



Mornington Peninsula Bonsai Society Inc

JULY NEWSLETTER 2022

Established: 1979

In This Issue:

- President's Report
- Club Meeting Night 20/07/22
- Club Fees Information
- Raft Styling
- Other Club Information
- Bonsai Calendar
- Funnies
- Diary Dates

If at any time you feel the print is too small, press the F9 key, this will make the newsletter easier to read on screen.

Club Details:

jillian24@bigpond.com

Meetings are held at the **Moorooduc Community Hall**, cnr Derril Road and Moorooduc Rd, Moorooduc, commencing 7.30pm, the third Wednesday of the month (no meeting in December)

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Web Site

<https://bonsaimornington.com.au>

President's Report:

Hi Everyone,

Hi Everyone,

I hope everyone is coping with this very cold winter.

It's hard to be enthusiastic about going outside to work on your bonsai, but there are tasks that still need to be carried out.

Winter is the time to prune and shape/wire your trees, and later this month I will begin repotting deciduous trees, followed by conifers in August. Lot's to prepare for.

Also begin to think about trees for Don Deluca's workshop to be held in September. If you are planning to attend a workshop please inform Jill or myself. Jill will be sending details to members shortly. Remember that early commitment from members is required so that the committee can plan for the event.

See you at the July meeting.

Cheers, Steve



Club Meeting Night Wednesday 20th July 2022

7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.

This is our next Wednesday Meeting Night—this night will be a demonstration/discussion on Raft Style trees led by Steve.

Bring along a Raft style for the Display table if you have one.

Tea, Coffee & biscuits provided for all.

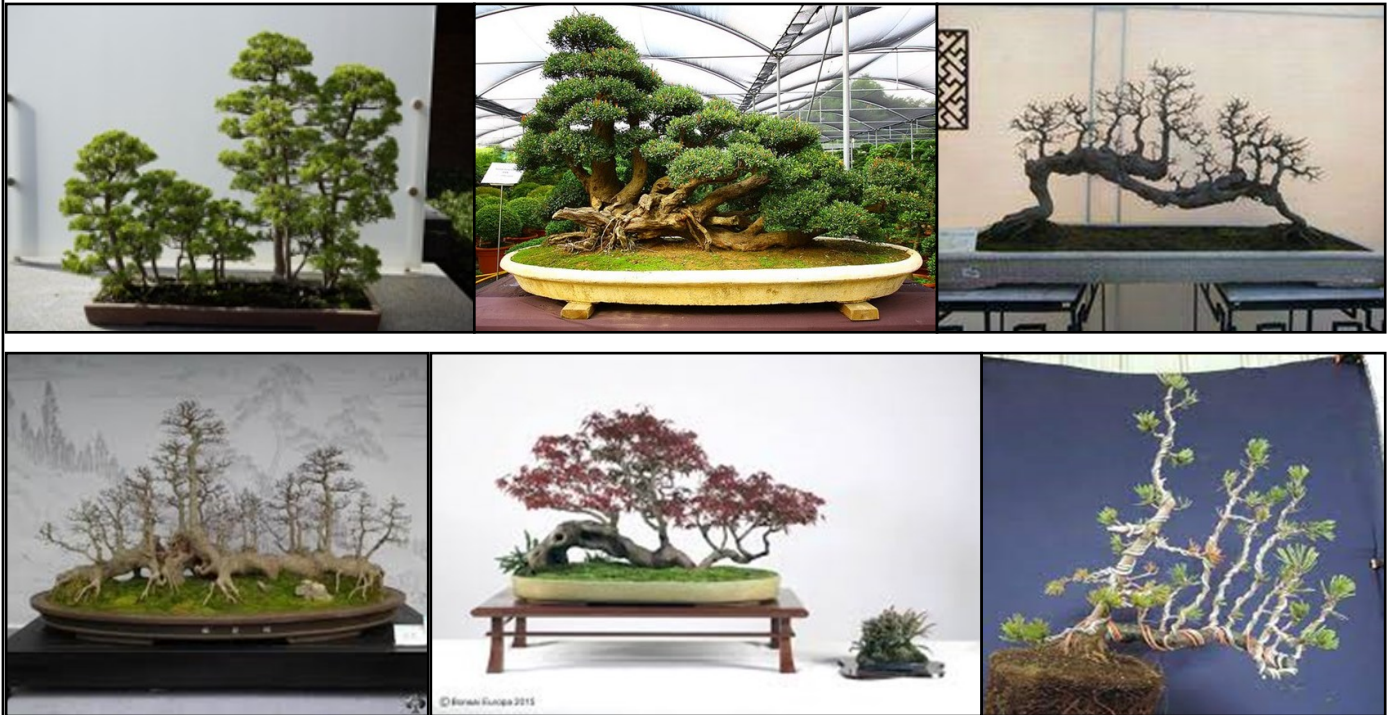


Club Fees Update—Due to Covid lockdowns etc, we have been rolling over membership fees. Those who have paid in 2020 or 2021, your fees were carried over to 2022. If you are not sure you have paid, feel free to ring Gwen on 0411 331 517 or send her an email bgrobinsau@yahoo.com.au, or give me a ring on 0407 361 989. From our AGM in November this year, Club Fees will be due again for the 2022/2023 year. Jill

Vale Carmel Kost - loved wife of Paul Kost a Life Member of our Club. Our thoughts are with you and your family at this sad time.



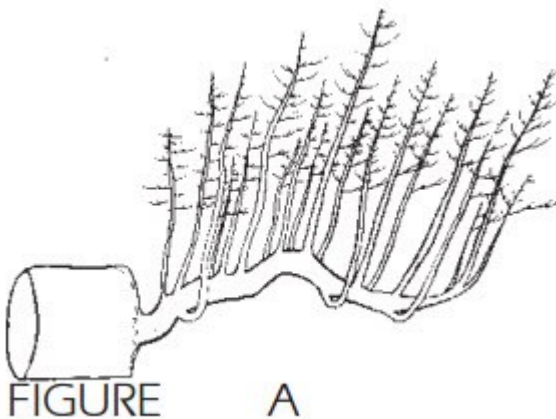
Raft Style – Ground Layering Techniques—In raft style, the trunk along the ground is perfectly straight and illustrates a tree in nature that has been blown over by the wind, taken root and had its branches on the upward side continue growth as new trunks. Below are some awesome Raft styles I have found.



Raft Style – Ground Layering Techniques

by [bonsailearningcenter](https://bonsailearningcenter.com) | Feb 25, 2016 | [Bonsai Learning Articles](https://bonsailearningcenter.com)

The raft and sinuous styles are characterized by a single trunk that is growing along the ground, with three or more trunks rising from it. In raft style, the trunk along the ground is perfectly straight and illustrates a tree in nature that has been blown over by the wind, taken root and had its branches on the upward side continue growth as new trunks. Sinuous style is very similar, however the trunk going along the ground may be curved and this depicts the case where travelling surface root has meandered along the ground and suckers have developed into new trees. One advantage of this style in bonsai is that trees with one-sided branching may be used, by laying down the side without branches on the ground.



(Figure A)

(A continued)

First, is there a bow in the trunk, it should be placed so that it curves towards the back of the setting. This will add to the three dimensional effect. Another idea that can create more depth in raft or sinuous style is to use branches going out horizontally from the laid down trunk, as well as those growing vertically upward from it. These horizontal branches may be ground layered for a certain distance and then trained upward to form trees. Some branches will be pliable enough to be bent, while others may need to be undercut with a wedge shape wound in order to train them up vertically.

Remove all branches from what will be the underside of the planting and wire normally. Careful attention must be given to the removal of this wire upon the first transplanting it may otherwise become entangled with the newly forming root system and later become very difficult to remove.

An alternate method of wiring is to place a heavy wire along the top side of the laid down trunk, attach it with string in a few places and then anchor the wires for each branch individually onto it.

(Figure B) Another alternative would be to wire each branch individually with double wire looped once around the prostrate trunk. Take care because this too can interfere with root formation.

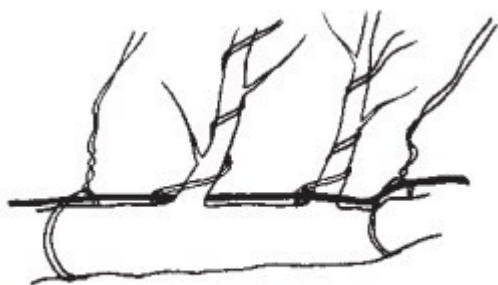


FIGURE B

The technique for forming roots on the underside is reasonably easy. The bark is cut in the form of flaps on the underside of the trunk – especially under the positions of strong branches. **(Figure C)** The actual cuts should be the width of about a third of the circumference of the trunk and be made in the direction from base to tip. A piece of small wood or pebble can be used to hold the flaps open. Rooting hormone can be then dusted into the open cuts. Shallow wedge shaped grooves cut horizontally thru the cambium layer on the underside of the branch will also work well.

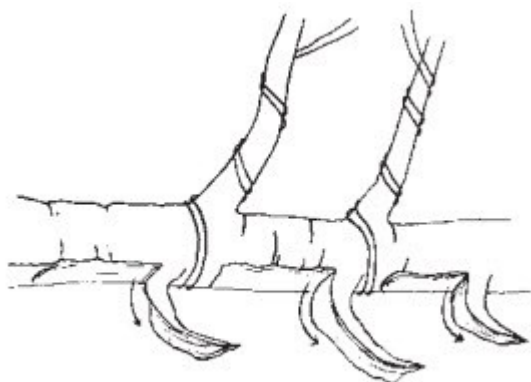


FIGURE C

A heavy wire should then be placed between the existing root system and trunk and tightened securely. This will reduce (but not cut off) the flow of nutrients to the existing branches and will encourage the new branches to send out roots around the cut areas in search of additional moisture and nutrients. The planting should be placed in a training box filled with fairly sandy soil and the trunk should be buried, but not so deeply that roots tend to form on the new trunks, rather than the underside of the raft.

(Figure D) Remember that roots develop only on a stationary tree, so tie the new planting securely so that it does not move around. At least 50 percent of the plant's existing root system should be removed at the time of the initial planting. This again encourages the plant to form new roots in the desired locations. If the remaining root ball stick up out of the soil, it may well to cover it with moss or mulch to prevent drying out. Do not abuse the old root ball too badly... It is the plants only source of nutrient until the new roots have formed.

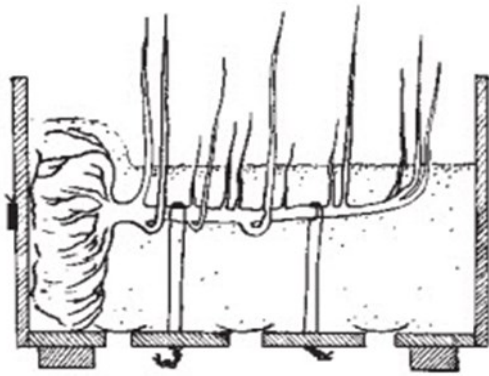


FIGURE D

The formation of new roots will take one to two seasons. Fertilize and water normally. Try and avoid the temptation to dig around in the container looking for new roots... you will know soon enough. You may give more attention to the areas where roots are forming and less attention (water and fertilizer) where the old roots exist. After one year, remove the plant from its box and inspect the root system. If sufficient roots have developed, the old root ball may be removed completely. **(Figure E)** If the new trunks have still not developed sufficient roots, remove another third of the old root system and replant. Continue this process each spring until the desired results are achieved and the planting can be transferred into a shallow container and more detailed styling begun.

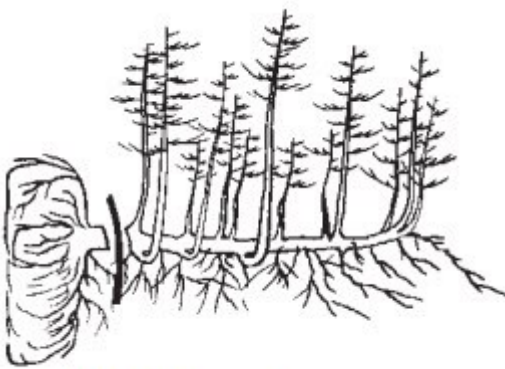


FIGURE E

(Figure F) Note: During the first transplanting, it may be wise to remove all wire around the trunks to prevent future removal problems.

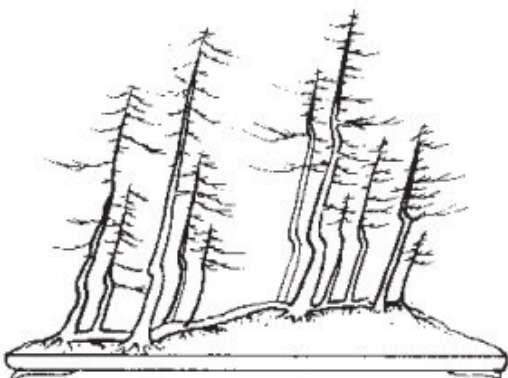


FIGURE F

Since some species root more readily than others, it is possible that areas which had been cut and dusted with root tone will have healed over rather than generated new roots. If this has happened, simply repeat the procedure and use less root tone this time.

It is better to choose quick-rooting varieties for creations of this style. Junipers are particularly accommodating. However, if you want to develop a slower variety, such as a pine, bottom heat would be advantageous. You may also plan on 2 to 4 years to complete the process. Also note that this style adapts well to being planted over a rock. **(Figure G)** Also note that with multiple trunk styles, individual trees may be cut apart from the main trunk and trained separately. This proves to be a much quicker and easier method of developing several trees from one plant than the traditional air layering method.



FIGURE G

Information and illustrations for this publication were extracted with grateful thanks from *Bonsai Techniques* by John Naka and *Bonsai, Its Art, Science, History and Philosophy* by Deborah R. Koreshoff. Written by Randy Clark



Other Club's Information

The website for the 9th World Bonsai Convention has been launched and registrations are now open. www.world-bonsai-convention-2022.com

The 'early bird' discounted registration of \$90 is available up until 30 June and provides great value for participating in this virtual bonsai event and see world class bonsai demonstrations from well known bonsai professionals from the nine WBFF regions together with list of other activities. From 1 July 2022 registration will be \$140 - so get in early and save! As a virtual on-line event there are no accommodation or travel costs so the small registration fee is very affordable.

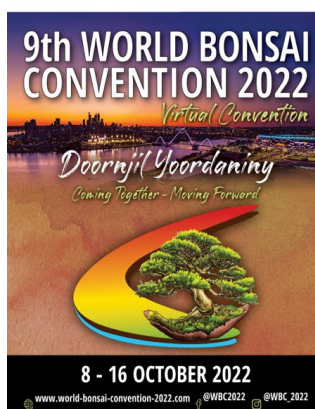
A reminder too, that photographs of members' bonsai and suiseki are needed to compile an large exhibition which will be available to view during the Convention.

Thanks for assisting the WBC organising committee and your AABC, the co-hosts, by promoting this world event.

Regards -Frank Kelly -Secretary

AABC - VIRTUAL CONVENTION

Join with us at this world wide event!



WAVERLEY BONSAI GROUP ANNUAL SHOW 2022—Mount Waverley Community Centre, corner of Stephensons Rd and Miller Cres, Mount Waverley. Sat. 13th and Sunday 14th August.

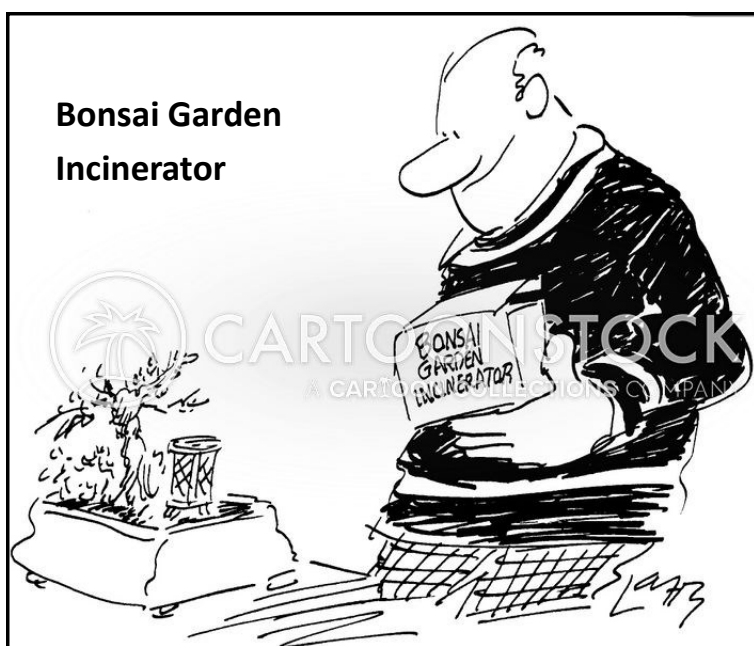
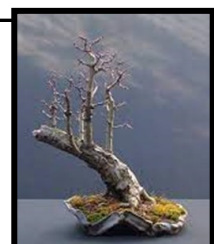
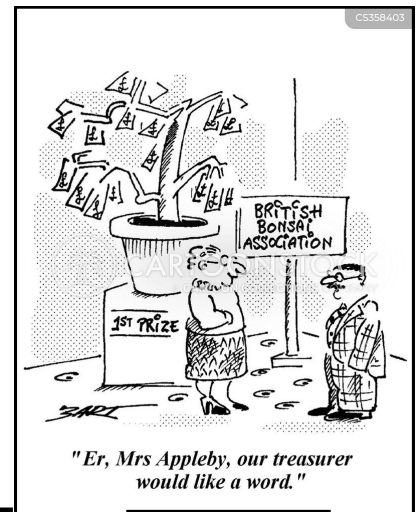


BONSAI CALENDER 2022

- JAN: Check/Remove wires, Water/Feed regularly
Good time to work on Figs if you have any, they love the heat.
- FEB: Keep watering but stop feeding, reduce trimming
- MAR: Growth at a standstill, only Nitrogen-free fertiliser
- APR: Deciduous trees lose leaves, water if necessary
- MAY: Remove wiring carefully, check all plants for pests
- JUNE: Water if necessary, do not feed
- JUL: Dormant period for most trees and plants
- AUG: Prune hardy deciduous trees, prepare for repotting
- SEP: Wire deciduous trees and repot most trees
- OCT: Prune most trees, end repotting and watch for bugs
- NOV: Start feeding and light trimming, water regularly



BONSAI FUNNIES



OUR SICKIES— Don't forget to let me know of anyone who may be ill.



Diary Dates 2022



- Wed Jan 19** Club Night - Fig Workshop & discussions 7.30pm
- Sat Feb 5** Open Workshop Advance 10.00am—2pm
- Wed Feb 16** Club Night 7.30pm and AGM (2021)
- Sat Mar 5** Open Workshop Advance 10.00am—2pm
- Wed Mar 16** Club Night—Display Table & Mini Trees with discussions by Gwen, Alan and Steve.
- Wed Apr 20** Club Night- Lou, Jill & Steve, 3 persons styling the same type of tree at the one time.
- Sat May 7** Open Workshop Advance 10.00—2pm
- Wed May 18** Club Night - The care of tools and wiring of trees.
- Wed Jun 15** Club Night -Workshop night—deciduous trees or others.
- Wed Jul 20** Club Night - RAFT Styling
- Sat Aug 6** Open Workshop Advance 10—2pm
- Wed Aug 18** Club Night—Air Layering of trees Lou
- Sat Sep 3** Open Workshop Advance 10—2pm
- Wed Sept 21** Don De Luca presentation-Club Night
- Sat Sept 24** Don De Luca workshops at (to be advised)
- Sat Oct 1** Open Workshop 10—2pm at Jillian's place.
- Wed Oct 9** Club Night - Quentin Valentine—Natives
- Wed Nov 16** AGM 2022 and Christmas Breakup



Mornington Peninsula Bonsai Society Inc.

- Creative,
- Living,
- Art