



TAKE 5



Eiji (Age) Morozumi
Landscape Designer
Consultant

"Have a break, have a Green tea"

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Nature is harsh sometimes
Sam's journal
... and winner is....

Thank you Mum
Thanks for getting
into my head that I
am absolutely
unique, that there
has never, since
the world began,
been a person just
like me.

NATURE IS HARSH SOMETIMES

In the last issue I explained how to plant with a few aids such as water crystals and Seasol etc. Talking about Seasol we use it for transplanting trees, cutting, after planting and spray on the leaves to protect them from frost and disease and pests. Mind you, Seasol does not prevent from all the nasties but makes plants healthier and stronger.

With watering restrictions in just about all states this has made it difficult for gardeners who love to use exotic plants which need more water than Australian natives. I think I have found a solution for this. It's called a "Waterlog". This product is new to me and I will report on this if it really works or another con-job.

According to the Company's brochure they sound really good and I will try on one of "difficult to get good water in summer time" project. Following is explanation on waterlog.

Waterlog is an ecological product that gradually releases water to the root system of plants, providing a slow but steady supply of moisture as the plant requires.

How does Waterlog works?

Deposited at the root level, the microbes in Waterlog interact with the soil properties to gradually release water to the roots of the plant.

A key benefit is that it ensures the water goes directly to the plant's roots without any run-off or evaporation, even in dry areas. It's the optimal way of providing water to plants in drought conditions.

Waterlog contains 97% pure water and 3% molecule science technology, and remains unaffected by sunlight and temperatures within the range of -

6deg C and 100d C. Rate of release is not altered by temperature.

Waterlog is non toxic, will not harm children, pets, wildlife or insects. Waterlog lasts up to 3 months in normal ground conditions. It is packaged in a 100% bio-degradable skin. It completely replaces the need for traditional watering or irrigation and plants will survive and flourish for a three month period using just one litre of Waterlog. Each waterlog tube will therefore save hundreds of litres of pure drinking water.

I went to a Trade Expo at the Claremont Show Grounds and it sounded good especially for the type of plants I use in my work which often need more water than Natives. These days I use more natives than Japanese plants but every now and then it is nice to have a plant that shows the seasonal changes and I am looking forward to seeing how well this Waterlog works.

Please note that Banks are installing new "Drive-through" teller machines. Customers will be able to withdraw cash without leaving their vehicles. To enable customers to use this new facility the following procedures have been drawn up.

MALE
1 Drive up to the cash machine. 2 Put down your car window. 3 Insert card into machine and enter PIN. 4 Enter amount of cash required and withdraw. 5 Retrieve card, cash and receipt. 6 Put window up. 7 Drive off.

FEMALE
1 Drive up to cash machine. 2 Reverse back the required amount to align car window to machine. 3 Set parking Brake, Put the window down. 4 Find handbag, remove all contents onto passenger seat to locate card. 5 Turn the radio down. 6 Attempt to insert card into machine.

7 Attempt to insert card into machine. 8 Open car door to allow easier access to machine due to its excessive distance from the car. 9 Insert card. 10 Re-insert card the right side up. 11 Dig through handbag to find diary with your PIN written on the inside back page. 12 Enter PIN. 13 Press cancel and re-enter correct PIN. 14 Enter amount of cash required. 15 Check make up in rear view mirror.

16 Retrieve cash and receipt. 17 Empty handbag again to locate wallet and place cash inside. 18 Place receipt in back of checkbook. 19 Re-check make-up again. 20 Drive forwards 2 feet. 21 Reverse back to cash machine. 22 Retrieve card. 23 Re-empty hand bag, locate card holder, and place card into the slot provided. 24 Give appropriate one-fingered hand signal to irate male drivers queuing behind. 25 Restart stalled engine and pull off.

26 Drive for 2 to 3 KM. 27 Release Parking Brake.



Make it easier on yourself
by not measuring yourself
against others

Sam's Journal

Japan: a garden lovers' paradise

Recently I went on a garden study tour with my father – Eiji Morozumi. During this tour I was required to keep a daily journal – to prove to the taxman that we really did engage in serious landscapers' business while on this trip. This article is based on my observations and experiences recorded in that journal, as well as the 400 odd photos I took on our study tour.

Taking inspiration from nature

Japanese landscapers have taken inspiration from Japan's spectacular scenery for centuries, as they are advised to in the Japanese gardening classic *The Sakuteiki*. One of the most striking aspects of Japan I noticed was the beautiful natural scenery. While staying in Kurashina village in Nagano (my father's home village) all one had to do was step outside and



take a short walk to get a clear view of the Japanese Alps, covered in snow. I also had the opportunity to view snow capped mountains through the frame of flowering cherry blossom trees. This was truly a spectacular sight.

It was worth taking specific trips just to see some of the famous natural sights Japan has to offer. One such trip was an overnight stay in Matsushima or "Pine Island." This is ranked as one of the 3 most beautiful scenic locations in Japan. Rugged, pine covered islands surround this coastal town to form a magnificent vision of natural beauty. We took a cruise to get a more close up view of these islands and an explanation of their significance. One such island was called "1000 Gold Island," so named because Daimyou (Load) who saw it said he would pay 1000 pieces of gold to anyone who could bring the island to him. Thankfully this never happened and the island is still there for the pleasure of the many tourists who frequent this town.

Imperial beauty: gardens of the nobility

It seems that in every part of Japan there is an old castle or a samurai's house which tourists can visit. More often than not these ancient residences are accompanied by a pleasure garden built for the benefit of the nobility. While staying in Kyoto we visited Nijo castle. This was built as the official Kyoto residence of the first Tokugawa Shogun, Ieyasu. Apart from the castle, which was ornately decorated with beautiful paintings and wood carvings, there was an extensive pleasure garden. This was carefully constructed so that whatever angle it was viewed from it was pleasing to the eye, rather than having a single preferred viewing point, which is the usual way to construct Japanese gardens. It was made in this way for the benefit of the emperor who the Shogun would have undoubtedly entertained from time to time.

In Kanazawa we visited Kenrokuen garden. This was originally



built as a pleasure garden for Kanazawa castle, and would have had no public access at the time. It is now a famous public garden. Unfortunately it was a very cold and wet that



day making it very difficult to enjoy the garden, or take any photographs. This was a very large garden, covering 114,436 square meters and featured many old pines, specially shaped in the way that only Japanese gardeners do. There were multiple streams representing different aspects of natural rivers. For example some streams represented steep gorges, with rough stones lining the edges of the narrow stream. Another stream had soft gentle banks of sand, resembling a gentle undulating river. A large lake was surrounded by tall, sloping pines and a large waterfall fed the lake.

The Imperial Palace in Tokyo boasted a beautiful garden. Al-



though not the original, it was carefully reconstructed based on the original design. The most notable feature was the tall waterfall which fed the lake. A tall curtain of water emerged from a concealed spring to crash onto rocks and into a stream which led to

the lake. One could walk to the top of the waterfall and see the spring which fed the waterfall. From there the garden could be viewed in all its glory. This garden also featured a wisteria lattice with both white and purple wisteria which were in bloom at the time.

These imperial gardens differed in their nature from the beautiful temple gardens in that they were designed for strolling around to relax. Temple gardens are made for contemplation and emptying the mind of distraction.

Inspiration from religion

One cannot go to Japan without visiting some of its ancient temples which can be found throughout the country. Kyoto boasts some of the most beautiful and unusual temple gardens in Japan. If you have an interest in Zen style gardens you most likely have heard of Ryoanji temple. Viewing the garden you are faced with a rather austere image of rock and gravel, empty of all vegetation other than moss surrounding the stones which seem to float in the wide expanse of gravel. The meaning of this garden remains a mystery, some interpreting the stones mountain peaks, others imagine the stones as tiger cubs following their mother. Whatever your interpretation of the meaning of the garden, its purpose remains quite clear: to clear the mind of distraction through the contemplation of empty space, empty space being the main feature of this enigmatic and modern looking garden.

My favorite temple garden in Japan would have to be Ginkakuji or the "silver pavilion". This can be found close to the philosopher's walk on the outskirts of Kyoto. This garden was perfect in every aspect, the work of a true master. In my journal all I could really say was "the inspiring beauty of this garden is difficult to put into words." This garden is an absolute must see for any garden lover

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visiting Japan.

Other notable temple gardens in Kyoto included Daisen-In, a small but immaculately built Zen garden in the kare-sansui style, where gravel is used to represent water. The selection and arrangement of the stones in this garden are truly masterful. Tofukuji is worth visiting if you want to see the work of the modern landscaping master Shigemori Mirei. Close to this large temple is Funda In, a humble but ancient temple, which features an unusual "turtle island" and provides a quiet place for silent contemplation. The golden pavilion is also worth seeing, with its gaudy gold leaf covered pagoda and surrounding lake and gardens.

In Hiraizumi, Iwate you can see Motsuji temple which is built in the "Pure Land" or "Paradise" style. This style is quite distinct from the Zen style. The garden is very gentle and pleasing and lacks the austerity of some of its Zen counterparts. In ancient days the nobility would come to this garden to engage in recreation, and perhaps to increase their faith in the Pureland.

Matsushima also has an ancient temple complete with gardens, although the more interesting aspect of this temple are the many caves, carved into a cliff face. Originally used for storing the ashes of the dead, the faithful would come here to pray for rebirth in the Pureland.

Needless to say Japan is a place of cultural beauty and one could spend all of ones holidays there and still not see all that this truly unique country has to offer. — Osamu Morozumi —



My 2011 April Japan Tour is postponed till 2012. I know a few people were looking forward to next year but too many things are happening next year so I have decided not to run the Japan Tour . However 2012 April tour there will be lots of Cherry blossoms and some of the most beautiful scenery and fine gardens in Japan.

.....and Winner is.....
.....Japanese Landscaping !!!!.....

The night of 2nd July myself, Kay, Sam and Alastair went to the Burswood for our industries award night and this very wonderful sound came to my ear and yes we were winner of "Landscape Industries Association 2010 Awards of Excellence" for Sustainable Landscapes — Residential category.

Please look back on TAKE 5 issue 26 "Respect Nature and Garden is Yours". That is the project we entered into the LIAWA Awards this year.

My client, myself and boys are very fond of this project and the way it turned out. I said in that article "We finished this project without a concept plan and just went along with what nature told us to do and I felt this was going to be one of our finest works." Of course I didn't know then that we would win an award for this project but I'm glad the judges agreed with me.

Then later that evening, we received another award.

Overall Winner — Contractor for Residential.

Receiving these Awards has given me added confidence by confirming that my philosophy towards my landscaping work is OK and that I am working in the right direction. I will continue working with my boys and serving my clients using this philosophy as I have always tried to do.

My policy is to only work on one job at a time and it is working nicely for us , the downside is that clients have to wait their turn which can take longer but I find they get the best result every time.

— Yours truly —

I know there is an English saying "behind every successful man there is some bitches behind " or something like that.

I thought I give a chance to my lovely wife Kay to say something.

Well how can I resist such a tempting invitation so here goes: Oh dear, not much room left for me to say much so I'll keep it short and sweet- He wants me to say how wonderful he is but It's always a challenge living in this family and especially sharing an office with Eiji, HE WILL TIDY HIS DESK—OR ELSE!

Japanese Garden E-news

TAKE 5

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John took his new girl to the movies, which they both enjoyed. After the show he asked what she wanted to do. "I want to get weighed," she said.

He took her to the drugstore, where the machine said her weight was 107 pound. Afterwards, she pouted and sulked for the rest of the evening.

When John finally escorted her home, he tried to kiss her at the door, but she pushed him away, saying, "Go on home, I had a wowsy time."

If you have anything to publish in this newsletter, please send information to

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