The current learning resources are being reviewed and we would be interested to hear if there are any subjects which members would like to learn more about.

newsletter@saikei.co.uk

International News

Please pick up your pen

We are desperate for articles from our international members so please, please write down your experiences and let us have them.

You might write about:

- Your own Saikei.
- Local Show.
- A workshop you attended.
- A beautiful area.
- In fact anything about Saikei in your own country.

Please include pictures

Let us know your Countries Saikei and Bonsai news

We are asking all members to keep us informed of events and news in their countries. We want your events to be successful so please let us know and we will also put them on the website.

Please send all submissions to the editor at newsletter@saikei.co.uk

Views from a Lens

send your photos to newsletter@saikei.co.uk

Name: Islands

Created: 2003

Keeper: David Penny

Name: Beautiful Rock

Created: Unknown

Keeper: Nature

Name: Wooded Gorge

Created: 2009

Keeper: Colin Hampton

Name: Unknown

Created: 1990s

Keeper: Unknown

Photos can be of Saikei, other tray landscape arts or inspirational landscapes.

Suppliers

Name	Telephone	Address	Email	Website
Bushukan Bonsai	01702 201029	Ricbra, Lower Road, Hockley, Essex SS5 5NL	bushukan-bonsai@ic24.net	www.bushukan-bonsai.com
Southampton Bonsai Trees	02380 495729	6, Farmery Close, Swaythling, Southampton, SO18 2JX	info@bonsai-trees.com	www.bonsaitreessouthampton.co.uk
Downsview Bonsai	01323 485656	126 Wannock Lane, Lower Willingdon, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN20 9SJ	info@downsviewbonsai.co.uk	www.downsviewbonsaitreenursery.co.uk
Green Lawns Bonsai,	08700 347765	Hadleigh Road, Boxford, Nr Sudbury, CO10 5JH	enquiries@greenlawnsbonsai.co.uk	www.greenlawnsbonsai.co.uk

Clubs

Dai Ichi Bonsai Group (Essex)

Meets at Shenfield Village Hall, 1st Monday of each month call 01277 625 298

Eastbourne and Wealden Bonsai Club (Sussex)

Meets Hellingly Village Hall, 2nd Monday of the Month, call 01323 731 369

Eastleigh Bonsai Club (Hampshire)

Meets 2nd Monday of the Month, call 01489 789 962 or 07795 187 632

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