Derde uitgawe
2026

Koeda

Pretoria Bonsai Kai

The word Koeda is Japanese and means: 'Graceful branch'. It is pronounced Ko-eda.

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<u>In hierdie uitgawe</u>

From the editor	1
Vergadering 2 Mei	2
ABF 9	12
Vergadering 6 Junie	16
Progress history	28
Snippets	32
Terugvoer dem boom	33
Kalender	34
Sorgskedule	36

From the editor

Bonsai friends

Indications are that there is a very strong El Niño phenomenon developing.

El Niño is a climate phenomenon characterized by unusually warm ocean temperatures in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, which disrupts global weather patterns. In Southern Africa, including South Africa, El Niño events are associated with below-average rainfall, delayed rainy seasons, prolonged dry spells, and higher-than-normal temperatures. During previous El Niño years, South Africa experienced **significantly reduced rainfall**, particularly in summer rainfall regions. This leads to **drought conditions**, lower river flows, and declining reservoir levels, which can necessitate water restrictions and rationing.

It is therefore logical to accept that it will effect the watering of our bonsai trees. That is a scary thought because most members has trees that are many years old, and we do not want to loose them by not being able to water them.

What can we do?

Think out the box about efficient irrigation techniqques. Do not water with a hose pipe. Lots of water does not go onto the trees but onto the ground. Maybe water with a watering can and only pour water carefully onto the trees.

Maybe collect the grey water in your house, that is shower and bath water and even diswashing water, and use that on your trees. Maybe install water tanks and catch the rain water, how little there might be, from the roof, to use.

Good luck!!

Jaco

Peace is built by daily behaviour, not rare moments of insight.

Japanese Monk

Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026 - mini uitstalling

Links: Philip het hierdie oulike baie klein Vytjie gewys.

Onder: Org het hierdie Speldekussing of Basboom (Dais cotinifolia) op sy broer se plot uitgegrawe.

Onder: Hierdie Vy behoort aan Ds Danie. Hy is nie seker wat se soort dit is nie maar die boompie is vol vruggies op die oomblik.

Regs: Hierdie Wit-stinkhoutwoud van Christa se wortels het al heeltemal aanmekaar vasgegroei. Sy haal die hele woud as ’n geheel uit om die wortels te snoei.

Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026 - mini uitstalling

Links: Hierdie "Crab apple", Malus spesie, behoort aan Erika. Die boom is sowat 20 jaar oud en is van 'n klein plantjie in 'n swart kwekery sakkie gegroei.

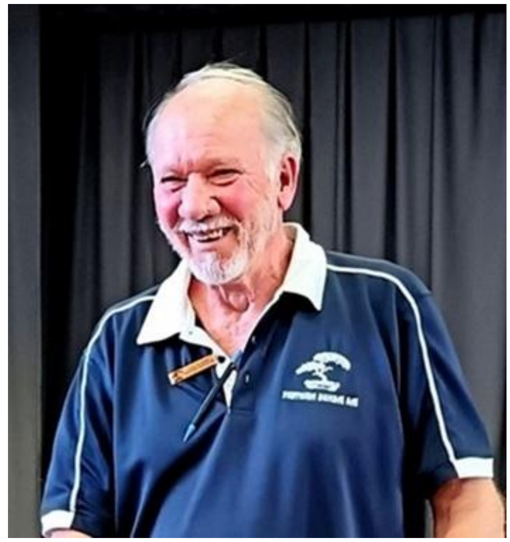
Regs: Jaco het hierdie Natal vy as geskenk gekry in 2024. Hy het die vergadering raad gevra oor die lugwortels, en of hy sommiges moet afsny.

Bo: Christa noem dat daar 'n paar boompies in hierdie "Maple" groepie gevrek het. Sy oorweeg nog of sy nuwe boompies moet invoeg of die groepie so los.

Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026

Woud

Deur Carl De Beer



Bonsai is ’n illusie. Mens skep ’n boom wat 100 jaar en ouer voorkom deur ’n klein boompie te gebruik. Die illusie maak gebruik van sterk wortels, ruwe bas en stamme en “taper” om ’n hoë boom voor te stel.

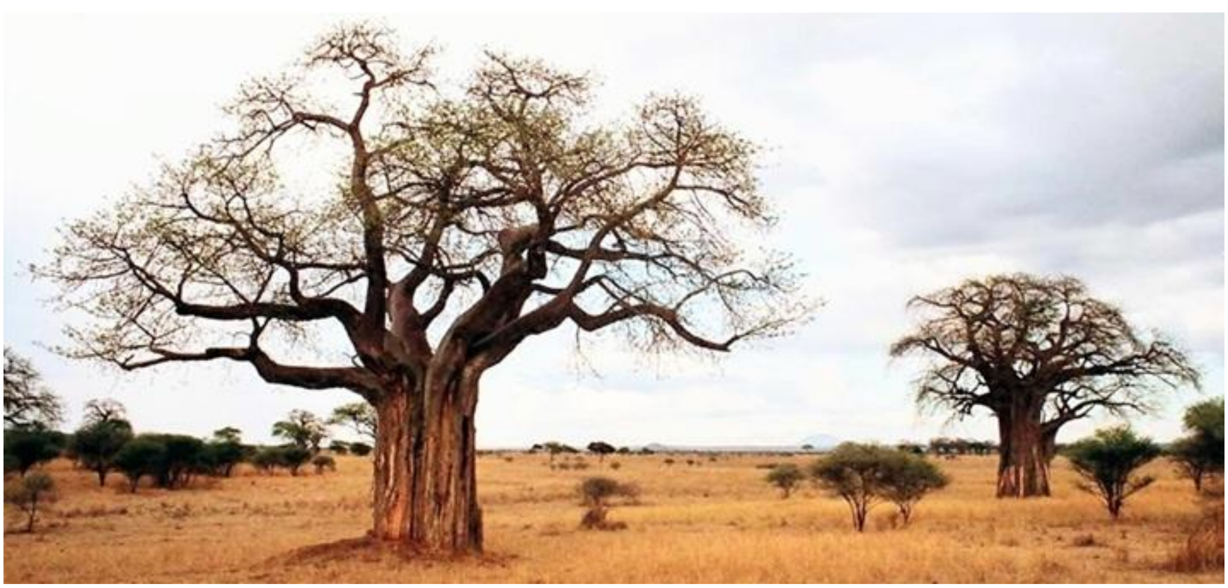
Dieselfde word gebruik wanneer ’n bonsai woud geskep word.

Onder is ’n woud van oorlede Charles Ceronio. Die woud is tans by die Pretoria Botaniese tuine uitstalling. Die woud het oorspronklik 53 boompies gehad, tans is daar net 20 boompies in die woud.

Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026

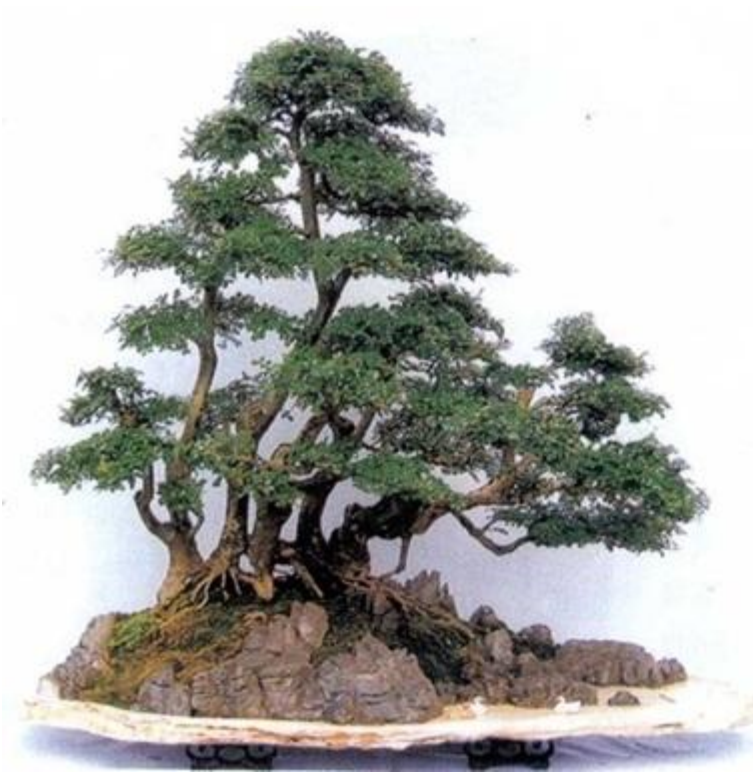
Bonsai woude kan van drie bome tot soveel as wat die kunstenaar verkies wees. Die woud bestaan uit individuele bome.

Hoe repliseer mens die geel woud, of die Kremetart woud, wat onder gewys word as bonsai?



Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026

’n Paar Bonsai woude vir bespreking:



In die skepping is die rotse fyn beplan. Die rotse gee ’n idee van hoe groot die bome is. Die illusie wat dus geskep is is dat die bome baie groot is. Dit is ’n vêr aansig. Waar staan die kyker in verhouding tot die woud? Die bome volg dieselfde beweging en vorm. Dit gee ook diepte perspektief, daarom bome aan die agterkant. Daar is ook negatiewe spasies. Die plat bak (klip) gee ook die illusie van ruimte, of oopte.

In die skepping is daar meer spasies tussen die bome. Die plat grond oppervlakte gee die illusie dat jy tussen die bome is, jy is naby aan die bome. Daar is ’n groot boom maar die aandag word deur die boom wat deur weerlig getref is getrek. Daar is baie negatiewe spasies tussen takke. Die plat vierkantige bak gee spasie dat die bome tot in die hoeke geplant kan word.

Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026

Rotse in 'n landskap moet reg gebruik word. Hier vertoon die rotse groot en laat dit dus die bome ook groot lyk. Dit is ook 'n vêraf aansig wat gehelp word deur die opgehewe grond oppervlakte. Die bome vertoon naby mekaar omdat die kyker vêr staan. Die fokus boom is 'n derde van die kant van die woud. Die bak is vlak en ovaal en skep die illusie van grootte. Die aksente aan die kant skep die illusie van klein boompies in 'n enorme woud.

Nog 'n vêr aansig. Die hoë grond profiel gee die gevoel dat mens opkyk na die groep. Die illusie is nie van enorme groot bome nie maar wel van ou bome. Daar is diepte perspektief deurdat daar boompies agter is. Die hele woud word basies die fokus punt deurdat dit mens trek na agter, diep in die woud in. Die regterkanste hangende tak gee die gevoel dat dit 'n tak is wat oor 'n stroompie hang.

Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026

Hierdie woud is groot en dig. Mens sien nie eintlik deur na agter nie. Mens kyk van vêr af na die woud daarom is die grondoppervlakte redelik gelyk. Tog is daar oop dele dat van die bome se stamme gesien kan word. Daar is mooi diepte met van die klein boompies wat agter gesien kan word en dit lok jou om in die woud in te stap. Die hele groep is die fokus punt.

Hierdie woud vertel 'n storie. Jare terug het ek in die ou Oos Transvaal gery net na daar 'n orkaan was en baie bome het omgewaai. Hierdie toneel herinner my aan wat ek daar gesien het. Jou oog word getrek na die oop deel waar die omgevalle bome lê. Die klein boompies regs gee die idee dat hulle weer opgekom en gegroei het.

Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026

Hier is die “pot” indrukwekkend en die skepping gee die idee dat dit bome teen ’n heuwel langs ’n stroom is en dan ook teen die anderkant van die stroom. In dié geval is daar korter bome voor. Dit gee balans aan die woud. Die blare “pads” gee die gevoel dat dit op en op gaan.

Hierdie is nie ’n bonsai nie, dalk ’n AI geskepte prent. Dit wys dalk die Serengeti met die oop en ruim wydtes, met min bome, plat aarde. Die perspektief is dat die agterste bome net so hoog, of selfs hoër is as die voorste bome. Kan mens so iets realisties skep?

Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026

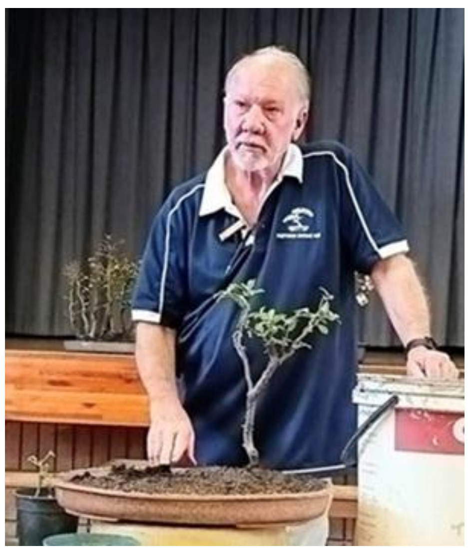
Hierdie was geskep by een van die BRAT vergaderings. Ek dink die foto was geneem voor alles voltooi was, as mens sien dat daar nog ’n boompie in die agtergrond in ’n sakkie is. Vir my is die linkerkantste groot boom te dominerend en te veel op die kant van die hele skepping. Maar soos gesê, dalk is daar later groter bome bygevoeg.

Indien hierdie werklik ’n bonsai skepping is is die Seringetti goed vasgevang. Die twee groter bome aan die kante kan dalk bieter dieper, na binne, in die skepping wees. Dalk is die skepping te simetries. Daar is ’n gevoel dat ek tussen die bome in die landskap staan.

Vergadering van 2 Mei 2026

Raad is dat die woud uit ongelyke getal bome bestaan. Maar na meer as elf bome tel dit nie meer nie. Die rede is dalk dat gelyke getalle maklik simetries kan raak. 'n Japanese miete is dat die getal vier met dood te doen het.
Om 'n landskap te maak is moeiliker as om 'n enkel boom te maak. Dit is nie maklik om genoeg, asook die regte bome, te kry nie. Die regte bak/pot is ook 'n uitdaging. Spesies met klein blaartjies moet verkieslik gebruik word.

Na die aanbieding en bespreking het Carl 'n baie mooi klein woud geskep met Vye boompies. Die boompies is voor die tyd bietjie bedraad. Carl het klippies onder in die bak geplaas. Hy het ook 'n groei mengsel met meer kompos in as gewoonlik gebruik, om meer vog te hou omdat die bak so plat is. Carl het 'n stuk gaas, wat hy met draad vasmaak aan die bak, onder in die bak geplaas. Hy maak dan die boompies aan die gaas vas. ♣



Autumn Bonsai Festival 9 - By Liam O'Flaherty

The 10th of November 2025 presented the very moment Heinrich Kohne, of the Bloemfontein Bonsai Kai, and I, while ordering pizza in a rainstorm, that I noticed an incoming phone call from Dr Tobie Kleynhans. Tobie invited me to present at the 9th ABF in 2026 with the restriction that my talk must be about rocks, as that is to be the theme of their next annual festival.

It is worthwhile mentioning at this point that although I appreciate rocks, they aren't really my thing. I don't collect rocks like many bonsai enthusiasts do and I don't have any desire to train bonsai that use rocks in their composition. Feeling somewhat hesitant and reluctant to accept this prestigious offer, I can thank my dear friend Heinrich for encouraging me to boldly exit my comfort zone and accept Tobie's very tempting offer, and I'm very glad I did.

I immediately returned to my hotel room, after a pleasant pizza evening with Heinrich and his family, to start brainstorming a proposal as Tobie requested. At the end of a very enjoyable rabbit hole, exploring the topic, I felt more than comfortable to present my research and inspiration in a presentation titled '*Between a rock and a pretty place'*.

It would have been at one of the 'water-drinking' appreciation afternoons I regularly share with Org Exley, the current chairman of our club, The Pretoria Bonsai kai, that Org expressed he would enjoy joining me and to support me in my presentation.

Now, at this point Tobie had kindly offered me, and my wife, accommodation at his home for the duration of our stay for the festival. My wife declined the trip as she is to rather enjoy the pursuits of her own hobby, being wool and knitting, later in the year but in France. I then had to see how possible it was to extend Tobie's offer to a 'partner' that wasn't my wife, but for Org. The conversation unfolded many jokes about my new 'partner' as one could imagine, but between all the humour lay a very kind obligation from Tobie, on two separate beds, and luckily, in two separate bedrooms too.

Org's comfort in the fact that just for a change, he could simply enjoy a bonsai get-together as a spectator, came to an end from a phone call from Tobie, like the one I received, but with the difference of being very close to the festival date.

Autumn Bonsai Festival 9 - By Liam O'Flaherty

Due to a last-minute cancelation from another presenter, and Org's reputation for being able to perform under pressure, while having his own room in George, presented the logical solution for him to join the entertaining line-up for ABF9.

However, Org wasn't the only one to be somewhat roped into the line-up. At the time I was preparing the three water-colour paintings that would form the basis of my talk, to be donated to the KRK, did my good friend Werner Hoek, the vice-chairman of the Kimberley Bonsai Kai, show me his hand-made replica of a rock formation inspired by his previous visit to Vietnam. Knowing very well that my bonsai-bro would also be attending the event, and that I was to visit Andy de Wet at the Aloe farm, who just happened to have the perfect burtt-davyis Werner needed for his creation, was I able to confidently pitch the proposal of Werner boosting my talk with a replica of the rock formation one of my paintings was to depict, being The Valley of Desolation.

Werner (right) and I with my paintings and his creation.

I could completely appreciate the amount of effort Werner would have to apply to accept my proposal, which he gladly did. The five burtt-davyi didn't seem a worthy exchange. My painting titled *'The Bladdernut at The Valley of Desolation'* seemed destined to return to Kimberley with Werner and hopefully be of some good company, as my dear friend drove to the festival, and back, alone.

So now two paintings remained to be donated to the host club of the event. A looming thought that Werner has planned his arrival to George to be in-time, to conveniently fetch Org and I at the airport and to be our lift to the two separate bedrooms awaiting at Tobie, as well as the invitational dinner for the presenters. Saddened that I would have to wave goodbye to my friend Werner after he delivers us to Tobie, I plucked the courage yet again, to ask Tobie if Werner may join the Friday dinner at his home.

Autumn Bonsai Festival 9 - By Liam O'Flaherty

Of course, Tobie said yes. This would begin the treasured and warm hospitality and comfort we would enjoy, for the duration of our trip, along with the inspiration that all the wonders that Sandi and Tobie's home offers. Thank you.

Also in the background was the very kind response to my request for a shohin-sized bladdernut to accompany Werner's creation to complete all the components to replicate my painting. My arrival to the festival on the Saturday morning was welcomed by a very frantic phone call, from the generous contributor, Kathy, explaining very apologetically that she left the bonsai at home and they too far into their journey to turn around to fetch it. The pleasantly constructive result of the phone call was hysterical laughter, and this wonderful exchange of fun, was the continued tone for the rest of our experience at the festival. Then unfolded all the insightful enjoyment of day one at ABF9.

Besides for a very slight glitch, that's greatest effect was on Werner's already boiling nerves and the required quick run of mine to the parking lot to find not just Werner's car, but the lap top inside it, the talks of Org, Werner and I went very well and were very well received by the appreciative audience that attended the festival.

(L-R) Werner, I and Org amongst the wonderful bonsai on exhibition.

I was incredibly humbled by the auction of my paintings. Under the very eloquent auctioning skills of Bryn, the goosebumps rippling my flesh during the auction were just in second place to the very emotion-provoking and inspirational talk of Andre Swart earlier that day.

Autumn Bonsai Festival 9 - By Liam O'Flaherty

The event presented entertainment and inspiration from every skilled demonstrator, but worthy only for historical reasons to me personally, was the demonstration of Earl Jefferys. You see, Earl and I share an identical educational background from nursery school, primary school then to high school. So, when Earl talks, the twist in his accent, he sounds like home to me. Our dialect is a very distinct and identifiable variation of South African English. At the event Earl gifted me his King Edward vii School centenary cap, that had a trip between a 'rock and a hard place' after being abandoned in an uber on the way home, but the cap is safely back and treasured with me back home in Pretoria.

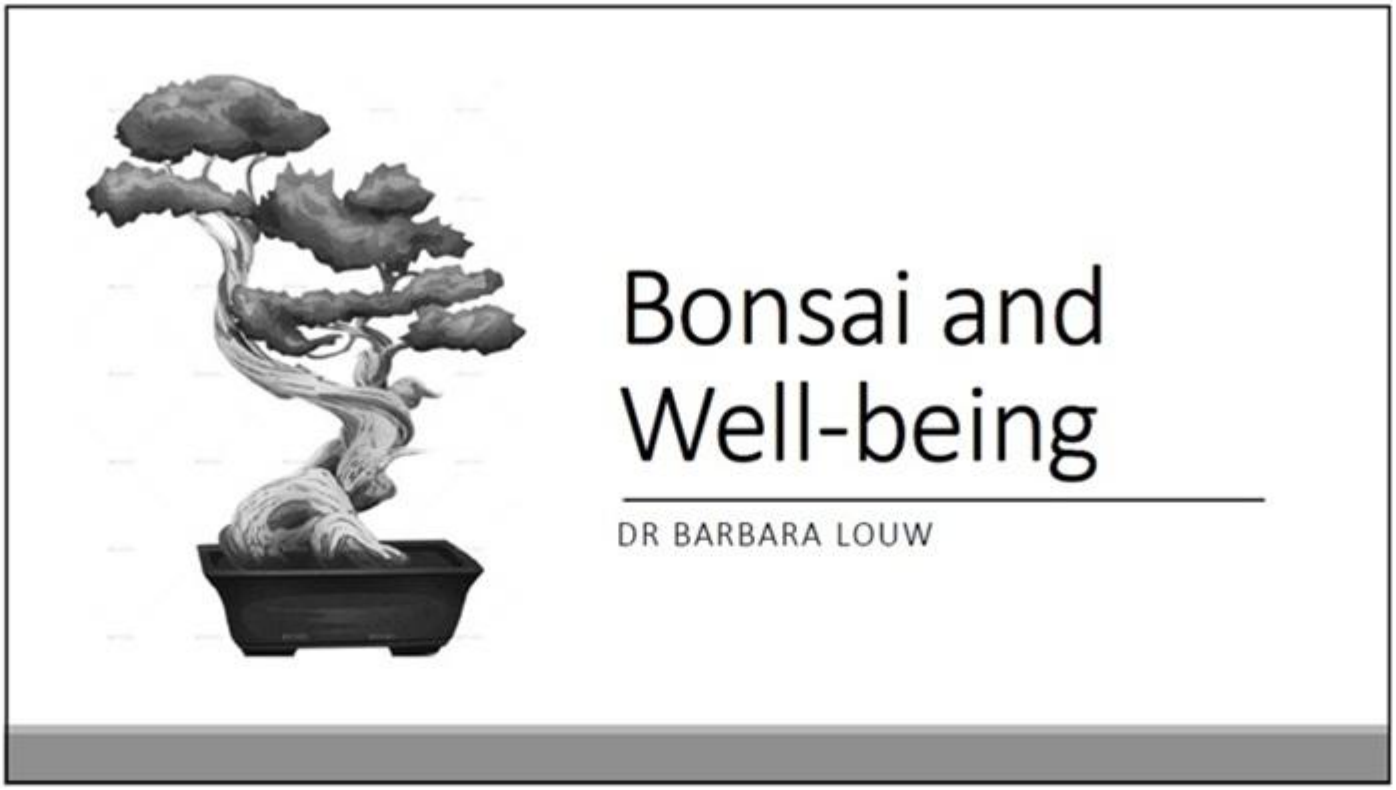
Romano (L), Earl (R) and I having all exchanges of fun at the festival.

Besides for the comfort of Earl's humour and manner of speaking, was the pleasure of everyone that attended the event, new friends and old ones, to further decorate the already warm hospitality we enjoyed for the duration of our attendance to ABF9.

ABF9 for me was not just a celebration of South African bonsai, but the exchange of friendships. It was a platform to share stories and to make new ones to share in future. There are many other accounts of fun and inspiration not mentioned here. Should anyone ever be considering to attend a future ABF, do know that besides the beauty the town offers, the event will not be a disappointment. ♣

(L – R) Myself, Kathy and Werner with the finally complete display when adding Kathy's 'better late than never' Bladdernut.

Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026



Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

What is it about bonsai that keeps people coming back year after year?

Which of these feels more like the pace at which human beings were designed to live?

Well-being is the experience of living in a way that allows us to flourish despite life's challenges.

Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

Well-being include...

- ✓ **Meaning**
- ✓ **Engagement**
- ✓ **Connection**
- ✓ **Growth**
- ✓ **Contribution**
- ✓ **Wonder**

Perhaps bonsai does not merely shape trees.

Perhaps it quietly shapes the way we engage with life.

The Bonsai Mind

- ✓ **Observation rather than reaction**
- ✓ **Curiosity rather than certainty**
- ✓ **Patience rather than urgency**
- ✓ **Development rather than completion**

Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

Well-being and Being Different

Most hobbies reward conformity.

Bonsai rewards...

- ✓Consistent attention to detail
- ✓Deep interests
- ✓Lifelong learning
- ✓Creative experimentation
- ✓Individual vision

Bonsai creates room for people who see the world differently

Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

Bonsai offers space for...

- ✓Introverts
- ✓Highly creative people
- ✓Neurodivergent individuals
- ✓Lifelong learners
- ✓Curious youngsters
- ✓Adults seeking purpose

without labelling anyone.

1. Bonsai engages the mind

- ✓**Productive fidgeting**
- ✓**Novelty and challenge**
- ✓**Infinite learning**
- ✓**Rabbit holes of discovery**

Bonsai gives the mind something interesting enough to focus on

2. Bonsai creates order

- ✓**Wiring**
- ✓**Design**
- ✓**Structure**
- ✓**Following natural principles**

In a chaotic world, bonsai offers a space where order can emerge

Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

3. Bonsai tells stories

- ✓ **Scars**
- ✓ **Deadwood**
- ✓ **Recovery after mistakes**
- ✓ **Development over time**

4. Bonsai creates belonging

- ✓ **Parallel play**
- ✓ **Club activities**
- ✓ **Mentorship**
- ✓ **Cross-generational friendships**

Bonsai allows people to connect without demanding constant conversation

The Three Times of Bonsai

Most hobbies occupy one moment in time.

Bonsai show us how to hold the past, present and future together

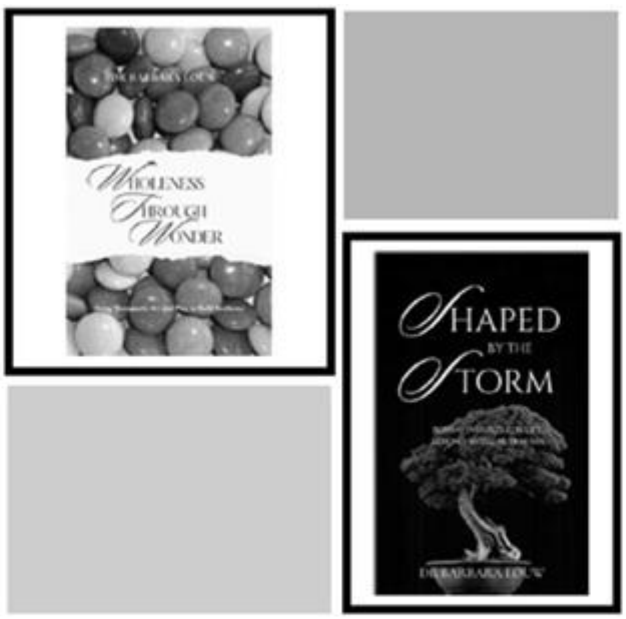
Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

Bonsai simultaneously connects us with…

The Past
The tree's history and scars

The Present
Hands-on engagement and observation

The Future
The vision of what the tree might become.



Dr Barbara Louw
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Wonder invites us to look closely.

Storms shape us in unexpected ways.

Growth continues long after we think the story is over

Perhaps this is why bonsai remains fascinating throughout life. Every tree contains wonder, storms and growth. So do we.

Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

DR BARBARA LOUW

The Emotional Benefits of Bonsai

Cultivating Wellness One Tree at a Time

Life-Changing Health with Bonsai | 6 June 2026

EMOTIONAL BENEFITS OF BONSAI

Mindfulness & Clarity

Caring for bonsai brings mental calm and presence, transforming routine into reflection.

Self-Reflection & Insight

Each scar and twist reveals inner strength and the beauty found in imperfection.

Emotional Grounding

Touching soil, shaping branches gently regulates emotions and fosters a sense of security.

Empowerment & Agency

Small acts of pruning echo the power of intentional and purposeful healing.

Connection & Belonging

Bonsai bridges people through creativity, story, and shared wonder.

Joyful Anticipation

Watching a tree grow reminds us that hope blooms slowly, but beautifully.

Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

FIVE PRACTICAL TAKEAWAYS

Paint with Play and Pause

Let joy be your brush and silence your canvas. In the stillness of tending your tree, creativity blooms.

Celebrate the Crooked Twig

Stop chasing perfection. Embrace your unique shape. Bonsai teaches us that beauty thrives in the unexpected.

Resilience is Gently Engineered

Bend. Don't break. Strengthening doesn't require force, it needs care, intention, and patience.

Grow in Tandem

Healing isn't a solo act. Share creativity, stories, and laughter, your roots deepen when nurtured together.

A BONSAI IS NEVER FINISHED

Neither are we, and that is the beauty of it.

AVAILABLE IN PAPERBACK & eBOOK

Wholeness Through Wonder
Unlock the Healing Power of Art & Play
ISBN 9781037031342

Shaped by the Storm
Bonsai Insights for Life Beyond Medical Trauma
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Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

Grondmengsels

Deur Anton Versteeg

Anton noem dat hy basies in ’n kwekery groot geword het. Hy het van jongs af saam met sy pa grondmengsels getoets vir geskikheid vir die plante in die kwekery. Hulle het sowat sewe mengsels vir verskillende potplante getoets, waarvan bemesting ook by sommige mengsels gevoeg was. Hulle het komersieële mengsels, soos Culterra of Braak produkte, ook later getoets en gebruik.

Wat is die basiese vereistes vir ’n groeimengsel?

1. Dreinering.
- Swak dreinering veroorsaak wortelvrot.
- Wortels het suurstof nodig.

2. Vog retensie
- Vog retensie het baie met die medium se korrelgrootte te doen.
- Die spasies tussen die korrels word deur water gevul en as die water gebruik is kom daar weer suurstof in. Die voghouding is dus die oorbrugging tussen droeë tye.
- Die medium moet aangepas word afhangende hoe gereeld mens water kan gee. By die kwekery kon tot ses keer per dag water gegee word.

3. Gewig
- Gemak van hantering. Te swaar is moeilik om te dra. Te lig kan die plant omwaai in die wind.
- Stabiliteit van die plant (boom) in die houer.

4. Anker
- Vanselfsprekend - is albasters goeie anker?
- Medium moet verskillende deeltjie groottes bevat

5. Voeding
- Groeimedium self kan voeding gee, soos dolomiet asook organiese materiaal
- Indirek deur voedingstowwe vas te hou en vry te stel

Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

6. pH

- Plante soos Azalea wat lae pH verkies. As blare geel is is die medium nie suur genoeg nie.

7. Buffer

- Water is deur die dag nodig. As jy in die oggend natgooi moet daar genoeg vog gehou word tot die middag.
- Selfde met voeding. Moet kan terughou en oor tyd vrystel.

8. Stabiliteit van groeimedium

- Hoe vinnig breek dit af
- Hoe gereeld wil ek verplant
- Verfyning van medium en moontlike verswakking van eienskappe

Voorbeelde van bestandele: Organies en anorganies.

- **Perliet**
  Goeie waterhou vermoë
  Breek weinig af
  Swak buffer vir bemesting
  Lig in gewig

- **Sand**
  Swaar
  Stabiel vir boom
  Prakties geen voedings buffer
  Waterhou vermoë hang van korrelgrootte af

- **Gruis**
  Selfde as sand

- **Steenkoolas**
  Medium gewig
  Het redelike waterhou vermoë
  Is maklik vol soute
  Is maklik alkalies
  Nie maklik verkrygbaar nie
- **Vermikuliet**
  Lig
  Goeie waterhou vermoë
  Goeie bemestingsbuffer
  Word maklik saamgepers

Vergadering van 6 Junie 2026

- **Puimsteen / Pumice**
  Baie lig
  Stabiel
  Kan water en bemesting vashou

- **Akadama**
  Hou water en bemesting
  Redelik stabiel
  Maklik vol soute

- **Cocopeat**
  Baie water en bemestinghou vermoë
  Redelik stabiel
  Maklik vol soute

- **Potgrond (potting soil)**
  Maklik verkrygbaar
  Dikwels reeds 'n mengsel
  Dikwels bevat dit bemesting
  Per handelsmerk redelik homogeen

- **Dennenaalde**
  Breek stadiger af
  Word suurder soos wat dit afbreek
  Baie goeie dreinering

- **Kompos**
  Veranderlik agv beginmateriaal
  Breek deurlopend af
  Voorsien voeding
  Goeie buffer
  Relatief lig

Mengsels: Meng verskillende materiale saam om verskeie eienskappe te kry. Bv suur van dennenaalde, waterhou van perliet, gewig van sand. Bemesting kan ook aanvanklik ingemeng word.

'n Goeie basiese resep kan in baie gevalle werk. Prys en beskikbaarheid speel 'n rol. Elke mens moet sy eie mengsel vind wat by jou omstandighede pas, soos hoe gereeld kan jy water en bemesting gee. Wat is jou mikro klimaat, wat se spesies het jy. Maak seker dat jy oorplant voor die material afbreek. Die mengsels is dus baie persoonlik!! ♣

Progress history of trees

At the Japanese festival I showed a small Trident Maple (Acer buergerianum) which was in its autumn colour. I was asked by someone about the progress and history of the tree and decided to show it in the Koeda.

I request that any reader who has similar records of trees to submit it to the editor please.

Trident Maple progression: by Jaco Kriek

The start

I was given a very small tree by a Kai member in 2009. The tree was in a black bag and the member grew it from seed. I unfortunately do not have a photo of it then. In Januarie 2012 I planted the tree against a rock. I again replanted it in 2015 into a plastic bucket, photo right. I must say at that stage I had no idea where I was going with it.

The main growth was in the apex of the tree. In September 2018 I replanted it again into a larger plastic container and I removed most branches, except for a little bit in the top. In hind site I should have cut it back harder. Photo showing the growth in the apex.

Progress history of trees

Photo on the right taken in Oktober 2018 when I planted it into a growing bucket and the way I cut off most branches.

In August 2020 I replanted it again into the same growing bucket. The tree had a lot of roots and was somewhat rootbound. I also removed the one large root that was bothering me as well as some top growth, photo below.

In Augusts 2024 I replanted it again and trimmed the branches much shorter. I was only now starting the visualize where I possibly wanted to go with the tree. Photos below.

Progress history of trees

By October 2025 it has grown well. It made long thin branches which I cut to the first or second leave, photos below. I defoliated the tree in December 2025.

Progress history of trees

January 2026 it was looking good with new leaves, below. Autumn 2026 it made the best autumn colors it has ever made. I don't know why and I wish I did know because I would like to do the same for the future. Because of the autumn colour, I showed it at the Japanese festival.

My future plan is to keep it very much as it is. I will regularly trim and defoliate the tree in order to get fine ramification and small leaves. To me it is a natural looking tree and I plan to make it like the tree on the right, which is a tree in nature. ♣

Snippets

Our Environment.

South Africa faces severe water scarcity due to low rainfall, population growth, and aging infrastructure. One way to use less water is to use drought-resistant plants and landscaping techniques to minimize outdoor water use.

Inspirasie uit die natuur

Ilza het hierdie pragtige Kameeldoring in die Vryburg omgewing afgeneem. Die Kameeldoring is nie geskik vir bonsai nie maar die vorm van hierdie boom kan tot inspirasie wees vir bonsai.

Terugvoer oor demonstrasie boom

Die vergadering van 1 September 2018 was by die huis van oorlede Pieter du Plessis gehou. Daar was aan 'n hele paar bome op die dag gewerk. Een van die bome was 'n klein Olienhout van Christa Vermaak. Francois Kaalvoet het die dag saam met Christa aan haar boompie gewerk. Die onderste foto van die werk en hoe die boompie daarna gelyk het was in die vyfde uitgawe van 2018 van die Koeda geplaas.

By die vergadering van 1 Augustus 2026 het Christa die boompie op die mini uitstalling gewys. Christa behandel die dooie hout met Olyfolie en glo dat die olie die dooie hout beskerm en dit gee ook 'n baie mooi donker kleur aan die dooie hout. Ses jaar later se versorging en die boompie is mooi en gesond. Wys weereens dat bonsai tyd neem en dat mens maar geduld moet hê. ♣

Bonsai Kalender — Deur Francois van As

Wat doen ons in September?

Met die aanbreek van September kom die lente en warmer weerstoestande. Die meeste bladwisselende bome moes nou reeds uitgeplant of herpot en die wortels teruggesnoei gewees het. Vir sommiges, byvoorbeeld Witstinkhout en die Akasias, moet 'n mens verkieslik wag totdat hulle bot, maar herpot voordat die botsels oopgaan. Die meeste immergroen bome kan nog tot in vroeg September herpot word. Wildevye se wortels moet verkieslik nie gesnoei word voordat temperature verhoog nie. Blomplante soos Azaleas moet nie herpot of gesnoei word voordat die blomme afgeval het nie. Jenewers kan ook nou herpot word alhoewel hulle 'n langer herpotperiode het, tot diep in die lente. Moet nooit boompies wat pas wortelsnoei en herpotting ondergaan het, te gou begin bemes nie. Dit kan die pas gesnoeide wortels beskadig. Beskerm boompies wat herpot is teen die laaste koue wat mag voorkom.

Hou bome wat bedraad is fyn dop, veral takke wat uitermatige groei toon. Verwyder alle bedrading indien nodig en wees baie versigtig om nie die delikate nuwe groei te beskadig nie.

Soos temperature verhoog, neem groei toe en is dit nodig om watertoediening en voeding te verskerp.

Wat doen ons in Oktober?

Teen Oktober bevind ons ons in die tweede maand van die lente en die warmer weer laat die boompies verseker vinniger groei. Onthou dat die beste manier om digte vertakking te verbeter, opgesluit lê in voortgesette snoei. Groeipunte kan voortdurend uitgeknyp word, behalwe waar 'n tak verleng moet word. Wanneer uitloopsels begin verleng, kan hulle teruggesnoei word tot een paar blare. Dit sal kompakte groei bevorder. By naaldhoutboompies kan kerse tot tweederdes teruggeknyp word.

Vervolg op volgende bladsy

Bonsai Kalender — Deur Francois van As

Met al die nuwe groei en ‘n toename in watertoediening moet voeding nie agterweë bly nie. As jy vinniger groei in jong plante wil aanmoedig, gebruik ‘n produk met ‘n hoë stikstofinhoud, maar by die handhawing van meer gevestigde bome, waar ons nie wil hê die blare moet vergroot nie, kan ‘n produk gebruik word wat weer hoër kalium en fosforinhoude bevat met ‘n laer stikstofinhoud.

Behandeling teen peste kan ook ‘n aanvang neem aangesien skadelike insekte en swamsiektes hulle verskyning kan maak.

Bonsai-groete

Francois van As

Hoe lyk Pretoria se klimaat hierdie tyd van die jaar?

Pretoria het ‘n gematigde savanne (grasvlakte) klimaat met warm, nat somers en droë winters. Van Mei tot September reën dit selde en wanneer wel, is dit maar min.

Maand	Gemiddelde maksimum temperatuur (°C)	Gemiddelde minimum temperatuur (°C)	Gemiddelde ure sonskyn per dag	Gemiddelde aantal dae neerslag per maand	Gemiddelde mm neerslag per maand
September	26	12	10	3	6-30mm
Oktober	27	14	9	9	61-100mm

Bron: http://www.whatstheweatherlike.org/southafrica/pretoria.htm

Naturalness isn’t about neglecting the details of styling. It’s about forgetting that the bonsai you are looking at has been touched by a human hand. Morten Albek

Sorgskedule / Maintenance Schedule **Seisoen:** **Season:**		Vroeg lente Early spring	Mid-lente Mid-spring	Laat lente Late spring	Vroeg somer Early summer	Mid-somer Mid-summer	Laat somer Late summer
Maand / Month:		**Sep**	**Okt / Oct**	**Nov**	**Des / Dec**	**Jan**	**Feb**
Die boom se jaarsiklus **The tree's yearly cycle**		Herontwaking, nuwe groei Reawakening, new growth			Nuwe groei New growth	Kort dormante periode, konsolideer nuwe groei Short period of dormancy, consolidate new growth	
Aksie / Action	Bonsai van saad Bonsai from seed						
	Bonsai van steggies Bonsai from cuttings						
	Verplant / Potting						
	Herpot met wortelsnoei Repot with root pruning	Immergroen en bladwisselende bome Evergreen and deciduous trees					
	Vormsnoei Formative pruning						
	Knyp groeipunte Pinch growth points						
	Bemesting / Fertilizer						
	Insekdoders / Insecticide						
	Somerbeskerming Summer protection						
	Winterbeskerming Winter protection						

Seisoen: **Season:**		Vroeg herfs Early autumn	Mid herfs Mid autumn	Laat herfs Late autumn	Vroeg winter Early winter	Mid-winter	Laat winter Late winter
Maand / Month:		**Mrt/Mar**	**Apr**	**Mei/May**	**Jun**	**Jul**	**Aug**
Die boom se jaarsiklus **The tree's yearly cycle**		Bery voor vir dormante periode Prepare for winter dormancy			Dormant gedurende die winter Winter dormancy		
Aksie / Action	Bonsai van saad Bonsai from seed	Vir beste resultate gebruik vars saad For best results, use fresh seed					
	Bonsai van steggies Bonsai from cuttings						
	Verplant / Potting						
	Herpot met wortelsnoei Repot + root pruning		Immergroen bome Evergreen trees				
	Vormsnoei Formative pruning						
	Knyp groeipunte Pinch growth points						
	Bemesting / Fertilizer						
	Insekdoders / Insecticide						
	Somerbeskerming Summer protection						
	Winterbeskerming Winter protection						