



## WAVERLEY BONSAI GROUP NEWSLETTER

Waverley Garden Club Bonsai Group  
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and fax 03 5426 2448 for contributions, notes or  
getting added to the email list.

### July 2009

**Next Meeting** (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month)

**Venue:** rear hall, St John's Church, cnr Virginia  
& Alexander Streets, Mt Waverley (Melway ref  
70 D1)

**Date: Tuesday 16 June – 8.00 pm start**

**Presenter: Victor Liew – Improving Nebari on  
Maples**

**DISPLAY TABLE THEME** (novice,  
intermediate) + Ken's Choice

**Tree of the Month:** Deciduous

**Style:** Multi trunk

**&**

**Ken Woolven's/ Barry Butterworth's choice:**

Any styles & any species

**So, there are two categories:**

1. **Tree of the month and the style** – bring in  
that type and style as your first alternative
2. **Ken's choice** – any other trees at all that you  
think might be worthy. No excuse for not  
bringing in something because anything is  
OK to display.

#### NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE.

- **This month's tea room duties roster**  
= Vicky Douglas & Clynton Douglas.

**Members:** On arrival please sign in with our smiling  
doorman for prize draw (and insurance) purposes.

Annual **member ship fees** are due on 1st July (if you  
attend the Garden Club, pay your total fee to the  
Bonsai Group, as we pass on the Garden Club  
portion). Family \$40.00, Single \$35.00, new member  
\$15.00 once only joining fee, \$2.00 if you use credit  
card.

We need a member of the Club to replace Robert  
Cutts, who has stepped down due to ill health.  
Elections will be during the August meeting.

Members who did not respond to recent requests for  
**financial member ship renewal** are now removed  
from the email circulation list.

**Library books** not returned by the following meeting  
will incur a fee of \$1.00. We all love the library and ask  
all to play their part in keeping the books available for  
others.

### Events Calendars

**Geelong Bonsai Club – 1 & 2 August.** Workshop  
with Lee Wilson from Sydney for 4 hr session @ \$25.  
Still a few vacancies. Call Bob White on 03 5426 2490

**WORKSHOPS-** at the St John's Church Main Hall

- SAT. OCTOBER 3 at 12 noon till 5pm

#### Annual Show

- The roster will be handed around at the July  
meeting for the Saturday & Sunday, everyone  
please do your share.
- Also we need volunteers to set up on the  
Friday, please advise Bruce separately that  
you are available to help on the Friday.
- All members are requested to supply plants  
for the Show.
- We are newly paid up members of the *Royal  
Horticultural Society of Vic* & information will  
be on the notice board in future.
- To go ahead with dinner arrangements we  
need 40 members to attend the Show Dinner  
on the Saturday night

#### Bonsai Island nursery (Philip Island)

- The visit has been arranged for **30  
August**, arriving at approx 10.am, or when  
you can get there, with 20% discount to  
members with Club ID. Make your own way  
or pool cars. The afternoon is free for a pub  
meal, fish & chips, chocolate factory, walk on  
the beach or return home etc, being your  
choice.

#### Melbourne Zoo

- We have been invited & accepted the  
invitation to put on a display at the **Melbourne  
Zoo** again this year, **on 5/6 September**, the  
Sunday being Fathers Day. It was a great  
weekend last year so please join in & you will  
also have time to take in the Zoo, No entrance  
fee to helpers.

- Imagination Tree at Monbulk has its **20% off sale** on Sunday 23 August.
- Ted has advised Shirley Poynton is making good progress, sends her love to all & would welcome visitors.

## Member Trees on the Display Table

### From Last Meeting:

Brian Sampson treated us to another feast of imaginative bonsai creation. Never did a clump of fused bricks get such attention!



Brian had these fused bricks set aside for a special project and tonight it was the time.



A well qualified helper was on hand too.



And what a transformation.



It was a bit of a chilly night and some trees decided to stay at home ☹️

## Seasonal Notes - AUGUST

### From the last Workshop session:



## Seasonal Notes – JULY

Autumn to winter is an excellent time to shape, re-style and redesign any of your trees, especially with deciduous trees. The bare branches allow you to see your tree's framework and any defects.

Good time to go rock collecting.

Spend more time making your display area more attractive; re-position your trees and/or build or repair shelves.

Move trees into sunnier positions as required.

Reduce watering and only water in the mornings AS NEEDED as this reduces the likelihood of rootrot. Also allow soil to dry out between watering.

Remove excessive moss to improve air circulation and drainage. Retain excess moss in a seed tray for later use.

Excellent time to update your records.

Prepare or obtain your soil in preparation for the potting up season.

Obtain pots that you will require when you pot plants into bonsai pots..

Clear away dead leaves and debris from your pots and regularly check trees for fungus and insect attack.

Move trees that require protection from frost and cold to more sheltered areas.

An excellent time to enjoy bonsai books and videos of demonstrations from our excellent library.

This is a busy time of the bonsai year, as trees are root pruned and repotted before the buds burst.

Prepare for potting by sorting your pots; ensure they are clean, choose which pots to use for which trees.

For deciduous trees, the ideal time for repotting is when the leaf buds start swelling but are not yet opened into new leaves. Maples develop new growth very quickly. Mulberries and liquidambers are usually very early in sending out new shoots; zelkovas and beeches later.

Cedars, spruces and pines tend to be early; cryptomerias later.

Most blossoming and fruiting trees are best potted after flowering, but sometimes leaves emerge during the flowering period – repot before leaves emerge, even if during flowering.

Use the swelling of new buds as a guide to ideal potting times, but there are some variations:

Cotoneaster	late spring to summer
Flowering Quince	best in autumn
Chinese Elm	may be root pruned later
Figs	late spring (October to February)
Azalea	spring, after flowering
Eucalypts	summer
Serissa	later in spring
Juniper	anytime

Most deciduous trees can withstand quite drastic cutting of roots and even bare-rooting. However **beech, hornbeam, oak and conifers should not be bare-rooted as they have mycorrhiza** (a beneficial parasite) on their root systems.

Trees are generally top-pruned in conjunction with root pruning.

Do not fertilise directly after root pruning and potting trees, as this may burn roots. Start fertilising these trees once they have recovered from the re-potting and are growing strongly again. This can vary from a month after re-potting or until late summer.

Trees that have not been root pruned can be fertilised with a weak solution as soon as new buds burst and leaves begin to unfold.

After repotting, wait a few weeks before attempting to wire a tree, to avoid damaging fine roots just emerging. Do not wire new shoots until the wood begins to harden.

Deciduous trees may need more water as they come into new growth, so adjust watering. Water thoroughly but do not over water

Autumn to winter is an excellent time to shape, re-style and redesign any of your trees, especially with deciduous trees. The bare branches allow you to see your tree's framework and any defects.

**Plants that have been repotted should not be fertilized for about 4-6 weeks and usually place the plant in a sheltered area for most of that period of time**

## WAVERLEY BONSAI GROUP - PROGRAMME 2009

Month	Cultural Notes- 15 mins	First Demonstrator	Second Demonstrator	Supper 15mins	Advice Topics [if time]	Display Trees	Display tree Style
January 20	Discuss Show Bench	<b>Craig Wilson:</b> From Gentiana Nursery 'Australian Natives as Bonsai.'		After Demo.	Cut & Paste with Natives	Natives +My Choice	Australian Style
February 17	Accent Plants	<b>Paul Paton :</b> Demonstration – 'How to PHOTOGRAPH your Bonsai'  <b>&amp; PRESENTATION NIGHT</b>	<b>Margaret Wong</b> Talk/Demonstration 'N.P.K.'	9.00pm	Use of Library – keeping records	Figs +My Choice	Exposed Roots
March 17	Use of Driftwood	<b>Ali Hassan Ali:</b> Demonstration of his 'Unique styling of Bonsai'		9.00pm	Penjing - Literati	Junipers +My Choice	Cascade or Literati
April 21	Autumn Pruning Tips	<b>Brendan Curtis:</b> Head Curator of the Japanese Garden at the Melb. Zoo. 'Power-point Presentation & Talk of his recent Garden Study trip to Japan'		After Talk	Care of Bonsai Tools	Autumn Colour + My Choice	Informal Upright
May 19	Trees & Stands- Prepare for Show	<b>Sally Christmas:</b> Talk 'Camellias for Bonsai'	<b>Short Demonstration – 'Re-style an old Cedar'</b>	9.00pm	Re-potting/ Root Pruning	Camellias/ Cedars + My Choice	Flowering/ Slanting
June 16	Making Muck	<b>Brian Sampson:</b> Demonstration by one of Australia's top Masters of Bonsai. 'Creative - Surprise Topic'		9.00pm	Critique - Display trees	Evergreen +My Choice	Saikai- or Group Planting
July 21	Suiseki- Viewing Stones	<b>Victor Liew:</b> Demonstration 'Improving Nebari on Maples'	Aerial Layering of Trees	9.00pm	Proper names of trees	Deciduous +My Choice	Multi-trunk
August 18	President's Report	<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Election of Club Committee</b>	<b>Michael Simonetta:</b> 'How to GRAFT - Conifers	Birthday Supper	Show Report	Pines +My Choice	Windswept
September 15	Styles; Size of Bonsai	<b>Mary Wilkinson</b> - from Bendigo Bonsai Club; Talk/Demonstration 'Growing Flowering Malus and Prunus for Bonsai' Styling & Pruning		After Talk	Use of Potash	Crab Apples - Prunus + My Choice	Flowering
October 20	Taking cuttings	<b>Trevor Wicks:</b> Power Point Presentation 'Ramification of BONSAI Trees'		9.00pm	Reduce needles on Pines	Elm Species + My Choice	Broom
November 17	Some Project Trees	<b>AABC Demonstrator to be announced OR Guest Demonstrator</b>	<b>Creation of a 'Raft' Style from a Chinese Elm</b>	9.00pm	De-foliation of Trees	Satsuki Azaleas +My Choice	Minis + Suiseki
December 15	Bonsai Quiz	<b>Question &amp; Answer Ask Panel of Club Experts</b>	<b>Bonsai DVD</b>	Xmas Supper - 9.30pm	Summer care	Beech, Liquidambar +My Choice	Formal Upright