

## **BONSAI TIMES**



#### **CLUBS**

#### **Auckland Bonsai Society**

President Louis Buckingham - 09 292 8473

Contact: office@bonsai.co.nz Sec: 21 Cherrington Rd, Clevedon

Meetings: 2nd Thurs 7:30pm Auckland Horticultural Council, 990 Great North Road, Western Springs, Auckland <a href="http://sites.google.com/site/aucklandbonsaisoc/">http://sites.google.com/site/aucklandbonsaisoc/</a>

Avon Bonsai Society

President Beverley Van - 03 358 2591

Sec: Alison McIntosh, 2/15 Celia St, Redchiffs, ChCh

Contact: alisonmc@clear.net.nz

Meetings: 1st Wed 7:30 Isleworth School, Farrington Ave, Bishopdale, Christchurch

#### Bay of Plenty Bonsai Society

Gloria Smith - 07 576 9650 Contact: rob@bopis.co.nz 7 Smiths Road, Matua, Tauranga Meetings: 1st Sun 1:30 - 4pm

Cliff Road Club Rooms, 45 Cliff Rd, Tauranga Website: http://bonsaibop.googlepages.com/

#### Blenheim Bonsai Kai

President Dave Hunt - 03 577 8679 Contact: bonsaitech@actrix.co.nz 7 Hale Street, Blenheim

#### **Bonsai Study Group**

Bob Langholm - 09 629 3662 Contact: bob-si@ihug.co.nz 41 Taumata Rd, Mt Albert, Auckland Contact Bob for details

#### Christchurch Bonsai Society

President Wendy Gibbs - 03 981 8594 Contact: chchbonsai@yahoo.com 27 Endeavour St, North New Brighton, Christchurch Meetings: 2nd Wed 7:30 Cotswold Preschool, Colesbury St, Bishopdale, Christchurch

#### Eastern Bay of Plenty Bonsai Society

President Colin Churchill - 07 323 7560 Contact: Colin churchill@xtra.xo.nz 10 Porritt Drive, Kawerau 2075 Meetings 1st Sunday afternoons Phone for details

#### Gisborne

Heather Deere - 06-868 9519 Contact: Tetia@slingshot.co.nz

#### Gore Bonsai Club

President Lois Davidson - 03 208 6644 Secretary Helen Whyte 8 Margaret Street, Gore 9710 Contact: r.hwhyte@slingshot.co.nz—03 208 6793 Meetings: 2nd Sat 1:30 Feb/Nov Except May/June Phone for details of venue

#### Hamilton Bonsai Club

President Peter Mudie - Ph 07 871 9510 Contact: peter@lrd.co.nz Secretary 22 Normandy Ave, Melville, Hamilton Meetings: 2nd Sun 2pm May /Sept then 2nd Wed 7:30 Feb/April and Oct/Dec at Glenview Community Centre Cnr Tomin Rd and Glenview Tce, Hamilton Website: www.hamiltonbonsai.co.nz

#### **Hawkes Bay Bonsai Society**

President Neil McCorkell - 06 878 7230 Contact: mccorkell@xtra.co.nz Secretary: lan Sayer - 06 843 4717

107 Riverbend Road, Napier

Meetings: 2nd Wed 7:30 Clive Community Hall, Napier

#### Matamata Bonsai Club

President Graeme Hancock Kaimai View Garden Centre SH7. Matamata

Meetings: By arrangement contact Graeme

#### Nelson Bonsai

President Nigel Sutton

Contact: Nigel.sutton@ihug.co.nz

11 Torlesse Street, Wakatu, Stoke, Nelson 7011 Meetings: 1st Mon 7:30 (Except Public Holidays) Nikau Gardens, 411 Nayland Rd (Summer) Stoke Hall,

Stoke (Apr/Aug)

#### New Plymouth Bonsai Club Inc

President Glenys Jackson - 06 753 9644

Contact: mrep@clear.net.nz

4 Waiwera Place New Plymouth 4312

Meetings: Last Sun 2pm Royal NZ Foundation for the Blind, 131 Vivian, St, New Plymouth

#### Otago Bonsai Society

President Brian Ellis - 03 467 9629

Contact: gjletts@xtra.co.nz

Sec: Jan Letts 41 Ellife Place, Andersons Bay

Meetings: 1st Tues 7:30 Holy Cross Church Hall, Cnr Ajax

& Richardson St, St Kida, Dunedin

#### Rotorua Bonsai Club

Jan Hansen - 07 345 6339

Contact 11 Charles Road, Hannahs Bay Rotorua Meetings: 2nd Sun at St. Chad's Hall, Rotorua.

#### South Canterbury Bonsai Society

Presdient Jan Simmons - 03 688 2386 Contact bakfarm@xtra.co.nz

98 Pooke Rd, RD 1, Timaru

Meetings 1st Wed Feb/Nov 7:30pm Art Centre, Gleniti

Road, Timaru

#### Wellington Bonsai Club

President: John Costello Secretary: Marilyn Hannah PO Box 30-621, Lower Hutt 5040 Email: wnbonsaiclub@paradise.net.nz

Website: www.huttcity.com/bonsai

Meetings: 1st Sunday of each month except January, 1.00pm Hutt Valley Tramping Club Rooms, Birch St

Reserve, Waterloo, Lower Hutt

#### Wanganui Bonsai Buddies

President Neil Gardner - 06 327 7720 2/8 Beckett Place, Martin Meetings 2nd Sat 10am workshop 4th Sat 10am at members home

Contact Neil for details

#### REMINDER:

If your information needs amending please advise The Editor

#### **YOUR COMMITTEE**

#### **PATRON**

Keith Lowe MNZM

#### President

L Muirhead L.dm@xtra.co.nz 0212458800

#### Secretary

Brian Ellis secretary@bonsainz.com

#### Treasurer

Noel Plowman penjing@actrix.co.nz

#### Committee

Louis Buckingham Joy Morton Les Simpson Basil Bryant

Enquires and information: Editor—Dianne Miller

#### **EDITORIAL**

penjing@actrix.co.nz Telephone: 07 829 8887

Treasurer—Noel Plowman—07 829 8887

2033 Te Pahu Roa.

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## From The Presidents Desk

nother winter approaches and I wonder what happened to the year as it does not seem that long since we were in the last winter. I hope we have all had some great fall colour on our trees although I feel that it has not been the best year for colour apart from my maple that looked fantastic.

If any of you managed to attend in May the AABC Convention in Sydney I hope you had a great time. I did not make it this year as I have chosen to go China in early October.

I do hope though that you are all planning to be in Hamilton from the 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> for our National Convention. We have a fantastic demonstrator in Robert Stevens and the local talent isn't too bad either.

It was great to see some feedback come forward to our editor after our last issue. It shows that the Bonsai Times is being well read. Remember though that all articles are just someone's opinion and in this world we live in we all have opinions.

Your executive are always looking for different ideas to help promote Bonsai . My challenge to you all is what are you doing yourself?

I am currently talking to overseas people about training some of our demonstrators and will keep everyone informed as to how this develops

Hope you all enjoy your trees and have a good winter and remember it's not long till repotting.

See you all in Hamilton

#### Lindsay













BONSAI TIMES brings you the inspiration, motivation and encouragement to create remarkable bonsai.





# BONSAI TIMES Inspiration and keys honsai artist. After you have been

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**Front cover:** Sandra Quintals Merit Award winning Shonin as displayed at the Christchurch Con-

**Inspiration** and observation are the keys to your growth as a bonsai artist. After you have been practicing the art for some years things can become a little laid back so it is good to always provide an incentive to spur the motivation along. Taking time to smell the roses as they say. This year inspiration has arrived in buckets for me. Japanese bonsai is always held in respect and amazement so it is the greatest lesson of all to attend what is known as the premier event on the bonsai calendar the Kokufuten. It was a great benefit to myself as an artist to observe trees at this level. To share this with other artists and discuss the designs an advantage that brings pleasure and joy beyond belief.

The experience of being guided by Lindsay and Glenis Bebb around the great cities of Tokyo and Kyoto was not only a relief as I didn't have to discover the joys on my own but made it all a more meaningful experience.

I have tried to give you a snap shot of my experiences. Japan is not all about bonsai. The culture, architecture, the gardens and its people all contribute to the overall stimulation that gives you an insight into the history of our great love - bonsai.

All of us are on a journey of discovery, and that journey can be difficult at times. Nobu, one of our bonsai teachers always remarks "Learn this art with your eyes." It is the tree that will tell you the story. All the books and experts in the world can help but at the end of the day it is our power of observation and the tree that leads us in the end to failure or success.

Enjoy your journey to discovery.

Dianne



# **Comments from you**

Last month we published an article by up and coming artist Gordon Bowers. This had recently been published in the Hamilton Club newsletter and got rave reviews at the convention in Christ-church. As we had been approached by many to reprint and the fact that there isn't much information about for growers on New Zealand trees we were only to happy to oblige.

The feedback has been great and it is hoped that this debate will continue as we need to share our views to grow as artists.

#### Wendy Gibb from Christchurch has this to say:

Just got the latest copy of Bonsai Times, looks good. The article on NZ Natives is interesting, one thing I've found from my experience with natives is that they are most worth growing as a bonsai if that particular species grows naturally in the region where you are living (i.e. if you live in a dry coastal region with hot summers, don't try growing a mountain tree from the colder areas. At least, not unless you are prepared to go to often great lengths just to keep it alive) When I lived in inland Nelson I had several beautiful vamadori silver and mountain beech bonsai, which never gave a moment of trouble for years. As soon as I moved to Christchurch, with it's low humidity and drying winds they went into decline and eventually died off from what I think was fungal attacks on the (presumably weakened) root system. The only native that I use now is Corokia, which grows naturally in exposed scrub-land of dry riverbeds and river flats. It suits Canterbury's variable climate and grows strongly, which allows me to just get on with creating a bonsai without worrying that it will drop dead too quickly.

Another thing I have experienced with the New Zealand natives is that the varieties I have worked with seem to prefer repotting in Autumn, rather than Spring.

#### Malcolm Potts of New Plymouth stated:

A big <u>bouquet</u> for the work you have put in (somehow!) to present another issue.

And a bigger <u>brickbat</u> for publishing that very rough "guide" to natives as bonsai. Some with long experience would heartily disagree with a lot of Gordon's "facts".

I would be the first to confirm that the people listed at the end of this "Guide" are definitely bonsai experts (I have learnt a lot from some of them), but the results suggest that they may not be native tree experts. The No 1 expert is undoubtedly Mike Crawford, to whom I referred my Native Trees effort before it was published in the BCI Magazine, and on NZBA website. If he had seen Gordon's draft, there would surely have been revisions. I am not sure what should be done now to correct the misinformation, which is likely to discourage people unnecessarily.

If Gordon could visit the jewel in New Zealand's crown, New Plymouth, I would love to show him the results of concentrating on NZ Native bonsai for 37 years.

#### Gordon's abridged response is:

Mr Potts has said: " . . . the damage is done, I am not sure what can be done now to correct the information, which is likely to discourage people unnecessarily." This was only a 'Rough Guide', an introduction of sorts, to reduce the fear associated with Native trees. It was also originally just collected information for my own use, which I then expanded to an article for the Hamilton Bonsai Club magazine Iwith the addition of information from other HBC members, many of whom are experienced bonsai growers.] It includes information from texts on NZ native trees and shrubs and from various sources on the internet, and some of my own observations of my own limited experience. The information itself was, as I have said, originally cobbled together for my own use, so not all sources were documented at the time. However, it matters at club level as much as at national level whether something is incorrect! As for discouragement, the opposite was my intent. People actually seem encouraged, if I may venture to say so. My advice has been to approach things in a gentler way, and take things slowly - it's when one goes in all-guns-blazing (all-cutters-clipping?) that one gets dieback, and that is what is discourag-

#### Mike Crawford of Nelson advises:

I have started a Facebook group called Bonsai Friends which is a forum for sharing stories and photos. It is in its early days but it is growing. On the site there are numerous photos of native bonsai with adult foliage as well as methods for grafting to speed up the development of the bonsai. If Gordon joined we could swap ideas etc. It is for everyone's benefit and if you joined you could use the photos and material for a story or encourage someone to write it up for the magazine.

What do you have to say? We welcome your feedback and encourage debate. From small seeds great things grow. The watering of ideas is our arts nourishment.

#### **NZ Native Bonsai**

! have to say "Good on you for making the effort" to Gordon Bowers, author of *A Rough Guide to Natives as Bonsai (R.G.)*, although some of his advice and opinions are highly debatable. To encourage other novices to try NZ Natives, I offer the following comments:

#### **Propagating**

It is so true that many of our native trees are slow-growing, when potted. This is particularly so for all the podocarps (Kahikatea, Miro, Rimu, Matai, Totara sp.) the hardwoods such as Tawa, Pukatea and Puriri, and the beeches. Therefore, (excepting Kowhai) the slowest form of propagation – growing from seed – should be avoided if possible. The wait for "a seedling in a pot" to become a convincing "miniature

tree " can be shortened by 15 to 20 years by starting with well-grown seedlings, readily obtainable from private bushland or commercial nurseries; time shortened much more still by field-growing, large box-growing or air-lavering.

Have no doubts about the efficacy of using cuttings or air layers from adult branches. The adult branches simply no longer have the ability to produce juvenile growth, a fact that plantsmen have been taking advantage of for centuries, in producing early flowering and fruiting of "young" trees. One of my kowhai has been in a pot for 37 years, has never flowered and never will. Right next door is another kowhai, air layered from the parent of the first, 26 years ago, which flowered the following year and has flowered every year thereafter.

#### Repotting

Joy Morton has been my bonsai saviour on several occasions.

One memorable time when I told her a repotted rimu was not doing well – not exactly dying but just not doing anything, she asked about mycorrhiza. I said there had been lots of fungus in the soil, which I had to admit I was careful to get rid of because I thought it had gone mouldy! We all have to learn. (Coincidentally, an excellent article on mycorrhiza has arrived in *Bonsai Focus* 126/103.)

However, I don't agree with the *R.G.*'DON'T DO THIS!!' instruction regarding bare rooting, high pressure hosing, combing roots, and trimming by a third. We use all these treatments in New Plymouth, with healthy results.

The trick is to combine some of the old potting mix with



the new. Also, although not all our trees seem to require mycorrhiza, I belong to the school that puts trichoderma in every mix. It does no harm to plants that don't need it; and commercial tree propagators swear by it when potting-on.

The difference between the age-old repotting method demonstrated by Nobu and the one I believe is more appropriate for us — whether native trees or exotic - is that Nobu is dealing with old mature trees, whilst we are dealing with young ones that we want to develop more quickly. All broken-down/old soil in the middle of the root balls is best removed and replaced with mix that will help the tree more. Heaven knows, it is hard enough to keep bonsai watered in our conditions, without having dead compacted soil at the centre.

Another great Joy Morton trick is to make lots of use of "Stressguard" or "Vaporguard" especially during repotting. This seals the leaves' stomata for a few days and is at least as useful as keeping the roots moist.

#### Care and Styling

There is nothing wrong with being cautious, especially for novices, but I have to say that, apart from *manuka*, some *rata* and some *phyllocladus*, I have not found natives to be particularly touchy in their roots or with wiring. In fact, I reckon kowhai is the most forgiving of all and, man, have I mistreated some over the years. My Totaras have had 4 growth spurts between September and March, so have cut back at the end of each spurt, as I thought they would get too thick if left as Nobu recommended.

#### Beech

I wonder why *R.G.* considers beech do best as groups. I have quite a few from the Deep South living happily as individuals up here. I might mention, too, that black beech grow naturally as far north as the Waikato, and I have every confidence in President Lindsay's ability to keep his trees alive a bit north of there.

#### Manuka

Without knowing the history of Gordon's two manuka, I am genuinely surprised that either of them survived the Nobu system of repotting, as cutting down the sides in that way could be expected to amputate more than half of *all* the roots, including all those across the bottom. We will look forward to progress reports on those two trees and I would dearly love to learn how he can make a manuka recover after four waterless days.

#### Kowhai

Bushman's Friend is not the best source of botanical information, and clearly our fraternity needs to know a lot more about the <u>SEVEN SPECIES</u> of NZ Sophora. I'll prepare a separate paper, based on the one presented at the Tauranga Convention, and hope it is accepted for a future issue.

Malcolm Potts



# JAPAN

Open the door to be inspired.....





















A fter years of waiting, many nights of dreaming and hours of flying and travel I have arrived at the Kokufu Ten, the Holly Grail of bonsai ambitions. Fortunately on my tour with Lindsay and Glenis Bebb and anticipation was quick to be abated as the day after our arrival we walked down to the Tokyo Art Museum to feast our eyes on the best of the best. Two hours passed quicker than a second but I knew there was going to be a second helping on the day before we left in ten days. In the meantime we continued on our way to the Green Centre. This centre is part of the Nippion Bonsai Associations sales and marketing arm. Three floors of a building plus a complete yard of anything and everything associated with the art. It was unimaginable delights!

Once our lust for bonsai was satisfied into was then onto a tour of the sights of the city via the adventures of the underground rail system. Not for the faint hearted. The temples, castles and gardens are all so beautiful it is like stepping back in time. One can imagine the geisha girls giggling and tip toeing around.







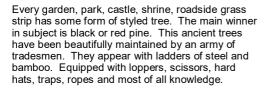
From Tokyo when ventured by train to Kyoto, what I felt was the real Japan as we imagine it in days gone by. By the time we reached Kyoto our small group had settled into this different way of life. Lunch and dinner was fast becoming an exploration into the unknown. Sometimes this fact about what we were actually eating was best. The delights of Japanese food was an explosion of the senses, sight, smell and taste. I soon became resigned to this being part of the journey. Kyoto is home to some of the grandest of gardens and temples. Even though it was winter this just extenuated the greens and the lushness of the foliage. The wetness gave a brightness to the vista and washed the landscape clean giving the ponds a sparkle as many small waterfalls cascaded onto rocks. The droplets of water on the surrounding foliage gave scenes a



freshness which matched the sharpness of the air. Being winter time small snow flakes greeted us on occasion as did sudden showers. Removing our shoes to walk the wooden halls of palaces made one feel alive as our feet froze. Quickening our steps only made the nightingale floors sing louder from our steps.











It is amazing to watch the team working together bringing the trees into shape in a few hours.

Another amazing site is the winter exterior shield to hold the snow off the branches so that nothing is damaged. This also gives the designers an opportunity to bring some branches into line.

I would have enjoyed the sight of the gardeners putting this is in place but unfortunately I arrived in the wrong sesson.



## SHIMOYOKE (frost protector)

Braided straw I wrapped around tropical (or subtropical) plants to keep them warm in

Have you ever wondered what would happen to your bonsai if you liberated it. This amazing pine is one such tree. The lower branch was a sight to behold with a bamboo brace made to hold the growth into place. A number of pine had lower branches extended. One travelled completely along a fence at the entrance of a restaurant.









Trees are so loved great lengths are taken to allow them to grow. It was interesting to see a path constructed around a tree like this. One wonders what will happen in time. As to time the remains of maple leaves from Autumn embedded in the mud. The last page are images taken from a bonsai display of the national collection, taken on a rainy day. We joined the sky in it's tears this was the last of our inspiration on this journey.











# **BONSAI TOOLS**

#### The interesting world of bonsai tools by Marshall Gray

uite a variety of tools are necessary for care and development of Bonsai. There is a large number of which that are specifically designed for use on bonsai, many of which can be expensive and/or hard to find. Some of these must be considered as essential.

The right tool for the job can make the difference between a task that is to be enjoyed or looked on as a chore, even if that tool is used only once or twice a year.

High quality tools have a high cost as they are made with a hard grade steel And with careful attention during assembly. Stainless steel with a cutting edge laminated with a high carbon compound will translate into expensive, but properly cared for should last a lifetime.

However, serviceable tools can be ferreted out in second hand shops and the likes of a \$2 Dollar shop and Supercheap Auto. While inexpensive, they may not last or keep their sharp edge. If you are new to Bonsai, start with adequate tools you can afford and gradually acquire good bonsai tools as budget permits and interest in the art becomes more serious. There is no point in spending what could amount to hundreds of dollars if you decide nine months later Bonsai is not for you. The same could perhaps be said if you take poor or no care of your tools!

Noel sells some good Bonsai tools at a realistic price. If you search on the internet for tools it may pay to check with one of the experienced members of the quality of the site you have found.

Whatever the source of your tools, keep them clean, oiled and sharp. Dull tools will damage a tree-wounds from clean cuts will heal more quickly.

Keeping them clean means they work better and also reduce the risk of disease transfer. They can be cleaned with white spirits or even a serious hand cleaner, by plimging blades into oiled sand. A bit of ttups will remove sticky sap.

After cleaning, diy them and give them a squirt of CRC or WD 40, which doesn't attract dust as dirt as oil does. If you sharpen the blades yourself with an oil stone, be careful as the angle of blades will vary quite a bit.

Store tools in a dry place- a cloth roll which will protect them from each other, a tool box or other container with a good lid.

Whether your tools are inexpensive or costly, try to never drop them or leave them in the rain! Use a heavy enough tool for the job as wrenching or twisting cutting tools can throw blades out of alignment.

Most tools come in difference sizes and weights. Several go under different names! When using cutting tools make sure it's big enough for the job. Don't strain the tol by trying to cut a branch which is too thick— use a bigger tool.

We all have our favourites and most likely have found something a bit out of the ordinary that we find perfect for some particular job.

#### **Pruning and Styling Tools**

Branch cutters - an essential. Also known as angled cutters, angled side cutters, concave branch

cutters, side branch cutters. They come in different size an leave a small concave wound that should heal neatly.

Knob Cutters - also known as concave cutters. wen cutters, kuikiri. Similar to branch cutters, designed to remove branch stubs leaving only a spherical concave cut. They come in different sizes. Also good for trimming hard to get at bits









of goat feet.

Saw - a fined toothed sort for removing heavy branches, trunk tops or tap roots.

Bonsai wire cutters could be considered an essential. Anv wire cutters will do to cut wire to length but these are safer for removing wire from the tree. Remember we are supposed to cut wire off the tree not unwind it! It is easy to damage the

tree when unwinding

rarely as successful

and used wire is

for training.

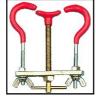


Sturdy pers and ateurs **bvpass** are kinder



-aol secthe type to the tree.

Clamps - used to alter thick branches





Bending levers - for bending

those seriously large wired . They have long handles for leverage.

and trunks. Need extra cushioning of pressure points to avoid damage. Tweezers - to remove small buds.



surface weeds, tidy debris. Long handled ones are best

Turntable - almost an essential. Can use wedges under the pot to change trunk angle, easily rotate to view different aspects of tree, etc. Can be made from the base of an old office chair, the swivel mechanism of a computer monitor, an old record player, or by a handy DIY.

Small pair of pliers - to bend wire ends, twist wire for anchoring trees, etc. Needle nose pliers can also be useful.



Wire - Different sizes. Generally annealed (heat treated )



copper or plain or anodized aluminium which can be recycled without heat treatment.

Scalpel or short bladed knife.

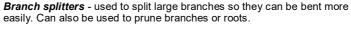
Strips of rubber or leather to protect bark from pressure.

**Raffia** - to wrap large branches or trunks prior to wiring and bending. For protection.



Scissors - an essential- large sturdy ones for root pruning and general shoot trimming. A finer pair with long handles and long blades to prune small branches in hard to

pair with long handles and long blades to prune small branches in hard to reach twiggy areas. A spring handled sort with line blades for leaf pruning and fine shoot trimming. Surgical or nail scissors may be useful.







Carving

This is where the toys get really serious!

**Chisels and carving tools -** for hollowing out deadwood areas. Chisels can also tidy up clumsy cuts.

Jinning pliers - will gently crush branches so the bark can be stripped easily.

Chain saw- the extreme!

Electric drill with a variety of cutting and sanding bits.

Short bladed knife.

When using power tools use safety precautions!





#### Repotting

Chopsticks - or knitting needles- to push soil into air pockets among roots.

**Sieves** - different grades to sift potting soils or pulverize sphagntun moss. Easy enough to make your own with a wood frame and different sized wire mesh.

**Toothbrush** - good to clean algae off stones, trunks and branches

**Nylon scrubbing brush** - to remove compacted topsoil and brush young surface roots outwards from trunks. For cleaning pots.

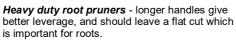




Soft brass filiments

brush - for cleaning trunks, branches and deadwood areas

Whisk broom or similar.





**Fork or bonsai rake** - for combing out and removing soil from outer roots. You can bend the tines of an old dinner fork.

Hook - such as a hoof pick. Useful for combing out large root balls.





**Heavy sharp knife** - or cutting down the sides of root balls when removing pot bound trees from containers



Some sort of mesh to cover drainage holes. Old screening works well enough.

Assorted scoops for adding soil or pebbles.



# Shohin



Sandra Quintal, Hamilton Bonsai Club and grower of fine shohin give us some tips and facts on the care and display of Shonin bonsai

Shohin Bonsai can be any species of Tree.

Their care is no different than any other Bonsai. Water, feed, and spray for insects as you would for other Bonsai. The only difference is that they may dry out faster than larger Bonsai so shade from noon in summer is best.

Height - Shohin Bonsai are Under 32cm from the Rim of the Pot. (Note: Mame are the next size down - under 7cm from the Rim of the Pot)





Display - Shohin are displayed in a Set of three Bonsai on a stand.

There is a order of importance for the Display of Shohin:

Top tree = Pine, (the best possible is a Japanese Black Pine), Cedar, Juniper, or Conifers

Middle = Round leaf or Deciduous Bonsai

Bottom = Flowering, Fruiting or Grass Bonsai.

# **OTAGO BONSAI SOCIETY**



he Otago Bonsai Society was invited to assist with an ongoing bonsai exhibition for Eight organised by the Otago Museum. We provided examples of tools, pots, wire, books and a few trees that were replaced regularly as the display area was stressful if the trees were left longer than a few days. The culmination was a demonstration in the Museum atrium by Joy Morton. There was much interest from the public and we gained two new members.

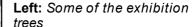
In March we held our biennial exhibition. This was in a new venue as the City Council had taken over the Community Arts Centre while the Town Hall was being upgraded. The venue became available at short notice so publicity was limited. Although not as many people attended as in previous years we managed to cover our costs and through the sale of trees raise some funds for the National

Up coming events over the winter include a trip to a member's garden who also has a collection of hot rods and motoring memorabilia. We will also be running a hypertufa workshop as our midwinter activity. It will no doubt be

Convention in 2012.

**Joy Morton** 

cold but plenty of hot soup following to revive. For our Annual general meeting we have secured a lecturer from the Botany department at the University of Otago, who is an expert on fungi, to talk about mycorrhiza.



Below: Exhibition sales area



# **GORE BONSAI CLUB**



he Gore Bonsai Club on 24th of April gathered and driver Carol proceeded up to Dunedin to view Joy and Colin's Morton's Bonsai Garden. It was a cold day and the cups of soup were well received . After lunch it was a trip to "Wal's Garden Centre" at Mosgiel to find those little hidden treasures, before venturing onto the road back to Gore

# HAMILTON BONSAI CLUB





hirteen members of the Hamilton club recently ventured north of the Bombay's for the annual Auckland visit. On the way we picked up some of our more northerly members for our visit.

First stop was at Russell Wither's to look around his impressive collection of trees. Russell's small section was packed with a wide variety of trees arranged on the benches around his pond. As well as having a good collection of well styled trees, Russell is an inveterate propagator of material and there were a large number of cuttings and material being grown on.

Next stop was just round the corner at Pam and Adrian Blok's. In their tiny courtyard they have arranged their Bonsai on many levels — even on the roof of the garage! A superb Morning Tea was consumed with gusto as we marvelled at how Pam and Adrian had got so many trees into such a small space — some of the trees being very very large.

Lunch was taken at Lindsay's place where we looked at his fantastic collection on their newly laid out display stands.

Final stop for the day was at Bonsai New Zealand where we received a warm welcome and afternoon tea. There were quite a few pots as well as trees loaded into the minibus for the return trip to Hamilton.

A very pleasant day and we wish to express our thanks to all our hosts.





#### Kaimai Garden Centre, Matamata—Sept 1989

Possibly the first time ever Bonsai enthusiasts from throughout NZ met.

A small group of Kiwis attended a World Bonsai Conference in Japan the previous year led by Bob Langholm.

On the return flight the idea of sharing their experiences resulted in a most enjoyable weekend.





Bonsai Pensai Pets

Bonsai Pots Plants suitable for Bonsai

As well as always being willing to talk Bonsai, Graeme also hosts several workshops and demonstrations at Kaimai Garden Centre every year.

Stolen from Kaimai Garden Centre, Matamata – Double planted Cryptomeria Bandai Sugi in large oval terracotta pot with Japanese writing and grey stones – Contact 07 888 8140 if you have any information.

# **NZBA CONVENTION 2010**



# The Hamilton Club will be hosting the 2010 Convention at the Hamilton Gardens on October 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>

The headline speaker for the event will be Robert Steven from Indonesia. Robert is much in demand worldwide to showcase his talents and enthusiasm. He has demonstrated at conferences in Malaysia, India, the Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, China, Puerto Rico, South Africa, Slovakia, Thailand, Australia and the USA.

Robert started collecting Bonsai in 1979 and currently has a permanent exhibition at his home with over 500 trees. He has won many international awards for his trees and has held various positions with the Asia-Pacific Bonsai Friendship Federation (ABFF) and the Bonsai Clubs International (BCI).

Robert is very active in writing articles on Bonsai and Penjing for a variety of newspapers, magazines and websites. His first book "Vision of my Soul" has proved to be a worldwide success and his second "Mission of Transformation" was published in mid 2009.

As well as Robert giving two demonstrations there will also be demonstrations by some of our own well known members, Dianne Miller, Sandra Quintal and Louis Buckingham. Making their convention debuts will be Les Simpson and Peter Mudie, winner of the 2009 Emerging Talent award.



On the Friday we have arranged for a guided tour of Hamilton Gardens for those who arrive early. This tour gives a fascinating look into the themed gardens which make Hamilton Gardens such a popular tourist destination.

The demonstrations, exhibition and trade stands will run over two full days and there will be the usual gala dinner on the Saturday evening.

To help you arrange accommodation we have teamed up with Visit Hamilton and

there will be a free online booking service on their website www.visithamilton.co.nz

The club has set up a website for the convention <a href="http://bonsaiconvention.net.nz">http://bonsaiconvention.net.nz</a> – all the forms are downloadable from there. This website has been donated to NZBA for the free use of clubs hosting future conventions to have their own websites.

Registration forms included in this newsletter, from you local club or contacts:

President : Peter Mudie Telephone: 07 871 9510 email: peter@lrd.co.nz

Secretary: Jeff Richards 22 Normandy Ave, Melville, Hamilton







## **New Members**

Martin Walter - Auckland

Barbara Bond - Auckland

Sonia Fasching - Tauranga



May great things grow from this small beginning



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## **Bonsai Clubs International**



Bonsai Clubs International (BCI) is a non-profit educational organisation, advancing the ancient and living art of bonsai and related arts through the global sharing of knowledge. We educate while promoting international friendship and building world relationships through cooperation with individuals and organisations whose purpose is consistent with ours.

Bonsai is a unique, living art-form enjoyed and practised by diverse

cultures, utilising the lessons of nature to improve the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of mankind and our relationship to the environment.

Glenis Bebb and Ian Glew are the Australian directors of BCI and would be happy to provide further information.

Email addresses respectively: glen@bonsainursery.com.au iglew@b022.aone.net.au



#### Have you ever thought about joining BCI?

Clubs or individuals are able to join Bonsai Clubs International (BCI) which is the longest running Bonsai organisation in the World.

Benefits of being part of the group are:

- Quarterly copy of the Bonsai and Stone Appreciation magazine.
- BCI Annual Convention discount in varied and diverse locations.
- Discounts on a range of books and magazines.
- Access to the BCI web site.
- BCI sponsored competitions, many with prizes.
- Ambassador program including a quarterly newsletter.

Becoming a member of a larger Bonsai Family of enthusiasts is fun and rewarding and expands your knowledge of Bonsai and Stone Appreciation.

Membership is only US\$40.00 per year. For further information check out the website or email *bcibizness@cox.net*.

www.bonsai-bci.com

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	FEATURES	Rating
Finding the Bonsai Within 98 minutes	Working with difficult trees. Ponderosa Pine Wiring Techniques	Andy Smith	7
In Full Circle	Japanese-Style Garden. Design and Implementation	D Slawson & P Krause	
Bonsai & Pottery		Alan & Beverley Van	
Bonsai at his home		John Naka	4
Juniper Forest Demonstration		John Naka	6
111-Tree Florida Elm Demo		John Naka	5
39 Tree Stewartia Demonstration		Saburo Kato	6
Two Shimapaku Plantings	Includes Rock Plantings	Yuji Yoshimura	6
US National Bonsai & Penjing Museum	Comments on trees viewed one by one.		7
Demonstration	Accent Plants	Kieko Yamane	6
Newstead 2 Bonsai Extravaganza 2006	UK selection display for the Ginko Exhibition	John Hanbys Newstead Bonsai	7

#### **HIRE RULES**

DVD's are available at \$10 per month each Alternatively you can hire 2 DVD's at \$15 per month To hire you or your club/society has to be a member of NZBA Forward postage by NZBA Return postage to NZBA payable by the hirer.

To arrange the hire of a DVD contact

Les Simpson: <u>Simmys@xtra.co.nz</u> Telephone: 07 823 2162

## **Unique Opportunity**

fter more than thirty-five years involvement in the Art of Bonsai, Leo Jury has decided it is time to reduce his collection. These trees have been admired by many knowledgeable bonsai hobbyists over the years.

They show the many years of time and TLC that has been bestowed upon them and they need to go to someone who will appreciate their value. Regretfully, thy are now being offered for sale. Most of the trees have a photographic record of their development which will be given with each tree sold.

If you are coming to New Plymouth in the near future, please phone Leo 06 753 5476 to arrange a suitable time to inspect the collection with a view to purchase.

Would club Secretaries please bring this notice to your members attention. Thank you Leo Jury

Thank you — Leo



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