



# TAKE 5



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*“Have a break, have a Green tea”*

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## WHERE IS LANDSCAPING HEADING

I noticed from last **Landscape Industries Association Awards** presentation night, many gardens entered for Awards were very much like the beautiful gardens we see in the posh magazines and the latest trend at present.

There are many garden designers now and most of them have a good idea and nice colour contrast to the garden with not only plants but painted feature walls, decking or paving etc.

TV Gardening shows and Gardening magazines have a big influence on us and Garden designers are fully aware of what is going on in the landscaping world at the moment.

Credit must be given to TV gardening shows and Garden magazines for promoting all sorts of landscaping from all over the world including Japan.

I also noticed they looked as though they may be computer designed and we can't ignore the power of technology any more.

What you need now is to find out which designer/landscaper can make your dream-Garden. It is nice to check their web site to see what their specialties are before you call them for consultation.

I thought I would like to find such a program for myself and looked around to see if there are any on the market..... and I couldn't find one.

Photo below is Japanese garden with 100% Australian native plants. Built in 2007

The reason for this is

- 1) It's seems I'm getting old and my brain doesn't want to know about this wonderful technology.
- 2) The nature of our style is Natural style and drawing a “waterfall and pond” will be much easier by hand than punching key board.
- 3) Because we make one garden at a time means we only make 2-4 new gardens each month and sometimes one garden takes 2~3 month to finish. (Some small gardens take 1~2 days only).
- 4) Because most people design gardens using a computer, my hand written drawings will became rare and one day will be collector's item !.... Ha.ha..ha.
- 5) We design and construct the garden to be really good in 5 years time. (some cases 10 years).



### THAT'S SERVICE

My wife Kay and I often go for a walk with our dog Henry. One day we saw a women walking with 3 dogs in all shape and size, well behaved with baby in a cart as well.

We thought that must be grand child with 3 dogs pulling the baby cart.

“Smart thinking”

Then we got closer and closer realising that the cart is for a dog. A medium sized dog was sitting happily inside the cart looking outside to see what is happening .

“That's what I call good service”

I wish I had a camera to capture and could show you this lady.

Dog walking service. Well done lady.

### Thank you Mum

For all the laughter,  
all the hugs  
all the lovely, crazy  
things we did together.  
For all the kisses that  
took away the aches  
and pains.  
For all the small treats,  
all the homely pattern  
of my days.  
For all the happiness  
you gave.  
Thank you, Mum.

幸せになろう  
ごめんね、はい 反省の心  
おめでとー 祝福の心  
ありがとう 感謝の心



Feelings that lead to happiness  
Sorry (feelings of reflection)  
Congratulations (feelings  
of jubilation)  
Thank you (feelings of gratitude)

## *Jobs for Spring*

Plants start to become active when weather warms up and now is the time to do a few things for your lovely garden.

### **Mulch**

Mulch works well if you use a chunky 7~10 cm thick mulch which doesn't have peat or manure mixed in. Most of the time when landscapers finish a job, black mulch is generally used and I must say that looks good around newly planted plants and even the smell of mulch "looks" good. However mulch with small particles mixed in encourages weeds to grow which is not the purpose of having mulch in first place. I used to use such mulch for my projects and yes it looks good in the end. It does control weeds for a while but chunky mulch lasts much longer as weed control.



### **Pruning the tree**

If you have a special tree and you would like to try shaping it, follow these steps.

For deciduous trees, get rid of all the dead branches from small as a tooth pick to big as your arm. This way you are cleaning the tree and eliminating ugly part of tree. Just doing this work already it starts to look good. At this time you can see which branches are alive and which ones are dead..... OK..... Live ones have new buds on the branches got it? Haha..ha.

For evergreen trees, cut off dead ones and the really small branches.

For all trees, snip out small branches (pencil thin) from trunk and thick branches. This makes the tree nice and clean and feel like waxed legs. Oops. Look at your tree carefully to check for cross branches. If so, cut one of them out. (cross branches are two branches touching and/or crossing each other)

Stand back and see if any branches are out of proportion or shape. You can shorten them to fit in to rest of branches.

If you manage to do all this to your tree it should look a million dollars and if..... just in case....if you are not happy with what you did.....you know you stuffed it up. Oh Dear..... You know you can call me always for best result.



### **Pest and Disease**

Keep an eyes on your plants for nasties because getting warmer means all insects good and bad start to come alive . I suggest to take sample leaves to your nearest nursery for their advice which I think is a pretty smart thing to do.

### **Fertilizer**

Now is the time to give a good feed to all plants and natural food is better than artificial food of course. Mind you chemical fertilizer is 'easy and quick' and no nice smell about. (you know what I mean?)

We like to use 'Dynamic lifter, Blood and bones, Manure, Power feed etc.'

For Native plants, we use 'Native slow fertilizer' especially for Banksia and Grevilleas

## Sam's Journal

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Which are sensible to phosphate. Some native plants can take any fertilizer like any other plants and you can plant them with other non native plants but grevilleas need to be planted together with other natives so when feeding time comes you don't have to think which food to give.

**Finally .....**

Good healthy garden gives you good vibes and good energy for more positive life to come tomorrow and day after tomorrow and day after tomo.....

Have a nice day.

### Announcement

Japanese Landscaping is proud to announce our latest project which will be to donate a Japanese Garden to "The Patricia Giles Centre" .

This has come about as my way of saying "Thank you" to this lovely country Australia for accepting me as a person and teaching me many good things. Many people helped me to become who I am and I am really grateful for that. So.....what I can do best is to make a nice Japanese Garden for people to relax and enjoy.

We decided to ask the Women's Refuge Centre if they would be interested and then met with one of the ladies at the centre to see if they liked the idea which they did.

The area for the garden is a small triangular area and will be a "design challenge" (we love a challenge!).

As we are still in the design stage at the moment we hope to show you the result in the next Take5 but I can tell you that it will be a water feature garden in which to relax and enjoy.

Hopefully this project will go well and we can donate another garden next year to a different organisation . (We hope to continue to do this for many years to come.)

—yours truly—

### Gardens which "touch the heart".

We recently finished a job for a retired Chinese doctor who has been dying of cancer for the last 5 years. (5 years ago they told him "5 more years", now that has grown to 10.) For a dying man he seemed remarkably cheerful, and was constantly joking with my father and enquiring into my sex life, among other things. (He did seem to talk about sex a lot for a man in his 70s).

Perhaps his having to face death had made him contemplate life more deeply and gave him a more joyful appreciation of what life has to offer. One thing he said to me stuck in my mind. "You know the gardens your father makes, they touch the heart. I want a garden which touches the heart." Previous to his poignant comment I had never considered gardens as "touching the heart." They might be impressive, inspiring, calming, brilliant. But I never thought of them as touching the heart. I had never considered that this quality should be factored into garden design.

Thinking again, this is actually a very important factor in Japanese gardening. It just isn't spoken of so much. Japanese gardens attempt to recreate, through symbolic gesture, scenes of natural beauty, places which have "touched the hearts" of many Japanese people. So the gardener must have a deep and intimate appreciation of nature. He must carefully consider what the important elements are of the natural scene he is trying to recreate.

This makes me think of my father's constant admonition to put care into all aspects of garden making, that we are not like other companies who might take shortcuts to save time and money. It is the care and attention which goes into our gardens that touch the hearts of people like the Doctor. It is the passion of the gardener to bring joy into people's lives through the creation of naturally inspired beauty. — Osamu Morozumi—

*Apprentice under Japanese Landscaping*

Japanese Garden E-news

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TIME FOR JOKE

Mrs. C expecting some visitors to tea one afternoon this week, popped some scones into the oven. An hour later she was just about to step into the bath when horror-stricken she remembered them. Not even stopping to grab a towel, she dashed naked downstairs into the kitchen. Her hand was on the oven handle when she heard a knock on the back door. She was panic-stricken. For she was sure her caller was the baker who, if there was no reply, would open the door and leave the bread on the kitchen table. She darted into...the broom cupboard. The back door clicked open. But then, appalled, Mrs. C heard footsteps coming across the kitchen floor toward the broom cupboard. The door opened. And there stood an astonished gasman. He had come to read the meter which is in the cupboard. She blushed deeply and then explained, "I'm sorry....I was expecting the baker..." "Oh!" he said. "Sorry." And carefully closed the door again and walked out of the house.