


www.atozbonsai.com.au

Supporting Our
local club....



Proudly sponsoring the Yarra
Valley Bonsai Society

www.orientbonsai.com.au


BONSAI
BY SASHI-EDA
EST 1993

www.sashieda.com.au

Official Sponsor
of the YVBS



The Yarra Valley Bonsai Society Newsletter

PO Box 345
Mount Evelyn, VIC 3796
Australia
www.yarravalleybonsai.org.au
ABN: 92 966 395 686
A0052264P

The YVBS meets on the
**second Tuesday of each
month now at Morrisons
(Morrison House)**
Old Hereford Road,
Mount Evelyn

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

Melway 118 B8

Saturday Workshops are 2-
5pm now on the **LAST** Satur-
day of the month, and now at
the same venue as monthlies!

Inside this issue:

Recent News con't	2
Quiz Question	2
Getting to Know You	3
Ask Mr. Miyagi	3
"The Natives Are Restless"	4
Tim's Tips	5
Tree Mini-Profile	5
Trade & Lib Update	5
The Dynamic Sisters	7
Quiz Question Answer	7
Featured Website	7
Upcoming Events	8
Accolades, Kudos, Thanks	8

Highlights from Nov 2010—February 2011

It has been a bit of a break for newsletters, so prior to a retrospective we should mention the most important bit of news and that is our upcoming show. (See poster below.) Most of our membership will remember our first show in Spring 2009—what a fantastic effort and result for a new club. With Jarrod and Rudi at the helm of the Show Committee we hope to raise the bar even higher. To accommodate more entries and events, given our near 60% increase in membership since that show, we have leased the Montrose Public Library event hall in addition to the "Montrose Town Centre." There will be more vendors and stock for sale outside and all of the last show's traders will be returning. Note that this is a one-day only show, again coinciding with the Montrose Craft Market.

So... what does your club need? First and foremost we still have places available for display trees. Rudi has sent out a tree



BONSAI SHOW



SATURDAY 16 APRIL 2011

10:00AM - 4:00PM

Montrose Town Center Hall

(Next To Montrose Library)

Corner Leith & Mt Dandenong Tourist Roads

Montrose, Victoria Ref 52D7

Running Concurrently with the Melrose Town Craft Market

Childrens Workshop - 11:00AM

Raffle & Demonstrations

Trade Tables, Plants, Tools & Accessories

*** Special Guest - Pat Kennedy**

The Artist of Hand Made Bonsai Pots

ADULTS: \$5.00

Children under 12 Free if accompanied by a paying adult

For more information visit - www.yarravalleybonsai.org.au

Calendar Dates:

- 29 March [Tues] 7.30pm YVBS Committee of Management Meeting. Morrisons.
- 5 April [Tues] Show Committee. 7.30pm. Morrisons
- 12 April [Tues] YVBS Monthly Meeting: "Getting Your Trees Ready for Display". 7.00pm Morrisons.
- **16 April [Sat] YVBS AUTUMN 2011 SHOW. 10.00am-4pm, Montrose Town Centre" and Public Library.**
- 26 April [Tues]: YVBS Committee of Management Meeting 7.30pm, Morrisons.
- 30 April [Sat], 'Last Saturday of the Month' Workshop. 2-5pm, Morrisons.

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

Summer Highlights Con't from page 1

submission form and the 12 April meeting will be dedicated to getting trees into display ready condition. At that time we'll be also finalizing the list of set-up, running, and clean-up tasks for the following Saturday. As was stated numerous times, the show is NOT a competition, and all members are strongly encouraged to enter at least one tree!

Once we all catch our breath after the show, our thoughts will turn to the Annual General Meeting in June. At the close of the AGM, we will also have elections for the Committee of Management for the 2011-2012 Year. Specific to the outcome of several proposals to be put to the membership at the AGM, we will be needing members to step up to leadership roles on the Committee. The current president and secretary, who have served since the club's inception, will not be standing for re-election and there will be several non-office holding members of the Committee also not standing for re-election. Now as our membership approaches 100 (!) it is a crucial time for some strategic planning for taking our Society through the next stage of growth. Without more involvement from more members, the fear is that some of the fantastic momentum we have seen for this growing club may stale or stall. Knowledge of bonsai is NOT a prerequisite for any of the roles on the Committee with the exception of the Vice-President/Head of Syllabus position. For any interested members, please speak with any current Committee Member to learn more. Nomination forms will be available at the April, May, and June monthly meetings.

Apologies to our loyal readers for the delay in the publication of Volume 3, no. 6 here combined with Volume 4 number 1. As a note to our valued club sponsors, we have granted additional ad space to compensate for the omission of one of six annual issues. We trust that the next newsletter will be back on track at the end of April, replete with plenty of photos from our Autumn 2011 Show.



Clockwise from upper left: Members at a recent Saturday workshop; Rudi and one of his Japanese Maples at last spring's group critique session; Craig provides an overview to the care and styling of natives; January Summer Workshop; Members in the first stage of March's 'Round Robin' crafting event.



QUIZ QUESTION:

(Answer— page 6)

What is "akadama"?

Syllabus & Courses for 2011

The Syllabus for 2011 was finalized in December and is now on the club website. As far as courses, we do plan to run another novice course in the winter of 2011. Again see the calendar section of the website for dates. An intermediate 'course' is still on the books, but this will be run more as a facilitated tutorial workshop than an actual class. Prices are yet to be finalized but will be published after the April Show.



YVBS FORUM: For new members, it bears repeating that our club has an on-line bulletin board and archive. In addition to the announcements and discussions on topics of bonsai interest, the forum also contains many newsletters from other clubs around Australia. These are to be found (surprise, surprise) in the folder entitled "Newsletters from Other Clubs" and are kept for approximately six months. There are also publications such as "Wired" and the "Satsuki Society Newsletter" which are archived in the library folder available only to members. If you visit the site and register as a user, please email Bill via the club gmail so that he may add you as a club member user. Just visit our main webpage

<http://www.yarravalleybonsai.org.au>

and follow the FORUM link on the left to the forum.

From the Bonsai Dictionary: Broom Style. *Brum sti-l'* /noun/ The pose assumed by a core of the membership who remain late month after month to clean our venue. OR refers to clean up habits of members engaged in same. Usage: "Rudi remarked to Julie: 'You cleaned the whole floor of all cuttings and prunings so quickly? I like your broom style!'"

Getting to Know You...



Michael and his mum Gwenda both participated in the beginners' course last winter.

Michael J: I have a lovely partner Amelia. Also one dog, one snake and one cockatiel. I love music and belong to a band called Queens Road. They are just establishing themselves with lots of their own music. I'm a plumber by trade. My favourite bonsai are the Australian natives but am very keen to learn all about Bonsai— all styles and species.

Gwenda J: My husband of 32 years is Graeme. I love the great outdoors and live on a rural property breeding beef cattle. Am very keen on gardening and have a pretty nifty vege patch. Receptionist at a local hotel in Lilydale. My favorite bonsai are all of the shohin size or smaller. I'm looking forward to broadening my knowledge on Bonsai this year.

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: My junipers are looking a bit ordinary this year. What's going on?

A: Well, no need to tell you that we've had a much wetter and milder summer this year than in possibly the last decade. Junipers love sun year-round. You can feed them as intensely as possible, but without the sun to stimulate the photosynthesis needed for growth, the impact will be less than optimal. Keep them in the sun, and maybe adjust them for greater amounts of sunlight now that the days are cooler and the risk of the heated pots cooking the roots has lessened. Junipers also don't respond well to constantly soggy roots, so if you are using the same watering regimen this year as you did in hotter summers you may well find that you are keeping

the soil TOO moist. An additional tip, especially for those you haven't repotted in the past year or two, is to poke a bit through the mesh to make sure there is ample drainage. Many species have rapidly growing roots and these can easily clog the drainage holes, making the most open of soil mixes a bit of a cesspool. Lastly, as the greater the moisture, often the greater the risk of pest such as spidermites. Give the pots a wipe with metho and spray the foliage with jets of water....when dry, I recommend applying some eco-pest oil.

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



The AABC 2011 Convention will be held in
Freemantle, WA 20-23 May 2011.

Though the Early Bird Registration Deadline has passed, there's still time to register. For all details, see the Convention tag on the website of the hosting organization:

<http://www.bonsaisocietywa.com>



In case you missed the news or skipped page 1 of this newsletter, our 2011 Show will take place on 16 April. It's not too late to get your trees included. See the forum for a tree submission form (this was emailed to members on the mailing list earlier this year and again on 10 March) and contact Rudi as soon as possible at rjerlitshcka@iprimus.com.au

No trees to include? Well we'll still need all the help we can get with set-up and running. Really it's more fun than hard work!

"The Natives are Restless"

Again with nobody stepping up to continue this article in the newsletter we include a link to a Native Plant website which allows you to download quite a comprehensive database of native plants and lets you search, filtering most of the criteria you can think of. The only negative is that the download may take quite some time, depending on your broadband connection speed.

Beautiful New Pots Have Arrived!!! At Fantastic Prices.



Our shipment of high quality large bonsai pots have arrived.

Various shapes and sizes available including copy Tokoname.

We are very excited and we hope you are as well.



Soon in Stock: Our back area of growing stock is completely full! The most recent additions include Sarg Junipers (as seen in the March Round Robin Club Night) and new elms and cedars. We're proud to say that we haven't had this high degree of selection in our growing stock in a few years now! There's something for everybody! New pot selection on its way too!

We're open every day 10am-4pm except Mondays. Remember: YVBS members receive a discount on cash sales down to a mere 10% above our wholesale price!

www.atozbonsai.com.au



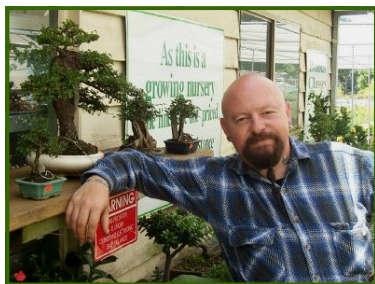
After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, British scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 150 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the British, in the weeks that followed, an American archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet, and shortly after, a story published in the New York Times: "American archaeologists, finding traces of 200-year-old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network 50 years earlier than the British".

One week later, Australia's Northern Territory Times, reported the following: "After digging as deep as 30 feet in his backyard in Tennant Creek, Northern Territory, Lucky Bunji, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely bugger all. Lucky has therefore concluded that 250 years ago, Australia had already gone wireless!"

If a man walks in the woods for love of trees half of each day, he is in danger of being regarded as a loafer. But if he spends his days as a speculator, shearing off those woods and making the earth bald before her time, he is deemed an industrious and enterprising citizen. ~Henry

David Thoreau



"Tim's Tips" Corner

To continue some of the tips I began in the last newsletter on pests: For aphids, wipe your pot with surface spray or Baygon. For woolly aphids and scale, metho and dishwater liquid is the best go for me. Ants are kept away with pyrethrum or merely creepy crawly spray... don't forget to spray the underside of the leaves/foliage. To be really thorough,

place a tree on its side and/or wrap the pot with a plastic bag so as to keep any treatment from entering soil. This works best for spraying foliage with the metho/soapy water solution.

However, don't forget to wipe the pot, including the underside when you have finished. Also we sometimes concentrate on insect pests and forget that snails and slugs are also pests and can do some heavy damage on foliage as they are herbivores. However, leopard slugs (see photo) are carnivores and eat common slugs and snails. Other helpers include ladybugs and praying mantis, which eat aphids.

You can keep some pests at bay by using proper watering. For example, water your maples in the morning rather than in the evening, as humid conditions plus darkness is perfect for promoting mildew.

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

Tree Mini-Profile

Japanese Maple: This variety of maple is native to China and Japan. Its botanical name comes from its leaves, which have 5 or more deep lobes, which display spectacular autumn colors. It is a popular bonsai species worldwide. The bark on young branches and trunks is usually green or red on some varieties and turns brown or light gray with age. In all, there are over 300 different species, all with different size, color, and leaf shape. No matter which species of the Japanese Maple you choose, the results will be fantastic.



Placement in full light during the day is ideal with some morning or evening sun, avoid direct summer sun and hot winds, because the delicate foliage will "burn". Daily watering with good drainage is essential, keep moist - do NOT overwater, if waterlogged root rot will occur! Protect against frost! Regular feeding with a slow-acting organic fertilizer from spring to autumn will help a vigorous growth. Do NOT feed for two months after repotting or when a tree is weakened. Stop feeding for a month or two during the hottest part of the summer. Maples are usually shaped by pinching and pruning. To develop fine branches cut back long internodes, also pinch back new growth to two sets of leaves during the growing season. Wiring is best done in summer when the tree is in full leaf after defoliation, but do NOT leave the wire on for more than six months.

Defoliating (total removal of leaves) can be done in early summer to encourage smaller leaves. This "false autumn" results in a second set of leaves that is smaller than the first set. Do NOT leaf prune the same year the tree has been repotted.

Repot in spring in a free draining mix, every two or three years for older trees, at least every other year for young trees and also shorten the roots up to half their length. Propagation: Seeds, softwood cuttings in summer and air layering in spring or early summer. Pests and diseases: Aphids, mildew, root rot and branch dieback.



Library Check-out!

Members are reminded that check out period is for one month. If you check out a book and are not able to make the next meeting, you can return the book to Bill at Morrisons during office hours. Just ask Reception to put it in his mailbox. Check out is free and we hope to keep it that way with prompt returns and due care of checked out items. Thanks!



Trade Table Cheque-out!

We've just sourced some extra tools and pits leading up to our show. Also we still have tool pouches, a few YVBS T-shirts, pot-hole mesh, & the last of the pots. Don't forget the club's tool sharpening kit, available for use at meetings. Anything you'd like to see stocked? Contact Warren or any other Committee member.



Bonsai -
The
Imagination
Tree

136 York Road / Mount Evelyn,
VIC 3796
(Melway Ref 120 D1)

<http://www.sashieda.com.au>

Free Workshop: SUN 27 March



**FROM OUR PARTNERS
AT GOODWILL WINE:** Happy New Year. I hope you are well. We have just finished our latest quarter of fund-raising and I have transferred \$30.00 into your ac-

count. I am really excited about how you have embraced our idea and I am so glad it is seeing some small benefit to you. I am looking forward to working with you this year to raise a lot more money and awareness for Yarra Valley Bonsai Society. We had a really busy time over the last three months and have experienced our third breakeven month in a row. We are yet to draw a regular income from our little business however we have nearly raised \$15,000 for charity which is the total amount of money we were given through the Red Cross Bushfire Appeal. This milestone is really exciting for us as you could imagine and we know in time our business will provide a living for us. In the meantime I have a fantastic veggie patch. We are currently saving up some money to upgrade our website. We would like to enable our customers to send a brief message to their chosen organisation upon purchasing their wine and we would also like to set up a feedback page as we are beginning to get a lot of repeat purchases and some lovely feedback. To this end we are hoping that you might be able to say something that we might use to show other organisations and their supporters (and your supporters) what we are doing and that our wine is good value.. The biggest stumbling block to date has been the assumption that because our wine is supporting charity then it must be bad. There is also a mindset amongst a number of organisations that they will have to do a lot of work finding money from their supporter base to purchase the wine, label the wine and then mail the wine. I guess this is how it has always been done and it seems our concept whilst very simple is somewhat difficult to grasp. I am putting together a 90 second power-point presentation to hopefully resolve this issue. Thank you once again for giving us the chance to support you and we hope that in time we can provide some very real financial support to you whilst rewarding your supporters with quality, value for money, boutique wine.



<http://www.goodwillwine.com.au/charities/yarra-valley-bonsai-society>

Orient Bonsai Nursery



Home	About Us	Products	Classes	Demonstration	Gallery	Contact Us	Extra large pots sales
------	----------	----------	---------	---------------	---------	------------	------------------------

BUY DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURER
Manufacture from China(wholesales available)

New arrive

Delieve from Factory, Huge stock

(Dragon pot & table,

large Glaze &unglaze pot)



Bonsai Forum Review

(aka: "The Dynamic Sifters" or "Thread Grafts")
by JS



Keyboard Warriors: Forums are a great way to meet like minded people from all around the world. With the internet making the world smaller you will start to see people post topics from the far reaches of this planet. There are people who are lovely, and some who are just down right rude. It is important to remember that from behind a keyboard everyone feels much braver.

As you start to watch the forums more closely, and even start posting topics and replies you will start to see people's personalities shining through in the way they discuss topics online. I find it is very important to remember that, from behind a keyboard, it is not always easy to determine the context of the post. If you feel the context may be inappropriate, I would first suggest you walk away for a few minutes and reconsider the reason you find it inappropriate and if you still think that it is uncalled for, do not reply to the post directly. It is always best to flag the post to a forum moderator as they can then deal with the issue as required.

On the positive side you may start to talk to some nice people who are more than willing to help. I have been posting on some of the forums for quite some times and I have made some great lasting friendships which continue to this day. Just remember, everyone has off days, and sometimes people take their anger out on forums despite their public nature, and you should never take it personally.



Websites Of the Month:

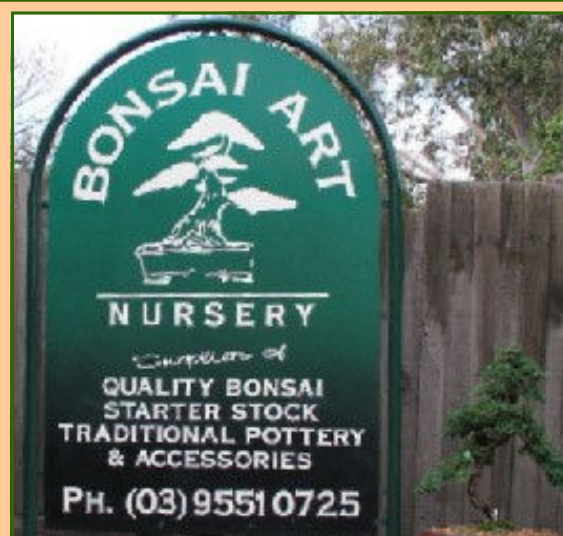
http://www.why-bonsai.com/bonsai_glossary.html

<http://www.brusselsbonsai.com/helpful-definitions.cfm>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonsai>

Quiz Question (Answer):

Akadama (赤玉) the name of which comes from the Japanese words for *red* and *ball*, is a naturally occurring, granular clay like mineral that is used as soil for bonsai trees and other container-grown plants. It is surface mined, immediately sifted and bagged, and supplied in various grades: the deeper mined grade being somewhat harder and more useful in horticulture than the more shallow mined grades. Akadama may also act as one component of growing medium when combined with other elements such as sand, composted bark, peat, or crushed lava. Akadama's colour darkens when moist which can help the grower determine when to water a tree. While Akadama is more costly than alternative soil components, it is prized by many growers for its ability to retain water and nutrients while still providing porosity and free drainage. For all of its qualities, many bonsai growers consider the cost of akadama prohibitive or unnecessary. Still other growers claim that when subjected to cold and wet climates the granules progressively break down into smaller particles which inhibit drainage, which is an essential characteristic of bonsai soil. This problem can be avoided either by incorporating sand or grit in the soil mix, or by using the deeper-mined, harder grades.



*Come down and see our newly acquired stock
of JAPANESE pots!*

236 Old Dandenong Road, Heatherton
Closed Wednesdays and Sundays

<http://www.bonsaiart.com.au>

ヤラ谷間盆栽会

November-
December 2010
Vol. 3 No. 6

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
April and May 2011*



Obviously, the biggest upcoming event is our Show. It's not too late to get you and your trees involved. A bit shy? Haven't been to a meeting in a couple of months? Skulk into the 12 April meeting and get back into it!



Our first nursery crawl for 2011 will take place on Saturday 14 May. Stay tuned for details!



On Tuesday 17 May, our Beginners' Course will commence. The course will run for five weeks for two hours an evening for five consecutive Tuesdays (hopping the June monthly meeting). Dates for the course are listed in the calendar section of the website.



The AABC Convention will be held this year in Fremantle over the weekend of 17-19 May. See the advert on page three for details.



Not too early to get it on your calendar: Saturday 18 June— a special workshop on Forest Planting with Barry Woods.



Our May Monthly Meeting will have the RETURN OF IRON CHEF. Feedback from membership points to this being the highlight of 2010. Don't miss the fun! Chairman Kaga is already getting his wardrobe pressed and his hair styled!

Accolades, Kudos, and Thanks..

- To Tim of A to Z for formalizing his nursery's sponsorship of our Club and for assisting at the recent Round Robin Event in March!
- To Jarrod, Mike, Rudi and Everybody on the Show Committee for all the work they have done prepping for a great show.
- To Ray A. and Callum H.: Congratulations for the awards received at the recent Berwick Show. Particular kudos go to Callum, our youngest member, for his winning trees and for inspiring other young folks to get involved in bonsai. Well done Guys!
- A belated Thank You to Lindsay Farr for his November demo on styling.



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

ADVERTISERS & SPONSORS:

Advertising on our website and/or in the newsletter is available for any registered business or sole trader. Society Sponsorship opportunities are capped at three for any year, however supportership opportunities still remain for any business in an area related to the craft of bonsai.

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