



WAVERLEY BONSAI GROUP NEWSLETTER

Waverley Garden Club Bonsai Group
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August 2009

Next Meeting (3rd Tuesday of each month)

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

Date: Tuesday 18 August– 8.00 pm start

Annual General Meeting

A birthday occasion and "bring-a-plate" night

**Presenter: Michael Simonetta: 'How to GRAFT -
Conifers**

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

Tree of the Month: Pinus (Pines)

Style: Windswept

&

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**
= Margaret Wong & Sue Hoffman

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 still 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

WORKSHOPS- at the St John's Church Main Hall

- SAT. OCTOBER 3 at 12 noon till 5pm
- Wed 19 August. Bonsai Class with Craig Wilson
for a 7.30 pm start in the West/rear hall at St
John's Hall. The 8 enrolled people need to bring
tools, wire, cleanup bag and a demo tree for the
class for each of the 5 weeks of lessons.

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. **VOLUNTEERS
REQUIRED**
- Imagination Tree at Monbulk has its **20% off sale**
on Sunday 23 August at 136 York Road Mount
Evelyn

- Any members not receiving Bonsai & Garden Club Newsletters (2) please advise Secretary, as mailing lists have been updated
- Welcome to new member Susan Carpenter & returning member Peter Baker

From Last Meeting:

Victor Liew demonstrated the way to improve the nebari on maples.

First start with a little contemplation,



Judiciously mix in a bit of fine tuning on the delicate bits above ground..



and occasionally just grit the teeth and go like crazy with the big tree saw.

All part of the gentle art of bonsai.

Also on the night we had a presentation on **Suiseki- Viewing Stones**



Member Trees on the Display Table





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

Seasonal Notes - AUGUST

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

Seasonal Notes –SEPTEMBER/ Winter/ Spring

The last of the trees are root pruned and repotted before the buds burst. Trees are generally top-pruned in conjunction with root pruning. 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. 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

Maples develop new growth very quickly. Most blossoming and fruiting trees are best potted after flowering, but sometimes leaves emerge during the flowering period – repot before then, even if during flowering.

Shape conifers and deciduous trees as long as growth is not apparent. Add wiring to set the shape but monitor for any signs of cutting in as the growing season proceeds.

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.

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	Craig Wilson: From Gentiana Nursery 'Australian Natives as Bonsai.'		After Demo.	Cut & Paste with Natives	Natives +My Choice	Australian Style
February 17	Accent Plants	Paul Paton : Demonstration – 'How to PHOTOGRAPH your Bonsai' & PRESENTATION NIGHT	Margaret Wong Talk/Demonstration 'N.P.K.'	9.00pm	Use of Library – keeping records	Figs +My Choice	Exposed Roots
March 17	Use of Driftwood	Ali Hassan Ali: Demonstration of his 'Unique styling of Bonsai'		9.00pm	Penjing - Literati	Junipers +My Choice	Cascade or Literati
April 21	Autumn Pruning Tips	Brendan Curtis: 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	Sally Christmas: Talk 'Camellias for Bonsai'	Short Demonstration – 'Re-style an old Cedar'	9.00pm	Re-potting/ Root Pruning	Camellias/ Cedars + My Choice	Flowering/ Slanting
June 16	Making Muck	Brian Sampson: 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	Victor Liew: 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	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Election of Club Committee	Michael Simonetta: 'How to GRAFT - Conifers	Birthday Supper	Show Report	Pines +My Choice	Windswept
September 15	Styles; Size of Bonsai	Mary Wilkinson - 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	Trevor Wicks: Power Point Presentation 'Ramification of BONSAI Trees'		9.00pm	Reduce needles on Pines	Elm Species + My Choice	Broom
November 17	Some Project Trees	AABC Demonstrator to be announced OR Guest Demonstrator	Creation of a 'Raft' Style from a Chinese Elm	9.00pm	De-foliation of Trees	Satsuki Azaleas +My Choice	Minis + Suiseki
December 15	Bonsai Quiz	Question & Answer Ask Panel of Club Experts	Bonsai DVD	Xmas Supper - 9.30pm	Summer care	Beech, Liquidambar +My Choice	Formal Upright