

The YVBS meets on the **second Tuesday** of each month at the Mt. Evelyn Presbyterian Church Hall, 30-38 Birmingham Rd.

Mt. Evelyn



118 A12

Informal/Review sessions begin at 7:00pm with a call to order at 7:30.

Saturday Workshops are 2-5pm on the first Saturday of the month. (Japara House Shed; Melway 52 D7) Check the website for details!

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The Yarra Valley Bonsai Society Newsletter

Highlights from May and June 2010

The late autumn and early summer were no less crazy than our calendar of club activities. Many report leaves not yet turning well into June and azaleas flowering unexpectedly. So as many of our trees resist going dormant, so too our members were anything but in the past two months.



Tim presents a very well-received and comprehensive session on grafting and ageing.

From the standpoint of bonsai, clearly the highlight was Tim Vivoda's demo at the May Monthly Meeting. Tim spoke on some very easy grafting techniques and provided tips on how to add the appearance of age to trees, all the while crafting a few examples with driftwood. The nearly 85% turnout of membership was ample demonstration for the respect given to Tim for his ideas and insights. Tim held the audience transfixed for nearly two hours; he was just as generous with his stock as with his time, with a guessing-game giveaway of several trees and starters, including a few pines and the advanced fig pictured above.

The First Saturday of the Month Workshops continue to grow in size and time. We've extended the hours, now from 2-5pm and we may well need to search for a larger venue!

The second of four scheduled "Nursery Crawls" for 2010 went off well, with several members acquiring advance stock while taking advantage of the club bulk discount. In July, we'll have "Nursery Crawl—Part III" staying in our home area and including (in addition to the stalwarts of "A to Z Bonsai" and "Bonsai - The Imagination Tree") at least two nurseries where most members have probably never set foot. The fourth and final nursery crawl to points on the Mornington Peninsula and Phillip Island has been deferred until September in hopes of better weather, making the long trek more appealing and enjoyable. Check the calendar to the right or on our website for details.

Our members have also been busy at bonsai events and activities beyond the club. Several attended the Annual AABC Con-



May Display Table

Calendar Dates:

- 2, 4, 5, 6 July: BSV sponsored Workshops and Demos with Hirotoishi Saito. See bonsaisocietyvictoria.org for details;
- 3 July [SAT.] YVBS Workshop and Special School Holiday Kids Workshop. (see p. 8);
- 13 July [TUES] YVBS Monthly Meeting Featuring Michael Simonetto (see p. 8);
- 17 July [SAT] YVBS Pot Making Class Begins. See p. 2 for details;
- 25 July: [SUN] Free Workshop at Bonsai-The Imagination Tree. 12.30pm;
- 7 August: "First Saturday YVBS Workshop. 2-5pm.
- 10 August: [TUES] YVBS Monthly Meeting: Quentin Valentine on Pines See p. 8;
- 12 & 19 August: [THURS] Bonsai Course for Absolute Beginners. Offered by Japara Community House;
- 14-15 August: [SAT/SUN] Waverley Bonsai Group Annual Show. See p.6;
- 14 August: Bendigo Bonsai Club Workshop open to all/modest fee applies;
- 21 August: [SAT] YVBS Nursery Crawl III: Home Stomping Grounds, 9.30-4.00pm;
- 24 August: [TUES] YVBS Committee of Management Meeting. 7.30pm Venue TBA;

See also the Events Calendar on our website: www.yarravalleybonsai.org.au

May-June Highlights Con't from page 1

vention in Sydney and returned echoing much of the same discussion seen in other club newsletters and on the forums regarding the demonstrations provided by the keynote artisan. In addition, the demonstration at "The Imagination Tree" by Canberra artisan and National Bonsai and Penjing Collection assistant curator Leigh Taaffe drew nearly 20 YVBS members.

The evening of the Annual General Meeting in June was cold and nearly frostyweather-wise. The turnout was fairly decent considering AGMs have never been a big draw card in most organizations. The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted with minimal discussion or debate required. The membership elected to have an outside review of the financials of the club through 30 June 2010 as simply good governance. Following the formal AGM, a short business section looked at the idea of specifying a formal end time for meetings to assist in facilitating clean-up and spreading the responsibilities beyond the usual group of half a dozen or so members. This point was put forth for consideration and will be voted on at the July meeting.

The election of officers transpired with less than exciting fanfare, debate, and discussion. Re-elected unopposed (except for perhaps inner opposition from the minds of the candidates themselves!) were Bill M. as President, Rudi J. as Vice-President and Head of Syllabus, and Mark C. as Corresponding and Membership Secretary. Marketing Secretary duties were taken to a new officer post to which Mike C. was elected. Alan H. will be a new and welcome face among the officers, volunteering for the Treasurer position. Non-Office Holding members of the Committee of Management, who will together with the officers serve through 30 June 2011 are Marlene J., Warren S., Trevor J., and Jarrod S. Our thanks go to Warren for his work as Treasurer for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, and particularly to Peter R. and Chris S., who stepped down from the Committee. Both these gentlemen were present on the Committee from the Society's inception in 2008 and have been absolutely key players in helping the Society grow to its current ranks in membership, fiscal health, and curricular vigor. Again, a big thank you to all three retiring or shifting members of the former committee.

The committee in its new form will meet at the end of June to chart a strategy and draft syllabus for calendar year 2011. To keep the Society vibrant and responsive to the needs and hopes of the membership, all are sincerely invited to help the Committee keep from thinking and programming in a vacuum: we are ALWAYS welcome to your ideas for any club matters, from administration, to improving the website and online forum, to composition of the syllabus, and format of meetings.

A great way to get involved might be to volunteer to be on the Show Committee, which will begin meeting in early spring in anticipation for our SHOW coming up in April/May 2011!



Members at "Nursery Crawl" Part II



Bill and Rudi conduct an experiment at the AGM: Speaking about bureaucratic matters, how long until the first member falls asleep?: Answer: 23.5 min.



Andrew and Trevor share some ideas at the June AGM/Winter Workshop.



Inner Tree Search: June Workshop

Course Update for 2010

The club MAY sponsor a second section of each of the Novice and Intermediate Classes in early spring. Sign-ups to gauge interest will begin in July.

**QUIZ QUESTION:**

(Answer— page 5)



TRUE OR FALSE?: The proportion of the total area of drainage hole space to the overall surface area of the bottom of a pot must be between 1/40 and 1/50.

POTTERY CLASS/WORKSHOP

There are a few (4) places left in the pottery class slated for July. Classes will be between 10am and 12pm over four consecutive Saturdays beginning on 17 July. The venue is the Ferntree Gully Community Arts Centre. The instructor is Jo Maggs and the cost will be \$100 plus clay and kiln fees. Contact the club's gmail address to sign up.



Getting to Know You... Marcus and Callum

Callum's interest in Bonsai was started with a family visit to Williamstown when he was 4-- he was fascinated by the miniature world he encountered. By 9 he started making his own and we realised he needed some knowledgeable guidance. This was given by the Northern Suburbs Bonsai Club at Lalor for about 6 months but his training schedule at the time for his sport of choice, inline speed skating, made it impossible to attend meetings so his interest waned for a short while which also coincided with the family moving from Eltham to Montrose in 09. Happily we found the Yarra Valley club and Cal's passion has been reinvigorated, attending every club meeting, workshop and local nursery he can and a growing collection of trees in training and completed bonsai grace our yard again. Cal, 14 attends Billanook college, and his hobbies (other than forcing his will on small innocent trees) are radio controlled model cars & boats, electric 'stuff', dirt bikes and cycling. He collects trench art and vintage cigarette lighters.

His favourite Bonsai styles are informal upright, windswept, cascade and forest/groupings. Cal is less keen on "stickeratics" (literati) but willing to give them a go. There isn't a tree he doesn't like and wants to try them all and has been lurking around his Nan's back yard looking for old fuchsias or Wisteria! It is a little unusual to have a hobby that is enjoyed mostly by oldies. Cal would love to see other younger people take it up too, but enjoys his unique status and the friendly advice he has been getting from club members.

Born in the UK, Marcus has worked most of his career in Car Design, designing and managing car interior programmes around the world including all the recent Falcons and Territory. Since the GFC you will find him turning his skills to Kitchen Design which he loves too so talk to him if you are looking for a new kitchen. Marcus emigrated to Aus 2 months before Callum was born in 95. Marcus recently became an Aussie citizen, whilst wife Jane is a true blue Pascoe Vale girl. He also loves painting, sailing and skiing, none of which he has had the time or resources to enjoy for some time. Coming with Cal to club meetings has fired up his creative yearnings, though Cal is the family Bonsai authority at least for the moment! Marcus likes informals, cascades and root over rock.

Why Bonsai? Cal finds it relaxing, fulfilling and is constantly learning and being challenged. One day he will have a perfect bonsai but it seems a long way off. Expect to see this pair breaking the rules unknowingly and then knowingly in the years to come...And who is Cal's favourite team? Blame Cal's Pommie Dad's influence when you ask him his favourite footy team, he will probably change the subject and talk Bonsai.

In each newsletter, we profile a member or two as a means of getting to know each other better. In that spirit, and as our group continues to grow, members are reminded to bring their nametag/membership cards to meetings

Ask Mr. Miyagi.....



Q: Dear Mr. Miyagi: What is penjing? Is it just Chinese Bonsai? I heard it in a context that made me think Penjings were all landscapes and vice-versa.

A: Dear Reader: While it's true that although Japanese Bonsai tends to focus on a single tree or group of trees with the aesthetics encompassing only the trees (and to some degree the placement and compliment of pot) what we see as Penjing tends to look at the balance of the tree within an environment....thus giving us the 'landscape' stereo-type. However, remember two things: one is that just as there is no monolithic 'bonsai' in Japan, even less is there a monolithic 'penjing' in China. China itself is one of the most ethnically, linguistically and culturally diverse countries in the world and the wide array of schools of this umbrella craft reflect this. The second thing to keep in mind is that although the two countries are separated by sea, the interaction over the centuries has been massive: there is no Berlin Wall between China and Japan in the iterations of this art form. Japanese water trays or saikei plantings seem to have more in common with middle of the road penjing than the 'Five Styles'and certain Chinese styles are nearly identical first-cousins to the Japanese analogues. There are heaps of generalisations of varying accuracy when comparing the two: for example— *figurines are OK in penjing, but taboo in bonsai.....bonsai (coming from an island nation which some believe tend to have more prescriptive art forms) is all about rules, whereas penjing is free-form....the pot is less important in penjing than in bonsai....lots of myths to be bashed.* There's probably a dissertation in here somewhere. Nevertheless, I have read one summation which I really liked and which seems to capture the essence of the differences between the two, overlap notwithstanding:

To me, the purpose of Penjing seems more concerned with creating a subtle and metaphorical tale, using trees and other landscape elements as its medium. So the tree or trees become a means to that end, rather than an end in themselves, as is more the case with Japanese bonsai.

Q: Dear Mr. Miyagi: How can I address the issue of pests and bonsai? Particularly my ball-playing, cricket-batting, Frisbee-tossing children? My block is a bit odd and there aren't many choices for where I can place my trees, particularly in winter with reduced sunlight. The kids keep knocking them over. Do you have any suggestions?

A: Dear Reader: Actually I do. Aside from my role as karate-instructor, I am also a pilot and flight instructor. When my kids were getting too destructive, I figured I needed to have a heart-to-heart about things, and doing this at 5,000 feet gave them the perspective, and me a sense of calm, to allow me to really get through to them about natural beauty and what happens when they knock one of my trees over, breaking branches and pot. I've run out of space here, but I enclose a photo I took when we did this, which the editor has kindly placed on page 6 of this newsletter. It worked a charm! Give it a go!

Members may submit questions to Mr. Miyagi c/o the YVBS web forum or per the club email: info@yarravalleybonsai.org.au



“The Natives are Restless”

Kunzea Ambigua (Tick Bush) Notes by Lee W.

Botanical Name: Kunzea Ambigua **Common Name:** Tick Bush

Sun: Full sun or morning to early afternoon sun.

Temperature: Grows robustly in Sydney. Has not objected to near zero to 40 degree heat range.

Watering: Likes water, likes moist roots. Will wilt if too dry but bounces back readily. On hot summer days check moisture level mid afternoon if plant is in full sun. Can be grown using a water tray but as long as the soil is kept moist it is not as thirsty as a callistemon.

Training: It is fine for wiring, bark is not too tender and tree is not a rapid grower. Branches are reasonably pliable when young but harden in the season and then wiring can be difficult.

Fertilizing: Native Osmocote when planting and Charlie Carp at intervals. Not overly hungry.

Repotting: Annually. Advice is to repot natives when dormant but I trim back new foliage if it is growing and repot mainly in spring or fall. I have been purchasing neglected trees and I repot immediately, regardless of time of year, into a very open soil mix. The tree can take several months to recoup but will grow strongly. Trees under regular care don't turn a leaf at repotting. The Kunzea has a fine fibrous root system similar to azalea's.

Pests or diseases: Webs tend to develop in denser foliage in the warmer months. Hand remove them. Other than that I have had no trouble with the plant and am not too fussed about spraying it with insecticide.

Comments: Hedge prune to get foliage pads but individually clip shoots before showing. Develops foliage pads quickly. The Kunzea does not readily shoot back on old wood. The tree can quickly become shaggy and trimming will remove flower buds. Should have small flowers highly suitable to a small bonsai... but the shaggy look would not be.

When trimming the foliage must be finger combed to get the longer shoots that intertwine in the foliage pad. Petite foliage makes this a lovely tree to bonsai.

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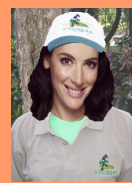
The picture below shows a \$9 stock plant from bonsai nursery. The naturally curvy trunk caught my eye. Healthy when I got it and it just keeps growing. This pot is a prototype from Mudlark Pottery in Toronto. It needs more than a conventional pot as I want it to look as tho it is growing out of a rocky outcrop, 'escaping' from its confines. (September 2008)



New in Stock: Over the next two months we'll be bringing in HEAPS of new potted stock from our source fields. The picture here is just a sample of some of the items. We'll be stocking throughout July and early August many pines and elms which are even larger. We're open every day 10am-4pm except Mondays. Don't forget: YVBS members receive a discount on cash sales to a mere 10% above our wholesale price!



www.atozbonsai.com.au



Update from the Shirt Stirrers:

With so many new members, we'll be doing a second run of polo shirts, caps, and T-shirts beginning in late spring.

Don't forget that all memberships are due for renewal on 1 July, regardless of the date you joined.



*Chanting is no more holy than listening to the murmur of a stream,
Counting prayer beads no more sacred than simply breathing,
Religious robes no more spiritual than work clothes.*

--- Lao-Tzu

From the Bonsai Dictionary: **ramification**. *rām-i-fi-kā-šan* /noun/ The result or process of trying to ram too many bonsai pots into a confined space in your shed. Usage: "Rather than devising a better way to store pots for easy access, the result of poor ramification is usually to just go out and buy another pot for the tree at hand."



“Tim’s Tips” Corner

In this newsletter and the next one, I'd like to talk about collecting and growing from seed... in this issue I'll restrict myself to deciduous trees and next issue I'll talk about conifers and pines. The first step is gathering: A good guide is to follow the birds—they know when the seed is ready! Don't pick seed off

the branches—when seeds or cones are ready to leave the tree, they fall. However, you can cheat a bit and give the branch a bit of a light shake.

The next step is to dry the seed. Advice varies but I easily have ten times the success rate for seed germination if I let the seed dry out for a month at least rather than placing straight into the soil. Note you are mimicking a northern late autumn by doing this

The second step is stratification, meaning simply to chill the seed. Into the fridge with moist sphagnum moss or newspaper in an airtight container (to impede mold development). Here you are creating an artificial winter.

After a month in cold storage you can start to pick out the seed. Maples no longer need their wings, and oaks no longer need the caps. One thing I've done is to soak the seed overnight in a VERY light seasol solution. Aside from the obvious (mimicking the melting of snow and spring rains) this helps you pick out the viable seed: those are the ones that sink. If some float, throw them in the bin—they are useless.

Lastly it's time to sow them. You should sow them roughly 7cm or 3 inches apart in a poly box or seed tray. Whether it's bonsai or veggie gardens, most beginners make the mistake of burying seed too deeply... if you do, it'll use up all its energy trying to reach its new energy source (light) and die before it breaks the soil surface. The rule of thumb is no deeper than the diameter of the seed. If a maple seed is 3mm across, it should go no further than 3mm under the soil surface. What to sow them in? Seed raising mix is easiest, but you can also use equal parts of coarse river sand and peat. If you use potting mix, be aware that there is a great deal of pine bark residue, which can inhibit seed growth. (Same reason why pine oil is used for kitchen bench cleaners and disinfectants.) Acorns should be planted on their side.

I would suggest covering the tray or poly box with a flyscreen mesh to keep out birds, mice, and rats. Don't stress if there's a frosty morning or two. About a month after they shoot you can already begin to craft, perhaps reducing the main tap root, particularly for oaks.

Tim Vivoda is the owner of A to Z Bonsai in Monbulk. His section appears in each newsletter.



Tree Mini-Profile: Cotoneaster

This shrub makes for tree material which is perfect for novices and advanced artisans alike. While classed usually as an evergreen, there are deciduous varieties. It is both hardy AND vigorously growing. That said, a cotoneaster is conducive to crafting in just about any size: as a shohin or a much larger bonsai.



And even better, this shrub is in most areas classified as a weed and can be found along roadsides and in the wild..... So digging it up [with permission] for your collection can leave you with a good feeling of altruistically doing your civic duty!



The cotoneaster flowers most often in yellow or white. It trains well as a cascade and most varieties shoot from hardwood. Repot in spring using an open mix, but don't bare-root or remove more than 1/3 of roots without proportional trimming of foliage. Note that they often send out copious suckers so be vigilant at cutting these out. Cuttings can be taken in early summer.



Kanji/Ideograms of the Month



Blackpine:
Kuro-matsu

Surprise, surprise, the top kanji is 'black' [read as **KURO** here] and the bottom kanji is pine [read here as **MATSU**].

Why I picked these was also to illustrate something about kanji.

Just as our English words may have familiar prefixes, roots, and suffixes, so ideograms in Japan and China are comprised of sections, called 'radicals'.

For example, to the left of the ideogram for **pine**, you may notice the section that looks like **TREE** (newsletter 1.1). There are two other radicals in that ideogram.



Now if we look at the kanji for **BLACK**, there are three 'radicals' which can be seen in



the composition of other kanji. From top-downward, they are semantically **FIELD**, **EARTH**, and **HEART**. So how does this yield **BLACK**? Sometimes it's documented but sometimes it's just a fun exercise in imagination: Black soil is the most fertile = hearty (?) so it is the colour indicated when the earth within a field has that life-giving essence.....the color of the most fertile of field soils??

“A lawn is nature under totalitarian rule”

— **Michael Pollan**
(Author and journalism professor)

FAME, FORTUNE AND GLORY SECTION (and any other announcements)
WAVERLEY BONSAI
Waverley Garden Club Inc, Bonsai Group

2010 Show

14 & 15 August
Saturday: 10.00am - 4.30pm
Sunday: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Mount Waverley Community Centre-- Corner of
Stephensons Rd and Miller Cres. Mount Waverley, VIC.
Melway Ref 70 E1

Admission: \$5 / Children: Free

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~bonsai>



Mr. Miyagi's photo as
mentioned on page 3.



**Coming later This
Year:**

Iron Chef Bonsai!

"If memory serves...."

Just a 'heads up'.... The themes for the
main sessions in October and November per
the syllabus will be switched for reasons be-
yond our control.



A reminder:
Please don't
park in front of
the milkbar
aside our

Quiz Question:

Answer: False...in so far as there is no perfect ratio; it's
a matter of preference for maker and buyer. The size of
holes with respect to the bottom surface area is
decided upon by a dozen factors including cost,
strength of clay involved, depth of pot, thumb width of
potter, bonsai knowledge of potter, etc.

Website Of the Month:

The National Bonsai and Penjing Collection

<http://www.cbs.org.au/NBPCA>

A must for your bookmarks list!

(Site hosted by the Canberra Bonsai Society)



Library Check-out!

Ruth just can't wait until the start of the next financial year! She's already made some acquisitions with next year's budget! The promised online inventory of library holdings will be unveiled soon. Members are kindly reminded that should we wish to maintain the free borrowing from the library check out is for one month only.....otherwise we might look at overdue fines for checkout fees as done in other clubs. The other borrowers thank you for your diligence in this!



Trade Table Cheque-out!

The Trade Table is chugging along and we believe we've been able to source some good items this past year, provide value to members, and still skim a quid or two for the club. Now that Warren has conveyed the Treasurer portfolio to Alan, he'll no doubt be in a better position to focus on things members would like us to stock. We've also got more CreanMate (for cleaning tools) on the way from Japan via Canberra with Cyrils's help.



Bonsai Forum Review (aka: "The Dynamic Sifters" or "Thread Grafts") by JS & TJ

"Caveat Surfer" or pseudo-Latin for "Let The Forum Reader Beware"

With the onset of winter the forums here usually get a bit quiet as very little changes with peoples trees at this time of year. This gives us the perfect opportunity to learn more and ask the questions we need to know for the coming season. Come spring, forums here become a flurry of jpegs and threads.....



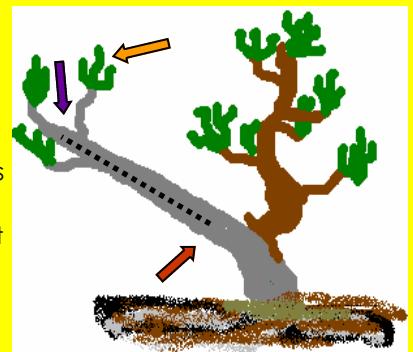
However a lot of the international sites are starting to move as they come into spring. Lots of new pictures are being added daily and there is a lot of new information to digest. Here's the caveat: we must remember that just because it is feasible to do something in the northern hemisphere, it doesn't mean we can get away with it here. "Oh, I'll just add six months to this calendar and it'll be fine... if they say 'do it in June, I'll do it in December.'" A recipe for disaster. As an example, I have seen and read about people repotting deciduous exotics midsummer in Europe or North America, which would almost always mean instant death in our hot dry climate.

I would even extend that warning: within Australia: you may see postings from Queensland participants and not realize some of their care advice is based on sub-tropical rather than temperate conditions. You'll even hear of people from different parts of Melbourne offering advice based on THEIR zone. Care will differ greatly in winter and summer for Mount Dandenong versus Werribee, or even closer to home versus Yea on the other side of the Ranges.

My suggestion is to take the information you learn and try to work out how it will convert to our conditions. If you still have any doubts about how this will affect your tree, ask a local. You can do this by logging into the Yarra Valley Bonsai Society forum, or jumping onto Ausbonsai.com. While searching Ausbonsai may seem cumbersome, you're apt to be rewarded in the end.... And topics get repeated from time to time: less 'wheel reinvention' than some contributors seem to think....but that's for another entry.....

Inspiration and Perspiration: Short Ideas from Members

Probably it's hardly original, but I purchased a pine a few years ago. It was an odd tree that I thought would make a good bonsai. Its one big flaw was that the first branch [the grey section] was really the trunk—or was at some point in time and later became, well, truncated. Sorry I don't have a picture... only this recreated drawing. The problem was that I didn't know what to do with it. The obvious answer might have been to just cut off the offending branch, treating it like a sacrifice branch, but that would have left a strange reverse taper. I suppose in some way, I wasn't ruthless enough back then...or didn't have the confidence I could get rid of the reverse taper by selective dremel surgery. The more I thought about it, the more I thought I at least wanted to have a go at making a jin. The problem was that I wanted some pretty radical bends in it, but it was far too set to do much. So basically what I did was to cut that branch at the section where the purple arrow is. I decided to make its horrid straightness work in my favor. Using a long drill bit of a size roughly half the diameter of the 'branch', I just hollowed out the wood to about the point indicated by the red arrow. It took a bit of careful working with the drill to avoid poking it out of the branch but at the same time gouging it out sufficiently to make it pliable. I know from wood-working that I also needed to be careful in order not to burn the inner wood, thereby making it too dry and brittle for bending. Anyway, I wrapped the branch with rubber tubing and then put a long piece of CLEAN 6.0mm alum wire down the hole and filled it with moisture-resistant liquid nails. If I had to do it all over again, I might use either just PVC glue or a runny builder's bog with the hardener measured so as not to set too quickly. I had initially thought of using that 'mortar in a tube' stuff, but knew I'd have problems packing it in so as not to leave any air pockets. Anyway, once this was all in, I quickly wrapped the branch with a doubled up length of wire, and then bent it slowly to get the desired shape. I resisted the temptation to strip the bark and immediately start making my jin, but opted for a small bit of healing by the tree to help the branch set. Several months later, I unwrapped it, stripped the bark, a bit of carving and then the lime sulphur. I guess the real success was that this invasive procedure didn't seem to impact the vigour of the part of the tree I wanted to retain. Perhaps were I to do it again, I'd opt for a shari or sharimaki....for no other reason than to see if the procedure impacted the viability of the outer foliage of the branch [orange arrow].



Members: Start thinking of what your own idea might be.... Some- **THE EDITOR**

thing you stumbled upon by trial and error, something you read, once saw at a nursery.... The newsletter editor will be tapping YOU on the shoulder.



ヤラ谷間盆栽会

May-June 2010
Vol. 3 No. 2

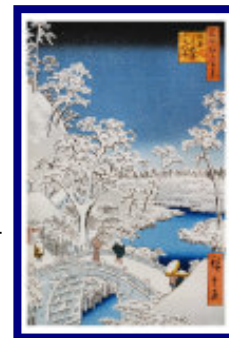
www.yarrawalleybonsai.org.au


A group for all lovers of bonsai in the "far east" of Melbourne.....





Yarra Valley Bonsai Society
PO Box 345
Mount Evelyn, Victoria 3796
Australia

Looking Ahead to July and August:



 **Michael Simonetto** will be the featured 'headliner' at our **13 July** monthly meeting, leading a demonstration on grafting techniques. Michael has kindly suggested a possible return to the club following this session in order to have a hands-on workshop on basic grafting tools and techniques. Note that given the distance Michael will be driving to visit us, there will be no "Review Overview" Session. Short business section starts promptly at 7pm followed by Michael's demonstration/talk. Display Table theme: Conifers or Member's Choice.

 Parallel to our usual 'First Saturday of the Month' Workshop on **3 July**, we'll again be running a **Kids Workshop** from 2.00-3.30pm at our usual workshop venue of the Japara House Shed in Montrose (Melway 52 D7). For the modest fee of \$5, Society members [with a Victorian 'Working With Children' check] will help kids craft and style a small bonsai starter to take home. Open to the public, but space is limited so please confirm by email per yarrawalleybonsai@gmail.com.

 The August Monthly Meeting [**10 August**] will feature a session on **pin**es by **Quentin Valentine**, easily one of the foremost authorities on pine crafting (and general bonsai artistry) in Victoria and Australia. Again, no Review/Overview session, as Quentin will soon get underway after 7pm. Members are invited to bring along any pines for critique/work. Display Table Theme: Nebari or Member's Choice.



Bonsai in Ballarat: LAST CALL! Japanese master Hirotoishi Saito will be the featured workshop artisan and demonstrator in the Southern Chapter of Bonsai Federation of Australia's "**Bonsai in Ballarat**" Weekend June 26-27 at the Red Lion Inn, Main Road, Ballarat. There are still a few 'observer' places left and even one or two open workshop slots, but you MUST ring Geoff V at 9444 6255 by 5pm this Tuesday 22 June to book a place! A few YVBS members will be attending, so add to our delegation and have a great weekend meeting and learning from not only Mr. Saito, but members of many other clubs.

Accolades, Kudos, and Thanks..

- To Peter R. & Chris S. for two years of service on the Committee of Management;
- To Tim Vivoda of "A to Z Bonsai" for a generous discount on instructional materials and for a fantastic demo at the May monthly meeting;
- To Warren S. for his year of work and accurate ledger keeping as YVBS Treasurer;
- To Rudi and Marlene J. for all the unreimbursed mileage of trips to stock up the trade table;
- To Cyril J. for facilitating purchase of stock through Island Bonsai in Tasmania;
- To all those members who volunteer to help set up and clean up for monthly meetings.



Member Benefits Please refer to the website for a list of discounts to members upon presentation of a current and valid YVBS Membership card. "Freebies" of donated items are also made available from time to time at monthly meetings.



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For a prospectus or further information contact Rudi via the society's external email: info@yarrawalleybonsai.org.au