



GEELONG BONSAI CLUB INCORPORATED MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE NEWS 2018 A WORKSHOP MEETING

At this meeting (and only this meeting in 2018) as last year we will be selling pots at half price.

MAY MEETING

A usual workshop meeting and a visit from Victor Byrdy the President of Bonsai Society of Victoria to talk to us about how the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia started and how it has grown a world class collection of miniature trees, forests and landscapes, created by leading Australian bonsai and penjing artists. About 80 bonsai and penjing are usually on display in the Collection, including a variety of traditional and modern styles, and both Australian native and exotic trees. Australian natives make up about 20 per cent of the collection, and include Eucalypts, Banksias, Angophoras, Callistemons, Casuarinas, Acacias, Melaleucas, and Leptospermums. The oldest tree in the Collection dates back to 1880.

Yamadori (trees collected from the wild)

Sunday May 27 we had the opportunity to visit Moongate Bonsai Nursery for a Yamadori day workshop at their nursery in Bendigo. Unfortunately only Nathan Rhook, Jason de Vries and myself went up there for the excellent day David and Shrua put on for us. **We will arrange to do it again in 2019 and its a must especially for new members and any of our members who want to improve their bonsai skills.**

Jason said 'It was a great day with lots of trees that had been collected and put into grow pots. There was a lot to choose from for either working on or purchasing. A very informative day with lots of great advice and direction for making Bonsai from collected stock.'

Nathan said ' Moongate Bonsai is a must visit for all Bonsai enthusiasts. Both David and Shrua were fantastic at communicating bonsai techniques and teaching structure and development. Their nursery is an incredible place filled with endless possibilities with material for both beginners and experienced artists. I would implore any club member to visit this nursery when they have the chance.

To quote David, here is an excellent opportunity for our newest members and those not so new to choose a tree dug out by David and Sheroo to make a bonsai and buy if you so choose collected trees from Regional Victoria and South Australia.

The following is the day program on offer.

COSTS; \$10 per participant for supply of lunch and morning / afternoon tea. No charge for lesson or wire and tool useage. Tree sales at marked prices, if not marked please ask for price.

My address; [261 Cahills Rd, Mandurang, 3551.](#)

Arrive;10.00 AM, morning tea is available on your arrival, tea / coffee / water and biscuits, and is there for your use throughout the day. Browse the nursery and stock / check out my personal collection of bonsai, whilst you have your coffee for 15 - 20 minutes, this nursery has no formal layout.

10.30 am; Gather around while David gives a 30 minute talk and demonstration on what to look for when selecting a tree for your future bonsai. Learn to "see" the tree within.

11.00 am; WORKSHOP and TREE SELECTION - The workshop is designed to allow participants to actually look for a tree as if they were out on a dig in the wild, training them to see the tree within, letting them find something that might capture their imagination as if they are out in the wild, but without all the inherent organising and dangers of doing so. Here, all the trees have already been dug, potted and grown on, saving you that 1 or 2 years of waiting to get it surviving and growing on. You can start straight away on a future bonsai.

The object of the supervised workshop is to see the tree within, and create the first design structure of the material using the branches available. Participants can use the wire and tools supplied, free of charge, to create the future tree, discussion will then go on as to what aftercare is needed for the continuation of the trees growth and design.

There is NO obligation to purchase the tree, when you are finished, you may purchase it or simply leave it here.

An escort will give a guided tour of the nursery to show participants where the trees are, they can make their selection and make their way to the workshop area.

There are over 3000 trees to choose from, very small to very large and everything in between, a large range of species is available.

BBQ LUNCH will start around 12.30 for all, sausages, onions, coleslaw, bread and condiments supplied. If you have dietary requirements, please advise us prior to event.

AFTER LUNCH; Continue workshops, OR, browse the nursery for something you wish to take home. We do not have eftpos, but you can pay cash or do a bank transfer on the day.

This is a fun, learning day for all, a perfect day out among bonsai and wonderful trees, you may even go home with a new treasure. Many enthusiasts have already done so and vow to return.

MAY 2018 SHOW BENCH

JUNE SHOW BENCH

- Tree of the month –. Pines and Junipers
- Style of the Month – Full or semi cascade or Minis
- “Your Choice”, --**anything** that looks especially good to you at this time of the year.

HOW THE SHOW BENCH WORKS

Each month there will be a “Tree of the Month” and this can be any style. There will also be a “Style of the Month” this can be any species. The section “Your Choice” can be any species and style. There will be three sections. Novice, Intermediate, and Open. Judged as follows:

- 1 point will be awarded for every tree shown.
- 3 points for the best-judged tree in that section.
- 2 points for the second tree.
- 1 point for the third.

The “Your Choice of tree” is open to all sections. All trees presented must be in show condition, i.e. clean pots, trimmed etc. At the A.G.M. in December, there will be a prize for the Winners of each section. **Please be aware to display trees at the show bench they need to be in bonsai pots. Others to be placed elsewhere.** Check with Jason who does the monthly judging for more information.

Bonsai Happenings for the Diary

Mauro Stemberger Tour 2018 (BFA) June 23. -24 Senior Citizen Hall, Golden Square, Bendigo

**31st AABC Australian National Bonsai Convention July 20-23
Mantra Bell City Hotel, 215 Bell Street, Preston**

Dear all Victorian Bonsai clubs

The 2018 AABC bonsai convention registrations close on 1 July 2018. We have been working tirelessly to put together a great event to be hosted in our own state with all Victorian demonstrators (apart for the amazing Bjorn) and with some of the BEST bonsai from across Victoria to be displayed in the exhibition.

Thank you for the promoting you are doing in your clubs and in your newsletters. Just a final request to please continue to strongly encourage all your club members to register for the convention, which will not only be incredible, but also show the rest of Australia how strong, united and supporting all Victorians are of the bonsai scene and culture we have in our state. We have a great event planned and the demonstration material is very impressive. The only chance people will get to see the demonstrations is in person as there won't be any recording of the event.

Lets show the rest of Australia how amazing the bonsai culture is in Victoria.
Thank you for your time and support.

David Nassar
President Bonsai Northwest Inc Melbourne
Chairman 2018 AABC Bonsai Convention

The South Australian Bonsai Society Inc Bonsai Exhibition 6th-7th October 2018

Annual Show open 10.00am to 4.00 pm both days Admission: \$4.00 for Adults-Children under supervision Free. Goodwood Community Centre, 32 Rosa Street Goodwood, behind the Goodwood Library

Bonsai Society of Victoria Inc. 14th –15th October 2108 exclusively presents workshops & demonstrations

Ballarat Bonsai Society Annual Exhibition on 3-4th November 2018

GBC Annual Show Masonic Hall, Regent Street, Belmont. 10th-11th November 2018

A magnificent display of Bonsai and a well stocked trading table that offers Bonsai requisites for sale, including pots, tools, wire, books including trained and semi-trained Bonsai and nursery stock. Continuous demonstrations of shaping and re-potting of bonsai each day. Meet and talk with Geelong's top Bonsai exponents. Light refreshments available.

BONSAI ACTION FOR JUNE

Now that winter has arrived, the time for autumn potting has finished. The reason for this is that new feeder roots need warmth to develop and so with the onset of cold weather the possibility of root-rot occurs. What then CAN be done in these cooler months? Most of us, I think, have many bonsai jobs that we have put aside due to the pressures in the busier seasons. Now is the time to catch up on these.

Firstly, autumn to winter is an excellent time to shape your trees. Deciduous trees, in particular, are best shaped at this time as we can observe their structure and form without any leaves to obscure it. It is a very good time for wiring also. Again, for deciduous trees, access is easier. In the books, you may read that winter makes the wood more brittle and thus easier to break. This is true - if you live in a very cold area. If winters are mild, the problem is not so great, but to be on the safe side' let your trees be in a

dryish condition at the time of wiring. The cells of the tree are thus so swollen and breakages are not so easy. In the cooler months, because of the absence of more pressing jobs, one can go rock collecting(for use in rock-settings saikei or as viewing stones), spend more time in making the outdoor display more attractive and perhaps in rearranging trees. From the horticultural point of view, it is advisable to place tender trees in a more sunny position.

However, most trees would benefit by having more sun during the winter months (this promotes better bud development and healthier growth in spring). Frequently, problems associated with watering arise in the winter months. Often people get into a habit of watering at a particular time during the summer months and do not vary this even when the cooler period begins. The result is that trees are being re-watered while still damp - thus giving the chance for root-rot to set in.

Deciduous trees that use water so quickly in summer are now using far less due to the absence of leaves, but all trees are using less and one must be sure that the surface of the soil is, in fact, dry before re-watering (note that trees should be saturated when you water do not think that the fact that trees are slower to use water in winter means that they should only be sprinkled). If your trees have developed a thick coating of moss over the soil surface, remove some to allow for better air circulation and drainage in the container. The parts you have removed can be placed in shallow trays of damp soil to be kept for use in spring.

Also, try to make a habit of watering in the morning or warm part of the day - especially if you are in a very cold area. This gives a chance excess water to drain off before the colder night temperatures (in extremely cold areas, excess water may freeze the pot. This damages the root system and in some cases even cracks the pot). Another job that can be done in the winter months is to check your trees for insects and pests. The trees that are prone to mildew (e.g. maples, crepe myrtles, oaks, roses and olives) should be sprayed with lime-sulphur solution, about two or three times during winter months. This kills the mildew spores and gives the chance for an un-marred crop of fresh leaves in the following spring.

From June to July the pinching of candles can be done, for black pines remove the strongest candles from the top of the tree, remove less in the middle of the tree and remove only the

weakest candles on the lower part of the tree. As for white pines (pulling can tear and damage the tree cutting is recommended). Before buds unfold, cut out old needles progressively with scissors. Remove candles where growth is to be limited.

June action

clean	remove fallen leaves from pots and benches to keep slaters & slugs away lighten or remove load of berries or fruit to avoid depleting tree for next
fruit	season
other	read, plan, develop, take notes, look at other people's trees
pests	clean litter from bonsai area to avoid slaters, etc.
potting	plan what to repot or pot and prioritise
pots	put pots on angle in wetter months for better drainage
repot	mark pots not draining well for later repot with more open mix inspect deciduous trees for faults and improvements; pinch off spent azalea
shape	heads
show	start planning after leaf fall, spray deciduous trees prone to mildew with weak solution of
spray	lime sulphur
sun	place trees in as much full sun as possible; sheltered branches die back
water	do not overwater deciduous. Group for ease of watering; tilt pots if necessary

Winter – Courtesy of ausbonsai.com.au - Steven - Please just acknowledge the author and site as you mentioned

Winter is the time we sit back and enjoy the intricate tracery of deciduous trees, contemplate and plan the changes we need to make to improve all our trees

- During the winter months, cut back on the watering of all your trees to ensure they do not stay wet all the time.
- Ensure that tropical trees and plants that need protection from the Frost or ice are under cover or inside. (Ficus, Bougainvillea, etc)
- Winter is the time for Heavy Pruning, Wiring and [Needle plucking](#) of Pines.
- Repotting of deciduous trees late winter as buds begin to swell in preparation of the new spring growth.

June

If you have many Deciduous trees, you can start [Repotting](#) and [root prune](#) now with the trees that experience early dormancy. Just ensure the Roots and soil do not stay wet thru the winter causing [root rot](#). [Wire](#) your trees (all species) at this time so that it can be left on as long as possible. While the trees are not actively growing the wire will not cut in and scar the tree. Start planning your Spring Repotting Schedule. ensure you have sufficient potting mix and pots on hand for Spring.

JUNE PLANT PROFILE

Quercus robur, English Oak

The English Oak is a long lived tree that grows over a vast area comprising Europe, the Caucasus, and Asia Minor. The bark is grey-black, deeply furrowed at maturity; the short stalked leaves are alternate and deciduous, with 3 to 6 pairs of wavy surfaced lobes, blunt at the margins, dark green above and pale green below. The flowers are monoecious, with slender pendulous catkins of male flowers and spikes of sessile female flowers, The fruits are nuts (acorns), partially protected by a hemispherical cup.

Position:- Full sun. Protect from frost or freezing temperatures in winter. The leaves may burn if not protected from direct sun on very hot days. Keep in a cool place in winter to encourage a period of dormancy.

Feeding:-Once every 14 days from early spring until early summer and from the end of summer until late autumn. In late summer/autumn use a fertilizer high in phosphorus and potassium. A liquid feed of chelated iron during the growing period will encourage the leaves to color in autumn.

Watering:-Daily throughout the growing season. Water sparingly in winter but do not allow the soil to dry out. Spray the foliage on hot summer days. The oak is susceptible to mildew and needs a regular spray of fungicide.

Repotting:-Every one to two to three years in spring when the buds open. Use a mixture of 60% potting mix, 30% coarse sand and 10% peat or equivalent. Choose a pot that is a little deeper than normal.

Pruning and Wiring:-. Shorten the tap root gradually during repotting, always leaving a good root system. Reduce the crown selectively when first repotting, discarding branches not necessary to the final design. Cut back the shoots during growth when still tender to one or two pairs of leaves. Remove all terminal buds just before leaf break to encourage smaller leaves. Position the trunk and branches in late spring and summer.

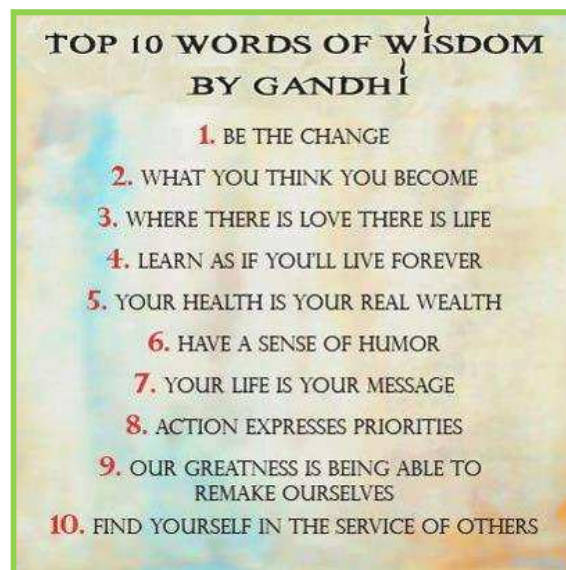
Propagation:-By seed (sow fresh acorns in autumn, protect from rodents and 100% germination can be expected in spring). By air layering in summer.

BONSAI TIP OF THE MONTH

A WIRING TIP

Immediately after cutting off the largest branch from the tree you are working on, take the cut off branch and bend 5 or 6 small branches until they break. This enables you to get a good feel for where the breaking point is on branches of this thickness on your tree. This will minimise any accidents as it is easy to break a branch when bending them.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH



WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia

www.nationalarboretum.act.gov.au/bonsai

The National Bonsai and Penjing Collection

See an [amazing 3D virtual tour](#) of the Collection by Canberra business Photostat3D - brilliant!

The living artworks of this national collection feature some of the finest miniature trees and forests in the world, created by some of Australia's leading bonsai and penjing artists.

About 80 bonsai and penjing trees and forests are usually on display, in a variety of traditional and modern styles, with both Australian native and exotic trees.

Bonsai and penjing are like living sculptures, shaped over time to convey concepts, ideas, emotions and stories. The trees are designed to reflect trees or landscapes in nature; to create a sense of calm and peacefulness and broaden the viewers' cultural understanding.

The oldest trees in the Collection are more than 60 years old, much younger than the oldest known bonsai and penjing in the world at over 800 years old. [More about bonsai and penjing.](#)

The Collection's bonsai and penjing are all donated or loaned by the artists, their families or friends.

BONSAI NURSERY OF THE MONTH

Moongate Bonsai since 1995

Yamadori Specialists Shrua Khouri (0417 113 994) / David Allen (0409 395 605)

xxxxxPICS

BONSAI TRIVIA OF THE MONTH

A young lady confidently walked around the room While leading and explaining stress management to an audience with a raised glass of water. Everyone knew she was going to ask the ultimate question, half empty or half full?'... She fooled them all "How heavy is this glass of water?" she inquired with a smile.

Answers called out ranged from 8 oz. To 20 oz.

She replied , "The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long I hold it.

If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm.

If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance. In each case it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes." She continued, "and that's the way it is with stress. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on."

"As with the glass of water, you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again. When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden - holding stress longer and better each time practiced.

So, as early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down. Don't carry them through the evening and into the night... Pick them up tomorrow.

1 * Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!

2 * Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.

3 * Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.

4 * Drive carefully... It's not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.

5 * If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.

6 * If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

7 * It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.

8 * Never buy a car you can't push.

9 * Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.

10 * Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

11 * Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.

- 12 * The second mouse gets the cheese.
13 * When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14 * Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
16 * Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.
17 * We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull.
Some have weird names and all are different colours, but they all have to live in the same box.
18 * A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.
19 * Have an awesome day and know that someone has thought about you today.
20 * Save the earth - It's the only planet with chocolate!*

HOUSEKEEPING

Meeting setup/tidy-up

The hall will be open from about 7pm to set up tables and chairs. As is the case for each of our meetings, extra hands to help set up are always welcome, as is help appreciated at the end of each meeting to pack away afterwards. Those who regularly assist would very much be pleased if more of us lent a hand.

GENERAL BUSINESS

SUGGESTION BOX

Let's reintroduce the suggestion box. Please take the time to consider your ideas of how to improve the way we do things to make our club even more than what it is today. Ideas also about topics during the year you would like discussed, speakers to invite, number or workshops versus speakers etc.

Additionally what are the reasons you regularly attend and what would be the reasons some of our members only occasionally attend and what are the contributing factors why some only remain members for a short time.

GBC Website

Nathan Rhook has taken over managing our website and all things social Media from Daniel Novakovic. A sincere thanks to Daniel for all he has done getting our club's profile into the Content will always be the challenge and please submit relevant information to Nathan. Go to www.bonsai.org.au

SALES ORDER FORM

There is no commission to pay the club for workshop night sales
One needs to be financial to do so.
Commission still applicable during the show.

GBC Library

An extensive library of bonsai books, magazines/journals, DVDs are available (as part of membership benefits) for use by members. Borrowed items must be returned in the month following their removal for loan. Non-financial members aren't eligible to borrow from the library and borrowing privileges may be revoked for members who do not respect the borrowing process. See John and Steph Dearnly our Librarians

Memberships

Due annually at our December Annual General Meeting

Banking Details/Geelong Bonsai Club BSB/633000 Account Number 152 895 694

Please renew now - membership form is attached

Individual \$20.00

Family \$30.00

Students & Pensioners \$15.00

Meeting setup/tidy-up

The hall will be open from about 7.15 pm to set up tables and chairs. As is the case for each of our meetings, extra hands to help set up are always welcome, as is help appreciated at the end of each meeting to pack away afterwards. Those who regularly assist would very much be pleased if more of us lent a hand.

Meeting/Events Calendar & Agenda

A copy is available at the meetings and is enclosed in this newsletter.

Calendar & How the Show Bench Works?

Each month there will be a "Tree of the Month", 'Style of the Month' and 'Your Choice' and this can be any style. Detailed notes sheet is available from the Club, and copies will be provided at the meetings

Wearing of Badges

Reminder to please wear your badge at our meetings.

It is a requirement to be able to claim the door prize if you are the winner.

Mentors:-

If any club member would like to volunteer their time as a mentor to other club members, please put your name down on the mentors list at the next meeting. Likewise if any club member would like to have the help of another person outside of club meetings.

Our Committee: Sieglinde Jobson, Karen Van Der Lee, Graeme Kelleher, Mark Tevan, Phil Wall, Paul Buttigieg & Nathan Rhook.



**NEXT MEETING:
Monday 11 June - Workshop**

**GBCI CLUB DETAILS
Established 1980 Registered 1984 (#A2342S)**

Please address all correspondence to:

The Secretary

Geelong Bonsai Club Inc.
P.O. Box 1175, Geelong, Victoria, 3220

President: Paul Buttigieg 0412 604 211 geelong@bonsai.org.au
Vice President: Karen Van der Lee 0401 290 253 karen-k-vanderlee@hotmail.com
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Committee: Phil Wall 0418 315 324 p.wall@cfa.vic.gov.au/Committee
Committee: Mark Tevan 0401 494 172 mark@barwon.net
Committee: Sieglinde Jobson 0438 522 192 siegjobson@gmail.com
Show Managers: John Dearnly, Michael Tukavkin and Nathan Rhook
Librarian: John & Steph Dearnly/0407 342 928: dearnley1@bigpond.com
Newsletter Editor: Paul Buttigieg 0412 604 211 geelong@bonsai.org.au
Sales Table: Phil Wall/0418 315 324 p.wall@cfa.vic.gov.au
Show Bench: Jason De Vries/0409 753 244 jasonde@dodo.com.au

Meetings are held at Grovedale United Services Memorial Hall, Reserve Road Grovedale at 8pm on 2nd Monday of the month. No meeting in January. Meetings in 2012 on the second Monday of the month except November which is the first Monday because of the show.

PO Box 1175 Geelong VIC 3220

Registration No: A0001342S

**President: Paul Buttigieg,
Vice President: Karen Van der Lee,
Secretary: Nathan Rhook,
Treasurer: Paul Buttigieg**

2018 EVENTS CALENDER

Day	Date	Program
Monday	12-Feb	General Meeting – 3 Ninja's Demonstration
Saturday	17-Feb	Free Batesford workshop
Monday	12 March (Labour Day)	General Meeting – Workshop
Saturday	17-March	Workshop – Joe Morgan-Payler
Monday	9-April	General Meeting – Demonstration/Mark Ludlow/ Master Apprentices Bonsai School and Nursery
Saturday	28-April	Free Batesford workshop
Tuesday	8-May	Committee Meeting
Monday	14-May	General Meeting – Workshop
Sunday	27-May	Nursery Crawl
Monday	11 June (Queens Birthday)	General Meeting – Workshop
Sunday	24-Jun	Dig
Tuesday	3-July	Committee Meeting General Meeting – Demonstration/Tien Liao-Bonsai Sensation
Monday	9-July	
Sunday	22-July	Nursery Crawl
Saturday	28-July	Free Batesford workshop
Saturday	4-August	Workshop - Joe Morgan-Payler
Monday	13-August	General Meeting – Demonstration Quentin Valentine
Monday	10-Sep	General Meeting – Demonstration/Trevor Wicks
Tuesday	18-Sep	Committee Meeting
Saturday	22-Sep	Workshop - Quentin Valentine
Monday	8-Oct	General Meeting – Workshop
Sunday	14-Oct	Nursery Crawl
Saturday	20-Oct	Workshop - Joe Morgan-Payler
Monday	5-Nov	General Meeting - Show Workshop
Sat – Sun	10 – 11 November	BONSAI CLUB ANNUAL SHOW
Saturday	24-Nov	Free Batesford workshop
Tuesday	27-Nov	Committee Meeting ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Critique/Christmas Pizza Party)
Monday	10-Dec	

ANNUAL SHOW BENCH ACTIVITY

DATE	TREE OF THE MONTH	STYLE OF THE MONTH
February	Figs and Natives	Group Planting or Saikei
March	Elms	Raft or Clump
April	Cedars and Minis	Informal Upright
May	Autumn Foliage	Twin or Multi-trunk
June	Pines and Junipers	Full or semi cascade or Minis
July	Deciduous Species	Formal Upright
August	Any Evergreen	Windswept or slanting
September	Olives	Root over rock/rock planting
October	Flowering or Fruiting	Literati or Broom
November	Maples and Liquid Amber	Shari's – Jin's and Driftwood
December	C'site Leaves Ash/Wisteria	Your Choice (Anything)