




## NEXT CLUB MEETINGS

**Green Square Community Hall**  
3 Joynton Avenue  
Zetland

**7pm Tuesday 12 September 2011**  
Wiring & Pruning of broad leaf evergreen trees

**7pm Tuesday 11 October 2011**  
Figs & other evergreens including many native species workshop

## CONTACT DETAILS

 0432 461 025

 [info@sydneycitybonsai.org.au](mailto:info@sydneycitybonsai.org.au)

 [sydneycitybonsai.org.au](http://sydneycitybonsai.org.au)

 PO Box 486  
Summerhill NSW 2130

## COMMITTEE

**Patron** Dorothy Koreshoff

**President** Bryan

**Vice President** Sue

**Secretary** Alan

**Treasurer** Chris

**Public Officer** Warwick

**Newsletter Editor** Tony

**Librarian** Marianna

**Catering** Philip

**Committee** Richard

## MEMBERSHIP

**Full Membership** \$40.00

**Concession** \$25.00

**Family** \$55.00

**Pensioner** \$25.00

## Welcome to the September Newsletter

### September Meeting

Wiring & Pruning workshop for broad leaf evergreen trees



Sue's beautiful Pine tree in miniature on display at last month's bonsai club meeting

[A reminder to those that have not paid; MEMBERSHIP FEES are now over due](#)

### In this month's newsletter:

- For picture taken at last month's meeting see page 2
- Repotting a mame bonsai in pictures see page 3
- Suitable plants for mame bonsai in Sydney, see page 4
- Constantine's demonstration at the August meeting on pages 5 - 6
- Events Calendar page 6

Pictures from the August Club Meeting



Sue's Kurume Azalea bonsai



Sue's Trident Maple (*Acer buergeranum*) bonsai



Hector's Juniper on driftwood bonsai



Jenny's Moreton Bay Fig bonsai

# REPOTTING A MAME BONSAI

This tiny tree is a variety of *Ulmus parvifolia*, the Small Leafed Elm. This tree was propagated from a root cutting. Not many species can be propagated this way, this Elm being one of the exceptions.

Root cuttings have the advantages of:

1. providing a thick interesting trunk in a very short time
2. already having feeding roots so they are a quick way to establish a new tree
3. the new shoots will develop at the top of the root cutting only, this means no adventitious buds will develop lower down on the 'trunk' after pruning



The tiny *Ulmus parvifolia* – Small Leafed Elm after root pruning



Placing the tree in the selected pot to assess the suitability of the pot and the balance in the placement of the tree



Sue is using a chop stick here to push the potting mix between the roots



The finished bonsai

## CHOOSING THE BEST SPECIES FOR MAME BONSAI

The best species for mame bonsai are plants with small leaves, short internodes (small spaces between leaves) the ability to tolerate regular pruning, the ability to form foliage pads and interesting bark on stems that will thicken up and form attractive trunks! Easy right, well not really because we also want species that can handle dry spells and regular root pruning.

There are some species that meet most of these criteria and will grow well in Sydney in different light positions. The following species are all possibilities depending on your growing environment and the amount of time you have to maintain them.

This list is by no means exhaustive, just a starting point.

# SPECIES FOR MAME BONSAI IN SYDNEY



*Acer buergerianum* – select plants with naturally small leaves



*Acer palmatum* – there are many small leaved named varieties to choose from, although it may take a bit of searching to get them.



*Azalea (Rhododendron) Kurume & Saotome* – while Saotome rarely flower the Kurume do, look for small flowered varieties



*Chaenomeles japonica* – look for small flowered varieties with small leaves, some leaf reduction is possible



*Chamaecyparis obtusa 'Nana Gracilis'* – possibly the best of the Dwarf False Cypress; do not let these plants dry out.

**You might also consider:** *Juniperus chinensis var. Sargentii* – beautiful dense compact foliage & *Serrisa foetida* & cvs – great small leaves & flowers, forms interesting bark and root systems with age



*Cotoneaster horizontalis* – great small leaves, flowers & fruits



*Cotoneaster microphylla* – great small leaves, flowers & fruits



*Juniperus procumbens 'Nana'* – a great compact conifer, with more foliage fungus resistance than the species



*Punica granatum 'Nana'* – this single flowered variety has smaller leaves & internodes than the species

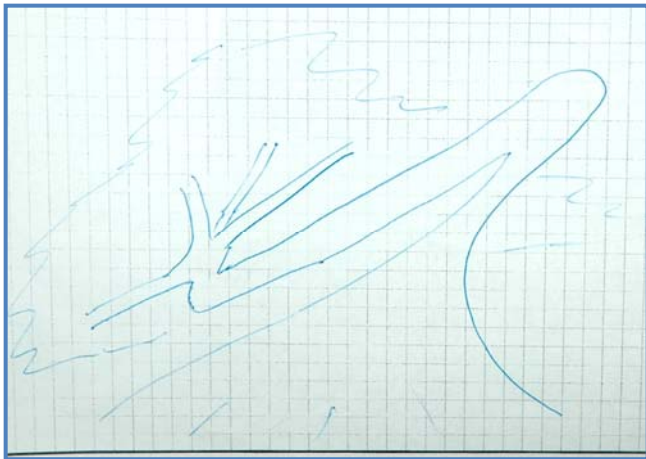


*Tamarix parviflora* – very small leaves & flowers, fairly drought tolerant

# CONSTANTINE PRESENTS



Constantine shows us a photograph of the tree before the shaping started



This drawing shows the original design intent for this tree



In this image Constantine is showing how the bracing system can be tightened to increase the angle of the trunk



Constantine has decided to change the future style of this tree & has brought it in to the club to show the members the methods used to create the dramatic bend in the trunk



The unwrapping continues, under the cloth is a plastic layer protecting the grafting mastic that is over the trunk



This bent piece of steel is used as a brace to hold the trunk at the correct angle

## CONSTANTINE PRESENTS



When the metal plate is removed, the secret of how the dramatic bend was achieved is revealed. The inside bend of the trunk was weakened by having many holes drilled into the trunk. These holes allowed the compression of this side of the trunk.



In the new design Constantine wants to remove the top of the tree and develop the lower section into the new style. Here Hector helps Constantine remove the top part of the tree



In this photograph, Constantine is explaining the future direction he wants to take with this tree

Thanks Constantine for bringing in this tree for us to see the previous work done in its development. We will watch the new direction you will take with this tree with great interest.

Date	Event	Details
1 & 2 October 2011	Goulburn Bonsai Society 22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Exhibition	CWA Rooms – 2 Montague Street. Goulburn
October Long Weekend 2 & 3 October 2011	Sydney Bonsai Spectacular	Merrylands RSL – 14 Military Road, Merrylands
15 – 16 October 2011	Canberra Bonsai Society Show	Details to follow