



NEXT CLUB MEETINGS

Green Square Community Hall
3 Joynton Avenue
Zetland

7pm Tuesday 9 April 2013
Debrief of Royal Easter Show
Pines workshop
Sue will demo root pruning a pine.

7pm Tuesday 14 May 2013
Guest demonstrator to be announced

CONTACT DETAILS

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COMMITTEE

Patron Dorothy Koreshoff

President Bryan

Vice President Sue

Secretary Alan

Treasurer Chris

Public Officer Warwick

Newsletter Editor Tony

Librarian Marianna

Catering Philip

Committee Richard

MEMBERSHIP

Full Membership \$40.00

Concession \$25.00

Family \$55.00

Pensioner \$25.00

Welcome to the April Newsletter

April Meeting

Pines workshop and a demonstration of root pruning a Pine

Sue will give us all a debrief of the Easter Show 2013.



Does this tree look familiar? See page 5 of last month's newsletter, the tree belongs to Sue Brennan and looked terrific at the Sydney Royal Easter Show



Bonsai Exotique is having its Autumn Sale and you're invited to a presale preview - see page 4

- Trees in training by club members experiment page 2
- Fig tree in need of a patron see page 3
- Elm Redemption, nebari reworking see page 3 & 4
- To see bonsai on display at the Sydney Royal Easter show turn to pages 5 & 6
- Events Calendar page 6

THE TREES FOR TRAINING BY CLUB MEMBERS EXPERIMENT

The Club has bought 5 trees that volunteers will train for a year, the trees will be brought back to the club every month so the other members can see how the trees progress.

At the end of the year the trees will be offered for sale.

These four trees have been taken by the following club members; (Roslyn, Anthony, Chris & Tony) We still need a volunteer to train the Port Jackson Fig. There is a picture of the Fig on page 4.



Tony's Azalea



Chris's Trident Maple



Roslyn's Hawthorn



Anthony's Chinese Elm

FIG IN NEED OF A PATRON & ELM REDEMPTION ARTICLE



We need a volunteer to train this Port Jackson Fig. Please let Sue know if you are interested in training this tree.

ELM REDEMPTION:

A bloke wandered into a bonsai meeting about 5 years ago with what had to be the ugliest Chinese elm going. It had been a 50th birthday present quite a number of years before and he knew it needed help. I got landed with it and with his permission took it home and started its long intermittent road to restyling and root restoration.

I don't have a photograph of Day One but it was in a huge tray pot, was about 50 cm tall and suitably wide, had three of the ugliest 'spider' roots that grew from spots high on the lower trunk, straight out and then straight down like spider legs.

The spider roots were the first to go, the height and width next and over the last several years the elm has withstood a great deal of restyling and while the tree will never take a prize it has gone from outrageously ugly to reasonable.

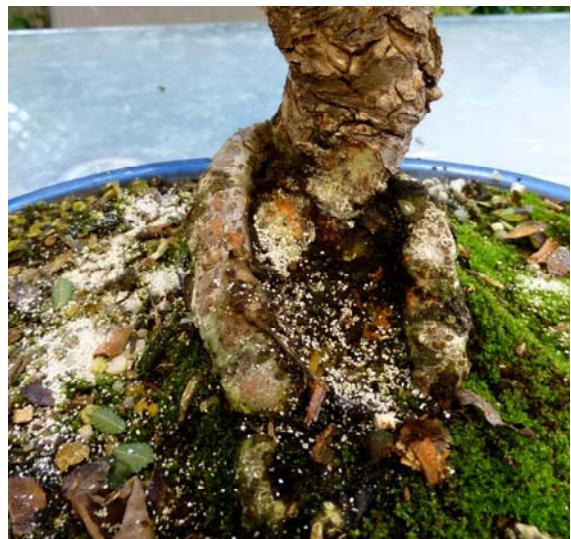
I am once again minding the elm, this time for 9 months so its care is ensured during an extended holiday and finally I could not stand the ugly nebari any longer.

The tree has an unfortunate surface root area that had to be improved. Due to the bulge on the trunk where the biggest spider root left its mark it cannot be turned to a better angle without massive reverse taper showing. The only position the tree can have is planted as it is now. Part of the problem was a thick root running from the front right of the trunk to the ground at the left and two main roots that swung from each side to meet in the front. This provided visual confusion, congestion and aesthetically was very wrong.

The nebari with the soil & the cross root removed from the root ball. →



Photo showing the original nebari with a major root running across the front of the tree and the two side roots meeting in the centre just in front of the parallel root.

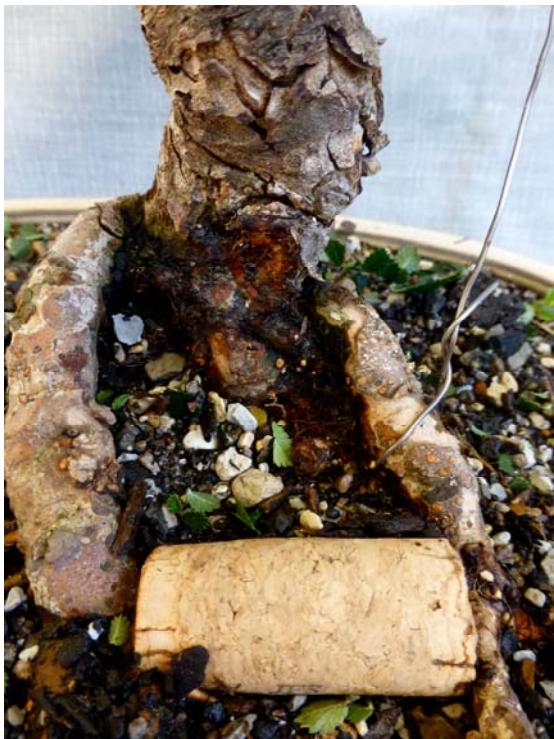


The nebari with the crossing and the parallel roots removed [and some ant powder to remove unwanted tenants]



ELM REDEMPTION & BONSAI EXOTIQUE AUTUMN SALE

The big restructure came by water washing all the soil away, working the tangle of subsurface roots apart and gently jamming a wine cork between the two front roots to separate them as much as possible. More separation would be ideal but to try to spread them wider would damage their attachment to the trunk so this will have to do.



The roots now separated by the cork that will stay until the new positioning is set.

The tree was replanted at the best angle that still presents problems as the tree's direction is to the left and the roots head to the right. This is being corrected by reshaping the foliage pads to give a 'right' feel.

Again, the tree cannot be turned more to the left due to the reverse taper that would appear. Developing the foliage areas is difficult as the tree has never sent out shoots on the trunk wood. Trying to rectify some of the faults of this elm puts me between a rock and a hard place but still, anything is an improvement over the way it looked when it first came into my hands.

Ideally it would be best to grow a new root system at the bulge to remove the ugly roots and the reverse taper but I lack the experience in grafting to try this on someone else's tree. As the owner is blind to the elm's faults, casual about its daily needs and not into bonsai enough to do any maintenance on the tree I think it is best to leave it with this latest alteration.

"There are no borders in bonsai. The dove of peace flies to palace as to humble house, to young as to old, to rich and poor. So does the spirit of bonsai."

– John Yoshio Naka



The tree is looking better with the latest work. The humorous side is the fact that the owner is not a bonsai enthusiast although he has two trees. He could not see the styling defects in the original tree and he cannot see the styling improvements that are now apparent.

He only sees that the bonsai is alive and that's fine with him. But as long as I am the frequent guardian of this commemorative bonsai and I have his permission to do alterations as I see fit I will continue to strive to make it as beautiful a tree as I can.



Bonsai Exotique will be having its autumn sale
On Saturday May 4 and Sunday May 5, 10am to 5pm.

They will have a large variety of bonsai ranging from developed trees at 30% off to a wide range of starter trees, including figs, Maples and Lillipillis.

Bonsai Exotique would like to extend an invitation to Sydney City Bonsai Club members to have a "sneak preview" of the sale on Friday May 3.

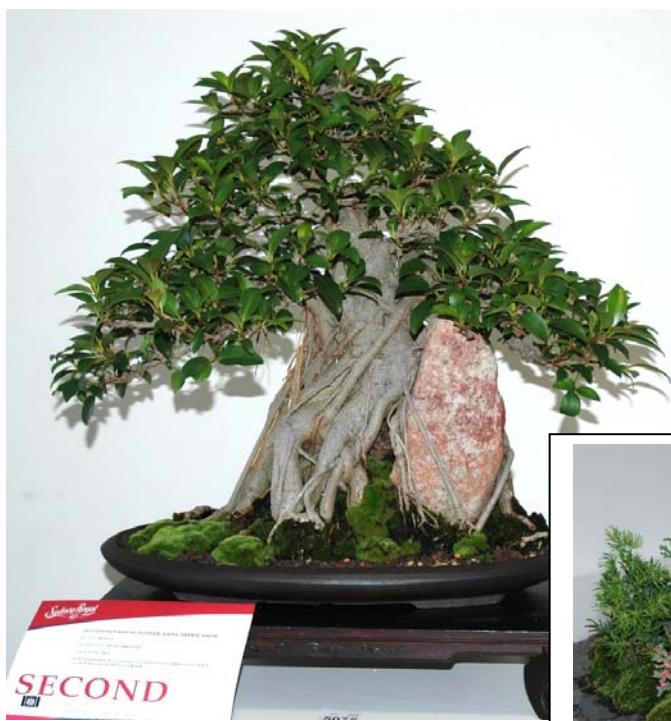
BONSAI ON DISPLAY AT THE SYDNEY EASTER SHOW 2013



"Move at the speed of the tree"

By Bonsai Zombie

BONSAI ON DISPLAY AT THE SYDNEY EASTER SHOW 2013 & CALENDAR



← Detail of the side garden in the Bonsai Landscape pictured above



Date	Event	Details
Sunday 7th April 2013.	Nepean Bonsai Society's Exhibition	PCYC (Police Citizens Youth Club) Station St Penrith
Saturday 13th & Sunday 14 th April 2013	8th Collectors Plant Fair	Hawkesbury Race Club, Racecourse Rd Clarendon
Friday 17th to Monday 20 th May 2013.	"The Australian Journey" the 26th AABC National Bonsai Convention, Canberra	. email secretariat2013@cbs.org.au for more info