



sydney city bonsai club inc.



NEXT CLUB MEETINGS

7pm Tuesday 10 October

Special Guest: Georgina Kretschmar will perform a demonstration.

7pm Tuesday 14 November

Lee Wright presents tools for bonsai + a Fig bonsai workshop

CONTACT DETAILS



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PO Box 329
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COMMITTEE

Patron Dorothy Koreshoff

President Neville Althaus

Vice President Sue Brennan

Secretary Lee Wright

Treasurer Neville Althaus

Public Officer Max Blanco

Newsletter Editor Tony Wilson

Librarian Philip Bell

Committee Philip Bell
Gary Graham

WELLINGTON BONSAI SALE

Lambert Wellington, an enthusiast who has been crafting outstanding bonsai for decades, is selling the last of his collection.

See inside for details

Welcome to the October Newsletter

For our September meeting the Sydney City Bonsai Club held a bonsai repotting workshop. Great advice was given and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

See inside for photos of the workshop and members' trees on display.

ANOTHER BIG SHOW MONTH

October offers three bonsai shows.

Canberra Bonsai Society Annual Show

Saturday 7 October 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Sunday 8 October 9:00 - 4:00 pm
Ainslie Arts Centre (old Ainslie Infants School) Cnr Elouera & Donaldson Streets Braddon

The Canberra Bonsai Society inc. presents an exhibition of traditional and Australian native Bonsai created by members of the Society. Admission: Adults \$4.00, Concessions \$ 2.00, Children (under 12 Years) Free

The Canberra Bonsai Society will have bonsai, pots, tools and plants on sale at the show with demonstrations of bonsai techniques at 11:00 am & 2:00 pm each day. There will also be a Bonsai Clinic at the show where you can bring your bonsai along for free advice.

For more details about the Canberra Bonsai Society please visit: www.cbs.org.au

School of Bonsai Show

Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th October, 2006 9am to 4pm each day
Ray Nesci Nursery, 26 Sagar Rd, Kenthurst/Dural.

- Free parking, free admission
- Free advice and styling tips (so bring your tree)
- Free morning and afternoon teas and coffee
- Sausage Sizzle Lunch - \$3 (proceeds to Westmead Children's Hospital)
- Terrific Prizes for Raffle
- Special Demonstrations:
 - Saturday 11am - Vince Frizza - Fig Group Planting
 - Saturday 2pm - Dennis McDermott - Eucalyptus for Bonsai
 - Sunday 11am - Brenda Parker - Suiseki comes alive
 - Sunday 2pm - Clinton Nesci - New Beginnings, resurrecting neglected trees and how to develop some large raw plant material
- Continuous Demonstrators: George Reisis will be demonstrating how to construct Diaza's for viewing stones ; Barry Craven; Ian D White; and others ...

South Coast Bonsai Society Show

Saturday 28 October & Sunday 29 October; Figtree Community Hall, Figtree

September's Potting Workshop

Dierdre Grusovin working on her 25 year old Azalea bonsai.



A group discussion led by from left to right: Neville, (Eric a visitor from France watches on) Lee, Dierdre & Sue Brennan (not pictured) to decide how hard to prune the canopy and later the roots of this Azalea bonsai.

Handy Hints by Jan Briggs of the Illawarra Bonsai Club

- We have had an abundance of rain of late that; means an abundance of moss growing everywhere. Collect it to dress up the soil surface so it will settle in before you put your tree on display. For future use, collect moss and place it on wet newspaper in seed trays in a cool damp place under benches.
- Speaking of rain we have received, and there is more to come, place containers and buckets out there to collect as much as you can (if you don't have a tank of course) and use this to water your trees when they become dry.
- Rainwater is a great tonic for trees in pots; you have probably noticed how green and lush they look after a shower
- When using this collected water you could add a small amount of organic fertiliser to give the tree that extra lift
- If you have flowering trees in full bud, hold off on any fertilising till after flower, otherwise you risk losing the flowers to new green growth
- It is important not to display a tree at a formal show completely covered in wire, especially on the trunk. If indeed you do need to have a small amount of wire, make sure it is as inconspicuous as possible.



Two views of William Hay working on his Juniper bonsai at the September workshop

Club Members' Trees on Display

Lee Wright says:

"One of the best ways to learn is to have others see our trees and comment on them. You don't have to agree with the comments, you don't have to take up the suggestions, but don't deny yourself the chance to increase your knowledge and improve your eye."

For more of Lee's insights, turn to page 5 for the October Edition of Browsing My Benches.



Japanese Black Pine
1978

By Sue Brennan

Stock bought from
Koreshoff's Bonsai
Nursery

This tree has been micro chipped by: BONSAIfe's Grant Kennywell
Grant reserves the right not to chip sick or stressed trees - 0407 737 200.



Japanese Black Pine 1995
by Sue Brennan



Paul Roy's:
Ulmus parvifolia cv
bonsai, 20 years
old.

Sue Brennan said
this tree reminded
her of the Acacia
Trees of Africa.



Neville Althaus's
Callistemon bonsai.

This tree has been in
training for three years,
the pot was specially
made for this tree.

Close up of the driftwood
carving on Neville's
Bottlebrush bonsai

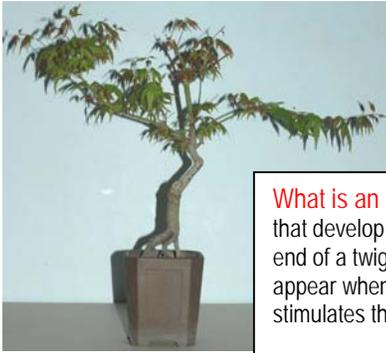
The driftwood was first
carved by nature, then
carved by Chris Di Nola of
the Illawarra Bonsai Club, &
later finished off by Neville



Above a close up of
the roots and lower
trunk of William Hay's
English Elm Bonsai,
Ulmus procera shown
left



Club Members' Trees on Display

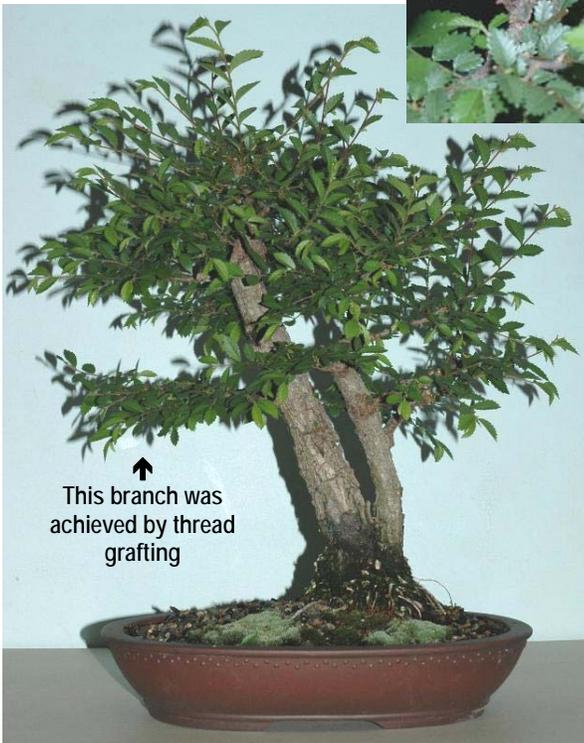


Paul Roy's Japanese Maple Bonsai - *Acer palmatum*

What is an adventitious bud? Buds that develop in places other than at the end of a twig or in leaf axils. They appear when pruning or wounding stimulates their development.

Any one who has heard any of Sue Brennan's terrific lectures will know them as **memory cells** (plant cells in the bark that can remember how to grow into vegetative buds). Both *Acer* and *Ulmus* species can produce adventitious buds.

Right a close up of thread grafted branches on Lee's *Ulmus parvifolia* shown below.



↑
This branch was achieved by thread grafting

Lee Wright's *Ulmus parvifolia* corky bark. The lower left branch was achieved by a thread graft

Sue Brennan says: "let the new shoots on *Ulmus parvifolia* harden up before pruning"

This gives the buds in the leaf axils time to mature and the hardened stem will not droop when new growth appears.

Thread Grafting

Thread grafting is one of the best grafting methods to attach new branches where they are needed on a bonsai. A stem growing on its own roots, or a stem still attached to the parent tree is used as the grafting material.

The technique in its most basic form is outlined below:

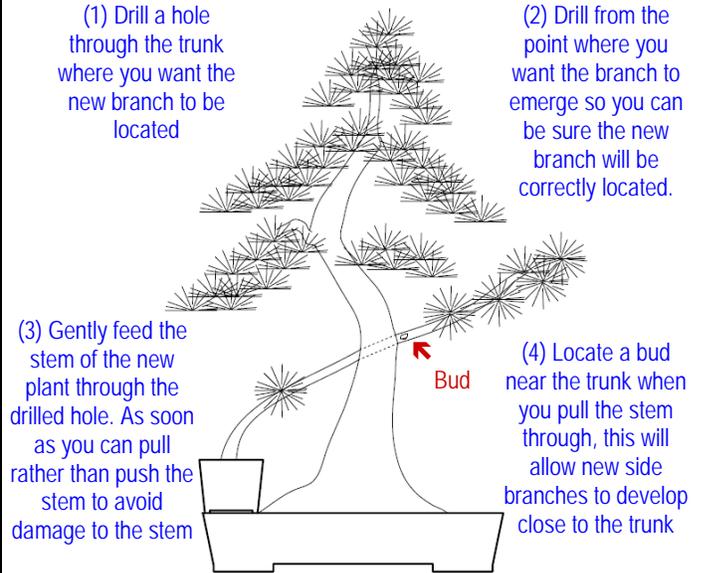


Diagram of a bonsai with a hole drilled through its trunk & the stem of a young plant with its own root system; fed through the hole to be a future side branch

- (5) The stem should fit snugly in the hole; a loose fit will slow the healing process
- (6) A slightly ascending angle is best for the new branch to be sure the buds will develop
- (7) Do not let any new growth develop on the stem on the pot side of the stem. Growth here will slow or stop growth on the new side branch
- (8) Once the new branch has thickened & produced new growth, gradually cut away the stem on the other side of the trunk. Do this slowly to be sure the new branch can be supported by the bonsai.



This thread grafted Maple image is from www.bonsai4me.com

For a more detailed explanation visit the site below:
<http://www.bonsai4me.com/AdvTech/ATthreadgrafting.htm>

Browsing My Benches – October

Lee Wright

Bonsai meetings are more interesting when members bring one or more trees for display.

This desired ritual is daunting to newcomers because their selection and their work is on display for everyone to criticise.

Well, that may be what it feels like but the truth of the matter is, everyone looks and learns by what others do as well as by what they do themselves.

The thing that is hard to come to grips with when you are a novice in anything is that those who are more experienced only got that way by application and everyone started out as green as green could be and feeling just as exposed.

I went to my first major workshop almost shaking at putting the working stock I had next to all the 'superior stock from the experts'. I was absolutely stunned to realise that a lot of the stock I was seeing was no better and some seemed far more immature than mine. It was an eye opener. And the odd and all but totally hopeless tree I added as an embarrassed after thought simply because I did not have a clue what to do with it was one of the more interesting workshop trees.

Everyone prowled around the stock plant areas assessing the trees. But no one criticized. We were all thinking what we would do, how we would style. We were all learning.

And that is what it is all about. Putting trees on display brings suggestions, not criticisms.

It can also be confidence building when an enthusiast offers suggestions that can help clarify styling possibilities and open new vistas.

If you are shy, nudge an elbow of one of the more senior members and ask them to discuss your tree privately.

It won't take you long before you will easily welcome a public discussion. It is a GREAT way to learn. And not just you... everyone learns.

Coachwood Nurseries Pty Ltd

900 Wisemans Ferry Road, Somersby NSW 2250
Phone Number: (02)-43-721-770 Fax Number: (02)-43-721-899

Ruth Donnelly of Coachwood Nursery:

"I have a large collection of Bonsai specimens that I now wish to sell. I have had most of them for over 20 years. We have many advanced trees and shrubs that could also be made into bonsai specimens for keen collectors."

There are some who can see their trees immediately but even experienced members get so used to the way their trees look they overlook styling flaws.

I have been showing a tree for two years in major shows and only as I packed it up from a meeting last month did it suddenly strike me that one of the branches should be removed, it was totally wrong. Why hadn't I seen it before and, more to the point (as far as I'm concerned) why hadn't someone else mentioned it??

The branch came off, the improvement was immediate though the tree will need to fill out and rebalance but I simply can't believe I did not see that for two years. It was SO obvious.

"One of the best ways to learn is to have others see our trees and comment on them. You don't have to agree with the comments, you don't have to take up the suggestions, but don't deny yourself the chance to increase your knowledge and improve your eye."

Bring a tree to every meeting.

SPECIAL SALE

Lambert Wellington, an enthusiast who has been crafting outstanding bonsai for decades, is selling the last of his collection. The trees on offer will be 50 large bonsai and 40 small ones with prices ranging from \$20 to \$3500. There will also be suiseki and display tables for sale.

WELLINGTON BONSAI SALE

Ray Nesci Nursery
26 Sagar Road Dural
28 October 9 am - ??

Sales are CASH ONLY

Lambert has some excellent trees and his expertise is widely known. The previous sale he held at Ray Nesci's opened at 9 am and the majority of the trees were sold by 9:30 am. Latecomers who arrived at 10 or 11 were faced with a very small selection. If you are interested it is advisable to arrive just before 9 am. Lambert is also a well known woodworker and his stands are handmade and quite beautiful. For those who are really keen on displaying bonsai this will be a fantastic opportunity to buy a custom made stand of quality and style.

It is sad when an ardent enthusiast has to part with his collection; age is very unkind. But it offers an unparalleled opportunity for others to add trees of age and caliber to their collections so don't miss this opportunity and don't be late!!

EVENTS CALENDAR 2006

| Date | Event | Details |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 30 Sep - 1 Oct | Goulburn Bonsai Society Annual Show | Wesley Centre, Goulburn. |
| 7-8 Oct | Canberra Bonsai Society Annual Show | Ainslie Arts Centre, cnr Elouera & Donaldson St, Braddon, ACT. |
| 14-15 Oct | School of Bonsai Show | Ray Nesci Nursery, 26 Sagar Rd, Kenthurst/Dural. |
| 28-29 Oct | South Coast Bonsai Society Show | Figtree Community Hall, Figtree. |
| 3-5 Nov | Newcastle Bonsai Society Annual Show | Club Macquarie, Argenton, Newcastle. |
| 17-19 Nov | Australian Plants as Bonsai | Details to be confirmed |
| 18-21 May 2007 | 20th AABC National Bonsai Convention | Featuring Michale Persiano & Marco Invernizzi. Clocktower Centre, Moonee Ponds, Melbourne, Victoria. For more info visit www.bonsainorthwest.com.au/AABC2007 |