

NEWCASTLE BONSAI SOCIETY

Newsletter

**JULY
2007**



The next meeting will be on Saturday 14th July 2007 at the Warners Bay Guide Hall with a Committee Meeting commencing at 9-30 am and a Workshop later. Chris Aullnut will hold a demonstration on Mini Bonsai.

Theme for this Month is Mini Bonsai (ie trees under 300mm tall). Feel free to bring along any Mini Bonsai for the display table.

June Meeting Washed Out. The scheduled June meeting was washed out due to severe flooding and storm damage throughout the Lower Hunter. It is hoped that all club members escaped the storms without too much damage.

AGM in August. Enclosed within this copy of the newsletter are forms for the upcoming AGM, which will commence on the 11th August 2007 at 10:30am. All committee positions are vacant and we need people to fill them. Please think about what you might be able to do and speak to Max or Erika about nominating yourself for a position on the committee.

Sub-committee Formation. A proposal to form a sub-committee to handle enquiries from organizations requesting demonstrations/shows has been presented to the committee. The committee has agreed in principle, but the formation of the sub-committee has been deferred until after the AGM in August. This sub-committee would also assist the show convener with the organization of the annual exhibition. Please speak to Max S if you are interested in becoming part of the sub-committee.

NEWCASTLE BONSAI SOCIETY

Newcastle Bonsai Society meets on the second Saturday of every month at the Warners Bay Guide Hall Cnr Burton Rd and Lamington Drive, Mt. Hutton. A bonsai workshop commences at 10.30 a.m. which usually includes a demonstration.

There will be a committee meeting commencing at 9.30am and all members are welcome to attend.

www.newcastlebonsai.org.au

P.O. Box 150 TORONTO N.S.W. 2283

PRESIDENT: Max Smider 02 4975 2772 SECRETARY: Erika Smider 02 4975 2772

TREASURER: Wayne Hohol 02 4946 8751 EDITOR: Geoff Farris 02 4952 9376

September Sales Day. At our September workshop this year, we will be holding a Sales Day to take the pressure off the sales table at our exhibition in November. If there is less stuff for sale at the exhibition then we should be able to display everything better and this will bring better prices for quality trees. This sale will be advertised to other clubs and the general public. So if you have stuff to sell please bring it along to the workshop on 8th September and we will do our best to sell it for you. We also expect to have a guest demonstrator at that workshop. More details on this later. This is an advance warning so that you can sort out your surplus trees and pots and have them ready for sale.

Privet. Our fellow club member Marilyn has privet in her backyard that she is wanting to get rid of. Marilyn lives in New Lambton Heights and can be contacted on 4957 5096 if you are interested in sourcing these trees. I understand that there is a range of tree sizes available for digging.

Progressive Raffle. We will be having another progressive raffle from May to July this year. The prize will be one of Peter C's figs and a Pat Kennedy pot. Tickets will be available from May workshop on and the prize will also be on display then. Photos of the prize are provided below.



NEW SHIPMENT OF POTS AND TOOLS HAS ARRIVED FROM JAPAN

POTS—Bunjin, cascade and many more

TOOLS: Full range for beginners to advanced
Cut paste, calus mate, rust & sap remover

DVD: Bonsai Techniques by Megumi Bennett \$19.95
(Ideal for beginners)

NEW RELEASE: Imported from Japan (limited supply)
Mount Fuji Beech-

WORKSHOPS: Black and Red Pines—4 times a year

Bonsai Art p/1—Imperial Bonsai Nursery

18 Myoora Rd Terrey Hills 2084

Tel: 02 94502802 Fax: 02 94501903

Email: bonsai@acay.com.au

Web: megumibennettbonsai.com

OPEN 7 DAYS
9am to 5pm

The 20th National AABC Bonsai Convention “Bonsai with Style”, Moonee Ponds, Melbourne by David Wood

We arrived early on the Saturday morning after we had a nice breakfast at one of the local coffee shops. Upon arrival Samantha and I registered and received our convention pack, which was a tool roll including some samples and information.

After finding suitable seats in the theatre (tiered seating so all can see), the first demonstrator for the weekend was Michael Persiano.



Michael Persiano working on a Juniper

Michael has written articles for Bonsai Today and Bonsai Europe, and has also co-written the Bonsai Today Master Series entitled: Growing and styling Japanese Black Pines and White Pines. At the convention, Michael worked on a juniper that consisted of three trees tied together and grown as one tree. The first branch that was used was the top of one of these trees, the second branch was another, and the last formed the apex.

During his demonstration, Michael spoke about “BONSAI RULES” and that they should only be used as a springboard to better designs. Michael emphasised the need to remove all branches that are not needed, as this will benefit the tree as it grows and helps to develop better branch structure.

Michael also spoke about fertilizers including organic versus chemical. Organic fertilisers (eg Dynamic Lifter) generally lead to greener, healthier trees when compared to using chemical fertilisers. The downside of this is the need for more frequent repotting. Michael's final comment was to feed often and change fertiliser frequently.



Michael's finished tree

After lunch we saw the second demonstrator, Marco Invernizzi from Malan, Italy. Marco became interested in Bonsai after watching Karate Kid 3. At the age of 16 he worked under Salvatore Liporace for around 5 years. Then he moved to Japan to work with Mr Masahiko Kimura for almost 4 years.

For the demonstration, Marco was given a large Olive to work. Marco likes Olives as he has worked on them before all around Italy.



When looking for the front of a tree, Marco highlighted the need to consider the trees GOOD and BAD points. GOOD points should be used as a feature, while BAD points should be eliminated, disguised or hidden. He recommended generating a list to compare good and bad points, and from this determine the best front for the tree.

Marco also talked about Bonsai Rules claiming that these were mainly designed for Junipers and Pines (Conifers). He noted that trees like Olives do not grow to these rules, in nature they grow unconstrained to no set pattern. He recommended that styling should be tree specific and focus on replicating how the tree appears in nature.

Finally Marco spoke about the focal point of trees. The focal point on a short tree will be near the base, while that for a tall tree or Literati is near the top. He suggested designing your tree with the focal point in mind, as this is where you will be looking. In terms of dealing with the apex; Marco recommended growing branches upwards or outwards.



Part 2 next month

Jobs for the Month of July

Early to mid winter are the quietest months of the bonsai calendar and suggestions made in last months newsletter apply also in July. As mentioned previously, be careful not to rewater trees while still damp. This can lead to root-rot or other fungal problems. Also, trees can dry out quickly in windy weather, so be sure to check your trees every couple of days and water as required.

Those members who have a large collection of trees may find it necessary to start repotting their deciduous trees towards the end of this month. Remember that 'bud swell' is the best time for repotting and usually occurs late August to early September.

Now is an excellent time to consider reshaping/restyling your deciduous trees as leaf drop allows us to freely view the tree structure and form. However, remember to take care when wiring as branches are brittle at this time of the year and break easily

If you have spring flowering trees, don't trim these as you could severely reduce your flowering.

Finally, July is a good time to spray all your deciduous trees and benches with a 3% lime sulphur to 97% water solution. Members report an improvement in spring foliage as a result of such treatment.



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**RAY NESCI
BONSAI NURSERY**

26 Sagars Road Dural NSW 2158

*** New Carving Tool Attachments Just In* (As seen by past European Demonstrators)**

From : Bonsai Design Holland, www.samurai.nl

Samurai 6mm shaft - \$259 (Very powerful & efficient in bulk clearing of wood)

Samurai jr 6mm shaft - \$173 (Ideal for detailed work in difficult places)

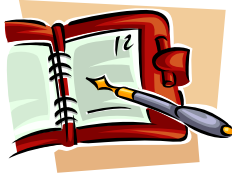
Ninja 6mm shaft - \$199 (For work on medium and large size trees where precision & accuracy are needed)

Shogun short 6mm shaft - \$168 (Long length carving attachment of 62mm, enables insertation deep into the tree to create Saba miki)

Shogun long 6mm shaft - \$188 (As per Shogun short)

(For pictures and additional information see above website)

For purchase enquiries phone number as above or email: raynescibonsai@bigpond.com



DIARY DATES

JULY 14 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop plus tutorial on mini's by Chris Aullnut

AUGUST 11 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop plus AGM and election of new office bearers and committee

SEPTEMBER 8 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop and SALES DAY

SEPTEMBER 8-9 Megumi's Annual Bonsai Exhibition at Checkers Resort at Terry Hills

NOVEMBER 2—4 Newcastle Bonsai Society Annual Exhibition at Club Macquarie

NOVEMBER 10 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop plus guest demonstrator Chris Di Nola

DECEMBER 8 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop plus Christmas Party

DISCLAIMER

The opinions and information expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributing author and not necessarily those of the Newcastle Bonsai Society.