

NEWCASTLE BONSAI SOCIETY

Newsletter

**JUNE
2007**



The next meeting will be on Saturday 9th June 2007 at the Warners Bay Guide Hall with a Committee Meeting commencing at 9-30 am and a Workshop later. Bob Nieass will hold a demonstration on Bonsai Basics (Care and Maintenance).

Theme for this Month is Evergreen Informal Upright (ie Junipers, Cypress, Pines etc). Feel free to bring along any evergreen informal upright trees for the display table. Our senior club members will also be on hand to assist with styling of these trees.

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.

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.

Jobs for the Month. A new section has been added to the newsletter outlining specific tasks for the month. This will hopefully assist some of our new members.

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

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.

AGM in August. Don't forget the AGM in August. 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.

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 on page 5 of this newsletter.

Bonsai World, located at Mudgeeraba Old, closed its door to the general public on 7 April 2007. The nursery will continue to offer online services and will be accessible by bonsai enthusiasts through appointment only. For more details go to their website located at: www.bonsai-world.com.au



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

AUSSIE STYLE

Ok, some of the members that only adhere to the 5 basic styles to have come out of Japan won't like this story, but I think that as Australians we need to have at least one of these trees in our collection.

So what is this style and how can we do it. What I do is look at nature and mimic what can be found. I personally see an Aussie style tree to be an open branched bonsai, maybe a couple of low pads but in general it needs to have air or viewing gaps through its foliage. Instead of having a triangular shaped tree, the Aussie style is more rounded, again shadowing what you would find in real life.

Some call it the canopy style, but I believe that once you introduce open space into the tree you can put it into the discipline of Aussie style, as long as it's not straggly and still in a controlled state. If you need some inspiration for this tree, then a drive through Islington or over to Stockton will certainly wet your appetite. The big figs that you will see are all fantastic examples of Aussie style.



Whilst this is not a recognised type of bonsai, some books do write about the Aussie style and acknowledge that its there. The basic design that I try to stick to is,

- Powerful base and radiating root system with taper in the trunk, as with any tree
- Medium to long branches that move out from the centre of the tree
- A must is open space or air gaps through the pads or clouds of leaves
- A general rounded appearance like what you would see in real life

The best tree to use for this is the Fig, and Port Jackson Figs are my favourite. They just seem to want to become this style naturally, you'd be surprised, I bet that if you look around in your collection, there would be a tree that could become an Aussie bonsai.

AUSSIE STYLE (cont'd)

Give it a go, they make a very rewarding bonsai and you can look at them and visualize yourself sitting under your tree on a hot day enjoying the shade. Remember its all about the illusion that you can create.

Greg S



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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

Jobs for the Month of June

The cooler months are now upon us as we enter Winter and you have probably noticed that not much is happening with the growth of your trees. Now is certainly the time to undertake bonsai jobs that were put aside due to pressures in the busier seasons.

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. Remember that before you embark on any dramatic branch bending that the tree is on the dry side as trees tend to be more brittle at this time of the year. Also remember that repotting of deciduous trees should not be undertaken until 'budswell', which occurs around Spring.

Some Conifers seem to become discoloured (brown/bronze tinge) depending on how cold it gets in your area. Expect also to see colour changes to the foliage of Azaleas, Buxus and Cotoneaster. The older leaves on your Figs and Privet can also 'yellow off' and fall at this time, but all the abovementioned changes are normal.

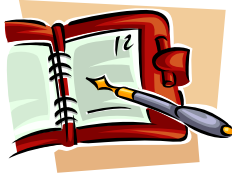
If you live in an area that is subject to frosts, then it is a good idea to consider moving your Figs to a more sheltered position such as under a large tree or gazebo. Also keep an eye out for 'black spot' on the leaves, which can be treated with Baycor.

Frequently, problems associated with watering arise in the cooler months with some trees being rewatered while still damp, thus increasing the chance for root-rot and other fungal problems. Trees such as Maples, Crepe Myrtle, Oaks and Olives are susceptible to mildew which can be treated with a 3% lime sulphur solution and can be used 2 to 3 times through winter.

It is recommended that you get into the habit of watering your trees in the morning, thus allowing sufficient time for excess water to drain before the cold night temperatures set in.

Progressive Raffle Prize—May to July 2007





DIARY DATES

JUNE 9 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop plus Bonsai Basics (Care and Maintenance) by Bob Nieass

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.