

# NEWCASTLE BONSAI SOCIETY

## Newsletter

APRIL  
2008



**The next meeting** will be on Saturday 12th April 2008 at the Warners Bay Guide Hall with a Committee Meeting commencing at 9-30 am. The theme for this month is 'trees in training'. Feel free to bring along one of your favourite trees in training for the display table.

Special thanks to Bob N for his demonstration on Australian Natives last month. Photo's of the demonstration are provided in this addition of the newsletter.

Congratulations to last month's raffle winners - Sam, Doris and Wayne.

**Demonstration volunteers:** At February's meeting David W asked if anyone was interested in doing a demonstration at the Australian Plant Society meeting, which occurs on the first Wednesday of the month at the Shortland Wetland Centre at 7pm. If interested, please speak to David W at the next meeting. Alternatively, you can register your interest with a rotary member at Mayfield West on any Tuesday at 6:15pm.

**Progressive Raffle.** This month the progressive raffle will continue with the prize consisting of a mature un-styled Juniper as well as a place in the Tony Bebb workshop coming up in November.

**Newsletter Articles.** To those budding authors out there, if you have any articles you would like included in future newsletters then please feel free to give them to me at a future club meetings.

### 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](http://www.newcastlebonsai.org.au)

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## **“CARE & MAINTENANCE”**

### **Part 3**

#### **5. LOCATION.**

It may not seem important in the overall scheme of care and maintenance but the location of your tree in relation to shade, sun, wind etc can be quite important.

Your geographical location does effect your Bonsai collection. Newcastle and immediate surrounds has quite a mild version of the four seasons. A little further out the seasons are different, if not slightly harsher. For example, summer in Cessnock can be hotter than near the coast and suffer considerably more frosts in winter than the Newcastle region.

Watering has been covered earlier so I'll cover some other facets here that the location of your trees is dependant upon.

Frost sensitive trees can be terminally affected and should be sheltered during the season when frosts occur. Shade cloth supported above the tree will do the trick as long as it lets through sufficient light. At this time of the year we want the sun, not the shade. Too much shade will lead to soggy soil mix and lead to root rot or even liverwort growth. As an aside, on clear winter nights in downtown Maryland, I use shade cloth over a frame to protect my chilli bushes in the veggie patch and then try to remember to fold it back the next morning. The bushes are now going into their fourth season. It works because the odd seedling that sprouted outside the cover gets frost burnt and suffers badly.

You'll have an idea of where the sun falls on your collection throughout the year and how that varies from season to season. Don't be afraid to shift your trees around as the seasons progress. Japanese Maples suffer from leaf burn so they prefer a well lit but protected corner through height of summer. Protection from those hot summer winds should also be considered. Black pines like full sun. Before my lockup was made, I had a Callistemon mini on the back patio that didn't flower one year when in previous years it had. I'd accidentally shifted it into an overall shadier position. It had not only become shaded in winter but also throughout the rest of the year by the grape vine and its foliage. By returning it to a sunnier position, it flowered again the next year. It obviously requires a certain amount of "non shade" daily throughout winter.

Remember that the spot in your yard where you keep your trees is a separate Microclimate in relation to the overall climate of the region in which you live. Heat reflections from fences and walls can affect your trees. Trees or roof eaves may lessen the amount of natural rain that hits some pots so you need to keep an eye on those so that they do not dry out too much. The neighbours must think that I'm crazy when I water my minis situated up under the eaves while in the middle of a rain shower. Those same trees and eaves can also affect the amount of direct light your trees receive as the seasons pass each year.

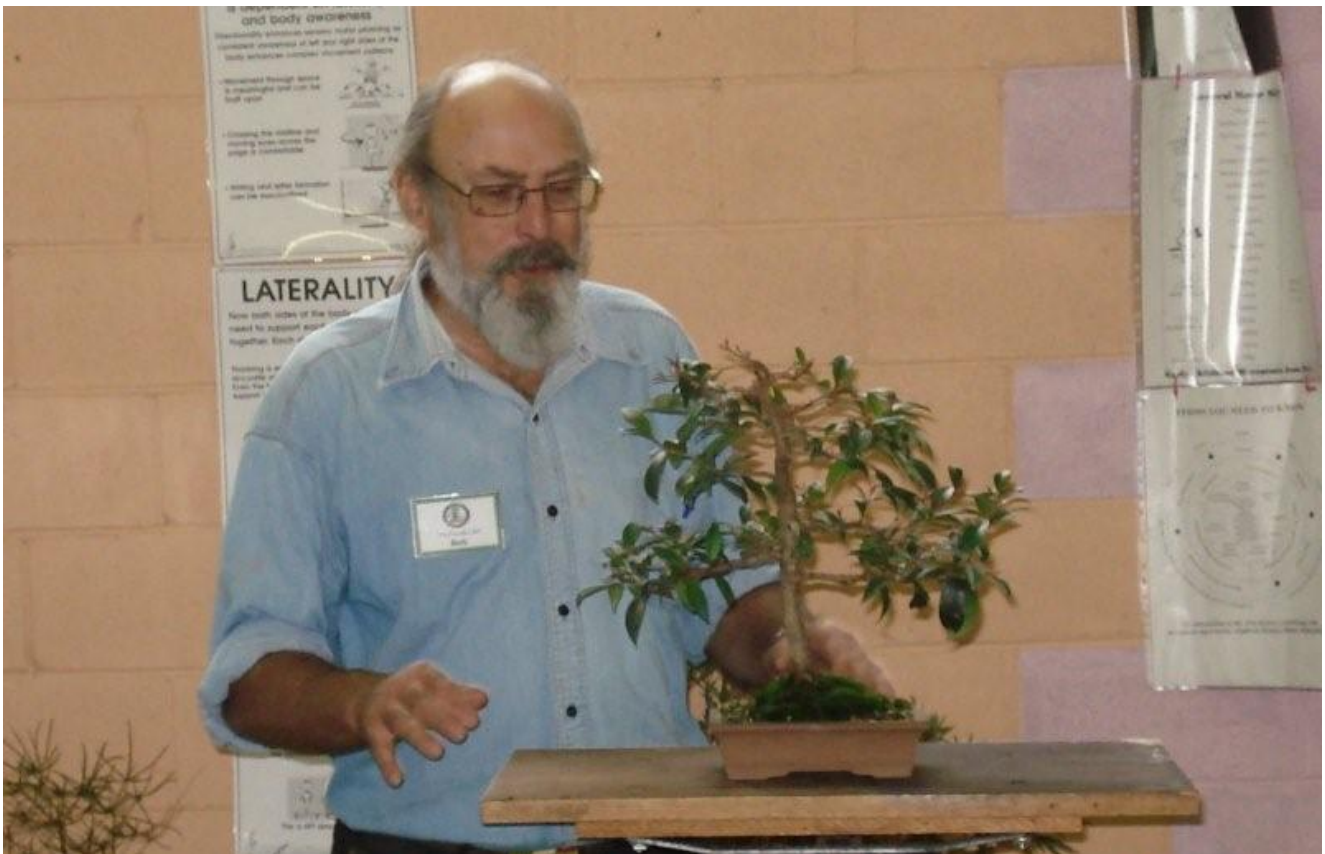
Although reading about that certain species or asking other Bonsai people, the end result is best given by seeing how your trees grow in the position that information indicates. Don't be afraid to move it to a slightly different position for a full year. It could prove to be better than the collected wisdom indicated.

The position of your tree within your collection should not be dictated by viewing alone, it is a collection of many factors that all work together to give you the best results for each tree and **that** ultimately gives you more pleasure when you look at them.

Cheers.

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Bob NIEASS

## Bob N Australian Native Demonstration - March 2008



## Bob N Australian Native Demonstration - cont'd



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 BONSAI NURSERY**

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

From : Bonsai Design Holland, [www.samurai.nl](http://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)

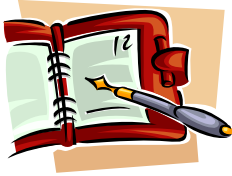
Ninja 6mm shaft - \$199 (For work on medium and large size trees where precision & accuracy are needed)

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](mailto:raynescibonsai@bigpond.com)



## DIARY DATES

APRIL 5 Bus Trip to Sydney nurseries.

APRIL 12 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop

MAY 10 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop

MAY 16 to 19 AABC Adelaide

JUNE 14 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop

JULY 12 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop

AUGUST 9 Newcastle Bonsai Society monthly workshop and Annual General Meeting

## DISCLAIMER

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